



Divine Mercy Parish

Mass Schedule for the Week of October 13, 2024

Monday, October 14, 2024

7:30 AM DM Eddie Chesnavage & Aggie & Joe Waiksnoris by Dorothy & Romolo
6-6:30 PM DM Confessions

Tuesday, October 15, 2024

7:30 AM DM Living & Deceased Members of Divine Mercy Parish

Wednesday, October 16, 2024

7:30 AM DM Charlotte Litwak by Granddaughter, Charlene & Family
1-4:00 PM Chapel Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursday, October 17, 2024

7:30 AM DM Brothers & Sisters, Rose Norris, Elsie Halon, Sophie Bobbin, Bertha Frye, Stanley, Anthony & Joseph Gawrylik by Family

Friday, October 18, 2024

7:30 AM DM Rev. Charles Dene

Saturday, October 19, 2024

7:30 AM DM Jacob & Amelia Bronakowski by Grandson, Al & Family

3:40PM DM Divine Mercy Chaplet
4:00 PM DM Michael Pribish by Wife, Joann & Son, Zach

Sunday, October 20, 2024

7:30 AM SC George Kosar by John Catizone
9:40 AM SC Divine Mercy Chaplet
10:00 AM SC Dorothy Wisniewski by Dan, Diane & Family
12:30 PM DM Living & Deceased Priests – Diocese of Allentown
En Espanol
2:00 PM SC Fr. Walter Ciszek Mass

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen

Prayer to Your Guardian Angel Angel of God, my guardian dear, To whom God's love Commits me here, Ever this day, be at my side, To light and guard, Rule and guide. Amen.

Pierogies are available.... \$ 8.00 per dozen

Prayer for Our Country

Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception, Patroness of America, please help our country. Help us to return to what is decent, right and proper. Help us to return to respect for ourselves and others, into truth in dealing with ourselves and others, to self-control and self-discipline and, especially, to a deep love for your Son and his teachings. Protect us from those who would destroy us from within. Our Lady, we place ourselves and our country under your mantel. Pray for us and help us. Amen.

Important Phone Numbers

Divine Mercy Pre K
Sister Patricia Maureen Mount, IHM
570-462-3927
Divine Mercy PREP
Sister Mary Glackin, IHM
1-484-888-1358

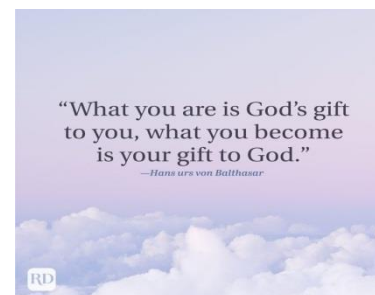
Divine Mercy Chaplet

When: Every 1st Sunday of the month
Time: 3:00 PM
Where: St. Teresa of Calcutta Parish, Mahanoy City

**Divine Mercy Collections
October 6th - \$ 4,700.00**



On Monday, October 14th for Columbus Day. The parish office will reopen on Tuesday, October 15th at 8:30 AM.



Divine Mercy Memorial Fund
Loving memory of Diane M. Kalyan
 \$10 Ron Kalyan & family
Elaine Faia
 \$25 Chris Kowalski
 \$20 Rosemary Lever
 \$20 Mary Rose Masternack
 \$10 Jo Marie & Maria Rittle
 \$10 Rita Sherakas
 \$10 Leo & Pat Treshock
 \$10 Maryann Bruni
 \$10 Peter Ulicny
 \$10 Mary Ann & Bob Budd
 \$10 Robert Toborowsky
 \$5 Anonymous
Karen Locke
 \$20 Sue Balitckih & Janet Richie
Sue Prohibition
 \$20 M/M Ronald Sadusky
Leona Alterio
 \$10 Peter Ulicny
Helen Grochowsky
 \$25 Albert & Diane Bindie
Special intentions
 \$5 Anonymous
Father Walter Ciszek Chapel Memorial Fund
Sue Prohibition
 \$10 Val Sajone
Enes Greco
 \$10 Val Sajone
Elaine Faia
 \$25 Val Sajone

*Thank You
So Much*

from Msgr. Bocian for the birthday wishes and gifts received from the parishioners and friends of Divine Mercy Parish.

Marian High School Blue & Gold Club Raffle Win a 3 minute Supermarket Shopping Spree! Tickets are \$10.00 All proceeds go to the Marian Blue & Gold Club. Drawing is November 4th and the Spree will held at the Tamaqua Boyers. For raffles: please contact a parent volunteer: Janis Dvorak @ 929-2921 Tiff Tom @ 710-0591, Kathy Goff @ 610-704-8037, Angela Kovatch @ 657-0605 or the school at 467-3335
 The mission of the Marian Catholic Blue & Gold Club is to support the students, staff, and facilities through fundraisers held throughout the year.

Devotional Candles

Divine Mercy

Sanctuary In memory of my beloved Parents & Sister, Angelo & Enrica & Jean Romano by Ann Romano
Divine Mercy Special intention by Rose & Frank Malocu
Divine Mercy In memory of Martin “Marty” Cuff by M/M John M. Thoma
Blessed Mother In memory of Aggie Waiksnois by Friend, Madeline
Blessed Mother Good health & God’s blessings for Betty M. by Pat & Leo
St. Ann Special intentions by Marguerite Oravitz Fell & family
St. Ann Special intentions by Mary Kufro
St. Joseph In honor, praise & thanksgiving
St. Joseph In loving memory of Michael Pribish by Buchinsky family
St. Joseph In loving memory of Michael Pribish by Wife, Joann & Son, Zach
St. Joseph In loving memory of our dear “Pop” Buchinsky by family
St. Joseph In loving memory of Hank Faleski by Buchinsky family
St. Joseph Special intentions by Mary Kufro
OLMC Good health & God’s blessings for Albert Bindie by Wife, Diane
OLMC God’s blessings for SIR by Gram & Pop Pop
OLMC Special intentions by Ann Marnell Lehman
OLMC Special intentions for John Kelly family
Pieta Special intentions by Joan Madaffari
Sacred Heart Special intentions by Pat & Leo

St. Casimir

Sanctuary In memory of Bernard Majewski by Brother, Albert
Czestochowa Missing You ... Kitty & John F. Baginski by Baginski family
Czestochowa In loving memory of Michalik, Mentel, Zelonis, Lenkaitas, Szura, Shirvinski & Sekela families by Michael & Marie Michalik
Divine Mercy Special intentions by Louis & Donna Kowalski
Divine Mercy Prayers & good health for J.M., S.M., M.S., Z.S., T.S., G.M., A.M. J.B., L.B. & R.G.
Divine Mercy Special intentions for Christopher, Hope, Marc, Benjamin, Morgan, Aubree, Eleanor, Owen, Oliver & Reni
Divine Mercy God’s blessings, good health & happy birthday to Msgr. Bocian by Leo & Pat
Divine Mercy In memory of Mom Mom Schreppel & family by Michele Day
Divine Mercy Good health & God’s blessings for Maria by Mom
Blessed Mother In memory of John McGuire by Wife, Peg
Blessed Mother It has been 3 years since my good friend Tally is gone... sadly missed by your good friend, Gene
Blessed Mother In memory of John & Helen Pukavige by children
Blessed Mother In loving memory of Joe & Joestelle by Wife/Mother
Blessed Mother In memory of Frances “Fran” (Glowacki) Lesko by Majewski Cousins
Blessed Mother Special intentions, in thanksgiving & good health for Msgr. Bocian, Stephen Bocian, George Huss, Estelle McLaren, Joann Pribish, Mrs. Buchinsky, Scarlet Henry, Frankie Pettinato, Barry Boyer & Christa Beecroft
Blessed Mother Good health & God’s blessings to my three good friends, John & Elaine Harkins & Geri Talerico by Gene
Blessed Mother Living & deceased members of St. Cecelia’s Choir by A.M.
Sacred Heart In loving memory of my Dad, George Rittle by Daughter, Maria
Sacred Heart Special intentions for Christopher, Marc & Christa
St. Anthony Special intentions for Christopher, Marc & Christa

Chapel

Sanctuary Special intentions by Msgr. B
Blessed Mother Prayers & good health for Emily Seigel by Uncle Ed & Aunt Kerri
St. Joseph Special intentions by Msgr. B

Payments for Parish Funerals

Funeral fees must be paid 24 hours prior to the burial. We ask that the family of the deceased come to the parish office and pay directly to the church. Please make no payment to the funeral directors. If payment is not received within 24 hours of burial, there cannot be any burial in the parish cemetery. Also, all Lot Care (Perpetual Care/Cemetery Care) must be current including current burial.

“I Need All Eternity to Love Them.”

Jesus confided these words to Bl. Gabrielle Bossis referring to us. By spending time with God, we get vital graces and limitless love. God wants to spend all eternity with us. Can you give five minutes to Him today?

“Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but abides forever. As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the LORD surrounds his people” (Psalm 125:1-2).

Bautismos Todos están invitados a bautizar a sus hijos. Aún si usted no está casado en la Iglesia se puede bautizar a su bebé. Sin embargo, le pedimos que seleccione una pareja que se casó en la Iglesia Católica para ser sus padrinos. Si un padrino / madrina es una persona soltera, él / ella puede convertirse en una condición de que, esa persona ha recibido el bautismo. Por favor, tenga en cuenta que una pareja, civilmente casada o una persona que vive junto a otra persona como una pareja no está calificada para ser un padrino/madrina. Si son de fuera de nuestra parroquia, por favor, díles de obtener un certificado de elegibilidad de su pastor al menos dos semanas de anticipación. Padre llevará a cabo clases de bautismo, tanto para los padres y padrinos y administrar el rito del bautismo. Por favor, visite la oficina parroquia(108 W.Cherry St., Shenandoah. Teléfono 570 (462)968) para reservar fechas y rellenar formularios. El proceso es muy fácil.

Rosary -- Our Lady of Fatima will be held on Sunday, October 13th at 6:00 PM in Our Lady of Fatima Cemetery at the Grotto. **Please Note: Time Change**



2025 Mass Book for Divine Mercy Parish will open on Tuesday, October 22nd. The **Diocesan Mass Stipend is set at \$ 10.00.** When requesting a Mass for 2025, the stipend must be paid before it can be written in the Mass Book. Each parishioner will be allowed **one weekday Mass and one weekend Mass.** **Please note: For every Mass for 2025 we will be asking for a contact name, address and phone number. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter! Remember, the Mass Book fills up quickly!** Candles will also be taken for 2025 at this time. If you would like to have a candle lit on a special day in any of the parishes, it is important that you notify us as soon as possible. The dates fill quickly.

Annual Father Ciszek Mass

The annual Father Walter Ciszek Day will be held on Sunday, October 20th. It is a day to celebrate Father Ciszek’s extraordinary faith in God and commitment to his priestly vows and vocation. The Mass will be at St. Casimir Church, 229 North Jardin Street, Shenandoah, PA at 2:00 PM. Rev. Brian M. Miller, Pastor of St. Catharine of Siena Parish, Reading, PA will be the homilist. Light refreshments will be available in the church hall after Mass. Also, related items concerning Fr. Walter will be available for purchase. The new Prayer League Center at 218 West Cherry Street, Shenandoah will be opened from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM showing video of Fr. Ciszek.



Important Notice

The annual Priests’ Convocation will be held this year from Tuesday, October 22nd, Wednesday, October 23rd, Thursday, October 24th and Friday, October 25th. Instead of two sessions as in the past, there will be only one general session this year. As a result, all priests will be attending the Convocation at this time. **However, there will be NO Mass from Wednesday, October 23rd through Friday, October 25th.** And there will be **NO** funerals scheduled from October 23rd through October 25th. All Funeral Masses will be scheduled beginning on Monday, October 28th. They will be scheduled as they come in. Burials will be able to take place as long as no priest is needed for prayers at the cemetery.

Anointing of the sick will be done if a priest can be found to do it. Both nursing homes have been notified.

Information Regarding Opening of Divine Mercy Church & Closing of St. Casimir

Beginning Monday, October 21st, all Masses will be held at Divine Mercy Church due to high cost of oil. All Masses include: Saturday, Sunday, Weekday Masses, Funerals, Weddings & Spanish Mass.

All Saints Day (Holyday of Obligation) Mass Schedule will be as follows:

Thursday, October 31st	5:30 PM	Divine Mercy
Friday, November 1st	7:30 AM	Divine Mercy
Friday, November 1st	7:00 PM	Divine Mercy -- Spanish

Diocesan Information

If a Prenatal Diagnosis is Poor... You are not alone. There is help. The Diocese of Allentown has a network of concerned parents and professionals who have experienced or worked closely with issues surrounding poor prenatal diagnosis. For support, contact: Sr. Janice Marie Johnson, . Johnson@allentowndiocese.org or 610-289-8900 x 245.

Victim Assistance Coordinator The Diocese of Allentown provides assistance to anyone who, as a minor, was sexually abused by a priest, deacon, or employee/volunteer of the Diocese/Parish. Parents, guardians, children and survivors of sexual abuse are invited and encouraged to contact the Diocese of Allentown for more information about this program. The fullness of compassion should be extended to these victims by the Church. Victim Assistance Coordinator—**Direct Telephone Number:** 1-800-791-9209.

To learn more about the Diocese of Allentown’s Youth Protection Programs, Sexual Abuse Policy, and Code of Conduct, please visit www.allentowndiocese.org and click on “Youth Protection ” in the upper right hand- corner of the page.

Attention all Safe Environment Coordinators!

Mandated reporter trainings and Protecting God’s Children Workshops will now be available virtually. If you are interested, please contact Pam Russo Secretary, Youth Protection and Catholic Human Services

P.O. Box F, Allentown, PA 18105-1538
610-871-5200 ext. 2204
prusso@allentowndiocese.org

Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service

If you have an allegation of abuse against a bishop, please contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service at www.ReportBishopAbuse.org or by calling 800-276-1562

Servicio de Denuncia de Abusos de Obispos Católicos

Si tiene una denuncia de abuso contra un Obispo, comuníquese con el Servicio de Denuncias de Abuso de Obispos Católicos en www.ReportBishopAbuse.org o llamando al 800-276-1562



Did you start thinking about Christmas Gifts? What about a Scented candle?

Divine Mercy Parish will sponsor a Scented Candle fundraiser for the Christmas Holiday. Candles are made by Byrne Candle, Scranton. Candles are made with soy wax, natural fiber wick and phthalate free oils. **Size: 9 oz.** Locally inspired and Scranton Made

See form below

CANDLE ORDER - PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY ORDER FORM

Please fill out form below and return to the Parish Office:

Name: _____ Price: \$ 10.00 each
Phone: _____ **Deadline for Orders: November 5th**
Date of Pick Up: **Friday, December 6th from 1 PM to 3 PM @ Trinity School**

- _____ Cinnamon & Apple
- _____ Pumpkin Bourbon Donut
- _____ Christmas Tree Farm (Frasier Fir)
- _____ Pocono Mountain Holly (Hollyberry)
- _____ Hot Chocolate
- _____ Queen City Snowfall (Iced Vanilla Woods)
- _____ Citrus Garland



WEEKLY MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR OCTOBER 19TH & 20TH

Mass Time	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server
4:00 PM @ DM	Elchisak, Michele	Webb, Jacqueline	Arias, Paco Jesus Hernandez, Omar
7:30 AM @ SC	Oravitz Fell, Marguerite	Blank, Name	Snitzer, Isabella
10:00 AM @ SC	Grochowski, Jennifer	Domkus, Frances	Estrada, Jose & Caesar
2:00 PM @ SC Fr. Ciszek Mass	Nolan Daynorowicz	Lillian Engle	Nolan Daynorowicz

Marian Catholic High School Fall Open House

Saturday, Oct. 19th, 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM - Meet teachers, administration, and tour the school with our Student Ambassadors. For more information, call Mary Milosh at 467-3335 ext 117 or mmilosh@mariancatholicshs.org

Special Collection for the Relief of those affected by Hurricane Helene October 26th and 27th

Hurricane Helene has struck hard and caused much damage across the Southeastern Region of the United States of America. In addition to over 200 lives lost, the storms have left large areas in utter destruction which will take months, if not years, to rebuild. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has requested that each Bishop take up a collection within his Diocese to aid in the recovery efforts. The funds raised for this purpose will be administered through the Bishops’ Emergency Disaster Fund, which will work with Catholic Charities USA for the distribution of the monies. Bishop Schlert has authorized this collection to be taken up in the parishes in the Diocese of Allentown . This will be a cash collection; no special envelope will be provided.

Redner’s “Save – A- Tape” Receipts

Divine Mercy Parish is still collecting the “Save-A-Tape” from Redner’s Markets. Please drop off your receipts in the collection or mail box or bring them to the parish office during regular office hours. The parish will receive a check for 1% of what is collected. Please support your parish and collect the receipts. Thank you for all of your support throughout the year. It is greatly appreciated. **Please do not cut any of the receipt away.**

A Little Reminder For Cemetery Lot Owners

in order to keep bringing all our Parish Cemeteries in line with the guidelines and regulations of the Diocese the following will still be enforced: all bricks, fine & crushed stone, plants, fresh & plastic flowers not in containers, fences, borders of all types will be removed & discarded immediately due to the fact that they cause a problem for maintenance of your lot. Again, anything that interferes with the mowing & trimming of grass will be removed at the family’s expense. Containers should not interfere with the care of the cemetery grounds. If they do, the containers will be removed immediately. No planting of flowers, trees, or shrubs allowed. Plastic flowers must be in containers also.

BECAUSE WE ARE CATHOLIC DAILY MASSES

**Masses Celebrated by
The Most Reverend
Alfred A. Schlert D.D.
Monday, October 28th**

St. Teresa of Calcutta, Mahanoy City –
6:00 PM
600 W. Mahanoy Avenue, Mahanoy City

Followed by light refreshments in the Parish Center



Financial Report --August

Net August Income	\$ 24,224.58	Expenses	\$ 23,327.37	1`
		Insurance	\$ 7,422.00	
		Assessments	\$ 4,023.00	
Total Income	\$ 24,224.58	Total Expenses	\$ 34,772.37	
		Net Loss	\$ 10,547.79	



Our parish is in need of Lectors, Altar Servers and Eucharistic Ministers. If you are interested in any of these ministries, we ask that you please call the parish office at 462-1968..

Works of Mercy

The Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy are actions we can perform that extend God’s compassion and mercy to those in need.

The Corporal Works of Mercy are these kind acts by which we help our neighbors with their material and physical needs.

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Feed the hungry | Visit the sick |
| Give drink to the thirsty | Visit the imprisoned |
| Clothe the naked | Bury the dead |
| Shelter the homeless | |

The Spiritual Works of Mercy are acts of compassion, as listed below by which we help our neighbors with their emotional and spiritual needs.

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Counsel the doubtful | Forgive offenses |
| Instruct the ignorant | Bear wrongs patiently |
| Admonish sinners | Pray for the living and the dead |

Join St. Joseph Center for Special Learning on October 19th for an unforgettable evening at Mountain Valley Seasons Restaurant, celebrating our 69th Anniversary Diamond Gala! Celebrate this milestone with us as we embrace the theme, “Imagine the Possibilities.” Enjoy an elegant night of inspiration, entertainment, and community, where together, we’ll dream of a future full of endless opportunities. Don’t miss this special event! Visit www.stjosephctr.com for more details.

Food Truck Again at Divine Mercy Parish.....

Catholic Charities’ Community Café Food Truck will be on site at the Divine Mercy Church Parish parking lot on Thursday, October 24th from Noon to 1:30 PM. All are welcome to join us for a complimentary hot lunch! Meet Catholic Charities’ staff and volunteers and enjoy a delicious meal! The food truck will be visiting Divine Mercy each month, so keep an eye out for further dates. If you are interested in volunteering to help with the food truck ministry, please contact Pam Russo at prusso@allentowndiocese.org or 610-871-5200, ext. 2204. Anyone is welcome to come and receive a free meal No questions asked or no payment or donation is requested.

Catholic Charities is looking for one or two part time drivers for its food truck mission. Hours are Monday through Thursday, approximately 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. The truck is loaded and unloaded at Holy Family Parish Hall, located in Minersville, PA and the truck serves various communities each day in Schuylkill County. A standard PA Drivers license, a clean driving record and background clearances are required. Basic truck maintenance experience is also helpful. Anyone interested in the position should contact Andrea Kochan Neagle, Catholic Charities Managing Director, at aneagle@allentowndiocese.org or call 610-435-1541 ext. 5334.

All Souls Day Envelopes please list the names of all those you would like remembered on the back of your envelope. The names listed will be remembered during the month of November at all Masses.

Parish Dues for 2025 for Divine Mercy Parish are now payable for any registered parishioner 21 years of age and older at the parish office, 108 West Cherry St. If dues are paid by January 31, 2025, dues are \$ 50.00 per individual. If paid after January 31, 2025, dues are \$ 60.00 per individual.

October, the Month of the Holy Rosary
Is a good time to consider the rosary and it's place in your family. Can you find time to say a decade or more of the rosary together for the intentions of your family and for the intentions of the world? From May to October 1917, Mary appeared monthly to three children in Fatima, Portugal. She told them to pray the rosary for peace in the world. Evil in our world can only be overcome by prayer. Consider joining with people throughout the world in praying for peace.

Advice on Patience From a Saint With a Temper

St. Francis de Sales, usually known for his meekness and patience, also had a fiery temper, and struggled against it all his life. Here are his tried-and-true tips for staying patient in a bad moment:

Avoid speaking while angry. St. Francis said, "It is better to drive it away quickly than to start a discussion with it." Even if you're right, what is said in anger is rarely effective. Most of the time, you end up apologizing anyway. **Regain self-control "quietly and simply."** Only God never has "bad hair days." Focus on staying calm. Be patient with everyone, including yourself. **Prayer always helps.** St. Francis said to call on the Lord as the apostles did in the storm. Jesus, who calmed the wind and the waves, "will command your passions to cease and there will be a great calm."
Apologize quickly. If your anger does get the better of you, offer an act of gentleness towards the person right away (or as soon as you're feeling better). The sooner, the better.

Upcoming Events

Back From the Dead Cemetery Walk - October 25th - The Back from the Dead Tour is a walk through the grounds of the Seton Shrine where participants will experience the Saints come back to life for one evening Call 429-0370 now to reserve your seat. Cost of the Trip is \$40.00 per person. Please bring a brown bag dinner or snacks and a drink as no meals will be provided. The bus will depart from the Carroll Street lot at 4:00 PM sharp. Estimated arrival time in Emmitsburg is between 6:00PM & 6:30 PM with time to eat brown bag dinner upon arrival. Tours are at 7:45 PM and 8:00 PM. Departure time from Emmitsburg will be between 8:30 PM & 9:00 PM with an estimated arrival back in St. Clair between 10:30 PM & 11:00 PM. Time permitting, one can visit the Basilica, say a prayer at the crypt of Mother Seton, and/or visit the gift shop.

Fall Roofstock 2024 Band: Another Side will be held at St. Joseph the Worker Parish Hall (Annunciation BVM), 9 South Broad Mountain Avenue will be held on Saturday, November 16th from 7:00 PM to 11:00 PM – Advanced tickets \$10.00 and at the door \$15.00. Refreshments & adult beverages will be available for purchase. Must be 21 years of age or older.

The following is a statement from Catholic Charities, Diocese of Allentown, attributable to Andrea Kochan Neagle, JD, Catholic Charities Managing Director: Expanded food service for the hungry in Schuylkill County officially began on September 30th. Catholic Charities will continue its regular meals in Pottsville while offering additional food service in 10 other communities. While I am gratified to be able to provide this good news to the community, all of us at Catholic Charities are saddened that there has been so much unnecessary confusion and misinformation over this issue. Here are the facts: **Meal service in Pottsville** – Meals will be offered three times per week from the Catholic Charities Community Café food truck, parked on Mahantongo Street across from St. Patrick's church. Service next week will be on September 30th, October 2nd, and October 3rd from 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM. Dates and times for future weeks will be announced well in advance so everyone can know when they can get a meal. With this change, the former soup kitchen on Mahantongo Street will close. **Expanded meal service in 10 other communities** -- Our expanded food truck meal service now will be available in Ashland, Frackville, Mahanoy City, McAdoo, Minersville, New Philadelphia, Ringtown, Shepton, Tamaqua, and Tremont. Service days and times will be announced. **Questions about donations to Catholic Charities** – Unfortunately, there has been a large amount of incorrect information and speculation in one local media outlet and on social media about generous donations made to our food service operations. A donation of \$100,000 was made to Catholic Charities in late 2021, and we have invested that in an endowment fund, meaning that it will continue to benefit food access in Schuylkill County well into the future. If other donations are made to support food service in Pottsville or throughout the county, Catholic Charities will use the money as specified by the donor -- as we always do. Catholic Charities is very transparent about its operations. Every year, as is required of any charitable organization, we file a Form 990 with the federal government. It's a clear explanation of our finances, and it's easy to find that form online with a simple Google search. The men and women at Catholic Charities, including our hard-working volunteers, staff, and our generous donors, are doing their absolute best to serve the needs of our communities. That includes finding the best way to provide needed meals, not only in Pottsville, but throughout Schuylkill County. I am proud of what Catholic Charities has done here in Schuylkill County, and of what we will continue to do. I think a review of the facts – rather than paying attention to rumors -- is the best way to judge us. I invite everyone in our communities to join us -- as a volunteer, as a donor, or as both – as we continue to feed the hungry and provide compassionate care for all.

Accept what **IS**,
let go of what **WAS**,
and have *faith*
in what **WILL BE**.