TWELFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Flowers are designated by Jeanette Devine for a Special Intention.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM WEEK

Mass Intentions:

Saturday June 22	5:30pm	Richard J. Smith
Sunday June 23	7:30am	People of the Parish
	10:00am	Deceased Members of Mark Smith Family
Monday June 24	12:15pm	Fred Glass
Tuesday June 25	12:15pm	Richard & Mary Gebhart
Wednesday June 26	8:30am	Andrew Idavoy
Thursday June 27	12:15pm	Richard & Elizabeth Brown
Friday June 28	12:15pm	Johannes John Divendahl & Barbara Weise Diefendahl
Saturday June 29	5:30pm	Living & Deceased Members of James & Patricia Rosner Family
Sunday June 30	7:30am	50th Anniversary of Angela & Francis Felix
	10:00am	People of the Parish

Weekday Masses will be celebrated in the Chapel of the Convent at 55 Basilica Drive.*

Weekend Masses In Gym*

** Independence Day July 4 and First Friday July 5 liturgies will be in the gym.*

Summer Bible Study: "Where are you, God?!?"

Save the Dates!

Why is it that sometimes God seems to be absent or at least silent when everything is going wrong? Let's talk. Come and ponder with us where God is in the midst of life's misfortunes. Then, let's figure out what we can do differently.

When God seems absent:

In temptation -- Monday July 1
In failure -------- Monday July 15
In tragedy------- Monday July 29

Our presenter is Fr. Schlaline. Each evening begins at **6:30 pm in the gym**. Bring along your Bible and a friend! All are welcome.

Liturgical Schedule for The Feast of the Assumption

***Wednesday August 14*:**
7:00pm -- Vigil Mass

***Thursday August 15*:**
8:30am -- Mass
5:30pm -- Mass
6:30pm -- Light **supper** in the parish gym in celebration of the 173rd anniversary of the Consecration of the Church. Tickets will be available at the end of July and beginning of August.

Save the Date: Forty Hours

Our parish's Forty Hours Eucharistic Devotions will be September 15-17 this year. The preacher this year will be **Deacon Gregory Amarante**, the diocese's Secretary for Catholic Life and Evangelization.

Building Projects this week

- Replacement of roof on 1902 part of the school☞
- Pew restoration
- Hardwood floor install
- Adjustments to BVM chapel doorways to make rectory bathroom accessible

Parish Picnic

Saturday July 20, 2024
11:00am – 8:00pm
at 3175 Centennial Road, Hanover

Volunteer to help out at the parish picnic this year! Sign-up sheets with specific responsibilities are in the gym near the kitchen. There will be a preparation meeting at 6:00 pm on Wednesday June 26 in the parish meeting room. Please come and help out.

Picnic Donations

We are looking for donations as prizes for the children's games. Please drop off all donations before or after mass in the gym in the designated box. For donations outside of mass times, please drop off in the box on the covered porch of the rectory. Thank you so much!

Diocesan Annual Campaign Update

SCAN ME

Thank you to all who have contributed to the diocesan annual campaign this year. As of June 13, we now have raised **$64,825** toward our goal of **$67,987**. We still need to raise another **$3,162** to reach our goal. Please consider making an additional donation.

PA March for Life

Monday September 23, 2024

Bus departs at 7:45am and returns by 2:30pm.

There will be 40 spots available on a school bus for the PA March for Life in Harrisburg. More information and registration to come.

Thinking about becoming Catholic?

Contact Kelly and Don Jenkins at ConewagoRCIA@gmail.com .
Come to RCIA Sessions
Sessions will be Monday evenings at 6:30pm starting Monday August 19.

Mission Co-Op Next Weekend

Next weekend, Fr. John Callan, Sch.P., a missionary from the Piarist Fathers Mission Office will be here to share with us his work, ministry and missionary experiences. Your generous sacrifice in the second collection next weekend makes possible the continuation of this ministry in mission lands. Please pray for the work of this missionary group. The weekend is sponsored by the diocesan office of the Pontifical Mission Societies. The Societies support the Church in mission dioceses worldwide until they become self-sufficient. Online contributions to this mission may also be made through the Missions Office home page at www.hbgdiocese.org/missions, which has a "Donation" button; Gift Direction- Missionary Cooperative Appeal. When you identify your parish, the contributions will go to the correct mission group.

Hoss's Day- this Tuesday

Pick up a coupon at the back of the church or use the one below. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to Sacred Heart.

Faith at Work

Pray that business leaders would be free to promote a culture of life in their workplaces.

Reflect: The Catholic Church calls the lay faithful to bring their faith to bear on all spheres of life. Whether we are praying, serving those in need, or working at our daily jobs, we are always Catholic. The Pregnant Workers Fairness Act (PWFA) was passed with the support of the USCCB. The bishops commended the PWFA's requirement that employers grant pregnant women reasonable workplace accommodations. However, in its rules implementing the PWFA, the Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) requires that employers give employees leave for the purposes of obtaining an abortion. A federal mandate that private entities be complicit in second and third-trimester abortions is unprecedented. The EEOC's stated interpretation of PWFA's religious exemption appears to render it effectively meaningless.

Act: Sign up for action alerts from the USCCB so you can join the Committee's efforts to encourage Congressional action responding to the EEOC's PWFA regulations.

Meanwhile, religious employers should honor the pro-woman, pro-life intent of the law Congress passed, and grant pregnant employees reasonable accommodations that allow them to have healthy pregnancies. It will make for a stronger case in the event an employee asks for leave to get an abortion. It is also the right thing to do.

Catholic Healthcare

Pray that governments will respect the consciences of all individuals and institutions that care for the sick and vulnerable.

Reflect: For centuries, Christians have carried on the healing ministry of Christ by building institutions dedicated to medicine and accompaniment of the dying. However, Catholic hospitals and medical professionals face numerous challenges to their mission today. For years, activists have sought to undermine the Church's mission by forcing Catholic hospitals to perform procedures that destroy human life and undermine human dignity, such as sterilization, sex reassignment surgery, and even abortion. People of faith who work in secular institutions may find themselves coerced into performing abortions. Under President Biden, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) would consider it to be discrimination for a health care worker to categorically object to performing gender transition procedures, regardless of whether that objection is a matter of religious belief or clinical judgment. HHS's implementation of Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act includes regulations that would require most health insurance issuers to cover gender transition procedures, so the regulations may make it difficult for religious organizations as employers to find companies who will provide insurance coverage that is consistent with their religious beliefs and the consciences of medical professionals who seek to carry out the healing ministry of Christ.

Act: The period for submitting comments on these proposed regulations has ended, but our advocacy continues. Sign up to receive alerts on new opportunities to let government agencies in Washington know that you support the Church's right to operate her institutions in accordance with her faith in Jesus Christ.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM WEEK

Freedom to Speak the Truth

Pray that the Holy Spirit would give us the courage to bear witness to the truth of the gospel, even in the face of social and legal pressure.

Reflect: All baptized Christians are called to share the joy of the gospel with others. But in numerous settings, such as schools, workplaces and health care facilities, individuals are being pressured to conform to the orthodoxy of gender ideology. Under the current administration, government agencies are proposing regulations that, in the name of prohibiting harassment, would limit or prohibit speech that upholds the nature of conjugal marriage, the bodily reality of human beings, and even the sanctity of life. We certainly should approach people who disagree with us on these issues with tenderness and compassion, but that does not mean we should be forced to speak untruthfully. And in a pluralistic society, the government should afford ample space for people of different backgrounds and worldviews to be able to work together.

Act: Be an example of how people of faith can voice beliefs about love and marriage with clarity and compassion. The Love Means More Initiative is an ongoing campaign that takes a deep dive into the meanings of love. It is a versatile resource for Catholic catechists, as well as "seekers" from any religious background, but also welcomes those who profess no religious background at all. Learn more at lovemeansmore.org/.

India

Pray for our Christian brothers and sisters in India, who face harassment and violent attacks.

Reflect: Traditionally, many cultures and religious communities have thrived alongside one another in India which, according to its Constitution, was established as a "socialist, secular, democratic republic" so that all citizens were to be treated equally regardless of religious identity. But since 2014, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, have promoted a Hindu nationalist ideology (Hindutva) so that to be Indian is to be Hindu. Consequently, Muslims (about 14% of the population), Christians (slightly over 2%), and other religious minorities face discrimination and find themselves under attack. A civil society organization reported a four-fold increase in attacks against Christians between 2012 and 2022. In the state of Manipur, the minority Christian population has faced harassment and attacks at the hands of Hindu nationalists. Since May 2023, around 300 churches have been set on fire, and 100 other buildings belonging to Christian groups have been destroyed. Around 50,000 people have been displaced by these hostilities. Hate speech, particularly against Muslims, is on the rise and violence is committed against minorities with impunity as police do little to protect those being persecuted and may actually participate in the attacks. Incitement to violence escalated as the May 2024 elections loomed. In response, the Catholic Bishops Conference of India has called the faithful to prayer and peaceful engagement as citizens, while also demanding that the government uphold the Fundamental and Minority Rights guaranteed by the Constitution.

Act: Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA) was founded by Pope Pius XI in 1926 as an instrument of love and a sign of hope for those in need scattered throughout the historic but unstable lands of the ancient Eastern churches: The Middle East, Northeast Africa, India and Eastern Europe. Connect with CNEWA at cnewa.org/.

Service to Immigrants

Pray that the Lord would protect all migrants and refugees, and that all those who work with people on the move would be free to serve.

Reflect: As part of their duty to uphold the common good, civil authorities are responsible for ensuring public order, including by maintaining national borders. At the same time, the Church is commanded by Jesus Christ to serve vulnerable populations, including migrants and refugees, and recognize their God-given dignity. The Church has long sought to serve the needs of "people on the move," by providing for basic needs, assisting them with refugee resettlement, and offering legal services to help newcomers navigate the expectations of their receiving country. Sadly, in recent years, Christian services to migrants have faced vile attacks by both media personalities and political leaders seeking to make a point about current immigration trends. Debates about immigration and borders are simply part of American political life, and Christians should do their part to make those discussions healthy and productive. The attacks on Catholic charitable services, which have led to threats of violence against the faithful and those they serve, have nothing to do with healthy debate. A nation that respects its religious institutions will recognize the Church's right to carry out her mission to vulnerable people, including migrants and refugees.

Act: Catholic social teaching recognizes a country's right and responsibility to manage its borders in accordance with the common good, and the U.S. bishops have been vocal proponents of immigration reform for many years. However, bills recently put forth in Congress, such as the USCCB-opposed Secure the Border Act (H.R. 2), which targets organizations serving newcomers, underscore both the partisan nature of the immigration debate and the potential for religious groups to be scapegoated for the consequences of public officials failing to achieve just, bipartisan solutions on immigration. Some lawmakers are demanding that H.R. 2 be enacted as a condition for passing bills that fund the federal government. Take action today to encourage Congress to work toward bipartisan immigration reform that furthers the common good, upholds religious freedom, and respects the God-given dignity of all.

Civility

Pray that God would give us the grace to remember the dignity of all and invite others to do the same.

Reflect: As Catholics, we take to heart Jesus' invitation to follow the example of the Good Samaritan, who challenges us to "become neighbors to all" (no. 80). As a Church and a nation, we are polarized and divided. But as Pope Francis writes in *Fratelli Tutti*, we can seek "a better kind of politics, one truly at the service of the common good" (no. 154). We can see ourselves as members of one family. We can seek to encounter and to grow. We can identify common values. We can listen to understand. We can seek the truth together. We can jointly come up with creative solutions to the problems that face our world.

Act: Are you interested in learning more about civil dialogue or about how your community can engage in civil dialogue more often? Join USCCB's Civilize It Campaign to help promote dignity beyond debate. Visit www.usccb.org/civilizeit for more information, to take the pledge, or plan an opportunity for civil dialogue in your community.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM WEEK

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM WEEK

Reflections from the website of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (www.usccb.org)

Respect for Sacred Spaces

Pray that all people of faith would be free to gather in houses of worship without fear.

Reflect: The very nature of a sacred space is that it is set apart from other spaces as a place to seek communion with the divine and thus should be treated with respect. In a pluralistic society such as ours, respect for sacred spaces is especially vital for the sake of civil peace, which is part of the common good. In recent years, a wave of vandalism and arson has hit Catholic churches and statues. There have been over 320 attacks so far, and that number steadily continues to grow. Christians are not alone in defending their sacred spaces. The terrorist attacks against Israel and ensuing outbreak of war caused anti-Semitic incidents in the U.S. to skyrocket, including shocking displays of open hatred, with anti-Muslim acts committed as well. There is no greater threat to religious liberty than for one's house of worship to become a place of danger, and the country sadly finds itself in a place where that danger is real. We Catholics can express our solidarity with the whole human family by working to build a culture where all houses of worship are treated with respect.

Act: Religious communities express their faith through their sacred art and architecture. Sacred spaces and devotional art all testify to the strength and hope of these diverse communities. How has this legacy affected you? Share an image of your favorite church building or other house of worship, devotional art, or other sacred sign of faith with us on X! @USCCBFreedom

Blasphemy & Apostasy Laws

Pray for all people of faith who live in fear of persecution under unjust blasphemy laws.

Reflect: All around the world, people accused of blasphemy and apostasy are suffering for their faith or lack thereof. In 2022, the Pew Research Center found that 79 countries out of the 198 they studied have laws banning blasphemy. According to Pew, 90 percent of countries in the Middle East and North Africa have blasphemy laws as well as 34% of countries in the Asia/Pacific region, 31% of European countries, 34% of Latin American countries, and 38% of Sub-Saharan African countries. Penalties for blasphemy vary considerably, ranging from fines to prison sentences to executions. Seven countries have the death penalty for blasphemy – Nigeria, Pakistan, Iran, Afghanistan, Somalia, Mauritania, and Saudi Arabia. In Nigeria, in March 2020, a Sufi Muslim singer, Yahaya Sharif-Aminu, was charged with blasphemy and his house burned by a mob because a song he wrote that was viewed as insulting to the Prophet Muhammad, was circulated on social media. Without legal representation, he was convicted, and sentenced to death by hanging by a local Sharia judge; he remains in prison.

Act: Under the guidance of the Holy Father, Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) provides pastoral and humanitarian assistance to the persecuted Church around the world. For more than 74 years, our donors have reached out to the suffering, the distressed and the poorest of the poor in over 145 countries. Today, ACN continues working to counter the persecution of Catholics. Connect with ACN and support their work today at www.churchinneed.org/.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM WEEK

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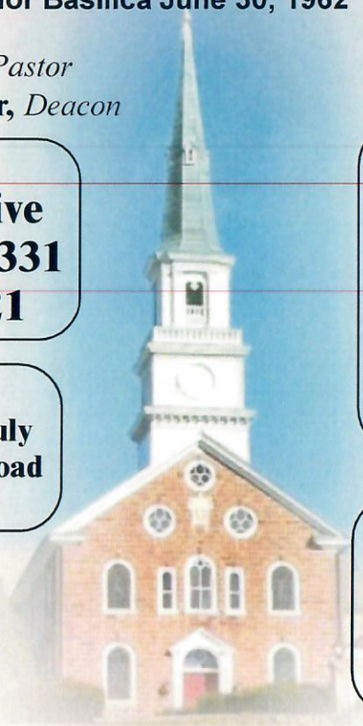

Parish Office
30 Basilica Drive
Hanover, PA 17331
(717) 637-2721

Parish Picnic
Third Saturday of July
@ 3175 Centennial Road
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Convent
55 Basilica Drive
Hanover, PA 17331
(717) 637-3370

Saint Teresa of Calcutta Interparochial School
stck8school.org

Conewago Campus (pre-K- 3)
55 Basilica Drive, Hanover
(717) 632-8715

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316 North Street, McSherrystown
(717) 637-3135

Delone Catholic High School
delonecatholic.org
140 South Oxford Avenue
McSherrystown, PA 17344
(717) 637-5969

Weekend Schedule

Saturday: 4:00pm Confessions
5:30pm Vigil Mass
Sunday: 7:30am Mass
10:00am Mass

First Friday of the Month

6:00pm: Adoration & Confessions
7:00pm: Mass

Other Mass Times

Times vary. Check weekly bulletin.

Baptism & Anointing of the Sick

Call parish office.

Marriages

Couples contemplating marriage are to approach the pastor at least nine months before the date on which they hope to marry.