The background of the entire page is a photograph of a person seen from behind, standing with their arms raised in a gesture of prayer or praise. They are silhouetted against a bright, golden-yellow sky, likely during sunrise or sunset. The person is positioned in the lower half of the frame, with their arms extending upwards towards the top corners. The sky is filled with soft, wispy clouds, and the overall color palette is dominated by warm, golden tones. The entire image is enclosed within a thin black border.

# HERE I AM, Lord

PSALM 40

*St. Joseph Parish  
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to Bennetts Valley  
since 1872*

**Parish Stewardship for 2022-2023**

Weekly amount budgeted for 2022-2023 .....	\$3,365.00
Offertory collection 12/26/22 thru 1/2/23 .....	\$3,723.00
Offertory collection 1/2/23 thru 1/9/23 .....	\$3,465.00
CSA 2022 Campaign Parish Goal .....	\$32,404.00
CSA pledges as of 1/9/2023 .....	\$25,690.00

Thank you for supporting St. Joseph

**Pope's Intention for January**

We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fellowship rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.



"Pray the Rosary everyday to obtain peace for the world."  
Join us in St. Joseph Church  
each Tuesday 6 p.m.



**Faith Formations classes  
resume January 15th.**

**Confirmation Class  
resumes January 15th  
at 10:30 am**



**Baptismal Training  
January and February 2023**

January 18	7:00 pm	Holy Rosary, Johnsonburg	965-2819
February 7	7:00 pm	St. Joseph, Force	787-4151
February 23	7:00 pm	St. Mark, Emporium	486-0569

Let us pray for the happy repose of the soul of **Donna Bruni** who passed on December 29, 2022 and of **Victor Cortina** who passed on January 1, 2023.

May they Rest In Peace. Amen.

A ProLife Mass will be celebrated on January 20th at 1pm at the Sacred Heart Church, St. Marys. The Mass is celebrated in conjunction with the 50th Anniversary of the annual March For Life in Washington, DC. Please join us as we pray for the unborn and to protect innocent life against radical pro abortion legislation. (Elk County Right To Life is sponsoring this event.)



**Let Music into Your Life  
Join the Choir  
Practice every Thursday  
at 6:00 pm.**

**New voices are always welcomed!**

**Haven't picked up your 2023 Calendar yet?  
The calendars are located in the vestibule—please feel  
free to take calendars home for your family, too!**

**St. Bernard Church, Falls Creek, will have its spaghetti dinner on Sunday, January 15. Dinner will be take-out only and be available 10:30 am—1pm or until sold out. Sauces and meatballs only will be available for take-out on Saturday, January 14 after 4:30 pm Mass. Please bring your own containers.**

**The Church Office will be closed Monday, January 16 in observance of the federal holiday for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**

**The Proclamation  
of the Gospel at Mass**

My brothers and sisters, the Holy Bible, these Sacred Scriptures, is God's Words to us to direct our lives on how to live in this life in order to prepare ourselves for our next life of eternity with God. But, ABOVE ALL, God's Word is His Love Letter to us. His letter tells us that He loves us so much, that He became one of us in the Person of Jesus Christ Our Lord, who taught us how to live, and Who suffered and died on the Cross for our sins and rose from the dead to give us the promise of eternal life. This truth is above all revealed in the four Gospels according to Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

"It is true that all scripture is inspired by God. But the Gospels have a special place 'because they are the principal witness for the life and teaching of the Incarnate Word, our Savior.' "

(Dr. Ed Sri The Mass pg. 79 and Dei Verbum, 24)

The Gospels, in other words, is the life, words, and actions of Jesus Our Savior.

The first preparation of the Gospel reading is standing as the "Alleluia", the Gospel Acclamation is sung or recited. This is an acclamation of praise to God in preparation of hearing the Gospel proclaimed. Next, there is a procession to the Ambo with the Book of the Gospels by the priest or deacon. The priest may pray a private prayer to prepare himself, or he would pray a prayer of blessing over the deacon before he would proclaim the Gospel. The Gospel reading is introduced by the words; "The Lord be with you" and the people's response; "And with your spirit." The dialogue continues - "A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew" and the people respond "Glory to You, O Lord." The priest or deacon now proclaims the Gospel reading and at the end he says "The Gospel of the Lord." People response, "Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ."

As we hear the content of the Gospel proclaimed, we hear stories and events of Jesus' life, His Birth, His Life with Mary and Joseph and eventually with His Apostles He had chosen. We hear the parables of Jesus which are illustrations of the daily lives of people that have a moral to teach. We hear about Jesus' conversations with confronting people like the scribes and pharisees. We especially hear of Jesus' tremendous love and mercy being poured out to heal the sick, the disabled, and public sinners. We hear of Jesus' tremendous miracles like the multiplication of the loaves and fish, the raising of Lazarus from the dead and finally Jesus' own death, resurrection, ascension into Heaven and sending the Holy Spirit upon His Followers and Disciples-the Church. WOW! The Gospels tell it all.

God Bless, Father Mark

# We Celebrate, We Listen, We Pray

Date	Intention	Requested by	Celebration	Scriptures
Monday, January 16, 2023 8:30 a.m. Mass	Ruth Cameroni	Bill, Matthew, Marnie, Megan, and Nick Lavigna	Weekday	Heb 5: 1-10 Mk 2: 18-22
Tuesday, January 17, 2023 8:30 a.m. Mass	George E. Berasi (Anniversary)	Marlene	Saint Anthony, Abbot	Heb 6: 10-20 Mk 2: 23-28
Wednesday, January 18, 2023 No Mass			Weekday	Heb 7: 1-3, 15-17 Mk 3: 1-6
Thursday, January 19, 2023 8:30 a.m. Mass	Thomas Dunham	Father Mark and Family	Weekday	Heb 7: 25 - 8: 6 Mk 3: 7-12
Friday, January 20, 2023 8:30 a.m. Mass	Victor Cortina	Bonnie Annis	Saint Fabian, Pope & Martyr; Saint Sebastian, Martyr	Heb 8: 6-13 Mk 3: 13-19
Saturday, January 21, 2023 No a.m. Mass			Saint Agnes, Virgin & Martyr	Heb 9: 2-3, 11-14 Mk 3: 20-21
Saturday, January 21 2023 5:30 p.m. Mass	Susan Huff	Ruth Wendel	<b>The Vigil of the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	(see below)
Sunday, January 22, 2023 9:15 a.m. Mass	Living and Deceased Parishioners		<b>The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	Is 8: 23- 9 :3 1 Cor 1:10-13, 17 Mt 4: 12-23 or 4: 12-17

Ph. 814-787-4151

**St. Joseph Church**

Fax 814-787-4478

Rev. Mark J. Mastrian..... Pastor  
Deacon Paul Bauman..... Deacon Assistant

Parish Secretary: **Marlene Berasi**; Faith Formation Coordinator: **Mary Stoker**; Domestic Administrator: **Miriam Pane**  
Pastoral Council President: **Bryan Chiappelli**; Finance Council Moderator: **Leon Calliari**

## Church Hours

**St. Joseph Church: Sun. 7:30 am — 4 pm; Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. 8 am—4 pm Sat. 9:00 am —7:00 pm**

17764 Bennetts Valley Hwy., P. O. Box 124, Force, PA 15841-0124

Office Email: [stjosephforce@windstream.net](mailto:stjosephforce@windstream.net) Website: [www.stjosephforce.org](http://www.stjosephforce.org) Faith Formation Email: [stjosephforceff@windstream.net](mailto:stjosephforceff@windstream.net)

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday .....9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

## LITURGY SCHEDULE

**Saturday Vigil:** 5:30 p.m; **Sunday:** 9:15 a.m; **Holy Days:** 9:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m; **Daily:** Mon., Tues., Thur., Fri. 8:30 a.m, No Mass Wednesday

## BULLETIN INFORMATION

Groups or individuals wishing to have information published in the bulletin are asked to submit the information in writing, by email or by phone by Monday at 10:00 a.m.

## SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION

**Baptism** – A baptism preparation session is required of all parents wishing to have their child(ren) baptized. Parents must be registered parishioners. Sessions are held periodically at parishes throughout the Deanery. It is always preferred that baptisms be celebrated during a regular Sunday Liturgy. Call the Parish office for more information.

**Eucharist** – Children preparing for Eucharist (Gr. 3) and who are active in the Faith Formation process (including Catholic School children) are eligible to enter the sacramental preparation sessions.

**Confirmation** – High School youth who are entering the 11<sup>th</sup> grade and who are active in the Faith Formation process or attend a Catholic High School since 9<sup>th</sup> grade are eligible to enter the Confirmation preparation sessions.

**R.C.I.A.** – Rite of Christian Initiation for adults are initiated into the Church through this process. Any individual who may be interested in becoming a member of the Catholic Church is invited. Please call the Church office.

## SACRAMENTS OF VOCATION

**Priesthood/Permanent Diaconate** – Men who feel that they may be being called to the vocational life of Priesthood or Diaconate can contact the pastor at any time or call the Diocesan Vocation Office at 814-824-1111.

**Matrimony** – There is a required preparation process which normally includes 3 sessions with the pastor and an Engagement Encounter or Nova experience. Please notify the pastor at least 6 months prior to the anticipated date of marriage.

## SACRAMENTS OF HEALING

**Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick**—Celebrated for all who are seriously ill annually at a parish Liturgy. The Sacrament is also available upon request.

**Reconciliation** – The sacrament is celebrated weekly on Saturday from 4:45 – 5:15 p.m, or anytime by request. Parish Penance services are celebrated during Advent and Lent. Children preparing for Reconciliation (Gr. 2) and who are active in the Faith Formation process (including Catholic School children) are eligible to enter the sacramental preparation sessions.



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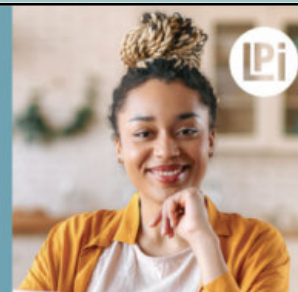
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## St. Joseph Church

### PARISHIONER INFORMATION

All practicing Catholics living in the Bennetts Valley Area who consider themselves members of St. Joseph Parish should be registered in the parish. All registered members of St. Joseph receive envelopes and receive periodic parish mailings. St. Joseph Parish is a Sacrificial Giving Parish, committed to serving the Lord with God-given time, talents and treasures. All registered members should be using their envelopes regularly. Parish membership is required to be a sponsor, to be married in the parish, to have a child baptized or to be registered in our Faith Formation program. Please call the church office to arrange a meeting to register in our parish.



3-D-4-2

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