



6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

He said to him, "See that you tell no one anything, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer for your cleansing what Moses prescribed; that will be proof for them." The man went away and began to publicize the whole matter. He spread the report abroad so that it was impossible for Jesus to enter a town openly. - Mk 1:44-45b

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Parish Stewardship

Offertory collection for 02/04/24. \$4915.50

Thank you for supporting St. Joseph Church!

**Pope's Intention for February
For the Terminally Ill**

Let us pray that the sick who are in the final stages of life, and their families, receive the necessary medical and human care and accompaniment.

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

Baptism Preparation Classes

February 29	6:30 pm	St. Mark Church (Emporium)	814-486-0569
March 23	10:00 am	Sacred Heart Church	814-834-7861
April 16	7:00 pm	St. Leo Church	814-772-3135

THANK YOU Mary and I want to take this opportunity to thank the Parish, and especially Rob and Bernadette Iddings, for the beautiful reception, despite the nasty weather. We were humbled by the turnout.

The past few months have been difficult for both of us as we discern God's Will for us. Mary will continue as a lector and extra ordinary minister and I will be working with Father in a private, not public, environment. So for now, thank you again for your love and prayers.

Deacon Paul and Mary Bauman

We will begin serving our Fish/Shrimp dinners Ash Wednesday, February 14th, and every Friday during Lent, from NOON to 6:30 pm (or until sold out). Cost is \$15/dinner. Come out to enjoy a delicious dinner and to support St. Joseph Church. See insert in this weekend's bulletin.

Parish Mission 2024 with Father Stephen Schreiber (Pastor of Holy Redeemer Parish in Warren) at St. Leo Church in Ridgway. Three days of Prayer, Reflection, and Song as we prepare for our Lenten journey. Feb. 11 @1pm, Feb. 12 @ 6pm, Feb. 13 @ 6pm. ALL ARE WELCOME!

The 2024 Catholic Services Appeal *One Faith, One Family* Commitment Sunday is this weekend in our parish. Please be on the lookout for your personal invitation in the mail. The CSA is an opportunity for Catholics throughout the Diocese to unite in carrying out the work of the Gospel. The CSA reminds us that we are all part of the same Catholic family and that the work of the Diocese is the work of the Church. The Church serves each of us and our support is essential in continuing God's Work in our area. Every CSA donation also brings us closer to being able to complete our own parish project of repairing and improving the area which is to the left of the front of the Church. We want to make it a safer and more level area to walk and also give easier access for a funeral. No gift is too small, but please give as generously as you can. Thank you!

An evening Mass will be celebrated at St. Marys Catholic Church on Feb.15th at 7:00pm, to begin the International Campaign of Prayer, Fasting, and Community Outreach to end abortion.



Humble, Positive Prayer Can Bring Healing

Our relationship with our family, friends, coworkers, and even people we meet, is so very important. As we learn about our faith in God, we realize that our relationship with God is the most important relationship we can ever have. As we strive to be kind, respectful, and humble to others, so too, are we to be in our relationship with God. Having a humble and positive attitude in our prayer to God in whatever we ask for in prayer, is what our Gospel Reading reveals to us this weekend.

In this Gospel according to Mark, we have a very good example of a person who had a trusting relationship with God, but not so good of a relationship with the people around him. It was not because he was a bad person, but rather because he had the terrible disease of leprosy and nobody wanted to be around him because of the highly contagious disease that leprosy is. In fact, as we heard in the First Reading from Leviticus, that those who had this disease were declared unclean and they had to stay away from others, "outside the camp." If anyone came near them unknowingly of their disease, the leper had to cry out "unclean, unclean." (Lv. Ch. 13: 45-46)

But what happened when he came to Jesus and humbly "kneeling down begged Him and said, 'if You wish, You can make me clean.'" (Mk. Ch. 1: 40) Did Jesus run away out of fear? No, of course not. It says that Jesus "moved with pity, He stretched out His Hand, touched him and said to him 'I do will it. Be made clean.'" (Mk. Ch. 1: 41)

My friends, Jesus enters into our wounds and illnesses, both physical and spiritual, because of His Mercy for us. When we humbly come to Jesus in prayer and ask Him for the healing we need, be honest and positive as you say-Lord, if You wish, You can heal me. Be patient when Jesus says back to you; I do will it. Be healed!

Be healed of this virus.
Be healed of this addiction.
Be healed of this chronic illness or pain.
Be healed of this terminal disease.
Be healed of this sinful attitude.

When we feel and see Jesus' Intervention in our lives in the form of Divine Healing, our humble and positive prayer life is affirmed and we gain a greater confidence in our relationship with God.

God Bless, Father Mark

We Celebrate, We Listen, We Pray

Date	Intention	Requested by	Celebration	Scriptures
Monday, February 12, 2024 8:30 a.m. Mass	Richard Bonanno	Rita Fenice	Weekday	Jas 1: 1-11 Mk 8: 11-13 (335)
Tuesday, February 13, 2024 8:30 a.m. Mass	Leo Brown birthday	Family	Weekday	Jas 1: 12-18 Mk 8: 14-21
Wednesday, February 14, 2024 9:00 am Mass 7:00 pm Mass	Art Zambanini Living & Deceased Parishioners of St. Joseph Church	wife Gen and daughter Pooney & family	Ash Wednesday	Jl 2: 12-18 2 Cor 5: 20--6: 2 Mt 6: 1-6, 16-18 (219)
Thursday, February 15, 2024 8:30 a.m. Mass	Eddie Zuchelli month's mind	Leo & Patty Klebacha	Thursday after Ash Wednesday	Dt 30: 15-20 Lk 9: 22-25 (220)
Friday, February 16, 2024 8:30 a.m. Mass	Rachael Zambanini	Rita & family	Friday after Ash Wednesday	Is 58: 1-9a Mt 9: 14-15 (221)
Saturday, February 17, 2024 No Mass			Saturday after Ash Wednesday The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order	Is 58: 9b-14 Lk 5: 27-32 (222)
Saturday, February 17, 2024 5:30 p.m. Mass	Susan Huff birthday	Family	Vigil of First Sunday of Lent	(see below)
Sunday, February 18, 2024 9:15 a.m. Mass	Living and Deceased Members of St. Joseph Parish		First Sunday of Lent	Gn 9: 8-15 1 Pt 3: 18-22 Mk 1: 12-15 (23)

St. Joseph Church

17764 Bennetts Valley Hwy., P. O. Box 124, Force, PA 15841
Ph. 814-787-4151

Rev. Mark J. Mastrian..... **Pastor**

Domestic Administrator: Miriam Pane **Secretary:** Barb Allegretto **Faith Formation:** Mary Ann Toney

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

Pastoral Council President: Bryan Chiappelli **Finance Council Moderator:** Leon Calliari

OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Thursday 9a.m.—4 p.m.

Office Email: stjosephforce@windstream.net Website: www.stjosephforce.org Faith Formation Email: stjosephforceff@windstream.net

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 on 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 9th grade and who are active in the Faith Formation process or attend a Catholic High School 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. The Sacrament is also available upon request.

Reconciliation – 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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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.



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