



Saint Joseph Parish Force, PA
Bringing Life to the Valley since 1872

7th Sunday
IN ORDINARY TIME

“Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.” - Lk 6:36

Parish Stewardship for 2018-2019

Weekly amount originally budgeted for 2018-19. . . . \$3,529.00

Offertory for the weekend of **February 16-17**\$3,157.00

Deficit/Surplus for weekend **February 16-17** \$ -371.85

Budget from July 1, 2018—June 30, 2019.....\$183,500.00

Deficit/Surplus to Date-\$7,513.27

Thank You for Your Support!

**St. Joseph “Prayer Chain” and “Care and Concern”**

If there is someone who could use the prayers of our Parish or who would like to be remembered with a card or note, please call Charlene Warmbrodt at 787-7601.

Food Bank

The many items brought for the food bank have been definitely appreciated. You may continue to bring your donations for the Food Bank by dropping them off at the church office or use the box in the church vestibule.

Baptismal Training Classes:

Feb. 28 — St. Mark, Emporium -486-0569 —6:30 p.m.

Mar. 12 — St. Boniface—885-8941—6:00 p.m.

Apr. 6 — Sacred Heart—834-7861 —10:00 a.m.

Adult Faith Formation class on Catholicism with Fr. Robert Barron will meet in the social hall after Monday morning Mass and in the evening at 6:30 p.m.

Spaghetti Dinner-Boy Scout Troop #183 Fundraiser.

Sunday, February 24 at Bennetts Valley Legion 11-2 p.m.

(or until sold out). Adults: \$8/Children: 10 & under \$5.



Please remember to sign up for the **40 Days for Life** campaign. Praying everyday and doing something extra are major parts of helping to save the innocent babies who are lost to abortions. Sign-up sheets with the prayer sheets are in the vestibule.

2019-2020 Kindergarten Registration for Central Catholic Elementary

will be held on March 4. The student must be five years of age by July 1. Central Catholic Elementary Preschool is accepting applications for the 2019-2020 school year. Tuition assistance applications are available. For more information and to make an appointment, please call 371-2570.

Sacred Heart Parish Center is having a “Super Bingo” on March 1. Doors open at 4:30 p.m., with free lunch served at 5:30 p.m. Early bird begins at 6:30 p.m. with games starting at 6:45 p.m.

2019 Catholic Service Appeal Commitment Sunday will be the weekend of March 2-3. The theme for this year’s appeal is *Forward Together, with truth, with hope, with Christ*. The envelopes will be placed in the pews that weekend for you to make your pledge. Thank you in advance for your contribution!

**Mercy**

Many of us are familiar with the Corporal Works of Mercy. These works of mercy are based on Jesus’ teaching of Matthew Ch. 25: verses 31-46 which is entitled “The judgment of the Nations.” Jesus lists charitable acts that he says were done by those sheep on His right. The goats on His left failed to see Christ in people who were in great need of love and care. Those charitable acts have become known as the Corporal Works of Mercy. They are: Feeding the hungry; giving drink to the thirsty; clothing the naked; visit the imprisoned; sheltering the homeless; visiting the sick and burying the dead. It is necessary that all of us respond to these human needs.

I want to next emphasize, based on the readings this weekend, the Spiritual Works of Mercy. These works of mercy are the following: Counsel the doubtful; Instruct the ignorant; Admonish sinners; Comfort the afflicted; Forgive offenses; Bear wrongs patiently and Pray for the living and the dead.

We see some of these works of mercy lived out in our first reading from First Samuel Chapter twenty-six. In this story it is obvious that Saul was jealous of David and was in search of him in order to kill him. David and his assistant “Abishai went among Saul’s soldiers by night and found Saul lying asleep within the barricade”....(I Sam. 26:7). This was King David’s perfect opportunity to retaliate against Saul by having Abishai “nail him to the ground with one thrust of the spear...But David said to Abishai, Do not harm him, for who can lay hands on the Lord’s anointed and remain unpunished?” (I Sam. 26:8-9)

David respected Saul enough to not take his life. In this David forgave Saul. In a certain way, David also admonished Saul and his troops by insisting some laboring effort on their part to retrieve the King’s spear along with other factual statements by saying; “Let an attendant come over to get it. The Lord will reward each man for his justice and faithfulness. Today, though the Lord delivered you into my grasp, I would not harm the Lord’s anointed.” (I Sam. 26: 22-23)

Now in our Gospel Reading, let us examine the particular Spiritual Works of Mercy Jesus was telling His disciples then, and us now to do. The beginning versus are as follows: “Jesus said to his disciples: to you hear I say, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those that curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. To the person who strikes you on one cheek, offer the other one as well, and from the person who takes your cloak, do not withhold even your tunic. Give to everyone who asks of you, and from the one who takes what is yours do not demand it back.” (Lk 6: 27-30)

In the above reading, we see the Spiritual Works of Mercy; to pray for others and to bear wrongs patiently in Jesus’ examples. Next week I will conclude this teaching.

God Bless,
Father Mark

We Celebrate, We Listen, We Pray

| Date | Intention | Requested by | Celebration | Scripture |
|---|-------------------------------------|---------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| Monday, February 25, 2019 8:30 a.m. Mass | Dolores Lovenduski | Judy Benevich | Weekday | Sir 1:1-10 Mk 9:14-29 (341) |
| Tuesday, February 26, 2019 8:30 a.m. Mass | Laurie Kentoski Rieber | Family | Weekday | Sir 2:1-11 Mk 9:30-37 (342) |
| Wednesday, February 27, 2019 No Mass | | | Weekday | Sir 4:11-19 Mk 9:38-40 (343) |
| Thursday, February 28, 2019 8:30 a.m. | Vincent J. Olewnik | Germaine & Family | Weekday | Sir 5:1-8 Mk 9:41-50 (344) |
| Friday, March 1, 2019 8:30 a.m. | Rose Guido | Mary Jo Yebernetzky | Weekday | Sir 6:5-17 Mk 10:1-12 (345) |
| Saturday, March 2, 2019 | | | Weekday | Sir 17:1-15 Mk 10:13-16 (346) |
| Saturday, March 2, 2019 5:30 p.m. Mass | Robert (Bobby Jim) Burke | Sons & Family | Vigil of the Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time | (see below) |
| Sunday, March 3, 2019 9:15 a.m. | Living and Deceased Parishioners | | Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time | 1 Cor 15:54-58 Lk 6:39-45 (84) |

Ph. 814-787-4151

St. Joseph Church

Fax 814-787-4478

STAFF

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**; Parish Care & Concern: **Charlene Warmbrodt**
 17764 Bennetts Valley Hwy., P. O. Box 124, Force, PA 15841-0124
 Email: stjosephforce@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 11th grade and who are active in the Faith Formation process or attend a Catholic High School since 9th 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 Deaconate – Men who feel that they may be being called to the vocational life of Priesthood or Deaconate 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 – Is celebrated for all who are seriously ill annually at a parish Liturgy. The Sacrament is also available anytime 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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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.