

3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER



They set out at once and returned to Jerusalem where they found gathered together the eleven and those with them who were saying, "The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!" - Lk 24:33-34

Parish Stewardship for 2019-2020

Weekly amount budgeted for 2019-2020. . . \$3,529.00

Thank you for your continued support for St. Joseph Church. Your generosity is appreciated immensely at this time when all of us must sacrifice and adjust our way of life because of Covid-19. Your future contributions may be dropped in the **shrine candle box located in the Church**. *For your convenience your CSA payments along with any Mass Requests or Memorials* may be dropped in the shrine candle box or mailed to the office.

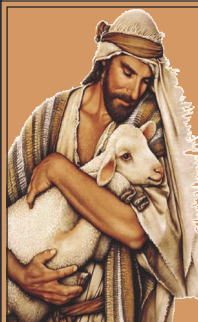
Thank You and God Bless You!

From the Office of The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico, JCL, Bishop of Erie: The celebration of all public Masses in the Diocese of Erie is suspended until further notice.

As per the Order of the Secretary of the PA Department of Health directing public health safety measures, everyone is required to wear a mask when entering or remaining on parish premises.

St. Joseph Church will be open for individual visitation and prayer Daily: 9:00 am-4:00 pm

We offer our prayers for the repose of the soul of **Thomas G. Asalone** (son of Tillie and Tom Asalone) who passed away April 9th. May he rest in peace. Amen.



GOOD SHEPHERD COLLECTION
For the Retired Diocesan Priests
May 2 and 3, 2020

Prayer for our Retired Priests

We pray for the retired priests of our Diocese that they may experience peace and joy in their retirement for the countless years of service they have provided and continue to provide to the people of God.

The Diocese of Erie is committed to caring for our retired priests. This annual collection provides additional financial resources to support our retired priests and those who now serve in our parishes. Your contribution can be dropped in the shrine candle box or mailed. Thank you for your generous support in past years and please remember our priests in your prayers. Please see the insert of Bishop Lawrence Persico's letter.

Thank you for your Rice Bowl donations. Your Lenten sacrifices are changing lives around the world. **Regarding First Friday and First Saturday this month of May**, Father Mark and Deacon Paul will be contacting by phone our homebound parishioners who are normally visited on First Fridays. First Saturday public Devotion will again not be celebrated.



"Care & Concern"

Do you know someone who would like to be remembered with a card or note?

Please call 787-4151.



Jesus Walking with Us

My brothers and sisters, have you ever been at a restaurant, on vacation, or in a line at a store in which you conversed with someone you never met? Then, in the course of the conversation, the very thing you were talking about was exactly what you thought and prayed about earlier that week.

Of course, that person had no idea of what you had thought or prayed. However, what this person said was inspiring and gave you a greater understanding. It's almost as if Jesus was right there giving you direction and knowledge of what is needed in your life.

A concrete example is a person who started talking to you about a Scripture passage that helped them during some discouraging times. You realized then that it was the exact Scripture passage you just recently read. You walked away from that conversation believing that Jesus was talking to you through this person. *It was* Jesus who embellished your understanding of this Scripture and how it related to your personal life. Guess what? You just encountered Jesus on your journey of faith that day!

In our Gospel Reading for this Third Sunday of Easter (Luke 24:13-35), we hear of the famous story of the Emmaus disciples — Cleopas and a friend — and how they encountered Jesus Who then continued to walk with them on the road to Emmaus. They did not recognize that it was the Risen Lord Who was walking with them at that time.

Cleopas and his friend had been discouraged and were "looking downcast" (Luke 24:17b) because they were hoping that "Jesus of Nazareth who was a prophet mighty in deed and word would bring redemption to Israel, but instead the chief priests and rulers both handed him over to a sentence of death and crucified him." (Luke 24:19-20)

Jesus then took the opportunity to explain all of the Hebrew Scripture passages that referred to Himself. When they arrived at Emmaus, they shared a meal and when Jesus blessed the bread, broke it, and gave it to them, they realized *it was* Jesus all along.

You see, Jesus walks with us and speaks to us personally often times through another person even though we might not recognize Him at first. When we spend time reading the Bible and allow it to speak to us personally, we discover deeper truths of our lives. When we experience the breaking of the bread at Mass, — hopefully, in the near future — we will recognize Jesus and love Him even more for this Gift He joyfully gives us. God Bless, Father Mark

We Celebrate, We Listen, We Pray

Date	Intention	Requested by	Celebration	Scriptures
Monday, April 27 2020	Joseph and Florence Fenice	Don and Nancy Chiappelli	Easter Weekday	Acts 6:8-15 Jn 6:22-29
Tuesday, April 28, 2020	Ryan Berasi	Father and Aunts	Saint Peter Chanel, Priest and Martyr; Saint Louis Grignion de Montfort, Priest	Acts 7:51— 8:1a Jn 6:30-35
Wednesday, April 29, 2020			Saint Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church	Acts 8:1b-8 Jn 6:35-40
Thursday, April 30, 2020	Veronica and Anthony Zukauskas	Germaine and Family	Saint Pius V, Pope	Acts 8:26-40 Jn 6:44-51
Friday, May 1, 2020 FIRST FRIDAY	Philip (Kenny) Maholtz	Barb and David Lease	Saint Joseph the Worker	Acts 9:1-20 Jn 6:52-59
Saturday, May 2, 2020 FIRST SATURDAY			Saint Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	Acts 9:31-42 Jn 6:60-69
Saturday, May 2, 2020	Charles and Clara Tyler & Deceased Members of the Tyler Family	Lamont and Frances Gray	Vigil of the Fourth Sunday of Easter	(See below)
Sunday, May 3, 2020	Living and Deceased Parishioners		Fourth Sunday of Easter	Acts 2:14a, 36-41 1 Pt 2:20b-25 Jn 10:1-10

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**;

17764 Bennetts Valley Hwy., P. O. Box 124, Force, PA 15841-0124
 Email: stjosephforce@windstream.net Website: www.stjosephforce.org

OFFICE HOURS: Monday - Thursday9:00 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.