

*St. Joseph Parish
Force, PA
Bringing Eucharistic
Life to Bennetts Valley
since 1872*



4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER



"Whoever enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens it for him, and the sheep hear his voice, as the shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out." - Jn 10:2-3

Parish Stewardship for 2022-2023

Weekly amount budgeted for 2022-2023 \$3,365.00
 Offertory collection 4/17/23 thru 4/24/2023 \$2,362.00
 CSA 2023 Campaign Parish Goal \$31,773.00
 Thank you for supporting St. Joseph Church

Pope's Intention for April: We pray for the spread of peace and non-violence by decreasing the use of weapons by States and citizens.



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



Baptismal Training
May, June, and July 2023

May 25	7:00 pm	St. Mary, St. Marys	781-1019
June 13	7:00 pm	St. Leo Magnus, Ridgway	772-3135
July 11	7:00 pm	St. Joseph, Force	787-4151



Mother's Day is in two weeks! St. Joseph Church will be celebrating all mothers with the traditional Mother's Day breakfast. On May 14th after 9:15 am Mass, all ladies of the church—young and old— are invited to feast upon the delicious breakfast the men of St. Joseph Parish will prepare. Tickets for breakfast will be on sale in the social hall after each weekend Mass on April 29/30 and May 6/7
Adults - \$7.00 and \$3.00 for children 10.

Faith Formation: Our annual May Crowning will take place after Mass on Sunday, May 7th. All are invited to process from the Church to the Shrine as we gather in song and prayer to honor our Blessed Mother Mary, our Lady of Fatima. **This is a scheduled ceremony for Faith Formation children & youth and we look forward to you joining in the event.** There are no classes after the crowning. We look forward to gathering again this Fall.

First Eucharist Celebrated St. Joseph Parish Community congratulates our First Communion class who received their First Eucharist on Sunday, April 23rd. We are proud of them and pray they always trust in Jesus. They are **Gemmabell Nedza, Molly Blythe, Cash Cunningham, Veronica Prince**

Good Shepherd Collection is this weekend. This collection supports the needs of our retired Diocesan priests. Your generosity will make a difference in the lives of priests who have served us faithfully for generations.

A PARISH MISSION, Bread for the Journey, Strength for the Trip will be presented by **Father Kevin MacDonald, C.Ss.R.** in Holy Rosary Church Sunday – Tuesday, May 14-16th. The 3-night Mission focuses on the healing power of the Eucharist. We all need time to slow down and allow God to speak to us. In this Mission through stories and silence Fr. Kevin will guide you in being more attentive to hearing God's voice. On the first night the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed on the altar. Fr. Kevin will lead the congregation in short meditations and reflections. While many mission experiences are spent listening to a main speaker, this one will mostly be spent listening to God. The second night will be much like the first adding a penance service at the end of the evening. On the third night we will close the mission with a Mission Mass.

Save the Date! The Bethany Blueberry Festival will be held on August 5. Fun and faith for the whole family!



What Jesus Our Good Shepherd is Teaching Us

Life is a school. We learn many things very early in life as well as that there are other people around us — family, relatives and friends. It's not only just our needs and wants that count but also others. Our first shepherds in our lives are our parents in which we are taught right from wrong. We have actual schooling as well as faith formation classes at our Church where we learn about our Catholic faith. It is here where we begin to know who Jesus the Good Shepherd really is.

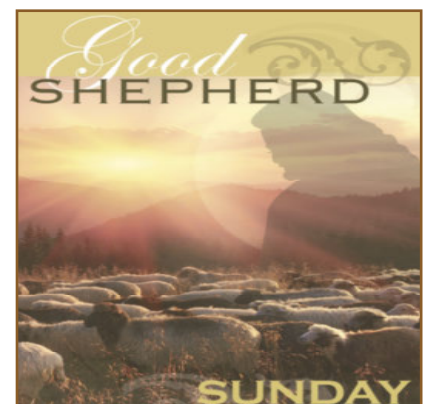
When we first received the faith through our Baptism, we learned about God as Three Persons (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) and then the Sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, and Confirmation. From this learning of our faith we learn how all of these Sacraments begin to make sense as a relationship with Jesus the Good Shepherd.

We are taking time this special Easter Season weekend to celebrate Jesus our Good Shepherd. In this Sunday's Gospel Jesus describes a good shepherd as one who "...enters through the gate." (Jn 10:2) He says further that "... the sheep hear His Voice as the shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out." (Jn 10:3)

This Sunday, it's the Voice of Jesus the Good Shepherd we are called to recognize in our lives. We hear His Voice through Sacred Scriptures and also through others. There are many people that are like shepherds spiritually in the way they work and care for others. We recognize His Voice through good parents, teachers, coaches, counselors, and leaders in the community and in the Church. The Good Shepherd gives words of affirmation, direction and even admonishment from time to time. It's all given out of love because the Good Shepherd wills the good for each of us.

My friends, our Good Shepherd Jesus teaches us that in our responsibilities each of us is like a good shepherd. We are responsible for our family and those around us. Whenever we do our best in shepherding or caring for others, then we are like Jesus the Good Shepherd.

God Bless,
 Father Mark



We Celebrate, We Listen, We Pray

Date	Intention	Requested by	Celebration	Scriptures
Monday, May 1, 2023 8:30 a.m. Mass	Virginia Sexton	Joe—son	Saint Joseph the Worker	Acts 11:1-18 Jn 10:11-18
Tuesday, May 2, 2023 8:30 a.m. Mass	Vicki Peters (1st anniversary)	Kim—husband	Saint Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	Acts :19-26 Jn 10:22-30
Wednesday, May 3, 2023 No Mass			Saint Philip and James, Apostles	1 Cor 15:1-8 Jn 14:6-14
Thursday, May 4, 2023 8:30 a.m. Mass	Penny Coccimiglio (birthday)	Richard—husband	Easter Weekday	Acts 13:13-25 Jn 13:16-20
Friday, May 5, 2023 8:30 a.m. Mass FIRST FRIDAY	Agnes Caliari	Family	Easter Weekday	Acts 13:26-33 Jn 14:1-6
Saturday, May 6, 2023 8:30 a.m. Mass with Adoration and Benediction FIRST SATURDAY	JoAnn Klaiber	Rita Fenice	Easter Weekday	Acts 13:44-52 Jn 14:7-14
Saturday, May 6, 2023 5:30 a.m. Mass	Living and Deceased Parishioners		The Vigil of the Fifth Sunday of Easter	(see below)
Sunday, May 7, 2023 9:15 a.m. Mass	Veronica and Anthony Zukauskas and Deceased Family	Germaine	Fifth Sunday of Easter	Acts 6:1-7 1 Pt 2:4-9 Jn 14:1-12

St. Joseph Church

Ph. 814-787-4151 Fax 814-787-4478

Rev. Mark J. Mastrian..... Pastor
Deacon Paul Bauman Coordinator Deacon Assistant
Parish Secretary: **Marlene Berasi**; Faith Formation : **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

OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Thursday 9a.m.—4 p.m.

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

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

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 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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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

For ad info. call 1-800-477-4574 • www.4lpi.com

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