



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

3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



He walked along a little farther and saw James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They too were in a boat mending their nets. Then he called them. So they left their father Zebedee in the boat along with the hired men and followed him. - Mk 1:19-20

Parish Stewardship

Offertory collection for 01/07/24..... \$2,727.00
 Offertory collection for 01/14/24..... \$2,595.00

Thank you for supporting St. Joseph Church!

Pope's Intention for January
For the Gift of Diversity in the Church

Let us pray that the Holy Spirit helps us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.

"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 08	7:00 pm	St. Joseph Church	814-787-4151
February 29	6:30 pm	St. Mark Church (Emporium)	814-486-0569
March 23	10:00 am	Sacred Heart Church	814-834-7861

HELP SPREAD THE FAITH Collection will be taken up on the weekend of January 27/28. Thank you.

Eucharistic Revival I will continue to share with you the teachings of the Mass in bulletin messages to come. This year, many parishes are designated for a particular Feast day or weekend Mass where they will have special devotion and worship services in celebration of this year of the Eucharistic Revival. We here at St. Joseph Church are scheduled for Sunday, May 5, for our celebration of the Eucharistic Revival.

The reason for this date is that it is close to our Feast day of St. Joseph the Worker, May 1st. This is a special day for our Parish every year as we celebrate the May Crowning ceremony at the Fatima Shrine. This year, on May 5th, we will have a most special celebration emphasizing the Eucharistic Revival by doing the following: we will have a Eucharistic procession from the Church up to the Altar in the cemetery and then proceed to the Fatima Shrine for our May Crowning.

CSA 2023 reminder: Your final pledge payments are due by January 26.

Here we are in the middle of winter in the Northern Hemisphere. Are you getting tired of it? Find something fun for your family to do together. Play a new game. Draw cartoons of each other. Dress up in costumes.

FAITH FORMATION Classes will resume this Sunday, January 21st, for ALL grades, including our Confirmation students. This class is the make-up class for the Confirmation students that they missed last Sunday due to the windy, snowy weather. Parents of Confirmation students, please come in at the end of class today, in order to sign a permission form for an upcoming event. Thank you!

A New Year's Resolution for your marriage...Gift time to one another. Worldwide Marriage Encounter is a faith-based enrichment for any married couple, to refocus on why you got together in the first place. The next is February 9-11, 2024 in Grove City,

**The Gift of Conversion**

It's great and a tremendous gift to have in life our free will. It's given by God, and with great responsibility, to use it wisely and always for the good. We can choose to pray to God and thank God for the blessings that we have, or not.

But when God freely, somehow, some way, chooses to get our attention, we may have an immediate response: to listen and cooperate with what God is doing or asking of us.

We have two examples in our Scripture Readings we just heard about people responding to God.

First, in the Book of Jonah: At this point, Jonah was doing what God wanted by going to the large city of Nineveh and in telling them to repent...

Now, before this, we are all familiar with the story of Jonah and the whale. God asked Jonah to go Northeast to Nineveh. Jonah got on a boat and went Southwest to Tarshish. We know what happened--he was tossed into the sea. Along comes the whale and swallows poor Jonah and takes him on a journey and then spat him out on the shore near Nineveh. God made sure that Jonah would be the person that would turn the people of Nineveh away from their sins, no matter how Jonah got there. This was a conversion experience for Jonah, so he would be ready to bring the people of Nineveh to their repentance and conversion experience with God.

Second, in the Gospel of Mark: In the Gospel of Mark, we hear of the calling of the first four Apostles. We hear again of Simon & Andrew and now this weekend James & John, who are fishermen. Jesus called them to follow Him and to proclaim the Word of God because the Word can make our lives better, with the Good News that can bring conversion of life.

What about each of us?

Have you sensed Jesus calling you as you read His Word-the Bible? Have you received an answer to prayer recently or received direction from Scriptures shared during Mass? What is *your* conversion story?

This week, write down a short story of a conversion experience of faith in your life that you had with God. It might be an experience of a long time ago or of recent times. Reflect on what you have learned and know that where you are right now is where Jesus can use you to help others deepen their faith. Conclude now by reflecting on the following quote from Frederick Buechner: "The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet." --Frederick Buechner

God Bless, Father Mark

We Celebrate, We Listen, We Pray

Date	Intention	Requested by	Celebration	Scriptures
Monday, January 22, 2024 8:30 a.m. Mass	Rick DeCarli	Kitty Dudley Cindy & Dale Duell	Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children	Lectionary for Ritual Masses, vol. IV "Mass for Peace & Justice" nos. 887-891
Tuesday, January 23, 2024 8:30 a.m. Mass	Poor Souls in Purgatory		Saint Vincent, Deacon & Martyr; Saint Marianne Cope, Virgin	2 Sm 6: 12b-15, 17-19 Mk 3: 31-35 (318)
Wednesday, January 24, 2024 No Mass			Saint Francis de Sales, Bishop, Religious Founder and Doctor	2 Sm 7: 4-17 Mk 4: 1-20 (319)
Thursday, January 25, 2024 8:30 a.m. Mass	Mildred Bonanno	Dennis & Deborah Bonanno	The Conversion of Saint Paul, Apostle	Acts 22: 3-16 or 9: 1-22 Mk 16: 15-18 (519)
Friday, January 26, 2024 8:30 a.m. Mass	Deceased members of the Cameroni Family	Bill & Marie Micheline Kathy & Dave Vargas	Saint Timothy and Saint Titus, Bishops	2 Tm 1: 1-8 or Ti 1: 1-5 (520) Mk 4: 26-34 (321)
Saturday, January 27, 2024 No Mass			Weekday Saint Angela Merici, Virgin BVM	2 Sm 12: 1-7a, 10-17 Mk 4: 35-41 (322)
Saturday, January 27, 2024 5:30 p.m. Mass	Living and Deceased Members of St. Joseph Parish		Vigil of Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time	(see below)
Sunday, January 28, 2024 9:15 a.m. Mass	Victor & Geninie Dezanet and deceased family members	Walter & Christine Gavazzi	Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Dt 18: 15-20 1 Cor 7: 32-35 Mk 1: 21-28 (71)

St. Joseph Church

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

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

Rev. Mark J. Mastrian **Pastor**

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

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.

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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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