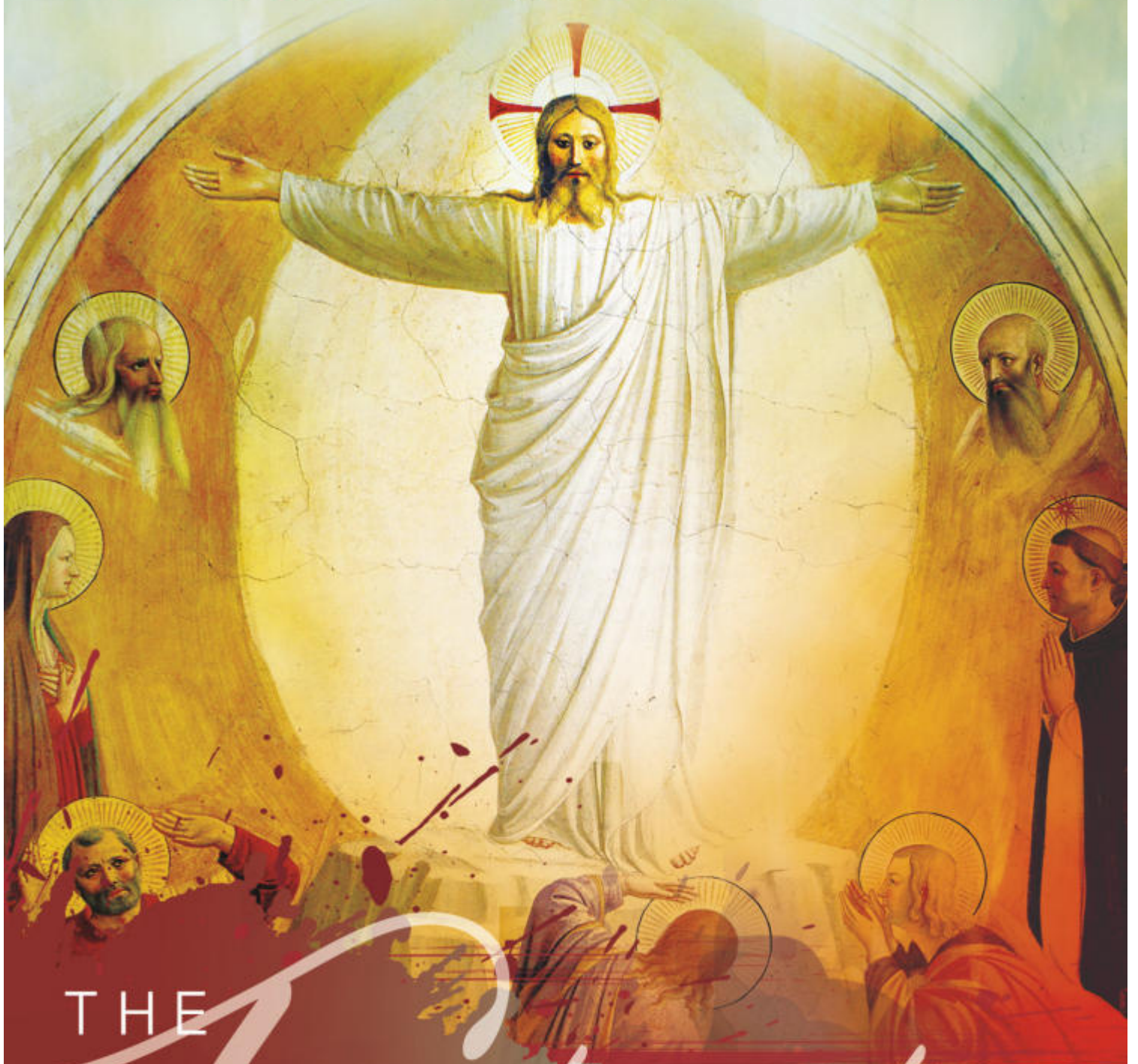


SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT



THE

*Transfiguration*

OF CHRIST

*Saint Joseph Parish Force, PA*

*Bringing Eucharistic Life to the Valley since 1872*

**Parish Stewardship for 2019-2020**

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

Offertory for **weekend March 1, 2020** . . . . . \$4,043.00Deficit/Surplus **weekend March 1, 2020**. . . . . \$514.15

Budget from July 1, 2019—June 30, 2020. . . . . \$183,500.00

Deficit/Surplus to-Date **March 1, 2020** . . . . . -\$12,467.46

Thank you for your support!

**St. Joseph "Prayer Chain"**

If there is someone who could use the prayers of our Parish, please call Gina at 787-7593.

**"Care & Concern"**

Do you know someone who would like to be remembered with a card or note? If so, please call 787-4151.

**"Food Bank"**

Thank you for your ongoing support to the Christian Food Bank! Thank you!

**March Events**

Pledge Turn-in for CSA Commitment . . . . . began Feb.22/23

Adult Faith Formation. . . . . 9:15 am and 6:30 pm. . . . . March 9

Stations of the Cross . . . . . 6:00 p.m. . . . . Wed., March 11

*(Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, March 8 at 2 a.m.)***40 Days for Life** sign-ups continue until . . . . . April 5**Lenten Fish/Shrimp Dinners**. . . . . thru Good Friday, April 10**RSVP Deadline** for Spiritual Formation Opp'y Day. . . . . March 11**2020 March Baptismal Class Schedule**

St. Boniface, Kersey . . . . . 7 p.m. . . . . March 10

The RSVP deadline for the March 25 Spiritual Formation Opportunity Day with Bishop Lawrence Persico is this Wednesday, March 11. Please contact Mary Stoker at the church office at 787-4151 #5 with your reservation or any questions regarding this day with the Bishop. There is no cost to attend this Spiritual Formation Day.

**Pledge Commitment Turn-in for CSA** began Feb.22/23. If you haven't turned in your pledge for this year's CSA Campaign, it can be dropped in the collection basket, mailed or taken to the church office. Thank you for pledging this year.

Your contribution will help reach our church goal of \$32,626.

**40 Days for Life** began Ash Wednesday, February 26 and will last until April 5, 2020. Your prayers for "40 Days for Life" really impact the way a baby's life is saved in which abortion is **not** the answer. Sign-ups for the Campaign are always welcome. (Sponsored by Elk Co Right to Life)

**The Valley Legion Auxiliary** is selling homemade peanut butter or coconut Easter eggs. Cost is \$5 ea. To order: call Frances Gray: 787-8971/Norma Mann: 787-4065 by Monday, March 23. Pick-up Sat., April 4 from 10-4 at the Am Legion in Weedville.

**ECCHS Music Booster Bingo** will be Friday, March 13 at ECCH Cafeteria. Doors open at 5pm; dinner at 5:30; Early Birds at 6:15 and Bingo begins at 6:30. Bring a friend.

**The Elk Co. Catholic Athletic Association's March BINGO** will be held Sunday, March 15 at the ECC cafeteria. Doors open at 11:45 for free lunch at 12:30. Bingo starts at 1:30. "Break the Bank" \$1,199. "Coverall" \$1,000. Bring a friend.

**Daylight Savings Time Sunday 2 a.m. — Spring is on its way!**

**Jesus, His Friends the Apostles, and Us**

Jesus needed friends especially to walk with Him during His Spiritual journey on earth and to carry out His mission through them. More importantly is the reality that His first friends, the Apostles, needed Jesus to walk with them during their journey of life and on the many spiritual and physical terrain they would journey together.

The Apostles needed Jesus when they were confronted by the Pharisees about Jesus's teachings. The Apostles needed Jesus when they were being tossed about in the boat on the sea. The Apostles needed our Lord Jesus when there were only a few loaves and fishes in order to feed the 5,000. Also, very interestingly, too, is the fact that in each of these examples, the Apostles' needs were met by Jesus in different geographical locations: one in a town, the other in an open field out in the country, and the other out on the water.

We hear in this weekend's Gospel that Jesus took His three closest friends, Peter, James, and John, "up a high mountain by themselves." (Matthew 17:1a). The reason for this was that Jesus needed time to pray and be with His friends before He would go back down from the mountain and soon thereafter face His Passion and Death.

We know the rest of this fantastic event . . . "Jesus was transfigured before them; His face shone like the sun and His clothes became white as light". (Matthew 17:2) Jesus needed this bodily and spiritual transfiguring experience from God the Father before He would go to the Cross for our salvation. He also needed His closest friends to share in this with Him and to be obedient in listening to Jesus.

My brothers and sisters, we are friends of our Lord Jesus Christ. We know and love Him through faith in Him. We are discovering the many ways we need Jesus's help to intervene in our lives. We are asking Jesus our friend in our own unique way to heal us, to forgive us and to transform us each day. We receive this grace to carry on. It is also necessary then to extend and to give this grace to others and especially to share with those who are our friends.

When we share what Jesus is doing in our lives with our friends, they will be most often inspired to share their faith story with you.

As Jesus and the Apostles shared together in this grand event of Jesus's Transfiguration, so too, must we share the grand stories of our faith with friends and others, so that we all can confidently face our own crosses that we carry in life. God Bless.

# We Celebrate, We Listen, We Pray

Date	Intention	Requested by	Celebration	Scriptures
Monday, March 9, 2020 8:30 a.m. Mass	Elizabeth Leair	Betty Leair	Saint Francis of Rome, Religious	Dn 9:4b-10 Lk 6:36-38
Tuesday, March 10, 2020 8:30 a.m. Mass	Herbert and Lena Kronenwetter	Elaine and Charles Brouse	Lenten Weekday	Is 1:10, 16-20 Mt 23:1-12
Wednesday, March 11, 2020 No Mass			Lenten Weekday	Jer 18:18-20 Mt 20:17-28
Thursday, March 12, 2020 8:30 a.m. No Mass	Communion Service Only		Lenten Weekday	Jer 17:5-10 Lk 16:19-31
Friday, March 13, 2020 8:30 a.m. No Mass	Communion Service Only		Lenten Weekday	Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
Saturday, March 14, 2020			Lenten Weekday	Mi 7:14-15, 18-20 Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
Saturday, March 14, 2020 5:30 p.m. Mass	Living and Deceased Parishioners		Vigil of the Third Sunday of Lent	See below
Sunday, March 15, 2020 9:15 a.m. Mass	Helen Lovenduski	Leonard Lovenduski	The Third Sunday of Lent	Ex 17:3-7 Rom 5:1-2, 5-8 Jn 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

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](mailto:stjosephforce@windstream.net) Website: [www.stjosephforce.org](http://www.stjosephforce.org)  
**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 11<sup>th</sup> 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** – 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.