



FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

**REMAIN**  
IN ME.

— JOHN 15:4 —

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

**Parish Stewardship**

Offertory collection for 04/21/24 .....	\$1,730.00
Weekly offertory budgeted for 2023-2024 .....	\$3,365.00
CSA Campaign Assessment for 2024 .....	\$31,134.00
CSA Pledges to date .....	\$28,210.00

Thank you for supporting St. Joseph Church!

**Pope’s Intention for April  
For The Role of Women**

Let us pray that the dignity and worth of women be recognized in every culture, and for an end to the discrimination they face in various parts of the world.

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

**Baptism Preparation Classes**

May 23	7:00 pm	St. Mary’s Church	814-781-1019
June 25	6:30 pm	Queen of the World	814-834-4701

**MOTHER’S DAY BREAKFAST May 12, 2024**

Tickets for the Mother’s Day Breakfast will be on sale in the social hall on the weekends of April 27/28 and May 4/5 following each Mass. The cost of tickets are \$7.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children 10 & under.

**All ladies, young & old, are welcome!**



**CONGRATULATIONS** to the following Faith Formation students who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Thursday evening, April 18th, at St. Leo Magnus Church in Ridgway.

**Gavin Mosier, Lilly Phillips, Jolene Rippey, and Leanna Smith**

There will be NO Adoration on Monday, April 29th. We will continue on Monday evenings at 6:00 pm during the month of May, and end on Monday, May 20th.

**VIDEO PRESENTATION CONTINUES**

**The Chosen** - Season Three will continue each Saturday evening at 6:45pm, following the 5:30pm Mass. A light meal will be provided. **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

**REMINDER: OUR EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL SUNDAY**

On Sunday, May 5th, we the people at St. Joseph Church, will be celebrating our own Eucharistic Revival. Weather permitting, the following is the format of our celebration:

- Following our 9:15 am Mass, there will be a Eucharistic procession from the Church to the Cross and Altar in the cemetery. The procession will include First Communion students, First Reconciliation students, Confirmation class, and Father Mark carrying the Monstrance with the Consecrated Host under a canopy. All of the parishioners will follow behind Father Mark.
- May Crowning will then be held at the Shrine after the procession.
- Refreshments follow in the Social Hall. **Join us!**

**Remain in Order to Grow**

Initially, the word *remain* sounds like a non-active verb. This is especially true if it is in the context of a statement like: “Don’t do anything, just remain.” However, there are many ways this verb can be productive and active such as the following:

A pilot remains at a safe altitude while the storm clouds are active underneath.

A hunter may tell a beginner with whom he is hunting to “Remain quiet and be still, especially when you see the turkey.”

Spring rain is necessary for the ground to remain moist in order for plants, vegetables, and flowers to grow.

A concerned close friend could directly say, “Remain faithful to your spouse.”

A priest and minister may often say, “Remain close to God in prayer.”

These are all examples of **remaining** for good reasons of growing, of learning, and for protection.

In this weekend’s Gospel Reading John 15:1-8, Jesus uses the word **remain** eight times. His Message can be summed-up in four ways to remain. We are **to remain** in Him, **to remain** on the vine; **to remain** in order to bear much fruit; and **to remain** in His Word.

We **remain** in our personal friendship with Christ by spending time in prayer everyday. Ask yourself, “Are you striving to do this?”

We **remain** on the vine like healthy branches by staying connected to other members of the Church and receiving the Sacraments Jesus gives us. Do we have some fellowship with other members of St. Joseph Church?

We **remain** in knowledge of Jesus by reading His Word as recorded in the Bible. We should ask ourselves, “Are we taking time to read the Bible and even memorizing Scripture verses?” By praying, staying connected to parishioners, and reflecting on God’s Word will enable each of us to bear the spiritual fruits of love, joy, peace, kindness, patience, faithfulness, etc. (Galatians 5:22) These fruits are Jesus’ Personal Gifts to us that will fill our souls in order to grow as His disciples and to **remain** healthy in our interior spiritual life. Ask for them today as much as you need, “and it will be done for you.” (John 15:7b)



God Bless,  
Father Mark

# We Celebrate, We Listen, We Pray

Date	Intention	Requested by	Celebration	Scriptures
Monday, April 29, 2024 8:30 a.m. Mass	Ed Zuchelli	Lou Aloise	Saint Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church	Acts 14: 5-18 Jn 14: 21-26 (285)
Tuesday, April 30, 2024 8:30 a.m. Mass	Victor Cortina birthday	Family	Easter Weekday Saint PiusV, Pope	Acts 14: 19-28 Jn 14: 27-31a (286)
Wednesday, May 01, 2024 No Mass			Easter Weekday Saint Joseph the Worker	Acts 15: 1-6 Jn 15: 1-8 (287)
Thursday, May 02, 2024 8:30 a.m. Mass	Virginia Borovatz	Rita & Carolyn	Saint Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	Acts 15: 7-21 Jn 15: 9-11 (288)
Friday, May 03, 2024 8:30 a.m. Mass	Vicki Peters 2nd anniversary	husband-Kim	Saints Philip and James, Apostles	1 Cor 15: 1-8 Jn 14: 6-14 (561)
Saturday, May 04, 2024 8:30 a.m. Mass First Saturday	Michael Gallagher	Rick & Denise Watkavitch	Easter Weekday	Acts 16: 1-10 Jn 15: 18-21 (290)
Saturday, May 04, 2024 5:30 p.m. Mass	Living and Deceased Parishioners		The Vigil of the Sixth Sunday of Easter	(see below)
Sunday, May 05, 2024 9:15 a.m. Mass	Frank Michelini 1st anniversary	Donald & Nancy Chiappelli	SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Acts 10: 25-26, 34-35, 44-48 1 Jn 4: 7-10 Jn 15: 9-17 (56)

**St. Joseph Church**

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

Rev. Mark J. Mastrian..... Pastor

Parish Secretary: Barb Allegretto Faith Formation : Mary Ann Toney 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

**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**

**OFFICE HOURS**

Monday thru Thursday 9a.m. to 4 p.m.

Office Email: [stjosephforce@windstream.net](mailto:stjosephforce@windstream.net) Website: [www.stjosephforce.org](http://www.stjosephforce.org) Faith Formation Email: [stjosephforceff@windstream.net](mailto:stjosephforceff@windstream.net)

**LITURGY SCHEDULE**

**Saturday Vigil:** 5:30 pm **Sunday:** 9:15 am **Holy Days:** 9:00 am & 7:00 pm **Daily:** Mon., Tues., Thur., Fri. 8:30 am 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 11<sup>th</sup> grade and who are active in the Faith Formation process or attend a Catholic High School since 9<sup>th</sup> 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.