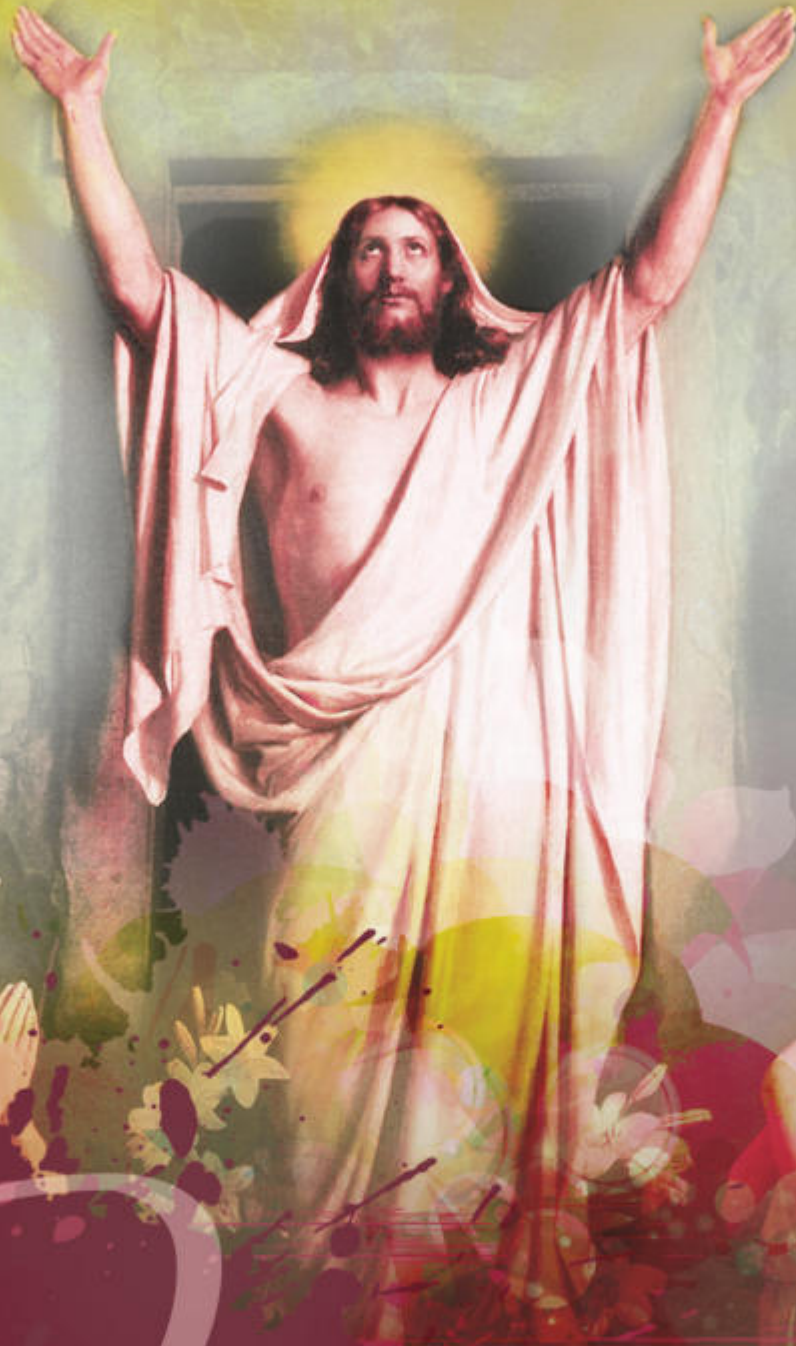


E A S T E R S U N D A Y



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**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*. 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.

*(St. Joseph Church hours for individual visitation and prayer  
Mon-Thurs: 9:00 am 2:30 pm and Fri-Sun: 9:00 am-4:00 pm)*

\*\*\*\*\*

We offer our prayers for the repose of the souls of **Philip Kenny**<sup>™</sup> **Maholtz**, and **Ronald J. Watkavitch** who passed away March 29 and **Vicki (Leair) Winslow** who passed away April 1  
May they rest in peace. Amen.

\*\*\*\*\*

(Pope Francis's prayer to Mary during coronavirus pandemic)

**O Mary,**  
**You always shine on our path as a sign of salvation and of hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm. You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need, and we are sure you will provide so that, as in Cana of Galilee, we may return to joy and to feasting after this time of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who has taken upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows to lead us, through the cross, to the joy of the resurrection. Amen.**

**Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the entreaties of we who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.**

\*\*\*\*\*

Daily communion with Christ is so helpful and strengthening to our spiritual life. Since we cannot go to Mass and receive Holy Communion during this time of the Coronavirus pandemic, we can still receive our Lord Jesus through making a Spiritual Communion. By making a Spiritual Communion we are expressing our faith in Christ's Real Presence in the Eucharist and we are asking Him to come into our hearts. The following is the "*Act of Spiritual Communion*" written by St. Alphonsus Liguori:

**My Jesus,**  
**I believe that You**  
**are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.**  
**I love You above all things,**  
**and I desire to receive You into my soul.**  
**Since I cannot at this moment**  
**receive You sacramentally,**  
**come at least spiritually into my heart.**  
**I embrace You as if You were already there**  
**and unite myself wholly to You.**  
**Never permit me to be separated from You.**  
**Amen.**

**Easter Joy? Yes, Absolutely!**

Today, we celebrate and commemorate the greatest human event that ever happened in history since beginning of time. Jesus the Son of God, Who went to the Cross for our salvation, and our Savior has risen from the dead. This reality is **joy** in and of itself but especially when we know that Jesus rose from the dead so that each of us will be risen with Him in Heaven upon our last breath. Jesus gave us this promise when He said, "I am indeed going to prepare a place for you, and then I shall come back to take you with Me, that where I am you also may be." (*John 14:3*)

It is true that we celebrate this beautiful Easter Season in the midst of a world going through and partly recovering from a virus pandemic similar to any past devastating plague ever recorded. There have been many who have died and we pray for their families and feel their loss but hope that even now, at this very moment, they feel the relief, peace and support of friends and caregivers.

It is true that many people may have difficulty in embracing the joy of Easter if they are facing a lot of emotional upsetness in their family. The drama between siblings and parents and how to structure the time spent with children and adults at home, waiting to go back to school and work can take a toll on everyone. For all of you not being able to attend Mass is spiritually difficult. For us priests and deacons, too, it is a very different and empty experience of celebrating Mass without a congregation — but, yet with the hope that soon we all can be at Mass together.

So, where is the Easter joy? The answer lies within each of us and in Jesus's Words in *John 15:10-11*: "You will live in My Love if you keep My Commandments, even as I have kept My Father's Commandments and live in His Love. All this I tell you that My **Joy** may be yours and your **Joy** may be complete." Jesus wants this for us. Pray for this Joy. Also, be creative in searching for Easter Joy. Color Easter eggs. Make colorful posters with Easter symbols and display them in every room of your house. Listen to joyful music. Fill Easter baskets with good food and joyful, holy symbols and share them with others.

Finally, be **joyful** and **thankful** that we will have a school, job, and Church to go back to.

**Have a Happy and Joyful Easter!**

God Bless,  
Father Mark

# We Celebrate, We Listen, We Pray

Date	Intention	Requested by	Celebration	Scriptures
Monday, April 13, 2020 <b>NO MASS</b>			Monday within the Octave of Easter	Acts 2:14, 22-33 Mt 28:8-15
Tuesday, April 14, 2020 <b>NO MASS</b>			Tuesday within the Octave of Easter	Acts 2:36-41 Jn 20:11-18
Wednesday, April 15, 2020 <b>NO MASS</b>			Wednesday within the Octave of Easter	Acts 3:1-10 Lk 24:13-35
Thursday, April 16, 2020	Blessed Mother's Intentions	Parishioners	Thursday within the Octave of Easter	Acts 3:11-26 Lk 24:35-48
Friday, April 17, 2020	Winston Streich	Wife, Daughter and Family	Friday within the Octave of Easter	Acts 4:1-12 Jn 21:1-14
Saturday, April 18, 2020			Saturday within the Octave of Easter	Acts 4:13-21 Mk 16:9-15
Saturday, April 18, 2020	Ron Celinski (1st anniversary)	Family	Vigil of the Second Sunday of Easter <b>(Sunday of Divine Mercy)</b>	(See below)
Sunday, April 19, 2020	Living and Deceased Parishioners		Second Sunday of Easter <b>(Sunday of Divine Mercy)</b>	Acts 2:42-47 1 Pt 1:3-9 Jn 20:19-31

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.