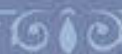


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## 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter  
every kind of evil against you falsely because of me. Rejoice and be  
glad, for your reward will be great in heaven." - Mt 5:10-12a



## Parish Stewardship for 2022-2023

Weekly amount budgeted for 2022-2023 ..... \$3,365.00  
 Offertory collection 1/17/23 thru 1/23/23 ..... \$2,020.00  
 CSA 2022 Campaign Parish Goal ..... \$32,404.00  
 CSA pledges as of 1/23/2023 ..... \$25,690.00

Thank you for supporting St. Joseph

## Pope's Intention for January

We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fellowship rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.



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

Baptismal Training  
February 2023

February 7	7:00 pm	St. Joseph , Force	787-4151
February 23	7:00 pm	St. Mark, Emporium	486-0569



Let Music into Your Life  
Join the Choir  
Practice every Thursday  
at 6:00 pm.

New voices are always welcomed!

**He Chose the Nails**

by Max Lacato



For this Lenten Season St. Joseph Church is offering six weeks of Adult Faith Formation study/discussion sessions similar in focus to what was experienced during Advent but focused on Lent. As you go forth in these study/discussion sessions, you will find that **Jesus did it all just for us.**

**Sign-up is necessary** to attend these sessions.

**The deadline is Thursday, February 16th** so that the study guides can be ordered in time for the first session. The sign-up sheet is located in the vestibule or you can call the church office to RSVP at 814-787-4151 #3. You may choose to participate in one of the two sessions each of the six weeks beginning Monday, February 27 after 8:30 a.m. Mass with Father Mark or Wednesday, March 1 after the 6:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross with Deacon Paul. Each week's sessions will be on Mondays and Wednesdays at the above given times. Final session will be Wednesday, April 5. All sessions will be held in the social hall.

Join us to experience **Lent** as a time not to just give up something, but to prepare to receive good blessings from God.

Blessing of the Throat will be at both Masses  
next weekend February 4 and 5.

**Jesus's Homilies**

Last week I shared with you the purpose of the **Homilies** and the work of the bishop, priest, and deacon to preach the Word of God especially to make the Gospel relate to everyday lives of people. I concluded this lesson about homilies by explaining how Jesus Himself preached and the methods He used to teach about the Kingdom of God.

Many of Jesus's Homilies are called parables. One such parable is the Parable of the Sower. In this parable "story," Jesus describes a sower (farmer) who went out to spread and toss seeds on the ground in order for the wheat to grow. The seed was good but the different places it fell were both good, fertile ground and bad, rocky ground with thorns. In the end Jesus explained the parable by saying that the seed is God's Word to us. We are either like the bad ground that closes off the seed, or the good soil that absorbs the good seed in order to produce the good wheat of Blessings and Goodness in our life. (Luke 8:4-15)

Jesus also used current events in order to drive home a point. For example, in one of the times as Jesus was preaching, His Mother Mary and His "brothers" come to where He was but they were unable to join Jesus. The event went as follows: "He was told, 'Your Mother and your brothers are standing outside and they wish to see you.' He said to them in reply, 'My Mother and My brothers are those who hear the Word of God and act on it.'" (Luke 8:20-21)

This sudden, unannounced visit of Jesus's family caused our Lord to wisely include everyone present, listeners, and family members to all be considered as spiritual family of Jesus because they were both there to listen to His Word. Jesus's short Homily was to affirm that each group is His Family because they hear God's Word and they act on it.

Finally, what we have in the Gospel Reading this weekend is one of Jesus's most famous **Homilies** — **The Sermon on the Mount**. The preaching style Jesus used here is that He takes a negative or needy life condition such as "poor in spirit" and "they who mourn," or "blessed are the merciful." (Mt 5:3-4, 7) He explained that these needs can be avenues to discover and pray for the opposite positive human fulfillment as the richness of God's Kingdom can give affirmation to those poor in spirit and those who mourn will be comforted. Also, those who show mercy to others will be shown mercy to them by our Lord Jesus.

In the Beatitudes Jesus teaches about the Holy Attitude we are to become in our lives. Choose a Beatitude today and pray for the grace to live it.

God Bless,  
Father Mark.

# We Celebrate, We Listen, We Pray

Date	Intention	Requested by	Celebration	Scriptures
Monday, January 30, 2023 8:30 a.m. Mass	Mary Youngmark	Hope and David Piccolo	Weekday	Heb 11:32-40 Mk 5:1-20
Tuesday, January 31, 2023 8:30 a.m. Mass	Stanley, Mary, and Vincent Olewnik and Deceased Family Members	Germaine and Family	St. John Bosco, Priest	Heb 12:1-4 Mk 5:21-43
Wednesday, February 1, 2023 No Mass			Weekday	Heb 12:4-7, 11-15 Mk 6:1-6
Thursday, February 2, 2023 8:30 a.m. Mass	Ryan Berasi	Aunt Marlene	<b>The Presentation of the Lord</b>	Mal 3:1-4 Heb 2:14-18 Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32
Friday, February 3, 2023 8:30 a.m. Mass First Friday	Leo Brown (birthday)	Wife and Children	Saint Blaise, Bishop and Martyr and Saint Ansgar, Bishop	Heb 13:1-8 Mk 6:14-29
Saturday, February 4, 2023 8:30 a.m. Mass First Saturday	The Living Church		Weekday	Heb 13:15-17 Mk 6:14-29
Saturday, February 4, 2023 5:30 p.m. Mass Blessing of the Throat at Mass	Agnes Caliarì	Family	The Vigil of the Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	(see below)
Sunday, February 5, 2023 9:15 a.m. Mass Blessing of the Throat at Mass	Living and Deceased Parishioners		The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Is 58:7-10 1 Cor 2:1-5 Mt 5:13-16

Ph. 814-787-4151

**St. Joseph Church**

Fax 814-787-4478

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**

## 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**

17764 Bennetts Valley Hwy., P. O. Box 124, Force, PA 15841-0124

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)

## 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 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.



3-D-4-2

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