



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

1st SUNDAY OF LENT

Then the devil took Jesus up to a very high mountain, and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in their magnificence, and he said to him, "All these I shall give to you, if you will prostrate yourself and worship me." - Mt 4:8-9

Parish Stewardship for 2022-2023

Weekly amount budgeted for 2022-2023 \$3,365.00
 Offertory collection 2/13/23 thru 2/21/23 \$2,224.00
 CSA 2023 Campaign Parish Goal \$31,773.00

Thank you for supporting St. Joseph Church

Pope's Intention for February

We pray that parishes, placing communion at the center, may increasingly become communities of faith, unity and welcome towards those most in need.



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

Pilgrimage to Fatima and Lourdes

Please join Fr. Timothy Huffman and Fr. Bradley Greer, of the Diocese of Steubenville, on a pilgrimage to Fatima and Lourdes June 9-18, 2023. Space is limited. Departing from Pittsburgh. For more information, please visit www.gohtours.com or call 1-800-213-4295.

He Chose the Nails by Max Lucado

Adult Faith Formation study/discussion sessions will begin Monday, February 27th after 8:30 am Mass. There will be two groups: those who chose Wednesdays will meet following the Stations of the Cross at 6pm; and those who chose the morning group will meet after Monday morning 8:30 Mass. All sessions will be in the Social Hall.

**Baptismal Training
February/March 2023**

March 7	7:00 pm	St. Boniface, Kersey	885-8941
March 25	10:00 am	Sacred Heart, St. Marys	834-7861
April 18	7:00 pm	St. Leo, Ridgway	772-3135



Stations of the Cross at 6:00 p.m.
EVERY WEDNESDAY throughout Lent

CSA Campaign for 2023 has begun. If you have not made your pledge, there are CSA pledge envelopes on the table in the vestibule. Our CSA goal for this year is \$31,773.00. Remember that once our goal is reached, St. Joseph Church will receive the funds over the goal.

Lent Now!

The Holy Season of Lent has begun and the good news is that Lent is an old English word that means spring. Therefore, this new Lent can be a new springtime for us. In the Rule of St. Benedict, chapter 49 he says that . . . "The life of a monk ought to be a continuous Lent . . . This we can do in a fitting manner by refusing to indulge evil habits and by devoting ourselves to prayer. . . let each one deny himself some food, drink, sleep, needless talking, and look forward to holy Easter with joy and spiritual longing." Though we are not monks, St. Benedict's words can help us. Reading the **Little Black Book** will lift us up spiritually.



Sharing Faith: Saint Katherine Drexel

The Universal Prayers at Mass

Lent Now

An outstanding American saint whose Feast Day is this week—March 3rd—is Saint Katherine Drexel. Her life story is very interesting.

She was born into a very wealthy family in Philadelphia, PA on November 26, 1858. Her father, Francis Drexel, was an international banker. Her mother, Hannah, died a few weeks after Katherine's birth. As her life went on, her father remarried. Eventually, he and the family became active in reaching out to the poor by distributing food, clothing and money from their own home to many people in need. These kind acts were inspiring to Katherine and helped her grow in her faith in God. As a young adult, she cared for her stepmother who was suffering from a painful terminal cancer—this work of mercy changed her life.

A further conversion happened in her life when she traveled with her family to other states in the West and saw the bad conditions of poverty among the Native Americans. She believed that all people must have the basic essentials of life including an education. This belief and quest led her and her sisters to use their great wealth which they inherited after their father's death to build and establish schools for Native Americans and African Americans in thirteen states and many mission centers as well.

She was able to establish these institutions with the permission of Pope Leo XII as well as starting a religious order of nuns (The Blessed Sacrament Sisters for both Native and African Americans) who were dedicated to this work of mercy. She founded Xavier University in New Orleans and Drexel University in Philadelphia.

Saint Katherine Drexel, Pray for Us!

Universal Prayers

The **Universal Prayers** come immediately after **the Creed**. It is an important opportunity for us to pray for our specific need, the needs of our country and the world at large, and for the specific Mass Intention of our loved ones or friends who have passed. The Intention which is mentioned at this time is requested by members of St. Joseph Church. It is also found in the Sunday bulletin along with the Intention for the Living and Deceased Members of St. Joseph Church and for the Souls in Purgatory. Praying for each other is very necessary and shared at Mass with the **Universal Prayers** sung Response—"Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, God of Mercy, hear our prayer." God Bless, Father Mark

We Celebrate, We Listen, We Pray

Date	Intention	Requested by	Celebration	Scriptures
Monday, February 27, 2023 8:30 a.m. Mass	Aunt Lena and Uncle Sam	Woody and Paulette Yeane	Saint Gregory of Narek, Abbot and Doctor of the Church	Lv 19:1-2, 11-18 Mt 25:31-46
Tuesday, February 28, 2023 8:30 a.m. Mass	Louis DeMonte	Louis Aloise	Lenten Weekday	Is 55:10-11 Mt 6:7-15
Wednesday, March 1, 2023 No Mass			Lenten Weekday	Jon 3:1-10 Lk 11:29-32
Thursday, March 2, 2023 8:30 a.m. Mass	Rick Agosti	Donald and Nancy Chiappelli	Lenten Weekday	Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25 Mt 7:7-12
Friday, March 3, 2023 8:30 a.m. Mass Frist Friday	Vicki Peters	Marian S. Hoover	Saint Katherine Drexel, Virgin	Ez 18:21-28 Mt 5:20-26
Saturday, March 4, 2023 8:30 a.m. Mass First Saturday	Irene Gregori	Gerald Klaiber	Saint Casimir	Dt 26:16-19 Mt 5:43-48
Saturday, March 4, 2023 5:30 p.m. Mass	Susan Huff	Jerry and Kathy Meyer	The Vigil of the Second Sunday of Lent	(see below)
Sunday, March 5, 2023 9:15 a.m. Mass	Living and Deceased Parishioners		The Second Sunday of Lent	Gn 12:1-4a 2 Tm 1:18b-10 Mt 17:1-9

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**

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**Stations of the Cross at 6:00 p.m. EVERY WEDNESDAY throughout Lent**Office Email: stjosephforce@windstream.net Website: www.stjosephforce.org Faith Formation Email: stjosephforceff@windstream.net

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday9:00 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., Thurs., 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 11th 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—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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