

The background of the entire page is a composite image. It features a large, semi-transparent silhouette of a shepherd's head and shoulders on the right side, looking towards the left. In the foreground, there is a dense flock of sheep, some white and some dark, grazing in a field. The background shows a range of mountains under a warm, golden sunset sky. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a strong glow and long shadows. The overall color palette is dominated by warm tones of gold, orange, and brown.

Good SHEPHERD

St. Joseph Parish

Force, PA

Bringing Eucharistic Life to the Valley since 1872

SUNDAY

Parish Stewardship for 2019-2020

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

Offertory for weekend 3/14-15 thru 4/3	\$6,290.00
Offertory for week ending April 10	\$2,456.00
Offertory for week ending April 17	\$1,691.00
Offertory for week ending April 24	\$3,208.00
Budget from July 1, 2019 — June 30, 2020.....	\$183,500.00
Deficit/Surplus to-Date week ending April 24	-\$18,406.38

Thank you for your continued support for St. Joseph Church as we endeavor to get through this pandemic together.
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 continue to be suspended until further notice.

As per the Order of the Secretary of the PA Department of Health directing public health safety measures, everyone is required to wear a mask when entering or remaining on parish premises.

*St. Joseph Church will be open daily for individual visitation and prayer: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm.
Church Office Hours: Mon-Thurs: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
814-787-4151 #3 Closed Friday*

GOOD NEWS!

As of Sunday, April 25, regular Sunday Mass at our church can now be viewed **at any time** on the St. Joseph website.

Since you are unable to attend public Mass, please join us in participating and in celebration of Mass at our website:
stjosephforce.org

Sacrament of Confession

Father Mark is available to hear Confessions in the Faith Formation building during office hours. Call for an appointment at 814-787-4151 #4



“St. Joseph Prayer Chain”

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



“Food Bank”

Thank you for your on-going support to the Christian Food Bank. Donations totaled 90 lbs. during this difficult time. Additional donations can be placed in the box in the vestibule of the church.



“Care & Concern”

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



*Hail Mary, Full of Grace,
The Lord is with Thee.
Blessed art Thou among women,
And Blessed is the Fruit of Thy Womb, Jesus.
Holy Mother, Mother of God,
Pray for us sinners
Now, and at the hour of our death. Amen.*



What is Jesus Our Good Shepherd Teaching Us?

Life is a school. We learn many things very early in life such as there are other people around us besides ourselves: family, relatives and friends. It’s not just our needs and wants that count but others as well. We learn to talk, form sentences, and read. Our first shepherds, so to speak, in our lives are our parents teaching us right from wrong. The actual schooling we have are public and faith formation classes at our Church. It is at this time that we are taught our Catholic faith and begin to know who this Jesus the Good Shepherd really is after all.

When we first received the faith through our Baptism, we learned about God as Three Persons (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) and the Sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, and Confirmation which all began to make sense as a relationship with Jesus the Good Shepherd. We are taking time this special Easter Season weekend to celebrate Jesus, our Good Shepherd. In this Sunday’s Gospel Jesus describes a good shepherd as one who “...enters through the gate.” (Jn 10:2) He says further that “... the sheep hear His Voice as the shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.” (Jn 10:3) This Sunday, it’s the Voice of Jesus the Good Shepherd we are called to recognize in our lives. We hear His Voice through Sacred Scripture and also through others. We recognize His Voice through good parents, teachers, counselors, and leaders in community and in the Church. The Good Shepherd gives words of affirmation, direction and even admonishment from time to time. It’s all given out of love because the Good Shepherd wills the good for each of us.

What is Jesus our Good Shepherd teaching you and teaching all of us during this time of a world pandemic? Be safe and take many precautions, of course. But also together pray more as a family. Make this a tremendous opportunity to get caught up with things that might always be put on the back burner. For example: what is Jesus teaching you in a book you now have time to read, studying online, or catching up with your correspondence? What is Jesus our Good Shepherd saying to you and your family about priorities during this unique time? There is a special lesson to be learned from Jesus *right now*. May each of us pray to hear that teaching and to learn well from these lessons that Jesus our Good Shepherd is giving us.

God Bless,
Father Mark

We Celebrate, We Listen, We Pray

Date	Intention	Requested by	Celebration	Scriptures
Monday, May 4, 2020	Vicki (Leair) Winslow	Dave and Barb Lease	Easter Weekday	Acts 11:1-18 Jn 10:11-18
Tuesday, May 5, 2020	Joseph J. Mastrian	Father Mark and Family	Easter Weekday	Acts 11:19-26 Jn 10:22-30
Wednesday, May 6, 2020			Easter Weekday	Acts 12:24—13:5a Jn 12:44-50
Thursday, May 7, 2020	Carol Kozminski	Family	Easter Weekday	Acts 13:13-25 Jn 13:16-20
Friday, May 8, 2020	Marguerite Cortina (birthday)	Cortina Family	Easter Weekday	Acts 13:26-33 Jn 14:1-6
Saturday, May 9, 2020			Easter Weekday	Acts 13:44-52 Jn 14:7-14
Saturday, May 9, 2020	Living and Deceased Parishioners		Vigil of the Fifth Sunday of Easter	(See below)
Sunday, May 10, 2020	Agnes Caliarì	Family	Fifth Sunday of Easter	Acts 6:1-7 1 Pt 2:4-9 Jn 14:1-12

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 Website: 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 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 Deaconate – Men who feel that they may be being called to the vocational life of Priesthood or Deaconate 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.