



PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD



So they brought the colt to Jesus and put their cloaks over it. And he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. - Mk 11:7-8

Parish Stewardship

Offertory collection for 03/17/24. \$2,551.00
 Weekly offertory budgeted for 2023-2024. \$3,365.00
 CSA Campaign Assessment for 2024. \$31,134.00
 CSA Pledges to date. \$27,810.00
 Thank you for supporting St. Joseph Church!

Pope's Intention for March
For New Martyrs

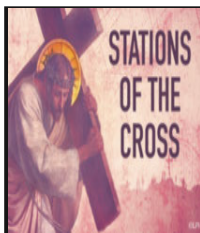
Let us pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world might imbue the Church with their courage and missionary drive.

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

PENANCE SERVICE at 2:00 pm today, March 24th, here at St. Joseph Church. There will be visiting priests to help with confessions.



Our Fish/Shrimp dinners are being served every Friday during Lent from NOON to 6:30 pm (or until sold out). Cost is \$15 per dinner.



There will be Stations of the Cross at 6:00 pm on Wednesday evening.

Adult Faith Formation classes will follow in the Faith Formation Center this week from 6:30 pm to 7:45 pm.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

The Church office will be closed from Holy Thursday through Easter Monday. The office will re-open on Tuesday, April 2nd at 9:00 am.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

- † March 24 Palm Sunday Penance Service @ 2pm
- † March 27 Stations of the Cross @ 6pm
(Adult Faith Formation class follows in FF Center)
- † March 28 Holy Thursday Mass @ 7pm
- † March 29 Good Friday Service @ 1pm
- † March 30 Easter Vigil @ 8:30pm
- † March 31 Easter Sunday Mass @ 9:15am

Are you a caregiver for someone with Alzheimer's disease or another type of dementia?

You are welcome to join others at area support group meetings:

St. Marys Public Library-first Monday of the month 12pm - 2pm
 Fox Twp. Senior Center-third Thursday of the month 3pm - 5pm
 Christ the King Manor-first Tuesday of the month 5pm - 6pm

For more information, please call 814-772-5461 OR 814-245-6474

St. Boniface K of C will be having a Breakfast Buffet on Sunday, April 7th, from 8:00 am to 11:00 am or until sold out. Cost is \$10 for adults/\$5 for kids. St. Boniface Social Hall Cafeteria, Kersey.

They are also welcoming new members from St. Joseph Church. If you are interested in joining the St. Boniface K of C, please contact Jim Allegretto at 814-594-9708 for more information.

**The Meaning of Holy Week**

This week we celebrate the holiest week of the year—**Holy Week**. But, what makes it holy and special? We begin Holy Week with **Palm Sunday**, when we celebrate Jesus' Solemn Entrance into Jerusalem. The crowds cried out, "Hosanna to the King!" because of His past three-year track record of preaching the Kingdom of God, His Healings, and other miracles. *The Passion of Our Lord* is read.

On Monday of Holy Week, many of us priests celebrate the Chrism Mass with Bishop Persico at St. Peter Cathedral in Erie. At this Mass, the Sacred Oils that will be used throughout the year are blessed by our Bishop. The oils are the ***Oil of Salvation*** for Baptism, the ***Oil of the Infirm*** to anoint those who are sick and others near death, and the ***Chrism Oil*** which is used to anoint those being Confirmed and also to anoint on the hands of the priests during their Ordination.

The Holy Thursday Mass, which is properly referred to as the **Mass of the Lord's Supper**, is celebrated during the early evening hours. At this Mass, the Holy Oils are processed individually to the Altar and an explanation of each oil is read. The foot washing ceremony traditionally occurs at this Mass. This Mass is to celebrate, in a special way, the meaning of the Holy Priesthood and the Holy Eucharist. This Mass is also the start of the **Holy Tridium of the Passion and Resurrection of the Lord** and concludes with evening prayer on Easter Sunday.

On Good Friday, we celebrate our **Lord's Passion and Death** on the cross for the sins of the world. This meaning is brought out as we listen to the ***Reading of the Passion of Our Lord***.

Next is the ***Solemn Intercession Prayers*** when we pray for the Church and for all of God's people. After this is the **Veneration (kissing) of the Holy Cross**. In conclusion, we pray ***The Lord's Prayer*** and receive **Holy Communion**.

Holy Saturday Easter Vigil The meaning of the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday is the celebration of **Christ's Resurrection** and the promise of eternal life in Heaven. Briefly, the steps are the following:

- The Blessing of the fire and preparation of the candle
- The Procession of the Easter Candle and the lighting of the tapers the people hold
- The Easter Proclamation
- The Liturgy of the Word
- The Baptismal Liturgy if one is occurring
- If no Baptisms, there is the Blessing of the Water and the Renewal of Baptismal Promises and the Sprinkling Rite
- Mass continues with the Liturgy of the Eucharist

We Celebrate, We Listen, We Pray

Date	Intention	Requested by	Celebration	Scriptures
Monday, March 25, 2024 8:30 a.m. Mass	Richard Meyer	Anna Cortina	Monday of Holy Week	Is 42: 1-7 Jn 12: 1-11 (257)
Tuesday, March 26, 2024 8:30 a.m. Mass	Mary Youngmark and Kelly Duell	Elaine Stotler	Tuesday of Holy Week	Is 49: 1-6 Jn 13: 21-33, 36-38 (258)
Wednesday, March 27, 2024 No Mass			Wednesday of Holy Week	Is 50: 4-9a Mt 26: 14-25 (259)
Thursday, March 28, 2024 7:00 p.m. Mass HOLY THURSDAY	Leno Zambanini 96th birthday	daughter Rita, Joe, and Family	Thursday of Holy Week Holy Thursday	Ex 12: 1-8, 11-14 1 Cor 11: 23-26 Jn 13: 1-15 (39)
Friday, March 29, 2024 1:00 p.m. Mass GOOD FRIDAY			Friday of the Passion of the Lord Good Friday	Is 52: 13--53: 12 Heb 4: 14-16, 5: 7-9 Jn 18: 1--19: 42 (40)
Saturday, March 30, 2024 No Mass			Holy Saturday	Gn 1: 1--2: 2 or 1: 1, 26-31a Gn 22: 1-18 or 22: 1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18 Ex 14: 15--15: 1 Is 54: 5-14
Saturday, March 30, 2024 8:30 p.m. Mass EASTER VIGIL	Living and Deceased Members of St. Joseph Parish		Vigil of The Resurrection of the Lord	(see below)
Sunday, March 31, 2024 9:15 a.m. Mass EASTER SUNDAY	Tom Winkler	wife-Chris and family	Easter Sunday of The Resurrection of the Lord	Acts 10: 34a, 37-43 Col 3: 1-4 or 1 Cor 5: 6b-8 Jn 20: 1-9 (42) or Mk 16: 1-7 (41)

St. Joseph Church

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
Ph. 814-787-4151

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

Domestic Administrator: Miriam Pane **Secretary:** Barb Allegretto **Faith Formation:** Mary Ann Toney

Pastoral Council President: Bryan Chiappelli **Finance Council Moderator:** Leon Calliari

OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Thursday 9a.m.—4 p.m.

Office Email: stjosephforce@windstream.net Website: www.stjosephforce.org Faith Formation Email: stjosephforceff@windstream.net

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 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 9th grade and who are active in the Faith Formation process or attend a Catholic High School 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.

Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick—Celebrated for all who are seriously ill. The Sacrament is also available upon request.

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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.



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