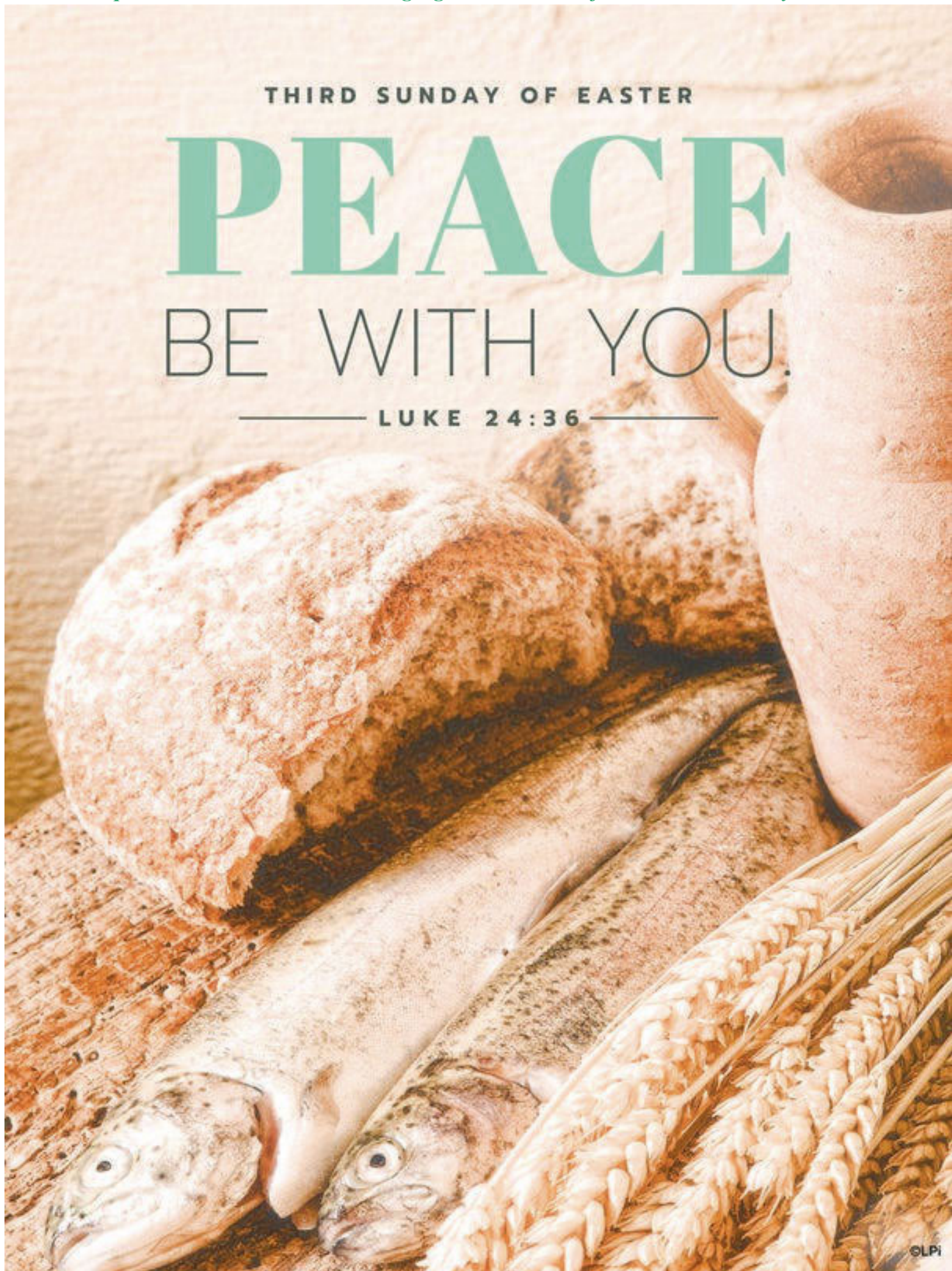


THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

PEACE

BE WITH YOU.

— LUKE 24:36 —



Parish Stewardship

Offeritory collection for 04/07/24	\$4,254.00
Weekly offertory budgeted for 2023-2024	\$3,365.00
CSA Campaign Assessment for 2024	\$31,134.00
CSA Pledges to date	\$28,210.00

Thank you for supporting St. Joseph Church!

**Pope’s Intention for April
For The Role of Women**

Let us pray that the dignity and worth of women be recognized in every culture, and for an end to the discrimination they face in various parts of the world.

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

Baptism Preparation Classes

April 16	7:00 pm	St. Leo Church	814-772-3135
May 23	7:00 pm	St. Mary’s Church	814-781-1019

VIDEO PRESENTATION CONTINUES

The Chosen - Season Three will continue each Saturday evening at 6:45pm, following the 5:30pm Mass. A light meal will be provided. ALL ARE WELCOME!

The showing of The Chosen will be every Saturday after Mass up until Saturday, May 4th.

Adoration will continue on Monday evenings during the month of April at 6:00 pm. (April 29th there will NOT be Adoration) and into the month of May. We will end on Monday, May 20th.

CEMETERY MAINTENANCE Cemetery maintenance will begin soon. Weather-worn , faded, and out of season flowers will be discarded. When you are visiting the cemetery, please remember to remove the flowers that were placed on the graves for the previous seasons. As it continues to get warmer, feel free to add to the beautiful colors of Spring.

A **Cinch Tournament** to benefit **Relay for Life** American Cancer Society will be held on Sunday, April 21st at the Sacred Heart Parish Center in St. Marys. Dinner will be served at 12:15 pm. Tournament play to begin promptly at 1:00 pm. Cost is \$10/person. Pre-register by calling Sharon Streich 814-594-5594 OR Sacred Heart Parish 814-834-7861

(continuation from the Message on the right page)

Ask yourself this weekend: What are some Easter stories that are memorable and that were inspiring events to you and others who experienced it with you?

God Bless,
Father Mark



AN EASTER EVENING STORY

Have you ever thought that an Easter evening could be almost as exciting as Easter morning? It’s true, that with some families, their tradition is to celebrate with an “open house” with relatives and friends to join the family throughout the day and well into the evening, with a lot of entrees of ethnic foods and desserts. And why not? The Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ is an event that really needs to be celebrated everyday when we awaken each morning and thank God for another “new day” of life. It is important to say though that during that first Easter day, the Apostles celebration of our Risen Lord was quite different than ours.

According to St. John and St. Lukes’s Gospel, a lot of mixed emotions were happening on that first Easter. We heard about the amazement of Mary Magdalene and the other women going to the tomb early in the morning, only to discover that Jesus was not there. Then, the same thing happened to Peter and John because Jesus had been raised from the dead. But what went on Easter evening? Last Sunday’s Gospel, we heard that the Apostles had locked themselves up in the upper room where they had celebrated the Last Supper with Jesus. They were afraid that the Jewish leaders would crucify them as they did to Jesus. However, Jesus appeared and said, “Peace be with you.”“The Disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.” (Jn 20: 19-20)

This Sunday, in Luke’s Gospel, it was a different emotion. When Jesus appeared to the Apostles, they were “startled and terrified.” (Lk 24: 37) Jesus assured them that He was present to them to bring peace. Jesus brings us peace, too.

Another Easter evening story happened to Joe and his mom & dad several years ago. Joe is a priest and he came to visit his family early in the afternoon on Easter Sunday. After a wonderful meal, Father Joe’s sister and her husband needed to go back to their home and Father Joe was staying at his parents home overnight.

Late that evening, his father said that he could not breathe. The ambulance came and brought his father to the hospital. Before his dad was put into the ambulance, Father Joe anointed him with the Sacrament of the Oil of the Infirm.

A few days later, after a heart catheterization, Father Joe’s dad was sent home. It was recommended that he not have a heart operation because of his age, but he was given a new medication in order to treat his congestive heart failure. Father Joe’s dad lived for another four years in fairly good health and continued doing the activities that he had been used to doing. The Resurrection Grace of the Anointing of the Sick really helped and intervened in Father Joe’s dad. (continued in left column)

We Celebrate, We Listen, We Pray

Date	Intention	Requested by	Celebration	Scriptures
Monday, April 15, 2024 8:30 a.m. Mass	Vicki & Scott Winslow	Mom & Dad	Easter Weekday	Acts 6: 8-15 Jn 6: 22-29 (273)
Tuesday, April 16, 2024 8:30 a.m. Mass	Ruth Ann Gregori Wedding anniversary	Louie Gregori	Easter Weekday	Acts 7: 51--8: 1a Jn 6: 30-35 (274)
Wednesday, April 17, 2024 No Mass			Easter Weekday	Acts 8: 1b-8 Jn 6: 35-40 (275)
Thursday, April 18, 2024 8:30 a.m. Mass	Frank Michelini	Armando & Barb Fortunato	Easter Weekday	Acts 8: 26-40 Jn 6: 44-51 (276)
Friday, April 19, 2024 8:30 a.m. Mass	Richard Meyer	Anna Cortina	Easter Weekday	Acts 9: 1-20 Jn 6: 52-59 (277)
Saturday, April 20, 2024 No Mass			Easter Weekday	Acts 9: 31-42 Jn 6: 60-69 (278)
Saturday, April 20, 2024 5:30 p.m. Mass	Living and Deceased Parishioners		The Vigil of the Fourth Sunday of Easter	(see below)
Sunday, April 21, 2024 9:15 a.m. Mass	Saba & Maria Betta and Deceased Family Members	Walter & Christine Gavazzi	FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Acts 4: 8-12 1 Jn 3: 1-2 Jn 10: 11-18 (50)

St. Joseph Church

Ph. 814-787-4151 Fax 814-787-4478

Rev. Mark J. Mastrian..... Pastor
 Parish Secretary: Barb Allegretto Faith Formation : Mary Ann Toney 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

OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Thursday 9a.m.—4 p.m.

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

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

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 5:30 pm Sunday: 9:15 am Holy Days: 9:00 am & 7:00 pm Daily: Mon., Tues., Thur., Fri. 8:30 am 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—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.