



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

4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

His fame spread everywhere throughout the whole
region of Galilee. - Mk 1:28

Parish Stewardship

Offertory collection for 01/21/24.not available

Thank you for supporting St. Joseph Church!

Pope's Intention for January
For the Gift of Diversity in the Church

Let us pray that the Holy Spirit helps us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.

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

Baptism Preparation Classes

February 08	7:00 pm	St. Joseph Church	814-787-4151
February 29	6:30 pm	St. Mark Church (Emporium)	814-486-0569
March 23	10:00 am	Sacred Heart Church	814-834-7861

HELP SPREAD THE FAITH Collection will be taken up on the weekend of January 27/28. Thank you.

Eucharistic Revival I will continue to share with you the teachings of the Mass in bulletin messages to come. This year, many parishes are designated for a particular Feast day or weekend Mass where they will have special devotion and worship services in celebration of this year of the Eucharistic Revival. We here at St. Joseph Church are scheduled for Sunday, May 5, for our celebration of the Eucharistic Revival.

The reason for this date is that it is close to our Feast day of St. Joseph the Worker, May 1st. This is a special day for our Parish every year as we celebrate the May Crowning ceremony at the Fatima Shrine. This year, on May 5th, we will have a most special celebration emphasizing the Eucharistic Revival by doing the following: we will have a Eucharistic procession from the Church up to the Altar in the cemetery and then proceed to the Fatima Shrine for our May Crowning.

Sacred Heart Social Committee Pre-Lenten Keuchel Sale

Monday, February 12, 2024 Sacred Heart Parish Center
 Pre-orders ONLY by 3:00 February 9th. 814-834-7861 #1
 M-F 9am-3pm Price: \$15/dozen \$8/half dozen.
 Plain or Sugared. Pick up on February 12 between 3pm and 6pm
 at the Parish Center Social Hall. Benefits: Sacred Heart Parish

**Sacred Heart Parish Center Super Bingo**

Friday, Feb. 2, 2024

16 Regular games @ \$100, 4 Specials @ \$250, Jackpot \$2500 in 52 #'s--guaranteed \$1000. Doors open @ 4:00 pm FREE Lunch will be served @5:30 pm Early Bird games @ 6:30 pm - Games @ 6:45 pm. Door Prizes Benefits: Sacred Heart Parish

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

January 28-February 3, 2024

See bulletin insert

A New Year's Resolution for your marriage...Gift time to one another. Worldwide Marriage Encounter is a faith-based enrichment for any married couple, to refocus on why you got together in the first place. The next is February 9-11, 2024 in Grove City, PA. Go to www.WWME.org for more information.

**The Healing Power of Words in a Hymn**

Words are very important and have a powerful effect, especially in the lyrics of a hymn. These songs are created to bring inspiration to us in describing God's Love for us, in order to build up and affirm our faith. The music itself can bring a calming and peaceful feeling as we listen to or sing the song.

One song in our Breaking Bread Hymnal © 2023 OCP that speaks of God's Healing is: **"Healing River of the Spirit"**. A look at the first verse expresses Jesus' Healing Ministry recorded in the Gospel, as well as in some of the writings of St. Paul's letters. I will explain each line of this verse that is in bold, italicized lettering. The explanation is in the parenthesis.

Verse One "Healing River of the Spirit, bathe the wounds that living brings." (We all know that life is not easy. We all have responsibilities that need to be fulfilled daily. This, along with misunderstanding, conflict in relationships, poor health, and limited resources can be the wounds that living brings. We are asking God to bathe and cleanse us, by the power of God's Word, from the negative effects of those wounds.)

"Plunge our pain, our sin, our sadness, deep beneath Your Sacred Springs." (This part of the verse expresses, even more clearly, what those wounds are. The wounds are pain, sin, and sadness. May I suggest, too, that both physical and psychological pain, along with sin, can both be the cause of sadness in ones life. We are asking God in these words to plunge us again into the healing waters of our Baptismal calling. Concerning sin, Saint Paul says; "through Baptism into Christ's Death, we were buried with Him, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of God the Father, we too might live a new life.") (Romans Ch. 6 Verse 4)

(Then also concerning sadness and pain, Saint Paul says; "dismiss all anxiety from your minds. Present your needs to God in every form of prayer and in petition full of gratitude. Then God's own Peace, which is beyond all understanding, will stand guard over your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Philippians Ch. 4 Verses 6-7) The peace of Jesus can flow over us like a sacred spring of water.)

"Weary from the restless searching that has lured us from Your Side."

(Sometimes we may have searched for other beliefs or things in life we thought would satisfy us more than our faith in God. Some of these searches have actually lead us away from God and our prayer life. Saint Augustine once said; "our hearts are restless until they rest in God." This is what the words "restless searching" is saying.

Finally, the last words of this first verse, is as follows: **"We discover in Your Presence Peace the world cannot provide."** Ruth C. Duck: fr Circles of Care ©1996 The Pilgrim Press

(When we pray and truly offer our sincere prayer, with all our heart to the Lord, we can discover in Jesus' Presence, His Holy Peace that the world cannot provide. This comes from John Ch. 14 Verse 27. The world may say at times that an over abundance of wealth, all for oneself, or the over dependency of alcohol, will bring peace in ones life. On the contrary, only our relationship with the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, in daily prayer, and the power of God's Word-the Bible and the Church's Sacraments can bring lasting peace in our lives.)

My friends, as we read and hear about Jesus healing a man from an unclean spirit in today's Gospel according to Mark Ch. 1 Verses 21-28, may we be encouraged to pray for the necessary healings that we want for our world, our families, and for ourselves. Trust that God's Word and all of its power and grace will bring about the healing that we long for.

God Bless,
 Father Mark

We Celebrate, We Listen, We Pray

Date	Intention	Requested by	Celebration	Scriptures
Monday, January 29, 2024 8:30 a.m. Mass	William & Elizabeth Leair	Bob & Helena Leair	Weekday	2 Sm 15: 13-14, 16: 5-13 Mk 5: 1-20 (323)
Tuesday, January 30, 2024 8:30 a.m. Mass	Carmella Cadori	Yvonne-friend	Weekday	2 Sm 18: 9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30-19: 3 Mk 5: 21-43 (324)
Wednesday, January 31, 2024 No Mass			Saint John Bosco, Priest	2 Sm 24: 2, 9-17 Mk 6: 1-6 (325)
Thursday, February 01, 2024 8:30 a.m. Mass	Jennie Chiappelli	Family	Weekday	1 Kgs 2: 1-4, 10-12 Mk 6: 7-13 (326)
Friday, February 02, 2024 8:30 a.m. Mass	Ryan Berasi	Aunt Marlene	The Presentation of the Lord	Mal 3: 1-4 Heb 2: 14-18 Lk 2: 22-40 (524)
Saturday, February 03, 2024 8:30 a.m. Mass First Saturday	Blessed Mother Intention		Saint Blaise, Bishop & Martyr Saint Ansgar, Bishop Blessed Virgin Mary	1 Kgs 3: 4-13 Mk 6: 30-34 (328)
Saturday, February 03, 2024 5:30 p.m. Mass	Deceased members of The Serafini Family	Family	Vigil of Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	(see below)
Sunday, February 04, 2024 9:15 a.m. Mass	Living and Deceased Members of St. Joseph Parish		Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Jb 7: 1-4, 6-7 1 Cor 9: 16-19, 22-23 Mk 1: 29-39 (74)

St. Joseph Church

17764 Bennetts Valley Hwy., P. O. Box 124, Force, PA 15841
Ph. 814-787-4151

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

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.

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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.



For ad info. call 1-800-477-4574 • www.4lpi.com

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