



3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie.”
- Jn 1:26-27

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

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPi

Parish Stewardship for 2022-2023

Weekly amount budgeted for 2022-2023\$3,365.00
 Offertory collection 11/27/2023 thru 12/03/2023\$4,143.00
 Offertory collection 12/04/2023 thru 12/10/2023.....\$5,957.00
 CSA 2023 Campaign Parish Goal\$31,773.00

Pope's Intention for December**For persons with disabilities**

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

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

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday evenings, at 6:30 pm, we will be having Exposition, Adoration, and Benediction in the Church. We will continue each Monday through Monday, December 18th.

Advent Penance Service will be held at St. Joseph Church on Sunday, December 17th at 2:00 pm.

Area Advent Penance Services

Sunday, Dec. 17th.....St. Joseph (Force) 2:00 pm
 Wednesday, Dec. 20th..... Sacred Heart Church 6:30 pm
 St. Boniface.....3:15 pm on Saturdays and after ALL weekend Masses during Advent.

**CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES**

Sunday, Dec. 24	4:30 pm	Christmas Eve Vigil
Sunday, Dec. 24	10:00 pm	Christmas (during the night)
Monday, Dec. 25	9:15 am	Christmas Day
Saturday, Dec. 30	5:30 pm	Vigil of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
Sunday, Dec. 31	9:15 am	Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
Monday, Jan. 1	9:15 am	Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (not of obligation this year)

Giving Tree This year, the Guardian Angel Center in Kersey has expressed a need for bed sheets. Our Confirmation class will be collecting new bed sheets in sizes TWIN and/or FULL. You can place your unwrapped gifts under the tree in the social hall or you can bring them to the office M-Th 9am-4pm. Items will be delivered to the Guardian Angel Center in January.

St. Joseph Church Prayer Chain We are looking to reorganize our Parish prayer chain. We need a contact person to head the chain and be willing to contact the others on the prayer chain. If you are interested in joining the prayer chain group, please call the office at 814-787-4151 x3 OR Father Mark at extension 4.

THANK YOU!

Village Voices of Brockway present **Peace On Earth** Annual Christmas Concert on Sunday, Dec. 17th at 3 pm & 7 pm and Monday, Dec. 18th at 7 pm. Brockway Presbyterian Church, 817 Main Street, Brockway.

**Imitate John the Baptist**

Many of us who enjoy cooking a turkey, ham, or a roast, along with healthy vegetables, knows how important it is to prepare a delicious and nutritious meal for family and friends to enjoy. Especially during this time of the year as we prepare for Christmas, we include in our menu many tasty pastries.

We know how necessary it is to prepare these dinners for the glorious celebrations to come in buying the food, ingredients, and spices that are needed in order to feed a hungry group. If we do not prepare, most likely then, people will not be ready and prepared to celebrate. This is true for preparing an important banquet. How much more important it is for people to prepare their hearts on the true meaning of Christmas and to plan the Mass they want to attend.

John the Baptist came at the right time in history to prepare the people for the great event of the long-awaited Messiah and to be ready for the Kingdom Jesus will inaugurate.

As we read in this weekend's Gospel, John was very careful and precise in the preparation of this celebration. For example, when he was asked, "Who are you?" he admitted and did not deny it, but admitted, "I am not the Christ." (John 1: 19b-20) When further asked, he simply said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, make straight the Way of the Lord, as Isaiah the Prophet said." (John 1: 23)

John's humble attitude and timely preparation for God's People continued when he said, "I baptize with water but there is One among you whom you do not recognize, the One who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worth to untie." (John 1: 23)

My brothers and sisters, strive to imitate St. John the Baptist's humbleness. As he was a voice crying out in the desert, so each of us can cry out to God in prayer in the midst of our own deserts of preparing and getting things done in time for Christmas, and by encouraging loved ones to really prepare themselves for the spiritual gifts Christ wants to give them this Christmas.



God Bless,

Father Mark

We Celebrate, We Listen, We Pray

Date	Intention	Requested by	Celebration	Scriptures
Monday, December 18, 2023 8:30 a.m. Mass	Deceased Members of the Winkler Family	Robert & Daniel Cortina Families	Late Advent Weekday	Jer 23: 5-8 Mt 1: 18-25
Tuesday, December 19, 2023 8:30 a.m. Mass	Frank Michelin	Trunzo/Bryan Families	Late Advent Weekday	Jgs 13: 2-7, 24-25 Lk 1: 5-25
Wednesday, December 20, 2023 No Mass			Late Advent Weekday	Is 7: 10-14 Lk 1: 26-38
Thursday, December 21, 2023 8:30 a.m. Mass	Gary Rio	Sandy & Joanne	Saint Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church	Sg 2: 8-14 or Zep 3: 14-18 Lk 1: 39-45
Friday, December 22, 2023 8:30 a.m. Mass	Pete Morelli	daughter Rita	Late Advent Weekday	1 Sm 1: 24-28 Lk 1: 46-56
Saturday, December 23, 2023 No Mass			Saint John of Kanty, Priest	Mal 3: 1-4, 23-24 Lk 1: 57-66
Saturday, December 23, 2023 5:30 p.m. Mass	Robert J. Burke	Sons	Vigil of the Fourth Sunday of Advent	(see below)
Sunday, December 24, 2023 9:15 a.m. Mass	Living and Deceased Parishioners		Fourth Sunday of Advent	2 Sm 7: 1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 Rom 16: 25-27 Lk 1: 26-38
4:30 p.m. Mass	Parishioners		Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord	Is 62: 1-5/ Acts 13: 16-17, 22-25 Mt 1: 1-25 or 1: 18-25
10:00 pm Mass	Paulette Winkler Wallace	Family	Christmas (during the night)	Is 9: 1-6/ Ti 2: 11-14/ Lk 2: 1-14

St. Joseph Church

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

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

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

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

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 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.

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.

Reconciliation – 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.

FORCE GARAGE

Celebrating Over 90 Years of Business

- General Repair
- State Inspection
- Bill Michelin

17322 Bennetts Valley Hwy. • Force, PA
787-5141

Straub Insurance Agency

201 John Street
St. Marys, PA 15857
834-2490

Ralph M. Geer Funeral Home

Five Generations Serving the Bennetts Valley Area

Joseph M. Nedza F.D. / Owner
(814) 637-5401
www.nedzafamilyfuneralhomes.com



12045 Bennetts Valley Hwy.
PO BOX 6
Penfield, PA 15849

Valley Farm Market

Route 255,
18211 Bennetts Valley Hwy
Weedville, PA 15868
(814) 787-8911



Gasoline, Kerosene, and Diesel
Large Assortment of Deli, T-shirts, Ice Cream,
Groceries, and Model Trains

KORB MONUMENTS

COMPLETE MONUMENT SERVICES
SINCE 1901

Visit our large display & production plant in downtown DuBois

1-800-752-1601

www.korbmonuments.com

SEAMLESS GUTTERS

Free Estimates • Fully Insured
Gutter Guards Available
www.cagutters.com

CARL HANES, OWNER
814-834-1123

PA029106

PA# 892857

PA POWER WASHING

Residential & Industrial

Call or Text: Ryan Wehler

814-594-5756

Fully Insured-Free Estimates



Denise M. Cuneo

Attorney at Law

283 River Rd. • Weedville, PA
814-787-7368
1-855-209-8461



SMP

PHARMACY & HOME MEDICAL

Medical Equipment & Supplies

1-800-876-3442

SMPRX.com

Place Your Ad Here and Support our Parish!

Instantly create and
purchase an ad with

AD CREATOR STUDIO



4lpi.com/adcreator

CALLIARI, MEHOLICK & Co.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC
ACCOUNTANTS

TELE: (814) 371-7499

VISION AUTO WORKS

CLASSIC & COLLISION SERVICES

20254 Bennetts Valley Hwy
Byrndale, PA 814-787-8555
VisionAutoWorks@Windstream.net

SAVE MONEY, LIVE COMFORTABLY



- FURNACES
- HEAT PUMPS
- WATER HEATERS
- WOOD & COAL STOVES
- AIR CONDITIONING
- DUCT CLEANING

482 Beechtree Rd., Falls Creek, PA

814-371-4885

Providing Personal, Friendly
Funeral Services Since 1996

Baronick
Funeral Home & Crematorium, Inc.

211 South Main St., Dubois
814-371-2040

SUPPORT OUR
ADVERTISERS!

ADT-Monitored Home Security

Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Flood Detection
- Fire Safety
- Carbon Monoxide



SafeStreets

833-287-3502



ST. MARYS STONE MULCH & MORE

Now at 133 Locust Rd • St. Marys, PA

Wood Pallets • Bag Rock Salt • Cut/Split Firewood
HARD & SOFT COAL • CAR PORTS
CUSTOM BUILT SHEDS

Delivery Available W Conveyor
(814) 781-8334

ST. JOSEPH'S TERRACE SENIOR APARTMENTS

Rent is based on 30% of adjusted income
All utilities included (not Phone, TV)

45 Plum St • Weedville, PA

(814) 787-8772

Non-Denominational



LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS

Place Your Ad Here
and Support Our Parish!

CONTACT ME **Steve Brookshire**

sbrookshire@4LPi.com • (800) 950-9952 x2493

WE'RE HIRING!

AD SALES EXECUTIVES

BE YOURSELF.
BRING YOUR PASSION.
WORK WITH PURPOSE.

- Paid training
- Some travel
- Work-life balance
- Full-Time with benefits
- Serve your community



Contact us at
careers@4lpi.com or
www.4lpi.com/careers

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

14-1197