



7<sup>th</sup>

SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.” - Mt 5:44

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

**Parish Stewardship for 2022-2023**

Weekly amount budgeted for 2022-2023 ..... \$3,365.00  
 Offertory collection 2/06/23 thru 2/13/23 ..... \$3,385.00  
 CSA 2022 Campaign Parish Goal ..... \$32,404.00  
 CSA pledges as of 2/09/2023 ..... \$25,690.00

Thank you for supporting St. Joseph Church

Church Office closed Presidents' Day and Thursday, February 23.

**Pope's Intention for February**

We pray that parishes, placing communion at the center, may increasingly become communities of faith, unity and welcome towards those most in need.



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

**Pilgrimage to Fatima and Lourdes**

Please join Fr. Timothy Huffman and Fr. Bradley Greer, of the Diocese of Steubenville, on a pilgrimage to Fatima and Lourdes June 9-18, 2023. Space is limited. Departing from Pittsburgh. For more information, please visit [www.qohtours.com](http://www.qohtours.com) or call 1-800-213-4295.

**He Chose the Nails** by Max Lucado

Adult Faith Formation study/discussion sessions will begin next Monday, February 27th after 8:30 am Mass. There will be two groups: those who chose Wednesdays will meet following the Stations of the Cross at 6pm; and those who chose the morning group will meet after Monday morning 8:30 Mass. All sessions will be in the Social Hall.

**Baptismal Training  
February/March 2023**

February 20	7:00 pm	St. Mark, Emporium	486-0569
March 7	7:00 pm	St. Boniface, Kersey	885-8941
March 25	10:00 am	Sacred Heart, St. Marys	834-7861

**The Reason for our Hope — Men's and Women's Conferences**, St. Jude the Apostle Church, Erie. Men's Conference — Saturday, March 4 and the Women's Conference Saturday, March 25. These conferences have been wonderful in helping the men and women of our diocese in their walk with Jesus. For more information about both conferences, go to [www.2232men.com](http://www.2232men.com) and [www.138women.com](http://www.138women.com).

**February 22, Ash Wednesday Masses: 9 am and 7 pm.**

**Ash Wednesday is also the beginning of our Shrimp/Fish Dinners. Bring your appetite and support St. Joseph Church. Dinners begin at Noon and end at 6:30 pm. Cost: \$14.**

**Central Catholic Elementary is holding Kindergarten registration** for the 2023-2024 school year on Monday, March 13. The student must be five years of age by July 1. Please call the school at 371-2570 for information and to make an appointment. Also, **Central Catholic Elementary is accepting applications for preschool** for the 2023-2024 school year. Tuition assistance applications are available. Please call the school at 371-2570 for information.

**Why We Receive Ashes  
and  
The Creed**

We receive ashes on Ash Wednesday with the Sign of the Cross on our forehead to remind us that we are dust from the earth; that we will pass from this life someday and our bodies will return to the earth. Hopefully, our soul will live on throughout eternity with God. It is also a reminder that we are to let go and rid ourselves of the sins and distractions that get in the way of our relationship with God. We do this by repenting of our sins and asking God for forgiveness. This especially happens in the Sacrament of Confession. Lent is the season of opportunity for personal and spiritual renewal by means of acts of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

**The Creed at Mass**

Continuing with the next part of **The Creed**, we are reminded of the brief history lesson of the purpose of Jesus our Savior's Coming into the world for our salvation. First, He was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became man. The Catechism of the Catholic Church says that "Incarnate means that the Son of God assumed a human nature in order to accomplish our salvation in it." (CCC461) **The Creed** goes on to proclaim what Jesus did for us in His adult life for our sake — He was crucified under Pontius Pilate, He suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into Heaven and is seated at the right Hand of the Father.

That is what Jesus did for us. The next part of **The Creed** proclaims what Jesus will do in the future that He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and His Kingdom will have no end. Next, we proclaim our belief in the Third Person of the Blessed Trinity—The Holy Spirit. In short, the Holy Spirit is the Giver of life who proceeds from the Father and the Son and Who is adored and glorified and spoken through the prophets.

Finally, we express our belief in One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church (which are also called the *Four Marks* of the Church). We then confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins, and we look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. We end with *Amen* which means — *so be it* — and *yes, certainly*. This is what we believe as Catholics.

Always believe in The Father, The Son and The Holy Spirit to help in life's challenges and always believe that the Joy of the Lord will be your strength. **Never Stop Believing.**

God Bless, Father Mark

# We Celebrate, We Listen, We Pray

Date	Intention	Requested by	Celebration	Scriptures
Monday, February 20, 2023 <b>8:30 a.m. Mass</b>	Richard and Helen Allegretto (birthdays)	Jim — son	Weekday	Sir 1:1-10 Mk 9:14-29
Tuesday, February 21, 2023 <b>8:30 a.m. Mass</b>	Joe Hentz	Camp Saint Dominic	Saint Peter Damian, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	Sir 2:1-11 Mk 9:30-37
<b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b> Wednesday, February 22, 2023 <b>9:00 a.m. Mass</b> <b>7:00 p.m. Mass</b>	Living and Deceased Parishioners — Laurie Kentoski Rieber	—  Family	<b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b>	Jl 2:12-18 2 Cor 5:20—6:2 Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday, February 23, 2023 <b>8:30 a.m. Mass</b>	Judy Benevich (birthday)	Peggy, Bernadette, and Jerry	Thursday after Ash Wednesday Saint Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr	Dt 30:15-20 Lk 9:22-25
Friday, February 24, 2023 <b>8:30 a.m. Mass</b>	Poor Souls in Purgatory		Friday after Ash Wednesday	Is 58:1-9a Mt 9:14-15
Saturday, February 25, 2023 <b>No Mass</b>			Saturday after Ash Wednesday	Is 58:9b-14 Lk 5:27-32
Saturday, February 25, 2023 <b>5:30 p.m. Mass</b>	Living and Deceased Parishioners		The Vigil of the First Sunday of Lent	(see below)
Sunday, February 26, 2023 <b>9:15 a.m. Mass</b>	Andrea Calliari (1st anniversary)	Family	The First Sunday of Lent	Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7 Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19 Mt 4:1-11

Ph. 814-787-4151

**St. Joseph Church**

Fax 814-787-4478

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

**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****Stations of the Cross at 6:00 p.m. beginning Ash Wednesday and EVERY WEDNESDAY throughout Lent**Office Email: [stjosephforce@windstream.net](mailto:stjosephforce@windstream.net) Website: [www.stjosephforce.org](http://www.stjosephforce.org) Faith Formation Email: [stjosephforceff@windstream.net](mailto:stjosephforceff@windstream.net)**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 11<sup>th</sup> 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 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.**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

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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.



3-D-4-2

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