



21st Sunday

I N O R D I N A R Y T I M E

[Jesus] answered them, "Strive to enter through the narrow gate for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough." - Lk 13:24

Parish Stewardship for 2019-2020

Weekly amount budgeted for 2019-2020. . . \$3,529.00

Offertory for the weekend of **August 17/18**.....\$3,852.00
 Deficit/Surplus for weekend **August 17-18**\$ 323.15
 Budget from July 1, 2019—June 30, 2020.....\$183,500.00
 Deficit/Surplus to Date.....-\$4,061.77

Thank you for your generosity!



St. Joseph “Prayer Chain” and “Care and Concern”

If there is someone who could use the prayers of our Parish, please call Charlene at 787-7601.



Food Bank Your donations to the Food Bank may be left at the church office or by using the box in the church vestibule. Thank you for your generosity.

September Events

- September 2 Labor Day Food Booth 11:00 a.m.**
- September 2 Church Office Closed for the holiday**
- September 5 Confirmation Parent/Students 6:30 pm**
- September 7 First Saturday Devotion 9:00 a.m.**
- September 15 Faith Formation Classes 10:15 a.m.**
- September 15 Blessing of the Backpacks 10:15 a.m.**
- September 17, 19, 20 Communion Svc Only 8:30 a.m.**
- September 22 Taste of Italy Sunday Dinner 11:00 a.m.**

Baptismal Preparation Sessions Schedule

September—November

- September 5 7:00 p.m. Queen of the World 834-4701
- September 17 7:00 p.m. St. Marys Church 781-1019
- October 12 10:00 a.m. Sacred Heart Church 834-7861

Make your plans for the **Bennetts Valley Annual Homecoming Day in Weedville, Monday, September 2.** St. Joseph will once again have its food and pizza booths at the school grounds. Be sure to **stop by to enjoy the great food** while supporting our church.

One-Day Retreat Opportunity at Villa Maria Ed. & Spirituality Center, Villa Maria, PA. One day prayer experience entitled *More on Mandalas as Prayer*. The retreat will be held Saturday, September 21 from 10-3:00. For more information or to register: online at www.vmesc.org or call 724-964-8886.

Sacred Heart Church is taking orders for their 1st Friday **Fresh Baked Bread Sale** (raisin, white & rye -\$3.50/loaf and \$2.50/loaf; cinnamon rolls \$6/dozen) Call for advanced orders at 834-7861 #1 or 834-3698)

Seventh Annual National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children, Saturday, September 12 at Gate of Heaven cemetery, 5711 W. Lake Rd., Erie at 1:00 p.m. The event will be rain or shine at the west end of the cemetery at the Knights of Columbus memorial stone near the infants’ section — www.abortionmemorials.com

Marriage Moments (by Susan Vogt, www.SusanVogt.net) Many marital arguments focus on “Who is right.” It’s natural to want to be right in an argument but it doesn’t serve your love. Even if you can fact check your position and prove you are right, it’s better to come up with a “win/win” solution . Practice looking for creative alternatives during your next argument.



Striving — The School of Life

Education in our formative years and bringing the fruits of it after high school graduation into our workplace, trade school, military, university and family is very critical to our human development. *Striving* to learn well in our subjects such as science, history, language arts and math and many others is necessary not only to make excellent grades but also, and most importantly, it is to make us well-integrated, knowledgeable, and responsible people who are contributing to making this world a better place. In reality, striving to learn can be a good life-long adventure.

In this weekend’s Gospel Reading someone had asked Jesus if “only a few people be saved. He answered them, **strive** to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I tell you will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough.” (Lk 13:23-24) We want to be among the ones who enter through the narrow gate, don’t we? The place of entering is our eternal life in Heaven. Ok. Now, what does this require of us? — *the endless school of striving.*

Just as we strive to be a very good student, so too, it is required of us to learn our Catholic Faith. In doing our very best and in striving to learn life’s many lessons by faithfully praying to Jesus, we ask Him to enable us to learn the meaning of our struggles. Our decisions as well as our joys and victories in this life are further results of our striving. In this way we are making the great effort to reach our most important goal in life — to be with Jesus “in the Kingdom of God.” (Lk 13:29b)

A very practical and most spiritual way of striving to learn is worshipping at Sunday Mass — every Sunday. Young students attending the Faith Formation classes beginning September 15th and our Faith Formation classes for adults on Monday evenings are necessary responses to Jesus’s invitation of learning and having a happy life here and now.

Finally, the *striving attitude* in using our faith — that we will never give up our relationship with Jesus during difficult days — is what God wants for us and provides the Sacraments of the Church especially Mass and Confession to safely and happily reach our eternal homeland.

God Bless,
 Father Mark

Strive

We Celebrate, We Listen, We Pray

Date	Intention	Requested by	Celebration	Scripture
Monday, August 26, 2019 8:30 a.m. Mass	Donald Gustafson	mother	Weekday	1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10 Mt 23:13-22 (425)
Tuesday, August 27, 2019 8:30 a.m. Mass	Mary Winkler	Mary Gutowski	St. Monica	1 Thes 2:1-8 Mt 23:23-26 (426)
Wednesday, August 28, 2019 No Mass			St. Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	1 Thes 2:9-13 Mt 23:27-32 (427)
Thursday, August 29, 2019 8:30 a.m. Mass	Rose Guido	Rico and Yvonne Franzoni	The Passion of St. John the Baptist	1 Thes 3:7-13 (428) Mk 6:17-29 (634)
Friday, August 30, 2019 8:30 a.m. Mass	Nancy Benevich	Judy Benevich	Weekday	1 Thes 4:1-8 Mt 25:1-13 (429)
Saturday, August 31, 2019			Weekday	1 Thes 4:9-11 Mt 25:14-30 (430)
Saturday, August 31, 2019 5:30 p.m. Mass	Josephine Visneski	Daughters	Vigil of Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time	See below
Sunday, September 1, 2019 9:15 a.m. Mass	Living and Deceased Parishioners		The Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time	Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29 Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a Lk 14:1,7-14 (126)

Ph. 814-787-4151 St. Joseph Church Fax 814-787-4478

STAFF

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; Parish Care & Concern: Charlene Warmbrodt
 17764 Bennetts Valley Hwy., P. O. Box 124, Force, PA 15841-0124
 Email: stjosephforce@windstream.net Website: www.stjosephforce.org
 OFFICE HOURS: Monday - Thursday9:00 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 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 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 – Is celebrated for all who are seriously ill annually at a parish Liturgy. The Sacrament is also available anytime 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.