



Ash

WEDNESDAY

St. Joseph Parish Force, PA

Bringing Eucharistic Life to the Valley since 1872

Parish Stewardship for 2021-2022

Weekly amount budgeted for 2021-2022 \$3,365.00
 Offertory from February 14 thru February 22
 is unavailable this week
 CSA 2022 Campaign Parish Goal. \$32,404.00

This Wednesday is Ash Wednesday — the beginning of Lent



“Pray the Rosary everyday to obtain peace for the world.” Join us at St. Joseph Church each Tuesday at 6:00 pm



Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of Amadio (Spuck) Riccadonna who passed away February 15th and also for the soul of Rachael Zambanini who passed away February 16th. May they rest in peace.



St. Joseph “Prayer Chain”

If there is someone who could use the prayers of our Parish, please call Gina at 814-787-7593.

“Care & Concern” Do you know someone who would like to be remembered with a card or note? Call 814-787-4151 #3.



Mass Intentions for March, April, and May are available. Please call the church office at 814-787-4151 #3 if you would like to have any Mass Intentions during these months (or any months thereafter).

2022 Catholic Service Appeal

Today is Commitment Sunday CSA. Only by working together can we make it possible for parishes, Catholic schools, Catholic Charities, clergy and the Catholic faithful to live and share Christ’s teaching.

You may wonder why you should support the CSA. The truth is as members of the Diocese of Erie we play an important role in the diocesan activities of Catholic education, evangelization, promoting justice and serving people in need through our out diocese. Our diocese has work to do on behalf of the Lord and we are all asked to share our gifts to help advance the mission of the Church.

Our bishop assures us that donations to the CSA are placed in a designated account and used solely to support the programs and ministries of the diocese and cannot be used for any other purpose.

Your gift is so important. Thank you for giving.

On March 6, 7 & 8 at 6 pm at St. Leo Church, Ridgway, there will be **Three Days of Prayer** with the **Patron of the Sick — Saint John of God.** On Tuesday, March 8 there will be a **Mass with anointing of the Sick.**

A Religious Item Rummage Sale will be at St Marys Catholic Church Parish Center Cafeteria, 325 Church St., on Saturday, March 5 from 9-Noon and Sunday, March 6 after 8:30 and 10:30 Masses. **Donations only.** Proceeds will benefit Benedictine Gift Shop. Any questions, call Parish Office at 814-781-1019.



Cemetery Flowers/Memorials

Please consider removing the personal items that are placed on your loved ones graves. The recent milder weather has provided an opportunity to clean up the grave site and allow maintenance the opportunity to clear the cemetery for Lent.



The Spiritual Works of Mercy

In last weekend’s message I mentioned how David refused to have Abishai kill King Saul and instead David showed forgiveness. David also admonished him and his troops for intending the evil actions they had against David. David was demonstrating the spiritual works of **forgiving** those who wrong us and of **admonishing** the sinner.

In addition, last weekend’s Gospel according to Luke 6, we hear of Jesus’s examples of mercy: **to pray for those who mistreat you** and to **bear wrongs patiently** like doing good to those who hate you and to bless those who curse you. These are four of the seven Spiritual Works of Mercy. What about the other three? They are: **counseling the doubtful, instructing the uninformed and comforting the afflicted.**

Two of these Spiritual Works of Mercy can be explained in this Sunday’s Readings. In the Second Reading from (I Corinthians 15:54-58) we hear St. Paul comforting his community by explaining that we do not have to worry about the “sting of death,” because we have victory through Christ’s Resurrection. He concludes his **comforting** words by saying; “therefore my beloved brothers and sisters, be firm, steadfast, always fully devoted to the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.” (1 Corinthians 15:58) St. Paul brings comforting assurance about our victory through Christ, but he also takes the opportunity to **instruct** the people of Corinth about how our mortal, limited lives will someday be “clothed” with immortality in the life of Heaven.

In this weekend’s Gospel, Jesus **instructs** His disciples with a parable that basically says, that one needs to know very well what they are talking about and doing before they can lead others. Jesus also has some encouraging words for those who **instruct** or who are in training to becoming teachers. He says: “No disciple is superior to the teacher; but when fully trained, every disciple will be like his teacher.” (Luke 6:40)

Finally, in this Scripture Passage Jesus also **admonishes** those who are hypocritical by saying: “You hypocrite! Remove the wooden beam from your eye first; then you will see clearly to remove the splinter in your brother’s eye.” (Luke 6:42b) In other words, a person needs to see their own faults first and try to rid themselves of it before they point out to others their faults.

The last Work of Mercy, I would like to explain is **counseling the doubtful.** Our Readings do not directly speak of this but this weekend’s Psalm 92:1 does proclaim words of gratitude: “Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.” It is true that the more grateful we are about the positive things happening in our life, the more we can put doubts aside and focus on the good. How do we do that?

**Pray the Divine Mercy Prayer:
 JESUS I TRUST IN YOU! JESUS I TRUST IN YOU!**

God Bless,
 Father Mark

We Celebrate, We Listen, We Pray

Date	Intention	Requested by	Celebration	Scriptures
Monday, February 28, 2022 8:30 a.m. Mass	Vincent (Potato) Olewnik and Kathleen (Trentini) Mazzone	Frances M. Scolese	Weekday	1 Pt 1:3-9 Mk 10:17-27
Tuesday, March 1, 2022 8:30 a.m. Mass	Anthony Vigilone	Donald and Nancy Chiappelli	Weekday	1 Pt 1:10-16 Mk 10:28-31
Wednesday, March 2, 2022 9:00 a.m. Mass 7:00 p.m. Mass	Living and Deceased Parishioners Laurie Kentoski Rieber	— Family	Ash Wednesday	Jl 2:12-18 2 Cor 5:20—6:2
Thursday, March 3, 2022 8:30 a.m. Mass	Special Intention	—	Saint Katharine Drexel, Virgin	Dt 30:15-20 Lk 9:22-25
Friday, March 4, 2022 8:30 a.m. Mass FIRST FRIDAY	Frances Bonanno (100th birthday)	Dennis and Deborah Bonanno	Saint Casimir	Is 58:1-9a Mt 9:14-15
Saturday, March 5, 2022 9:00 a.m. Mass, Adoration and Benediction	Amadio (Spuck) Riccadonna	Marlene	Saturday after Ash Wednesday	Is 58:9b-14 Lk 5:27-32
Saturday, March 5, 2022 5:30 p.m. Mass	Helen Lovenduski (anniversary)	Leonard — husband	Vigil of the First Sunday of Lent	(see below)
Sunday, March 6, 2022 9:15 a.m. Mass	Living and Deceased Parishioners		First Sunday of Lent	Dt 26:4-10 Rom 10:8-13 Lk 4:1-13

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**

17764 Bennetts Valley Hwy., P. O. Box 124, Force, PA 15841-0124

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

Church Hours

St. Joseph Church: Sun., Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri. 7:30 am — 4 pm; Wed. 8 am — 4 pm; Sat. 9:00 am — 7 pm

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 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—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.