

John was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he said, "Behold, the Lamb of God." The two disciples heard what he said and followed Jesus. - Jn 1:35-36

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

ST. JOSEPH PARISH FORCE, PA

Parish Stewardship for 2023-2024

Weekly amount budgeted for 2023-2024 not available Offertory collection not available CSA 2023 Campaign Parish Goal \$31,773.00

Thank you for supporting St. Joseph Church!

Pope's Intention for JanuaryFor 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

Confirmation classes will resume on January 14, 2024.

The office will be closed on Monday, January 15, 2024 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr Day. We will reopen on Tuesday, January 16th at 9:00 am.

Here we are in the middle of winter in the Northern Hemisphere. Are you getting tired of it? Find something fun for your family to do together. Play a new game. Draw cartoons of each other. Dress up in costumes. Be silly together. Let your kids lead.

Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments – 3 Ways for Teens to Reboot Sending and receiving messages late at night can make it hard to fall asleep or interrupt sleep. Teens want to stay connected to friends, but the lack of sleep or interrupted sleep can affect everything from their mood to their sports performance. Here are 5 tips to follow at night that will help boost energy and focus in the morning. 1.) Log off your messaging apps, social media and email at bedtime. 2.) Turn off your phone when it's time for bed don't just set it to vibrate. 3.) Get in the habit of powering off your devices – especially if they are in your room. Turn off all electronics, like laptops, tablets, TVs, and video game consoles. Blinking lights and glowing screens can make it harder to fall and stay asleep. Sticking to a cut-off curfew each night for your devices will give your brain some much needed tech-free downtime. For additional resources visit www.eriercd.org/childprotection/

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.



Pray for Vocations

On occasion at Mass during the Universal Prayers, we ask to pray for vocations with the understanding and intention that it is important to offer our prayers for the faithful commitment of Marriage, Priesthood, Religious Life, the Diaconate, and single life. My focus in this message is the calling to the priesthood.

I remember when studying in seminary and preparing for the priesthood, there were many seminarians who came from all walks of life and work experiences. Some had worked in the business world, some had engineering experiences in a company, some had taught in secondary schools and universities and some seminarians had served in the Armed Forces. Many had come from colleges, as was my experience. I was a music major my first three years in college and then I changed my major to communications when I entered collage seminary.

Jesus's calling to serve Him with our gifts, talents, education, and job experiences is all used for the building up of God's Kingdom on earth here and now. Each one of us seminarians at that time and today first heard God calling us to a relationship with Him and then we responded to follow Him in going to seminary in order to prepare for the priesthood.

Similarly, in this weekend's Gospel, we hear about Jesus calling His First Disciples who then became His Apostles. They, like us, were called from different jobs and work settings to leave what they were doing and follow Jesus. We hear of Andrew and Simon Peter who were brothers and fishermen. Jesus was initiating a relationship with them and from this, they learned about Jesus and the Kingdom that He was bringing about. It was then, only after being schooled by Jesus, could they go out and proclaim the Good News.

I offer this prayer with you right now for vocations...

Jesus our Lord and Savior, As You had called Your First Disciples to come and follow You, help all of us to say 'yes' to Your Invitation and to be faithful to our calling. Please, Jesus, continue to call men to serve You in the priesthood.

Pray for Vocations

God Bless, Father Mark

We Celebrate, We Listen, We Pray

Date	Intention	Requested by	Celebration	Scriptures
Monday, January 15, 2024 8:30 a.m. Mass	Stanley Gralak, Jr.	Gen, Rita, Dorothy, and Bonnie	Weekday	1 Sm 15: 16-23 Mk 2: 18-22 (311)
Tuesday, January 16, 2024 8:30 a.m. Mass	George E. Berasi	Marlene	Weekday	1 Sm 16: 1-13 Mk 2: 23-28 (312)
Wednesday, January 17, 2024 No Mass			Saint Anthony, Abbot	1 Sm 17: 32-33, 37, 40-51 Mk 3: 1-6 (313)
Thursday, January 18, 2024 8:30 a.m. Mass	Jennifer Kay Ryen	Tim & Jackie Androlunis	Weekday	1 Sm 18: 6-9,; 19: 1-7 Mk 3: 7-12 (314)
Friday, January 19, 2024 8:30 a.m. Mass	Veronica Dezanet Payne	Donald & Nancy Chiappelli	Weekday	1 Sm 24: 3-21 Mk 3: 13-19 (315)
Saturday, January 20, 2024 No Mass			Weekday Saint Fabian, Pope & Martyr; Saint Sebastian, Martyr	2 Sm 1: 1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27 Mk 3: 20-21 (316)
Saturday, January 20, 2024 5:30 p.m. Mass	Joseph & Theresa (Calliari) Serafini	Family	Vigil of Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	(see below)
Sunday, January 21, 2024 9:15 a.m. Mass	Living and Deceased Members of St. Joseph Parish		Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	Jon 3: 1-5, 10 1 Cor 7: 29-31 Mk 1: 14-20 (68)

St. Joseph Church

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

Rev. Mark J. Mastrian Paston

Domestic Administrator: Miriam Pane Secretary: Barb Allegretto Faith Formation: Mary Ann Toney

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

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 Deaconate – Men who feel that they may be being called to the vocational life of Priesthood or Deaconate 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. 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.

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St. Joseph

All practicing Catholics living in the Bennetts Valley Area who consider themselves members of St. Joseph Parish should be registered in the parish. members of St. Joseph receive envelopes and receive periodic parish mallings. 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.