

From the Pastor's Desk

I had a conversation with a friend from my high school days who told me that it was all my fault. During an *Intercom Retreat* over Halloween weekend 1971 that we both were on, we were encouraged to bring a non-Catholic friend, also on the retreat, to communion so that he/she could make a "spiritual communion" with us. She was my non-Catholic friend that I brought to communion with me. She later decided that she would like to receive the Eucharist and converted to Catholicism. But the seed of that change was the "spiritual communion" from the *Intercom*.

With the suspension of public Masses, we are encouraged to make a spiritual communion. There are even prayers available to help us in that effort.

However, I would like to point out that we are always in the presence of God. While the sacramental encounter with the Lord in the Eucharist is a powerful means of uniting with the Lord, it is not the only way. The Catechism of the Catholic Church tells us that God works through the sacraments but is not limited to working through the sacraments.

With that in mind I might suggest that for the duration of this suspension we might seek out in our lives other ways God might be working in them. This might allow us to find some solidarity with other people throughout the world who are not as privileged as we are to receive the Body and Blood on a regular basis. I'm thinking of the people of missionary lands and areas like the Amazon where people might go months without any sacraments being celebrated. Just a thought.

The winner of week #1 drawing of the Saint Joseph Catholic School Cash raffle was Robert Richardson. Congratulations!



HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS are available in the **Parish Office** for graduating seniors from our Parish planning to attend a college or a trade school in the fall. Applications will be reviewed and scholarships offered to those students who have exemplified commitment and service in their faith life at St Joseph Parish. Applications must be returned to the Parish Office by Wednesday, April 1, 2020. No applications will be accepted after this date.

Do you have a couple hours a week to give? We are looking for a few volunteers to pick up food at ALDI on Tuesday afternoons and deliver it to the Soup Kitchen. If this is something you are interested in or would like more information, please call the parish office.

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

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It is through the paid advertising of the sponsors that we can publish the bulletin.

Please Thank Them

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday	Isaiah 65:17-21; Gospel John 4:43-54
Tuesday	Ezekiel 47:1-9, 12; Gospel John 5:1-16
Wednesday	Isaiah 7:10-14: 8:10; Hebrews 10:4-10; Gospel Luke 1:26-38
Thursday	Exodus 32:7-14; Gospel John 5:31-47
Friday	Wisdom 2:1a, 12-22; Gospel John 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
Saturday	Jeremiah 11:18-20; Gospel John 7:40-53
Sunday	Ezekiel 37:12-14; Romans 8:8-11 ; Gospel John 11:1-45



Saint Joseph School Students are eligible to receive free breakfast and lunches during the school closure. Locations in Warren are Warren Area Elementary Center and the First Lutheran Church (109 West Third Ave).

The elderly and anyone in the high risk category can call The Hi-Ed Council at 814-723-3222 for assistance in getting grocery items.

St. Joseph Parish Weekly Offering—March 14th & 15th

Saint Joseph Church Weekly Offering - \$10,969.00
Saint Luke Church Weekly Offering- \$592.00

As day to day operations of the parish continue, we ask, if you are able, to continue your weekly offering to manage the upkeep of the church. Your gift can be mailed or dropped off at the office. Or this may be a good time to sign up for online giving. Simply visit the St. Joseph Parish website and click on the "Online Giving" button on the bottom of the home page.

Thank you for your continued weekly support of our Parish!

ST JOSEPH PARISH SOUP KITCHEN MINISTRY

The Saint Joseph Soup Kitchen will be serving take out only dinners

Tuesday from 4—5pm for the Warren Community.
All are Welcome!

Items Needed for the Helping Hands Ministry in March

Saint Joseph Church

Fruit Loops, Apple Jacks, Frosted Flakes, Chex, Corn Flakes

Saint Luke Church

Peanut Butter, Jelly, Coffee, Juice, Flour, Sugar

Items collected will be donated to the Warren Salvation Army and the Youngsville Food Pantry

Both Churches will be open during the day to drop off items!

****Saint Luke Church is still accepting cans of food for The 40 Cans for Lent Food Drive.**



LITURGY INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

PARISH NEWS

- Sunday, 3/22** Fourth Sunday of Lent—Laetare Sunday
For the Living & Deceased Members of St Joseph Parish
- Monday, 3/23** Saint Turibius of Mogrovejo
(St Luke) Special Intention by Rick & Annette Hutley
- Tuesday, 3/24** Saint Oscar Romero
Rose Halle by Family
- Wednesday, 3/25** The Annunciation of the Lord
Gordon Albaugh by wife Laura & Family
- Thursday, 3/26** Lenten Weekday
Jeanette Walstrom by Mike & Lisa Lewis
- Friday, 3/27** Lenten Weekday
Rosario Brindis by Nick Tomassoni
- Saturday, 3/28** Lenten Weekday
Annie Heisler by Roy & Betsy Williams
- Sunday, 3/29** Fifth Sunday of Lent
For the Living & Deceased Members of Saint Joseph Parish

From St. Joseph Parish: In this time of uncertainty when our routine of worshiping on Sunday is suspended, we are challenged to keep God the focus of our days. Let us allow this time for God's grace to flow through us. It is at this moment our faith is most needed. St. Joseph Church will be opened throughout the day for visits and individual prayer. It is recommended that you maintain a safe distance (6 feet) from others who may be praying at the same time. Fr. Rick will continue to hear confession from 4:30-5:15pm on Saturdays. Anointing of the Sick in urgent cases is available by calling the parish office.

In an effort to keep you connected with your church community in these trying times, Fr. Rick will try to live stream Mass everyday on the Saint Joseph Catholic Church Facebook page. This will be posted so you can view Mass at your convenience.



*WEEKLY SANCTURAY CANDLES IN MEMORY OF
The Bednez and Kujawa Families
By Rae Kujawa*



A SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER

*My Jesus
I believe that You are present in
the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive
You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there
and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be
separated from You.
Amen.*