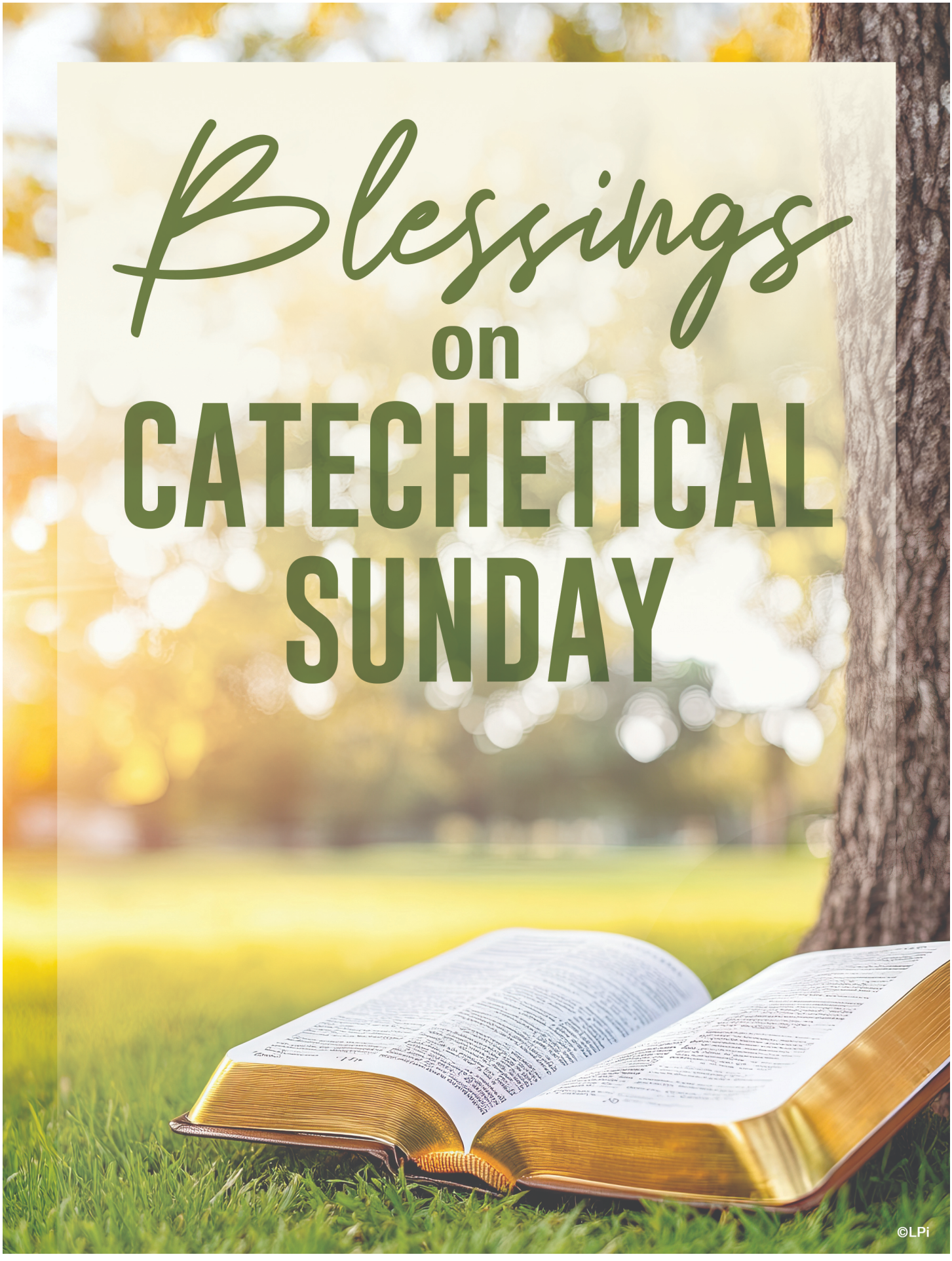
Blessings
on
CATECHETICAL
SUNDAY
©LPi

Parish Stewardship

Weekly budget	$3,425.00
Weekly collection 09/06/26	$3,532.00
Difference	$107.00
CSA Assessment (2026)	$30,986.00
Pledges to date	$27,145.00

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING ST. JOSEPH CHURCH!

POPE'S INTENTION FOR SEPTEMBER
For The Care of Water
Let us pray for a just and sustainable mangement of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

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

Baptismal Training Sessions 2026

October 10	10:00 am	Sacred Heart Church	814-781-1019

40 Days For Life Campaign begins September 23 to November 01, 2026. It is an International Campaign of Prayer and Fasting to end abortion. 40 Days Rosary will be prayed on Tuesdays after the 8:30 am Mass at St. Marys Church and on Fridays after the 6:15 am Mass at Sacred Heart Church.
Prayer sheets will be in the vestibule.
Sponsored by Elk County Right To Life.

A Family Perspective: Today, Jesus asks us, "Why are you idle? Go into my vineyard." Our family is the vineyard entrusted to us, as mentioned in today's Gospel. Successful families are built by "laborers" who actively work on their relationships, not by spectators who merely watch from a distance.

Parenting Pointer: "Don't you trust me?" is a common refrain of teenagers when they want a new privilege. Of course, *love* your child unconditionally, but *trust* takes time. It is earned by demonstrating a series of trustworthy acts. Don't be bullied by your child.

Elk County Military Share distribution will be held on Wednesday, September 23rd at the Christian Foodbank in St. Marys, at 11:00 am for eligible Elk County families. The program provides military families with fresh, frozen, and non-perishable food items. For questions, contact Lana Evans at 717-507-6731.

Faith Formation (St. Francis of Assisi)

Catechist Sunday, this weekend, September 20th, begins our Faith Formation classes here at St. Joseph Church. This years theme for this particular Sunday, and during this year, is the 800th anniversary of the death of St. Francis of Assisi.

We are all familiar with St. Francis being a humble man from Assisi, Italy, who loved animals. Statues will show him with a bird on his shoulder and a dog by his side. This is very special, but he is one who especially loved all people, trying to see Christ Jesus our Lord in all whom he encountered and especially the poor. How did St. Francis come to this great love for people? As told in the book, Saint of the Day, by Leonard Foley, OFM, Francis developed a "serious illness" that made him take a look at his life, which was a life of inherent wealth and of self indulgence. This beginning of his conversion led him to many hours a day of prayer. At one point, while walking on a back road, he met a person with leprosy. He embraced the man. He knew that God was calling him to a greater love for others that he never expected.

When Francis knelt down in front of the Cross in an old field chapel of San Damiano, he heard Christ our Lord say to him; "Francis, go out and build up my house, for it is nearly falling down." Eventualy, when a group of people saw how Francis was living his Christian life with poor clothes, and trying to fix the San Damiano Chapel, they began to follow his example and support his efforts. Eventually, Francis realized that Jesus was calling him to start a religious order that would follow his poor, humble way of reaching out to the poor and to the sick.

Francis and his band of followers literally strived to follow the example of Jesus and the Apostles by preaching the Good News, bringing healing to the sick, and taking care of the poor.

The Prayer of St. Francis is prayed by many of us Catholics and by millions of people throughout the world. St. Francis started a "tidal wave of renewal" in the church of his time. We pray that as we celebrate his 800th anniversary, that even a GREATER RENEWAL OF OUR CATHOLIC FAITH WILL HAPPEN IN OUR TIME FOR US AND THE WHOLE CHURCH.

This is what this years theme will be for Faith Formation--Let us love Jesus and His People, as St. Francis did.

God Bless,
Father Mark

(Leonard Foley, OFM book Saint of the Day, 1990: Section October 4th Feast of St. Francis)

We Celebrate, We Listen, We Pray

Date	Intention	Requested by	Celebration	Scriptures
Monday, September 21, 2026 **No Mass**			Saint Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist	Eph 4: 1-7, 11-13 Mt 9: 9-13 (643)
Tuesday, September 22, 2026 **No Mass**			Weekday	Prv 21: 1-6, 10-13 Lk 8: 19-21 (450)
Wednesday, September 23, 2026 **No Mass**			Saint Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest	Prv 30: 5-9 Lk 9: 1-6 (451)
Thursday, September 24, 2026 **8:30 am Mass**	Joanne Weis Gerg	Donald & Nancy Chiappelli	Weekday	Eccl 1: 2-11 Lk 9: 7-9 (452)
Friday, September 25, 2026 **8:30 am Mass**	Janet Dinsmore	Doug & Leanne Siple	Weekday	Eccl 3: 1-11 Lk 9: 18-22 (453)
Saturday, September 26, 2026 **No AM Mass**			Weekday *Saints Cosmas and Damian, Martyrs; BVM*	Eccl 11: 9--12: 8 Lk 9: 43b-45 (454)
Saturday, September 26, 2026 **5:30 p.m. Mass**	Frances Bonanno 33rd anniversary	Dennis & Deborah Bonanno	Vigil of the 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time	(see below)
Sunday, September 27, 2026 **9:15 a.m. Mass**	Living & Deceased members of St. Joseph Church		26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Ez 18: 25-28 Phil 2: 1-11 or 2: 1-5 Mt 21: 28-32 (136)

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH
PO Box 124 Force, PA 15841
Phone: 814-787-4151
Rev. Mark J. Mastrian Pastor

MASS TIMES: Saturday Vigil: 5:30 pm Sunday: 9:15 am
HOLY DAYS: 9:00 am & 7:00 pm
DAILY MASS: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday 8:30 am
Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

The Beatification of Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen

Fulton Sheen was born in El Paso, Illinois, in 1895. He was a brilliant student in school and in 1923, he earned a doctorate at the Catholic University of Louvain in Belgium. He served as a priest at St. Patrick's Church in the Diocese of Peoria. Eventually, he became Auxilliary Bishop of New York City, and eventually elevated to Archbishop.

He is best known for his weekly TV show, Life is Worth Living, which aired from 1951 to 1966. From 1966 to 1969, he served as the Archbishop of Rochester of New York. He resigned as bishop and was named Archbishop of the Titular See of Newport (Wales).

He is going to be beatified in Peoria, Illinois, on September 24, 2026.