



## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

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They were overjoyed at seeing the star.

- Mt 2:10

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**Parish Stewardship**

Offertory collection for 12/22/24 .....not available  
 Offertory collection for 12/29/24 ..... not available  
 Weekly offertory budgeted for 2023-2024 ..... \$3,365.00  
 CSA Campaign Assessment for 2024.....\$31,134.00  
 CSA Pledges to date.....\$28,210.00

Thank you for supporting St. Joseph Church!



**Mary the Mother of God  
 and  
 A New Year and God's Plans**

As we start a new year, it is very fitting each year to celebrate during our Lord's Birth in the Christmas Season, to acknowledge the fact that Mary, the Blessed Mother, is the Mother of God. The feast day was this past Wednesday, January 1st.

After the Angel Gabriel visited Mary, announcing that She was chosen to be the Mother of the long-awaited Savior, of which Mary's response was 'yes' to the angel, Mary traveled to visit Her cousin Elizabeth. Upon seeing Mary, Elizabeth proclaimed Mary to be the Mother of God with the words: "Most Blessed are You among women and blessed is the Fruit of Your Womb. And how does this happen to me that the Mother of my Lord should come to me?" (Lk 1: 42-43)

As we acknowledge the Blessed Mother Mary as Mother of God, we also ask for Her Intercessions that in this new year, we not only do what we want to do, but also everyday to ask our Lord, "What is Your Will? What is Your Plan for me today?"

In the Gospel Readings according to St. Luke, Mary is reflecting in Her Heart, all of the things that have taken place surrounding Jesus' Birth. She reflects especially on all the shepherds in the field who had told them that they had seen *the star over Bethlehem, and the angels singing*. It says that "Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them, in Her Heart." (Lk 2: 19)

My friends, we are invited to this new year to do what Mary did. So, therefore, reflect on what Jesus is doing in your life and to look forward to His Plan for you in this new year. I want at this time to ask the following questions for us to reflect upon and to answer:

What are the good things and events in your life that happened this past year?

How can these things and the positive effects of these events be sustained or even made better in this new year?

In what ways do you want God to help you with new goals and plans in this new year?

When we pray the Our Father, especially the words, "Thy Will be done", believe that God will help to lead us successfully to His Plan in this new year and beyond.

God Bless,  
 Father Mark



**POPE'S INTENTION FOR JANUARY  
 For the Right to an Education**

Let us pray for migrants, refugees, and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

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

**Baptismal Training Sessions 2025**

January 7th	6:30 pm	Queen of the World	814-834-4701
February 18th	6:30 pm	St. Boniface	814-885-4488
February 20th	6:30 pm	St. Mark, Emporium	814-486-0569

Faith Formation classes, grades K-5, will resume this weekend, January 5th, 2025. Edge class will meet on January 12, 2025.

**FAITH FORMATION** As required by the Diocese of Erie, there will be a **mandatory** Safe Environment Training for all students on Sunday, January 12th. Grades K-5 will meet at the Faith Formation Building. Edge class will meet in the social hall.

**Sunday, January 19-**Grades K-5 will meet at the FF building. Edge students will report immediately to the social hall, following 9:15 am Mass. The students will then travel to the Guardian Angel Center in Kersey to deliver the Giving Tree donations.

**A Family Perspective**

After meeting Jesus, the Magi returned home by "another way." What in your family needs to be done "another way?" Do you need "another way" to resolve differences, to communicate, or show affection? This is a new year, time to change what isn't working. Take a tip from some wise men, there's always "another way."

**Marriage Moment** Epiphany: The 3 Magi's search for Jesus reminds us that Jesus came for all humankind, not just the Jewish people. So too, married love is not a gift to be hoarded. Reach out to someone who is sad, in trouble, or from a different culture.

**Parenting Pointers** The Epiphany - According to tradition, 3 kings came to honor the baby Jesus on this day. In this way the larger/secular world also recognized Jesus as God. Consider giving something gold, sweet smelling, or soothing (myrrh-like) to your child today as a sign of God's Presence within him or her.

**Kersey K of C Monthly Breakfast** Sunday, January 5th, from 8 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. or sold out. St. Boniface Social Hall. \$10 for adults; \$5 for 16 and under. All are invited to come and enjoy this "all you can eat" breakfast buffet!

# We Celebrate, We Listen, We Pray

Date	Intention	Requested by	Celebration	Scriptures
Monday, January 06, 2025 No Mass			Christmas Weekday <i>Saint André Bessette, Religious</i>	1 Jn 3: 22-4:6 Mt 4: 12-17, 23-25 (212)
Tuesday, January 07, 2025 No Mass			Christmas Weekday <i>Saint Raymond of Peñafort, Priest</i>	1 Jn 4: 7-10 Mk 6: 34-44 (213)
Wednesday, January 08, 2025 No Mass			Christmas Weekday	1 Jn 4: 11-18 Mk 6: 45-52 (214)
Thursday, January 09, 2025 No Mass			Christmas Weekday	1 Jn 4: 19-5:4 Lk 4: 14-22 (215)
Friday, January 10, 2025 8:30 a.m. Mass	Blessed Mother Intention		Christmas Weekday	1 Jn 5: 5-13 Lk 5: 12-16 (216)
Saturday, January 11, 2025 No Mass			Christmas Weekday	1 Jn 5: 14-21 Jn 3: 22-30 (217)
Saturday, January 11, 2025 5:30 p.m. Mass	Living and Deceased Parishioners		Vigil of The Baptism of the Lord	(see below)
Sunday, January 12, 2025 9:15 a.m. Mass	Donald & Mabel Cameroni	Grandchildren	BAPTISM OF THE LORD	Is 40: 1-5, 9-11 Ti 2: 11-14, 3: 4-7 Lk 3: 15-16, 21-22 (21)

**St. Joseph Church**

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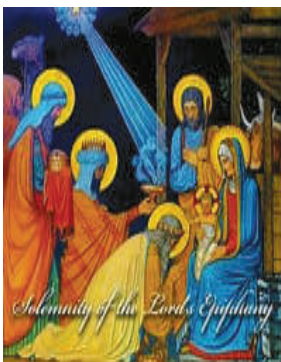
Rev. Mark J. Mastrian ..... Pastor  
 Parish Secretary: Barb Allegretto Faith Formation : Emily Luchini Domestic Administrator: Miriam Pane  
 Pastoral Council President: Bryan Chiappelli Finance Council Moderator: Leon Calliari

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

OFFICE HOURS: Monday thru Thursday 9a.m. to 4 p.m.

Office Email: [stjosephforce@windstream.net](mailto:stjosephforce@windstream.net) Website: [www.stjosephforce.org](http://www.stjosephforce.org) Faith Formation Email: [ff@stjosephforce.org](mailto:ff@stjosephforce.org)

# 20 + C + M + B + 25



On the Feast of Epiphany, Catholics traditionally bless their homes by writing the letters C, M, and B and the numbers of the year on the top of their front door frame with chalk. The letters stand for the traditional names of the three Magi: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar. The following blessing can be used during the home blessing.

- "Bless, O Lord God Almighty, this home, that in it there may be health, purity, the strength of victory, humility, goodness and mercy, the fulfillment of Thy Law, the thanksgiving to God the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. And may this blessing remain upon this home and upon all who dwell herein. Through Christ our Lord. Amen." (www.catholicnewsagency.com)

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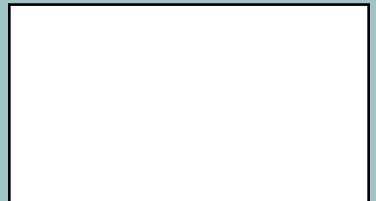
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**St. Joseph Church**  
**PARISHIONER INFORMATION**

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.