

FEAST OF THE
Presentation
of the Lord

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**POPE’S INTENTION FOR FEBRUARY
For Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life**

Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ’s Mission in the priesthood and religious life.

“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

February 18th	6:30 pm	St. Boniface	814-885-4488
February 20th	6:30 pm	St. Mark, Emporium	814-486-0569
March 22nd	10:00 am	Sacred Heart Church	814-781-1019

FAITH FORMATION Grades K-5 will meet in the Faith Formation building for class. There will be NO Edge class.

Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments-Digital Dating Abuse can be defined as “a pattern of behaviors that control, pressure, or threaten a dating partner using a cell phone or the internet.” One quarter of youth (12-17) who have been in a romantic relationship during the previous year report that they’d been the victim of digital dating abuse. So, what are some of the best ways for a parent to open up communication with their child about a delicate topic like online dating? First and foremost, ask your child what they are doing online and then really listen to why they like or don’t like what is going on there. Parents must be diligent about staying on top of the latest trends. Great online dating tips can be found at www.cyberwise.org. To see what the diocese is doing to help maintain safe environments for children and youth, visit www.eriescd.org/childprotection/

A Family Perspective--Mary and Joseph must have felt immense pride when their village ‘all spoke well of Jesus and were amazed at His Words.’ However, they likely experienced shame when the same people drove Him out of town. Like Mary and Joseph, the highs and lows of parenting are part of our journey towards becoming a Holy Family.

St. Boniface Parish will be hosting a Cash Bash on Saturday, March 1st, in the Social Hall. **NO ONE UNDER 21 WILL BE PERMITTED.** Cost: \$10 ticket donation which includes food, pop, beer, and a chance to win \$500, \$750, or \$1000. Other raffles, drawings, small games of chance throughout the night. Come and enjoy what is sure to be a fun-filled night of music, laughter, and luck! All proceeds to benefit St. Boniface Parish.

Kersey K of C Monthly Breakfast Sunday, February 2nd, 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!

Sacred Heart Parish Center Bingo on Friday, February 7th. Doors open @ 4pm - FREE lunch served @ 5:30 pm. Games @ 6:45 pm. Benefit: Sacred Heart Parish



The Presentation of the Lord

This weekend, we bless candles that are used both at Mass and at home. This Feast of the Presentation of the Lord falls every year on February 2nd. The reason why we bless candles on this Feast Day is because when Mary and Joseph brought the baby Jesus to the temple, forty days after His Birth, the prophet Simeon gave a blessing to Jesus and said: “Now Master, You may let Your Servant go in peace, according to Your Word, for my eyes have seen Your Salvation, which You prepared in the sight of all peoples: a light for revelation to the Gentiles and glory for Your People Israel.” (Lk 2: 29-32) Jesus is that light for revelation that Simeon had proclaimed.

We will have Blessed candles, for a small donation, for you to take home after Mass.

God Bless, Father Mark

The First Saint in February: Saint Blaise
Patron of throat illnesses, animals, and wool trading
(loyolapress.com/saints/saints-stories-for-all-ages/saint-blaise)
Feast Day: February 3
Death: 316 A.D.

About four hundred years after his death, many stories began to be told about Blaise. He became a popular Saint, especially in France and Germany. One legend says that while Saint Blaise was on his way to prison, a mother brought her small boy, who was choking on a fish bone that was stuck in his throat, to him. Saint Blaise prayed over the child, and the child was healed immediately.

Every year, on Saint Blaise’s Feast, two candles, tied with ribbon in the shape of an X, are used to bless throats. In the prayer, the Church prays that those blessed may be delivered from diseases of the throat and from every other illness.

Candles are used because it is said that while Saint Blaise was kept in a dark prison, a woman secretly brought him some candles and food.



We Celebrate, We Listen, We Pray

Date	Intention	Requested by	Celebration	Scriptures
Monday, February 03, 2025 8:30 a.m. Mass	Patsy F. Georgino	Family	Weekday <i>Saint Blaise, Bishop and Martyr;</i> <i>Saint Ansgar, Bishop</i>	Heb 11: 32-40 Mk 5: 1-20 (323)
Tuesday, February 04, 2025 8:30 a.m. Mass	Agnes Caliarì	Family	Weekday	Heb 12: 1-4 Mk 5: 21-43 (324)
Wednesday, February 05, 2025 No Mass			Saint Agatha, Virgin and Martyr	Heb 12: 4-7, 11-15 Mk 6: 1-6 (325)
Thursday, February 06, 2025 8:30 a.m. Mass	Frances McCarren	Parishioner	Saint Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs	Heb 12: 18-19, 21-24 Mk 6: 7-13 (326)
Friday, February 07, 2025 8:30 a.m. Mass FIRST FRIDAY	Vicki Peters birthday	husband-Kim	Weekday	Heb 13: 1-8 Mk 6: 14-29 (327)
Saturday, February 08, 2025 No Mass			Weekday <i>Saint Jerome Emiliani;</i> <i>Saint Josephine Bakhita, Virgin;</i> <i>BVM</i>	Heb 13: 15-17, 20-21 Mk 6: 30-34 (328)
Saturday, February 08, 2025 5:30 p.m. Mass	Living and Deceased Parishioners		Vigil of The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	(see below)
Sunday, February 09, 2025 9:15 a.m. Mass	Charles & Clara Tyler	Lamont & Frances Gray	FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Is 6: 1-2a, 3-8 1 Cor 15: 1-11 or 15: 3-8, 11 Lk 5: 1-11 (75)

St. Joseph Church

Ph. 814-787-4151 Fax 814-787-4478

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.

Why do Catholics Light Candles?

As Catholics, we light candles because it is a symbol for us that our prayers are being continually lifted up to God as long as the flame on the candle is lit. The flame represents our love, care, and concern about the one for whom we are praying. The candles in our Church candle shrine burn for six days. This means that when we light a six day candle for someone, it's almost as if we are praying for that person, continuously, without stopping, for six days. Today, or sometime this week, go to the candle shrine in the back of the Church and light a candle for a loved one and for a special intention.



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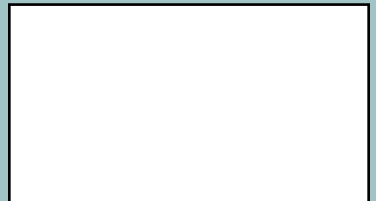
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St. Joseph Church
PARISHIONER INFORMATION

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.