

In every age,
**LORD, YOU HAVE
BEEN OUR REFUGE.**

PSALM 90

Parish Stewardship

Weekly collection for 08/24/25.	\$2,703.00
Weekly budget goal	\$3,425.00
Difference	\$722.00
CSA 2025 Assessment Goal	\$30,504.00
CSA Pledges to date	\$30,845.00

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR CHURCH!

POPE'S INTENTION FOR SEPTEMBER

For Our Relationship With All of Creation

Let us pray that, inspired by Saint Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect.



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 2025

September 16th 6:30 pm	St. Boniface, Kersey	814-885-4488
October 11th 10:00 am	Sacred Heart	814-781-1019

Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments- Diocesan

Child Protection Policies: The Diocese of Erie is committed to protecting minors who are entrusted to our care. The Diocese has policies and procedures in place to address the national problem of child abuse, to aid in the prevention of abuse, and to develop and maintain safe environments. All those who minister to minors are screened, trained, and agree to a Code of Conduct.

To read the Policy that includes the Code of Conduct, go to:

<https://www.eriecd.org/childprotection/policies-1.html>

For more information, contact the diocesan Office for the Protection of Children and Youth at 814-824-1195.

A Family Perspective

Today's Gospel is clear. Commitment to another involves sacrifice. Before we accept commitments such as marriage and parenting, we must plan carefully, like the king in today's Gospel. These are serious commitments that demand complete self-giving and are not for the faint-hearted or selfish.

Parenting Pointer #1111

If your kids are of school age, September can be a hectic time. Some children are naturally organized. Others need the help of a daily/weekly calendar, a check list, a bedtime review, etc. Ask your child what might help them, even if it is *you* getting out of the way.

Sunday, September 21st, will be the first day of Faith Formation classes for all students in Grades K-5, Edge, and Confirmation.

Father Mark will meet with parents of students immediately following Mass on September 21st in the Church. Students will report to the Faith Formation building.

FULLY-COMMITTED

Those of you who have served or are currently serving in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, or Merchant Marines know first-hand how important and necessary it is to go through weeks of basic training. You have to know how to handle yourself in dangerous situations and know the proper use of weapons during tactical training. You have to learn about your branch of the military that you chose. Even before applying for and entering military service, you were first drawn to this way of life by the example of someone who was serving our country. Because of your love for your country, you answered the call to be fully committed in defending our freedoms and rights. Just as there is a cost of months of training and being separated from family and homeland for a while of a person who serves in a branch of the military, so too, in our Gospel Reading this weekend, Jesus describes the cost of discipleship for those who choose to follow Him.

Jesus describes three necessary ways of training in order to live and to develop our discipleship. He says, "If anyone comes to Me without hating his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, even his own life, he cannot be my disciple." (Lk 14: 26) **Wait a minute!** We are to love our parents. That is the 4th Commandment. We are also to love family, aren't we? **YES, OF COURSE!** Jesus uses these extreme words to get our attention and to cause us to prefer Him first and foremost in our lives, above any other relationship we have in life.

Jesus also says, "Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after Me cannot be My Disciple." (Lk 14: 27) Actually, our crosses are the joy of our vocations we choose in life and the daily duties and responsibilities that are before us. We all know that many people carry heavy crosses and they need our help and our prayers.

Finally, Jesus says, "Any one of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be My Disciple." (Lk 14: 33) In other words, put all that you have and own in the Hands of God and never allow it to control your life." Strive to live with less things.

My brothers and sisters, do not be overwhelmed by these directives that Jesus is giving us on discipleship. Just strive to follow Jesus by loving God, your neighbor, and yourself, in this order, everyday. Be a fully committed disciple--one day at a time; one step at a time.

God Bless,
Father Mark

We Celebrate, We Listen, We Pray

Date	Intention	Requested by	Celebration	Scriptures
Monday, September 08, 2025 8:30 a.m. Mass	Dale Forster birthday	Family	Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Mi 5: 1-4a or Rom 8: 28-30 Mt 1: 1-16, 18-23 or 1: 18-23 (636)
Tuesday, September 09, 2025 No Mass			Saint Peter Claver, Priest	Col 2: 6-15 Lk 6: 12-19 (438)
Wednesday, September 10, 2025 No Mass			Weekday	Col 3: 1-11 Lk 6: 20-26 (439)
Thursday, September 11, 2025 No Mass			Weekday	Col 3: 12-17 Lk 6: 27-38 (440)
Friday, September 12, 2025 No Mass			Weekday <i>The Most Holy Name of Mary</i>	1 Tm 1: 1-2, 12-14 Lk 6: 39-42 (441)
Saturday, September 13, 2025 No a.m. Mass			Weekday Saint John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	1 Tm 1: 15-17 Lk 6: 43-49 (442)
Saturday, September 13, 2025 5:30 p.m. Mass	Stanley & Rachel Kentoski and deceased members of the Kentoski Family	Don & Evelyn Kentoski	Vigil of The Exaltation of The Holy Cross	(see below)
Sunday, September 14, 2025 9:15 a.m. Mass	Living & Deceased Members of St. Joseph Church		THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS	Nm 21: 4b-9 Phil 2: 6-11 Jn 3: 13-17 (638)

St. Joseph Church
Ph. 814-787-4151

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 **Website:** www.stjosephforce.org **Faith Formation Email:** ff@stjosephforce.org

Saturday Vigil: 5:30 pm **Sunday:** 9:15 am **Holy Days:** 9:00 am & 7:00 pm **Daily:** Mon., Tues., Thur., Fri. 8:30 am No Mass on Wednesday

We Place in Your Loving Arms

God of love we place in your loving arms the thousands of innocent lives that were lost on that unforgettable morning of September 11, 2001. We also remember the courage of the countless men and women who put their lives at risk in order to rescue, alleviate and bring solace to the afflicted. Help us to continue to work for a world free from every form of hatred, violence and ignorance. May terrorism -- in all its forms -- disappear from the face of the earth.

Amen

- by: **Father Alberto Cutie**

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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.



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