



## 21<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"People will come from the east and the west and from the north and the south and will recline at table in the kingdom of God. For behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last." - Lk 13:29-30

Parish Stewardship

Weekly collection for 08/17/25. ....	\$2,851.00
Weekly budget goal .....	\$3,425.00
<b>Difference</b> .....	<b>\$574.00</b>
CSA 2025 Assessment Goal .....	\$30,504.00
CSA Pledges to date .....	\$30,845.00

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR CHURCH!

### POPE'S INTENTION FOR AUGUST For Mutual Coexistence

Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious, or ideological reasons.



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

August 28th	6:30 pm	St. Mark, Emporium	814-486-0569
September 16th	6:30 pm	St. Boniface, Kersey	814-885-4488

### Special Collection for the people of Gaza

The USCCB has requested an emergency special collection to provide humanitarian relief in Gaza and surrounding areas. A collection will be taken in our diocese the weekend of **September 6-7, 2025**. Bishop Persico's letter is attached. **PLEASE USE A PLAIN WHITE ENVELOPE MARKED "GAZA COLLECTION."**

The Faith Formation office is preparing for the 2025-2026 school year. If there are any students who are entering Kindergarten that need to register for classes, please call Emily at 814-787-4151 ext. 5. We also welcome anyone who would like to volunteer to teach or to help in any way to contact Emily. She can provide you with more information about The Diocese of Erie--Office of Child Protection of Youth requirements of working with children.

**A Family Perspective** The phrase in today's Gospel "I do not know where you are from," is often echoed by parents about their children and vice versa. With rapid changes, one generation often has little in common with another. To bridge this gap, we must rely on love, trust, and mutual respect.

### Marriage Moment #1161

**"Though I command languages both human and angelic--if I speak without love, I am no more than a booming gong." (1 Corinthians 13:1) In other words, love is about more than pretty words. Say it to your beloved with service or selflessness today.**

Please support our St. Joseph Church food booths during the Bennetts Valley Labor Day Celebration. It will be open Sunday and Monday. We are also looking for volunteers to work the booths. If you are able to give a few hours of your time on either Sunday or Monday, please contact Julia Rollick or call the office at 814-787-4151 x3.

Let us together enjoy this event!

## The Endless School of Striving

Education in our formative years and bringing the fruits of it after high school graduation into our work-place, trade school, military, university, and family is very critical to our human development. Striving to learn well in our subjects such as science, history, language arts, math, and many others is necessary in making us knowledgeable, well-integrated, responsible people who are contributing to making this world a better place. In reality, striving to learn these subjects and life lessons, can be a good life-long adventure.

In this weekend's Gospel Reading, someone had asked Jesus if "only a few people will be saved. He answered them, **strive** to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough." (Lk 13: 23-24) We want to be among the ones who enter through the narrow gate, don't we? The place we are striving to enter is God's Kingdom of peace, joy, and right living in Christ here and now. This will lead us to Heaven. OK. Now, what does this require of us? -- *The endless school of striving.*

Just as we strive to be a very good student, so too, it is required of us to learn our Catholic Faith. In doing our very best and in striving to learn life's many lessons, we would do very well in bringing our faith in Jesus in these many life lessons. As we develop a relationship with Christ, He helps us to learn the truths about our own lives. Our decisions, as well as our joys and victories in this life, are further results of our striving. In this way, we are making the great effort to reach our most important goal in life--to be with Jesus "in the Kingdom of God." (Lk 13: 29b)

A very practical and most spiritual way of striving to learn is worshiping at Sunday Mass--every Sunday. Young students attending the Faith Formation classes and our Faith Formation classes for adults are necessary responses to Jesus' Invitation of learning and having a happy life here and now.

Finally, the *striving attitude* in using our faith that we will never give up our relationship with Jesus during difficult days, is what God wants for us and provides the Sacraments of the Church, especially Confession, and Mass, to safely and happily reach our eternal homeland.

**A quick prayer each day, just say:**

**Jesus, I give You my all today.  
Help me to DO what pleases YOU!**

God Bless, Father Mark

# We Celebrate, We Listen, We Pray

Date	Intention	Requested by	Celebration	Scriptures
Monday, August 25, 2025 8:30 a.m. Mass	Jennie Chiappelli	Family	Weekday Saint Louis; Saint Joseph Calasanz, Priest	1 Thes 1: 1-5, 8b-10 Mt 23: 13-22 (425)
Tuesday, August 26, 2025 No Mass			Weekday	1 Thes 2: 1-8 Mt 23: 23-26 (426)
Wednesday, August 27, 2025 No Mass			Saint Monica	1 Thes 2: 9-13 Mt 23: 27-32 (427)
Thursday, August 28, 2025 8:30 a.m. Mass	Christopher Forster	Family	Saint Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	1 Thes 3: 7-13 Mt 24: 42-51 (428)
Friday, August 29, 2025 8:30 a.m. Mass	The Skrzypek Family	Family	The Passion of Saint John the Baptist	1 Thes 4: 1-8 Mk 6: 17-29 (634)
Saturday, August 30, 2025 No Daily Mass			Weekday BVM	1 Thes 4: 9-11 Mt 25: 14-30 (430)
Saturday, August 31, 2025 5:30 p.m. Mass	Helen Meraglia	Rita & Ed Bidwell	Vigil of the Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time	(see below)
Sunday, August 31, 2025 9:15 a.m. Mass	Living & Deceased Members of St. Joseph Church		TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Sir 3: 17-18, 20, 28-29 Heb 12: 18-19, 22-24a Lk 14: 1, 7-14 (126)

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

## The Holy Family-Jesus, Mary, and Joseph-Prays for our Intentions

Our Prayer Intention notebook that is on the podium beside the candle shrine in our Church is there for us to write down the things we are praying for; ourselves and loved ones, neighbors, and fellow parishioners. Many people write their intentions in that notebook. It is good to write down some specific intentions for good health and safe travels, for example. Often times, people may write the first name of the person they are praying for. That is good, only to write the first name, for the sake of confidentiality.

It is also very important to know that the candle that burns in front of the Holy Family statue in the Sanctuary of the Church, is for the intentions that are written in that notebook. There is a lot of Grace and Power of the Holy Spirit that pours into our lives when we ask the Holy Family-Jesus, Mary, and Joseph-to pray for us!

**Jesus, Mary, and Joseph-Pray for each of us today!**

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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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