

## 7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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“Give, and gifts will be given to you.”  
- Lk 6:38



Parish Stewardship

Offertory collection for 02/16/25 . . . . . not available

Thank you for supporting St. Joseph Church!

**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**

March 22nd 10:00 am Sacred Heart Church 814-781-1019  
April 16th 6:00 pm St. Leo, Ridgway 814-772-3135

**FAITH FORMATION** -- Students in Grades K-5 will meet in the Faith Formation building for class. **Edge** students will also meet in the Faith Formation building this weekend.

**Kersey K of C Monthly Breakfast** Sunday, March 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!

**A Family Perspective** Research on the effects of religion on family relationships reveals that hostility and prayer cannot coexist. You cannot harbor hostility toward someone you are praying for. Today's Gospel encourages us: 'Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who mistreat you.'

**The Twelfth Annual Catholic Men's Conference** in Erie, PA will be held on Saturday, March 1st, from 8:30 am to 1:00 pm. Men from our Diocese will gather to pray, reflect, and be inspired by:

1. Live in-person at St. Jude the Apostle Parish in Erie;
2. Live-streamed to hosting parishes; participating parishes are listed on the website, [www.2232men.com](http://www.2232men.com); OR
3. Live-streamed to your home.

The morning contains talks from two inspiring National speakers. If you attend at St. Jude's or a satellite hosting parish, you may enjoy two of our life-giving Sacraments: Holy Eucharist and Reconciliation. For more information or to register, visit [www.2232men.com](http://www.2232men.com) or call 814-455-7364. Cost for the conference is \$25 and there are discounts for groups. More information is on the counter in the vestibule.

**CSA 2025**

Next weekend, March 1/2, 2025, is Commitment Weekend. Pastor letters, pledge cards, and brochures have been mailed by the Diocese to parishioners earlier in February. All funds above our assessment will remain in our Parish for our paving project.



**The Lord is Kind and Merciful...  
So, Do to Others...  
(Sharing Our Faith)**

**First Reading:** (1 Samuel 26: 2,7-9, 12-13, 22-23)

In this First Reading, King Saul is on the search for David, in order to kill him because he was jealous of David. David's attendant, Abishai, was ready to take the king's sword and kill him. David refused and said, "do not harm him, for who can lay hands on the Lord's Anointed and remain unpunished." (1 Samuel 26: 9) In sparing Saul's life from Abishai, David was being **kind and merciful**.

**Psalm Response:** (Psalm 103)

Reflect on the following verse of this Psalm and answer the two questions.

"He pardons all your iniquities, heals all your ills. He redeems your life from destruction, crowns you with kindness and compassion." (Psalm 103: 3-4)

--From what iniquities or ills has God healed you from?

--Where in your life have you experienced our Lord's Kindness and Compassion?

**Second Reading:** (1 Corinthians 15: 45-49)

Do we think that our Lord Jesus Christ wants us to image Him to the whole world each day? Yes. One effective way we can do this is by striving to be loving and forgiving to others. Even if we might not feel like doing this, pray for the grace to be at peace in your own thoughts about someone who has hurt you. In time, if you are consistent with this prayer for peace, the Lord will help you go to the next level of forgiveness and mercy toward that person.

**Gospel:**

There is a lot that Jesus is saying in this *Sermon on the Plain* according to Saint Luke. It can all be summed up to be--**kind and merciful**. Some of Jesus's list of being **kind and merciful** are the following:

"do to others as you would have them do to you"  
(Luke 6: 31)

"love your enemies, do good to those who hate you"  
(Luke 6: 35)

"give to everyone who asks of you"  
(Luke 6: 30)

"stop judging and you will not be judged"  
(Luke 6: 37)

My brothers and sisters, we might not always feel like we can live these Scripture Passages or want to take a risk in being **kind and merciful** to people who treat us badly and unfairly. I believe the answer is to pray for those who are not kind and merciful to you and work at trying to see the good that is within them. You may never become their friend but never stop praying for them and believe for them that the good in them will be their salvation. God Bless, Father Mark

# We Celebrate, We Listen, We Pray

Date	Intention	Requested by	Celebration	Scriptures
Monday, February 24, 2025 8:30 a.m. Mass	Leo Brown birthday	Family	Weekday	Sir 1: 1-10 Mk 9: 14-29 (341)
Tuesday, February 25, 2025 8:30 a.m. Mass	Donald Kentoski	Parishioner	Weekday	Sir 2: 1-11 Mk 9: 30-37 (342)
Wednesday, February 26, 2025 No Mass			Weekday	Sir 4: 11-19 Mk 9: 38-40 (343)
Thursday, February 27, 2025 8:30 a.m. Mass	Dolores Floravit	Parishioner	Weekday <i>Saint Gregory of Narek, Abbot and Doctor of the Church</i>	Sir 5: 1-8 Mk 9: 41-50 (344)
Friday, February 28, 2025 8:30 a.m. Mass	Vincent "Potato" Olewnik	Vince, Dianne, Danny, and Ricky	Weekday	Sir 6: 5-17 Mk 10: 1-12 (345)
Saturday, March 01, 2025 8:30 a.m. Mass FIRST SATURDAY	Mary K. Sims	Tim & Lori Sims	Weekday <i>BVM</i>	Sir 17: 1-15 Mk 10: 13-16 (346)
Saturday, March 01, 2025 5:30 p.m. Mass	Mary & Stanley Gusherowski and grandson Steven	Barb & Dave Lease	Vigil of The Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time	(see below)
Sunday, March 02, 2025 9:15 a.m. Mass	Living and Deceased Parishioners		EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Sir 27: 4-7 1 Cor 15: 54-58 Lk 6: 39-45 (84)

## 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.

## SILENCE

Many times throughout the day, our lives are full of good activity such as work, talking, listening, watching, walking, and thinking. Silence is something that may happen when we are driving and especially when we are sleeping; but silence is so important for our spiritual life.

Quieting our hearts down in the morning and in the evening before we offer our prayers to God, helps us to pray and to listen to God speaking to us in our hearts. A Psalm in the Old Testament that for many centuries has given the people of Israel and us Christians, up to our time today, a lot of peace is Psalm 46 Verses 11 and 12, which reads as follows: "Be still and confess that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, exalted on the earth. The Lord of Host is with us, our stronghold is the God of Jacob."

This Psalm encourages us to be still and quiet in order for us to feel and know God's Presence and God's Peace within us. The last verse of this Psalm then gives us the calm assurance that the Lord is with us when we are being still and offering our prayers. Being silent is a tremendous help for us as we reflect on this Psalm. Our God can speak to each of us in the most effective ways when we are silent and still in His Presence. Amen.

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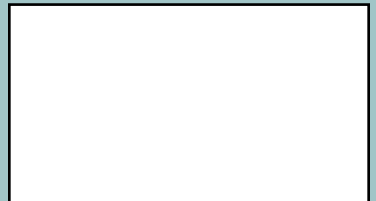
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**St. Joseph Church**  
**PARISHIONER INFORMATION**

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.