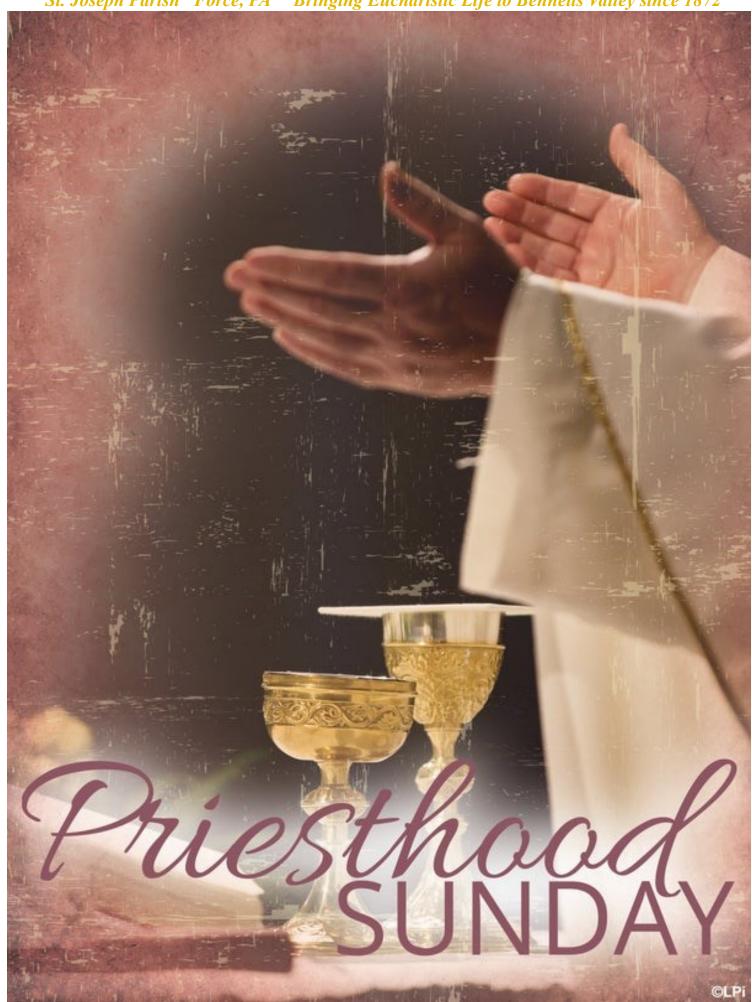
St. Joseph Parish Force, PA Bringing Eucharistic Life to Bennetts Valley since 1872



ST. JOSEPH PARISH FORCE, PA

#### **Parish Stewardship**

Weekly collection for 09/21/25	\$2,249.00
Weekly budget goal	
Difference	\$1,176.00
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**

#### \*THESE ARE THE LAST CLASSES UNTIL 2026



We will be having a **Pet Blessing** on Sunday, October 5th at 11:45 am. in the parking lot area behind the Church.

<u>ALL</u> animals <u>must</u> be either caged or on a leash.

## Elk/Cameron Deanery needs a few more compassionate volunteers for prison ministry

Are you looking for a way to share your faith with others who need encouragement?

St. Leo's Church is looking for a few more volunteers to help with Bible faith sharing with the inmates at the Elk County Prison on Monday evenings from 6:00 to 9:00 pm.

Three volunteers are scheduled to share the Christ's Gospel message each week. Twelve volunteers fill out each month's schedule.

Those interested are asked to call Father Justin Pino, Pastor of St. Leo Church, at 814-772-3135.

New volunteers are invited to attend St. Leo's Prison Ministry Fall Meeting on Tuesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> in St .Leo's Social Hall following Mass at 6:00 pm.

Kersey K of C Monthly Breakfast Sunday, October 5th, from 8 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. or until 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!

Blue Jay Market Craft & Vendor Show will be held on Saturday, October 4th, from 10 am until 3 pm at the Bennetts Valley Community Center in Weedville. This event is open to the public and free to attend. Food and drinks will be available for purchase.

**National ProLife Campaign** Join us to pray on Oct. 5th, from 1-2 PM in downtown St. Marys. Meet at the St. Marys K of C at 12:45 p.m. Sponsored by Elk Co. Right to Life

#### The Practice of Lectio Divina

Last week, I shared with you, the five steps of the Lectio Divina. This weekend is an example of how the Lectio Divina is practiced by using this Sunday's Gospel according to Luke, Chapter 16: 19-31.

Jesus said to the Pharisees:

"There was a rich man who dressed in purple garments and fine linen and dined sumptuously each day. And lying at his door was a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who would gladly have eaten his fill of the scraps that fell from the rich man's table. Dogs even used to come and lick his sores. When the poor man died, he was carried away by angels to the bosom of Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried, and from the netherworld, where he was in torment, he raised his eves and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. And he cried out, 'Father Abraham, have pity on me. Send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am suffering torment in these flames.' Abraham replied, 'My child, remember that you received what was good during your lifetime while Lazarus likewise received what was bad; but now he is comforted here, whereas you are tormented. Moreover, between us and you a great chasm is established to prevent anyone from crossing who might wish to go from our side to yours or from your side to ours.' He said, 'Then I beg you, father, send him to my father's house, for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, lest they too come to this place of torment.' But Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets. Let them listen to them.' He said, 'Oh no, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.' Then Abraham said, 'If they will not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded if someone should rise from the dead."

**Step One** is that after you have read the above Gospel Reading, ask yourself: What phrase, sentence, or even one word stands out to you? For example; the phrase might be "And lying at his door was a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores..."

**Step Two** is to read that whole Gospel passage again and reflect on the Word of God. Then ask yourself: What thought or reflection is meaningful to me right now? An example of your answer might be: There are a lot of poor people, like Lazarus, in this world that are close to us - in our towns, villages, or even next door. **Step Three** is to read the Gospel passage again and spontaneously respond to the Word of God, and be aware of any prayer that rises within you. For example: you might want to write a prayer, something like this: "Lord Jesus, please help me to be open to responding to the needs of the poor when I see or hear of their need."

**Step Four**, you simply rest in the Word and let God speak to your heart.

**Step Five** is to take the phrase as mentioned in Step One and bring it into your daily activity. What this means in practice is that you will offer prayers everyday for those who are poor, like Lazarus in the Gospel. You may even see an opportunity to help out at a soup kitchen or volunteer your time in some activity of charity.

Practice the Lectio Divina prayer method as often as you can.

God Bless, Father Mark

*Ne* Celebrate,

Date	Intention	Requested by	Celebration	Scriptures
Monday, September 29, 2025 8:30 a.m. Mass	Helen Mitchell birthday	The Mitchell Family	Saints Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, Archangels	Dn 7: 9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12: 7-12ab Jn 1: 47-51 (647)
Tuesday, September 30, 2025 8:30 a.m. Mass	Helen Allegretto 12th anniversary	Jim, Barb, Maria, and Rachel	Saint Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the Church	Zec 8: 20-23 Lk 9: 51-56 (456)
Wednesday, October 01, 2025 No Mass			Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church	Neh 2: 1-8 Lk 9: 57-62 (457)
Thursday, October 02, 2025 8:30 a.m. Mass	Pete Michael Morelli	sister-Rita	The Holy Guardian Angels	Neh 8: 1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12 (458) Mt 18: 1-5, 10 (650)
Friday, October 03, 2025 8:30 a.m. Mass FIRST FRIDAY	Louis Chiappelli	Family	Weekday	Bar 1: 15-22 Lk 10: 13-16 (459)
Saturday, October 04, 2025 8:30 a.m. Mass FIRST SATURDAY	Carmella Cadori	Janet Mehall	Saint Francis of Assisi	Bar 4: 5-12, 27-29 Lk 10: 17-24 (460)
Saturday, October 04, 2025 5:30 p.m. Mass	Living & Deceased Members of St. Joseph Church		Vigil of Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time	(see below)
Sunday, October 05, 2025 9:15 a.m. Mass	Tom Winkler wedding anniversary	wife-Chris	TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Hb 1: 2-3; 2: 2-4 2 Tm 1: 6-8, 13-14 Lk 17: 5-10 (141)

#### 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

#### Making Time for Prayer

It is true that we do the things every day that we consider important. And, if we do not do them, we do not consider them as that important. So the person who puts daily prayer at the top of the day's agenda will make time for prayer. It is a question of priorities.

It is very easy to have time for prayer, even in the most hurried and harried life. In fact, the busy person is the one who most needs to develop good prayer habits. After a while, even a busy person can develop techniques to pray at odd moments during the day, and even to pray when working or travelling. But the real prayer must be undistracted, when we close the door against the world and in tranquility concentrate on God and talk with God. We can pray only when in a state of stability and inner peace, when we are face to face with God.

Most people feel tense, pressure, always behind schedule, rushed to do the jobs of life. A person in that state has no time or inclination to pray. And so, he or she either does not pray, or prays quite distractedly. Find a quiet place to pray.

@1975 Most Rev. John F. Whealon, DD, Archbishop of Hartford, CT Vatican II Weekday Missal

#### Straub Insurance Agency

201 John Street St. Marvs, PA 15857 834-2490

## Ralph M. Geer Funeral Home

Five Generations Serving the Bennetts Valley Area

Joseph M. Nedza F.D. / Owner (814) 637-5401 www.nedzafamilyfuneralhomes.com



12045 Bennetts Valley Hwy. PO BOX 6 Penfield, PA 15849

#### Valley Farm Market

Route 255, 18211 Bennetts Valley Hwy Weedville, PA 15868 (814) 787-8911



Gasoline, Kerosene, and Diesel Large Assortment of Deli, T-shirts, Ice Cream, Groceries, and Model Trains

#### KORB MONUMENTS

COMPLETE MONUMENT SERVICES **SINCE 1901** 

Visit our large display & production plant in downtown DuBois

1-800-752-1601

www.korbmonuments.com

#### SEAMLESS **GUTTERS**

Free Estimates • Fully Insured Gutter Guards Available www.cagutters.com

> CARL HANES, OWNER 814-834-1123

PA# 892857 PA POWER WASHING Residential & Industrial Call or Text: Ryan Wehler 814-594-5756 Fully Insured-Free Estimates

#### Denise M. Cuneo

Attorney at Law

283 River Rd. • Weedville, PA 814-787-7368

1-855-209-8461

Calliari, Meholick & Co. CERTIFIED PUBLIC

**ACCOUNTANTS** 

Tele: (814) 371-7499

Medical Equipment & Supplies 1-800-876-3442 SMPRX.com

### Place Your Ad Here and Support our Parish!

AD CREATOR STUDIO





 WATER HEATERS WOOD & COAL STOVES

482 Beechtree Rd., Falls Creek, PA

814-371-4885

SAVE MONEY, LIVE COMFORTABLY



**Breakfast** Lunch Dinner Dailv Specials 814-834-4492 Providing Personal, Friendly Funeral Services Since 1996



#### SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!

#### **ADT-Monitored Home Security**

Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

 Burglary Fire Safety

AUT Authorized SafeStreets

 Flood Detection Carbon Monoxide



833-287-3502

### ST, MARYS STONE MULCH & MORE

Now at 133 Locust Rd • St. Marys, PA Wood Pallets • Bag Rock Salt • Cut/Split Firewood HARD & SOFT COAL • CAR PORTS **CUSTOM BUILT SHEDS** 

Delivery Available W Conveyor

(814) 781-8334



Residential & Commercial Services

814.389.2344

Justin Gradl, Owner

## LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS

Place Your Ad Here and Support Our Parish!

**CONTACT ME Nichol Stanley** 

nstanley@4LPi.com • (800) 477-4574 x9422

# A NEWSLETTER?

Engaging, ad-supported print and digital newsletters to reach your community.

Visit Ipicommunities.com



## St. Joseph Churc

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 mallings. 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.