



## 3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men.”  
- Mt 4:19

Parish Stewardship

Weekly collection 01/11/26 .....	\$4,349.00
Weekly budget .....	\$3,425.00
Difference .....	\$924.00

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING ST. JOSEPH CHURCH!

**POPE'S INTENTION FOR JANUARY**  
**For Prayer with The Word of God**

**Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us build a more fraternal and missionary Church.**



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 2026**

February 24	6:30 pm	St. Mark, Emporium	814-486-0569
March 21	10:00 am	Sacred Heart	814-781-1019

**Faith Formation:** ALL grades will meet for class in the Faith Formation building this weekend.

**A Family Perspective:** When Jesus called His Disciples, they responded 'immediately.' Parents often wish their children would do the same, but that's not how it works. Children grow into responsibility gradually. It's a process, much like learning to walk, achieved in small steps rather than all at once. Parenting requires patient encouragement.

**Marriage Moment:** Showing love is often about the little things - set up his coffee in the evening so it's ready for him in the morning, send her a one line email during the day, leave a sticky note on the mirror if you're going out of town, ask about her day, kiss him unexpectedly just because...

**Valentine's Day Celebration** with the blessing of our newly renovated social hall. Our starting celebration for our social hall will be on both Saturday, February 7th, after 5:30 pm Mass and Sunday, February 8th, after 9:15 am Mass, in honor of **Saint Valentine's Day**. The celebration on Saturday will start with a prayer blessing and then appetizers and a light meal. The celebration on Sunday will also start with a prayer blessing and then coffee, donuts, and sweet breads. We are so grateful that we can now use our social hall and participating with Parish events such as our annual fish dinners, Mother's and Father's Day breakfasts, the Women's Bash, and being available to offering funeral dinners. Often times, the social hall has been used for Diocesan gatherings such as Catechist Educational Opportunities. I want to begin at this moment to thank my building and grounds committee and all who plan our fish dinners to say thank you! thank you! for seeing this construction project through with your guidance and suggestions which has led us to this moment.

**Kersey K of C Monthly Breakfast** Sunday, February 1st, 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!

**Jesus' Homilies**

Last week, I shared with you the purpose of the Homilies and the work of the bishop, priest, and deacon to preach the Word of God, especially to make the Gospel relate to everyday lives of people. I conclude this lesson about homilies by explaining how Jesus Himself preached and the methods He used to teach about the Kingdom of God.

Many of Jesus' Homilies are called parables. One such parable is the Parable of the Sower. In this parable "story" Jesus describes a sower (farmer) who went out to spread and toss seeds on the ground in order for the wheat to grow. The seed was good, but the different places it fell were both good, fertile ground and bad, rocky ground with thorns. In the end, Jesus explained the parable by saying that the seed is God's Word to us. We are either like the bad ground that closes off the seed of God's Word, or the good soil that absorbs the good seed in order to produce the good wheat of Blessings of God's Word and Goodness in our life. (Luke 8: 4-15)

Jesus also used current events in order to drive home a point. For example, in one of the times as Jesus was preaching, His Mother, Mary, and His "Brothers" came to where He was but they were unable to join Jesus. The event went as follows: "He was told, 'Your Mother and Your Brothers are standing outside and they wish to see You.' He said to them in reply, 'My Mother and My Brothers are those who hear the Word of God and act on it.' (Luke 8: 20-21)

This sudden, unannounced visit of Jesus' Family caused our Lord to wisely include everyone present, listeners, and family members to all be considered as spiritual family of Jesus because they were both there to listen to His Word. Jesus' short Homily was to affirm that each group is His Family, because they hear God's Word and they act on it.

Finally, one of Jesus' most famous **Homilies--The Sermon on the Mount**, will be **next weekends** **Gospel Reading**. The preaching style Jesus uses here is that He takes a negative or needy life condition such as "poor in spirit" and "they who mourn," or "blessed are the merciful." (Mt 5: 3-4, 7) and He explained that these needs can be avenues to discover and pray for the positive human fulfillment, such as how the richness of God's Kingdom can give affirmation to those poor in spirit and those who mourn. Both will be comforted. Also, those who show mercy to others will be shown mercy to them by our Lord Jesus.

In the Beatitudes, Jesus teaches about the Holy Attitude we are to become in our lives. Choose a Beatitude today and pray for the grace to live it. **AMEN!**

# We Celebrate, We Listen, We Pray

Date	Intention	Requested by	Celebration	Scriptures
Monday, January 26, 2026 8:30 a.m. Mass	Lena Krulia and Sam Berasi	Paulette & Woodrow Yeaney	Saint Timothy and Saint Titus, Bishops	2 Tim 1: 1-8 or Ti 1: 1-5 (520) Mk 3: 22-30 (317)
Tuesday, January 27, 2026 8:30 a.m. Mass	Irene Gregori	Chester Zuchelli	Weekday <i>Saint Angela Merici, Virgin and Religious Founder</i>	2 Sm 6: 12b-15, 17-19 Mk 3: 31-35 (318)
Wednesday, January 28, 2026 No Mass			Saint Thomas Aquinas, Priest And Doctor of the Church	2 Sm 7: 4-17 Mk 4: 1-20 (319)
Thursday, January 29, 2026 8:30 a.m. Mass	Leonard Lovenduski	Susan & Donnie Bauer	Weekday	2 Sm 7: 18-19, 24-29 Mk 4: 21-25 (320)
Friday, January 30, 2026 No Mass			Weekday	2 Sm 11: 1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17 Mk 4: 26-34 (321)
Saturday, January 31, 2026 No a.m. Mass			Saint John Bosco, Priest	2 Sm 12: 1-7a, 10-17 Mk 4: 35-41 (322)
Saturday, January 31, 2026 5:30 p.m. Mass  <b>Blessing of the Throat</b>	Dennis Guido	John & Becky Bricen	Vigil of Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time	(see below)
Sunday, February 01, 2026 9:15 a.m. Mass  <b>Blessing of the Throat</b>	Living & Deceased Members of St. Joseph Church		FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Zep 2: 3, 3: 12-13 1 Cor 1: 26-31 Mt 5: 1-12a (70)

**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.

**Why We Bless the Throat** To understand why we Catholics have our throat blessed once a year around the first weekend of February, we first need to review the life of St. Blaise. St. Blaise lived in the city of Sebastea, Armenia.

According to the book: Saint of the Day by Leonard Foley, St. Blaise was the bishop of that city. He "worked hard to encourage the spiritual and physical health of the people." (pg. 37-38) Because of the persecution of the Church in that area, St. Blaise fled to the backcountry to live as a hermit in solitude and prayer. Eventually, St. Blaise was discovered and led off to prison. On his way, a worried mother came with her son to St. Blaise to have him pray over the boy who was choking on a fish bone. The boy coughed up the bone and stopped choking. Eventually, St. Blaise was martyred in that city. The Feast Day of St. Blaise is February 3rd. **Next weekend, January 31st and February 1st**, we will be blessing the throats after the Homily at Mass.

When blessing the throat, the candles are laid against our throat. God's Divine Healing can come to us through the following words prayed over us. **"Through the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from every ailment of the throat and from every other evil in the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen."**

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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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