



• THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD •

“MY BELOVED SON.”

Parish Stewardship

Offertory collection for 12/22/24not available
 Offertory collection for 12/29/24 not available
 Offertory collection for Christmas not available
 Offertory collection for 01/05/25 not available
 Weekly offertory budgeted for 2023-2024 \$3,365.00
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The Baptism of the Lord and Ours

As we celebrate this Feast Day of the Baptism of the Lord, I want to share with you the steps of the Rite of Baptism for One Child according to the book: Order of Baptism of Children (from the Catholic Book Publishing Corp. New Jersey 2020).

The Baptism ceremony begins with the Priest or Deacon greeting the parents and godparents and all those present. After this greeting prayer, the celebrant (priest or deacon) asks the parents the full name they are giving their child. Then after, the next question is : What do you ask of God’s Church for “Joseph Anthony” (for example). The parents response is “Baptism.”

After this, the celebrant describes the responsibilities to the parents and godparents and asks them if they are ready to receive this responsibility. Their response is “yes.”

After this, the celebrant makes the Sign of the Cross on the forehead of the baby, and the parents and godparents do the same. By doing this, the baby is being claimed for Christ. Following this is a Reading from the Sacred Scriptures. The Word of God is always necessary to proclaim and for the people to hear, because this Word affirms their own Baptism and prepares them to be followers of Christ.

Following this step is the Prayers of the Faithful. After this, a special prayer is prayed, to free the child from Original Sin. The child is then anointed right below the neck with the special Oil of Salvation. The reason for this is that olive oil has always been a symbol of strength in the ancient world. This action strengthens the one who is to be baptized.

The next steps that prepare for the Baptism itself are the following: The Blessing of the Water and the Profession of Faith. The Baptism then officially happens when the celebrant prays the Words of Baptism over the infant: “Anthony Joseph, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen!”

What follows immediately after the Baptism is the Anointing with Chrism Oil. This is a special perfumed oil, the Bishop blesses at the Chrism Mass during Holy Week. This blessing consecrates the person forever to Christ our Lord, as the celebrant makes the Sign of the Cross on the baby’s crown of their head. The clothing of the white garment happens next as the parents receive the garment from the presider celebrant and puts it on their newly baptized baby. The garment symbolizes purity. After this, a Baptism Candle is lit and given to the parents. This symbolizes the Light of the Risen Christ. The word, Ephphatha, which means **be opened**, is prayed over the child’s ears and the celebrant touches their mouth to symbolize hearing the Word of God and proclaiming their faith in Jesus.

The Concluding Rite includes a concluding prayer, the Our Father, a prayer over the mother, a prayer over the father, and a concluding prayer blessing. **GOD BLESS!**

**POPE’S INTENTION FOR JANUARY
 For the Right to an Education**

Let us pray for migrants, refugees, and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

“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

February 18th	6:30 pm	St. Boniface	814-885-4488
February 20th	6:30 pm	St. Mark, Emporium	814-486-0569
March 22nd	10:00 am	Sacred Heart Church	814-781-1019

Edge class will resume this weekend, January 12, 2025.

FAITH FORMATION As required by the Diocese of Erie, there will be a **mandatory** Safe Environment Training for all students on Sunday, January 12th. Grades K-5 will meet at the Faith Formation Building. Edge class will meet in the social hall.

There is still time to purchase pajamas for our Giving Tree. You can bring them in to the office this week, Monday through Thursday, from 9 am to 4 pm. Thank you for your generosity.

Sunday, January 19-Grades K-5 will meet at the FF building. Edge students will report immediately to the social hall, following 9:15 am Mass. The students will then travel to the Guardian Angel Center in Kersey to deliver the Giving Tree donations.

Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments – 3 Ways for Teens to Reboot

Sending and receiving messages late at night can make it hard to fall asleep or interrupt sleep. Teens want to stay connected to friends, but the lack of sleep or interrupted sleep can affect everything from their mood to their sports performance. Here are 5 tips to follow at night that will help boost energy and focus in the morning. 1.) Log off your messaging apps, social media and email at bedtime. 2.) Turn off your phone when it’s time for bed don’t just set it to vibrate. 3.) Get in the habit of powering off your devices – especially if they are in your room. Turn off all electronics, like laptops, tablets, TVs, and video game consoles. Blinking lights and glowing screens can make it harder to fall and stay asleep. Sticking to a cut-off curfew each night for your devices will give your brain some much needed tech-free downtime. For additional resources visit www.eriecnd.org/childprotection/

We Celebrate, We Listen, We Pray

Date	Intention	Requested by	Celebration	Scriptures
Monday, January 13, 2025 8:30 a.m. Mass	JoAnn Caliari	Family	Weekday (First Week in Ordinary Time) <i>Saint Hilary, Bishop & Doctor of the Church</i>	Heb 1: 1-6 Mk 1: 14-20 (305)
Tuesday, January 14, 2025 8:30 a.m. Mass	John Mitchell birthday	Jack & Deb Mitchell	Weekday	Heb 2: 5-12 Mk 1: 21-28 (306)
Wednesday, January 15, 2025 No Mass			Weekday	Heb 2: 14-18 Mk 1: 29-39 (307)
Thursday, January 16, 2025 8:30 a.m. Mass	Eddie Zuchelli	Leo & Patty Klebacha	Weekday	Heb 3: 7-14 Mk 1: 40-45 (308)
Friday, January 17, 2025 8:30 a.m. Mass	Leonard Lovenduski 1st anniversary	Jack & Kathy Kershenski	Saint Anthony, Abbot	Heb 4: 1-5, 11 Mk 2: 1-12 (309)
Saturday, January 18, 2025 No Mass			Weekday <i>BVM</i>	Heb 4: 12-16 Mk 2: 13-17 (310)
Saturday, January 18, 2025 5:30 p.m. Mass	Rose Guido and Mary Winkler	Kathleen & John Lobb	Vigil of the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time	(see below)
Sunday, January 19, 2025 9:15 a.m. Mass	Living and Deceased Parishioners		SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Is 62: 1-5 1 Cor 12: 4-11 Jn 2: 1-11 (66)

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.

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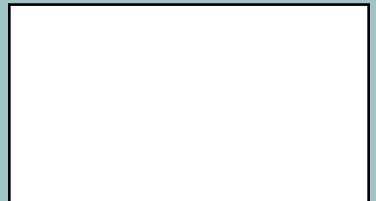
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St. Joseph Church
PARISHIONER INFORMATION

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.