





Parish Stewardship

Weekly collection 01/18/26 ..... \$2,772.00  
 Weekly budget ..... \$3,425.00  
 Difference ..... **\$653.00**

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING ST. JOSEPH CHURCH!**

**POPE'S INTENTION FOR FEBRUARY  
 For Children with Incurable Diseases**

**Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.**



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

**Our Social Hall**

The work in our social hall is nearing completion and we have been getting things ready for our Lenten fish dinners! We will be serving the first dinner on Ash Wednesday, February 18th, and every Friday throughout Lent, including Good Friday. The hours will be NOON until 6:00 pm. We will be offering fish dinners (baked or fried) and a new Pastor's Platter (fish, shrimp, and fried clam strips), choice of potato, coleslaw, homemade soup and a drink. We are looking forward to using our new kitchen and to be back in business with our dinners! More information will follow.

**Valentine's Day Celebration** begins 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.

**A Family Perspective** It is within our family that we learn to be merciful, peaceful, and comforting to others. The Beatitudes of the Kingdom of God start at home and rely on you. Parents set the example.

Blue Jay Market will be held Saturday, February 7th, from 10 am until 3 pm at the BV Community Center in Weedville. Food and drinks will be available for purchase. This event is open to the public and free to attend. St. Joseph Church will have a table with puzzles and books for sale. See you there!

**Recognize the Beatitudes Within Your Life**

My brothers and sisters, one of Jesus' greatest homilies is The Sermon on the Mountain, according to Matthew's Gospel this weekend. It is in these Words that Jesus gives us the way to lasting happiness in this life and prepares us for the life we will receive in Heaven some day.

This event starts out by saying that Jesus, after seeing the crowd, "went up the mountain and after He had sat down, His Disciples came to Him." (Mt 5: 1) Initially, this shows us that Jesus is taking the seating position of a teacher, very similar to a teacher of the Jewish law, or even a judge. This is a position that the people would recognize as a posture and position of authority. In fact, they were so interested in what He had to say, that they came to Him after He sat down. They were now ready to listen as Mt 5: 3-6 records.

The next verse says; He began to teach them by saying **"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."** In other words, happy will you be when you ask God for help with a burden that is way beyond your control. He will then give you the gift of peace that you will remember how important and beautiful that gift (blessing) is for you. This is the kingdom of heaven.

**"Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted."** When was the last time you had cried? You may have just lost a loved one. You may have failed an exam that you really studied for. You may be physically hurting from an accident or operation. When any of us turn to our Lord in these needy, painful situations, you will know the comforting Grace of Jesus our Lord.

**"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land."** Land has always been a symbol, in the Old Testament Scriptures, of a place of security, protection, and being "at home." For a person who is humble and unassuming in their relations and responsibilities with others and images a meek person, will inherit a spiritual sense of calmness. In addition, by putting others first in their life, they seem to be spiritually "at home" within themselves and when around other people.

**"Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied."** We will be satisfied in life when we have done all that we are capable of doing with the work God has given us to do. This work can be our jobs, our talents, our volunteer work, and especially our life vocations and relationships. This Beatitude also includes people in our lives and in society that work for justice and peace for the poor and those who are in need of special attention.

God Bless, Father Mark

# We Celebrate, We Listen, We Pray

Date	Intention	Requested by	Celebration	Scriptures
Monday, February 02, 2026 <b>8:30 a.m. Mass</b>	Guido & Cass Berasi	nieces: Dolly, Judy, and Polly Berasi	The Presentation of the Lord	Mal 3: 1-4 Heb 2: 14-18 Lk 2: 22-40 or 2: 22-32 (524)
Tuesday, February 03, 2026 <b>8:30 a.m. Mass</b>	Jennie Chiappelli	Family	Weekday <i>Saint Blaise, Bishop and Martyr; Saint Ansgar, Bishop</i>	2 Sm 18: 9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30-19:3 Mk 5: 21-43 (324)
Wednesday, February 04, 2026 <b>No Mass</b>			Weekday	2 Sm 24: 2, 9-17 Mk 6: 1-6 (325)
Thursday, February 05, 2026 <b>8:30 a.m. Mass</b>	Agnes Caliarì	Family	Saint Agatha, Virgin & Martyr	1 Kgs 2: 1-4, 10-12 Mk 6: 7-13 (326)
Friday, February 06, 2026 <b>8:30 a.m. Mass</b>	Vicki Peters birthday	husband-Kim	Saint Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs	Sir 47: 2-11 Mk 6: 14-29 (327)
Saturday, February 07, 2026 <b>8:30 a.m. Mass</b> <b>First Saturday</b>	Daniel Cortina	A Force neighbor	Weekday <i>BVM</i>	1 Kgs 3: 4-13 Mk 6: 30-34 (328)
Saturday, February 07, 2026 <b>5:30 p.m. Mass</b>	Living & Deceased Members of St. Joseph Church		Vigil of Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	(see below)
Sunday, February 08, 2026 <b>9:15 a.m. Mass</b> <b>World Marriage Day</b>	Deceased members of Bonanno and Casaro Families	Dennis & Deborah Bonanno	FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Is 58: 7-10 1 Cor 2: 1-5 Mt 5: 13-16 (73)

## 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.

Saturday Vigil: 5:30 pm Sunday: 9:15 am Holy Days: 9:00 am &amp; 7:00 pm Daily: Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri. 8:30 am No Mass on Wednesday

## Presentation of the Lord: Candlemas Day; February 2nd

Every year, on February 2nd, we celebrate The Presentation of the Lord, which is also called, Candlemas Day. The reason for this celebration is because according to the law of Moses, every male child is to be brought to the temple in Jerusalem and consecrated to God forty days after their birth. Our Lord Jesus was born on December 25th, so forty days later is February 2nd, the day we celebrate this Feast.

The Gospel of Luke, Ch. 2: 22-32, describes this celebration. Simeon, who was "righteous and devout..." was the holy man who performed this blessing upon Jesus, in the presence of Mary and Joseph. Hence, Jesus was consecrated, or presented to God the Father, in cooperation with the Jewish law, but also to complete His purpose on earth, in becoming the Savior, our Savior of the world.

At the beginning of the 8th century, this Feast Day was celebrated with a candlelight procession around the city, and candles were blessed and given to people to take home. It was from this time on the Feast was nicknamed Candlemas Day.

(info from the book Saint of the Day by Leonard Foley, O.F.M.)

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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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