



16th Sunday

I N O R D I N A R Y T I M E

"Let them grow together until harvest; then at harvest time I will say to the harvesters, 'First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles for burning; but gather the wheat into my barn.'"

Matthew 13:30

Parish Stewardship

Weekly budget	\$3,425.00
Weekly collection 06/21/26	\$1,879.00
Difference	\$1,546.00
Weekly collection 06/28/26	\$1,953.00
Difference	\$1,472.00
Weekly collection 07/05/26	\$2,776.00
Difference	\$649.00
CSA Assessment (2026)	\$30,986.00
Pledges to date	\$27,120.00

POPE'S INTENTION FOR JULY**For Respect For Human Life**

Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.



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

July 25	9:30 am	St. Leo, Ridgway	814-772-3135
August 06	7:00 pm	St. Joseph, Force	814-787-4151

In Remembrance

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Helena Leair** and **Betty Leair**. May God grant them eternal rest.

St. Joseph Church 22nd Annual Picnic will be held on Sunday, August 9th, following the **10:00 am Mass**. We will have coffee & donuts right after Mass, along with some music. The meal will be served at 12:00 NOON. Raffles, games, 50/50, and music! Look for the insert in the bulletin next weekend!

A Family Perspective: Parents instill values in their children, hoping that the tiny seeds of honesty, respect, commitment, and fidelity will grow with them and eventually become "a safe haven" for many.

Parenting Pointer: Summer Sanity Tip

Even if you have the benefit of being home with your child on summer days, sometimes constant togetherness can take a toll. Try a quiet hour after lunch. They can read, play quietly in their room, listen to cicadas, or just daydream. They might not call it prayer, but learning to have quiet reflective time is an ingredient of prayer.

WHEAT

I like and appreciate farms, many fields and acres of hay, corn, and cattle, as I drive through our area of Pennsylvania. Several years ago, on the way to Colorado, I saw miles and miles of beautiful farm lands. I've had the experience of visiting both small family farms and large dairy farms. The way the farmlands are planted and the equipment used is fascinating. But what I appreciate the most about farming is the hard work of the people, from sun up to sun down, that goes into the production and preparation of beef, poultry, dairy, vegetables, fruits, and grains of wheat so that we can eat.

In the First Parable we just heard in the Gospel from Matthew, Jesus is talking again about sowing the good seeds of wheat and joyfully preparing us for the Kingdom of God.

There has to be intentional preparation for this wonderful experience by His Listeners and by us. In this parable, the Kingdom of God, and His Love and Fulfillment of Everlasting Peace, is similar to a person who sowed good seed in his field. Hopefully, the field will receive it so it can produce the wheat on time so that others can make the bread. Then, everyone is happy and can celebrate the good food of the harvest.

However, this growing process of the wheat has weeds growing along with it. Jesus says that the servants notice the weeds alongside the wheat. The Master of the Harvest knows that since all of the plants are growing together, pulling the weeds may also uproot the wheat and destroy the harvest. He says, "let them grow together until harvest." (Mt 13: 30a) Then they will be properly and accurately collected; weeds will be burned, and the wheat put into the barn.

My brothers and sisters, ALL of us, striving to be people of faith in God, loving God and neighbor, and growing in our spiritual life, are like the wheat, and not like the weeds. But when we would notice weeds in our life, then we would need to stop, PRAY, and say to God, "I do not want this in my life." "I give it to You, please take it." Call on Jesus and He will take it from you. He is the only one who can separate the weeds from the wheat of our good lives. Then ask the Holy Spirit to come and to replace those temptations with the "wheat" of kind, loving thoughts toward others and a greater hope and deeper faith in God. The Sacrament of Confession can certainly help in this regard.

By doing this, we will be living and growing in God's Field, enjoying each new day, and growing in our spiritual life that will prepare us to "shine like the sun in the Kingdom of their Father," as this Sunday's Gospel proclaims in Matthew 13: 43

God Bless, Father Mark

We Celebrate, We Listen, We Pray

Date	Intention	Requested by	Celebration	Scriptures
Monday, July 20, 2026 8:30 a.m. Mass	Helen Prechtel	Chuck & Vina	Weekday <i>Saint Apollinaris, Bishop and Martyr</i>	Mi 6: 1-4, 6-8 Mt 12: 38-42 (395)
Tuesday, July 21, 2026 8:30 a.m. Mass	Diane Caliarì	Brooke Bricen	Weekday <i>Saint Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest and Doctor of the Church</i>	Mi 7: 14-15, 18-20 Mt 12: 46-50 (396)
Wednesday, July 22, 2026 No Mass			Saint Mary Magdalene	Sg 3: 1-4b or 2 Cor 5: 14-17 Jn 20: 1-2, 11-18 (603)
Thursday, July 23, 2026 8:30 a.m. Mass	Deceased Members of The Cortina Family	Bob Cortina	Weekday <i>Saint Bridget, Religious</i>	Jer 2: 1-3, 7-8, 12-13 Mt 13: 10-17 (398)
Friday, July 24, 2026 8:30 a.m. Mass	Lena Volpe	Ben & Cheryl Pazcoquin	Weekday <i>Saint Sharbel Makhlof, Priest</i>	Jer 3: 14-17 Mt 13: 18-23 (399)
Saturday, July 25, 2026 No a.m. Mass			Saint James, Apostle	2 Cor 4: 7-15 Mt 20: 20-28 (605)
Saturday, July 25, 2026 5:30 p.m. Mass	Living & Deceased Members of St. Joseph Church		Vigil of Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	(see below)
Sunday, July 26, 2026 9:15 a.m. Mass	Germaine Olewnik 2nd anniversary	Tim & Lori Sims	SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	1 Kgs 3: 5, 7-12 Rom 8: 28-30 Mt 13: 44-52 or 13: 44-46 (109)

St. Joseph Church
PO Box 124 Force, PA 15841
Phone: 814-787-4151
Rev. Mark J. Mastrian Pastor
Parish Secretary: Barb Allegretto
Domestic Administrator: Miriam Pane
Pastoral Council President: Bryan Chiappelli
Finance Council Moderator: Leon Calliari

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 & 7:00 pm

Daily: Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri. 8:30 am

No Mass on Wednesday

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DATE: August 7, 8 & 9, 2026 (Friday - Sunday)
ELK COUNTY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL, ST. WOODS, PA

WEEKEND SCHEDULE:
ARRIVE FRIDAY AT 5:00 AM
AND ENDS SUNDAY AT 1:00 PM

WHO CAN ATTEND?
Anyone 13 years or older (no requirement on high school, senior status, or confirmation as of yet)

WHO WILL HELP YOU?
ENCOUNTER AND CHRYSTAL AND ADAM, D.M.E. LEARN MORE about the D.M.E. Encounter, the D.M.E. Encounter, and the D.M.E. Encounter.

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WHO CAN ATTEND?
Anyone 13 years or older (no requirement on high school, senior status, or confirmation as of yet)

QUESTIONS?
Call Amy Gagliardi at 814-781-1019

APPLY & LEARN MORE:
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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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St. Joseph Church, Force, PA

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