

BE
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LORD,
FOR
WE HAVE
SINNED.

PSALM 51



Parish Stewardship

Weekly collection 02/15/26 \$3,475.00
 Weekly budget \$3,425.00
 Difference \$50.00

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 |

FISH DINNERS will be served every Friday during Lent, from NOON until 6:30 pm (or until sold out). Fish or Shrimp dinners will cost \$16. Pastor's Platter will cost \$19. Come and enjoy a delicious dinner! See the insert in this weekend's bulletin.

**CSA**

Every CSA donation above our 2026 assessment of \$30,986.00 brings us closer to being able to complete our own parish project of repairing and improving the area in the front of the Church. We want to make it a more level area, which would make it a safer place to walk and easier access in the event of a funeral. Please give as generously as you can! Pledge envelopes can be dropped in the collection basket, mailed, or brought into the office.

Thank you!

Kersey K of C Monthly Breakfast Sunday, March 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!

40 Days For Life Campaign Feb. 18 thru March 29. 40 Days is an International, twice a year campaign of fasting, praying, and community outreach. Sponsored by Elk County Right To Life.

Family Perspective: In today's Gospel, Jesus reminds us that it is not enough to provide only physical nourishment for our children; "one does not live on bread alone." As we approach Lent 2026, let us be "led by the Spirit" to discover new ways to be moral guides for our children.

Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments

Be Vigilant: Keeping kids safe starts with all of us. Pay attention to how people interact with children - and speak up if something feels off. Notice the signs of abuse, take them seriously, and report concerns right away. If you see behavior that seems inappropriate or just doesn't feel right, don't ignore it! Reporting could prevent harm. Have questions about warning signs or what is considered inappropriate? Call the office for the Protection of Children and Youth at 814-824-1195.

Real Life Lent

As we begin together as a Church this season of Lent, we often will plan on praying certain traditional prayers that we find in the missalette that we read before Mass begins, or within a Catholic prayer book that we have had for years. Starting to pray the Rosary is one of the important and powerful devotions we can do alone or with others.

Along with starting or adding more prayers to our daily routine, is to do something for Lent. Examples are:

- ✚ A person decides they will give up all cookies and sweet treats for Lent.
- ✚ A person decides to start getting up earlier, say their prayers, and exercise before they get ready for work and have their breakfast.
- ✚ Another person chooses to give up drinking alcohol.
- ✚ A husband gives up all together of playing cards with his friends on Friday nights and instead he takes his wife out for dinner.
- ✚ A CEO of a company starts to really listen to his employees, instead of throwing his demands at them.
- ✚ A college student decides to attend daily Mass.
- ✚ A person reaches out to forgive a friend who had hurt them deeply.

All of these stories are real life situations that people strive to correct or heal during the season of Lent. Some of these examples can be almost impossible for people to do. These real life experiences during Lent are only going to be LIFE CHANGING when people are willing to continue this process beyond the season of Lent. This process of conversion truly can happen when any of us come to our Lord in humble prayer and ask for His Amazing Grace to follow through in our hearts day by day in order to change our ways.

Another important way to grow in our spiritual life is to see how well we are living the Ten Commandments. Let's now dive into a thorough look at each of these Commandments.

The Ten Commandments

1. The First Commandment is: **"YOU SHALL HAVE NO OTHER GOD'S BEFORE ME"**

The Book of Deuteronomy in the Old Testament says; "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength." (Deut 6: 5)

continued →

We Celebrate, We Listen, We Pray

| Date | Intention | Requested by | Celebration | Scriptures |
|--|---|--|---|---|
| Monday, February 23, 2026 8:30 a.m. Mass | Andrea Calliari 4th anniversary | Kathleen and Leon | Lenten Weekday <i>Saint Polycarp, Bishop & Martyr</i> | Lv 19: 1-2, 11-18 Mt 25: 31-46 (224) |
| Tuesday, February 24, 2026 8:30 a.m. Mass | Dolores Floravit | Donald & Nancy Chiappelli | Lenten Weekday | Is 55: 10-11 Mt 6: 7-15 (225) |
| Wednesday, February 25, 2026 No Mass | | | Lenten Weekday | Jon 3: 1-10 Lk 11: 29-32 (226) |
| Thursday, February 26, 2026 8:30 a.m. Mass | Art Zambanini | Wife-Gen, Daughter-Pooney and family | Lenten Weekday | Est C: 12, 14-16, 23-25 Mt 7: 7-12 (227) |
| Friday, February 27, 2026 8:30 a.m. Mass | Donald & Mabel Cameroni | Grandchildren | Lenten Weekday <i>Saint Gregory of Narek, Abbot and Doctor of the Church</i> | Ez 18: 21-28 Mt 5: 20-26 (228) |
| Saturday, February 28, 2026 No a.m. Mass | | | Lenten Weekday | Dt 26: 16-19 Mt 5: 43-48 (229) |
| Saturday, February 28, 2026 5:30 p.m. Mass | Susan Huff birthday | Family | Vigil of Second Sunday of Lent | (see below) |
| Sunday, March 01, 2026 9:15 a.m. Mass | Living & Deceased Members of St. Joseph Church | | SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT | Gn 12: 1-4a 2 Tm 1: 8b-10 Mt 17: 1-9 (25) |

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**

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

If we love anything or anyone, or even ourselves more than we love God, we could fall into the trap of Idolatry. The Catechism of the Catholic Church says in paragraph 2113 that, "Idolatry not only refers to false pagan worship, it remains a constant temptation to faith. Idolatry consists in divinizing (making like a god) what is not God. Man commits idolatry whenever he honors and reveres a creature in place of God, whether this be gods or demons (satanism), power, pleasure, race, ancestors, the state and money, etc..." Jesus says, "You cannot serve God and mammon." (Mt 6: 24) CCC number 2135 says that, "Adoring God, praying to Him, offering Him the worship that belongs to Him, fulfilling the promises and vows made to Him are acts of the virtue of religion which fall under obedience to the First Commandment.

A good reflection question is: Are there idols in my life? If so, how can I get rid of them?
Answer, go to Confession.

God Bless, Father Mark

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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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