

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH

150th Anniversary Newsletter

1866 - 2016

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Late October 2015: We'll have a website and Facebook page for everyone to check for updates.
- November 2015: Anniversary Committee meeting in November—check the bulletin for date & time. **All are welcome!**

Sesquicentennial Celebration

In 2016, St. Joseph Parish will be celebrating its 150th anniversary. Fr. Ed and many of your fellow parishioners are working on various events to mark this milestone.

Some of the family activities being planned include a golf outing, a picnic, a Pirates game, a banquet at Futules', and a car cruise. There are service activities scheduled that include diaper and baby bottle drives, a Parish mission, and a Lenten meager meal. A parish photo directory will also be published.

The Parish will also have an anniversary Mass with Bishop Zubik presiding, a folk mass for St. Joseph School alumni, a motorcade to the cemetery,



St. Joseph Church - Circa 1900



St. Joseph Church - Current

and retreats for both men and women. See page 2 for the dates of events that have already been set.

The bulletins will provide information on upcoming events. The committee will also establish a website and Facebook page listing all of the activities, photos and other information to keep everyone

informed online.

There will be plenty of events for everyone to enjoy, so please join in—whether it's working with any of the committees, participating in the events, or providing support by praying for our parish.

Here's to the next 150 years!



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THE ORIGINS OF OUR PARISH

St. Joseph was founded in 1866. Fr. Joseph Suehr served as a visiting priest for St. Joseph families from his home parish in Wilkesburg. In 1870, Fr. Suehr was assigned as pastor to St. Joseph on a full-time basis.

From almost the very beginning, our parish has had a school. The first recorded school fees were incurred in 1871, with the teachers' fees listed as a \$30 per month. Three nuns of the Sisters of Notre Dame began teaching at the school in 1898.

The cemetery has also been a part of our parish since 1866. The original location of the cemetery was on Church Street next to the original church building. The current cemetery was consecrated in 1894.



150 YEARS

Prayer for On Mission for The Church Alive

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If you have suggestions for a Sesquicentennial event, please email us!

Father of Mercy, we ask you for your guidance as we journey On Mission for The Church Alive! Endow us with your gifts of courage, collaboration, and compassion so that we can continue to fulfill the mission of Christ and his Church through vibrant parishes, dynamic schools, religious education programs, and effective ministries. Raise up selfless, energetic leaders—lay, religious, deacons and priests, to serve the Church in fidelity and with care. May we, the Church of Pittsburgh in Allegheny, Beaver, Butler, Greene, Lawrence and Washington Counties, all be sustained and strengthened by your grace. Help us to learn Jesus, love Jesus and live Jesus. Hear this prayer and grant it through Jesus Christ our Lord, with the help of our dear Blessed Mother, who protects us under the mantle of her love. Amen.

Mark Your Calendars

January 16 & 17 - Diaper Drive	March 19 - Ethnic Dinner	May 7 - June 19 - Baby Bottle Drive	August 21 - Parish Picnic
January 22 - March for Life	April 2 - April 6 - Parish Mission	May 22 - Motorcade to Cemetery	October 16 - Anniversary
February 22 - Meager Meal	May 1 - Anniversary Mass	August 1 - Golf Outing	Celebration Banquet



Volunteers Needed

The Sesquicentennial Anniversary Committee has more ideas than we have volunteers. In addition to the Folk Mass and Alumni luncheon described above, we'd like to do other events that bring together many of our St. Joseph School alumni. If you and several of your friends from school would like to organize another type of event (e.g., bowling night), please email us!



DID YOU KNOW?

The first recorded baptism at our parish was for Joanne Catherine Cahill on August 12, 1872?

St. Irenaeus (Oakmont), Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament (East End), St. John the Baptist (Unity), and St. Bartholomew (Penn Hills) are off-shoots of our parish?