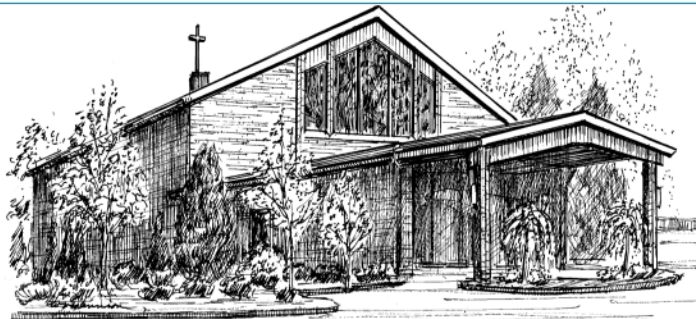


Saint Joseph Church

A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust



Sunday Masses:

Saturday evening: 5:00 PM
Sunday: 8:30 & 10:45 AM

Holyday Masses:

As scheduled in the bulletin.

Daily Masses:

Mon., Tues., Fri..... 9:00 AM
Saturday: 5:00 PM only

Rev. Edwin J. Wichman, Pastor

825 Second Street • Verona, Pennsylvania • 15147

Phones:

Parish Office 412-795-5114
Parish Fax 412-828-1236
Hours: 8:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. (Monday - Friday)
E-mail: joevchurch@verizon.net
Faith Formation Office 412-828-7715
Sr. Lynn Miller, CSJ, Program Manager
Peter Starz stirfaith@gmail.com
School Office 412-828-7213
Sr. Jean Uzupis, CSJ, Principal
Social Service Office 412-828-7715
Sr. Lynn Miller, CSJ - Director
Facilities Coordinator 412-715-1832
John Hazur
Safe Environment Coordinator .. 412-795-5114X11
Fran Morrow StJoVeSafe@gmail.com

The Seven Sacraments

Holy Orders: Any men exploring the possibility of becoming a Priest or Deacon **or** anyone contemplating Religious Life should contact the Office for Vocations of the Diocese of Pittsburgh at 412-456-3123.

Baptism: Second Sunday of the month by appointment. Arrangements are made through the Parish Office. Pre-Baptism instructions are obligatory.

Confirmation: Celebrated periodically as scheduled by the Diocese.

Holy Eucharist: First Communion is celebrated in the Spring. Call the Rectory to arrange for communion for those who are homebound.

Reconciliation: Saturdays from 11:00 A.M. to Noon and by appointment.

Matrimony: Couples must contact a parish priest six months prior to the proposed date. Marriage instructions are mandatory.

Anointing of the Sick: Celebrated the Third Sunday of the month after all Masses. If a family member is seriously ill or about to have surgery, please call a priest.

RCIA: The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (for those wanting to become Catholic or those interested in learning more about the Catholic faith) is conducted through the Faith Formation Office. Call that office for more information about the process.

Parish Membership:

Please call the Rectory if you wish to become a member of our parish or if you are leaving to join another parish.

Parish Mission Statement

St. Joseph Parish is a faith community, rich in history and strong in its Catholic tradition since 1866. Through the grace of the Eucharist and under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to building up the Body of Christ through a strong spiritual life, education in the faith and service to our parish and community.

Pennsylvania
Child Abuse Hotline
1-800-932-0313

Diocese of Pittsburgh
Victims Assistance Hotline
1-888-808-1235

Please remember St. Joseph Parish in your will.



*Prayer for On Mission
For The Church Alive:*

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.

From The Catechism

(1392) What material food produces in our bodily life, Holy Communion wonderfully achieves in our spiritual life. Communion with the flesh of the risen Christ, a flesh "given life and giving life through the Holy Spirit," preserves, increases, and renews the life of grace received at Baptism. This growth in Christian life needs the nourishment of Eucharistic Communion, the bread for our pilgrimage until the moment of death, when it will be given to us as viaticum.

Walk Through the Holy Door

In response to Pope Francis' call for a Jubilee Year of Mercy, our Bishop David Zubik will open a **Holy Door** on Sunday, December 13th at 2:30 PM during a special Mass in Saint Paul Cathedral. Everyone is welcome to be led through the Holy Door with Bishop Zubik. For more information go to www.diopitt.org/jubilee-year-mercy.

Life is...

"Every life is a good and perfect gift." - "A Perfect Gift", 2015-16 Respect Life Program, USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities www.goo.gl/ARzBL6.

Crisis Pregnancy?

Bethany Services
1-800-238-4269
A Thought

From the Desk of Father Ed:

Every month we provide two timely opportunities to spend in quiet prayer with our Eucharistic Lord. This coming **Friday, December 4th**, is the First Friday of December. As is our practice, we will have **Exposition** of the Blessed Sacrament immediately after the 9 AM Mass. We conclude our time of prayer with **Benediction** around 10:30 AM. Plan to join us as we enjoy the ~~real presence~~ of Jesus in our parish.

Advent is here! We will be singing Jingle Bells before you know it. As we begin this seasonal adventure - decorations, greeting cards, gifts, special meals, parties - let us remind ourselves once again of how this all began. God's love for every person is the reason that Jesus became one of us so that we could be redeemed and be able to share the gift of eternal life that God offers us. **Prepare well** and enjoy the celebration. But, make sure you also take time to celebrate the spiritual aspect of Christmas too.

Every week during our weekend liturgies, we pray for the success of the **Church Alive**. Our Bishop is hoping that our communities will be vibrant and will carry out the teachings of Jesus. *The church has always been at the forefront in serving others through our schools, hospitals, orphanages and many other outreach programs.* Many have come and gone over the years but much work remains to be done. The support for these ministries is a result of the **time, talent and treasures** offered by many for the good of the church. *We encourage all parishioners to participate fully in the life of our parish.*

As we plan for Christmas, many of us use **gift cards** as presents. Please consider buying a grocery gift card from us (for the benefit of our school) and then purchasing your gift cards from the store. *You give us 5% and it costs you nothing but a few moments of time.* Also, our monthly **Raffle Tickets** make excellent gifts and stocking stuffers. This item gives over 120 opportunities to win some cash throughout the month. Thanks for considering these items as you plan your Christmas gift giving this year!

Why do Americans choose from just two people to run for president and 50 for Miss America?

On EWTN

Monday at 4 PM - We Are Catholic

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Pray For

Please pray for all those in our parish who are in need especially the sick at home; in nursing homes and hospitals; the unemployed; those who have lost a loved one and those who feel isolated or abandoned. In particular, we ask you to pray for **Karen Cohn, Keith E. Cohn, Andrew Newmaster, Joseph Geiser, Yvonne Mosco, Ruth Ruehling, Mary Henry, Ross Orgera, Frank Pecora, Bob Popowski, John DeRiggi, Peggy Tomes, Carol Harrity, Phyllis Cosnotti, Don Tappe, Catherine Milewski, Cecilia Condon, Ann Baratta, Merle and Stella Scheid, Judy Khlan, Colleen Strahler, Archangelo Loggi, Connie Mastrogiacomo, Shirley Leras, Helen Caruso, Adelmo Appoloni, Kim Milby, Janet Sendek, Sally Miller, Annette Mszyco, Delfina Listorti, Ralph Botta, Catherine Wisneski, Anne DellaSala and Joe H.**

Treasures From Our Tradition

Advent is a time rich in family traditions. Many of them have been so effectively absorbed into our culture that their religious origins are hidden. Some of us will set candles in our windows tonight. The custom began in Ireland during the so-called "penal" days, extending from 1691 to the "Catholic Emancipation" in 1829 and beyond. There were harsh penalties and fines for not attending the government church. Priests were forced into hiding, but people were resourceful and determined in guarding their faith. At Christmas, Irish families, particularly in the countryside, placed a lighted candle in the cottage window and left the door unlatched, hoping that a priest might come by and celebrate the Christmas Mass for them.

The possibility of the Mass coming into the family home gave rise to other Irish customs at the beginning of Advent. The cottage received a fresh coat of whitewash, the threshold was swept especially clean, and fresh curtains were hung in the windows. The house was scrubbed until it gleamed, including all the pots and pans, and all garments and table linens were laundered. The custom of the Irish window candle was so admired in Catholic Europe that it was widely copied there, and now finds a welcome in households that may not exactly expect a priest to wander in!

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Bulletin Deadline - MONDAY AT NOON

Christmas Cards

The Little Sisters of the Poor will be offering Christmas Cards sketched by Sister Martha, Isp. This year's card has a sketch of Mary holding baby Jesus. The previous year's cards are also available. The cards are: 7 for \$10 (plus \$1.50 shipping), 12 for \$15 (plus \$2.00 shipping) or 30 for \$25 (plus \$5.00 shipping). For additional information or to order go online at www.littlesistersofthepoorpittsburgh.org or by calling 412-307-1100. All proceeds from the sale of the cards help to support the elderly poor Residents in the Little Sisters care.

Serra Catholic High School

St. Joseph Parish congratulates the following students from Serra Catholic High School on achieving Honor Roll status for the first quarter of the 2015-2016 school year: **Ruby Honor Roll- Olivia D'Andrea. Silver Honor Roll- Simone Jahn.**

Words Of Our Holy Father

A mother helps her children grow up and wants them to grow strong; that is why she teaches them not to be lazy - which can also derive from a certain kind of well-being - [and] not to sink into a comfortable lifestyle, contenting oneself with possessions. The mother takes care that her children develop better, that they grow strong, capable of accepting responsibilities, of engaging in life, of striving for great ideals. The Gospel of St. Luke tells us that in the family of Nazareth, Jesus "grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him" (2:40). Our Lady does just this for us; she helps us to grow as human beings and in the faith, to be strong and never to fall into the temptation of being human beings and Christians in a superficial way, but to live responsibly, to strive ever higher.



Story Time

Saint Joseph School in Verona is inviting children who are 4 years old to join our kindergarten teacher for an afternoon Story Time to celebrate the feast of Saint Nicholas. It will be held at the school on Monday, December 7, from 3 - 4 PM. Students will hear a story, create a craft they can take home with them, and meet new friends. Please call the school at 412-828-7213 if you are interested in having your child attend. We look forward to welcoming you to our school!



Weekly Collections

(Week of November 22, 2015)

Budgeted Offertory \$8,063.73

Collected Offertory: *

Parish Share

2015 Goal: \$58,980.00

Amount Collected: \$

Giant Eagle Sales

Sales—*

Profit—*

* Information not available at time of publication.

Stewardship Prayer. My church is composed of people like me. I help make it what it is. It will be friendly, if I am. Its pews will be filled, if I help fill them. It will do great work, if I work. It will make generous gifts to many causes, if I am a generous giver. It will bring other people into its worship and fellowship, if I invite and bring them. It will be a church of loyalty and love, of fearlessness and faith, and a church with a noble spirit, if I, who make it what it is, am filled with these same things. Therefore, with the help of God, I shall dedicate myself to the task of being all the things that I want my church to be.

Journey From Grief To Healing

St. Joseph Spirituality Center will sponsor *Journey From Grief to Healing During the Holidays*, conducted by Sister Mary Ann Thimons, on two Tuesday afternoons (**December 1st and 15th**) from 1:30 - 3:00 PM. Sessions consist of input, sharing, and mutual support - helping to cope with loss during the holidays. There is no fee for this program. To register, call 412-600-3247 by November 29th.



The Giving Tree will be in the Church this weekend (November 28th and 29th). It is the parish outreach to families in need, our sick and shut-ins, the residents of the Oakmont Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation and St. Joseph House of Hospitality. The gifts should be returned to the Church the weekend of December 12-14th. Please do **NOT** wrap the gifts.



I will raise up for David a just shoot;
he shall do what is right and just in the
land.
— *Jeremiah 33:15*

MONDAY - November 30 - Saint Andrew

9:00 **Stanley Grosiak** (Barbara Rotz)

TUESDAY - December 1 - Advent Weekday

9:00 **Dom Corrado** (Family)

WEDNESDAY - December 2- Advent Weekday

8:00 **St. Irenaeus Parish**

9:00 **St. Gerard Majella and St. Susanna**

THURSDAY - December 3 - Saint Francis Xavier

8:00 **St. Irenaeus Parish**

9:00 **St. Gerard Majella Parish**

10:00 **St. Bartholomew Parish**

FRIDAY - December 4 - First Friday, Advent Weekday

9:00 **Karl Schimmel** (Ann Scanlon Family)

SATURDAY - December 5 - Advent Weekday

5:00 **PM Ferraro & Krzan Families** (Jackie & Mike
Saville and Family)

SUNDAY - December 6 - Second Sunday of Advent

8:30 **Olive Daum** (Hazlett Family)

10:45 **Members of the Parish**

Liturgical Ministers

(Dec 5-6)

Altar Servers:

5:00 PM S. Jahn - A. Smith

8:30 AM A. Fay - A. Rectenwald

10:45 AM K. Dorr - B. Irwin

Cantors:

5:00 PM No schedule available

8:30 AM No schedule available

10:45 AM No schedule available

Lectors:

5:00 PM Matt Jahn

8:30 AM Lynn DeDousis

10:45 AM Mary Lou Gartner

Extraordinary Ministers:

5:00 PM D. Tappe, S. Sparacino, A. Bursic, LE Testa,
R. Burgman, MJ McCarrick, R. McCarrick

8:30 AM J. Chirdon, D. Santucci, B. Daly

10:45 AM Joyce Doyle, J. Eastley, R. Ferraco

Other Volunteers

Money Counters: Marissa K., Maureen A., Mary Lou S.

Giant Eagle Sellers:

5:00 PM No schedule available

8:30 AM No schedule available

10:45 AM No schedule available