

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
Web Address:.....<https://stjosephveronapa.com>
Faith Formation Office..... 412-828-9450
Peter Starz, Program Manager...stirfaith@gmail.com Sr.
Lynn Miller, CSJ, Parish Liaison.....412-828-7715
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

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

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.

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

Please remember St. Joseph Parish in your will.

Treasures From Our Tradition

This week, our celebration of Advent makes a transition in ritual and texts. Beginning December 18, the countdown of nine days (a novena) to Christmas sees a heightened sense of expectation, and also a turning from the call of the Baptist in the wilderness to the events leading up to Jesus' birth. In ancient Spain, December 18 was

once celebrated as the "Feast of the Expectancy," and customs grew up to heighten readiness in the homes.

Some customs arise from monastic life and practice and spill over into our parish life. Beginning tonight, those who pray Vespers will sing in the opening phrase a beautiful title of Christ. These titles belong to a collection of opening phrases called the "O Antiphons" after the awe-inspired "O" sung on the first note. There's a playful code in the titles: O Wisdom, O Lord, O Flower of Jesse, O Key of David, O Dawn, O Ruler, O Emmanuel. When you take their Latin names—*Sapientia, Adonai, Radix*, and so on—the titles form an acrostic when you read them backwards: "ERO CRAS." In Latin, that is translated as "I will be there tomorrow!" It's as if Christ were answering the prayers of the waiting people in the words of the prayers themselves.

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



We commend to the eternal care of our loving and life-giving God the soul of **Lois O'Connor**, who was buried from St. Joseph Church this past week. May her soul rest in peace, and may her family find strength in their faith.

Catholic Men's Fellowship

St. Joseph Catholic Men's Fellowship meeting will be held in the 8th grade classroom on Wednesday, December 16th at 7 PM. Please note the new time. All men of the parish are invited. For additional information contact Regis Burgman at (412) 828-7879 or Tim McKee at (412) 828-3113.

From The Catechism

(1393) For as often as we eat this bread and drink the cup, we proclaim the death of the Lord. If we proclaim the Lord's death, we proclaim the forgiveness of sins. If, as often as his blood is poured out, it is poured for the forgiveness of sins, I should always receive it, so that it may always forgive my sins. Because I always sin, I should always have a remedy.

From the Desk of Father Ed:

Several months ago we asked a number of parishioners to consider serving as **Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist**. Those who responded positively had their names forwarded to the diocese for their approval. We expect to have a preliminary training session for them early in the new year. The following individuals will be certified to assist us in that capacity: *Peter Konieczka, Coleen McSteen, Jim Sobczak, Brian Krachala, April Ramsey, Mary Lou Sonnie, Helen Lane, Anna Skoda, Christine and Joe Maisto, Catherine Truckley and Andy and Molly Smith*. We thank them for accepting this responsibility in serving Saint Joseph Parish.

In less than a month, our parish begins the celebration of its **150th birthday - our sesquicentennial!** A dedicated group of volunteers has been working for months to plan a great variety of activities to appeal to all segments of the parish during this anniversary year. There are a couple of **fliers** in this week's bulletin. We have initiated a **website** and a **facebook page**. There will soon be a **large billboard** on Allegheny River Blvd. We want to *celebrate our past, plan for the future and make our presence known* as we enjoy this festive year. Check out all of our activities and be sure to get involved as the year progresses.

Just about 6 weeks from now our parish will once again participate in the **Annual March for Life** in Washington, D.C. *This is a peaceful demonstration supporting the fundamental right given by our loving God*. We have a bus chartered for the occasion. Once it is filled, we cannot accept any other reservations. Now is the time to start thinking about whether or not you want to join us this year. Think it through and then make your move. We typically depart Verona around 6 AM and return somewhat before midnight. It's a long day but a blessed one.



Holiday Office Hours

The parish office will be closed on December 24th and 25th. It will reopen on Monday, December 28th at 8:30 AM. The Parish Staff wishes you and your family a very blessed Christmas Season!

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



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 Har- rity, Phyllis Cosnotti, Don Tappe, Catherine Milewski, Cecilia Condon, Ann Baratta, Merle and Stella Scheid, Judy Khlan, Colleen Strahler, Arch- angelo Loggi, Connie Mastrogiacomo, Shirley Ler- as, Helen Caruso, Adelmo Appoloni, Kim Milby, Janet Sendek, Sally Miller, Annette Mszyco, Delfina Listorti, Ralph Botta, Catherine Wisneski, Anne DellaSala, Joanne Deakins and Joe H.**

Retrouvaille

Hope and help for troubled marriages is available through Retrouvaille. For confidential information about or to register for the program beginning with a weekend on January 15, 2016, please contact Retrouvaille at 412-277-3434. More information is available at <http://www.retrouvailleofpittsburghinc.org>.

Memorial Acknowledgments

St. Joseph Parish would like to thank Rosemary Rosfeld for the generous donation to St. Joseph School in memory of **Lois O'Connor**; and to Marianne and David Rees, Dave and Lee Testa, Dr. Lathe Haynes and Finisia Bishop for their donation to St. Joseph Church in memory of **Richard Bishop**.

Words Of Our Holy Father

Jesus from the cross says to Mary, indicating John, "Woman, behold your son!" and to John, "Here is your mother!" (cf. John 19:26, 27). In that disciple we are all represented: the Lord entrusts us to the loving and tender hands of the Mother, that we might feel her support in facing and overcoming the difficulties of our human and Christian journey; to never be afraid of the struggle, to face it with the help of the Mother.

Bulletin Deadline

MONDAY AT NOON

Central Catholic High School

St. Joseph Church along with Central Catholic recog- nize the following students for their outstanding perfor- mance for the first quarter of the 2015-16 school year: **High Honors: Colin McSteen; Honors: Matthew Jahn, Holden Sommers, and Austin Vigliotti.**

Rachel's Vineyard

A weekend retreat for post-abortion healing will be held on January 22nd-24th, 2016 at the Spiritan Center in Bethel Park. To register or for more infor- mation, call Toni Jester at 412-352-5348 or email @ toniafjl@comcast.net.

Bible Study

Young Adult Bible Study at Panera Bread in the Pitts- burgh Mills every Tuesday night at 7:00pm. Young Adults In Christ is a Catholic faith community for young adults in their 20s and 30s. We will study the up-coming Sunday Mass readings or short passages from Scripture. There will also be opportunities for more in-depth studies in small groups. All young adults from all walks of life, married single or divorced are welcome. There are no prerequisites. Come as you are able. For any questions contact Anna Dice, Young Adult Leadership Team Rep- resentative. Call or Text 878-302-7829 or email youngadultsinchristdiopitt@gmail.com.

Less Famous Proverbs

He, who laughs last, thinks slowest.

Look To The Cross

"{W} e know what true, authentic love looks like. It looks like the man on the Cross. This deep, pure love that motivated Jesus to offer his life for ours is the love that will answer the longing in our hearts, if we let it." - USCCB 2015-16 Respect Life program "10 Surprising Tips for Love the Culture Won't Tell You" www.goo.gl/Dv3yXK.

Alternatives To Abortion?

Woman's Choice Network
724-935-6411

On EWTN

Wednesday at 4 PM



Weekly Collections

(Week of December 6, 2015)

Budgeted Offertory \$8,063.73

Collected Offertory: \$7,772.50

Parish Share

2015 Goal: \$58,980.00

Amount Collected: \$42,545.00

Giant Eagle Sales

Sales—\$8,320.00

Profit—\$416.00



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.

Rosary For The Deceased

The Ladies of Charity invite you to join them in praying the rosary for the recently deceased of the parish immediately after the 8:30AM Mass on Sunday, December 13th.

Christmas Program

Saint Joseph School in Verona is presenting their annual Christmas program this Sunday, December 13th, at 5 PM in the school gym. The program will include music selections performed by the school bands and a Christmas play presented by students in kindergarten through grade three. This is a wonderful way to celebrate this joyous season. We hope you will be able to join us.



With joy you will draw water at the fountain of salvation.

— Isaiah 12:3

MONDAY - December 14 - St. John of the Cross

9:00 **Lena Talotta** (Joseph & Lisa Lazarro)

TUESDAY - December 15 - Advent Weekday

9:00 **St. Joseph The Worker** (Mary Jane Doerfler)

WEDNESDAY - December 16 - Advent Weekday

8:00 **St. Irenaeus Parish**

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

THURSDAY - December 17 - Late Advent Weekday

8:00 **St. Irenaeus Parish**

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

10:00 **St. Bartholomew Parish**

FRIDAY - December 18 - Late Advent Weekday

9:00 **Sheila Konieczka** (Ramsey Family)

SATURDAY - December 19 - Late Advent Weekday

5:00 PM **Carole Petrocelli** (Carmen & Rita Petrocelli)

SUNDAY - December 20 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:30 **Michael Hutfles** (Joan Hutfles)

10:45 **Members of St. Joseph Parish**

Liturgical Ministers

(December 19-20)

Altar Servers:

5:00 PM N. Vigliotti/K. Walsh

8:30 AM A. McSteen/A. Robison

10:45 AM A. Truckley/Sammi Skeba

Cantors:

5:00 PM A. Forbeck

8:30 AM R. Schwoegl

10:45 AM Children's Mass

Lectors:

5:00 PM Pat Schimmel

8:30 AM Michael McSteen

10:45 AM Children's Mass

Extraordinary Ministers:

5:00 PM J. O'Brien, L. Opice, P. Schimmel

8:30 AM C. Sparacino, M.A. Stinelli, D. Behm

10:45 AM P. Boast, F. Morrow, F. Opice, A. Rohm,

M.L. Botta, D. Doyle, Josie Doyle

Other Volunteers

Money Counters: Annette P., Mary S., Mary Lou C.

Giant Eagle Sellers:

5:00 PM Konieczka/Walsh

8:30 AM Korbanic/Woods

10:45 AM Maisto/Aliberti

Bulletin # 477800

St. Joseph Parish

825 2nd Street

Verona, PA

412-795-5114

Contact: Joyce

Messages: