

# 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](mailto:joevchurch@verizon.net)

**Faith Formation Office** ..... 412-828-7715

Sr. Lynn Miller, CSJ, Program Manager

Peter Starz ..... [stirfaith@gmail.com](mailto: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** ..... 412-828-9287

Fran Morrow ..... [StJoVeSafe@gmail.com](mailto: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.

*Columbian Squires*

Penn-Allegheny Council #4242 here at St. Joseph Parish would like to welcome brothers, Sam and Ian Ramsey, sons of April and Ed Ramsey, into the Columbian Squires, Trinity Circle #2020, based here at St. Joseph Church. If you have any interest in becoming a member of the Knights of Columbus or the Columbian Squires, please contact Donald C. Tappe at 412-760-2397.

*Rosary Service For Life*

The Knights of Columbus, Penn-Allegheny Council #4242 and Columbian Squire Circle #2020 along with St. Irenaeus Pro-Life members will be holding a "Rosary Service For Life" on Thursday, January 7th at St. Irenaeus Church. The service will begin at 7 PM in the church. All are invited to attend and pray for the sanctity of Life.

*Give Us The Facts*

"Science alone cannot justify the pro-life position, though it can give us the facts we need to draw moral conclusions on a host of controversial issues, including abortion, embryonic stem cell research and cloning." - Scott Klusendorf, *The Case for Life: Equipping Christians to Engage the Culture*

*Problems After Abortion?*

1-800-634-2224

*From the Desk of Father Ed:*

By next weekend, Advent will be over and we will be in the **Christmas season!** It's amazing how people start preparing for the holiday but fail to truly take time to celebrate the holyday. Be sure to make these days special in your families *showing gratitude for the gift of Jesus by living out the virtues he taught us* - especially acts of ~~mercy and compassion.~~

The **second collection on Christmas** is for the *children and youth ministry needs* of our diocese. There are a great variety of programs that focus on our youth - they are the future of the church. It is much better for us to try to alleviate recourse to Shuman Center and Children and Youth services of the government. As an aside, your contribution is also credited to our **Parish Share** goal - an additional plus for our parish finances.

We continue to be blessed with priests who are able and willing to assist here at Saint Joseph Parish. Last week, we had four hearing confessions for some three hours. On Christmas Eve, Father Jack Nanz will again be the celebrant for the 4 PM liturgy and Father Eric Schimmel - a native son - will be the celebrant for the 10 PM liturgy. Continue to pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Be an encouraging resource to anyone expressing interest in that way of life and service for the Church. Please note that there is **only one Mass on Christmas Day** and that is at 10 AM.

Thanks to the many parishioners who participated in this year's **Giving Tree** project. *Sister Lynn and Betty Molyneaux* with a few "*silent partners*" did the prep work. Your response was overwhelming, as usual. Your concern put smiles on the faces of many men, women and children in our area. Your actions are not forgotten by those recipients and certainly not unnoticed by our heavenly father!



We commend to the eternal care of our loving and life-giving God the soul of **James S. Irr**, who was buried from St.

Joseph Church this past week. May his soul rest in peace, and may his family find strength in their faith.

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

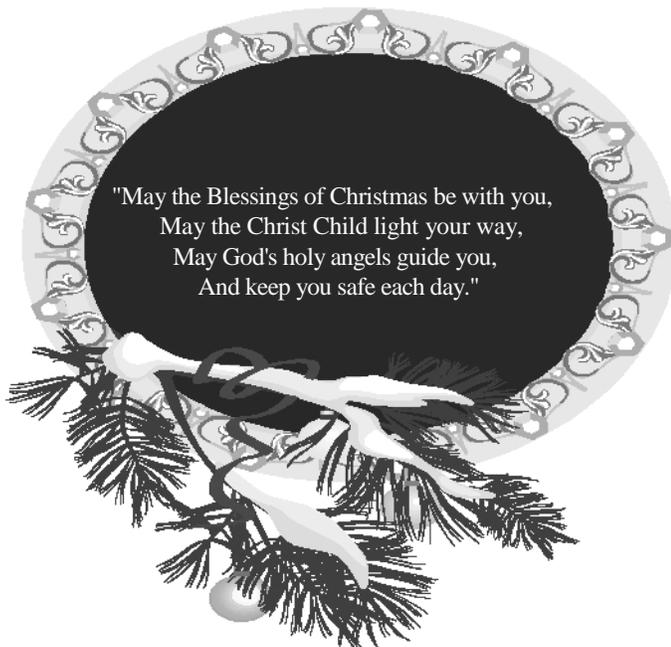
### Pray For

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, Joe H and Dorothy Morrissey.**

#### *From the Catechism*

(1394) As bodily nourishment restores lost strength, so the Eucharist strengthens our charity, which tends to be weakened in daily life; and this living charity *wipes away venial sins*. By giving himself to us Christ revives our love and enables us to break our disordered attachments to creatures and root ourselves in him.

#### *Bulletin Deadline* **MONDAY AT NOON**



"May the Blessings of Christmas be with you,  
May the Christ Child light your way,  
May God's holy angels guide you,  
And keep you safe each day."

#### *Treasures From Our Tradition*

Many of our most treasured traditions link the liturgy of the church with the hearth of the home. The food on the table at certain feasts and fasts helps to extend the mystery into everyday life. Tonight, for example, many families of Italian heritage, especially those with links to the south of Italy, will settle down to the "Feast of the Seven Fishes," or *La Vigilia*. It is a command performance for the whole family, as the saying goes: *Natale con I tuui, Pasqua conchi vuoi*, or "Christmas with your family, Easter with whomever you wish." Seven different fish, some say one for each day of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem, others say one for each sacrament, or one for each day of creation, are served. Eel and shrimp, lobster and crab, calamari, pasta with clam sauce, flounder and hake all abound, but most especially baccala, dried salted cod. Why? Many say that it is a way to pay homage to the beasts of the stable who witnessed the holy birth and relinquished their manger to make way for God. Tonight, if someone asks you to "pass the shrimp," you'll be able to shed a little light on a menu that is a delicious treasure in our tradition!

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

#### *Liturgical Ministers* *Christmas*

##### December 24:

Lector: 4 PM: Matt Kegges

10 PM: Katherine Schimmel

Altar Servers:

4 PM: N. Vigliotti/M.A. Ramsey

10 PM: A. Robison/M. Willard

##### December 25 at 10 AM:

Lector: Shannon McSteen

Altar Servers: A. Truckley

#### *Retrouvaille*

Retrouvaille offers help to couples experiencing trouble in their marriage. The weekend and post sessions focus on rebuilding marriage through better communication, listening, and understanding. Call today to begin the healing process beginning with a weekend on January 15, 2016. Contact Retrouvaille at 412-277-3434. Additional information is available at <http://www.retrouvailleofpittsburghinc.org/>.



### *Weekly Collections*

(Week of December 13, 2015)

Budgeted Offertory \$8,063.73

Collected Offertory: \$7,512.50

### *Parish Share*

2015 Goal: \$58,980.00

Amount Collected: \$42,915.00

### *Giant Eagle Sales*

Sales—\$13,885.00

Profit—\$694.25

### *Memorial Acknowledgments*

St. Joseph Parish would like to thank F.N.B. Corporation, Norina H. Daubner, The MacDonald Family, Beth Hoover and Kevin Patnik for their generous donations to St. Joseph School in memory of **Lois O'Connor**; and to William DiNatale for his contribution to St. Joseph Church in memory of Deanna DiNatale.

### *Words Of Our Holy Father*

Mary, *woman of listening*, open our ears; grant us to know how to listen to the word of your Son Jesus among the thousands of words of this world; grant that we may listen to the reality in which we live, to every person we encounter, especially those who are poor, in need, in hardship.

Mary, *woman of decision*, illuminate our mind and our heart so that we may obey, unhesitating, the word of your Son Jesus; give us the courage to decide, not to let ourselves be dragged along, letting others direct our life.

Mary, *woman of action*, (may) our hands and feet move "with haste" toward others, to bring them the charity and love of your Son Jesus, to bring the light of the gospel to the world, as you did. Amen.

### *Less Famous Proverbs*

Everyone has a photographic memory. Some don't have film.

### *On EWTN*

Thursday at 5:30 PM

The First Christmas



O LORD of hosts, look down from  
heaven and see: take care of this vine and  
protect what your right hand has planted.

—Psalm 80:15-16

**MONDAY - December 21 - Advent Weekday**

9:00 **Patty Klein** (Walsh Family)

**TUESDAY - December 22 - Late Advent Weekday**

9:00 **Dorothy Szurszewski** (Rita Scanio)

**WEDNESDAY - December 23 - Late Advent Weekday**

8:00 **St. Irenaeus Parish**

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

**THURSDAY - December 24 - Late Advent Weekday**

4:00 PM **Members of the Parish**

10:00 PM **Gartner/Kummer Families** (David &  
MaryLou Gartner)

**FRIDAY - December 25 - The Nativity of the Lord**

10:00AM **Jeanne Doyle & Vic Porco** (Don Doyle  
Family)

**SATURDAY - December 26 - Saint Stephen**

5:00 PM **David Morrow** (Frances Morrow)

**SUNDAY - December 27 - The Holy Family of Jesus,  
Mary and Joseph**

8:30 **Members of the Parish**

10:45 **Deceased of Carrigan/Rossi Families** (Gene &  
Eileen Rossi)

*Liturgical Ministers (Dec. 26-27 )*

**Altar Servers:**

5:00 PM D. Sellers - K. Costabile

8:30 AM Maddie Willard - Z. Poppish

10:45 AM V. Green - L. Bonaroti

**Cantors:**

5:00 PM Julia Maisto

8:30 AM Sammi S. & Irene B.

10:45 AM Mike Scuro

**Lectors:**

5:00 PM A. Skeba

8:30 AM A. Bursic

10:45 AM B. DeSantis

**Extraordinary Ministers:**

5:00 PM B. Steinmeyer, M. Ferraco, B & R. Franciscus,  
D. Tappe, S. Sparacino, A. Bursic

8:30 AM Lee Ann Testa, R. Burgman, J. Chirdon

10:45 AM M. Scuro, MJ McCarrick, R. McCarrick

*Other Volunteers*

**Money Counters:** Dan G., JC Smith, Chris S.

**Giant Eagle Sellers:**

5:00 PM Noonan/Bell

8:30 AM Ramsey/Bernsdorff

10:45 AM Robison/Bowser

Bulletin # 477800

St. Joseph Parish

825 2nd Street

Verona, PA

412-795-5114

Contact: Joyce

Messages: