

# St. Patrick & St. Joseph



**St. Patrick**



**St. Joseph**

Reverend Joseph J. Manarchuck Pastor

Deacon Mike Calafiore

Deacon Tom Spataro

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## MINISTRY TEAM

**Wendy Luhrs,**  
*Office Administrator*  
patssec@ptd.net

**Jack Boyle**  
*Director of Religious Formation*  
jackb18337@gmail.com

**Rich Gherardi**  
*Director of Music*  
**Brian O'Donnell**  
*Building/Grounds/Maintenance*

**Parish Office Hours**  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday  
10:00am to 2pm

**CONTACT US**  
200 East High St. Milford, PA 18337  
570 296-7451  
www.saintpatricksmilford.com

## Worship Schedule

**Saturday Vigils**  
St. Joseph 4:00pm  
St. Patrick 5:30pm

**Sunday**  
St. Joseph 8:30am  
St. Patrick 11:00am

**Daily Liturgy**  
St. Joseph Monday & Thursday 12:00pm  
St. Patrick Tuesday & Wednesday 12:00pm

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**  
St. Joseph - Saturday 3:00 - 3:30pm  
Monday & Thursday upon request  
St. Patrick - Tuesday & Wednesday 11:30am before  
Mass and Saturday following 5:30 Mass

**Adoration**  
St. Joseph  
Thursday To be Announced  
St. Patrick 11:00am-12:00pm  
Wednesday

## MINISTRY TEAM

**Michele Bensley**  
*Office Administrator*  
stjosephchurch@optonline.net

**Cristin Cavallaro**  
*Director of Religious Formation*  
cjc5@optonline.net

**Marilyn Bradley**  
*Director of Music*  
**Martin Pawelski**  
*Building/Grounds/Maintenance*

**Parish Office Hours**  
Monday and Thursday  
10:00am to 2:00pm

**CONTACT US**  
309 Avenue F Matamoras, PA 18336  
570 491-2618  
www.stjosephsmatamoras.com

***The Most Blessed Sacrament is reserved in our church***

*We respectfully ask that all observe a reverent silence and appropriate dress*



# The Catholic Community of St. Joseph

## MINISTRY SCHEDULE

December 18/19

<b>Saturday 4:00pm</b>
<b>Lector</b> <i>Volunteer</i>
<b>Eucharistic Minister</b> *****
<b>Altar Servers</b> *****
<b>Sunday 8:30am</b>
<b>Lector</b> <i>Terry McDonough</i>
<b>Eucharistic Minister</b> *****
<b>Altar Server</b> *****
<b>Milford Senior Care</b> <i>TBA</i>
<i>The Sanctuary Candle burns In Memory of  Michael Hunt Sr.  By The Calvario Family</i>

***The Advent Wreath was  
donated by Jane Drake***

***In Memory of the Deceased  
Members of the Drake and  
Lapriore Families.***

Weekly Offering

November 28, 2021  
\$ 3441.00

*Thank you for your generosity!*

**POINSETTIA MEMORIALS** Again this year the Poinsettia's that will be placed in the Sanctuary will be available for memorialization. The cost is \$20.00 per plant. Special RED Envelopes have been placed at all entrances to the Church. If you would like a Poinsettia, please fill out the front of the envelope (please print clearly) and enclose payment. You may drop them into the collection basket or at the Parish Office. **Deadline: December 19th.** A list of the Memorials will be inserted in the December 26th Bulletin.

**ADVENT BOOKLETS** Please remember to take home your copy of "Waiting In Joyful Hope 2021-2022" Daily Reflections for Advent and Christmas. To bring the joy of the season to our young parishioners, age-appropriate devotionals are also available along with Advent Wreath prayers for every family. Please take one home! A reminder that St. Joseph's will host an informal weekly Advent prayer meeting each Monday evening during Advent. We will share scripture readings and our own personal reflections on our journey through Advent. We will gather in the multipurpose room at 7:00 pm. All are welcome. All Booklets are available at the entrances to the Church.

**ADVENT GIVING TREE** Our Advent Giving Tree and Cradle are in the front entrance of the Church. Each year your generous support of this fundraiser helps the Tri-State Pregnancy Center distribute baby items to needy families in our area. If you wish to participate just take an ornament (made by our CCD Kindergarten Class) off the tree and purchase the item printed on the back then return the gift to the Cradle, no need to wrap! Again, we thank you for your continued support!

**DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL** Our Annual Appeal goal is \$37,000.00. To date our pledges total \$39,590.00!! To those who have already pledged THANK YOU, THANK YOU!! If you haven't made a pledge yet we ask that you prayerfully consider making a pledge. Remember that 75% of all money over our goal comes back to our parish!! The Annual Appeal helps support Catholic Social Services, Clergy Formation, and Parish Life plus the Tri-State Pregnancy Center and The Food Pantry right here in Pike County!

### **DEANERY CHOIR PRESENTS TEACH THE CHILDREN/THE GREATEST STORY EVER TOLD**

Join the Deanery Choir, along with the St. John Neumann CCD Families, for their annual Christmas Pageant Sunday, December 19th 2:00pm at St. John Neumann Church, Lord's Valley, PA. Come celebrate the coming of the Savior with an interesting twist on the telling of the beloved Christmas story.

**ONLINE GIVING** If you are interested in making your donations online, please visit our website [www.stjosephsmatamoras.com](http://www.stjosephsmatamoras.com) and click WeShare. We are grateful for your continued generosity.

**ST. JOSEPH'S PRAYER CIRCLE** Anyone who wishes to have prayers said for themselves or another may call Karen Sweeney @ 570-491-2228. If you wish you may also send the name via email to [sweeneyfive2002@yahoo.com](mailto:sweeneyfive2002@yahoo.com)

## OUR MISSION STATEMENT

We, the parish of St. Joseph's, in union with our Holy Father, our bishop, and our pastor, seek to grow in holiness as a welcoming and caring family reaching out to all. As a faith-filled community celebrating the Eucharist, we strive to enrich our spiritual lives by cultivating a deeper relationship with Christ through the sacraments. We are united in faith and find unity in diversity as we pray for the grace to use our gifts and talents to promote the knowledge of God's love.



# The Catholic Community of St. Patrick

## MINISTRY SCHEDULE

December 18-19

<b>Saturday 5:30pm</b>
<b>Lector</b> Jack Boyle
<b>Communion Ministers</b> *****
<b>Altar Servers</b> *****
<b>Sunday 7:15am</b>
<b>NO MASS UNTIL MEMORIAL DAY</b>
<b>Communion Ministers</b> *****
<b>Altar Servers</b> *****
<b>Sunday 11:00am</b>
<b>Lector</b> Cody Sebring
<b>Communion Minister</b> *****
<b>Altar Servers</b> *****

Weekly Collection

TBA

Weekly Mortgage Offertory

TBA

Thank you for your generosity

(Due to early holiday transmissions. The weekly figures will resume Jan. 2022)

You may have the Sanctuary Candle burn in memory of a loved one.  
Please call the Parish Office to make arrangements.

## CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION

**SAVE THE DATE!** The Children's Christmas Pageant which will be directed by Laurie Barcia will be held at 6PM Christmas Eve followed by the Christmas Eve Mass. Fill your spirit with the joy of Christ's birth as you listen to the Nativity narrative and sing carols of this holy season. Experience again the visual delight that only children can bring as we together celebrate the birth of Jesus, bringing light into the darkness of our world, changing our lives forever. Information: 908-451-1206.

## SAINT PATRICK'S KNITTERS

St. Patrick's Knitters will **not** meet on December 15, 22nd and 29th. The group will resume regular meetings on January 5, 2022. For more information please contact Mary Ellen Theodore at 570 296-8363.

## WEBSITE

Please visit our website, [www.stpatricksmilford.com](http://www.stpatricksmilford.com) for the most recent announcements, spiritual references and updates. You can also follow us on Facebook at @Saint Patrick's Church, Milford, PA and on Twitter (@stpatmilfordpa): Church of St Patrick (@stpatmilfordpa) Twitter. Also visit our Diocesan website, [www.dioceseofscranton.org](http://www.dioceseofscranton.org) for more resources.

## DEANERY CHOIR PRESENTS TEACH THE CHILDREN/THE GREATEST STORY EVER TOLD

Join the Deanery Choir, along with the St. John Neumann CCD Families, for their annual Christmas Pageant 2pm Sunday afternoon, December 19 at St. John Neumann Church, Lord's Valley, PA. Mark your calendars and come celebrate the coming of the Savior with an interesting twist on the telling of the beloved Christmas story. Knights of Columbus Children's Christmas party will follow the program. No admission charge or tickets required.

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Are you a Catholic man interested in deepening your faith? Helping your community? Or Getting to know other men in your parish? The John Paul II council meets on the 3rd Wednesday of every month at the church Hall, fellowship starts at 6:30pm. Please contact the Grand Knight Tom Hogan at [tchogan@ptd.net](mailto:tchogan@ptd.net) or visit [www.kofc.com](http://www.kofc.com)

## POINSETTIA MEMORIAL

We will be offering the poinsettia's to be memorialized again this Christmas. The cost is \$20.00 each. The deadline is 19th. There are red envelopes located at the entrance of the Church. Please print the names clearly. A list will be placed in the bulletin.

## HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Volunteers are needed to serve on the Hall Management Committee. Please call the parish office at 570 296-7451 or speak with Joe Dooley or Tony Perito personally.

## **St. Patrick's Parish**

is the presence of the Catholic Church in a diverse and vibrant area of northeastern Pennsylvania. As disciples, we dedicate ourselves to hearing, learning and sharing the good news of God's Word as we reverently celebrate the presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. Together, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we seek to know, love and serve God. We strive to promote a culture of love and respect for all human life and for the beautiful world in which we live. We welcome all people to participate in the spiritual and social life of our parish family.



## Remembering

Dec. 13-19

**Monday**

12:00pm (SJ)

Georgene McDermott  
Walter & Zulma Marcial

**TUESDAY**

12:00pm (SP)

Father Mullally  
Ken & Pat Corcoran

**WEDNESDAY**

11:00am Adoration (SP)

12:00PM Mass (SP)

Robert Mullally  
The Legion of Mary

**THURSDAY**

12:00PM (SJ)

William Fontana Sr.  
Clementina Hess

**FRIDAY**

NO MASS

**SATURDAY**

4:00pm (SJ)

Jenny & Patrick Lapriore  
The Family

5:30pm (SP)

Carol Corry  
Gene & Maureen Burns

**SUNDAY**

8:30am (SJ)

For the People of  
St. Josephs Parish

11:00 (SP)

Peter & Una Coyne

# WEEKLY PRAYER

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 12, 2021

**Sunday:** Zep 3:14-18a/Is12:2-3, 4, 5-6 [6]/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18

**Monday:** Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 [4]/Mt 21:23-27

**Tuesday:** Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23 [7a]/Mt 21:28-32

**Wednesday:** Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [Is 45:8]/Lk 7:18b-23

**Thursday:** Is 54:1-10/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a, and 13b [2a]/Lk 7:24-30

**Friday:** Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:1-17

**Saturday:** Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:18-25

**Next Sunday:** Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

## OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 12, 2021

**Sunday:** 3rd Sunday of Advent

**Monday:** St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr

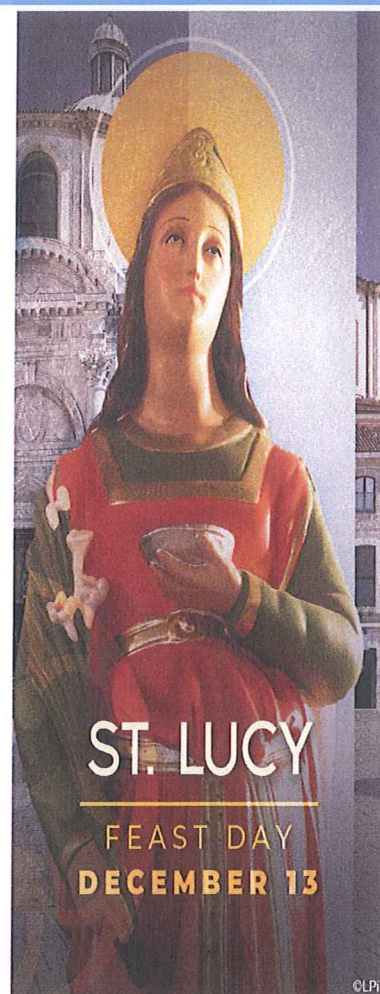
**Tuesday:** St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church

**Next Sunday:** 4th Sunday of Advent

## LIVE THE LITURGY

### Inspiration for the week

Shout for joy! When was the last time you ever felt like doing that? Fear, uncertainty, pressure, negativity, disappointment, and myriad other human experiences can rob us of joy. We can never predict what life will bring. As unsettling as that can often seem, life's unpredictability is also the very thing that allows it to be exciting and adventuresome! We know that life can be difficult, and it is unrealistic to expect it to be otherwise. God never promised an easy road. But, when a person truly falls in love with God and discovers the peacefulness and assurance of God's presence, then a depth of understanding will be brought to everything they do and experience. Nothing will be able to rob them of joy! When we realize that God, the King of Israel, is in our midst and with us, there is no further misfortune to fear. We celebrate the beauty and wonder of God's gift of joy today as we ready ourselves, even more excitedly, for the coming of our Savior. Do not fear and do not be discouraged. There is a power and presence within us, our God, who has made us, who loves us and who will keep us. What more do we need? Rejoice!



# ST. LUCY

FEAST DAY  
DECEMBER 13

## SAINT OF THE WEEK

A name that means "light," St. Lucy (283 - 304) is the patron saint of those blind or suffering with eye trouble. Not much is known about her life, except that she was determined to remain a virgin and thus refused marriage. History tells the story of a frustrated suitor who eventually accused St. Lucy of being a Christian (at crime at the time), and she was executed in Syracuse, Sicily, in the year 304.

Today, we celebrate a number of traditions that incorporate symbolic meaning of St. Lucy as the "bearer" of light in the darkness of winter. This is particularly seen in Scandinavian countries, with their long dark winters. There, a young girl dressed in a white dress and a red sash (as the symbol of martyrdom) carries palms and wears a crown or wreath of candles on her head. In Denmark, Norway and Sweden, girls dressed as Lucy carry rolls and cookies in procession as songs are sung.