

Welcome to the Parishes of St. Joseph and St. Patrick

Remembering
March 16-22

Monday
8:00am (SJ)

✠ **Harry Hyndshaw**
Jim & Maureen Farr

TUESDAY

7:00pm

NO 12:00 Noon Mass

✠ **For the People of
Saint Patrick's**

WEDNESDAY

12:00pm Mass

William Rousseau
Ray & Carol Proulx

THURSDAY

7:00PM (SJ)

✠ **Paul Brock**
Helen Findlay

FRIDAY

Stations of the Cross

6:00pm (SP & SJ)

SATURDAY

4:00pm (SJ)

✠ **For The People of St.
Joseph's Parish**

5:30pm (SP)

✠ **Bill O'Sullivan**
John Carew

SUNDAY

8:30am (SJ)

✠ **Norma Leahy**
The Williams Family

11:00 (SP)

✠ **For the People of
Saint Patrick's**



Our Parish COMMUNITY

March 15, 2020

Third Sunday of Lent (A)

Ex 17:3-7

Rom 5:1-2, 5-8

Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

Water for Living, or Living Water?

Water flows through this Sunday's readings.

In the passage from Exodus, the Hebrews cry out for the water so necessary for life. In the Gospel, Jesus speaks of living water that provides eternal life.

The exchange between the Hebrews and Moses is straightforward and startling. Physical thirst led them to question the divine care that miraculously delivered them from the hands of Egyptian oppressors. We shouldn't be too quick to shake our fingers at them. How many times have we looked past blessings we take for granted, only to focus on lesser immediate needs? These desert people are our ancestors in more ways than one.

The Gospel of John is most interesting. Jesus is in Samaria, a land hated by the Jews. There he initiates a conversation with an inhabitant of the town of Sychar, someone who is an outcast in three major ways. She is a woman—no self-respecting man would be alone

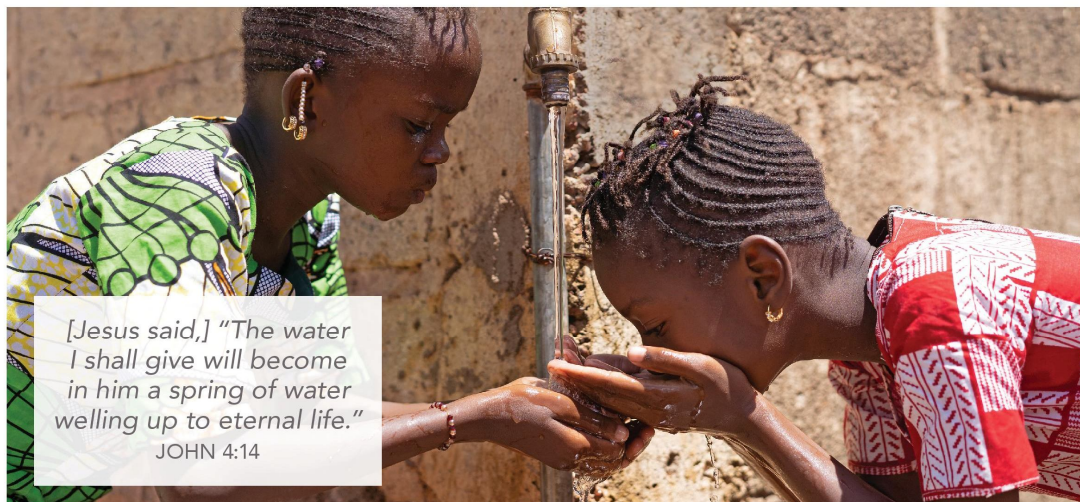
with a woman he didn't know. She is a Samaritan—Jews considered Samaritans unclean. And she is promiscuous—his own honor might be at risk. The woman's questionable social status does not prevent Jesus from engaging her, first in social etiquette ("Give me a drink" [4:7]), then in a theological exchange ("Whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst" [4:14]).

The Hebrews experienced God's saving action in their exodus, but they lacked trust. The woman, hated by the Jews, was an outcast of her own people, yet she believed. How do we respond to the water?

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

- ★ Look at the deepest longings of your heart. What might quench your thirst?
- ★ The Samaritan woman may have been the last person we would expect Jesus to engage with. What does this say about us?



[Jesus said,] "The water I shall give will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."
JOHN 4:14

Welcome

Our entire Parish Families welcome all of you who have come to worship with us today. We encourage you to participate fully in the spiritual, ministerial and social life of our parish community.

Sacrament of Baptism

All parents are required to attend a pre-baptismal instruction. Please contact your Parish Office to make arrangements for this opportunity for spiritual renewal

Sacrament of Marriage

Couples contemplating marriage should notify your Parish Office at least six months before the date of their intended marriage.

Sacrament of the Sick

The Sacrament of the Sick is for the comfort and strength of the ill. It is not just intended for those in immediate danger of death. It is a help and comfort to the living. If a parishioner is homebound or hospitalized, please contact your Parish Office.

HEALTH PRECAUTIONS ISSUED BY BISHOP BAMBERA

As public health officials in Pennsylvania and beyond continue to track the Coronavirus (COVID-19) and widespread flu activity, the Diocese of Scranton is announcing new precautions for the celebration of Mass. Effective immediately, the distribution of the Precious Blood via the Chalice is temporarily suspended. The Sign of Peace will now be exchanged without physical contact. Parishioners are also reminded that if they are sick, especially with flu-like symptoms, they should stay home for their own well-being and that of others. If parishioners are sick or suspect they are sick with a contagious illness, they are not bound by the Sunday Mass obligation.

PA Dept. of Health recommends these basic personal hygiene reminders: Covering coughs or sneezes with your elbow instead of hands. Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available. Clean surfaces frequently, including countertops, light switches, cell phones, remotes and other frequently touched items. The new precautions will continue as long as deemed necessary. The Diocese of Scranton continues to monitor the situation and is ready to make any updates as needed.

ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY

Starting Tuesday, March 3rd at 7pm, at St. Patrick Church Hall, the adult education team of St. Patrick and St. Joseph will be presenting the Eucharist in Sacred Scripture by Dr. Scott Hahn. All are invited to join us for conversation and refreshments following the video. The series will continue on Tuesday, March 10th, and Tuesday, March 24th, and will conclude on Tuesday, March 31st. Mark your calendars and plan to join us!

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

His Excellency, the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L., Bishop of Scranton, and the Office for Parish Life wish to invite couples celebrating their 25th or 50th wedding anniversary in 2020 to a diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday, June 14. The event includes a 2:30pm Mass at St. Peter's Cathedral followed by a reception. Requests for an invitation, should be made through your parish office before March 16th.

GOOD COUNCIL HOMES

Next weekend Emiliano Bell from Good Counsel Homes, will speak at both Parishes on behalf of their mission. Good Counsel Homes operates Catholic pro-life homes for pregnant women and their children as well as a national toll-free crisis pregnancy help line (800-723-8331). The second collection this weekend will be to assist with their valuable lifesaving work. You may also find out more information about Good Council Homes or donate online at www.goodcounselhomes.org. To help spread the word LIKE Good Counsel Homes on Facebook.

LENT: STATIONS / RECONCILIATION

Friday's Stations of the Cross (SP & SJ) at 6:00pm
Monday evenings "The Light is On" Confessions
St. Patrick's from 5:30 to 6:15pm
St. Joseph's from 6:45 to 7:30pm
Please check future bulletins for more Lenten services

K OF C FAMILY & FRIENDS DINNER

Is held the 4th Sunday of every month from 1-3 at St. Patrick's Church Hall. If you plan to attend call Al Helms at 845-699-4143. Thank you.

SOCIAL CONCERNS

Sponsored by United Way. If you need help with food, paying bills, health care, employment, housing etc. In Pike County dial directly 855-567-5341.

ON THE HOME STRETCH!

The Tri-State Warming Station in Port Jervis is still open and serving the homeless in our midst, and it's not too late to help out. Volunteers to cook and deliver dinner or to stay overnight to help watch over the guests are especially needed. Our season extends through March 31. To get involved, or for more information, contact Kevin (from St. Joseph's) at kevinwalter@earthlink.net or (570) 296-6902.

MEN SAVE THE DATE!

The 6th Annual Diocese of Scranton Men's Conference will be held Saturday, April 25, 2020 at Holy Redeemer High School, Wilkes-Barre. The theme will be "Called to Fatherhood". The focus will be on St. Joseph, the earthly father to his Divine Son, Jesus Christ and husband of our Blessed Mother Mary. He is our example of earthly fatherhood as leader, protector and provider for the Holy Family. As Joseph met the challenges of fatherhood in his day, we must meet them in ours. More information will follow as to how to register and sign up for this conference.

STRESS IN MARRIAGE

Do you feel alone? Are you bored, disillusioned, frustrated or angry in your relationship? Do you experience coldness or conflict in your relationship? Retrouvaille is a program that helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. This program has helped thousands of couples experiencing difficulties in their marriages. If you are thinking about, or already are, separated or divorced, there could still be hope for you. For confidential information about, or to register for the program on May 29-31, please call 613-338-5413 or 570-207-2213.

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER

This number is for a death or Anointing of the Sick only for St. Joseph's and St. Patrick's Parishes (570) 591-1405 please leave your name, phone number and a brief message. Any messages or questions left at this number pertaining to regular Office business will not be answered.

The Catholic Community of St. Joseph

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

March 21-22

Saturday 4:00pm
Lector <i>Stephanie Fells</i>
Eucharistic Minister
Altar Servers <i>Lukas Schutz</i> <i>Draven Nitecki</i>
Sunday 8:30am
Lector <i>Tom McMullen</i>
Eucharistic Minister
Altar Server <i>Ben Rivera</i> <i>Robert McMullen</i>
Milford Senior Care 03/15 Carol Cordova <i>03/22 Lois Lazarczyk</i>

A SPECIAL WELCOME TO VISITORS

We're so glad you've chosen to worship with us today. Whether you're a visitor to the area, a neighbor, or a prospective parishioner, we hope you'll find a warm welcome. All are welcome at St. Joseph's regardless of your status in the church, personal history, or prior religious experience. We hope to see you again soon!

CELEBRATE ST. JOSEPH'S FEAST ON MARCH 19th

Please be part of a special evening of worship and friendship as we commemorate the feast of St. Joseph, our parish's beloved patron. Mass will be celebrated at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 19, and a reception with wine, cheese, and other refreshments will follow. (Note that 8:00 a.m. Mass will not be celebrated that morning.)

NO EUCHARISTIC ADORATION THURSDAY

There will be no Eucharistic Adoration Thursday, March 19th. Adoration will resume on Thursday, March 26th from 8:30—10:00AM.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

This Monday, March 16th 6:30pm in the Multipurpose Room. Anyone interested in joining or just learning more about the Parish Council and what they do is invited to attend.

PALM SUNDAY BRUNCH

Sponsored by St. Joseph's Altar & Rosary Society, Sunday, April 5th after the 8:30am Mass. Sign-ups will begin this weekend in the Vestibule and continue through March 28th. Cost is \$3.00 per person or \$7.00 per family and must be paid at sign-up.

PLEASE LEND A (VIRTUAL) HAND

St. Joseph's is building an active presence on Facebook to better serve our parish. Please take a moment this week to follow us! More followers means wider reach and more impact for all the parish news, invitations, and updates. Find us at @stjosephsmatamorasp.

MT. CARMEL SOCIETY

of Port Jervis N.Y. is having their famous Sausage and Pepper sit down/take out on Sat., March 28th from 4 - 7:00PM at Mt. Carmel Hall, 21 First Street Port Jervis N.Y. For dessert, Zeppoli's will be available to purchase! Thank you for your support!!

FOOD PANTRY

Our next food pantry will be Friday, April 17th from 6 - 8pm (Team B). To volunteer please call Clare Nied at 570-296-2506.

SAVE THE DATE!

Parish picnic - Sunday, Sept. 13th, beginning at 12 noon.

*The Sanctuary Candle
burns
In Memory of
Joseph & Grayce
Ricciardi
By
The Family*

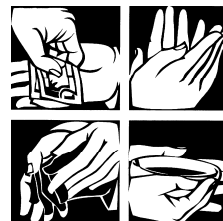
Weekly Offering

March 8, 2020
\$ 3834.78

Thank you for your generosity!

Last Year

March 10, 2019
\$ 3724.50



*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.

DON'T FORGET PARISH MEETING NEXT SUNDAY FOLLOWING THE 11 MASS

We would love see all of you next Sunday to discuss the and help in creating a "blueprint" for the diocese's next 10 years. Light refreshments will be served.

FOOD PANTRY

Saint Patrick's Team will serve at the Food Pantry on Friday evening, March, 20, 2020 at 6:00pm.

MASS AT BELLE REVE

Join Father Joseph as he celebrates Mass with the residents of Belle Reve on Wednesday, March 18th at 2:30.

ST. PATRICK'S PRAYER CHAIN

Anyone who wishes to have prayers said for themselves or another may send via e-mail to Tom Hogan at tchogan@ptd.net or 570 872-4925.

SAINT PATRICK'S DAY DINNER

March is almost on us and we are well underway in planning for the St. Patrick's annual dinner. The date is set for March 14th following the 5:30 Mass in the Church Hall. Anyone wishing to donate a "tricky tray" basket for this event, please do so. You may drop your "tray" at the office any time prior to the dinner or by calling the office to make arrangements. **Tickets are on sale now following all of the Masses.**

Please call Bernadette O'Donnell at 914 850-0408.

"Erin Go Bragh" ...and on Tuesday, March 17th in honor of our patron saint, Patrick, there will be no 12 Noon Mass. Mass will be celebrated at 7:00PM. After the Mass there will be light refreshments in the Narthex along with our own special blend of Irish Coffee. If anyone would like to bake their favorite Irish Soda Bread to bring, please call the Parish Office to let them know.

ALL NIGHT ADORATION

Friday evening, March 20th following Stations of the Cross, there will be Adoration for vocations throughout the night ending with Benediction at 3:00pm Saturday. Please find a few moments of your to your to come and pray for vocations. **Sign up sheets are in the Narthex to reserve a time.**

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE BAKE SALE

March 21 & 22nd. Please consider baking one of your favorites to donate for this event. You may drop your baked goods off before the Mass you plan on attending. Thank you for your generosity.

ANNOUNCING THE 2020 TRADITIONAL MARRIAGE CRUSADE

Please join us in praying our Public Square Rosary Rally for God's Marriage & Family on Saturday, March 21st at 12:00 pm. It will take place on Broad Street in front of the Court House. Please call Marie Biel at 570 686-4637 for more information.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE March 21-22

Saturday 5:30pm

Lector Jack Boyle

Communion Ministers

Altar Servers

Clare & Angie Barcia, Brooke Nielsen

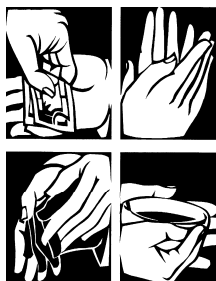
Sunday 11:00am

Lector Diane Dennis

Communion Ministers

Altar Servers

Jason Lecina, Carli Lock, Nicole Traxler



Weekly Collection

March 8, 2020
\$ 2,558.00

This time last year
\$2658.00

Weekly Mortgage Offertory

March 8, 2020
\$ 613.00

Year to Date July'19- Current
\$28,386.00

Goal for the Year \$100,000

The sanctuary candle
burns in memory of
**The Monte-Mayr
Families**
requested by
Jeanette Mayr

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.

Dear Padre,

For many of us older Catholics, our children have either left the faith or they don't belong to any church. Consequently, their children aren't baptized. We were taught that anyone may baptize in an emergency. Can we baptize our grandchildren? If so, how?

When necessary, "any person," even one who is not baptized, "can baptize provided that he has the intention of doing that which the Church does and provided that he pours water on the candidate's head while saying: 'I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit'" (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1284).

Church law permits baptism when at least one consenting Catholic parent or guardian plans to nurture the child in the faith and in the faith community. Some people—with the best intentions—may disregard these legal conditions and resort to baptizing a child in secret or against the parents' will. However, while the Trinitarian formula used while pouring water over a child qualifies as the sacrament even under non-life-threatening circumstances, it's also contrary to Church law. This has negative consequences both for the child being baptized and the grandparents doing the baptizing!

May you find consolation in these words: "Baptism is necessary for salvation for those to whom the Gospel has been proclaimed and who have had the possibility of asking for this sacrament" (CCC 1257). Should a child die without baptism, we can trust in God's mercy, since the full proclamation of the gospel and request for the sacrament was not possible for the child. Moreover, Jesus' tenderness toward children allows us "to hope that there is a way of salvation for children who have died without baptism" (CCC 1261).

—Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



SHILOA MARINASHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM Pope Francis

This season of Lent is a good occasion to draw near to [Jesus], to encounter him in prayer in a heart-to-heart dialogue; to speak with him, to listen to him....In this way we can renew in ourselves the grace of baptism, quench our thirst at the wellspring of the Word of God.

—ANGELUS, MARCH 19, 2017



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Calendar

Monday

MARCH 16
Lenten Weekday
2 Kgs 5:1–15b
Lk 4:24–30

Tuesday

MARCH 17
Lenten Weekday
Dn 3:25, 34–43
Mt 18:21–35

Wednesday

MARCH 18
Lenten Weekday
Dt 4:1, 5–9
Mt 5:17–19

Thursday

MARCH 19
St. Joseph,
Spouse of the
Blessed Virgin Mary
2 Sm 7:4–5a,
12–14a, 16
Rom 4:13, 16–18, 22
Mt 1:16, 18–21, 24a
or Lk 2:41–51a

Friday

MARCH 20
Lenten Weekday
Hos 14:2–10
Mk 12:28–34

Saturday

MARCH 21
Lenten Weekday
Hos 6:1–6
Lk 18:9–14

Sunday

MARCH 22
Fourth Sunday
of Lent
1 Sm 16:1b, 6–7, 10–13a
Eph 5:8–14
Jn 9:1–41 or
Jn 9:1, 6–9, 13–17,
34–38

Daily Prayer

This is a pivotal week of Lent. We can solidify the patterns we have begun or we can make a new start, if we haven't been able to get started yet. If we have begun to recognize what needs realigning in our lives and have begun to fast and abstain from some things that get in the way of our relationship with the Lord, then we are engaging in a struggle. We are likely uncovering resistance and experiencing our personal sinfulness face-to-face. This is all preparing us for a deeper conversion, a readiness for reconciliation with God and the graces that will allow us to be a source of reconciliation with others. This is the time when we begin to see and experience how much God loves us at a new and more personal level. These graces prepare us to keep our eyes focused on Jesus in the weeks ahead - to learn from him, to fall in love with him more deeply and to be drawn to imitate him more completely. If we are just getting started with our Lenten journey, renewing our desires for these graces will be all we need to begin with a renewed openness. God does not need a lot of time to convince us of his love for us.

This is a week about God's love for us and our call to love others the same way. It is a time blessed by our gratitude for the fidelity of Joseph and Mary, who responded to God's fidelity to them. It is a week to keep our daily focus on naming a desire each morning. The day ahead will shape what we ask for as our feet hit the floor in the morning. Pausing to thank the Lord for this day and to ask for the grace to let our mind and heart be renewed in the concrete circumstances, relationships and obligations of our day. Throughout the day, we can then return to those desires in background of our

awareness. Our request for the Lord's help is always there and our consciousness of it, will help us make the choice we desire to make, to let go of what we need to let go of, to add what we need to add. This will take us deeper and deeper into self-awareness and a sense of our need for a Savior, who is right there to embrace us and give us the graces we ask for.

