

ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH 309 AVENUE F, MATAMORAS, PA 18336 PH 570-491-2618

EMAIL: stjosephchurch@optonline.net OFFICE HOURS MONDAY & THURSDAY 10:00am – 2:00pm**MASSES FOR THE WEEK**

Monday	12:00 PM	Dec. 07	Robert Blackman requested by Noel Balch and Family
Tuesday	7:00 PM	Dec. 08	Immaculate Conception For the People of St. Joseph's Parish
Wednesday		Dec. 09	NO MASS
Thursday	12:00PM	Dec. 10	Jerry Dilger requested by His Parents
Friday		Dec. 11	NO MASS
Saturday	4:00 PM	Dec. 12	Margaret Cordisco requested by The Family
Sunday	8:30 AM	Dec. 13	For the People of St. Joseph's Parish
Sanctuary Candle		12/6 – 12/12	In Memory of Maura Hess-Oshsen requested by the Bensley Family

IN MEMORIUM: Please remember in your prayers **Mary Rita Cortright and Donald Curtin** who recently passed away. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace Amen.

ADVENT GIVING TREE: Our Advent Giving Tree and Cradle is 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 donate just purchase a baby gift and return it to the cradle (no need to wrap) Items needed: Diapers (any size), Baby Wipes, Baby Blankets, Crib Sheets, Baby Shampoo, Bottles, Formula, Baby Food, etc... Again we thank you for your continued support!

POINSETTIA MEMORIALS: Again this year the Poinsettia's that will be placed in the Sanctuary will be available for memorialization. The cost is \$15.00 per plant. Special RED Envelopes have been placed at the back exit and elevator exit of the Church. If you would like a Poinsettia, please fill out the front of the envelope (please print clearly) and enclose your payment. You may drop the envelope into the collection box or drop it off at the Parish Office. If you're not able to fill out an envelope but would like a Poinsettia, please call the Parish Office or email us at stjosephchurch@optonline.net with the name for the memorial and who it's from and we will reserve one for you.

DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL: Our Annual Appeal goal is \$37,000.00 to date , \$28476.70. 77% of our appeal goal has been achieved due to your kindness and generosity. To those of you who have pledged, THANK-YOU! Those of you who have not pledged, please prayerfully consider making a pledge. The Appeal helps support Catholic Social Services, Clergy Formation, Parish Life and Ministry just to name a few...

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE: Masses will be celebrated Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24th at 4:00pm Christmas Day, Friday, December 25th 8:30am. These are likely to be two of the most well attended Masses of the year, but we will all need to continue to strictly adhere to our bishop's guidelines for safety and social distancing. Happily, even after we reach our seating capacity inside the church, we will not turn anyone away! We will invite them to remain in their cars and listen to Mass on their car radio (at 99.1 FM) and receive Holy Communion at the side entrance of the Church after Mass.

WARMING STATION NEEDS YOUR HELP!: The Tri-State Warming Station in Port Jervis reopened on November 15 for the fifth season of providing shelter for those in need. Five overnight guests were welcomed on that very first night. The need in our community is very real, and this year—with all the extra work and care required to operate safely in a pandemic—the Warming Station truly needs all the help it can get. Please consider getting involved by remembering Warming Station volunteers and guests in your prayers, by making a financial contribution, by signing up to deliver meals for guests, or by becoming a trained overnight volunteer yourself. More information is available at www.mealtrain.com/trains/m7y677

WEEKEND MASSES: Saturday 4:00pm and Sunday 8:30am. We will still be social distancing, wearing face masks, and sitting in the seats marked with the "X". Upon entering the church there will be ushers to help seat you. If you are not quite ready to attend Mass inside the Church, you can remain in your car and tune into **99.1 FM** to listen to Mass from your car radio. Communion will be offered at the car port side of the Church. Mass will continue to be available for viewing on our website. Thank you for all your patience during this pandemic. -OVER-

DAILY MASS / CONFESSIONS SCHEDULE: Daily Mass is held Monday's and Thursday's at **12:00 noon**. No reservation required. **CONFESSIONS** are being heard by appointment only. Please call the Rectory to arrange a time with Father Joseph.
-OVER-

ST. JOSEPH'S PRAYER CIRCLE: Anyone who wishes to have prayers said for themselves or another may call Karen Sweeney @ 570-491-2228 or Tom Hogan @ 570-872-4925. If you wish you may also send the name via email to sweeneyfive2002@yahoo.com or tchogan@ptd.net

WEBSITE: Please visit our website, www.stjosephsmatamoras.com, for the most recent announcements, spiritual references and updates. You can also follow us on Facebook at [@stjosephsmatamoraspa](https://www.facebook.com/stjosephsmatamoraspa) and on Twitter [@stjosephs_pa](https://twitter.com/stjosephs_pa) or [@stjoes_ccd](https://twitter.com/stjoes_ccd). Also visit our Diocesan website, www.dioceseofscranton.org for more resources.

ONLINE GIVING: If your circumstances permit, we ask you to kindly continue your generous support of our parish during the Pandemic. Your offerings make a huge impact on being able to pay our monthly bills. If you are interested in online giving, please visit our website and click on WeShare. We are grateful to you for your continued generosity.

Did You Know...



**You May Make a Gift
to Your Parish
or to the Diocesan
Annual Appeal
Directly From Your IRA**

If you are 70½ or older and have a traditional individual retirement account, you can use all or part of your *required minimum distribution* to support your parish or the Diocesan Annual Appeal without having to count the transfers as income for federal tax purposes.

Distributions must be sent directly to your parish or the Diocese by the plan administrator of your IRA.

**For information, please contact
Jim Bebla,
Diocesan Secretary of Development,
Jim-Bebla@DioceseofScranton.org
570-207-2250**