

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

Remembering
March 2-8

MONDAY
8:00am (SJ)
† Ralph Strunk
Bill & Mary Gaa

TUESDAY
12:00pm

† For The People of
Saint Patrick's

WEDNESDAY
12:00pm Mass
Roberta Pennimede

Joseph & Barbara Rowan

THURSDAY
8:00am (SJ)
† Deceased Members of
the
Farr & Nason Families
The Family

FRIDAY
Stations of the Cross
6:00pm (SP & SJ)

SATURDAY
4:00pm (SJ)
† Jack Drake
The Family

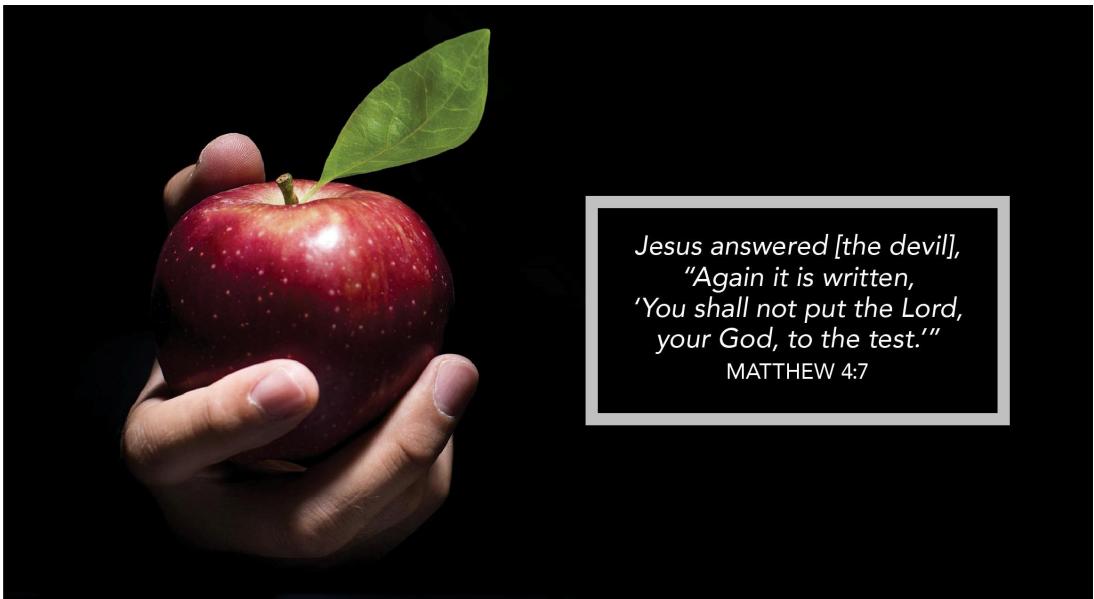
5:30pm (SP)
† Louise & Emil Moglia
Emil & Arlene Moglia

SUNDAY
8:30am (SJ)
† For The People of St.
Joseph's Parish

11:00 (SP)
† Gladys Vasseler
Harry & Debra Shlam



March 1, 2020
First Sunday of Lent (A)
Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7
Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19
Mt 4:1-11



Jesus answered [the devil],
"Again it is written,
'You shall not put the Lord,
your God, to the test.'"
MATTHEW 4:7

Try It! You'll Like It!

If only temptation was obvious, we might have a better chance of avoiding it. But sometimes it's so subtle. It often disguises itself as something rather attractive. This is precisely what happened in the Garden of Eden. Scripture says temptation takes on a living form—a serpent that convinces the woman that the fruit of the wisdom tree will make them "like gods, who know good and evil" (Genesis 3:5).

Who wouldn't jump at such a possibility? Actually, who hasn't already fallen into that trap—acting as if we are God, thinking we know everything or wishing to be in complete control? Our faith certainly encourages us to become more and more like God. What made that desire wrong was the way Adam and Eve sought to become like gods in their own way, not God's way.

The Gospel passage tells us that Jesus also was tempted. Who doubts that Jesus wanted to be successful in his ministry? But what would he do to ensure success? Would he use divine power to attract a following? No! Would he call upon God to protect him from misunderstanding, rejection, even physical harm? No! Would he bargain with the devil, who obviously exercised power over many people? No! That was not the way he would be the Messiah. Unlike the couple in the Garden, Jesus recognized what was wrong even when it was disguised as something good. How good are we at recognizing temptation in our lives?

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

- * In what ways does temptation sometimes trick you?
- * What can you do so you won't be tricked?

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.

March 1, 2020 First Sunday of Lent

LENTEN

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

ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY FOR LENT

Adult Education Opportunity for Lent Starting Tuesday evening 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!

WARMING STATION NEEDS YOUR HELP!

The Tri-State Warming Station in Port Jervis, is open for its fourth season serving the homeless in our midst. Every night until Spring, the warming station will provide shelter for those without it, along with hot meals and hot showers. The need is real-we welcome as many as 20 guests each night- and it takes a lot of volunteer energy to make this work. Some of your fellow parishioners are already helping out, and you can too. Volunteers to cook and deliver dinner or to stay overnight to help watch over the guests are especially needed. Financial support is welcome, too. To get involved, or for more information, contact Kevin (from St. Joseph's) at kevinwalter@earthlink.net or (570) 296-6902.

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.

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. Pike County dial directly 855-567-5341.

MEN SAVE THE DATE!

The 6th Annual Diocese of Scranton Men's Conference will be held on Saturday, April 25, 2020 at Holy Redeemer High School in 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.

PENNSYLVANIA MARCH FOR LIFE

Monday, May 18, 2020, Pennsylvania State Capitol Rally 11:00am March 12pm. The national march for Life in Washington every January has become the largest pro-life event in the world. And there are many people who are pro-life who are unable to attend the march due to the time of year and location.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Refresh your faith full of grace, Catholic Women's conference is June 20, 2020 at the University of Scranton, Byron Center. Call 570-872-8630 or at www.cwcnepa.com for more information.

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.

The Catholic Community of St. Joseph

MINISTRY SCHEDULE
March 7-8

Saturday 4:00pm
Lector <i>Larry Marcial</i>
Eucharistic Minister
Altar Servers <i>Daniel & Cole Corcoran</i>
Sunday 8:30am
Lector <i>Janet Bright</i>
Eucharistic Minister
Altar Server <i>Lucas Helms Benjamin Rivera</i>
Milford Senior Care 03/01 Chuck Pike 03/08 Debbie Roa

*The Sanctuary Candle
burns
For the Intentions of
Andy Witkowski
By
The Family*

ST. JOSEPH'S ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY MEETING - This Monday, March 2nd at 7:00pm in the Multipurpose Room. The Society consists of the women of the parish, 18 years or older and is a support to the spiritual needs of its members and the Church. The Society holds fundraisers and assists our Parish with any fundraising activities. Currently, St. Joseph's Altar & Rosary sponsors our Palm Sunday Brunch and The Baccalaureate Mass/Breakfast in our Parish. **New Members are always welcome!**

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!

THE CONVERSATION CONTINUES - What a turnout, and what an enthusiastic expression of faith, hope, and love! We filled the multipurpose room to capacity after Mass on Sunday, February 16 to talk about parish life and ways we can enrich it. It was a lively 90 minutes during which so many spoke out with their wishes, suggestions, and words of encouragement. A write-up of our conversation will be available shortly, and representatives from our parish will be meeting with Bishop Bambera in early April to make a report and learn about next steps in the Diocese's Vision 2020 process. Stay tuned for more.

CELEBRATE ST. JOSEPH'S FEAST ON MARCH 19 - 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.)

HUNGER IN OUR WORLD - When Jesus fed the 5,000, he said, "Give them some food yourselves." Take time to reflect on the challenge of global hunger. How can you contribute to support the hungry in your community? One way, of course, is Lenten almsgiving. Next weekend, our second collection will be for CRS Rice Bowl. For those who aren't using the Rice Bowl bank at home this season, this is your opportunity to support the program. And even if you are, it's an additional way to be generous. Visit crsricebowl.org for more information and ideas.

LET'S CONNECT - Did you know that our parish has an active presence on Facebook and Twitter? Please follow us! More followers means wider reach and more impact for all the parish news, invitations, and updates that we post. Find us on Facebook at [@stjosephsmatamoraspa](https://www.facebook.com/stjosephsmatamoraspa) and Twitter [@stjosephs_pa](https://twitter.com/stjosephs_pa) or [@stjoes_ccd](https://twitter.com/stjoes_ccd)

FOOD PANTRY - Our next food pantry will be Friday, March 13th from 6 - 8pm (Team A). To volunteer please call Clare Nied at 570-296-2506.

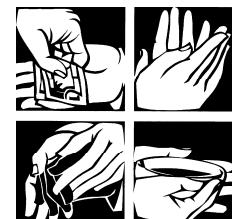
Weekly Offering

February 23, 2020
\$ 3002.65

Thank you for your generosity!

Last Year

February 24, 2019
\$ 3142.50



*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.

The Catholic Community of St. Patrick

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DIOCESE ANNUAL APPEAL

We have raised \$27,566.00(78%) of our goal. It's not too late to consider donating to the Annual Appeal. God Bless you!

FOOD PANTRY

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

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. Ticket sales will take place in a few weeks, keep an eye on bulletin for more details!

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.

A THANK YOU FOR BROTHER ZACK BURNS

Brother Zack sent a Thank you note to all the parishioners that we would like to share with you, It says... "Peace & good! I wanted to sincerely thank you for the wonderful spiritual bouquet. It is such a blessing to know that all of you have been praying for me in my journey and are continuing to pray for me as I approach ordination to the priesthood. I have no doubt that it is the prayers of generous people like you that have gotten me to where I am. I am humbled by your kindness. Know of my prayers for all of you! Blessings, Br. Zack TOR"

IN MEMORIAM

Please remember in your prayers the souls of Joan Gerland and Catherine Umberto who passed away this past week. May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace, Amen. **BAPTISMS**

We welcome into the Christian Community of Faith **Roman Fedorka and Charlie Lynn Shibetti** who we baptized here at St. Patrick's last week. God Bless you Roman and Charlie.

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.



Weekly Collection

February 16th \$2,577.00
February 23, \$2,016.00

This time last year
\$2,026.00
\$2,084.00

Weekly Mortgage Offertory

February 16, 2020 \$583.00
February 23, 2020 \$581.00

Year to Date July'19- Current
\$26,886.00

Goal for the Year \$100,000

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

March 7-8

Saturday 5:30pm

Lector *Jack Boyle*

Communion Ministers

Altar Servers

Clare & Angie Barcia, Sophia Mullen

Sunday 11:00am

Lector *Joe Sudano*

Communion Ministers

Altar Servers

Julianna, Lelaina & Amelia Hopper

*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.

Calendar**Monday**

MARCH 2

Lenten Weekday

Lv 19:1-2, 11-18

Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday

MARCH 3

Lenten Weekday

Is 55:10-11

Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday

MARCH 4

Lenten Weekday

Jon 3:1-10

Lk 11:29-32

Thursday

MARCH 5

Lenten Weekday

Est C:12, 14-16,
23-25

Mt 7:7-12

Friday

MARCH 6

Lenten Weekday

Ez 18:21-28

Mt 5:20-26

Saturday

MARCH 7

Lenten Weekday

Dt 26:16-19

Mt 5:43-48

Sunday

MARCH 8

Second Sunday
of Lent

Gn 12:1-4a

2 Tm 1:8b-10

Mt 17:1-9

This first week of Lent is the time we are given to begin our Lenten patterns, to re-align our priorities, and to make use of more reflective time each day. It is a time to fast and abstain from those things that hinder our relationship with the Lord, and to consider being more generous to the poor.

As we make this beginning, we are offered some beautiful instruction about what is expected of us. These readings describe a very Jesus-like love. We can examine our care for the hungry, thirsty, naked, sick or imprisoned. We can reflect upon who in our lives needs us and whether we love them as we want to be loved. And we can look at the deeper things, like our anger or how we treat others, and our response to those who are our "enemies." What is most important this first week, beyond a sharper examination of our consciences, is to see this as a time for God's grace to work in us. So, it is a time to ask for the graces we are starting to see we need.

Each morning this week we can ask our Lord to help us focus this day on the neediest people around us. We can ask to begin new patterns this week by practicing special charity and love, where I haven't been so generous or kind before. The key is to ask and to be very specific. Then, throughout the day, we can keep talking with our Lord, in the background about these graces we ask for and the concrete circumstances we find ourselves in. It is in the particular events of our day that we will become attentive to our need for our Lord's presence and grace, as well as our need to choose a new pattern. Each evening, we can briefly review the day and recognize some missed opportunities to connect with the

Dear Padre,

Is gambling a sin?

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* mentions gambling in the context of "temperance" to moderate attachment to worldly goods, "justice" to render to our neighbor what is due, and "solidarity in accordance with the golden rule" (CCC 2407). "Games of chance (card games, etc.) or wagers are not in themselves contrary to justice. They become morally unacceptable when they deprive someone of what is necessary to provide for his needs and those of others. The passion for gambling risks becoming an enslavement. Unfair wagers and cheating at games constitute grave matter...." (CCC 2413).

Gambling, therefore, is morally neutral. When properly controlled, it can be a form of recreation for some. However, it becomes an enslavement when

obsessive gamblers neglect their families or jobs, risk financial security, and compromise their responsibilities to self, others, and God. The allure of winning and the desire to win even more—along with venues that provide easy gambling credit and other incentives—often make it harder for people to know their limits. Consequently, a severe gambling addiction can lead and has led to stealing to pay debts, divorce, job loss, despair, and suicide.

No wonder St. Augustine cautioned,

"The devil invented gambling." Even if Satan didn't invent it, he'll gladly take credit for it when gambling becomes a means to his ends. In so many words, those who win large amounts from lotteries and games of chance frequently warn, "All that glitters isn't gold." Despite its enticements, gambling ultimately fails to satisfy the human heart's longing for meaning and fulfillment.

—Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR | Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

A WORD FROM Pope Francis

There are three temptations of Christ....First, wealth: seizing hold of goods destined for all and using them only for "my own people." That is, taking "bread" based on the toil of others or even at the expense of their very lives. That wealth tastes of pain, bitterness, and suffering.

—HOMILY IN MEXICO, FEBRUARY 14, 2016



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Lord or take advantage of a situation here or there, but most of all, we can thank the Lord for the moments of connection that have begun our Lenten journey.

