

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2020

Saint Joseph Church

79 Case Avenue, Sharon, PA 16146
Phone 724-981-3232 / Fax 724-981-4174

Rev. Thomas J. Whitman, Pastor

Director of Religious Ed:
Sr. Sandy Pedone, H.M.
Parish Secretary: Lori Vasconi
Financial Secretary: Carol Koch
Maintenance: Brad Goodall
Music Director: Mary Messina

Office Hours

Monday - Friday,
8:30 AM to 4:30 PM
(closed 12:30-1:30 PM)

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil - 5:15 PM
Sunday - 8:30 & 11:00 AM
Weekday: M, T, Th, Fri - 8:00 AM
Wed. - 12:10 PM
(Check weekly bulletin for changes.)

Confessions

Saturday: 4:00 - 4:30 PM or by request.

Religious Education Program

Sundays, 9:30 AM - 10:45 AM
CCD Grades K-10 at Case Avenue Elem.
School, Grade II in the church annex.

Parish Council Meetings

Council typically meets on the third
Monday of each month.

Shenango Valley Catholic School System

Catholic Middle and High Schools:
724-346-5531
St. John Paul II:
724-342-2205



Facebook.com/
StJosephSharon



www.Stjosephs-Sharon.org



HEARING
ENHANCEMENTS
AVAILABLE

PARISHIONER PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

NAME _____

STREET _____

CITY & ZIP _____

PHONE _____

E-Mail _____

Place completed form in today's collection basket or drop it off in the church office.

New Member Address Change Update Info

Baptism: Please contact the parish office to schedule a time and date. A pre-baptism class is required. No baptisms during Advent and Lent.

Matrimony: By appointment six months in advance.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA): Please call the church office at 724-981-3232.

Prayer Line: For intentions, please call 724-981-3232.

Religious Education



Begins Sunday, October 11

Look inside today's bulletin for more details.

PASTOR'S COLUMN

BOOK OF THE DEAD: We typically put out a book in October for people to enter the names of their loved ones who have died. That book is placed on the altar for the month of November as we remember our deceased loved ones in prayer each day. **As with everything else this year, things are different.** You can write the names of your deceased loved ones on a piece of paper and bring it to church and place the paper in the basket on the steps leading up to the Altar. If you are not coming to church, you can mail your list to the office and we will place it in the basket for you. This basket will be left near the Altar during the month of November to remind us to pray for our loved ones who have died. The basket will be on the Altar the first weekend in October.

POLITICAL REMINDER: No one has permission to place leaflets on cars in our parking lot or in our Church building.

Church parking lots are not public forums as a public street or shopping mall would be and remain dedicated to accommodating the religious activities of the church. If a church grants permission for the distribution of political campaign literature anywhere on its property, it must do likewise for all of the candidates or advocacy groups that wish to do so, without regard to whether the content of the literature is in concert with Church teaching. Churches must avoid complicity in the dissemination of material endorsing or opposing political candidates. Therefore, churches may neither favor nor disfavor any particular group that seeks to distribute materials of that type on portions of its property that are generally accessible to the public. Churches may, as a policy, refuse to allow parking lot leafleting altogether. At the same time, the law does not impose any obligation on a church to actively monitor and prevent the leafleting of cars parked in its lots.

THANK YOU: Thanks to all those who have responded so far to my letter making an appeal for funds to help with the cost of the Air Conditioning system. There is still plenty of time to make your gift to this appeal. We are using the CSA envelopes for this appeal as this is a parish maintenance project.

SECOND COLLECTIONS: Since we do not have physical collections during mass, please use the envelopes in your packets for any second collections. You can place all your envelopes in the baskets at the front of the sanctuary.

SELF-QUARANTINE: Summer is usually a time for people to travel for vacation. If you are traveling to one of the COVID-19 "hot spots" you should self-quarantine for at least 14 days. This should also include a quarantine from attending Mass. We need to be careful in order to protect one another and especially those who are most vulnerable.

RECEIVING COMMUNION: I have said this from the pulpit and written it in the bulletin and even said it to people as they come up to communion: PLEASE KEEP YOUR HAND FLAT TO RECEIVE COMMUNION. Your other hand should be UNDERNEATH YOUR FLAT HAND. If you are right-handed, your left hand should be on top and FLAT and your right hand should be UNDERNEATH your left hand. Most people are doing this correctly, but some people are still not keeping their hand flat and are reaching for the host before I can pull my hand away and thus touching me. You should not be reaching for the host until you have stepped to the side and are ready to consume the host. Please be attentive to this.

IF YOU HAVE NOT BEEN TO MASS IN THE LAST FEW MONTHS, YOU NEED TO READ THROUGH THESE GUIDELINES AND FOLLOW THEM CAREFULLY TO PROTECT OTHER PEOPLE.

NOT A RETURN TO NORMAL: We have been open for a few weeks for daily and weekend Masses, **but this is not a return to normal.**

Bishop Persico has given us permission to begin public Masses, **if people follow the protocols that have been put in place.** Those protocols can be viewed on the diocesan website www.eriecd.org and our parish website <http://www.stjosephs-sharon.org/> The dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass and Holyday Mass is still in effect. Those who are ill or who are at risk should remain at home and continue to use the television or internet Masses that continue to be made available.

- Confessions are being heard on Saturday from 4:00 to 4:30. Because of the restrictions of COVID 19 we are not able to use the confessionals. Confessions are in the main body of the church in front of the confessional, masks are required, and six feet of distance needs to be maintained between the priest and the person confessing. People are asked to sit in the section near the organ to wait for confession.

Pastor's notes continued...

Because of this the church is not available for others to come and pray at this time to give privacy to those wishing to go to confession. Please do not enter the church for Mass until 4:45pm or until the doors are propped open.

- The doors for Masses on the weekend are propped open so you do not have to touch the doors. **The doors are opened one half hour before Masses.** We have mice, squirrels, skunks, birds, and a host of other creatures that lurk around the church and thus cannot leave the doors open 24/7. We have not returned to normal. Please plan to arrive in that half hour before Mass starts.
- **GENERAL RULES FOR MASS:** Masks are to be worn by everyone. Social distancing – six feet apart – must always be maintained – even when in line for communion and when entering and leaving the church. Families in the same household may sit together. Pews will be taped off to indicate where you can and cannot sit. Hand sanitizer is available at each entrance and you are encouraged to bring your own in preparation for communion. We are only permitted to use 1/3 of the church capacity. There will be no collection basket passed, but there will be baskets at the front of church to put your envelopes in either before or after mass. Communion is strongly encouraged to be received in the hand. People should come to Church and find a place to sit and not gather to talk. After Mass people should leave in an orderly fashion keeping the appropriate distance from each other. People should go immediately to their cars and leave and not gather in groups that will block exits and cause people to come into close contact. Please avoid contact with surfaces. Doors and pews will be sanitized after each mass.
- People have been particularly good about leaving after Mass is over so we can clean and sanitize the church.
- I realize these are an inconvenience to everyone, but we need to be very diligent about protecting others. Think of others first.

LATEST INFORMATION: The best place to find the latest information is our parish APP or the parish website. You can connect this App to your phone by texting APP to 88202. This App is FREE. This was something the diocese paid to let all parishes and parishioners stay connected about two years ago. Some people, including me, have experienced the Sunday readings not being up to date. The best fix seems to be to uninstall the App and reinstall it.

Our parish website will also be a place for the parish bulletin and other information <http://www.stjosephs-sharon.org/>

ST. JOSEPH PARISH MASS ONLINE: <https://youtu.be/r2IIUWO811w>

PARISH OFFICE: To do business with the parish office, please call the office between 8:30am and 4:30pm. The office is not open for walk-in business.

BOOK RECOMMENDATION: I have been reading “Becoming an Ordinary Mystic” by Albert Hasse, OFM. I highly recommend this book on spirituality and prayer. It is an easy read with extremely helpful examples.

REFLECTION ON THE READINGS: In the second reading today, Paul urges us to focus our attention on what is just, fair, honorable, lovely, ... And yet we find ourselves in a time where the news seems to be focused on disasters of weather, the pandemic, as well as the divisions and hatred in our political environment. All this negativity is not good for our spirits or our mental health. We need to keep our eyes and ears from seeing and hearing too much of this negativity, or we become dragged into it. We might limit our contact with the news or political discussions to one hour a day no matter where we get our news from: television, internet, magazines, or newspapers. We might use our extra time to do some form of public service, volunteerism, spiritual reading, or prayer. Or you might do all of them. We need to fill our lives with good things so we can become better, rather than filling our lives with hatred and division and becoming less than we can be.

Etty Hillesum (1914-1943) was a young Jewish woman who suffered greatly in the concentration camps. During her suffering she encouraged others to find God in themselves and to hold to that spirit of God within us in our time of suffering. She gives us the following words of wisdom: “There is a really deep well inside me. And in it dwells God. Sometimes I am there, too... And that is all we can manage these days and all that really matters: that we safeguard that little piece of You, God, in ourselves.”

Let us spend these next few weeks filling ourselves with what is just, fair, honorable, lovely, and life-giving, so that we might be instruments of hope to one another in these challenging times.

PLEASE PRAY FOR: Dorothy Ogg, Ford Bartle, Evelyn Tew, Fr. Manning, Selena Urey, Joe & John Mochanski, Don & Rose Becker, Dana Pektas, Diane Young, Joseph Byers, Jackie Hoffman, Linda Yuhasz, Nadine Vellente, Liam Rueberger, Anna Rueberger, AJ Voisey, John Kutchenriter, Bev Chalupka, Peggy Heldorfer and William Clarke.



*Altar flowers are donated in thanksgiving to
God and in memory of*

Jack & Valeria Taylor

by Moschillo and Perry Families

SCAMS AND FRAUD: In this age when personal data can be misused by scam artists, please be aware that the Roman Catholic Diocese of Erie, its clergy, and entities such as parishes and schools will never solicit your personal or business information by any method unless initiated by you. Should you receive an unsolicited request for such information – including a request for gift cards of any type – exercise extreme caution. Contact the person or entity by using official contact information only. Do not use contact information provided in the potential fraudulent request.



STAYCONNECTED

My Parish App -Text APP to 88202

FUNERAL Our sympathy and prayers to the families of Veronica Evans. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

LECTOR SCHEDULE

Date	Mass Time	Lector
Saturday, Oct. 10, 2020	5:15pm	M. Norman
Sunday, Oct. 11, 2020	8:30am	S. Cleary
Sunday, Oct. 11, 2020	11:00am	M. Joseph

Mass Intentions

+Indicates Mass

Monday, October 5—Gal 1: 6-12 / Lk 10: 25-37

+8:00 Bob Wiesen (Family)

Tuesday, October 6—Gal 1: 13-24 / Lk 10: 38-42

+8:00 Michael Kuzel (Richard & Anna Olek)

Wednesday, October 7—Gal 2: 1-2, 7-14 / Lk 11: 1-4

+12:10 Mary Louise Wassil (Family)

Thursday, October 8—Gal 3: 1-5 / Lk 11: 5-13

+8:00 Deceased Members of the Whitman Family

Friday, October 9—Gal 3: 7-14 / Lk 11: 15-26

+8:00 Michael Zurko, Sr. (Michael & Diana Zurko)

Saturday, October 10—Is 25: 6-10a / Phil 4: 12-14, 19-20 / Mt 22:1-14 or 22:1-10

Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

+5:15 Charles Koch (Carol Koch)

Sunday, October 11—Is 25: 6-10a / Phil 4: 12-14, 19-20 / Mt 22:1-14 or 22:1-10

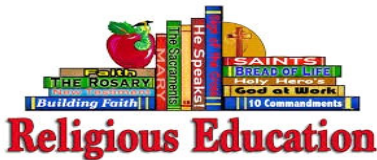
Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

+8:30 Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Peruzzi (Brett & Alyssa)

+11:00 Deceased Members of the Parish

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

*'I tell you, then,
that the kingdom
of God will be
taken from you
and given to a
people who will
produce its fruit.'*



Religious Education

START DATE HAS CHANGED

Religious Ed Classes will begin on Sunday, October 11 by Google Classroom or Family Center (homeschooling). If you did not receive the email/ mailing explaining the school structure for this year or have any questions or concerns, please contact Sr. Sandy at 724-981-3232.

CORONA VIRUS PRAYER

Dear God, I pray for healing to all affected by this deadly virus. Only You can move in a mighty way to bring peace and healing to all. We pray for all negative outcomes to be resolved by your healing hands. Bless and cover each and every single person with your compassionate care and bring healing to their bodies and spirits. Amen.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.