

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 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

Option of Google Classroom or
Family Centered (Home School)
To Register or for More Information
Contact Sr. Sandy

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



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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.

Preparing for Our Pantry

Food Pantry Scrolls

The Food Pantry
Christmas Wish List
Scrolls will be available
this weekend,
November 14/15.

Look inside today's bulletin
for more details!

PASTOR'S COLUMN

iGiveCatholic: iGiveCatholic is a new reality in the Catholic Church that tries to foster online giving on the traditional #GivingTuesday. #GivingTuesday is the Tuesday that follows Thanksgiving, Black Friday, and Cyber Monday. #iGiveCatholic is a Giving Day that kicks off the charitable season and brings the Catholic community together to give thanks and give back. It is the U.S. Catholic Church's Giving Day created to celebrate our unique Catholic heritage, "iGiveCatholic inspires faithful stewards to "Give Catholic" on #GivingTuesday, a global day of generosity.

The goal of #iGiveCatholic is to rally our Catholic community in support of our local parishes, schools, and ministries. Secure, tax-deductible donations to eligible Catholic organizations located in participating Dioceses are given at www.iGiveCatholic.org during a 24-hour period on #Giving Tuesday, December 1, and at any time during the Advanced Giving Day phase beginning at 12:00 AM on Monday, November 16 through 11:59 PM on Monday, November 30, 2020. Offline gifts of cash and checks are encouraged and given directly to the organization of the donor's choice during this same period.

The link to our parish site for this Giving Day is

<https://erie.igivecatholic.org/organizations/st-joseph-parish-sharon>

DEER PICTURES LINK: I spoke about my experience at Millcreek Metro Park in my homily last weekend. I thought I would share the link with you to pictures from that experience and the rest of the day. "In the cathedral of life, nature provides the stained-glass windows inspiring many an ordinary mystic to kneel in wonder and awe."

<https://www.snapfish.com/share?via=link&token=R3ALUPHI5bY-TwjplL1kQ/AUS/27951645275070/SNAPFISH>

THANKSGIVING MASS: Mass on Thanksgiving Day will be at 9:00AM.

ST. ROSE AND ST. MARY CEMETERY COLLECTION: During the month of November it is traditional for us to remember those who have died from our families and our parishes. As we remember and honor the goodness of their lives, it is important for us to honor their place of rest in our parish cemeteries. **To help us maintain the proper care for these cemeteries we are having a Cemetery Collection on the weekend of November 1, 2020.** An envelope for this Cemetery Collection is in the bulletin this weekend and at all the entrances. All donations to this collection will help to pay for grass cutting and care at our parish cemetery throughout the year. The care and maintenance of our parish cemeteries requires the generosity of our entire parish family. Thank you for your faithful stewardship to our parish cemeteries.

COVID-19 CHRISTMAS: Our celebration of Christmas Masses will most likely not be any different than our Masses now. The obligation to attend Mass on that day will be removed. We will also have to wear masks and keep socially distant from each other. It will also mean limitations on the numbers of those who will be permitted at each Mass – that number will be 200 people. **A letter will be coming to you later this month that will outline our procedures for Christmas.** Christmas Masses will be Christmas Eve at 4:30, 7:00, and 9:00pm and Mass on Christmas Day will be at 9:30am. In order to limit the number of people at each Mass you will be asked to call the parish office to make a reservation for the Mass you wish to attend. The reservation process will begin on a certain date in December and promptly conclude on December 22 at 4:30pm. Once that number reaches 200 the Mass will be considered full and people will need to consider a different Mass to attend. Also know that we will provide an online Mass as we have been doing since Easter. This might be a better option for people as the Mass can be viewed at a time that is convenient for you and your family .

COVID-19 GUIDELINES: **Please do not become lax with the guidelines for being in church during this pandemic. We are all tired of doing things differently and being inconvenienced but we need to be vigilant to protect one another, particularly those who are most vulnerable. And that includes most of us, and even me, your priest.** All the guidelines are listed below but here a few that have been neglected lately:

1. **MASKS/FACE COVERINGS:** Masks must be worn at all times when you are in the Church and should cover **both your mouth and your nose.** Please keep your mask on when coming to communion. Once you have received the host in your hand, then you can pull the mask down momentarily to receive communion. The mask should then cover your mouth and nose again.
2. **FRONT ROWS:** If you have difficult walking please sit in the front rows where you can be seated during the whole Mass and I will bring you communion right at your place.
3. **COMMUNION STATIONS:** No matter which section you sit in, you must follow the directions for receiving communion. If you go in the wrong direction, you put other people at risk.
4. **NO OBLIGATION:** remember the obligation to attend Mass has been removed during the pandemic. If you have difficulty attending Mass or are not feeling well, please stay home and watch Mass on TV or on the internet.
5. **LEAVE WHEN MASS IS OVER:** Please leave the church immediately after Mass. People should not be staying in church to light candles or to talk to other people – this puts people at risk. You can talk outside if you wish. **We need this time after Mass to clean and sanitize the church.**

Pastor's notes continued...

6. **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 (This includes your thumb!). 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. Some 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. **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 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.
- 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/vhKkmIpuWjM>

REFLECTION ON THE READINGS: The first reading today is a reflection on the ideal wife. You may have to read more than this passage to get the whole picture. I am not sure this woman exists, but there are many who live out these characteristics with great strength and untiring love. Alice Camille, a Catholic author, and Scripture commentator speaks about how this passage presents the ideal wife as compassionate, kind, wise, and a woman of God. She notes that this woman is honored for what she does and not how she looks. She says, “the politics of beauty has so bound women hand and foot that they can scarcely make a move without being praised or blamed for a thing which is quite without real consequence. Imprisoned by the ideals of fashion and sexual politics, women exhaust hours and energy and health and money to offer, in the end, an illusion of themselves to a world which prefers illusion to substance.”

Reflection on the Readings continued...

Paul tells us that there is a suddenness and an inevitability to labor pains and to the coming of Christ at the end of time. We pray for this coming of Christ in the Our Father every day. It should not be something that catches us off-guard.

I suspect our experience of the Gospel is not an all or nothing one. I suspect we have used our talents rather well in our unique personal situations. There are probably other times where we have not used them quite so well – but I suspect they are infrequent and often when we are tired or overworked. Maybe today is an opportunity to take stock of the “ideal person” we strive to be and the good things we have done. An opportunity to see ourselves headed in the right direction because we are using our gifts in constructive ways and thus the coming of Christ will not catch us off-guard.



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

Mike & Thelma Varsho

by, Manzo Family

PLEASE PRAY FOR: Dorothy Ogg, Ford Bartle, Evelyn Tew, Fr. Manning, Joe & John Mochanski, Don & Rose Becker, 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.

LECTOR SCHEDULE

Date	Mass Time	Lector
Saturday, Nov. 21	5:15pm	M. Norman
Sunday, Nov. 22	8:30am	D. Rubano
Sunday, Nov. 22	11:00am	G. Beshero

Mass Intentions

+Indicates Mass

Monday, November 16—Rv 1: 1-4; 2:1-5 / Lk 18: 35-43

+8:00 Michael Kuzel (Richard & Sandra Graham)

Tuesday, November 17—Rv 3: 1-6, 14-22 / Lk 19: 1-10

+8:00 Mark Mohan (Gerry & Denny Jones)

Wednesday, November 18—Rv 4: 1-11 / Lk 19: 11-28

+12:10 Elizabeth Frola (Gina DelFratte)

Thursday, November 19—Rv 5: 1-10 / Lk 19: 41-44

+8:00 Irma Mackin (Gary & Cynthia Byers)

Friday, November 20—Rv 10: 8-11 / Lk 19: 45-48

+8:00 Joe Sinkuc (Joe & Mary Ann Walsh)

Saturday, November 21—Ez 34: 11-12, 15-17 / 1 Cor 15: 20-26, 28 / Mt 25: 31-46

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

+5:15 Deceased Members of the Billen Family

(Nancy Rehner)

Sunday, November 22—Ez 34: 11-12, 15-17 / 1 Cor 15: 20-26, 28 / Mt 25: 31-46

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

+8:30 Deceased Members of the Parish

+11:00 Mark Mohan (Kay Bralich)

Preparing for Our Pantry

Food Pantry Scrolls

The Food Pantry Christmas Wish List Scrolls will be available this weekend, **November 14/15**. Scrolls will be located in a basket at each entrance. Each scroll has a child's Christmas wish list with a corresponding ID#.

If you have not returned to church due to the pandemic and you still wish to participate in the Christmas Wish List program, please call the church office at 724-981-3232 to make arrangements for options to receive a scroll.

Please return your ***wrapped*** gifts with the ***ID#*** placed on the ***OUTSIDE*** of the package to the Church altar after Thanksgiving through Sunday, December 13.

Thank you for your continued generosity.

St. Joseph
Sunday Mass
Available Online

<https://youtu.be/vhKkmIpuWjM>

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.