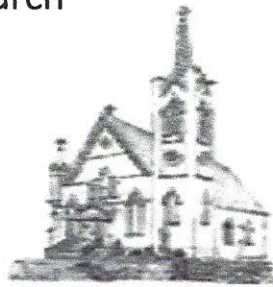


Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 25, 2021

St. Joseph Catholic Church

109 Broadway
Milton, PA 17847
Rev. John D. Hoke
www.stjosephmilton.org
Phone: 570-742-4356



ST. JOSEPH IS A TITHING PARISH God's Plan for Giving

In return for the Lord's generosity, our people
returned to God the following:

Sunday Collection:	\$ 5,117.00
Repair & Maintenance:	\$ 601.00

The above are bank deposit amounts

Second Collections

April 25th –Catholic Home Missions
May-Mother's Day
May 2nd –Our Faith Our Future
May 13th –Ascension
May 16th –Repair & Maintenance
May 23rd -Pentecost

Missalette

If you ordered and paid for a missalette and
have not received, please contact the
church office. Thank you.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sat. April 24th
4:00 PM

Sun. April 25th

8:00 AM

11:00 AM

Mon. April 26th
9:00 AM

Tues. April 27th
9:00 AM
Wed. April 28th
6:00 PM

Thurs. April 29th
9:00 AM

Fri. April 30th
9:00 AM

Sat. May 1st
9:00 AM

4:00 PM

Sun. April 25th
8:00 AM

11:00 AM

4th Sunday of Easter
Father Hoke's 45th
Anniversary as a Priest
World Day of Prayer for
Vocations
People of the Parish

Mary Jeanne Thelisson
(Wendt Family)

Gary Regelman

Matthew Mousley
St. Peter Chanel
Patricia Flanagan

St. Catherine of Siena
Vickie Snyder
(Joe & Vickie Youman)
St. Pius V
Anniversary Blessings
Paul & Marilyn Boiardi
First Saturday
Richard Szemplinski

Grady Miller
(Tracie Leitzel)

Donna Konyar

People of the Parish

God's
kindness
endures
forever



From our pastor,

Recently, a very kind lady, from our community, referred to me as Pastor Hoke. Here is a compliment and a challenge, as the name 'Pastor' means 'Shepherd of the flock'. Yet, Christians know Jesus is the true shepherd. Even our Protestant friends know that Jesus does not, all alone by Himself, shepherd us from heaven, that the Holy Spirit has called pastors to shepherd Christ's flock, for Him, Who is seated at the Right Hand of the Father in glory. From the beginning of Christ's Church to the present age, the Church is always in need of good shepherds to act on behalf of the Lord, until He comes in glory.

Please pray, often and sincerely, for Vocations to the Priesthood and Consecrated Life. The holiness of the faithful depends on the holiness of the clergy; as does the holiness of the clergy depend on the holiness of the priestly people of God. I know many of you do pray daily for our seminarians and clergy, I am thankful for your prayers. Someday when we desperately need more vocations, then others will also be thankful for your prayers. Without your prayers we will not receive more vocations. Trust in the power of prayer.

As I celebrate my 45th Year of Ordination, I am filled with awe and wonder, thanksgiving and praise of the Lord's mercy and patience with me. In her diary, St. Faustina wrote regarding her call to serve the Lord, that she looked out with two eyes; one was on the great love and mercy that the Lord has for her, the other was upon herself as she saw one unworthy and desperately in need of God's grace. Two eyes, two truths, two mysteries, all joined together as one revelation. In faith we know through Jesus' priesthood He takes our broken nature and transforms it into a beautiful gift before the Father. He rose in glory but kept the opened wound of His Sacred Heart, into which we are placed. At Holy Mass the Heavenly Father sees us in the Heart of His Son, through the reception of Holy Communion we are one.

Please reflect upon this very old poem by Joyce Kilmer, it shows us how to be safe from Satan's tricks. It is the Priesthood of Jesus that keeps us safe Pray for me as I pray for you. (poem on next page)

Fr. John D. Hoke

Readings for April 25, 2021

Act of the Apostles 4:8-12 "In the name of Jesus...There is no salvation through anyone else, nor is there any other name under heaven given to the human race to be saved." This passage does not mean to say, that the Lord saves us separate from His body, all-alone, directly from heaven. He saves us through His Church, His Priestly/Kingly People, and in a very special way through those Ordained in Holy Orders.

Psalm 118 "The Stone rejected by the builders has become the corner stone." Not only was Jesus rejected by people of His own day but those who reject His teachings taught by His Holy Church throughout the years also reject Him.

1st John 3:1-2 See how wonderful is the working of the Holy Spirit, in the gifts of the Holy Spirit the Church is built up and walks in fear of the Lord and grows in numbers. Let us pray that the Holy Spirit grant to us many vocations to the Priesthood and the Consecrated life. Alleluia, I Will praise you, Lord, in the assemble of Your people, Alleluia. So many times in the scriptures we see this great understanding, that to be with the Lord is to be with those who assemble in His name. The concept of being all alone with the Lord is not a strong scriptural teaching. The concept of having a Good Shepherd is to gather the flock together, not to separate and scatter into small groups.

John 10:11-18 "I am the Good Shepherd....'Who' lays down His life for the sheep.' Jesus, went on to say 'This I is why the Father loves Me, because I lay down My life in order in order to take it up again.' This is 'lays down His life' was accomplished on the cross, and is made present at every Holy Mass through the ordained priest, Jesus lays His life down on the altar for us, His Bride, to take His life up again in Holy Communion. Let us remember to pray for Vocations to the Priesthood.

The Robe of Christ by Joyce Kilmer

At the foot of the Cross on Calvary
Three soldiers sat and diced,
And one of them was the Devil
And he won the Robe of Christ.
When the Devil comes in his proper form
To the chamber where I dwell,
I know him and make the Sign of the Cross
Which drives him back to Hell.
And when he comes like a friendly man
And puts his hand in mine,
The fervour in his voice is not
From love or joy or wine.
And when he comes like a woman,
With lovely, smiling eyes,
Black dreams float over his golden head
Like a swarm of carrion flies.
Now many a million tortured souls
In his red halls there be:
Why does he spend his subtle craft
In hunting after me?
Kings, queens and crested warriors
Whose memory rings through time,
These are his prey, and what to him
Is this poor man of rhyme,
That he, with such laborious skill,
Should change from role to role,
Should daily act so many a part
To get my little soul?
Oh, he can be the forest,
And he can be the sun,
Or a buttercup, or an hour of rest
When the weary day is done.
I saw him through a thousand veils,
And has not this sufficed?
Now, must I look on the Devil robed
In the radiant Robe of Christ?
He comes, and his face is sad and mild,
With thorns his head is crowned;
There are great bleeding wounds in his feet,
And in each hand a wound.
How can I tell, who am a fool,
If this be Christ or no?
Those bleeding hands outstretched to me!
Those eyes that love me so!
I see the Robe -- I look -- I hope --

I fear -- but there is one
Who will direct my troubled mind;
Christ's Mother knows her Son.
O Mother of Good Counsel, lend
Intelligence to me!
Encompass me with wisdom,
Thou Tower of Ivory!
"This is the Man of Lies," she says,
"Disguised with fearful art:
He has the wounded hands and feet,
But not the wounded heart."
Beside the Cross on Calvary
She watched them as they diced.
She saw the Devil join the game
And win the Robe of Christ.

Remember those who are sick in your prayers, especially.

Jack Wasilewski
Joan Bittler
Tresha Sudol
Abram Koons
Jackie Rando
Donald Reigel
Sister Laura
Mindy Lamprinos
Marie Luzenski
Billy Spaulding
Charlotte Farrell
Rita Prentiss
Ginny Azinger

Vickie Youman
Kurt Livingston
George Sudol
Connie Buehler
Marie Lindner
Ed Zerrenner
William Cameron
Joseph Masseri
Shirley Rauch
Mia Wendt
Judy Reese
Helen Beaver

Margaret Koons request we pray for the 11 on her
personal prayer list.

PRAYER IS OUR WAY TO CALL UPON GOD

Diocesan Annual Campaign

Our Parish goal is \$29,837.00. If you have not given towards the Annual Diocesan Campaign, please remember to do so. All contributions exceeding our Parish goal are returned to our Church.

Were you married in 1971?

In honor of your 50th Wedding Anniversary, there will be a special Mass and reception on Sunday, July 11, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. at Good Shepherd Parish in Camp Hill. Bishop Ronald W. Gainer will be the celebrant. To receive an invitation, please contact your parish office.

Religious Education News!

May 16th- Last Day of CCD for those not receiving a Sacrament. All Students are required to attend class and then Mass, at Parish Center

May 23rd -First Holy Communion

June 6th -The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ, Corpus Christi- Four Confirmants will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, Celebrant Most Reverend Ronald W. Gainer, DD,JCL

Youth Help Needed

We will be placing flags on the graves of Veterans in our cemetery for Memorial Day. Please consider volunteering your time by assisting with flag placement. Your time helping will go towards works of Mercy. Thank you.

Filled Pork Chop Dinner

Friday, May 14th
4-6:30p.m.

St. Joseph Parish Center
854 Cemetery Road, Milton, PA
(We will not be taking phone orders)

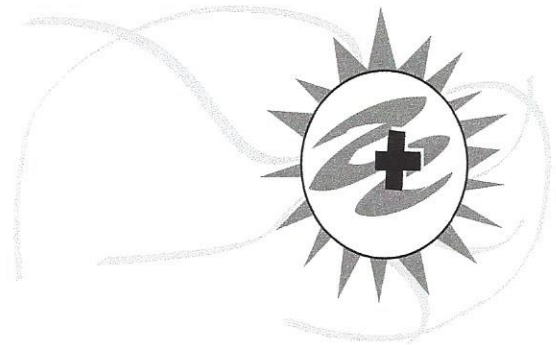
Take out Dinner will include: Filled Pork Chop,
Mashed Potatoes with gravy, Fresh Corn,
Applesauce and Dessert.
\$12.00

April Birthdays

Kathleen Snyder & Rita Patynski

Calendar of Events

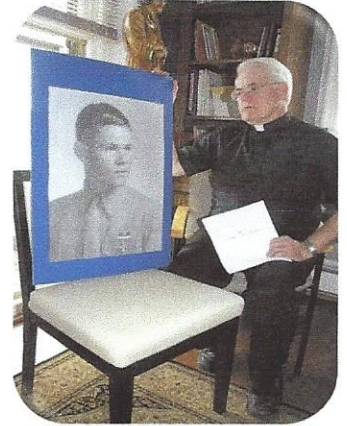
Sunday, May 9th – Mother's Day
Thursday, May 13th –Ascension of the Lord
Sunday, May 31st – Memorial Day
Sunday, June 1st Confirmation with Most Reverend
Ronald W. Gainer, DD,JCL
Sunday, June 20th Father's Day
Sunday, July 4th Independence Day
Saturday, July 31st –Annual Chicken BBQ Dinner
Saturday, October 2nd Rosary Rally
Saturday, October 16th –Women's Conference



The 45th Anniversary of Father Hoke's Ordination

What else happened that day in 1976? Sunday, April 25th, 1976 was Divine Mercy Sunday. *Is this why Father has such a special devotion to Divine Mercy Sunday?* Here's hoping you enjoy reading some articles found about Father Hoke. Have a great week! 😊

Father Hoke was one of four children of Barbara Marie and John Thomas Hoke - Father, Michael Thomas, Michelle Wise who lives in Spring Mills, PA and Jane Fellman who lives in Soldotna, Alaska. Their father died in 1990 and their mother in 1999. Private First Class Michael Thomas Hoke was killed Dec. 21, 1967, while on a rescue mission with Golf Company, 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines, 1st Marine Division, III MAF (Marine Amphibious Force). He was 19 years old. In an interview with Chris Brady, December 19, 2015, at the *Standard-Journal*, Father explained his choice to "join the Navy."



"There are so few priest chaplains," he said. "When I hit my mid-life crisis at 48, I thought more and more about my father's career in the service, 28 years in the Air Force, World War II, and my brother's service in Vietnam. What was in the past started to come forward into the present and influence my plans for the immediate future, so somehow I ended up going into the Navy at 50 years old. It sounds unbelievable, it was unbelievable at times.

"They took me in 2000, and I found myself in Keflavik Air Station, Iceland. I was almost 50 and thought I should give some years." In 2004, Hoke was stationed with the 2nd Marine Division, BLT 16, 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit in Afghanistan.

"There I am, 55 years old in the mountains looking at 19 year olds, the same age as my brother when he was killed," said Father Hoke. "They felt very comfortable with me, like they were talking to a grandfather. Many of them told me they were very close with their grandpas, that their grandpas were like their fathers. It was an honor to be with them."



His service also led him aboard the USS Ronald Reagan, in support of men and women in Afghanistan and with the Coast Guard in California and New Orleans, in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.

"I've given counsel to pilots who wondered if they were doing more harm than good," said Father Hoke. "They ask, 'Do we have a right to do what we do? Are we living God's law?'"

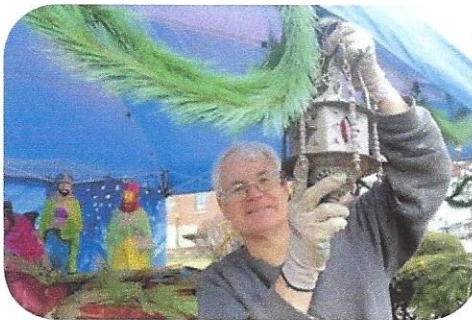
Father Hoke – The World Traveler

After 45 years in the priesthood, I guess one would have many experiences to share in his homilies. However, Anne Chiccino once said to Father “you can’t keep a job, can you!!” He has traveled extensively – with his Hoke family as his Father was in the Air Force and with his Navy family. One story he told was about the Swallows return to Mission San Juan Capistrano. It seems that the swallows migrate 6,000 miles from Goya, Argentina to San Juan Capistrano in large groups. The town of San Juan Capistrano welcomes visitors from all parts of the world to witness the return of the swallows, a tradition that has been celebrated since the early 1930 on March 19th – St. Joseph’s Feast Day. Father was there one March, and he shared that with us at a daily Mass on Monday, March 19, 2018.

When the Notre Dame cathedral was ravaged by fire, Father was interviewed by Kevin Mertz April 19, 2019 at the *Standard-Journal*. He had visited the French landmark while on a pilgrimage in 1992.

“Of course, it is a real gem of history of Christendom in Europe, going back to the Middle Ages,” Hoke said, of Notre Dame. “The church itself has very small windows down at the people level,” he said. “The beautiful windows are up high, which causes you to look up to the heavens. You see the glory of God.” He classified the fire as “a great tragedy.”

“It’s ironic that it’s very likely that it was an effort to preserve it that caused it to be severely damaged,” Hoke said. “Sometimes, when we try to preserve, protect, we end up doing more harm than good.”



In a December 20, 2017 interview by Kevin Mertz at the *Standard-Journal*, Father explained how he purchased an oil lamp when he visited Bethlehem.

“When I went to Bethlehem, early in my priesthood, I realized the stable was not a nice Austrian, German barn,” Hoke said. “It was a cave. At the nativity in Bethlehem,” Hoke said, “oil lamps are carefully placed around the area where Christ was born.”

After placing figurines representing Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus in the church manger scene, Father Hoke went inside the church and quickly emerged with a replica oil lamp. “The oil lamp I am going to hang, I bought in Bethlehem,” Hoke said, as he hung the lamp from the front of the manger scene. The Christians are so impoverished in Bethlehem, you feel like you have to buy something to support them,” Hoke said.

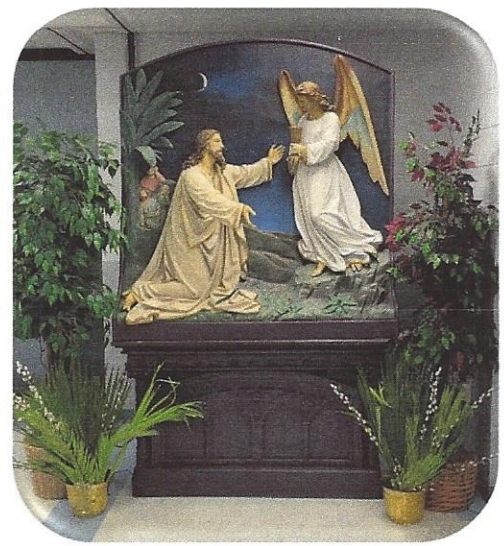
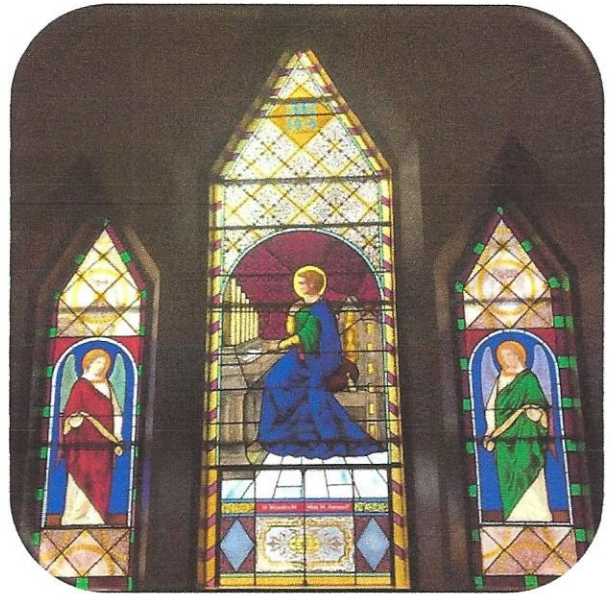
The Milton Adventure



Father Hoke arrived in Milton early in 2012. His main goal was to “pay off” the Parish debt, and in no time with a lot of effort and cooperation from the Parishioners, St. Joe’s became debt-free. And it continues to be financially stable.

In addition to turning the red in our bank accounts to black, Father Hoke had the choir loft repaired and the St. Cecilia stained glass

window refurbished and brought into the light of day. He had the large storage room at the Parish Center built, re-established the Forty Hours Devotion to include Divine Mercy Sunday, planted the Easter hydrangeas throughout the church grounds, had the Holy Family sculpture which hung at the CCD entrance of the Parish Center painted and displayed where all could view its beauty, and had the sculpture of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane refurbished.



Before the pandemic, Father offered the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass the first Tuesday of each month at the Milton Nursing and Rehab Center and the third Thursday of each month at the Lewisburg Penitentiary. Residents of each facility are anxious to see him often again.

Father loves to cook and to garden. *I know some of you have tasted his creations.* He loves his St. Joseph Family. In the Chris Brady interview about his brother Michael, Father noted that “having served in the Navy, he is eligible to have his remains placed with his brother in Arlington. It’s a decision he hasn’t made yet, as he loves Milton, and hasn’t ruled out St. Joseph’s Cemetery as his final resting place.

