

St. Joseph Catholic Church



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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: \$4,731.00

Solemnity of Mary: \$872.00

Immaculate Conception Community: \$6,755.00

Second Collections

January 8, 2023 – Central & Eastern Europe,
Latin America, Africa Missions

January 15, 2023 – Repair & Maintenance

January 22, 2023 – Our Faith, Our Future

Membranes for Christmas Flowers are posted
on the Bulletin Boards at the Church
and the Parish Center

The Epiphany of the Lord

January 8, 2023

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

- Sat., Jan. 7th** *St. Raymond of Peñafort*
First Saturday
9:00 AM Barbara Sforza
4:00 PM Thomas Sullivan
by Mary & Vince Emery
- Sun., Jan. 8th** *The Epiphany of the Lord*
8:00 AM Frank Povish
by Carole & Ed Barsis
11:00 AM People of the Parish
- Mon., Jan. 9th** *The Baptism of the Lord*
9:00 AM Mary Ann Carter
by Deb Mathias
- Tues., Jan. 10th**
9:00 AM Special Intentions of Eric
Sutherland by Donna Reid
- Wed., Jan. 11th**
6:00 PM Johnny Lee Tin
by Donna Reid
- Thurs., Jan. 12th**
9:00 AM Alfred Wilver
- Fri., Jan 13th** *St. Hilary*
9:00 AM Connie Buehler
- Sat., Jan. 14th**
4:00 PM Thomas Sullivan
by Anne & George Rocktashel
- Sun., Jan. 15th** *The Epiphany of the Lord*
8:00 AM People of the Parish
11:00 AM Pat Rosboschil

Immaculate Conception Community Sacred Heart Parish Sister Church in Haiti

Thank you to all who contributed to this special collection. The Sacred Heart Parish, Lewisburg, sent us pictures of their mission trip to Haiti, and these pictures are posted on our bulletin boards. You can see the wonderful work that is being done in this Lalouere Haiti Parish.

From Your Pastor.

Today we celebrate the feast of the manifestation of God's glory, called the Epiphany. In recent time the expression of 'having an epiphany' has become popular. It means having a light come on and showing a new way of seeing things. I guess having 'an epiphany' has been replaced by 'woke'. Whatever! It shows that even the secular world realizes the need to be enlightened and to see things in a new way.

The world is in great need for enlightenment, to break through the darkness of the relativity of truth; the totalitarian dictatorism of reality into a constant changing into whatever a person wants it to be. Let the truth be seen and the truth set us free.

The truth came as a heavenly light, to show the wise ones how to find the newborn king, the source of all truth and light and life, it is Jesus.

We are all called to not only follow the star but to reflect the star and to show others the way to Christ. So many of you are my epiphany, and the epiphany to many in the parish and throughout the community, shining forth to give light to the whole world.

I want to put a little light on Lola Benoit, who died December 15th, and to John her loving husband. Lola and John for many years before I came to the parish and ten years more, made our fund-raising dinners possible. Always in the background, they were always there to help me, and the parish make a success of our dinners. Many a pastor has said to me over the years, "how do you manage to put on these meals?" I replied, "it was because of the goodness of my people." Lola's funeral Mass will be at the end of the month, January, Saturday 28th, 11:00. I am looking forward to celebrating her funeral Mass. May we remember those who do so much for us. Thank You, God Bless.

Fr. John D. Holbe



CONFESSIONS

At the Church
Saturday from 3:15-3:45
before the 4 o'clock Mass.
Sunday from 7:15-7:45
before the 8 o'clock Mass.

Or by Appointment

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

Jerusalem is extolled as a place of glory and splendor because the Lord has come to His own city.

Second Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Paul tells the Ephesians that his special mission is to make the Gentiles co-heirs with the Jews in Christ — "members of the same body and sharers of the promise."

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

Herod learns that Wise Men from the East are searching for the newly born Christ Child. He instructs them to find the Child and to report His whereabouts to him. The Wise Men follow a star to the place where Mary and Jesus are and offer the Child gold, frankincense, and myrrh. They do not return to Herod but follow another route to their own country.

Thank You, Thank You

Thank you to all the folks who contributed to our Shutin/ Senior Citizen Christmas gift collection. We thanked all who wrote checks or included their name on the envelope. And we really appreciate all the anonymous donations – as do the Seniors. We have heard from many of them.

Although the AARP considers a Senior Citizen as 50 years old, we think of the revered generation as older than eighty!! Otherwise we would be collecting for over half of our congregation



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MONTHLY MEETING

Tuesday, January 10, 2023
Sacred Heart Church

6:30 Rosary / 7:00 Meeting

WEATHER & EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION

Just a Heads Up!!

If there is snow, sleet or freezing rain, Father will hold all weekend Masses at the Parish Center. Check social media when in doubt.

PARISH PRAYER LIST

Remember those who are sick
in your prayers, especially:

Bob Bender	Ray Leaser
John Bender	Malyssa Lenig
Lew Bogle	Michael McHale
Luke Boyd	Andrew Mikowski
Dolores Caicco	Dave Moser
Leslie Cameron	Melinda Oliveri
Helen Choplick	Mary Ruth Palmer
Ronan Erb	Gloria Reeder
Irene Hamilton	Joan Rudloff
John Heimbach	Dashawnda Russell
Betty Johnston	Larry Seibert
Bonnie Kauffman	Patricia Starcher
Christine Koons	Enza Welker
Andria Laurence	Vickie Youmans
	Andrea Rae Young

Please contact the church office (email, call or place a note in the collection basket) if you would like to have a name added to the prayer list. The names appearing on the list are to be on for two months. You are welcome to have a name reinstated. Please spell the person's name and include your name with the request.

FORMER PARISHIONER NEEDS OUR PRAYERS

John Bender, son of JoAnn and Bob Bender, received a liver transplant last week. He is doing well, but he will have a three week stay at UPMC-Montefiore Hospital, 3459 5th Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213, and then a six-week recovery period at home. John grew up in Milton, and he was baptized and received his sacraments at St Joseph.

During his recovery, John and his wife will be out of work without pay. Due to multiple unforeseen circumstances over the past few months, their savings and banked sick days were depleted. It has been a trying year.

If you would like to help this family out, we have placed envelopes on the back tables. You can make a check out to St. Joseph Church and include in the memo – for the Bender family. We will write one check to John. Thanks in advance for your help. If you can not make a financial gift at this time, please make a gift of prayer for his successful recovery.

Please return your donation by January 22nd.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS IN 2023

January 1, 2023 – World Day of Peace
January 8, 2023 – The Epiphany of the Lord
January 13, 2023 – Filled Chicken Breast Dinner
January 14, 2023 – Confirmation Retreat
At our church for students in the area.
January 19, 2023 – Parish Council Meeting
February 1, 2023 – First day of Lottery Drawings
February 22, 2023 – Ash Wednesday
February 24, 2023 – First Fish Dinner

FILLED CHICKEN BREAST DINNER



Friday, January 13, 2023

Following are our needs for this fundraiser:

- On Friday, we need people to:
 - box desserts at 9:45 AM,
 - butter the chickens at 11:00 AM & at 2:00 PM
 - car hop a 3:30 PM,
 - work on the serving line at 3:30 PM
 - clean pots & pans at 1:00 PM & at 4:00 PM.
- Lots of people to make cakes for dessert. Cakes should be dropped off at the Parish Center by 10:00 AM Friday morning. Please no nuts of any kind. Let Tracie Leitzel know if you are bringing cakes. Her email address is tleitzel1@ptd.net

GIVING STATEMENTS FOR 2022

If you would like a copy of your total contributions for 2022, please put a stamped self-addressed envelope in the collection basket.

Congratulations Xzavier Minimum

Xzavier was named to the Heartland Athletic Conference 1st Team as Running Back, Wide Receiver and Defensive Back. He was selected as 2nd Team Punter. This past weekend he was recognized on the Coaches Select All-State 2nd team as Offensive Athlete. This team is compiled by the Pennsylvania Football News.

Xzavier is a Distinguished Honor Roll student, and he is currently on the high school basketball team.

A LITTLE CHURCH HISTORY

The Reverend Daniel Maher was pastor from December 1891 to November 1895. He was succeeded by the Reverend Thomas W. Hayes who remained about nine months and the Reverend Charles Koch who was here about two weeks.

The Reverend George J. Breckel was ordained in July 1896, and his first assignment which began August 1896 was our Milton Parish.

The affable manner and priestly zeal of this young man won the hearts of his people and together they labored to wipe out the debt that burdened the parish since the disastrous fire of 1880. In 1901, Father Breckel was reassigned to Chambersburg – a very large congregation. All were very sorry to see him go, and a committee called upon Bishop Shanahan to endeavor to have their pastor remain.

The Reverend John C. Thompson was assigned to replace Father Breckel. People were quick to sense a rare personality and they grew to love this quiet, dignified and scholarly priest.

The *Evening Standard* of November 25th, 1901 gives the following account of a regrettable incident in the life of Father John C. Thompson.

About half-past eleven o'clock on last Saturday evening, Rev. Thompson, of St. Joseph's Catholic Church heard a noise on the back porch of his residence, but did not pay much attention to it and shortly afterwards fell asleep. About three o'clock, he was awakened by someone trying to force an entrance into his bedroom, which was fastened by a snap lock. He jumped out of bed and raised the window to call for help. The robbers then broke open the door and rushed into the room. Father grappled with them, but they were too much for him. One struck him with a chair and the other grabbed him by the throat. Upon the promise to keep quiet, they inflicted no further punishment.

He was compelled to give them what money he had in his pockets, about eight dollars, and a gold watch. They asked for his housekeeper, and when he informed them she was away, they forced him to accompany them through the house to see if he was telling them the truth. They found nothing else they wanted and took him back to his room, put him in his bed and told him not to make any noise. As soon as they left, Father slipped out to telephone for help, but he found that the thieves had taken the precaution to cut the wires.

The robbers secured an entrance by prying open a window on the back porch. Father Thompson described the men as being well dressed, one of them appeared to be a tall elderly

man, the other a small heavy set fellow. Father's shoulder and arm were painfully bruised from the chair." The *Standard* of November 29th reported that the Sodality reimbursed Father and also bought him a gold watch.

Father Thompson was reassigned after only six months. There was great sadness in losing him. However, that sadness was balance by the joy that their beloved priest Father George G. Breckel was returning. He continued his zealous and priestly work. His leadership brought to fulfillment the burning of the mortgage on St. Joseph's, May 1st 1904.

In 1896, the parish debt was \$6,305 and the income was \$422, but when Father Breckel was reassigned in 1907, the debt had been liquidated and the income has increased to \$4,776.00. This was accomplished, not merely by good administration, but more effectually by quickening the spiritual life of the parish.



FILLED CHICKEN BREAST DINNER

Friday, January 13, 2023

Serving 4 o'clock until 6 o'clock

Filled Chicken Breast, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy

Our Own Frozen Corn, Applesauce,

Roll And Dessert

Takeout Only \$14.00

FEBRUARY LOTTERY TICKETS

The following ticket numbers are still at large. If you have these tickets and they are sold, please return the stubs and the money to Harriet Moore. If you have these tickets and they are not sold, please return them to Harriet as she has a list of folks who would like to purchase tickets.

003, 004, 026, 034, 122, 282, 318, 353, 501, 581, 582, 654, 670, 735, 749, 754, 766, 784, 812, 842, 845, 854, 861, 902, 982, 988.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday & Tuesday 9:30-3:30

Wednesday 9:00-12:00

Office Phone: (570) 742-4356

If you would like to make an announcement in the bulletin, please contact the office via phone message, email or note in the collection basket.