


ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH

MOTHER CHURCH OF THE BERKSHIRES

ESTABLISHED 1849
Pittsfield, Massachusetts

Liturgical Celebrations



Saturday	4:00 PM
Sunday	9:00 AM 11:30 AM
Daily Mass	12:10 PM
RCIA	Tuesdays, 6:30 PM
Holy Hour	Monday-Friday, 11:00 AM
Daily Rosary	Monday-Friday, 11:30 AM
Prayer Group	1 st & 3 rd Wednesday, 6:45 PM
Holidays	Mass 9 AM

The Staff

Msgr. Michael Shershanovich, Pastor
Rev. Geoffrey Deeker, CSS, Priest in Residence
Rev. Mr. Pasqual Baldasaro, Deacon
Most. Rev. Timothy McDonnell in Residence
John Arasimowicz,
Coordinator of Youth Religious Education
e-Mail: stjosephccd@berkshire.rr.com
Michele Madden, Secretary
e-Mail: Michelemadden@berkshire.rr.com
Mrs. Patricia Momnie, Pastoral Minister

St. Joseph's Parish Office

414 North Street. Pittsfield, MA 01201
Tel: (413) 445-5789
Fax: (413) 443-5466
Hours: Mon.-Fri.: 9:00 AM-1:00 PM
e-Mail: msgrmike@berkshire.rr.com
Web site: www.stjoepittsfield.com

St. Joseph's Cemetery

Jay Meehan, Foreman
Nancy Nolan, Secretary
Tel: (413) 499-1317

Sacrament of Baptism:

All new parents are expected to complete a course of instruction.
Please consult the parish office for classes.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturdays, 3:00-3:45PM

Sacrament of Matrimony:

Couples should contact the parish office at least one year prior to the wedding.

New Parishioners should register at the parish office. We look forward to welcoming you to the parish family and hope you will become involved with your time, talent and treasure.

Ministry to the Sick and Parishioners confined to home have visitations that are scheduled on a regular basis. Please notify the parish office to make arrangements.

Religious Education Classes are held at St. Joseph's High School following the 9:00 AM Mass for all public school students, grades K-11, and parochial students preparing for Sacraments.



Lenten Disciplines of Fasting & Abstinence

Catholics in good health ages 18 to 59 are required to fast and to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

Fasting consists of eating only one meal, with the possibility of two smaller snacks that do not add up to a single full meal.

Catholics age 14 and older are to abstain from meat on all Fridays in Lent.



LENTEN VESPERS - Evening Vespers continue this Sunday evening at 6 p.m. in the Chapel. All are welcome to attend. A video presentation and discussion period in the North Chapel follows the service Refreshments are available.

BIBLE BASICS with Bishop McDonnell will be held tomorrow evening, Monday, March 14, and will be held every Monday evening during Lent from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the North Chapel. All are invited to attend! The schedule will be as follows:

THE NEW TESTAMENT: March 14 - Followers, disciples and apostles; March 21 - Then, now and always

SOUP & SPIRITUALITY will continue at St. Joseph's this Tuesday, March 15, following Daily Mass and will be held in the Parish Center every Tuesday during Lent (*A Retreat with Pope Francis*).

STATIONS OF THE CROSS & LAMENTATIONS on Friday evenings throughout Lent beginning at 6:30 PM.

Monday through Friday: **HOLY HOUR WITH ROSARY 11 AM AND CONFESSIONS at 11:30 AM**

Wednesday evenings: **MERCY DEVOTIONS, CONFESSION AND MASS AT 6 PM**

1ST & 3RD Wednesday of each month—**PRAYER GROUP** at 6:45 pm

RCIA—Tuesday evenings at 6:30 PM

STATIONS OF THE CROSS WILL BE HELD AT ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL MAUSOLEUM IN ST. JOSEPH'S CEMETERY ON GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 25th AT 12:00 PM.

Please join us in completing One Million acts of Mercy during this Holy Year. Example for those working in the Food Pantry and/or Eucharistic Ministers attending to the spiritual needs of homebound parishioners. As many as you visit is that many acts of Kindness. Please fill out the cards in the front of the Church.

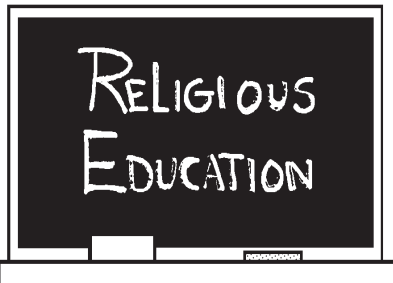
SAINT JOSEPH CHURCH PRAYER LINE:
[413] 443-1221

Gluten Free hosts available to those who cannot tolerate gluten.
PLEASE NOTIFY PRIEST BEFORE MASS.

St. Joseph News

March 13th

- ♦ Flower distribution to our homebound and nursing home parishioners with 8th, 9th, & 10th grade students. Please meet in the North Chapel after 9 AM Mass.
- ♦ Rehearsal for Passion Pageant in Church / Regular class for grades K—7 not in pageant.
- ♦ RSVSP Communion Breakfast is due. *Thank you!*



Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers

<i>Sat., March 12th</i> 4 PM	<i>Sun., March 13th</i> 9 AM	<i>Sun., March 13th</i> 11:30 AM
<u>Eucharistic Ministers</u>	<u>Eucharistic Ministers</u>	<u>Eucharistic Ministers</u>
Sheila Bouquet	Betty Kirby	Anne Dunham
Joe Bourquard	Jack Laviolette	Mary Huska
Sheila Christiana	Nancy Nolan	Charles Knappe
Michael Collins	Donna Quallen	Daniel Kochapski
Barbara Dalo	Carolyn Rousseau	Ron Pelletier
Marie Kotowicz	Joe Ryan	J. Weatherwax
<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Lectors</u>
Sharyn Fresia	Anne Kozlowski	Paul Mays
Cheryl Furtek	Joe Dahrouge	P. McDonough

St. Joseph Annual Bake Sale March 19th

Calling all Betty Crocker wannabes - - The Annual Bake Sale is fast approaching and we are looking for tasty treat contributions to sell. Brownies, pies, cookies, fudge, breads - - sweet or savory - - we will accept it all! Please bring baked goods to the Parish Center. THANK YOU!!!!

If baking is not your thing (I understand, I can burn water) have no fears - - we are also looking for people to attend and buy the tasty treats in support of the Annual Bake Sale to be held March 19th from 10 AM to 3 PM in the Parish Center. Hope to see you there!! *Thank you for your support!!*

Dear Friends of St. Joseph,

For the past three years I have enjoyed preparing the weekly bulletin for this wonderful community, and it is with great sadness that I step down from this position, as my scheduling and family commitments no longer permit me to continue in this role. As such, St. Joseph is seeking a new volunteer to prepare weekly bulletins. I will provide training and tips to get you comfortable and confident in this task. If you are interested and would like more information on specific tasks and time commitments, please contact Michele at the Rectory, [413] 445-5789.

Wendy Dottavio

"Eat Bread to Raise Dough for St. Joseph High School" on March 23rd at Panera Bread from 4 PM—6 PM. Panera Bread located at 635 Merrill Road in Pittsfield will donate a percent of its sales during this event to benefit the upcoming production of "Meredith Willson's The Music Man," to be performed by St. Joseph and St. Agnes school students on April 1 & 2 at Barrington Stage. *Coupon required (pick up at the school or call [413] 447-9121.

Also, tickets for the production "The Music Man" are available from Barrington Stage Company, 30 Union Street or by calling [413] 236-8888.

Sacrificial giving for last week 6,901.43:
Thank you for your generosity!

Jesus bent down and began to write on the ground with his finger. But when they continued asking him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." - Jn 8:6b-7

The Thirteen Tuesday devotions to St. Anthony begin this Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. at St. Joseph Church, 414 North Street. All are welcome to attend.

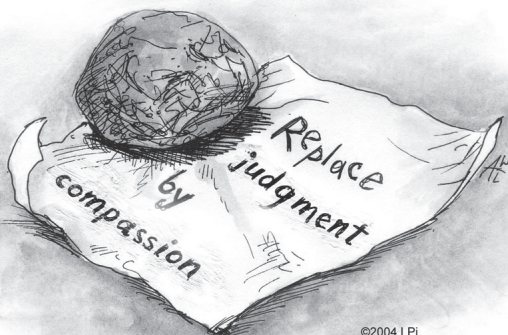
Pregnancy Support Services has need of cribs / pack 'n plays; baby gates; single and double strollers; and booster seats. Please call [413] 443-7351 for pick-up or information.

St. Joseph's Cemetery -

Please remove all decorations by Friday, April 1st. New decorations are not allowed until Mother's day, May 8th, live flowers only, no artificial. Cemetery gates and Mausoleum will be open from 8 AM to dusk beginning March 13th.

Mark your calendar-

The next Parish Council meeting is scheduled for March 20, 2016.



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CYCLE C MARCH 13, 2016

5th Sunday of Lent

"Then Jesus said, 'Neither do I condemn you. Go, and from now on do not sin anymore.'"

To the woman caught in adultery, Jesus was literally a savior. She was about to suffer the death penalty, according to the law of Moses, but the Lord preserved her life. He did not pretend she was innocent or excuse her behavior. His protection was not the result of anything the woman did or said to earn his favor. Rather, his freely bestowed mercy became an opportunity for her conversion. He saved her and set her free--not only from the self-righteous scribes and Pharisees--but from her own destructive behavior. The woman's physical life was spared, and if she chose to follow Jesus' instruction to abandon sin, her spiritual life was also saved as a result of this dramatic encounter.

We also have access to this freedom. When he died on the cross for us, Jesus became our savior too. Instead of condemning us, he set us free from the power of sin. But like the woman in the Gospel, we have a choice to make. Jesus' sacrifice is sufficient to remove the "death penalty" for us, but we are the ones who decide whether or not we will "sin anymore." We decide whether we will be slaves to selfishness, lust, and envy or whether we will pursue a life of generosity, self-control, and peace. Jesus does everything he can for us, short of taking our will captive. We, finally, have to decide: will I follow the path of Jesus, who has saved me, by resolving to sin no more? Or will I depart from my savior, and return to the same old self-destructive patterns?

The holy season of Lent is made to assist us in our decision to repent and to change for the better. There is no better time than now to sincerely resolve to begin anew.

Readings for the Week of March 13, 2016

Sunday: Is 43:16-21/Ps 126:1-6/Phil 3:8-14/Jn 8:1-11
 Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/Ps 23:1-6/Jn 8:12-20
 Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9/Ps 102:2-3, 16-21/Jn 8:21-30
 Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3:52-56/Jn 8:31-42
 Thursday: Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-9/Jn 8:51-59
 Friday: Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-7/Jn 10:31-42
 Saturday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a
 Next Sunday: Lk 19:28-40/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24/Phil 2:6-11/Lk 22:14-23:56 or 23:1-49



Saturday, March 12th

URSULA & TOM FORD

4 PM

Requested by Diefendort Family

Sunday, March 13th

BARBARA KUREK

9 AM

Requested by Bill Gustavis

JOAN E. MURPHY 1ST ANNIVERSARY 11:30 AM

Requested by Family

Sanctuary Candle

Dominick Blasioli—Requested by Family

Monday, March 14th

CARMEN GIANNOPOLLO

12:10 PM

Requested by Family

Tuesday, March 15th

LORRAINE LOCKE

12:10 PM

Requested by Julie Salatino

Wednesday, March 16th

IN APPRECIATION FOR JAMES BOGINS

GOOD HEALTH

12:10 PM

Requested by Mele & Nichols Families

Thursday, March 17th

JEAN AULISIO

12:10 PM

Requested by Pat & Barb

Friday, March 18th

DECEASED ALUMNI OF ST. JOSEPH
HIGH SCHOOL

12:10 PM

Requested by The Parish

Saturday, March 19th

KEVIN KOTOWICZ 14TH ANNIVERSARY

4 PM

Requested by Mom, Dori & Diane

Sunday, March 20th

JENNIE CIANNAMEA

9 AM

Requested by Family

NICK & MARION MAKES

11:30 AM

Requested by Family



Mercy: The mercy of God is not an abstract idea, but a concrete reality with which he reveals his love as of that of a father or a mother, moved to the very depths out of love for their child.

Misericordiae Vultus, no. 6

Be Merciful During the Jubilee Year of Mercy

Practicing mercy in our lives actually does take practice.

Have alternative drinks other than water, for times when those who have been struggling with alcohol come to visit.

