Roman Catholic Parishes of Northeastern Butler County



VICARIATE
FOUR
GROUPING
438
N. Oakland
Chicora
Carbon Center

St. Joseph Parish

Located at 864 Chicora Rd. Chicora, PA 16025 724-445-3713

Fax: 724-607-1183
Office Hours by PHONE only:

M. T. Th. - 9:30am-Noon

Mater Dolorosa Parish

Located at 409 North Main St. Chicora, PA 16025 724-445-3713

Office Hours by PHONE only at St. Joe Rectory:

M. T. Th. - 9:30am-Noon

St. Wendelin Parish

Located at 210 St. Wendelin Rd. Butler, PA 16002

724-287-0820

www.stwendelinbutler.com

Office Hours:

M. W. F. - 9:00am-Noon

A Message From Fr. Matt ...

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Have you found yourself saying, "I can not wait until this year is over."? I have heard a number of people say that, and who can blame them? It has been a tough year for everybody. Guess what? It is almost over! In fact, the end of the year is closer than you may think. The Church year, that is. Next Sunday, the Feast of Christ the King, is the last Sunday of the Church year. The following Sunday is the First Sunday of Advent. With that we start a whole new cycle of Readings. As each year winds down, we are called by the Church to think about the End Times. So the Readings for the last few weeks and this week, are reminders to us that there will be an end, not just to the year, but to this life and this world. There will be a time when we are called to account for what we have done in this life. How does that make you feel? Do you care? I hope so. If you don't, then I am terrible at my job. Does it bring you fear? If so, that isn't necessarily a bad thing. Depends on what we mean by "fear" and what that fear inspires in you. That's what I'd like to talk about today.

Some of you are saying to yourself, the End Times and the Judgment don't cause me fear because God is love, God is so good and forgiving. It will all be fine. You're right that God is love and God is so good and more forgiving than we can ever imagine. But, God also tells us that, in the end, there will be an accounting of what we have done. Jesus tells us this in today's parable. In the Gospel, each person is given gifts from the master. Two of the people take what the master has given them and do good things so that when they are called to account, they return to the master not only what he gave them, but what they made with what he gave them. The other servant, when called to account, just returns what he had been given. He has done nothing with it. We will come back to that moment, but first, let's notice what happens to that person. He is thrown into the darkness outside! So the Gospel is telling us that everything can be ok, but it is up to you. What have you done with what has been given to you? The answer will dictate your eternity. Wow. Heavy stuff.

We are told in the parable that, in fact, God will give us a final exam. You may have thought you were done with exams, didn't you? There is one more and it's a big one. But, God gives us both the questions and He gives us the answer.



In a weird way, the answer is fear. Pittsburgh Steelers' head coach Mike Tomlin always says, "We won't live in our fears." But today I want to say that we all actually do live in our fears. What is important, though, is how we understand what "fear" means. I don't mean the fear that made the person in the Gospel bury

what he was given. That kind of fear is self-centered. He didn't want to get in trouble. He was afraid of what the risk would cost him. There is no life in that kind of fear. But the First Reading and the Responsorial Psalm speak of a different kind of fear. One that is life-giving and liberating. Fear of the Lord. It is one of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, just like Knowledge and Wisdom that we spoke of last week. Fear of the Lord is also sometimes called Wonder and Awe. It is on display in the Readings where, in the First, a woman who fears the Lord is shown to be one who uses all the talent she has for the good of others, for the good of beauty, for the good of the poor. She knows that what she has been given was not given just for her, but so that she could give it away, out of love for God and others. In the Psalm, the one who fears the Lord is blessed, not in himself, but in the fruit that comes from the way he lives his life. God says this one who fears the Lord, who has wonder and awe at what God has given him and lives a generous life as a response, will see prosperity all the days of his life. Eternal prosperity.

So as we come to the end of the Church year, God reminds us that in the end, there will be a test. But it is a test for which you already know the answer. What kind of fear are you living in? Is it the paralyzing fear that is all about you and preserving what you have? Well, then you are making the choice to be cast into the darkness. Or is it the fear that fills you with wonder and awe at the generosity and love of God? The fear that allows the precious gift to grow through your own generosity and love of others? Then you, too, are making a choice. The second choice is better.

Peace and Love, Fr. Matt



Drive Thru TURKEY DINNER Today, Noon-5pm SW Parking Lot

Serving: turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes & gravy, green beans, coleslaw, cranberries and a delicious pumpkin dessert, all to-go for \$10. While you wait for your meal to be readied, you'll have an opportunity to purchase tickets for the PTG Basket Raffle. Proceeds from the Dinner and Raffle benefit the St. Wendelin School Tuition Assistance Fund.



NOVEMBER 16 - 22

MONDAY:

RV 1:1-4; 2:1-5; PS 1:1-4, 6; LK 18:35-43

TUESDAY:

RV 3:1-6, 14-22; PS 15:2-5; LK 19:1-10

WEDNESDAY:

RV 4:1-11; PS 150:1B-6; LK 19:11-28, OR (FOR THE MEMORIAL OF THE DEDICATION) ACTS 28:11-16, 30-31; PS 98:1-6; MT 14:22-33

THURSDAY:

RV 5:1-10; PS 149:1B-6A, 9B; LK 19:41-44

FRIDAY:

Rv 10:8-11; Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131; LK 19:45-48

SATURDAY:

RV 11:4-12; PS 144:1B, 2, 9-10; LK 20:27-40

SUNDAY:

Ez 34:11-12, 15-17; Ps 23:1-3, 5-6; 1 Cor 15:20-26, 28; MT 25:31-46

Monday-Sunday, November 16-22 ~ MASSES, CONFESSIONS, OPEN CHURCHES

Monday, November 16

Noon Mass at MD For Ed Parker Open church 11am till Mass starts

Tuesday, November 17

8am Mass at SW For Loretta Geibel By M/M Barry Porter Open church after Mass till 10am

Wednesday, November 18

10am School-only Mass at SW (Due to building capacity limitations) For Leo Rosenbauer, Jr. By Tom & Linda Cornetti (Open church temporarily suspended for School Mass)

Wednesday, November 18 continued

6pm Confessions at MD Open church 6pm till Mass starts at 7pm at MD For Ed Parker By Bob & Norma Miller

Thursday, November 19

8am Mass at SW For Paul Miller By Gail Swartzlander Open church after Mass till 10am

Friday, November 20

Noon Mass at SJ For Gertrude Berteotti By Mike & Sandy Potchak Open church 11am till Mass starts

Saturday, November 21

11am Confessions at SW and MD and 11:45am at SJ 4pm Mass at SW For Sue Fallecker Green By Dan & Joyce Burns

Sunday, November 22

8am Mass at MD For Oscar & Mildred Callihan By Fred & Martha Callihan 9:30am Mass at SJ For Rose Filges By Mary Paserba 11am Mass at SW For Ed Parker By Family

Parish Offertories

November 7 & 8

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH

Offertory at Mass 11/8	\$584.00
Offertory Online	\$85.00
Total Offertory	\$669.00
Weekly Goal	\$1,500.00
Fiscal Year Goal	\$75,000.00
Total Toward Fiscal Year Goal	\$11,721.00
Parish Share: Monthly Envelope on App	eal \$672.00
PSP Online	\$00.00
Total Parish Share	\$672.00
2020 Parish Share Goal	\$6,289.00
Total PSP Received 2020/21	\$13,671.00
Retired Religious Fund	\$10.00

Thank you for your generosity to Parish Ministries!

MATER DOLOROSA

Offertory at Mass 11/8	\$1,537.00
Offertory Online	\$205.00
Total Offertory	\$1,742.00
Weekly Goal	\$3,400.00
Fiscal Year Goal	\$175,000.00
Total Toward Fiscal Year Goal	\$32,593.00
House	\$10.00
House Online	\$10.00
Parish Share: Monthly Envelope on Appeal	\$380.00
PSP Online	\$00.00
Total Parish Share	\$380.00
2020 Parish Share Goal	\$20,985.00
Total Received 2020/21	\$18,118.00
All Saints Day	
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ST. WENDELIN CHURCH

Offertory at Mass <u>11/7</u> & <u>11/8</u>	\$2,814.00
Offertory Online	\$935.00
Total Offertory	\$3,749.00
Weekly Goal	\$5,800.00
Fiscal Year Goal	\$300,000.00
Total Toward Fiscal Year Goal	\$71,143.96
Project Fund	\$35.00
Adopt A Child	\$230.00
Adopt A Child Online	
Parish Share	\$180.00
Parish Online	\$30.00
Total Parish Share	\$210.00
2020 Parish Share Goal	\$47,710.00
Total PSP Received 2020/21	\$24,201.60
All Saints Day	\$135.00
Retired Religious Fund	\$10.00

CONGRATULATIONS!

Ryan & Samantha Hohn on the baptism of their son MASON LEE HOHN on November 8, 2020 at St. Wendelin Church

MAY JESUS ALWAYS BE HIS LIGHT



Sympathy is extended to the family of:

Mary "June" McGrady Lowers

from Mater Dolorosa Church, whose Blessing Service was November 10, 2020

Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace.



Sympathy is extended to the family of:

Tera | . Callihan

from Mater Dolorosa Church, whose Blessing Service was November 9, 2020

Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace.

Faith Formation & St. Wendelin School Information...

This week's St. Wendelin School Student of the Week is: LYDIA MALEY Lydia has been a student at St. Wendelin School for seven years, beginning in kindergarten. Her favorite subject is history. Lydia is an extremely active young lady participating in singing, drama, and cheering. She also enjoys traveling with her mom to Gettysburg and Erie. Her favorite foods are cheesy fries and hot dogs (yum yum). Lydia also loves playing with her dog, Max. Congratulations to this week's St. Wendelin School Student of the Week, LYDIA MALEYI

Catholic Identity Program
This program highlights a variety of virtues and values through short lessons, prayers, Scripture references, and more.

This Week's Virtue:

CARING

Caring is being attentive and responsive to the needs of others. particularly those who are suffering or in need.



Favorite Recipes Wanted! School organizing cookbook

St. Wendelin School PTG is creating a new recipe book from our three Churches of St. Joseph, Mater Dolorosa and St. Wendelin. The book will be under the school and new Parish name. Submit your favorite recipes by

Friday, December 4 to:

1. PTG email at ptgstwend@zoominternet.net

- 2. Mail to St. Wendelin School, 211 St. Wendelin Rd., Butler, PA 16002
- **3.** Place a hard copy in the school drop box.

Put the recipe under your name or the name of a student at the school. Sales start mid-January, 2021. Questions? Email the PTG at the above address.



St. Wendelin School had a combination Halloween Party and Walk-a-thon (a much-loved tradition!) to finish up the long month of October. The Walk-a-thon raised money for the Diocese's Chimbote Mission and the School's Activity Fund.



PARISH NOTES .

WREATH ORDERS DUE TOMORROW

Every December, "Wreaths Across America" honors Veterans by placing wreaths on graves throughout the U.S. and abroad. The mission is to honor and remember the Fallen, and to teach our younger generation about the value of their freedoms. Each wreath is \$15, and they will be placed on graves near December 19. Order forms are on our website and are due TOMORROW, Monday, November 16. Sponsored by our own Knights of Columbus Council 14103.

YOUNG ADULT GATHERINGS

Young Adults, ages 21-40-ish, are invited most third Thursdays to the Dew Drop Inn, Chicora. The next get-together is on Thursday, November 19, 6:30-8:00pm. Come for social time, appetizers, and a relaxed Q & A with Fr. Matt.

FREE TURKEY DROP

On Saturday, November 21, 9-11am, our Grouping will hand out a free frozen turkey and sides at Mater Dolorosa Church. Vehicles can pull in, open the trunk, and a Turkey Team Member will place in items. This is a completely free event to provide a Thanksgiving meal to anyone in our community. Turkey Team Members are needed. If you can help, contact Martha Birch at mdparish@stwendelin.com or 724-445-3713X5. The event will follow CDC and Diocesan Covid guidelines. Volunteers from all Churches are needed.

BLESSING BAGS FOR HOMELESS

A member of our Grouping is working on a Girl Scout project for homeless called Blessing Bags. Donations will be accepted after each Mass at all Churches the weekend of November 21 and 22. She is hoping to make up 100 bags for area homeless shelters. Donations needed: fingernail clippers, fingernail files, wash clothes, hand warmers, gum, little bottles of water, band-aids, toothbrushes, toothpaste, dental floss, bars of soap, deodorant, pocket tissues, combs, chap stick. new thick socks, winter hats, alcohol wipes, hot cocoa, cheese crackers, hard candy, instant oatmeal packets, granola bars, fruit or applesauce cups, hand sanitizer.

SECOND OFFERTORY

Thousands of senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests spent years working in Catholic schools, hospitals, and agencies, often for little or no pay. Now, their religious communities do not have enough savings for retirement and eldercare. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious, next weekend, November 21 and 22, helps provide medications, nursing care, and more. Almost 94 percent of donations aid senior religious. Please be generous.

THANKSGIVING DAY MASS & AFTER

Thanksgiving Day Mass is Thursday, November 26, 9:00am at SWP. This Mass will also be live streamed. There are no Masses or Open Churches at any Parish on Friday, November 27. Parish offices are closed both days.

2021 LOTTERY CALENDARS

Calendars will be on sale after all Masses the weekend of December 5 and 6. They make great Christmas gifts! Or, purchase them Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9am-Noon in the SW office. \$20 each with 1,000 calendars for sale. Winners determined by the three-digit PA Lottery "The Daily Number," pulled at 7pm. Cash winnings figured by the amount of money on that calendar day. Winners paid at the end of the month.

2021 BAPTISM CLASSES

Parents are required to take a Baptismal Class prior to having their first child baptized, or if it has been a few vears between children. Online Zoom classes are being scheduled on four Mondays throughout 2021, at 6:30pm. Dates are: February 1, May 3, August 2 and November 1. To register for a Zoom session or to schedule a baptism, contact Barb at 724-445-3713 x4

WEEKEND MASS REGISTRATIONS

Thank you for registering weekly for Masses that are celebrated at all Churches on the weekends. This process needs to continue for a while longer. For the weekend Masses, call 724-287-0820 X1 or email to registration@stwendelinbutler.com by 3pm on Fridays. At this time, registration is for one week at a time.

SW ANGEL TREE **SCHEDULE**

We can't have a Christmas tree in the SW vestibule, so, we are taking a different approach to

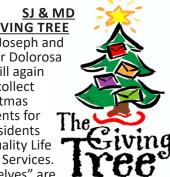


make sure our Angel Tree happens! Check out the schedule:

- 1. Last week: a form went home with CCD and school families, and it is on the website. This form is for suggested children's gifts and contact information. If you know of a family that would benefit, complete a form. They do not need to be Parishioners.
- 2. Wednesday, November 18: forms are due to SW office
- 3. Monday, November 23: "Angels" available to by calling or stopping in SW office
- 4. Monday, December 14: Wrapped, tagged gifts are due to SW office
- 5. Tuesday, December 15: Phone calls start for gift pick up

SJ & MD **GIVING TREE**

St. Joseph and Mater Dolorosa will again collect Christmas presents for residents of Quality Life



Our "elves" are busy collecting wish lists from residents! Like everything else this year, this event will proceed differently. Check next week's bulletin for details. Remember some of these senior citizens have not been able to visit with family members for an extended period

Help make their Christmas special.

Santa is coming to Saint Wendelin School 211 Saint Wendelin Road Butler, PA 16002

Basket Raffles Hot Cocoa and Cookies Photos with Santa in a Horse Drawn Wagon

Bring your letters for Santa! Santa's official mailbox will be in the parking lot that day! Be sure to include your return address for Santa to respond!

December 5th from 12 to 3pm Weather Permitting Rain Date is December 6th

All Proceeds Benefit St. Wendelin School's PTG Masks and Social Distancing Required