



SAINT
JOSEPH

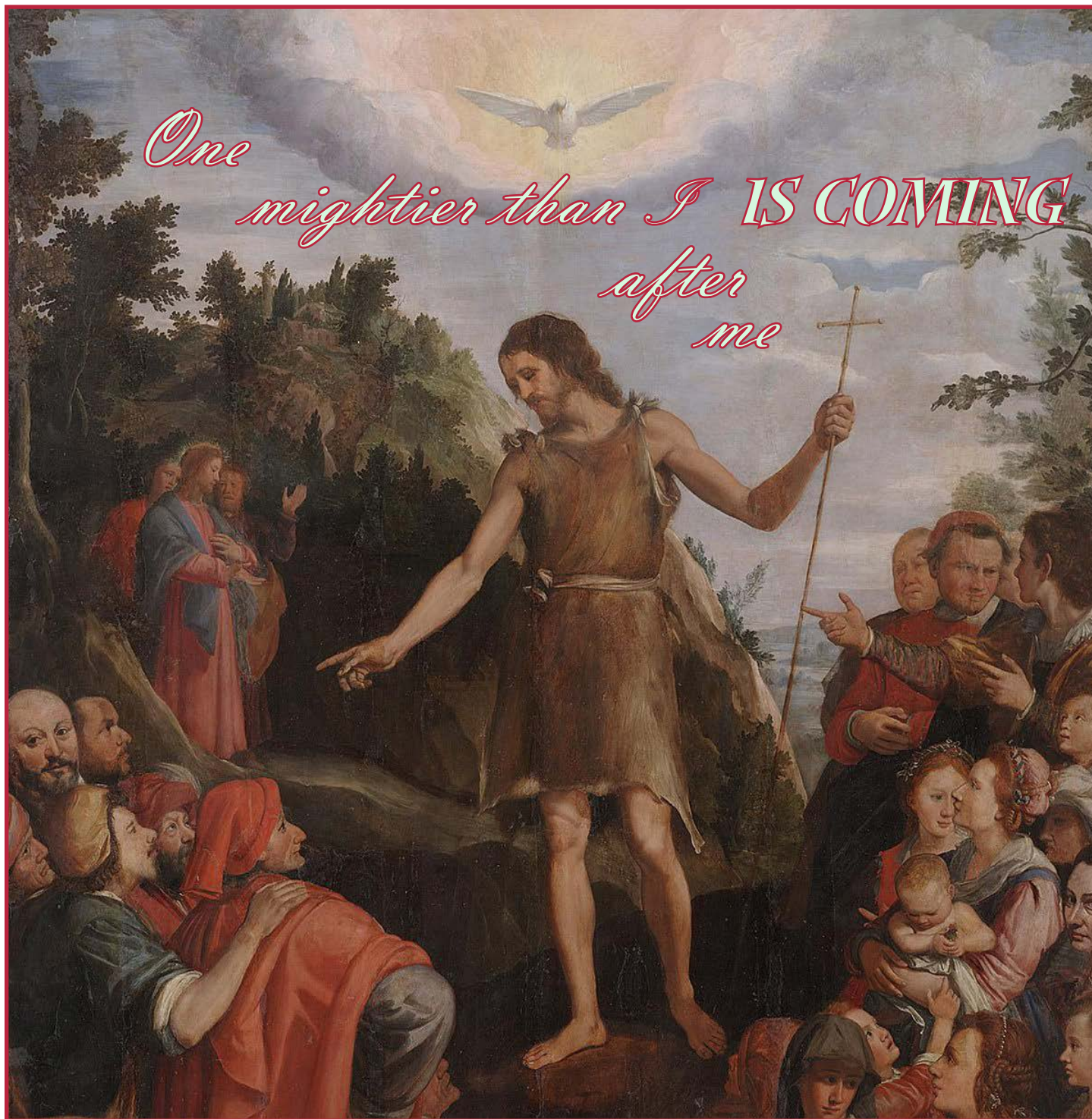


Mater
Dolorosa



Saint
Wendelin

Roman Catholic Parishes of Northeastern Butler County



December 6, 2020

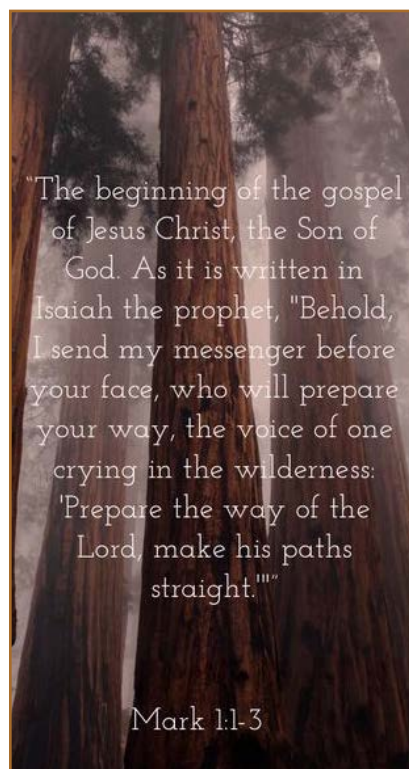
The Second Sunday of Advent

A Message From Fr. Matt ...

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Did you read the Official Decree for the new Parish? It is not an easy read. There is a lot of technical legal-speak in it, lots of "Where as" and stuff like that. There is good information in there, too. One of the parts that I found most interesting is where the territorial boundaries of our Parish are described. It uses this really weird phrase: "Beginning at the point of beginning..." It then describes the intersection of a township line with a road. Apparently the point of beginning for our new Parish is where Hooker Road intersects the Concord Township line. Then we move East, then South, then West and end up back where we started. Beginning at the point of beginning! It is pretty neat to look at, to be honest.

In the Readings for the Second Sunday of Advent, we have some of the most consoling lines in the Scriptures. "Comfort, give comfort to my people says your God." "A voice cries out: in the desert prepare the way for the Lord." "Fear not to cry out, here is your God!" Those are just in the First Reading! In the Psalm we sing, "Kindness and Truth shall meet; Justice and Peace shall kiss." In the Second Reading, St. Peter tells us that the Lord does not delay, rather "He is patient with you, not wishing that any should perish." This is great stuff. God seems to be reminding us that He has our back. Even though things may seem tough sometimes, God has not forgotten us. Be comforted by that and your belief that God keeps His word. Be patient with God as He is patient with you.



But, honestly, the words that jumped out at me the most this week are in the Gospel. St. Mark tells us of this mysterious figure, St. John the Baptist. John echoes what the Prophet Isaiah said in the First Reading and declares that one mightier than he is on the way. Prepare the way for Jesus! But, it isn't these words I'm talking about, as powerful and eternity-changing as they are. Maybe it is because I spent so much time reading the new Parish decrees, I don't know, but what sticks with me this week are the first two words of the Gospel: "The beginning..."

Why are those words so powerful? Think about your first day at school or a first date. The first time you connected with a friend or visited a beautiful place. It is a moment of tremendous potential, a moment of freshness and newness, where all sorts of things are possible. It is also a moment where we don't yet have it all figured out. Not yet are we burdened by disillusion or calloused by disappointment. Not yet are we certain about which way to go or how things will end up. It is potential. It is hope. It is new. It is the beginning.

In the beginning of Mark's Gospel, John points to Jesus. He is the beginning. In fact, in the Book of Revelation, Jesus calls Himself "the beginning". He also calls Himself "the end." Just like our Decree! But in the Gospel, instead of Hooker Road, the point of beginning is Jesus. I like Hooker Road. It is a nice road. But think about the beginning being Jesus! Think about what that means as

we prepare for His coming. Are you sick and tired of how your life is going? Do you ever wish you could go back to a time when you were more innocent, less bitter, less angry? Do you ever wish that you could start over again? This is the good news of Advent. You can! You can begin again in Jesus because He is the beginning.

This week, think about the relationships in your life that are broken. Ask Jesus to help you to begin again with Him as the beginning. Think about the bad choices you have made, the questionable patterns you have gotten into and ask, "The Beginning" to help you begin again. St. Bonaventure said that Jesus always looks at you with fresh eyes! His look upon you is not tired. He doesn't roll His eyes and say, I know what this one has done in the past. He looks at you with hope and love. Fresh eyes! That's what I mean by asking Jesus to help you begin again. Ask Him to help you to see yourself and your situations with fresh eyes. There is newness! There is potential! This is how you can see your life, no matter how old you are, if you begin at the beginning. The beginning is Jesus and his fresh eyes. Begin at the beginning.

Peace and Love,
Fr Matt



Effective January 4, 2021,
our Grouping is:

ST. CLARE OF ASSISI
and we are a Sister Parish
with St. Francis of Assisi,
which comprises St. John,
Coyleville; St. Mary,
Herman; and St. Joseph,
Cabot. The two Parishes of
Assisi will be served by a
shared clergy team of
Fr. Matt, who is Pastor;
and three Senior Parochial
Vicars: our own Fr. Lou,
and Fr. Ward Stakem, OFM
Cap., and Fr. James Kurtz,
OFM Cap., who presently
serve what will be St. Fran-
cis of Assisi Parish.

More info on the website:
<https://www.stwendelinbutler.com/>

**THE SOLEMNITY OF
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
IS TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8,**

IT IS A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

FOR MASS BY CALLING

724-287-0820 X1 OR

EMAIL TO REGISTRATION@

STWENDELINBUTLER.COM

MASSSES ARE:

• MONDAY, DECEMBER 7

7PM: ST. JOSEPH, VIGIL

• TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8

10AM: ST. WENDELIN

AS OF NOW, THIS IS A

SCHOOL-ONLY MASS

NOON: MATER DOLOROSA

7PM: ST. WENDELIN

REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR

ALL IMMACULATE

CONCEPTION MASSES IS

TODAY, SUNDAY, DEC. 6, 5PM

PARISH NOTES

CHRISTMAS ADDRESSES

This bulletin has an insert with addresses for Religious who have served in our Grouping, and Parishioners who are homebound or presently serving in the military.

2021 LOTTERY CALENDARS

AFTER MASS TODAY!

Caleendars will be on sale after all Masses this weekend, 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 caleendars for sale. Winners determined by the three-digit PA Lottery "The Daily Number," pulled at 7pm. Winnings figured by the amount of money on that caleendar day. Winners paid at the end of the month.

SJ & MD GIVING TREE

It's that time of the year again when we collect presents for Quality Life Services, Chicora. Due to covid restrictions, we are unable to place trees with tags in the vestibules of St. Joseph and Mater Dolorosa. Instead, we are utilizing email and phone calls to claim a resident's name and wish list. **To participate**, email 2020christmasgivingtree@gmail.com or call 724-822-2415. If no answer, leave your name and number for a return call. If you prefer to have Santa's elves shop for you, send the amount you would like spent to:

Attention Giving Tree
SJ Administrative Center
864 Chicora Road
Chicora, PA 16025

A gift will be purchased using your donation. Wrapped and tagged presents are due **Thursday, December 17**. Place in the cry room at MD

or in DePaul Hall at SJ during regular Mass times.

SW ANGEL TREE

Reminder to those who have an Angel from the SW Angel Tree, on **Monday, December 14**, wrapped and tagged gifts are due to SW office. On **Tuesday, December 15**, phone calls start for pick up.

WEEKEND MASS REGISTRATION

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 weekend Masses, call 724-287-0820 X1 or email to registration@stwendelin-butler.com by 3pm on Fridays. At this time, registration is for one week at a time.

LIVE STREAM MINISTRY

We are looking for people interested in volunteering with Mass video programming which happens out of the SW Live Stream Booth (bird's eye view of Mass!). All ages are welcome, but you need to be comfortable with computers, cameras, and video and audio equipment. We have a YouTube channel: North East Butler County Parishes. Questions to Adam Murray, Director of Digital Media, at amurray907@gmail.com or call the SW Office. Training provided.

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 years 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.




SAINT JOSEPH

Mater Dolorosa

Saint Wendelin

Roman Catholic Parishes of Northeastern Butler County



Celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation

Confession during Advent

Saturdays - 11:00 am to 11:30 am at Saint Wendelin
Saturdays - 11:00 am to 11:30 am at Mater Dolorosa
Saturdays - 11:45 am to 12:15 pm at Saint Joseph
Wednesdays - 6:00 pm to 6:45 pm at Mater Dolorosa

Mass Registrations are required for All Masses

Registrations will begin on Monday, December 7th. Christmas registration must be made by December 21 at 5 pm. Solemnity of Mary must be made by December 30, noon.

Please register by calling 724-287-0820 ext. 1 or emailing registration@stwendelinbutler.com



Christmas Masses

December 24 - 2:00 pm at Saint Wendelin
December 24 - 3:00 pm at Mater Dolorosa
December 24 - 4:00 pm at Saint Wendelin
December 24 - 7:00 pm at Saint Joseph
December 25 - Midnight at Saint Wendelin
December 25 - 8:30 am Mater Dolorosa
December 25 - 10:00 am at Saint Wendelin



Mary, Holy Mother of God

Tues., Dec. 31 - 4:00 pm at Mater Dolorosa
Wed., Jan. 1 - 8:30 am at Saint Joseph
Wed., Jan. 1 - 10:00 am at Saint Wendelin

REGISTERED FAMILIES RECEIVED THIS ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE IN THE MAIL.

SEE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION MASS INFO ON PAGE 2

This week's St. Wendelin School

Student of the Week is:

NATALIE WELTER

Natalie is a fifth grade student in Mrs. Allen's classroom. She has attended St. Wendelin School for seven years, and has developed lasting bonds of friendship with her classmates.

Her artistic abilities have made art her favorite subject.

Natalie's favorite food is a delicious grilled steak. Her extra-curricular activities include being part of Dance Club and enjoying gymnastics. Natalie is unsure of her future career endeavors, but her hard work ethic and positive attitude will make her successful in any field.

*Congratulations to this week's St. Wendelin School Student of the Week, **NATALIE WELTER!***

Catholic Identity Program

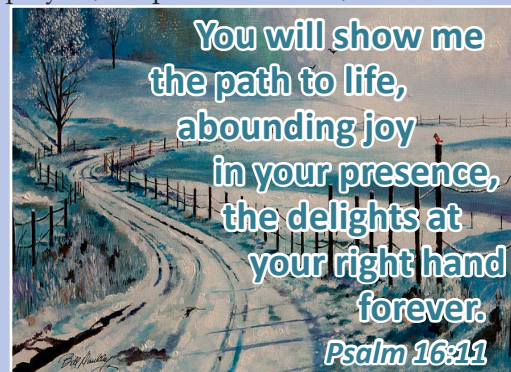
This program highlights a variety of virtues and values through short lessons, prayers, Scripture references, and more.

This Week's Virtue:

JOY

JOY is the pure gift of God's grace and happiness.

It is beyond human seeking or what we can imagine for ourselves.



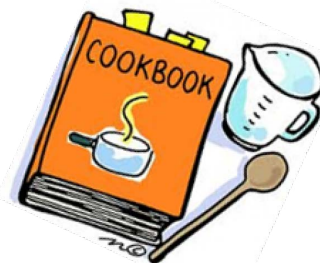
SWS December FUN-draisers

A TASTY NEW BOOK

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 recipes **ASAP** to:

1. PTG email at ptgstwend@zoominternet.net
OR
2. Mail to St. Wendelin School, 211 St. Wendelin Rd., Butler, PA 16002
OR
3. Place a hard copy in the school drop box.

Forms for submitting a recipe are on the school and Parish websites. Sales start mid-January, 2021. Questions? Email the PTG at the above address.

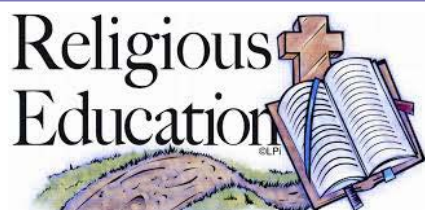


MEAT RAFFLE

Tickets for the school's Meat Raffle are online at \$5 each. The drawing is **Friday, December 18, 6pm.**

- First Place is \$300 worth of your choice of meat from Welter's Meat Shop
~ Meat will need to be picked up at Welter's Meat Shop by the winner.
- Second Place is a whole ham from Welter's Country Market
~ Ham can be picked up at St. Wendelin School.
- Third Place is a turkey from Welter's Country Market
~ Turkey can be picked up at St. Wendelin School.

To purchase tickets, use the links below or contact Stephanie Baldauf at 724-991-0953. Credit cards are prohibited. PayPal: <https://py.pl/MSiXX>
Debit Card: <https://checkout.square.site/buy/BKHPX7M2QW5VPQLYTYTNHR4Z>
Sales end **Wednesday, December 16** at 11:59pm.



CCD REMINDER
All CCD grades that meet at St. Wendelin Church have class **TODAY, Sunday, December 6**

- Grades 1-5 - 9:30-10:45am
 - Grades 6-8 - 6:30-8pm
 - Grades 2 & 8 in the Church Hall
 - All other Grades in the School
- Remember Face Covering & Homework!**

Monday-Sunday, December 7-13 ~ MASSES, CONFESSIONS, OPEN CHURCHES

Monday, December 7

Noon Mass at MD

For John McNallen

By Fred & Martha Callihan & Family

Open church 11am till Mass starts

Immaculate Conception Vigil

7pm Mass at SJ

For Viola Mae Boltz

By Bob & Norma Miller

Tuesday, December 8

Immaculate Conception Masses

10am Mass at SW, **SCHOOL ONLY**

For John Tomsey, Sr.

By Family

Noon Mass at MD

For William Graham

By John & Luz Graham

7pm Mass at SW

For Dr. Edward McClain

By Dave & Peggy Lambert & Family

Wednesday, December 9

NO 10am Mass at SW

6pm Confessions at MD

Open church 6pm till Mass

starts at 7pm at MD

For Marsha Donaldson Self

By Family

Thursday, December 10

8am Mass at SW

For Dante Borghini

By Larry, Cathie & Family

Open church after Mass till 9am

Friday, December 11

Noon Mass at SJ

For Cecil Crouch

By Bob & Barb Karenbauer

Open church 11am till Mass starts

Saturday, December 12

11am Confessions at SW and MD
and 11:45am at SJ

4pm Mass at SW

For Paul C. Smith

By Stella Smith

Sunday, December 13

8am Mass at MD

For Parishioners of St. Joseph,

Mater Dolorosa & St. Wendelin

9:30am Mass at SJ

For Ed Parker

By Ripple Family

11am Mass at SW

For Doris Stephenson

By Family

MASS INTENTIONS REMINDER Without knowing when our temporary Mass schedule will end, scheduling Mass Intentions for 2021 has been placed on hold. Watch for details as we learn them.



Parish Offertories Nov. 21 & 22, 28 & 29

ST. JOSEPH PARISH

Offertory at Mass 11/29	\$284.00
Offertory Online	\$25.00
Total Offertory	\$309.00
Weekly Goal	\$1,500.00
Fiscal Year Goal	\$75,000.00
Total Toward Fiscal Year Goal	\$13,034.00
Parish Share: Monthly Envelope on Appeal ..	\$2,365.00
PSP Online	\$00.00
Total Parish Share	\$2,365.00
2020 Parish Share Goal	\$6,289.00
Total PSP Received 2020/21	\$16,186.00
Retired Religious	\$265.00

Offertory at Mass 11/22	\$664.00
Offertory Online	\$50.00
Total Offertory	\$714.00
Total Toward Fiscal Year Goal	\$12,725.00
Parish Share: Monthly Envelope on Appeal ..	\$50.00
PSP Online	\$00.00
Total Parish Share	\$50.00
Total PSP Received 2020/21	\$13,821.00
Retired Religious	\$102.00
All Saints Day	\$5.00
World Mission Sunday	\$10.00

**Thank you for your generosity
to Parish Ministries!**

MATER DOLOROSA

Offertory at Mass 11/29	\$810.00
Offertory Online	\$185.00
Total Offertory	\$995.00
Weekly Goal	\$3,400.00
Fiscal Year Goal	\$175,000.00
Total Toward Fiscal Year Goal	\$36,633.00
House	\$00.00
Parish Share: Monthly Envelope on Appeal ..	\$00.00
PSP Online	\$00.00
Total Parish Share	\$00.00
2020 Parish Share Goal	\$20,985.00
Total Received 2020/21	\$18,243.00
Retired Religious	\$80.00
Easter 2020	\$5.00
Holy Land 2020	\$5.00

Offertory at Mass 11/22	\$1,085.00
Offertory Online	\$155.00
Total Offertory	\$1,240.00
Total Toward Fiscal Year Goal	\$35,638.00
House	\$30.00
Parish Share: Monthly Envelope on Appeal ..	\$20.00
PSP Online	\$00.00
Total Parish Share	\$20.00
Total Received 2020/21	\$18,243.00
Retired Religious	\$210.00

ST. WENDELIN PARISH

Offertory at Mass 11/28 & 11/29	\$2,331.00
Offertory Online	\$616.00
Total Offertory	\$2,947.00
Weekly Goal	\$5,800.00
Fiscal Year Goal	\$300,000.00
Total Toward Fiscal Year Goal	\$80,392.96
Project Fund	\$75.00
Project Fund Online	\$40.00
Adopt A Child	\$23.00
Parish Share	\$325.00
Parish Online	\$00.00
Total Parish Share	\$325.00
2020 Parish Share Goal	\$47,710.00
Total PSP Received 2020/21	\$25,262.60
Retired Religious	\$75.00
All Saint's Day	\$22.00
World Mission Sunday	\$5.00
Christmas	\$25.00
Christmas Flowers	\$130.00

Offertory at Mass 11/21 & 11/22	\$1,768.00
Offertory Online	\$701.00
Total Offertory	\$2,469.00
Total Toward Fiscal Year Goal	\$77,445.96
Project Fund	\$34.00
Project Fund Online	\$25.00
Parish Share	\$280.00
Parish Online	\$00.00
Total Parish Share	\$280.00
Total PSP Received 2020/21	\$24,937.60
Retired Religious	\$415.00
All Saint's Day	\$1.00
World Mission Sunday	\$10.00
Immaculate Conception	\$10.00
Christmas	\$50.00
Christmas Flowers	\$25.00
Children's Christmas	\$5.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$5.00



DEC. 7 THRU DEC. 13

MONDAY:

Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9AB, 10-14;
Lk 5:17-26

TUESDAY:

GN 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4;
EPH 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

WEDNESDAY:

Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10;
MT 11:28-30

THURSDAY:

Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9, 10-13AB;
MT 11:11-15

FRIDAY:

Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4; MT 11:16-19

SATURDAY:

RV 11:19A; 12:1-6A, 10AB;
JDT 13:18BCDE, 19; Lk 1:39-47

SUNDAY:

Is 61:1-2A, 10-11; Lk 1:46-50, 53-54;
1 THES 5:16-24; JN 1:6-8, 19-28



**How
Are
You
Spiritually
Preparing
for
Christmas?**

**THIS ADVENT,
WALK THRU
THE JOYFUL MYSTERIES
OF THE ROSARY
(VIRTUALLY, NO MASKS NEEDED!)**

JOANNE BROWN, FORMER DRE AT SJ/MD,
WILL LEAD ZOOM SESSIONS ON THE FOUR
REMAINING TUESDAYS OF DECEMBER:
8, 15, 22, 29 - 6:30-8:00PM

CONTACT SUE FRALEY FOR ZOOM HELP
AND TO SIGN UP FOR ZOOM LINKS
CALL/TEXT 724-504-3166 OR EMAIL
EVANGYAM@STWENDELINBUTLER.COM
ATTEND ONE OR ALL SESSIONS!

TUESDAY, DEC. 8, 6:15PM ZOOM LINK
FOR THE VISITATION IS:

**HTTPS://
US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/86947064090**

MEETING ID: 869 4706 4090

FOR MOBILE LINK SEE THE WEBSITE

ON MISSION FOR
**THE
CHURCH
ALIVE!**

**VICARIATE FOUR - GROUPING 438 - North Oakland, Chicora, Carbon Center
SOON TO BE ... St. Clare of Assisi!**

St. Joseph Parish, North Oakland

Located at 864 Chicora Road, Chicora, PA 16025

724-445-3713 Fax: 724-607-1183

M. T. Th. - 9:30am-Noon - Due to Covid, BY PHONE ONLY

Mater Dolorosa Parish

Located at 409 North Main Street, Chicora, PA 16025

724-445-2275

Office Hours at St. Joseph Rectory - See above

St. Wendelin Parish & School

Located at 210/211 St. Wendelin Road, Butler, PA 16002

Parish - 724-287-0820 School - 724-285-4986

Parish Office Hours: M. T. F. - 9:00am-Noon

WEBSITE FOR ALL PARISHES: <https://www.stwendelinbutler.com/>

Prayer Lists for all Parishes

For SJ & MD, call Fran Parker @ 724-445-7421

For SWP, call the Office @ 724-287-0820

Cemetery Inquiries for all Parishes

Contact North Regional Office, 2636 Ellwood Road,
New Castle, PA 16101, 724-323-0033, cpca@cpca-pgh.org

Bulletin Information for all Parishes

Current email is: stwendelinbulletin@gmail.com

Submission deadline is Tuesdays at 10:00am and
information and/or pictures must pertain to Parish events.
To place an ad, call 1-800-945-6629, Parish Number 947100

Facilities Scheduling for all Parishes

Contact Barb @ 724-445-2275, scheduler@stwendelinbutler.com

Facility usage temporarily suspended due to Covid

Clergy and Staff

Father Matt McClain, Administrator - mmcclain@diopitt.org

Father Lou Pascazi, Senior Parochial Vicar - vicar.438@gmail.com

Barb Boltz, Grouping Administrative Assistant & Facilities Scheduler
scheduler@stwendelinbutler.com

Martha Birch, Grouping Accountant
mdparish@stwendelinbutler.com

Nicole Karenbauer, Grouping Administrative Assistant, School Accountant
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JoLynn Clouse, St. Wendelin School Principal
stwend@zoominternet.net

Linda Green & Kit Lanier, SWP Receptionists