



Behold, this child is destined
for the fall and rise of many in Israel

LUKE 2:34

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph...

A PRAYER FOR FAMILIES

WE BLESS YOUR NAME, O LORD,
FOR SENDING YOUR OWN INCARNATE SON,
TO BECOME PART OF A FAMILY, SO THAT, AS HE LIVED FAMILY LIFE,
HE WOULD EXPERIENCE ITS JOYS, ITS WORRIES, ITS LOVE.

WE ASK YOU, LORD, TO PROTECT AND WATCH OVER THIS FAMILY,
SO THAT IN THE STRENGTH OF YOUR GRACE
ITS MEMBERS MAY ENJOY PROSPERITY,
POSSESS THE PRICELESS GIFT OF YOUR PEACE,
AND, AS THE CHURCH ALIVE IN THE HOME,
BEAR WITNESS IN THIS WORLD TO YOUR GLORY.

WE ASK THIS THROUGH CHRIST OUR LORD. AMEN.

Today the Church celebrates the Feast of the Holy Family. The Gospel for today is taken from Luke and is part of Luke's Infancy Narrative. It describes the presentation of the child Jesus in the Temple and shows Joseph and Mary as devout Jews, following the prescriptions of the Law of Moses. The Gospel alludes to several aspects of the Law of Moses: circumcision, the dedication of the firstborn son to the Lord, and the purification of a woman after childbirth.

The Gospel notes that Jesus was circumcised on the eighth day after his birth, in accordance with the Mosaic Law. At that time, he was called Jesus, the name he was given by the angel Gabriel. On the 40th day after Jesus' birth, Mary performed the appropriate purification rites and made her offering at the Temple. Although the Law of Moses required an offering of a lamb, those who could not afford a lamb could substitute two turtledoves or two pigeons. In this scene, Luke identifies Joseph and Mary as being poor, and indeed throughout Luke's Gospel, Jesus will show special concern for the poor. Another Jewish rite referenced in this Gospel is the dedication of the firstborn son to the Lord. In remembrance of the feast of Passover, when the firstborn children of the Israelites in Egypt were saved from death, the Law of Moses prescribed that all firstborn males of Israel should be consecrated to the Lord. In this tradition, Mary and Joseph present the infant Jesus in the Temple in Jerusalem where Luke reports that Mary and Joseph encounter two devout Jews, Simeon and Anna. They recognize the infant Jesus as the fulfillment of Israel's hope for redemption. We also hear in Simeon's words, a prediction of Mary's witnessing of Jesus' death on the cross.



<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/sunday-connection/holy-family-of-jesus-mary-and-joseph-b-sunday-connect/>



Solemnity of Mary Mass Schedule

Thursday, December 31

- 4:00pm MD
- Friday, January 1**
- 8:30am SJP
 - 10:00am SWP

Solemnity registrations must be made by Wednesday, December 30 at noon. Call **724-287-0820, X1** or email **registration@stwendelinbutler.com**. Be prepared to leave names of all attending and a contact number.

ABOUT OUR BELOVED MARY

Way back in 431, there was a bitter controversy among theologians over the role of Mary in the Catholic Church. They debated the question: Who is Mary in God's plan? In the end, the bishops declared that Mary is really the mother of Jesus and Jesus is really God. So it must be said that Mary is the Mother of God.

All who heard it were amazed
by what had been told them
by the shepherds.
And Mary kept all these things
reflecting on them in her heart.

The oldest Christian greeting of Mary was proclaimed when Mary's relative Elizabeth called her "Mother of my Lord." When Elizabeth welcomed Mary, she recognized both the great privilege God had given Mary and Mary's great faith in accepting it. For centuries, Mary has been praised because she believed. She is Mother of God because of her faith in God. The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, celebrates Mary's faith and trust in God alone. The Church wants us to imitate her faith.

<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/saints/saints-stories-for-all-ages/solemnity-of-mary/>



PARISH NOTES

SW OFFICE RELOCATING

All Parish offices will be closed **through Friday, January 1**, and will reopen on Monday, **January 4** at the St. Joseph Administration Center only. St. Wendelin personnel will be moving offices there during the break and all employees will be accessible at the St. Joseph site only. Having a unified office location is part of the merger process.

ST. CLARE OF ASSISI

Effective **Monday, 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. Francis of Assisi Parish.



ONLINE GIVING UPDATE

The online giving program has changed. Letters were mailed to Parishioners who regularly participate in the program, explaining the updates for the St. Clare online giving site. If you participate in online giving and have not received a letter or if you have any questions, call Nicole at 724-445-3713 X7. Online giving is great way to simplify church offertory. *ASK about it!*

DISPENSATION FROM MASS

In light of updated Covid guidelines set forth by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on December 10, the Diocese of Pittsburgh reminds its Faithful that:

1. Elderly and at-risk individuals should not attend Mass
2. All Parishioners are dispensed of their obligation to attend Mass
3. The announcement by the Commonwealth has not changed Church capacity limits



RECEPTION OF THE EUCHARIST

If you haven't been to Mass for awhile because of pandemic restrictions, please note that there needs to be a pause between Eucharistic recipients. Let the person in front of you receive and move on before you attend to the Priest or Eucharistic Minister. Additionally, at Mater Dolorosa, remember that all Eucharistic recipients receive in the middle aisle and return to pews from the side aisles.

2021 LOTTERY CALENDARS

Caleendars are on sale on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9am-Noon in the SJ Admin Center. \$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. They're going like **HOTCAKES!**

MARCH 31 & APRIL 30: NOT MISSING!

The 2021 Lottery Caleendars DO NOT list Wednesday, March 31 and Friday, April 30. They are both valued at \$20. Sorry for the oversight. If your number wins that day, you will still receive a \$20 check!

MASS REGISTRATION

Registration for weekend (Saturday Vigil and Sunday) Masses needs to continue for a while longer. 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.

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.

PRAYER LIST UPDATES

Please remember to call the appropriate Parish Office to add or remove a name from Parish Prayer Lists. For SJ & MD, call Fran Parker @ 724-445-7421 or Nancy Long @ 814-935-5303. For SWP, call the Office @ 724-287-0820. Thanks for helping to keep this Ministry up-to-date.

SPECIAL EDUCATION OFFERTORY

The **weekend of January 16-17** has been designated for the special collection to benefit St. Anthony School Programs and DePaul School for Hearing and Speech. St. Anthony's and DePaul both fill a necessary role for special education within the Diocese of Pittsburgh. Both programs empower students to become active and contributing members of their respective communities.

SW & SJ HOST COMMUNITY DINNERS

Community dinners are a collaborative Corporal Work of Mercy shared among the Catholic Churches that have proximity to downtown Butler. St. Joseph hosts **January 12 and 19**, and St. Wendelin hosts **January 26**, all Tuesdays. Confirmation kids, if you volunteer at any Community Dinner, it is a 2-for-1 service hours opportunity. You will receive double the hours you work. YEP: 2-for-1! Questions? Gina at 724-287-0820 or drestwendelin@gmail.com.



CONFIRMATION CLASS REMINDERS

Confirmation Candidates - STUFF is due on **Sunday, January 24** for the CCD class and **Monday, January 25** for St. Wendelin School candidates. STUFF is: the Confirmation Candidate Sheet and Card, and it needs to list information about You, Your Sponsor and Your Saint. STUFF!

This week's St. Wendelin School
Student of the Week is:

KALANA GEIBEL

*Kalana is in second grade at St. Wendelin School. She is sweet, helpful, and kind. Kalana has a half sister named Hannah Smith. Her favorite thing to learn about is math. In her spare time, Kalana loves to sing and dance. She also loves to go to the trampoline park, swimming, and riding her bike or scooter. When Kalana grows up, she would like to be a firefighter. Congratulations to this week's St. Wendelin School Student of the Week, **KALANA GEIBEL!***

Catholic Identity Program

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

This Week's Virtue:

ENTHUSIASM

Enthusiasm is being filled with the Holy Spirit and eager to proclaim the Good News and to do God's work in the world.

When they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God with boldness.
Acts 4:31



Knowing-Jesus.com

St. Wendelin's Online Raffle

Wednesday, December 9th

Chances Go On Sale at 6:00

<https://www.stwendelin.org>

THERE WILL BE MORE ONLINE RAFFLES!

Only 100 Chances Available

3. \$500 Sam's Club Gift Card
\$10.00 per chance - Only 100 Chances Available



STAY TUNED!

4. \$500 in Lottery tickets
\$10.00 per chance - Only 100 Chances Available



5. Vizio 70" 4K UHD LED Smart TV
\$10.00 per chance - Only 100 Chances Available

CONGRATULATIONS WINNERS OF THE PTG'S DECEMBER 9 ONLINE RAFFLE!

Air Fryer MAXX
Linda Young

Apple AirPods Pro
Mary Hohn

\$500 Sam's Club Gift Card
Priscilla Schoch

\$500 Lottery Tickets
Diana Hollefreund

70" Television
Kathy Weisenstein



DECEMBER 28 - JANUARY 3

MONDAY:

1 JN 1:5 — 2:2; PS 124:2-5, 7B-8; MT:13-18

TUESDAY:

1 JN 2:3-11; PS 96:1-3, 5B-6; LK 2:22-35

WEDNESDAY:

1 JN 2:12-17; PS 96:7-10; LK 2:36-40

THURSDAY:

1 JN 2:18-21; PS 96:1-2, 11-13; JN 1:1-18

FRIDAY:

NM 6:22-27; PS 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; GAL 4:4-7; LK 2:16-21

SATURDAY:

1 JN 2:22-28; PS 98:1-4; JN 1:19-28

SUNDAY:

IS 60:1-6; PS 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; EPH 3:2-3A, 5-6; MT 2:1-12

Do you watch YouTube?

If so, WE WANT YOU!

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 SJ Office. Training provided.

Monday-Sunday, December 28-January 3
~ **MASSES, CONFESSIONS, OPEN CHURCHES** ~

MONDAY, DECEMBER 28

Noon **Mass** at MD
is **CANCELED**,
as well as **Open Church**

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29

8am **Mass** at SW
is **CANCELED**,
as well as **Open Church**

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30

10am School-only **Mass** at SW
is **CANCELED**

7pm **Mass** at MD
is **CANCELED**, as well as
Confessions and **Open Church**

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31

Solemnity of Mary Vigil, Holy Day
4pm **Mass** at MD
For Patty Huff
By Ronald Huff Family

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1

Solemnity of Mary, Holy Day
8:30am **Mass** at SJ
For Helen Covert
By Dan Kabay & Patty Double

10am **Mass** at SW
For Rose Marie Snyder
Nancy & Donna Neff

Due to Holy Day, no 8am Mass at SW on
Thursday, or Noon Mass at SJ on Friday

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2

Confessions are
11-11:30am at both MD & SW
11:45am-12:15pm at SJ

4pm **Mass** at SW
For Gabby Weiland
By Ron & Robin Hasychak

SUNDAY, JANUARY 2

8am **Mass** at MD
For Aunt Gay Berteotti
By Steve & Carol Berteotti

9:30am **Mass** at SJ
For Eleanor Fallecker
By SJ Christian Mothers

11am **Mass** at SW
For Gino Pascazi



Gary & Shelly
on the baptism of their son
GARY LEE FEND III
on December 13, 2020

Robert & Jessica Shriver
on the baptism of their daughter
IRIS ELIZA SHRIVER
on December 13, 2020

MAY JESUS ALWAYS BE THEIR LIGHT



Sympathy is extended to the family of:

John K. Grose
whose Funeral Mass was December 19, 2020
at Mater Dolorosa Church
Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon him.
May he rest in peace.



Parish Offertories December 12 & 13

ST. JOSEPH PARISH

Offertory at Mass 12/13	\$587.00
Offertory Online	\$25.00
Total Offertory	\$612.00
Weekly Goal	\$1,500.00
Fiscal Year Goal	\$75,000.00
Total Toward Fiscal Year Goal	\$14,583.00
Parish Share: Monthly Envelope on Appeal	\$22.00
PSP Online	\$00.00
Total Parish Share	\$22.00
2020 Parish Share Goal	\$6,289.00
Total PSP Received 2020/21	\$16,618.00
Retired Religious	\$10.00
Immaculate Conception	\$60.00
Christmas Flowers	\$20.00

MATER DOLOROSA

Offertory at Mass 12/13	\$1,012.01
Offertory Online	\$130.00
Total Offertory	\$1,142.01
Weekly Goal	\$3,400.00
Fiscal Year Goal	\$175,000.00
Total Toward Fiscal Year Goal	\$39,264.01
House	\$00.00
Parish Share: Monthly Envelope on Appeal	\$205.00
PSP Online	\$35.00
Total Parish Share	\$240.00
2020 Parish Share Goal	\$20,985.00
Total Received 2020/21	\$19,208.00
Immaculate Conception	\$170.00
Christmas Flowers	\$10.00

Thank you for your generosity to Parish Ministries!

*Offertory listings delayed
due to bulletin deadlines.*

ST. WENDELIN PARISH

Offertory at Mass 12/12 & 12/13	\$2,499.00
Offertory Online	\$651.00
Total Offertory	\$3,150.00
Weekly Goal	\$5,800.00
Fiscal Year Goal	\$300,000.00
Total Toward Fiscal Year Goal	\$87,661.96
Project Fund	\$29.00
Project Fund Online	\$5.00
Adopt A Child	\$104.00
Adopt A Child Online	\$5.00
Parish Share	\$40.00
Parish Online	\$00.00
Total Parish Share	\$40.00
2020 Parish Share Goal	\$47,710.00
Total PSP Received 2020/21	\$25,732.60
Retired Religious	\$5.00
Immaculate Conception	\$278.00
Christmas Flowers	\$295.00
Christmas Offertory	\$577.00
Children's Christmas	\$4.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$5.00



Have You Spiritually Prepared for Christmas? What's Next?

WALK THRU THE FINAL JOYFUL MYSTERY OF THE ROSARY

(VIRTUALLY, NO MASKS NEEDED!)

OUR OWN JOANNE BROWN WILL LEAD THE FINAL ZOOM SESSION, CHILD JESUS IN THE TEMPLE ON TUESDAY, DEC. 29 - 6:30-8:00PM
ON THE WEBSITE, YOU CAN SEE SESSIONS RECORDED ON DEC. 1, 9, 15 & 22

CONTACT SUE FRALEY FOR ZOOM HELP AND TO SIGN UP FOR ZOOM LINKS: 724-504-3166 OR EVANGYAM@STWENDELINBUTLER.COM
ENJOY THIS FINAL JOYFUL MYSTERY!
ZOOM LINK ALSO ON 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
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Linda Green & Kit Lanier, SWP Receptionists