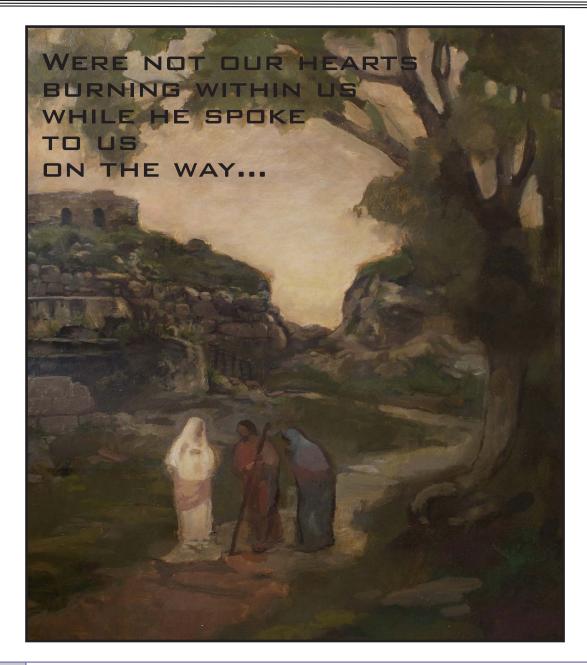
Roman Catholic Parishes of Northeastern Butler County



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

Temporary Office Hours: Monday & Tuesday, 9:30am-Noon Mater Dolorosa Parish

Located at 409 North Main St. Chicora, PA 16025 724-445-2275 Temporary Office Hours at St. Joe Rectory:

Monday & Tuesday, 9:30am-Noon

St. Wendelin Parish

Located at 210 St. Wendelin Rd.
Butler, PA 16002
724-287-0820
www.stwendelinbutler.com

Temporary Office Hours: Monday, 9:00am-Noon

A Message from Fr. Matt ...

Dear Brothers and Sisters.

I hope that you are all doing as well as you can. I sure do miss seeing you. I'm praying for you everyday. Please keep praying for me!

I'm not one of those guys who does much yelling at sporting events. I love to go and watch many sports. I grew up going to Steeler games and Pitt football games with my dad. We used to go to Pens games and Bucco games. High school football and basketball games are fun to go to, as well. In recent years, I have gone to more of those than the pro games. Sure, I will clap and cheer, but I always cringe when I hear people being critical



of the players and coaches and even the refs! When I was younger and my sisters played high school basketball, there was this one parent, Mr. Stough, who was a very nice man, but who had a distinct and powerful voice. He had a knack for saying things just as it got quiet in the gym. There would be a time out and the crowd would settle down and he would say something like, "Open your eyes, ref. That was a travel!" I don't know how he did it, but everyone heard him. How many times have you heard that phrase at a game, "Open your eyes!"? It's usually yelled at the refs or the quarterback who didn't see the open receiver. "Come on, Ben! Open your eyes!"

Open your eyes. That phrase kept coming to me as I looked at the Readings for this week. In the First Reading from the Acts of the Apostles, St. Peter is telling all of Jerusalem to open their eyes. They had missed seeing who Jesus really was. Peter points out that King David, even though he lived hundreds of years before Jesus, saw and understood who Jesus really was, and what His mission really was. But these people, the Jerusalem at the time of Christ, had missed it. They need to open their eyes to who Jesus really is and what God is really doing.

In the Gospel today, Jesus meets two of his disciples on the Road to Emmaus. Can you imagine walking along with your friend and suddenly Jesus is walking with you? How exciting that must have been, right? For them, not really. In fact, they don't even recognize that Jesus is there. Can you blame them? They had just witnessed the tragedy of the Crucifixion of their hero and teacher. They had ideas, plans for what they were going to do, how they were going to live, and it was all destroyed. One day everything was fine. The next day, it was all gone. They felt adrift, lost. People starting telling stories that maybe their teacher was alive. But no one they knew had seen Him. It was too much. They were leaving town. They were done. All was lost. That is a lot to be carrying, isn't it?

Still, I couldn't help but think that if Mr. Stough were standing on the side of the road, he would have waited for a moment of quiet and then said, "Open your eyes. He's right there with you!"



I think a lot of you can understand the load that those disciples were carrying, the sense of loss and confusion. Feeling adrift, and for good reason. But I want you to do something for me. Imagine that my friend Mr. Stough is in the stands watching you live. Imagine a rough moment in your day, when you feel desperate. And in that moment when it gets just quiet enough, imagine Mr. Stough yelling out, "Open your eyes!" There is so much good happening. Many connections, long neglected,

that are now connected again. So many people giving of themselves for others. So much good. We still have Mass, even though it's a little different. The Word is still proclaimed. The Bread is still broken. And He who is that Word and is that Bread, is still with you! Where did these disciples who had been running away, where did they look when their eyes were opened to Jesus's presence? At each other! They looked into each other's eyes and knew. Jesus says, "Where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them." Look into the eyes of those with you. If you're alone, FaceTime or Zoom with someone! Look into their eyes. Open your eyes and see Jesus in the midst of you!

It is easy these hard days to get lost in all that is lost. But ALL is NOT lost! St. John Paul used to say, "With God, nothing is definitively lost!" Open your eyes to the good around you. Open your eyes to the people beside you. Open your eyes to Jesus in your midst. Open your eyes!

Peace and Love, Fr. Matt



THE GROUPING IS LIVE STREAMING MASS SATURDAYS - 4:00PM

Log on to

https://www.stwendelinbutler.com/ Mass will be available at 4:00pm through YouTube.

If you can't make it at 4:00pm, (or there is an internet issue like last week!) you can log on whenever is convenient and it will continue to be available through the website.



Sympathy is extended to the families of

Donald E. Black
who passed away on April 18, 2020,
with interment at Hemphill Cemetery. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace.

Lucille Hiles McAnallen

who passed away on April 18, 2020, with interment at St. Patrick Cemetery. Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace.

Mary Louise Fugini who passed away on March 2, 2020,

with interment at Hemphill Cemetery. Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace.

Memorial Masses to be scheduled.

WHAT SHOULD I DO WITH OFFERTORY AND PARISH SHARE?

You can mail Weekly and Special Offertory and Parish Share to your Parish:

God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change...

St. Joseph - 864 Chicora Road, Chicora, PA 16025 Mater Dolorosa - PO Box 243, Chicora, PA 16025 St. Wendelin - 210 St. Wendelin Rd., Butler, PA 16002

OR - SWP - this is a great time to sign up for online offertory at: https://www.osvonlinegivin.com/4149

OR - NEW FOR ST. JOSEPH AND MATER DOLOROSA online offertory now available - link at https://www.stwendelinbutler.com/

OR - ALL Parishioners (not just SW) can leave envelopes in the SW Rectory drop slot. This is the door facing the church if you walk down the long narrow walkway next to the church.

Parish Offertories

April 19

Thank you for your generosity to Parish Ministries!

ST. JOSEPH PARISH Offertory at Mass 4/19 \$415.00 Offertory Online \$125.00 Total Offertory \$540.00 Weekly Goal \$1,000.00 Fiscal Year Goal \$50,000.00 Total Toward Fiscal Year Goal \$30,600.50 Parish Share: Monthly Envelope on Appeal \$1,080.00 PSP Online \$00.00 Total PSP \$1,080.00 2020 Parish Share Goal \$6,289.00

Total PSP Received 2020/21......\$6,680.00

Easter \$410.00

Holy Land - Good Friday\$35.00

Offertory at Mass 4/19 \$660.00 Offertory Online \$615.00 Total Offertory \$1,275.00 Weekly Goal \$2,500.00 Fiscal Year Goal \$150,000.00 Total Toward Fiscal Year Goal \$97,408.50 House \$45.00 Parish Share: Monthly Envelope on Appeal \$690.00 PSP Online \$00.00 Total Parish Share \$690.00 2020 Parish Share Goal \$20,985.00 Total Received 2020/21 \$8,150.00 Easter \$335.00 Holy Land - Good Friday \$80.00

MATER DOLOROSA

ST. WENDELIN PARISH

Offertory at Mass 4/19	\$2,649.00
Offertory Online	\$971.00
Total Offertory	
Weekly Goal	\$5,139.00
Fiscal Year Goal	\$272,000.00
Total Toward Fiscal Year Goal	
Project Fund	\$15.00
Adopt A Child	\$5.00
Parish Share	\$650.00
Parish Online	\$00.00
Total Parish Share	\$650.00
2020 Parish Share Goal	\$47,710.00
Total PSP Received 2020/21	\$9,503.00
Easter	\$815.00
Holy Land - Good Friday	\$70.00



SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA (1347-1380) Feast Day - Wednesday, April 29

Imagine the pope receiving a young woman still in her twenties who addresses him as "my sweet Christ on earth," then orders: "Get back to Rome where you belong!" Amazingly, Gregory XI complied! Yet this was but one astonishing incident in the extraordinary life of Catherine of Siena, a truly unique medieval woman. Youngest of 25 children, Catherine refused marriage and became a Dominican Tertiary at 16, cloistering herself in contemplative prayer, austere penances, and mystical experiences, culminating in

"spiritual espousal" to Christ. Then, living the Dominican ideal, Catherine left her solitude to care for the poor, nurse the sick, comfort the dying, and bury the dead. Increasingly renowned for converting souls and healing bodies, she was sought after to broker peace during civil wars and Church schisms. All this, and like Jesus, whom she called "my Divine Spouse," she died at thirty-three! Four hundred letters and her spiritual classic *The Dialogue* inspired Paul VI to name her, together with Teresa of Ávila, the first women Doctors of the Church.

More at: https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-catherine-of-siena/



APRIL 27 THRU MAY 4

MONDAY:

ACTS 6:8-15; PS 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30; JN 6:22-29

TUESDAY:

ACTS 7:51-8:1A; PS 31:3CD-4, 6, 7B, 8A,17, 21AB; JN 6:30-35

WEDNESDAY:

ACTS 8:1B-8; PS 66:1-3A, 4-7A; JN 6:35-40

THURSDAY:

ACTS 8:26-40; PS 66:8-9, 16-17, 20; JN 6:44-51

FRIDAY:

ACTS 9:1-20; PS 117:1BC, 2; JN 6:52-59, OR, FOR THE MEMORIAL, GN 1:26-2:3 OR COL 3:14-15, 17, 23-24; PS 90:2-4, 12-14, 16; MT 13:54-58

SATURDAY:

ACTS 9:31-42; PS 116:12-17; JN 6:60-69

SUNDAY:

ACTS 2:14A, 36-41; PS 23:1-6; 1 PT 2:20B-25; JN 10:1-10

Grouping Information

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

CHARLIE NOULLET

Charlie has attended St. Wendelin since Kindergarten and is currently in Sixth Grade. Charlie's number one class is Art Class because he enjoys being creative when completing the projects. One of Charlie's favorites would be a large bowl of pasta for dinner! Charlie has always enjoyed the animation of Sponge Bob Square Pants and would someday like to be an animator for a large company. Charlie is a reliable student who we can always count on in the classroom and serving at Mass. Congratulations to this week's St. Wendelin School Student of the Week. CHARLIE NOULLETI

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

This week's Virtue is:

LOYALTY

Loyalty means being dependable and true to someone or something.



Reflection: Psalms & Proverbs

Psalm 40:11

I do not conceal your righteousness within my heart; I speak of your loyalty and your salvation. I do not hide your mercy or faithfulness from a great assembly.

Psalm 89:6

The heavens praise your marvels, Lord, your loyalty in the assembly of the holy ones.

Psalm 119:30

The way of loyalty I have chosen; I have kept your judgments.

Proverbs 14:22

Do not those who plan evil go astray? But those who plan good win steadfast loyalty.

Proverbs 16:6

By steadfast loyalty guilt is expiated, and by the fear of the Lord evil is avoided.

Proverbs 20:28

His steadfast loyalty safeguards the king, and he upholds his throne by justice



DEER CLASSIC RESCHEDULED TO SATURDAY, JULY 4

Originally planned for this weekend, the PTG's Deer Classic is rescheduled for the Fourth of July IT'S THE SAME GREAT EVENT JUST A DIFFERENT DAY! Gun Raffles, Adult Beverages, Food, Day-of Raffles, Rack Scoring Still at Happy Hunters, 676 Chicora Fenelton Rd., Noon-6:00pm All tickets with the original April 25 date will be honored. TICKETS WILL NOT BE REISSUED OR REDATED. Ouestions to Christine at 724-504-7366.