



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,

Today is a beautiful day! Not only do we celebrate the Fifth Sunday of Easter but it is also Mother's Day. What great reasons we have to celebrate. Whether your Mom is with you physically, or maybe only through a phone call or a zoom chat, or even if she is like my Mom, in Heaven, I hope today you take some special time to be with her in whatever way you can.

All over the internet these days we see a term used to describe people out there doing good. Superhero! I've seen "teachers are superheroes," "nurses are superheroes," "truck drivers are superheroes," "people stocking shelves are superheroes," "state troopers are superheroes," and similar statements. Basically what we are saying is thank you. We recognize the efforts of people who are giving their all in these crazy times, to keep us safe and fed. Earlier today I saw a post on the internet that said "Moms are superheroes!" If there is anyone who deserves our praise and our thanks, not only at this time, but at all times, it is Moms!



But I don't want this to just be a gushy love letter so I want to say something a little controversial. Ready? Moms are **not** superheroes! What? I know you are saying, "But Fr. Matt, you love your mom so much, she inspired you so much, we read her prayer everyday! How could you say such a thing?" Well, I am saying it because it is true. Moms are not superheroes. In fact, calling them that is a slight to them. What the heck do I mean? Well, Dictionary.com says that superheroes are endowed with superhuman powers. That means that they are not totally human. They are either from another planet or have something give them their power, like a radioactive substance or a crazy spider or some treatment by Tony Stark, that makes them not quite fully human. Now don't argue with me about Batman. He is a vigilante with awesome gadgets, but not a superhero. Convince me I am wrong!

The thing about Moms is that they are, in fact, fully human! They do amazing things, make amazing sacrifices, give themselves totally for their families, not because they have some special power that makes them only part human, but because they have unselfish love for their family and that makes them completely and most fully human! For superheroes, the extent of their humanness is often the source of their weakness, but for Moms, their humanness is their strength and their glory. Who they are is enough. Even when it is stretched to the breaking point, Moms show us what human beings, motivated by unselfish love, can be. They can be glorious! They can be heroes! They don't need the "super" because being fully who you are, being fully human and living a life of sacrifice for others, is more than enough! Moms are a living embodiment of what it is to be human. They show us who we were made to be.

In the Second Reading, St. Peter says, "Come to him, a living stone, rejected by human beings, but chosen and precious in the eyes of God." He doesn't finish by saying, "and God will turn you into something much better." He says come to God and let God build you up, with the other stones, into what you could be. But you're still a stone. In the Gospel, Phillip asks Jesus to insert in the Apostles some special knowledge, some special vision, but Jesus says no, because they already have what it takes. God doesn't change you into something better because what you are is good enough. What you are is precious to God. God doesn't make superheroes. God makes human people. Being the best, most unselfish, self sacrificing human person you can be is glorious. Do you know who tells us and shows us this? For me, and I bet for most of you, it is God and our Moms.

So today we give thanks to God for telling us, throughout the Readings, that we have what it takes, that we are good enough. We give thanks to God for giving us our Moms. And we give thanks to our Moms for showing us what it really means to be human. Moms are not superheroes, they are something better. They are the best example of what it is to be human.

Peace and Love,
Fr. Matt

MAY IS MARY'S MONTH PRAY A DAILY ROSARY

THESE WEBSITES HAVE ROSARY RECITATION

[HTTPS://WWW.CATHEDRALOFMARY.ORG/FAITH-FORMATION/RESOURCES/PRAY-THE-ROSARY-ONLINE](https://www.cathedralofmary.org/faith-formation/resources/pray-the-rosary-online)

[HTTPS://CATHOLIC-LINK.ORG/PRAY-ROSARY-VISUAL-GUIDE/](https://catholic-link.org/pray-rosary-visual-guide/)

[HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?V=J5KYUHBQQJM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J5KYUHBQQJM)

[HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?V=HFED9WJBSRA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HFED9WJBSRA)

[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/vmXKNEC93FE](https://youtu.be/vmXKNEC93FE)
THIS IS OUR GROUPING!



**MAY 11
THRU
MAY 17**

MONDAY:

ACTS 14:5-18; PS 115:1-4, 15-16;
JN 14:21-26

TUESDAY:

ACTS 14:19-28; PS 145:10-13AB, 21;
JN 14:27-31A

WEDNESDAY:

ACTS 15:1-6; PS 122:1-5; JN 15:1-8

THURSDAY:

ACTS 1:15-17, 20-26; PS 113:1-8; JN 15:9-17

FRIDAY:

ACTS 15:22-31; PS 57:8-10, 12; JN 15:12-17

SATURDAY:

ACTS 16:1-10; PS 100:1B-3, 5; JN 15:18-21

SUNDAY:

ACTS 8:5-8, 14-17; PS 66:1-7, 16, 20;
1 PT 3:15-18 OR 1 PT 4:13-16;
JN 14:15-21 OR JN 17:1-11A



Sympathy is extended to the family of

Harold Joseph Ritzert

who passed away on May 1, 2020
from Mater Dolorosa Parish
with interment at St. Joseph Cemetery.
Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon him.
May he rest in peace.

SAINT JOSEPH

Mater Dolorosa

Saint Wendelin



We Have a Facebook Page!

It's a great way to find out what is going on in the Parishes. Find

us at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/218008282608022/>. We're listed as Parishes of NEBC.

Prayer Lists Updated

Prayer lists have been updated and all three Parishes are on the website: <https://www.stwendelinbutler.com/> Log on to view or print out a hard copy. To add or remove a name: call SWP office @ 724-287-0820 for SW Parishioners; and for SJ and MD Parishioners, call Fran Parker @ 724-445-7421 or Nancy Long @ 814-935-5303.

Help For Elderly Parishioner

The family of an elderly female SW Parishioner is looking to pay for help with her care at her local residential location. Contact Angie Mohr @ 724-991-8756 or Jim Boyd, Ageless Seniors Agency, @ 724-403-0481. As a caregiver, you can work as few or as many hours as you want.

Deer Classic Rescheduled

Originally planned for April 25, St. Wendelin School'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, and rack scoring. It's 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. Questions? Christine at 724-504-7366.

What Should I Do With Offertory Envelopes?

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

- **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 - ONLINE offertory is available for all three parishes with links 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.

Drive Thru Confessions on Two Days at Two Locations

On Saturdays and Wednesdays, drive thru Confessions are available with the following schedule:

Wednesdays

Mater Dolorosa at Noon
St. Wendelin at 6:00pm

Saturdays

11:00am at both
Mater Dolorosa & St. Wendelin

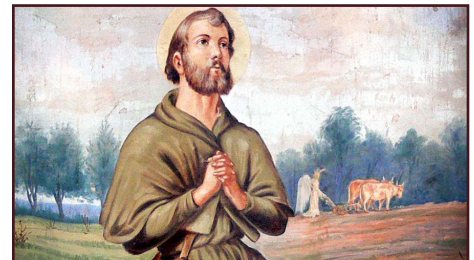
Please remain in your vehicle and follow directional signs and cones. If there is



more than one occupant, Confessions can be heard individually.

SWP Flower Garden Plots

Gardening! It's one of the few activities we can actually do! If you've been in charge of a SWP garden plot in the past, you are welcome to hit the dirt and get your area lookin' good. If you've never had a plot but would like one, call the SWP office @ 724-287-0820. Thank you to the faithful who have already tended to their plots this spring. We are almost ready to welcome summer and MASSES!



PATRON SAINT OF FARMERS St. Isidore's Feast Day is Friday

Springtime in rural Butler County means farming tasks are abundant, as days grow long and warm. It is a good time to remember the Patron Saint of Farmers, St. Isidore, whose Feast Day is **Friday, May 15**. Born in Spain about 1175, he worked for the same landowner his whole life. While he walked the fields, plowing, planting, and harvesting, he also prayed. Isidore had three great loves: God, his family, and the soil. His wife, Maria, is honored as a saint, too. They were known for their hard work and charity to the poor, though they had few belongings themselves. Today Isidore is honored as one of Spain's greatest saints, and he is also honored in the rural United States.



Parish Offertories

May 3

ST. JOSEPH PARISH

Offertory at Mass 5/3	\$345.00
Offertory Online	\$25.00
Total Offertory	\$370.00
Weekly Goal	\$1,000.00
Fiscal Year Goal	\$50,000.00
Total Toward Fiscal Year Goal	\$31,375.50
Parish Share: Monthly Envelope on Appeal	\$370.00
PSP Online	\$00.00
Total PSP	\$370.00
2020 Parish Share Goal	\$6,289.00
Total PSP Received 2020/21	\$7,065.00
Ascension	\$10.00

MATER DOLOROSA

Offertory at Mass 5/3	\$980.00
Offertory Online	\$340.00
Total Offertory	\$1,320.00
Weekly Goal	\$2,500.00
Fiscal Year Goal	\$150,000.00
Total Toward Fiscal Year Goal	\$100,063.50
House	\$10.00
Parish Share: Monthly Envelope on Appeal	\$570.00
PSP Online	\$00.00
Total Parish Share	\$570.00
2020 Parish Share Goal	\$20,985.00
Total Received 2020/21	\$8,855.00
Holy Land - Good Friday	\$10.00
Easter	\$25.00

Thank you for your generosity to Parish Ministries!

ST. WENDELIN PARISH

Offertory at Mass 5/3	\$2,292.00
Offertory Online	\$806.00
Total Offertory	\$3,098.00
Weekly Goal	\$5,139.00
Fiscal Year Goal	\$272,000.00
Total Toward Fiscal Year Goal	\$179,595.78
Project Fund	\$32.00
Adopt A Child	\$87.00
Parish Share	\$660.00
Parish Online	\$150.00
Total Parish Share	\$810.00
2020 Parish Share Goal	\$47,710.00
Total PSP Received 2020/21	\$11,758.00
Endowment Fund Y-T-D	\$500.00
Easter	\$80.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$42.00
Ascension	\$85.00

Grouping Information

This week's St. Wendelin School

Student of the Week is:

MIA KARENBAUER

Mia has attended St. Wendelin since Preschool and is currently in Fifth Grade.

Mia has two siblings, Shylee and Gunner, and two dogs, Hoyt and Bella.

Mia enjoys reading, horseback riding, and watching Mia and the White Lion! At school, Mia participates in the Drama Club and is an altar server.

When she grows up, she would like to become a Horse Trainer.

Mia is an excellent student, and a joy to have at our school.

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

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:

Wisdom

Wisdom is a Gift of the Holy Spirit which helps us to know and recognize God's will in our lives.



Reflection: Wisdom Scriptures

Proverbs 2:6

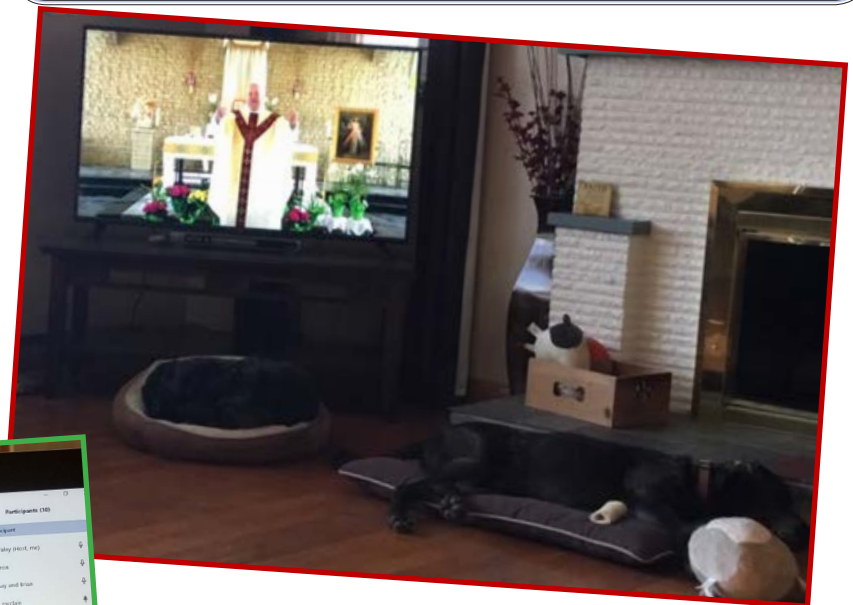
For the Lord gives wisdom, from his mouth comes knowledge and understanding.

Ecclesiastes 7:11

Wisdom is as good as an inheritance and profitable to those who see the sun.

Wisdom 7:28

For God loves nothing so much as the one who dwells with wisdom.



QUARANTINE GROUPING PHOTOS!

To the left is **Virtual Bar Talk**, for adults ages 21-40, with Zoom on most Thursdays. Text/call Sue for log on info at 724-504-3166. Virtual talk but NOT virtual beverages! Fr. Matt will discuss any Catholic topic you want! Above, Chester and Charlie exhibit the dog equivalent of leaving at Communion! **Live Masses** on Saturdays at 4:00pm: <https://www.stwendelinbutler.com/>

