

SAINT

CLARE
OF ASSISI



LOVE GOD, SERVE GOD: EVERYTHING IS IN THAT

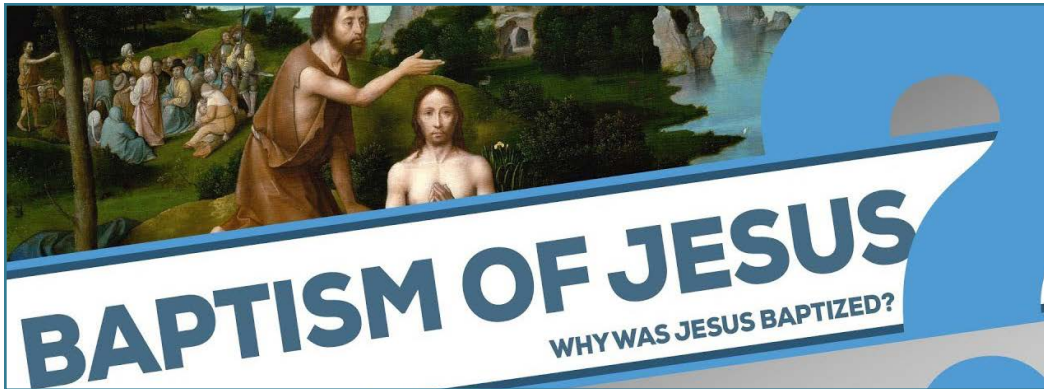
A Message from Fr. Matt ...

Dear Brothers and Sisters of St. Clare Parish,

Today is the first Sunday for the new Parish. We have come together under the name of an amazing patron, St. Clare of Assisi. I hope we come to know her better, and when we do, I know we will love her. St. Clare is a woman of great faith, great love of the Eucharist, and great belief that all things are possible when we humbly encounter God in our daily lives.

Today is also the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Let me ask you a question. Why did Jesus have to be baptized? When we are baptized two things happen. Sin is washed away and we become members of the Body of Christ. Well, Jesus had no sin to wash away and He already was the Christ. So why did He have to be baptized? He didn't! But, just like everything He does, Jesus did it for us! He did it to show us the way. In baptism we are claimed by Christ. In baptism we are cleansed by Christ. In baptism we become a part of Christ, daughters and sons of the Father. We become so much more than we could ever be on our own. Jesus always wants what is good for us, and today, He shows us baptism. Jesus did it because it is good.

Sometimes people ask, "Why do you baptize babies instead of letting the kids grow up and make the decision for themselves?" That's like asking why you don't feed your kids McDonalds at every meal. Because you want what is good for them. Baptism is so good. Eternally good. Kids will have plenty of chances everyday to decide if they are with Christ or not. In baptizing them, you aren't taking away a freedom, you are giving them the greatest good thing you possibly could. You are choosing to give your children God as a Heavenly Father, to allow the Holy Spirit to seal and strengthen them, to join them to the Church in Heaven and on Earth as members of the Body of Christ, and to wipe away all stain of Original Sin. That is so good!



This feast is so perfect for our first Sunday as one. Think about it. I'm sure over the past few years many of you have found yourself saying, "Why do we have to do this merger thing?" I know I thought that a few times! But the thing is, we don't have to. We could get by as we were. That is a fact. But the Bishop felt called by the Holy Spirit to do this. You may not like everything the man does, but I promise you he is a humble man of great faith. He follows the guidance of the Holy Spirit as best as he can. If he who was anointed and ordained to lead us feels that the Holy Spirit is calling for this, I'm willing to trust the Holy Spirit. Are you? Because God only wants what is good for us. We are doing this not because we have to, we are doing this because it is good.

Now I want to give you a homework assignment as we begin this week as a new Parish. Whenever I baptize a baby and we read part of the same Gospel that we read today, I always tell the parents that what happened to Jesus in this passage is what will happen to your baby. Water will flow over them and God will say, "This is my beloved daughter or this is my beloved son, with whom I am well pleased." Did you know that God said that about you at your baptism? Did you know that God said that about you today? He did. Listen, we are all sinners, and I'm the biggest sinner in the room. But what I want you to focus on this week is the fact, that you are God's beloved and that God is pleased with you. There is a deceiver out there named Satan who will want to remind you that you are this sin or that sin. Don't believe that. Satan does that because it's easier for you to sin again when you believe you are a sinner at your core. But you are not. You, at your very core, are beloved and good. Because God says so. Remind yourself of this each day. Remember who you are at your core. It is easier to be good and love when you believe you are good and beloved at your core. Do it because it is good.

I am really excited to be with you. I am honored to be your pastor. I can't wait to see the good that will come.

Peace and Love,
Fr. Matt



WHO IS SAINT CLARE OF ASSISI?

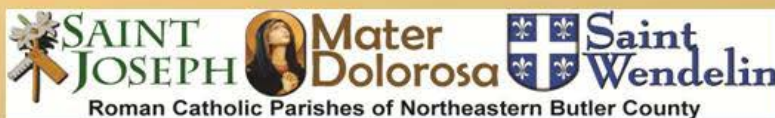
St. Clare of Assisi was born into the nobility of Assisi, Italy on July 16, 1194. She was known by members of her household to be a sensitive child, prayerful and kind. After hearing St. Francis preach, she confided in him her desire to live for God. On the evening of Palm Sunday, in the year 1212, Clare secretly left her stately home with her cousin Pacifica, and never returned. In the Church of 'Our Lady of the Angels,' Francis, clothed Clare in sackcloth and cut off her hair, signaling her renunciation of the world. She took the veil of religious life from Francis and from that moment vowed to live her life entirely in the service of Jesus, her heavenly spouse. St. Clare followed her path unwaveringly, adopting the rule of St. Benedict tempered with Francis's preaching of poverty. She soon gathered a large female following at San Damiano and Francis urged her to set up a convent there. She did so, and became abbess of the new community known as the Poor Clares. Clare's mother and sisters later joined the order, and there are still thousands of members today.

~ Continued on page 6 ~

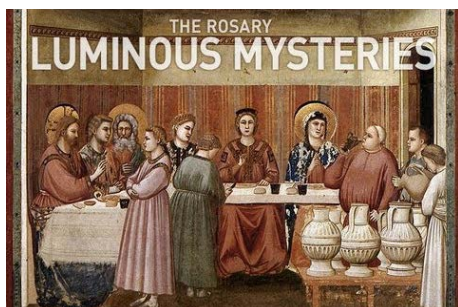


SAINT CLARE OF ASSISI PARISH

LOVE GOD, SERVE GOD: EVERYTHING IS IN THAT.



PARISH NOTES



LUMINOUS MYSTERIES ONLINE PROGRAM

Just like with our Advent series featuring the Joyful Mysteries, Joanne Brown, former DRE at SJ/MD, will lead Zoom sessions on the Luminous Mysteries. It's all online (no masks!) on Tuesday nights, 6:30-8:00pm. **First session is in two days, January 12.** Contact Sue Fraley to sign up for Zoom links at 724-445-3713 X3103 or email sue@saintclareparish.com. The first session features the Baptism of Jesus, just like today's Gospel! Attend one or all five sessions!

CHRISTMAS FLOWER NAMES AND INFORMATION

These names are to be included on the Grouping's Christmas Flower List.

In Memory of...

Norman A Geibel
Delbert M Geibel
Lee R Fair
Ruth Y Fair
Agnes & Ray Rettig
Gert & George Troyan
Don Troyan
Paul Osche
Margaret "Muggs" Osche
Jeff Neigh
Shiela Franz
Mary & Emerick Isovitch

In Honor of...

Prayers to end Covid-19 virus
Maxine Geibel

Please note the following clarification about Christmas Flower Offertory.

St. Wendelin has always had available an envelope specifically for Christmas Flowers in packets mailed to homes. St. Joseph and Mater Dolorosa packets did not include that envelope. Sorry for the confusion. It won't happen next year with St. Clare! The full Christmas Flower List is on the website under December 20 bulletin insert, <https://www.saintclareparish.com/>.

2021 MASS INTENTIONS

Now that our Mass schedule is set, the 2021 Mass intention book is open. To schedule an intention, email nicole@saintclareparish.com or call 724-445-3713 X3110.



OFFERTORY CHECKS, ONLINE GIVING

Starting immediately, please make offertory checks payable to St. Clare of Assisi Parish or St. Clare Parish. Additionally, the online giving program is being updated and St. Clare is not available yet. Please bear with the technology! Online giving is a great way to simplify church offertory.

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. Both programs empower students with special needs to become active contributing members of the community.

SJP HOSTS BACK-TO-BACK COMMUNITY DINNERS ON TUESDAYS, JANUARY 12 AND 19. SWP HOSTS ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 26. CONFIRMATION KIDS, IF YOU VOLUNTEER AT ANY PARISH'S COMMUNITY DINNER, IT IS A 2-FOR-1 SERVICE HOURS OPPORTUNITY. YOU WILL RECEIVE DOUBLE THE HOURS YOU WORK. QUESTIONS? GINA AT 724-445-3713. COMMUNITY DINNERS ARE HELD EVERY TUESDAY AT ST. PAUL CHURCH, NORTH MCKEAN STREET, BUTLER. IT IS A CORPORAL WORK OF MERCY SHARED AMONG THE CATHOLIC CHURCHES AND MINISTRIES THAT HAVE PROXIMITY TO DOWNTOWN BUTLER.

MASS & CONFESSION SCHEDULE

THIS SCHEDULE IS ALTERED FOR HOLY DAYS & SPECIAL EVENTS

MONDAY

MATER DOLOROSA MASS - NOON

TUESDAY

ST. WENDELIN MASS - 8:00AM

WEDNESDAY

ST. WENDELIN MASS - 10:00AM

SCHOOL-ONLY - IF SCHOOL IS IN REMOTE LEARNING STATUS, MASS IS CANCELED

MATER DOLOROSA CONFESSION - 6:15-6:45PM

MATER DOLOROSA MASS - 7:00PM

THURSDAY

ST. WENDELIN MASS - 8:00AM

FRIDAY

ST. JOSEPH MASS - NOON

SATURDAY

MATER DOLOROSA CONFESSION - 11:00-11:30AM

ST. WENDELIN CONFESSION - 11:00-11:30AM

ST. JOSEPH CONFESSION - 11:45AM-12:15PM

ST. WENDELIN VIGIL MASS - 4:00PM

MATER DOLOROSA VIGIL MASS - 5:30PM

SUNDAY MASSES

ST. WENDELIN - 7:00AM

MATER DOLOROSA - 8:15AM

ST. JOSEPH - 9:30AM

ST. WENDELIN - 10:30AM

OPEN PRAYER TIMES WRAP AROUND **WEEKDAY MASSES**, WITH CHURCHES AVAILABLE FOR QUIET REFLECTION:

> AN HOUR AFTER THE TWO 8AM MASSES

> AN HOUR BEFORE THE TWO NOON MASSES
AND THE ONE 7PM MASS

WEEKEND MASS REGISTRATION

Registration for weekend (Saturday Vigils and Sunday) Masses needs to continue for a while longer. Call 724-445-3713 X0 or email to registration@saintclareparish.com by 3pm on Fridays. Registration is for one week at a time.

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

JACE BISHOP

Jace is in First Grade at St. Wendelin School this year. He has two brothers, Joseph and Jackson, who also attend the school. Jace's favorite subject in school is spelling because he likes handwriting!

One of his favorite activities at school is the annual All School Walk-a-Thon.

Outside of school, Jace enjoys playing outside with his brothers, spending time with his family on camping trips, and watching one of his favorite shows, Godzilla!

When he grows up, he wants to become a street cop.

Congratulations to this week's

St. Wendelin School Student of the Week,
JACE BISHOP!

Catholic Identity Program

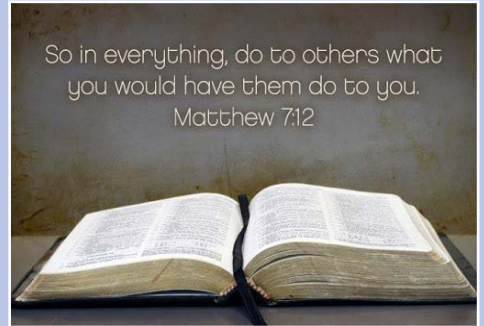
This program highlights a variety of virtues and values through short lessons, prayers, Scripture references, and more.

This Week's Virtue:

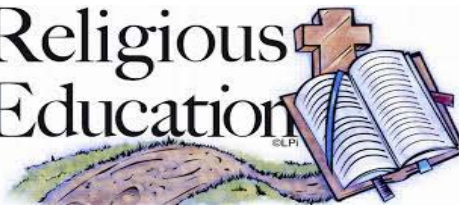
RESPECT

Respect means treating others as you want to be treated. Respect is recognizing and responding to the God-given dignity of each person.

So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you.
Matthew 7:12



Religious Education



CCD REMINDER

All CCD grades that meet at St. Wendelin Church have class TODAY, Sunday, January 10.

- Grades 1-5 - 9:00-10:15am
- Grades 6-8 - 6:30-8pm

Grades 2, 6, 7, 8 in the Hall
All other Grades in the School

Confirmation Class Hey - STUFF IS DUE!

Confirmation Candidates!
STUFF is due on
Sunday, January 24
for the CCD class and
Monday, January 25 for
SWS candidates.

STUFF is: the
Confirmation Candidate
Sheet and Card, and
it needs to list
information about You,
Your Sponsor & Saint.

STUFF!



**Pictures from our Churches
celebrating the Nativity of Our Lord.**

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



Saint Clare of Assisi Parish Information...

~ Monday-Sunday, January 11 - January 17 ~ MASSES, CONFESSIONS, OPEN CHURCHES ~

MONDAY, JANUARY 11

Noon **Mass** at MD
For Joe & Mary O'Donnell
By Ken & Jane Fair

Open church 11am till Mass starts

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12

8am **Mass** at SW
For Stella Lucas
By Leonard & Eleanor Baptiste

Open church after Mass till 10am

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13

10am School-only **Mass** at SW
For Paul Miller
By Bab & Dorothy Schnur & Family

6pm **Confessions** at MD
Open church 6pm
till **Mass** starts at 7pm at MD
For Ed Parker

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14

8am **Mass** at SW
For The Nosal & Zabe Families
By Stella Smith

Open church after Mass till 10am

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15

Noon **Mass** at SJ
For Michael Alan Neff
By Bob & Shirley

Open church 11am till Mass starts

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16

Confessions are
11-11:30am at both MD & SW
11:45am-12:15pm at SJ
4pm **Mass** at SW
For John Clouse
By Katie Larkin

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16 (Continued)

5:30pm **Mass** at MD
For James "Jimmy" Hipple
By Dave & Robin Binkley

SUNDAY, JANUARY 17

7am **Mass** at SW
For James Zarnick
By Rose Zarnick
8:15am **Mass** at MD
For Patty Huff
By Ronald Huff Family
9:30am **Mass** at SJ
For Barbara E. Serich
By Jim & Mary Lou Kelly
10:30am **Mass** at SW
For Timothy Stillwell
By Pascazi Family

2021 MASS INTENTION BOOK IS OPEN. CONTACT NICOLE@SAINTCLAREPARISH OR 724-445-3713 X3110.



Parish Offertories

December 26 & 27, Solemnity of Mary, January 2 & 3

ST. CLARE OF ASSISI PARISH

Offertory at Mass <u>1/2</u> & <u>1/3</u>	\$3,828.00
Offertory ONLINE.....	\$2,581.00
Total Offertory	\$6,409.00
Weekly Goal	\$10,700.00
Fiscal Year Goal	\$550,000.00
Total Toward Fiscal Year Goal.....	\$164,041.97
Maintenance Fund	
Formerly Project Fund & House	\$151.00
Maintenance Fund ONLINE	
Formerly Project Fund & House	\$00.00
School Support	
Formerly Adopt A Child	\$137.00
School Support ONLINE	
Formerly Adopt A Child	\$00.00
Parish Share (PSP)	\$1,055.00
Parish Share ONLINE.....	\$150.00
Total Parish Share	\$1,205.00
2020 Parish Share Goal.....	\$74,984.00
2020 Total Received.....	\$67,693.60
Immaculate Conception.....	\$35.00
Christmas Offertory.....	\$299.00
Children's Christmas	\$85.00
Solemnity of Mary.....	\$828.00
St. Anthony & DePaul Schools	\$20.00

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

ST. JOSEPH PARISH

Offertory at Mass <u>12/27</u>	\$711.00
Offertory Online	\$25.00
Total Offertory	\$736.00
Weekly Goal	\$1,500.00
Fiscal Year Goal	\$75,000.00
Total Toward Fiscal Year Goal.....	\$16,818.00
Parish Share: Monthly Envelope on Appeal	\$25.00
PSP Online.....	\$00.00
Total Parish Share	\$25.00
2020 Parish Share Goal.....	\$6,289.00
Total PSP Received 2020/21.....	\$17,293.00
Christmas Offertory.....	\$327.00
Christmas Charities	\$269.00

MATER DOLOROSA

Offertory at Mass <u>12/27</u>	\$1,390.00
Offertory Online	\$95.00
Total Offertory	\$1,485.00
Weekly Goal	\$3,400.00
Fiscal Year Goal	\$175,000.00
Total Toward Fiscal Year Goal.....	\$44,034.01
House.....	\$640.00
Parish Share: Monthly Envelope on Appeal	\$65.00
PSP Online.....	\$00.00
Total Parish Share	\$65.00
2020 Parish Share Goal.....	\$20,985.00
Total Received 2020/21	\$19,313.00
Christmas Offertory.....	\$1,790.00
Christmas Charities	\$370.00

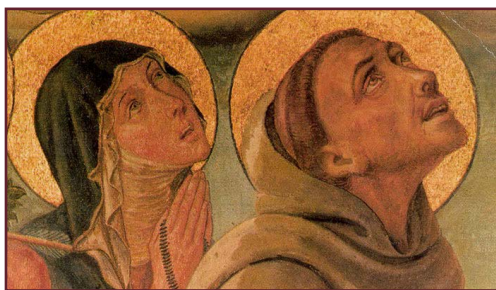
ST. WENDELIN PARISH

Offertory at Mass <u>12/26</u> & <u>12/27</u>	\$5,086.00
Offertory Online	\$737.00
Total Offertory	\$5,823.00
Weekly Goal	\$5,800.00
Fiscal Year Goal.....	\$300,000.00
Total Toward Fiscal Year Goal	\$96,390.96
Project Fund	\$65.00
Project Fund Online.....	\$40.00
Adopt A Child.....	\$00.00
Parish Share.....	\$265.00
Parish Online	\$00.00
Total Parish Share	\$265.00
2020 Parish Share Goal.....	\$47,710.00
Total PSP Received 2020/21	\$26,082.60
Immaculate Conception	\$35.00
Christmas Flowers	\$35.00
Christmas Offertory	\$3,232.00
Children's Christmas	\$155.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$60.00

Please note the following about Offertory:

- Online offertory for St. Clare is delayed.
- Project Fund and House Collection envelopes have become Maintenance Fund envelopes.
- Adopt A Child envelopes have become School Support envelopes.
- Monthly envelope has become Parish Share envelope.

Saint Clare of Assisi Parish Information...



ST. CLARE OF ASSISI

FROM PAGE 2

Very little is known about St. Clare's life in the cloister. We know she became a living example of the poverty, humility, and mortification expounded by St. Francis. Like St. Francis, Clare was known for her many miracles.

Among her most famous feats is using a consecrated Host to ward off invaders. She displayed the Sacrament in a monstrance at the convent gates, and prayed before it; the attackers left. Toward the end of her life on Christmas Eve 1252, Clare was upset that her illness was keeping her from Mass in the new Basilica of St. Francis. Suddenly, she was blessed with a vision of the Mass on her wall, both hearing and seeing it miraculously from several miles away. Because of this vision she has been pronounced the patron saint of television and the patron of sore eyes. St. Clare died in Assisi on August 11, 1253. She was canonized quickly, on September 26, 1255, by Pope Alexander IV. Her feast day is the anniversary of her death, August 11.



JANUARY 11 - 17

MONDAY:

HEB 1:1-6;
Ps 97:1, 2B, 6, 7C, 9;
Mk 1:14-20

TUESDAY:

HEB 2:5-12;
Ps 8:2AB, 5, 6-9;
Mk 1:21-28

WEDNESDAY:

HEB 2:14-18;
Ps 105:1-4, 6-9;
Mk 1:29-39

THURSDAY:

HEB 3:7-14;
Ps 95:6-11;
Mk 1:40-45

FRIDAY:

HEB 4:1-5, 11;
Ps 78:3, 4BC, 6C-8;
Mk 2:1-12

SATURDAY:

HEB 4:12-16;
Ps 19:8-10, 15;
Mk 2:13-17

SUNDAY:

1 SM 3:3B-10, 19;
Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10;
1 COR 6:13C-15A, 17-20;
JN 1:35-42

St. Joseph Church & Administrative Center

Located at 864 Chicora Road, Chicora, PA 16025

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

Office Hours: M. W. F. - 9am-Noon

Offices for ALL Clergy and Staff are located here.

Names and emails listed to the right.

Mater Dolorosa Church

Located at 409 North Main Street, Chicora, PA 16025

Office Hours at St. Joseph Administrative Center

St. Wendelin Church & School

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

Office Hours at St. Joseph Administrative Center

WEBSITE: <https://www.saintclareparish.com/>

Sunday Mass Registrations (temporary)

Reservations are required for the six Sunday Masses.

Call 724-445-3713 X0 or email by Friday at 3pm to registration@saintclareparish.com. You will receive at call to confirm and be assigned an attendance number. Until further notice, you must call every week.

Prayer Lists

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

For SWP, call the Office @ 724-445-3713

Cemetery Inquiries

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

Bulletin & Website Information

Submission deadline is Tuesdays at 10:00am.

Contact Gina at communications@saintclareparish.com
To place an ad, call 1-800-945-6629, Parish Number 947100

Facilities Scheduling

Contact Barb @ 724-445-2713, barb@saintclareparish.com
Facility usage temporarily suspended due to Covid

Saint Clare of Assisi Clergy and Staff

Father Matt McClain, Administrator

mmcclain@diopitt.org

Father Lou Pascazi, Senior Parochial Vicar

frlou@saintclareparish.com

Father Jim Kurtz, Senior Parochial Vicar

Father Ward Stakem, Senior Parochial Vicar

Barb Boltz, Parish Administrative Assistant & Facilities Scheduler

barb@saintclareparish.com

Martha Birch, Parish Accountant

martha@saintclareparish.com

Nicole Karenbauer, Parish Administrative Assistant,

School Accountant, Safe Environment Coordinator

nicole@saintclareparish.com

Sue Fraley, Director of Evangelization,

Youth & Young Adult Ministry

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Vince Ritzert, Director of Music

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Vince Houpt, Music Minister/SJP

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