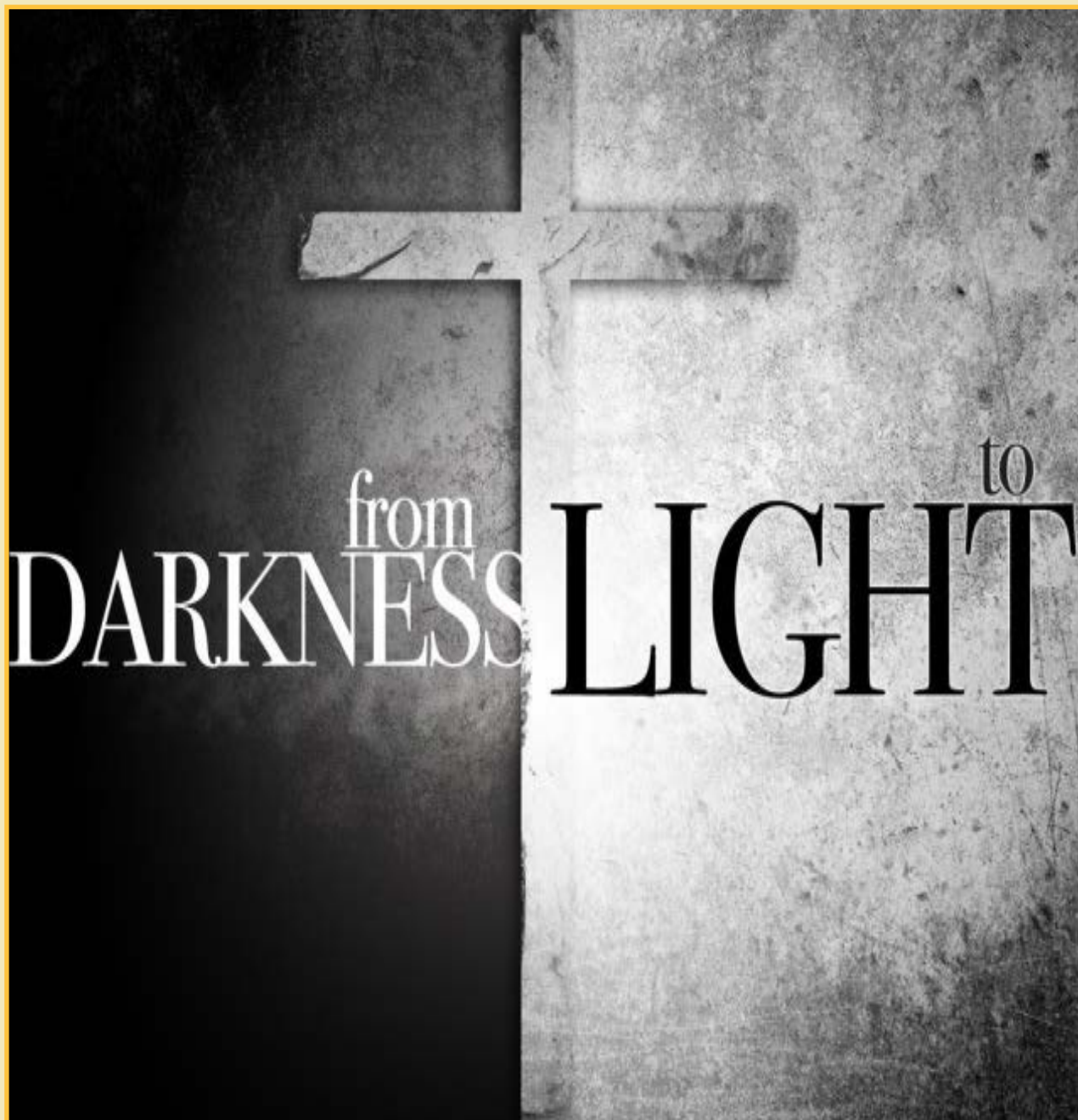


SAINT CLARE OF ASSISI PARISH

LOVE GOD, SERVE GOD: EVERYTHING IS IN THAT.



March 14, 2021

The Fourth Sunday of Lent

A Message from Fr. Matt ...

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

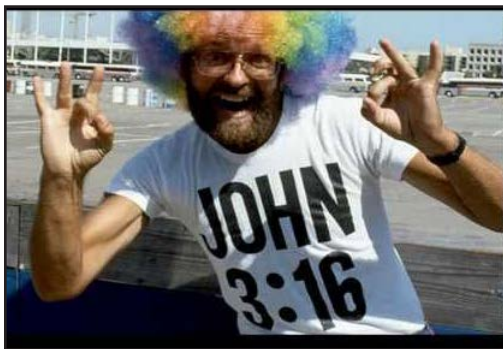
I have been spending a lot of time in my car these last few months. I am racking up the miles! I know that Fr. Ward, Fr. Jim, and Fr. Lou could say the same. I like to pray while I drive. It is nice and quiet, away from everyone, so it is a good place to pray. I admit that I also listen to the radio. I listen to music, sports talk shows, and sometimes morning shows on various stations. One of the morning shows always ends by naming it. They take what they have talked about and try to come up with some catchy or funny summary of the last few hours on air. For some reason, I have started to do that with my homilies. I don't tell you guys what I name them. It is just in my head. But, I will tell you this week, in my head, it is called "Harps and Rainbow Wigs!"

The First Reading and Responsorial Psalm go hand-in-hand. They tell the story of Israel sent into exile. The Temple and their city are destroyed and the people are sent to live in a foreign land. Israel has brought this upon themselves by ignoring God's goodness and His messages that would have kept them free and on the land that God had given them. The Psalm is the lament of these people in exile. One of my favorite songs is taken from this Psalm. It is called, "On the Willows" from the musical *Godspell*. It is beautiful, full of sorrow and longing. The Psalm says, "On the aspens of that land we hung up our harps...How could we sing a song of the Lord in a foreign land?" That is a mood. In many ways, it is a mood that we are stuck with these days. We long for the way it was. How can we sing, rejoice, even live? It makes us sad and worse, it makes us bitter.

I guess we could blame this on the pandemic and restrictions and stuff, but to be honest, our culture has been headed into this dark mood for a while. Do you know why I think, to some extent, we are stuck in it? Because we like it! We prefer darkness to light, just like St. John talks about in the Gospel. Darkness is easier. It is easier to hate than to love. It is easier to cancel people than to try and understand each other. It is easier to gossip and tear down what is new than to work through it and become part of a new story. It is easier and we are lazy about it and we like it. You and me. We hang up our harps.

But this is not where the story ends! God doesn't allow Israel to remain in exile. God does not cancel Israel, even though they had messed up. In fact, God turns the heart of their greatest enemy, and he becomes the one who leads them home and rebuilds their city and the Temple! Why? Because God so loved them! God, who St. Paul in the Second Reading tells us, is rich in mercy! How beautiful is that?

God so loved the world, we read in today's Gospel, that He not only brought back Israel from exile, but He gave His only Son, so that everyone, that is you and me, who believes in Him may have eternal life! God is rich in mercy and so loves us, that He would conquer sin and death and offer light and life as a free gift to us, as grace.



What a message! What great news! No wonder that guy in the rainbow wig used to be at every major sporting event holding up a sign or wearing a shirt that said John 3:16! It is the best news ever!

Let me ask you, do you believe it? Do you think the good news of John 3:16 is about you? It is. This week, think about it this way. God so loved you that He gave His only Son, so that you might not perish but have eternal life.

For God did not send His son into the world to condemn you, but to save you through Jesus. Astounding! God loves you so much! Think about that each day this week. If you do, it is going to lead you to a decision point.

We have a choice. We can stay where it is easy and dark, hanging up our harps, canceling those who have messed up, demonizing those we disagree with, gossiping about those we don't understand, lamenting the loss of the comfortable past and tearing down what is new. Or, we can love the light more than the darkness. We can accept what God has provided for us out of His great Mercy. God gives us exactly what we need because God so loves us. The darkness is easy. The light is challenging and uncomfortable, but so much better, more meaningful and it is where we find our Salvation. So will you hang up your harp and stew or will you put on the rainbow wig and rejoice at what God has done?

Peace and Love,
Fr. Matt



THANK YOU TO PARISHIONERS WHO BRAVED THE COLD TO PARTICIPATE IN THE LENTEN 40 DAYS FOR LIFE CAMPAIGN AT THE PEACEFUL PRAYER VIGIL, OUTSIDE PLANNED PARENTHOOD IN PITTSBURGH. SEE THE 40DAYSFORLIFE.PITTSBURGH.COM WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION. JOIN THIS WORLDWIDE EFFORT TO SAVE LIVES, OFFER HOPE, AND RAISE AWARENESS.

MASS & CONFESSION SCHEDULE

THIS SCHEDULE IS ALTERED FOR HOLY DAYS & SPECIAL EVENTS

MONDAY

MATER DOLOROSA MASS - NOON

TUESDAY

ST. WENDELIN MASS

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 will continue. Call 724-445-3713 X0 or email to registration@saintclareparish.com by 3pm on Fridays. Registration is for one week at a time. **IF YOU CALL OR EMAIL AFTER 3PM, YOU ARE NOT REGISTERED.**

Saint Clare of Assisi Parish Notes

REMINDER ABOUT SARRIS EASTER CANDY

Planning to order Sarris Easter Candy? Paper orders are due **today, Sunday, March 14**; online orders are due **Monday, March 29**. Pick up is at the Administration Office on either Tuesday, March 30, 9am-6pm, or Wednesday, March 31, 8am-7pm. If ordering online, Saint Clare Parish code is #10-3573.

LENTEN ROSARY SERIES SORROWFUL MYSTERIES

Saint Clare Parish's online Rosary Series continues with the Sorrowful Mysteries on Tuesdays, 7-8:15pm. This is a new start time. **Session Four is March 16 and features Carrying The Cross**. The Zoom link is posted on our website on Tuesday morning. Questions? Contact Sue Fraley at 724-445-3713 or sue@saintclareparish.com. *Just two sessions left during Lent.*

FOOD DRIVE PVFC FOR EASTER

There are collection bins at Mater Dolorosa and St. Joseph for nonperishable items for the Petroleum Valley Food Cupboard Easter Food Drive. Monetary donations are accepted too. Items placed in the bins will be removed after each Mass to adhere to Covid-19 guidelines. The deadline to donate is **Wednesday, March 17**.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS FRIDAYS AT 7PM

The remaining schedule is:

March 19 - St. Joseph, *This is the Feast Day of St. Joseph*

March 26 - St. Wendelin, *This will be live streamed*

ST. MARY'S, HERMAN FISH DINNERS

St. Mary's Church, 821 Herman Rd., is hosting Drive Thru Fish Dinners on the two remaining **Fridays of Lent: March 19 & 26**, from 2-6pm, \$10 per dinner. The meal includes pan-fried fish, French fries, green beans, coleslaw, bread & cake. Follow directional signs to enter and exit the Drive Thru area.

EASTER FLOWERS LAST DAY FOR ENVELOPES

The last day to turn in Easter Flower envelopes is **Palm Sunday, March 28**. The Easter Sunday, April 4 bulletin insert will list names. The list will include "in memory of" and/or "in honor of". For some there will be a slight change this year: we will not be listing who these are being offered by.

LITTLE WHITE BOOKS AVAILABLE PALM SUNDAY

Little White Books, part of the Little Book Series, will be handed out on **Palm Sunday, March 28** after all Masses. Year B Gospels are featured with interesting six-minute reflections for the Easter season, which is from April 5 through May 23.

FIRST COMMUNION MASSES FAMILIES ONLY

The two First Communion Masses this year are for family only and there will be no registration accepted. They are **Saturdays, April 10 and 17 at 4pm** at St. Wendelin. Because of Covid-19 guidelines, families have a limited number of people they can bring and we would like to maximize that for this special occasion. The Masses will be live-streamed. St. Mary's in Herman celebrates 4pm Mass on Saturdays.

ONLINE GIVING UPGRADE EASIER-TO-USE PLATFORM

If you currently give offertory online, you will soon receive an email with instructions on how to log into the new system. Existing payment and donation information will be migrated over so you will not have to set up your gifts again.

EASTER SCHEDULE

HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 1

MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

7:00PM MATER DOLOROSA

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 2

ROSARY

12:45PM SAINT WENDELIN

**GOOD FRIDAY OF
THE LORD'S PASSION**

1:30PM SAINT WENDELIN

2:00PM SAINT JOSEPH

DRIVE THRU ONLY FISH DINNER

3-7PM SAINT WENDELIN

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 3

DECORATE CHURCHES

SEE UPCOMING BULLETIN
FOR INFORMATION

BLESSING OF EASTER FOODS

1:00PM SAINT WENDELIN

EASTER VIGIL MASS

8:30PM SAINT WENDELIN

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 4

MASSES AT:

7:00AM SAINT WENDELIN

8:15AM MATER DOLOROSA

9:30AM SAINT JOSEPH

10:30AM SAINT WENDELIN

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

REGISTRATION FOR

HOLY THURSDAY, GOOD FRIDAY
AND EASTER MASSES AVAILABLE:

MONDAY, MARCH 22 THRU

MONDAY, MARCH 29 AT 3PM

EMAIL REGISTRATION@SAINTCLAREPARISH.COM OR CALL 724-445-3713. BE PREPARED TO LEAVE NAMES OF ALL ATTENDING AND A CONTACT NUMBER. IF YOU DO NOT MAKE A RESERVATION, A SEAT IS NOT GUARANTEED. TO MAXIMIZE SPACE, YOU WILL BE SEATED UPON ARRIVAL. IF SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS ARE NECESSARY, SUCH AS MULTIPLE FAMILY MEMBERS SITTING TOGETHER, LET US KNOW DURING REGISTRATION. MASKS ARE REQUIRED FOR THE DURATION OF THE MASS. DOORS WILL OPEN ONE (1) HOUR PRIOR TO MASS TIMES. NO EXTRA SEATING WILL BE AVAILABLE, WHICH MEANS WE CANNOT ADD FOLDING CHAIRS OR ALLOW PEOPLE TO STAND.

This week's St. Wendelin School

Student of the Week is:

CADENCE RETTIG

Cadence is in seventh grade, and has attended St. Wendelin for four years. She has three brothers, Easton, Bryson and Ryker, who all attend St. Wendelin as well. Her favorite subject in school is social studies. Cadence's brothers keep her busy at home, but outside of school you can also find Cadence taking care of her 15 chickens and playing with her dog.

Cadence dreams of meeting actor and actress, Cole Sprouse and Lili Reinhart, in the future.

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

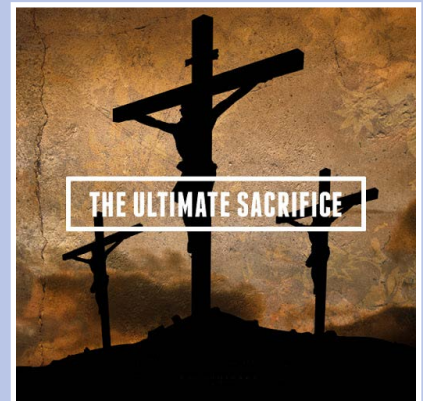
Catholic Identity Program

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

This Week's Virtue:

SACRIFICE

Sacrifice is the willingness to offer something up to God, or dispose of one's goods or service in charity and kindness for the good of another.



St. Wendelin School's Good Friday Fish Dinner DRIVE THRU ONLY

April 2, 3-7pm

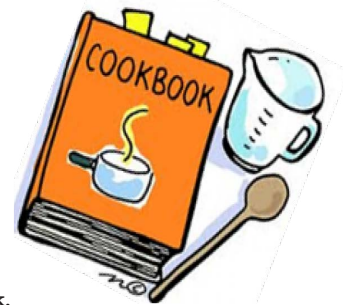
The Drive Thru Dinner will include a basket raffle and a 50/50. Tickets can be purchased for the raffles while in line to get your meal(s). Stay tuned for details! Contact Suzetta Williams at 724.996.9209 to volunteer or donate prizes.



A TASTY NEW COOKBOOK

St. Wendelin School PTG is creating a new recipe book and needs your BEST RECIPES! Submit 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.
- Questions? Email the PTG at the above address.



St. Wendelin School celebrated Read Across America Day last week, featuring the classic Dr. Seuss book... *The Cat In The Hat!*



Coming this Spring...

St. Wendelin School's annual fundraisers for:

Mother's Day Flower Baskets

Annual Flowers

Vegetable Plants

Order details available soon with easy pick up at SW Pavilion



Saint Clare of Assisi Parish Information

MASSES, CONFESSIONS, OPEN CHURCHES, MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, MARCH 15

Noon **Mass** at MD

For Shirley Stalker

By Anne Pistorius

Open church 11am till Mass starts

TUESDAY, MARCH 16

8am **Mass** at SW

For Stella Lucas

By Ron & Donna Kensky

Open church after Mass till 10am

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17

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

For Loretta Geibel

By Ron & Bunny Neff

6pm **Confessions** at MD

Open church 6pm

till **Mass** starts at 7pm at MD

For Clarence Maley

By Robert Fugini Family

THURSDAY, MARCH 18

8am **Mass** at SW

For Herb & Edie Steighner

By Larry & Family

Open church after Mass till 10am

FRIDAY, MARCH 19

Noon **Mass** at SJ

For Deb Toth

By Ron Ball

Open church 11am till Mass starts

SATURDAY, MARCH 20

Confessions are

11-11:30am at both MD & SW

11:45am-12:15pm at SJ

4pm **Mass** at SW

For Esther Stephenson

By Stephenson Family

5:30pm **Mass** at MD

For Robert Zanella

By Brad, Miss, Dom & Trevor

SUNDAY, MARCH 21

7am **Mass** at SW

For Saint Clare Parishioners

8:15am **Mass** at MD

For Tyler Barger

By The Armagost Family

9:30am **Mass** at SJ

For Josephine Nyberg

By Mr. & Mrs. Wesley McKinney

10:30am **Mass** at SW

For Leo Rosenbauer, Jr.

By Family



Parish Offertories

March 6 & 7

ST. CLARE OF ASSISI PARISH

Offertory at Mass \$8,593.00

Offertory ONLINE..... \$1,446.00

TOTAL Offertory..... **\$10,039.00**

Weekly Goal\$10,700.00

Fiscal Year Goal\$550,000.00

Total Toward Fiscal Year Goal... \$217,265.97

Maintenance Fund \$238.00

Maintenance Fund ONLINE..... \$00.00

School Support..... \$399.00

School Support ONLINE \$25.00

Parish Share (PSP) \$1,950.00

Parish Share ONLINE..... \$150.00

TOTAL Parish Share..... **\$2,100.00**

2021 Parish Share Goal.....\$80,599.00

2021 Total PS Received \$3,050.00

Human Development Campaign \$75.00

Easter \$300.00

Easter Flowers \$727.00

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



READINGS for the week

MARCH 15 - MARCH 21

Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13B; JN 4:43-54

TUESDAY:

Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; JN 5:1-16

WEDNESDAY:

Is 49:8-15; Ps 145:8-9, 13CD-14, 17-18;
JN 5:17-30

THURSDAY:

Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-23; JN 5:31-47

FRIDAY:

2 SM 7:4-5A, 12-14A, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29;
RM 4:13:16-18, 22; MT 1:16, 18-21, 24A

SATURDAY:

JER 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9BC-12; JN 7:40-53

SUNDAY:

JER 31:31-34; Ps 51:3-4, 12-15; HEB 5:7-9;
JN 12:20-33 ALTERNATE READINGS (YEAR A):
Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-8; ROM 8:8-11;
JN 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33B-45]

Thank you, Mater Dolorosa crew,
for serving a great chicken dinner
earlier this month at St. Paul.

Community Dinners are a
collaborative Corporal Work of Mercy
shared among the
Catholic Churches

and their
ministries
that have
proximity
to downtown
Butler.

Each Church
handles two
to four dinners
a year, held at
St. Paul Church
on McKean St.
on Tuesday
evenings.



Celebrate St. Joseph Feast Day on March 19

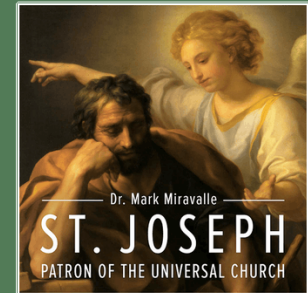
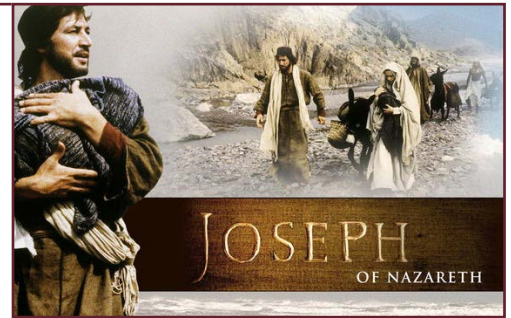
HAVEN'T BEEN ON **FORMED.ORG** FOR AWHILE?
THIS IS A GREAT TIME TO HOP BACK INTO IT.
START WITH ST. JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN
MARY, WHOSE FEAST DAY IS THIS FRIDAY.

TRY:

JOSEPH OF NAZARETH: THE STORY OF THE MAN CLOSEST TO CHRIST
WITH THIS YEAR BEING CONSECRATED TO ST. JOSEPH, WE CELEBRATE THE
FEAST DAY OF CHRIST'S FOSTER FATHER WITH EVEN MORE JOY AND RESPECT.
ENTER INTO THE LIFE OF THIS GREAT SAINT THROUGH THE MOVIE,
JOSEPH OF NAZARETH.

ALSO:

ST. JOSEPH: PATRON OF THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH
ST. JOSEPH SERVES AS THE HOLIEST OF PATRIARCHS, SERVES AS A MODEL
OF FATHERHOOD, OBEDIENCE, CHASTITY AND SO MANY OTHER VIRTUES.
JOIN DR. MARK MIRAVELLE AS HE SHARES INCREDIBLE LESSONS FOUND
IN THE HIDDEN LIFE OF JOSEPH.



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 List

For ALL Prayer List updates, call Fran Parker @ 724-445-7421

Cemetery Inquiries

Contact North Regional Office, 2636 Ellwood Road,
New Castle, PA 16101, 724-323-0033, cpca@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 @ 724-445-3713, barb@saintclareparish.com
Facility usage temporarily suspended due to Covid

Saint Clare of Assisi Clergy and Staff

Father Matt McClain, Pastor

mmclain@diopitt.org

Father Ward Stakem, Senior Parochial Vicar

Father Lou Pascazi, Senior Parochial Vicar

frlou@saintclareparish.com

Father Jim Kurtz, 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
sue@saintclareparish.com

Vince Ritzert, Director of Music

musicdirector@saintclareparish.com

Vince Houpt, Music Minister/SJP

haupt@saintclareparish.com

Adam Murray, Director of Digital Media

adam@saintclareparish.com

Gina Beaver, Director of Religious Education,

Bulletin/Website Editor
communications@saintclareparish.com
dre@saintclareparish.com

Vanessa Birch, Religious Education Program Manager

vanessa@saintclareparish.com

JoLynn Clouse, St. Wendelin School Principal

stwend@zoominternet.net

Linda Green & Kit Lanier, Parish Receptionists

linda@saintclareparish.com
kit@saintclareparish.com