

**FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK**

Over the course of last weekend I was amazed at the number of people who ventured out in the sub-zero temperature to come to Mass. But I know from experience that those who chose to stay home will be wracked by Catholic guilt, thinking to themselves, especially when the weather warms up that they could probably have gone to Mass.

God blessed us with the gifts of intellect, reason, and the ability to grow in the wisdom that we call "common sense". God's expectation is that we use the gifts God has bestowed on us, not leave them wrapped on the shelf. Yet in many cases we allow our sense of obligation to trump the gifts of intellect, reason and common sense so that these gifts remain "on the shelf".

One Saturday evening when I was the pastor at St. John's in Erie, we had a snowfall of about 30 inches. The snow plows couldn't keep up and many of the streets and certainly all of the sidewalks had thigh high snow on them. I got up early on Sunday, trudged into the garage and got the snow blower out and cleaned the sidewalks around the church. I knew that there would be people who would attempt to come to Mass even though the streets and sidewalks were largely unpassable. Sure enough, there were those who somehow made it to church.

Why do we allow this misguided sense of obligation to be more important than intellect, reason, and common sense? What does this say about our understanding of God? Do we really think that God who has bestowed gifts upon us would rather us not use them?

This past week I had Mass at the Rouse Home and then returned to anoint a few residents. In each case there was a flu outbreak that quarantined a few halls and caused me to wear a mask when heading into the rooms to anoint the residents. If the Rouse Home is concerned about the outbreak of the flu to the point of putting extra precautions into effect, then perhaps we too should recognize that intellect, reason and common sense have a place in the decisions we make.

*Fr. Rick*

**PARISH NEWS**

There are still some 2018 Calendars and House Blessing Placards available at the doors of the Church and in the Parish Office. Please stop by and pick one up, we have extras.

**DRIVERS NEEDED:** We are always looking for folks to help get our parishioners who no longer drive to Mass. If you are feeling called to this ministry or want to know a little more about it, please call Betsy at the parish office 723-2090 Ext 12. Thank you!

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

**Russell Veterinary Hospital, P.C.**

**814-757-5440**

Please patronize the sponsors of our bulletin. It is through the paid advertising of the sponsors that we can publish the bulletin.

*Please thank them.*

**WARREN MANOR NURSING HOME MINISTRY** is looking for more participants. Participation in this ministry (you do not have to be an EMHC ) only requires about 1 1/2 hours of your time twice a month on Wednesdays from 9:30-11:00am. It is truly appreciated by the Manor Residents, as well as the Manor Staff. Likewise, it is a source of personal spiritual growth for the Ministers who participate as they bring prayer, God's Work and the Holy Eucharist to a very special group of God's people. Please consider joining us in this special and important St. Joseph Church Ministry. For more information call Pat Christy at 723-4047.



**MAKE YOUR VOICES HEARD-**  
The March for Life in Washington DC is **this Friday!** We need to hear from



you if you are planning on attending. **Your reservation is due in the office no later than Tuesday 1-16-18.** Please keep the marchers and our leaders in your prayers this week, that their visible presence has an impact on our society's decisions and our laws

**2017 CSA:** Our records indicate that there are a number of outstanding balances from 2017 pledges. If you are able to complete your pledge, or even part of it, please do so by January 31st. The 2018 CSA will be kicking off the second week of February. Thank you for your continued support of St. Joseph Parish.

2232 Men 2018 Men's Conference  
Saturday March 3rd  
8:00am-3:00pm

Our Lady of Peace Church, Erie PA  
Speakers are Mike McCoy, Fr Larry Richards, Steve Wood  
[www.2232men.com](http://www.2232men.com) for details

Arise and Come!  
Women's Retreat  
March 9-11

Retreat Master—Fr. Nick Rouch  
Villa Maria Ed and Spirituality Center, Pulaski, PA  
[sr.josephine@thework-fso.org](mailto:sr.josephine@thework-fso.org) for details

**HELPING HANDS MINISTRY**

**ITEMS NEEDED IN JANUARY**

The Month of January we will be collecting **paper towels** and **toilet tissue**. Thank you for your generosity in supporting the needy families of the Warren community through this ministry.

## LITURGY INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

**Sunday, 1/14** **Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
 8:00am Mass @ St Luke Genevieve Fehlman by Jack & Janet Natale  
 10:30am Lucy Notoro by Family

**Monday, 1/15** **Weekday in Ordinary Time**  
 12:00pm Mass at St. Luke

**Tuesday, 1/16** **Weekday in Ordinary Time**  
 12:05pm Marcia Cosmano by Steve Cosmano

**Wednesday, 1/17** **St Anthony, Abbot**  
 9:05am Dana Atwood by St Joseph Parish Pastoral Council

**Thursday, 1/18** **Weekday in Ordinary Time**  
 12:05pm Jeanette Anderson by Hazeltine Family

**Friday, 1/19** **Weekday in Ordinary Time**  
 8:00am Julia Papalia by Charlie & Catherine Ditz

**Saturday, 1/20** **Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Vigil Mass)**  
 5:30pm Wolf & Ingrao Families by Carl & Ann Wolf

**Sunday, 1/21** **Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
 8:00am Mass @ St Luke  
 10:30am For the Living & Deceased Members of St. Joseph Church

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Monday** Isaiah 55: 1-11; Gospel Mark 1: 7-11

**Tuesday** 1 Samuel 1: 9-20; Gospel Mark 1: 21-28

**Wednesday** 1 Samuel 3: 1-10; Gospel Mark 1: 29-39

**Thursday** 1 Samuel 4:1 -11; Gospel Mark 1: 40-45

**Friday** 1 Samuel 8: 4-7; Gospel Mark 2: 1-12

**Saturday** 1 Samuel 9: 1-4; Gospel Mark 2: 13-17

**Sunday** 1 Samuel 3:3b-10,19; Corinthians 6:13c-15a Gospel John 1:35-42

## THIS WEEK'S SPECIAL EVENTS

**Sunday, January 14**  
 8:00am Mass @ St. Luke Church  
 9:15am K-8 Faith Formation  
 10 & 11 Confirmation  
 10:30am Mass  
 Liturgy of Word for Children  
 Coffee & Donuts after Mass (Cafeteria)

**Monday, January 15 No School Martin Luther King, Jr Holiday**  
 12:00pm Mass @ St Luke Church  
 5:00 pm RCIA Team Meeting (Boardroom)  
 6:30pm Liturgy Committee Meeting (Boardroom)  
 6:30pm Cub Scouts (Meyer Hall)

**Tuesday, January 16**  
 12:05pm Mass  
 4:30pm Soup Kitchen  
 5:30pm Finance Committee Meeting (Boardroom)

**Wednesday, January 17**  
 9:05am School Mass  
 10:30am Faith Share (Meyer Hall)  
 6:30pm RCIA (Meyer Hall)  
 7:00pm Choir Practice

**Thursday, January 18**  
 12:05pm Mass  
 12:30pm Adoration (Mothers Chapel)  
 7:15pm Evening Prayer (Mother's Chapel)  
 6:30pm PTU Meeting (Meyer Hall)  
 9:00pm Prayer Service  
 9:45pm Bus Departs for March for Life Washington, DC

**Friday, January 19 March for Life in Washington, DC**  
 8:00am Mass  
 11:00pm Bus returns from Washington, DC

**Saturday, January 20**  
 4:30pm to 5:15pm Reconciliation  
 5:30pm Mass

**Sunday, January 21**  
 8:00am Mass @ St Luke Church  
 9:00am 9th & 10th Grade Retreat  
 9:15am Faith Formation K-8  
 10:30am Mass  
 Liturgy of the Word for Children

## LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULES

	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Extraordinary Ministers</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>
1/20			
5:30pm	Volunteer	P Lobdell, F Perrin, R Sharp J & P Rickert, J & M Sabat,	H Harrison M Harrison
			<u>L Harrison</u>
1/21	W Cole	E Keeney, T Siliano,	J Letko
10:30am		C Bevacqua, *A & P Webster, *L & A Tyers	C Smelko L Thrift

WEEKLY SANCTUARY CANDLES IN MEMORY OF  
 Dr. Harold Reinhard by Karen Wingard

**BAPTISM** Through the waters of Baptism, we at Saint Joseph Parish wish to **Welcome Peter Walker Bailey** into our community of faith in Jesus Christ. May God continue to bless his life with His love. Peter is the son of Joseph & Erica Bailey and he has a sister Josie.

**St. Joseph Church**  
 Weekly Offering-January 7th—\$9746.75  
 Thank you for your continued generosity!

### VOCATIONS ICON

We would like to thank **Tom & Roxie Fadale** for taking the Vocations Icon this week and praying for an increase in vocations here at St. Joseph Parish.

## SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Catholic school students learn that excellence is a response to God's blessings. If you or someone you know wants to attend St. Joseph School, please call the school at 814-723-2030. We have open enrollment. Catholic Schools week will begin January 28th with School Choir singing at 10:30am Mass followed by Open House at the School from 11:45am to 1:00pm. Plan to join us.

SAVE THE DATE  
**DARIEN LAKE TRIP**  
**ALTAR SERVERS GO FREE**  
**DATE: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27, 2018**  
 More information will available in the coming weeks  
 MARK YOUR CALENDARS