

**FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK**

In this month's Faith Magazine, Fr. Joe Krupp tackles the issue of Catholic superstition. Now we know that some of the most superstitious people are athletes and coaches. When I was coaching at Kennedy I had the opportunity to coach with Coach Ed McLuskey, the legendary coach who won 7 State Championships at Farrell High School. He was once asked if blessing oneself before a free throw helped. His response was "Yes, if the person is a good foul shooter" meaning that the person had to put in the work and not rely on God.

Coaches and athletes are constantly aware of good team chemistry and the desire to keep it going. Once I was told that by getting a haircut on game day I was jeopardizing the team. Some coaches wear the same outfit during a win streak. My last year coaching at Kennedy we won 20 straight games to win the State Championship. I wore the same outfit for each game. Of course, I only owned one black suit.

Fr. Joe in his column deals with things like praying to St. Anthony for help in finding a lost article, or praying for a favorite team, or burying a statue of St. Joseph for help in selling a house. He explains things very well using the Catechism of the Catholic Church to support what he is saying.

We are approaching a day that the dividing line between faith and superstition is often blurred. That day is February 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Feast of St. Blaise, the day we bless throats. If we think that the blessing is like being wrapped in bubble wrap to make sure we stay healthy, we probably have crossed the line from faith to superstition because we have separated the external performance from the interior disposition. The prayer is not a magic formula to keep us healthy and without which we are destined for a sore throat.

We should remember that the blessing should align us with God's will and help us to be thankful for all of God's blessings. But we should still wash our hands frequently and take the necessary precautions. We should put the work in and not rely on the magic of St. Blaise.

*Fr. Rick*

**Justin Fatica, All Heart, All In Family Event**

**PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS** and plan to attend a community/family event at Saint Joseph Church on Monday, February 19th from 6:30- 8:30 pm. **Nationally known and Erie grown evangelist, Justin Fatica, will be speaking.** The program is called **ALL HEART, ALL IN** and Justin and his team of ministers is excited to speak to you and pray with you. Four Salt & Light and Confirmation hours will be given because this is a big event. Please make this a priority for your family as we are very blessed to have this opportunity. Any questions, please call or text Jennifer at 688-3842.

**PRAYER PARTNERS:** If you are a Confirmation prayer partner, please keep praying for your student and sending them encouraging cards and notes. **Confirmation will be March 20th at Saint Joseph Church.** Thank You!

**DR. HOWARD FERGUSON SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

As most of you know, Dr. Ferguson passed away in December. He was a beloved principal who worked tirelessly to revitalize St. Joseph School, and a leader in the Warren community. In honor of Dr. Ferguson, a scholarship is being established with St. Joseph students as the beneficiaries. If you would like to make a donation to this scholarship fund in honor of Dr. Ferguson you can do so by sending a check to the parish office made out to St. Joseph Catholic School. Please note Dr. Ferguson Scholarship Fund on the envelope.

**ADULT FORMATION NEWS!**

We will be offering a Lenten study called **Mary Queen of Heaven**, exploring her life from before time to today; revealing her ongoing battle against evil and increasing our relationship with the woman who brought us the Savior of the World. The series will run on Thursdays beginning February 8<sup>th</sup> and will run to April 5<sup>th</sup>, no meeting on Holy Thursday. You may choose your session: 10:15-11:45 am or 6:30-8:00 pm. **Sign up in the parish office today!** Cost is \$25.00 for materials.

**THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE** will be meeting **Thursday, February 8th at 6:30pm** in the Parish Boardroom. We will be discussing and planning Lent and Easter decorating for the Church. If you would like to be a part of this Committee please join us.

**ENRICH YOUR LENTEN JOURNEY**

**Thursdays during Lent**, the First United Methodist Church at 200 Market St, has a noontime Lenten Service followed by a \$5.00 soup and pie lunch at 12:30 which is open to the community. March 1st, St. Joseph Parish will be the host of the luncheon. We are looking for volunteers to help. If you can make soup, bake pies, or lend a hand in the kitchen, we would be grateful. **All proceeds will benefit our Helping Hands and Soup Kitchen ministries.** For more details or to sign up, call the parish office @723-2090.

**GERTRUDE HAWK EASTER CANDY FUNDRAISER FOR CCY**

**COMING NEXT WEEK!** Our Cool Catholic Youth Group and Catholic Heart Work Camp crew will be selling **Gertrude Hawk Chocolates for Easter from Jan. 29th—Feb 23rd.** You can order online at [www.gertrudehawkchocolates.com](http://www.gertrudehawkchocolates.com), just click on fundraising, click on place an order and enter participant's number 727886 or you can stop in the Parish Office to place an order. Please support our teens and make your Easter basket shopping a breeze.

**THE FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD OR CANDLEMAS DAY** is Friday, February 2nd. Father Rick will be blessing candles at the 8:00 am Mass. If you have candles for your home you wish to have blessed, please bring the candles with you to Mass. Thank You!

**SPONSOR OF THE WEEK**

**Warren Tire Center  
814-723-8050**

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.**

## LITURGY INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

<b>Sunday, 1/28</b>	<b>Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
<b>8:00am</b>	Mass @ St Luke Living & Deceased Members of St Luke Church
<b>10:30am</b>	Dr Howard Ferguson by Erie Diocese Catholic School Office
<b>Monday, 1/29</b>	<b>Weekday</b>
<b>12:00pm</b>	Mass at St. Luke - Charles Jewell
<b>Tuesday, 1/30</b>	<b>Weekday</b>
<b>12:05pm</b>	Special Intention of Becky Harper by Eileen Onafray
<b>Wednesday, 1/31</b>	<b>St John Bosco, Priest</b>
<b>9:05am</b>	Helen Sykes by Marilyn Drayer
<b>Thursday, 2/1</b>	<b>Weekday</b>
<b>12:05pm</b>	Dana Atwood by Daniel Midlik Family
<b>Friday, 2/2</b>	<b>The Presentation of the Lord First Friday</b>
<b>8:00am</b>	Ruth Hunter Miller by Pat & Ralph Christy
<b>Saturday, 2/3</b>	<b>St Blaise, Bishop &amp; Martyr &amp; St Ansgar, Bishop</b>
	<b>Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Vigil Mass)</b>
<b>5:30pm</b>	For the Living & Deceased Members of St Joseph Church
<b>Sunday, 2/4</b>	<b>Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
<b>8:00am</b>	Mass @ St Luke Paul Leofsky by Knights of Columbus
<b>10:30am</b>	Linda Buser by Pat & Toni Williams

## LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULES

	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Extraordinary Ministers</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>
<b>2/3</b>		R Kujawa, D Labowski,	N Alexander
<b>5:30pm</b>	H/H LeMeur	P Lobdell, F Perrin, R Sharp,	A Courson
		<u>H Zaffino, S Courson</u>	<u>R Courson</u>
<b>2/4</b>			A Gatto
<b>10:30am</b>	V/K Amsdell	J & C Kostrzewski, *P & ROsche, G Grosch, B Harvey, *C Feaster	G Gatto B Alexander

WEEKLY SANCTUARY CANDLES IN HONOR OF  
Carolyn Graziano by Tom & Dorothy Corey

### VOCATIONS ICON

We would like to thank **Dan and Shirley Giffin** for taking the Vocations Icon this week and praying for an increase in vocations here at St. Joseph Parish.

In your charity please pray for the souls of **Betty Mascaro**, mother of **Kim and Jack Swedler** and **Robert Faga**, father of **Angela, Bobbi, and Cara Faga** who passed away this past week. We extend our sympathy to their families, and ask God's love and strength to bring them peace and consolation.

## HELPING HANDS MINISTRY ITEMS NEEDED IN FEBRUARY

The month of we will be collecting Beef Stew/Spaghetti O's, and Beef-a-Roni. Thank you for your generosity in supporting the needy families of the Warren community through this ministry.

### **2232 Men 2018 Men's Conference Saturday, March 3rd**

You can get all the Details and Register @ [www.2232men.com](http://www.2232men.com)

### **1:38 Women's Conference Saturday April 21st**

For all the Details and to Register go to [www.138women.com](http://www.138women.com) or call 814-455-7364 **Register by January 31st and receive a \$7.00 discount.**

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

<b>Monday</b>	2 Samuel 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13 Gospel Mark 5:1-20
<b>Tuesday</b>	2 Samuel 18:9-10,14b,24-25a,30-19:3; Gospel Mark 5:21-43
<b>Wednesday</b>	2 Samuel 24:2, 9-17 Gospel Mark 6:1-6
<b>Thursday</b>	1 Kings 2:1-4,10-12; Gospel Mark 6:7-13
<b>Friday</b>	Malachi 3:1-4, Hebrews 2:14-18; Gospel Luke 2:22-40
<b>Saturday</b>	1 Kings 3:4-13; Gospel Mark 6:30-34
<b>Sunday</b>	Job 7:1-4,6-7; 1 Corinthians 9:16-19,22-23 Gospel Mark 1:29-39

## THIS WEEK'S SPECIAL EVENTS

<b>Sunday, January 28</b>	<b>St Joseph Catholic School Open House</b> <b>Second Collection for Faith Communications</b>
<b>8:00am</b>	<b>Mass @ St Luke Church</b>
<b>10:30am</b>	<b>Mass</b> Liturgy of the Word for Children
<b>11:45am</b>	St Joseph Catholic School Open House & Tours
<b>Monday, January 29</b>	
<b>12:00pm</b>	<b>Mass @ St Luke Church</b>
<b>6:30pm</b>	St Joseph Parish Book Club (Boardroom)
<b>Tuesday, January 30</b>	
<b>12:05pm</b>	<b>Mass</b>
<b>4:30pm</b>	Soup Kitchen
<b>Wednesday, January 31</b>	
<b>9:05am</b>	<b>School Mass</b>
<b>10:30am</b>	Faith Share (Meyer Hall)
<b>6:30pm</b>	RCIA (Meyer Hall)
<b>7:00pm</b>	Choir Practice
<b>Thursday, February 1</b>	
<b>12:05pm</b>	<b>Mass</b>
<b>12:30pm</b>	Adoration (Mothers Chapel)
<b>6:00pm</b>	Daisy/Brownie Scouts (Meyer Hall)
<b>7:15pm</b>	Evening Prayer
<b>Friday, February 2 First Friday</b>	
<b>8:00am</b>	<b>Mass and Blessing of Candles</b>
<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Homebound Communion</b>
<b>Saturday, February 3 First Saturday</b>	
<b>4:30pm to 5:15pm</b>	<b>Reconciliation</b>
<b>5:30pm</b>	<b>Mass (Blessing of Throats)</b>
<b>Sunday, February 4</b>	
<b>8:00am</b>	<b>Mass @ St Luke Church (Blessing of Throats)</b>
<b>10:30am</b>	<b>Mass (Blessing of Throats)</b> Liturgy of the Word for Children

### St. Joseph Church

**Weekly Offering—January 21st—\$6667.84**

*Thank you for your continued generosity!*

## 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.

**Celebrating Catholic Schools Week**  
**January 29th through February 2nd!**