

***FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK***

---

Welcome back. Welcome home. Can you...? Will you...? Do you...? All the things that I have heard since I've arrived here in Warren. I left Warren 45 years ago to attend Gannon and with the exception of one summer haven't really lived in Warren since. Truthfully, I never thought that I would ever live in Warren again because priests just never were assigned to their home parish. So much for that mythology. When Bishop Persico asked me to become pastor here, I asked "Are you sure?" Not because I didn't want to come home, but because I couldn't conceive that he would send me to my home parish.

So here I am. I checked the parish website and recognized a lot of names and am looking forward to reconnecting. However, I have grown a little in the 45 years that I have been away. Life experiences have a way of bringing about a maturity that a 17 year old can't possibly even imagine. So when we reconnect, I'm the same and different.

I'm also looking forward to meeting parishioners who have moved in town since I've been away. I've already met the school children who were anxious that I might somehow know their names. Just give me a chance and I'll get to know you all...for better or worse.

Just in case you might be wondering what I have been up to for that past 45 years, here's a brief summary. 4 years at Gannon, 4 years in Rome studying theology amongst other things, 1 summer in Israel, 1 summer in Germany at an army base, 20 years as a teacher, administrator, coach, guidance counselor at Kennedy Catholic High School, 1 year at St. Mark Seminary High School, 8 years as pastor of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Erie, 4 years as President of Du-Bois Central Catholic, 3+ years as pastor of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, Sykesville and St. Mary's, Reynoldsville. For those who remember Nick Creola, Nick's hometown was Sykesville.

And so here I am, excited about the adventure that we will have together. So far the adventure has been a bit overwhelming, but I'm adapting. We'll walk this journey toward eternity together and hopefully enjoy every minute of each other's company.

**FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK**

Welcome back. Welcome home. Can you...? Will you...? Do you...? All the things that I have heard since I've arrived here in Warren. I left Warren 45 years ago to attend Gannon and with the exception of one summer haven't really lived in Warren since. Truthfully, I never thought that I would ever live in Warren again because priests just never were assigned to their home parish. So much for that mythology. When Bishop Persico asked me to become pastor here, I asked "Are you sure?" Not because I didn't want to come home, but because I couldn't conceive that he would send me to my home parish.

So here I am. I checked the parish website and recognized a lot of names and am looking forward to reconnecting. However, I have grown a little in the 45 years that I have been away. Life experiences have a way of bringing about a maturity that a 17 year old can't possibly even imagine. So when we reconnect, I'm the same and different.

I'm also looking forward to meeting parishioners who have moved in town since I've been away. I've already met the school children who were anxious that I might somehow know their names. Just give me a chance and I'll get to know you all...for better or worse.

Just in case you might be wondering what I have been up to for that past 45 years, here's a brief summary. 4 years at Gannon, 4 years in Rome studying theology amongst other things, 1 summer in Israel, 1 summer in Germany at an army base, 20 years as a teacher, administrator, coach, guidance counselor at Kennedy Catholic High School, 1 year at St. Mark Seminary High School, 8 years as pastor of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Erie, 4 years as President of DuBois Central Catholic, 3+ years as pastor of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, Sykesville and St. Mary's, Reynoldsville. For those who remember Nick Creola, Nick's hometown was Sykesville.

And so here I am, excited about the adventure that we will have together. So far the adventure has been a bit overwhelming, but I'm adapting. We'll walk this journey toward eternity together and hopefully enjoy every minute of each other's company.

*Fr. Rick*



During January, Helping Hands provided many items to people in need in our community. Parishioners donated a couch, a chair and 4 dressers. Through monetary contributions ('pink' Outreach to the Needy envelopes), we were able to purchase 2 full size beds (mattress, springs and frame) and two-nights lodging for someone in need of temporary housing. Please continue to check the Helping Hands board in Meyer Hallway. Please don't throw any furniture or household items away until you check with Sharon Persing, 726-2936. Our needs are great and your help is appreciated. During February, we are asking you to help fill the shelves at the Salvation Army with cans of **Beef Stew, Spaghetti O's, and Beef-A-Roni**. Baskets to put your donations can be found at the exits of the Church.

**PARISH NEWS**

**LAST CALL CHWC ROANOKE** If you are considering going to Roanoke with us this summer, sign up today, before the spots are gone! The trip is from July 16-22. The cost is \$150.00 per person and can be paid in installments. The balance of the trip is paid by fundraisers. If you have already reserved your spot, please secure the spot with a payment asap. Going into 8<sup>th</sup> grade and older are welcome. Contact Jennifer at 688-3842. Don't miss out on this tremendous experience of service, love, worship and community!

**TIME TO RETURN PALMS** There are boxes located at the exits of the church so you can return your old palms. The boxes will be out until February 28<sup>th</sup> at which time the palms will be burned for ashes to be used at Masses on Ash Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, both the 12:05pm School Mass and the 5:30pm Mass.

**WELCOME CELEBRATION** On Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, come celebrate the uniting of St. Luke parish with St. Joseph parish. After the 10:30am Mass at St. Joseph there will be a brunch in the gymnasium. All are welcome to join in food and fellowship, as we unite as brothers and sisters in Christ. This is also a great opportunity to get to meet our new pastor, Fr. Rick Tomasone. All you need to do is come!

**4<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL BILLY PAUL MEMORIAL PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT** Mark your calendars for Sunday, March 5<sup>th</sup>! The tournament starts at 11am in the school gymnasium. The fee is \$15 per person. Team up with a friend and have a blast. All proceeds benefit CCY attending Catholic Heart Work Camp. If you don't know how to play but want to contribute, monetary donations are appreciated. This is open to anyone from novice to skilled levels. Concessions will be available. Awards given to top finishers. Entry deadline is Monday, February 27<sup>th</sup>. Please make checks payable to CCY and mail them to Marlene Sandberg, 300 Tall Trees Road, Warren, PA 16365. For starting times and questions please call Marlene Sandberg at 688-1607.

**PIEROGI SALE** St. John Church in Tidioute will be selling frozen pierogi as a fundraiser during Lent this year; every Saturday from March 4<sup>th</sup> through April 8<sup>th</sup> from 1pm to 4pm in the church's center. We will be making potato & cheese and potato & sauerkraut pierogi. Pre-order each week by Thursday to guarantee availability. Walk-ins are welcome. Call Fran O'Hosky 484-7157 to pre-order. Cost is \$9 /dozen or \$6/half dozen.

**2232 MEN'S CONFERENCE** The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual 2232 Men's Conference will be on Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at the Erie Warner Theatre, 811 State Street, Erie. Registration starts at 8am. The conference starts at 9am and lasts until 3:30pm. Cost is \$40 per person, but group rates are available. Please contact Troy McFate, 563-7339 if you are interested in attending.

**MEMBERSHIP DRIVE** The Knights of Columbus of Warren Council 964 have begun their 2017 Membership Drive. We are looking for a few good men to become members. If you are a practicing Catholic over the age of 18 and are looking to live your faith by helping others, then the K. of C. is for you. For any man who might be interested in joining at this time, there is a folder with membership applications inside on the bulletin board at the main entrance. For more information about the Knights, you may contact Membership Director Chuck Mahood at 723-6618 or 730-3001.

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Sunday, 2/19 - Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
 8:45am Mass at St. Luke in Youngsville  
 10:30am Frank Chiodo by Knights of Columbus #964  
 (Adult Choir)

**Monday, 2/20 - Weekday**  
 12:00pm Mass at St. Luke-Youngsville

**Tuesday, 2/21 - Saint Peter Damian**  
 12:05pm Florence Scalise by Leo & Mary DeFabio

**Wednesday, 2/22 - The Chair of Saint Peter the Apostle—School Mass**  
 9:05am Joan DeStefano by Carl DeStefano Family

**Thursday, 2/23 - Saint Polycarp**  
 12:05pm Bob & Cissy Scalise by Becky Harper

**Friday, 2/24 - Weekday**  
 8:00am Katherine Fazio by Mike & Lisa Lewis

**Saturday, 2/25 - Weekday**  
 8:00am Victoria Tomassoni by Blair & Pam Smoulder  
 5:30pm Phyllis Sobina by Don & Nancy

**Sunday, 2/26 - Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
 8:45am Mass at St. Luke in Youngsville  
 10:30am Rose Halle by Estate  
 (Adult Choir)

**Monday** Sirach 1:1-10; Gospel - Mark 9:14-29  
**Tuesday** Sirach 2:1-11; Gospel - Mark 9:30-37  
**Wednesday** 1 Peter 5:1-4; Gospel - Matthew 16:13-19  
**Thursday** Sirach 5:1-8; Gospel - Mark 9:41-50  
**Friday** Sirach 6:5-17; Gospel - Mark 10:1-12  
**Saturday** Sirach 17:1-15; Gospel - Mark 10:13-16  
**Sunday** Isaiah 49:14-15; 1 Corinthians 4:1-5; Gospel - Matthew 6:24-34

WEEKLY SANCTUARY CANDLES *in memory of*  
 Joan DeStefano by Carl DeStefano Family

**COMING EVENTS**

**Sunday, February 19**  
 NO Faith Formation  
 11:30am Welcome Celebration Brunch (Gym)  
 3:00pm The Gospel of John (Meyer Hall)

**Tuesday, February 21**  
 4:30pm Soup Kitchen (Cafeteria)  
 6:30pm Liturgy Committee Meeting (Boardroom)

**Wednesday, February 22**  
 10:30am Faith Share (Meyer Hall)  
 3:00pm Brownies (Meyer Hall)  
 6:30pm RCIA (Meyer Hall)  
 7:00pm Choir (Church)

**Thursday, February 23**  
 12:30pm Adoration (Mother's Chapel)  
 6:00pm Daisy Scouts (Meyer Hall)

**Saturday, February 25**  
 4:30pm Reconciliation (Church)  
 6:30pm FOP Party (Gym)

**Sunday, February 26**  
 9:00am K-9 Faith Formation  
 10-11 Confirmation (School)  
 9:00am-1:00pm 6-8 grade Retreat (School)  
 11:30am Coffee/Donuts after Mass (Cafeteria)  
 3:00pm The Gospel of John (Meyer Hall)  
 6:00pm Teen Praise Team Rehearsal (Church)  
 7:00pm HS CCY (Youth Room)

In your charity please pray for the soul of **Leonard Jedrek**, husband of **Kimberly**, who passed away recently. We extend our sympathy to his family, and ask God's love and strength to bring them peace and consolation.

**LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULES**

	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Extraordinary Ministers</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>
<b>2/25</b> 5:30pm	C Mahood	J Zavinski, D Labowski, P Lobdell, K Jones, R Kujawa, G & P Peck	L Walker M Walker S Walker
<b>2/26</b> 10:30am	Confirmation Students	*G Grosch, J Hausmann, N Berardi, *B Harvey, D Bogniak, P Christy, *S Cole	Confirmation Students

**VOCATIONS ICON**

We would like to thank the **Bob & Marianne Scheer** for taking the Vocations Icon this week and praying for an increase in vocations here at St. Joseph Catholic Church.

**SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

Congratulations to Mrs. Hunter's third grade class for winning the pennies war held during Catholic Schools Week. They won a pizza lunch with Mrs. Warner and Fr. Rich before he left. All the school children raised \$809.00 and decided to donate the money to the Helping Hands Fund. Great job!

If you or your children want to send your/their child/ren to St. Joseph Catholic School, please call the school at 814-723-2030. We have open enrollment. There are numerous grants and scholarships available. Call the school today.

Reminder that Pre-School Roundup is March 10<sup>th</sup>.

Weekly Donations - February 12: \$ 7,158  
 CSA Pledged: \$124,995; Paid to date: \$ 121,572  
 Thank you for your continued generosity!

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

**Calvert • Pearson**  
 Insurance Group  
 Auto\*Business\*Life\*Medicare\*Home\*Health  
 726-5610  
[www.calvertpearson.com](http://www.calvertpearson.com)

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.**