

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

I convinced my sister to go to watch the movie "The Shack" with me this past Sunday. We had both read the book and enjoyed that immensely. So we had an idea of what was coming. When I mentioned going to the movie to others, they thought I was going to see a basketball movie "The Shaq".

The Shack is a story about a man who suffers a tragic loss in his life and deep down blames God for the loss. So God invites this man to a weekend get-together which ultimately brings healing to the man. But before the man can be healed, he has to ask the uncomfortable questions, confront his own anger and be open to forgiving and being forgiven.

The portrayal of God is creative and thought-provoking. If we can get by the unique portrayal we see a kind, loving God who is infinitely positive and patient. This God always reminds the man that there is a bigger picture of what is truly going on and that he shouldn't judge solely based on the small perspective he is able to see.

The movie is very engaging and the time went by very quickly. The dialogue is at times funny, or thought-provoking, or uncomfortable. We can all identify with the emotions of the man and how he is dealing with them because chances are we have had the same emotions and dealt with them in a similar way.

I would recommend going to see "The Shack". Be forewarned that the movie is a tear jerker. So bring some tissues and settle in to enjoy a really creative look at God and God's desire for us all.

My sister was glad I convinced her to go, telling me on the way home that she had a new favorite movie. Take a chance. Nothing better in the season of Lent than to have our image of God and God's love for us challenged in such a creative way.

*Fr. Rick*

## PARISH NEWS

**40 CANS FOR 40 DAYS OF LENT** There is a basket by the parish office for you to put one can of a nonperishable food item for each day of Lent. All donated foods will be used at the Youngsville Food Pantry. Matthew 25:40 *"Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me."*

**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. Potato & cheese and potato & sauerkraut pierogi will be available. 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.

**SAINT JOSEPH TABLE** Sunday, March 19<sup>th</sup> is the Feast of Saint Joseph. We will have a **5:00pm Mass (which is your weekend obligation)** followed by a tureen dinner at 6:30pm. **(There will be NO 10:30am Mass)** The meat, beverages and table service will be provided, each family is asked to bring a dish to share. All donations of non perishable food items at the Saint Joseph Table will benefit the Soup Kitchen.

**CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL (CSA) 2017** is scheduled to begin this weekend, **March 18th & 19th**. Pledge envelopes for your financial and/or spiritual pledge were sent to you this week and can also be found in the pews. Hopefully you read the Faith Magazine sent to you from the Diocese last week that explains the campaign and financial summary of our Diocesan Church. If you are not ready to make a pledge today, feel free to take an envelope home with you. Envelopes can be placed in the collection basket or dropped off at the parish office during the next few weeks.

**THE MASS BOOK IS OPEN** to request intentions for weekend and weekday Masses through the end of the year. We still have some dates open for the Lenten season. The Sanctuary Candles are also available. Please call or stop by the parish office.

**HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS** are available in the parish office for graduating seniors from our parish planning to attend a college or trade school in the fall. Applications will be reviewed and scholarships offered to those students who have exemplified commitment and service in their faith life here at St. Joseph Parish. Applications must be returned to the parish office by Tuesday, April 25<sup>th</sup>. No applications will be accepted after this date.

**NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE UNBORN.** This day is deliberately chosen for March 25<sup>th</sup>, the Feast of the Annunciation, the day that Jesus' human life began in his Mother, Mary. Please pause for a moment of prayer that they may be born and enjoy life in its fullness.

**ST. JOSEPH LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE** will be on Tuesday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. This is the only one for the Warren Area Catholic Community. There will be multiple priests available.

**SACRISTANS NEEDED** to help set up and clean up after the 10:30am Mass on Sundays. We welcome individuals or couples. Please pray and discern if this ministry make be for you then call Chris Grana at 723-7764 if interested.

**THE DIVINE MERCY ENCOUNTER RETREAT** will be held the weekend of April 7, 8, & 9 at Saint Joseph Church in Erie. Anyone 16 years or older is welcome to apply. The cost is \$45 and sponsorships are available. Go to [www.divinemercyencounter.com](http://www.divinemercyencounter.com) for information or to apply.

**RCIA NEWS—THE SCRUTINIES** This Sunday the Elect and Candidates will celebrate the First Scrutiny during Sunday Mass. The Scrutinies have a spiritual purpose and are rites of self-searching and repentance. They are meant to uncover, then heal all that is weak, defective, or sinful in the hearts of the elect. They also bring out, then strengthen all that is upright, strong and good. For those of us already baptized, we are called to this same self-searching, repentance, and to deepen our resolve to hold fast to Christ and to love God above all.

**CHILD PROTECTION AND CREATING SAFE ENVIRONMENTS Online Safety Tips for Parents & Kids:** Chat rooms can be a treacherous place and parents need to talk to their children about the potential dangers. Children 'meet' new friends virtually but in the virtual world you never really know who you are talking to. Sometimes these 'friends' are adults trying to gain the friendship and trust of children and youth. Continual monitoring of children's participation in chat rooms is required to keep children safe! To see what the Diocese of Erie is doing to help create safe environments, check out <http://www.eriecd.org/protectyouth.htm>

**CONFIRMATION** Please continue to keep our Confirmation students in your prayers as they are nearing their Confirmation day on April 6th.

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Sunday, 3/19 - Third Sunday of Lent**  
 8:45am Mass at St. Luke in Youngsville  
 5:00pm Robert & Carolyn Atkins by Children & Grandchildren (St. Joseph Feast)

**Monday, 3/20 - St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary**  
 12:05pm Lorraine Bengston by Family

**Tuesday, 3/21 - Lenten Weekday**  
 12:00pm Mass at St. Luke in Youngsville

**Wednesday, 3/22 - Lenten Weekday –School Mass**  
 9:05am Lucy Notoro by Family

**Thursday, 3/23 - Lenten Weekday**  
 12:05pm Puleo, Leta, Genco & Swaney Families by Family

**Friday, 3/24 - Lenten Weekday**  
 8:00am Rose Halle by Estate

**Saturday, 3/25 - The Annunciation of the Lord**  
 8:00am Katie Rooney by Christine, Mom & Dan  
 5:30pm Deceased Members of the McAvoyn & Lucia Families by Family

**Sunday, 3/26 - Fourth Sunday of Lent**  
 8:45am Mass at St. Luke in Youngsville  
 10:30am Living & Deceased Parishioners of Saint Joseph

**Monday** 2 Samuel 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Romans 4:13, 16-18, 22  
 Gospel - Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24a

**Tuesday** Daniel 3:25, 34-43; Gospel - Matthew 18:21-35

**Wednesday** Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9; Gospel - Matthew 5:17-19

**Thursday** Jeremiah 7:23-28; Gospel - Luke 11:14-23

**Friday** Hosea 14:2-10; Gospel - Matthew 12:28-34

**Saturday** Isaiah 7:10-14; 8:10; Hebrews 10:4-10 Gospel - Luke 1:26-38

WEEKLY SANCTUARY CANDLES in Memory of  
 Peter and Helen Lucia by Family

**COMING EVENTS**

**Sunday, March 19**  
 3:00pm Gospel of John (Meyer Hall)  
 3:30pm K-9 Faith Formation (School)  
 10-11 Confirmation (School)  
 5:00pm Mass (Church)  
 6:30pm Saint Joseph Table & Tureen Dinner (Gym)

**Monday, March 20**  
 No School  
 6:30pm Liturgy Committee Meeting (Boardroom)

**Tuesday, March 21**  
 12:45pm School Stations of the Cross (Church)  
 4:30pm Soup Kitchen (Cafeteria)  
 5:30pm Finance Committee Meeting (Boardroom)  
 7:00pm Holden Evening Prayer @ St. Paul Lutheran

**Wednesday, March 22**  
 10:30am Faith Share (Meyer Hall)  
 9:05am School Mass (Church)  
 6:30pm RCIA (Meyer Hall)  
 7:00pm Choir (Church)

**Thursday, March 23**  
 8:00am Adoration (Mother’s Chapel)  
 6:00pm Daisy Scouts (Meyer Hall)  
 8:15pm Night Prayer & Benediction (Mother’s Chapel)

**Friday, March 24**  
 12:45pm School Penance Service (Church)  
 5:00pm K of C Fish Fry in Sheffield (St. Paul Center)  
 6:30pm Stations of the Cross (Church)

**Saturday, March 25**  
 8:00am– 3:00pm 2232 Men’s Conference (Erie)  
 4:30pm Reconciliation (Church)

**Sunday, March 26**  
 9:00am K-9 Faith Formation ( School)  
 Penance Grade 4 & 5 (Church)  
 11th Grade Confirmation (School)  
 3:00pm Gospel of John (Meyer Hall)  
 3:00pm Corry Penance Service

**LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULES**

	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Extraordinary Ministers</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>
<b>3/25</b> 5:30pm	R Williams	F Perrin, J & M Sabat, H Zaffino, B Williams, J & P Rickert	M Fadale K Fadale S Holmberg
<b>3/26</b> 10:30am	V Amsdell	S Cole, G & M Belleau, N Berardi, C Bevacqua, R Beyer, P Christy	S Sokolski W Sokolski M Beyer

Weekly Donations - March 12th: \$ 7883.00  
 Thank you for your continued generosity!



During March, we are asking you to help fill the shelves at the Salvation Army with **laundry soap, dish detergent, Clorox wipes, paper towels, and toilet paper.** Baskets to put your donations can be found at the exits of the Church.

**VOCATIONS ICON**

We would like to thank **The Courson Family** for taking the Vocations Icon this week and praying for an increase in vocations here at St. Joseph Catholic Church.

**SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

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.

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

**Mark E. Donick, D.D.S.**

**General Dentistry**

**723-3454**

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**Please thank them.**