

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

At the top of the front page of the most recent Faith-Life dated April 30, 2017, there is a picture with a priest or seminarian praying the Breviary and a notation for World Day of Prayer for Vocations. That made me somewhat curious about vocations to the ordained ministry from Warren and where have they all gone. There are currently 5 active in the ordained ministry for the service to the Diocese of Erie from Warren: Fr. Tom Suppa, ordained a priest in 1978, myself, ordained a priest in 1980, Fr. Mark Mastri-an, ordained a priest in 1987, Fr. Scott Jabo, ordained a priest in 1990, and Deacon Joe Lucia, ordained a deacon in 1998.

A little deeper research led me to discover that in 1954, the year I was born, there were 70 baptisms in St. Joseph alone with 36 being boys. For 1990 births there were 40 baptisms in St. Joseph with 22 being boys and for 2016 births there were 5 baptisms of residents with 2 being boys. Clearly this decline in the number of baptisms has greatly affected the number of vocations coming from St. Joe's and from Warren in general.

However, I don't think that these numbers fully explain why there have been no ordinations to either the priesthood or diaconate since 1998. We certainly realize that there are other factors involved. First, God calls a person to ordained ministry. Second, a person must hear the call and respond to it. Third, that person must be willing to devote between 6 and 8 years of his life to formation as a priest or 5 years of formation as a permanent deacon. Finally, throughout the years of formation a person must discern whether this is truly a calling from God and then be recommended for ordination by those in charge of the formation program. This process can be somewhat intimidating.

So what can we do. First, we need to trust God. God will continue to call persons to the ordained ministry. We need to help these people hear that call and feel nurturing support both on the family level and the parish level. We may need to work on our Catholic identity, particularly following the example of Pope Francis in his outreach to those most in need. Finally, we may just need to invite a person to consider ordained ministry.

Hopefully, together with God's initiative and our interaction we can get this trend reversed. *Fr. Rick*

OUR PARISH NEWS

PASTORAL COUNCIL NOMINATIONS Four new members will be needed on our Pastoral Council this coming June. **If you or someone you know would like to be part of Pastoral Council, please stop by the parish office to pick up a nomination form.** Let us pray that the Holy Spirit guide us during this process of bringing new leadership to our parish community.

FAITH FORMATION wrapped up another awesome year last weekend. Thank you to all the students and parents for their support and active participation. Thank you especially to our very dedicated catechists and substitutes who are so dedicated and work so hard to share their faith with our youth. When you see them please let them know how much you appreciate them.

RCIA THANK YOU to our dedicated team members! This is a year round ministry and our parish should be incredibly grateful to these amazing volunteers. They are already meeting with catechumens and candidates and planning for the next year. Keep all these faithful in your prayers.

DO YOU HAVE A WILL? A FREE Estate Planning Seminar will be held on May 10th at 6:30pm in Meyer Hall. Topics include

Will Planning, Power of Attorney, Healthcare Directives, Life Insurance, Guardianships for your Children, and Funeral Planning. Speakers include Christine Kuntz, Attorney, Steve Grillo, CLU, and Mike Lewis & Scott Nelson. Please RSVP to Betsy Williams at 723-2090 ext 12 if you plan to attend.

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND In 2020 the United States will celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the laying of the foundation stone of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, the patronal church of our nation in Washington, D.C. The Bishops of the United States are working to have the last unfinished dome in the Basilica decorated with a mosaic depicting the Blessed Trinity. To help make this possible the Bishops have asked for a one time collection next weekend. Thank you to all for your generous support.

PIZZA HUT DAY BENEFIT St. Joseph School will be conducting its **2nd Annual Pizza Hut Day on Wednesday, May 24th.** The school will receive **15%** of the amount of your purchase which can be eat-in, take-out, or delivery. **Use a Pizza Hut Scrip card and the amount rises to 23%.** Vouchers must be presented with your purchase and are now available at school and parish office.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS will be at the Church exits after each mass on May 20th and 21st collecting contributions for the benefit of the ARC (Advocacy & Resources for Citizens with Intellectual Disabilities) All proceeds assist in the operation of Bolinger Enterprises in North Warren. Your generosity will be greatly appreciated.



We will be collecting **Peanut Butter & Jelly and Apple Juice** during the month of **May**. Toilet paper and paper towels are always desperately needed. **Your generosity is overwhelming.** Please continue to check the bulletin board for new items needed

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
Orris W. Sheldon, P.C.
Certified Public Accountant
723-8589
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.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, 5/14—Fifth Sunday of Easter -Mother’s Day
 8:45am Mass at St. Luke in Youngsville
 10:30am Ruby Cataldo by Chris Cataldo

Monday, 5/15– Saint Isidore
 12:00pm Mass @ St. Luke Church

Tuesday, 5/16 - Easter Weekday
 12:05pm Deceased Members of the Derr & Williams Families by Family

Wednesday, 5/17– Easter Weekday
 9:05am Mary Ann Sperry by Mary Lou Wilson
 1:30pm (Warren Manor) Bernard & Esther Lignian by Estate

Thursday, 5/18 - Saint John I, Pope and Martyr
 12:05pm Jeanette Anderson by Mike & Lisa Lewis

Friday, 5/19– Saints Nereus & Achilleus, Saint Pancras
 8:00am Jim Graziano by Robert & Gloria Merenick

Saturday, 5/20– Saint Bernadine of Siena
 5:30pm Al Kondak by Joanne Rickert

Sunday, 5/21—Sixth Sunday of Easter
 8:45am Mass at St. Luke in Youngsville
 10:30am Frank Chiodo by Sally Morrison

Monday Acts 11:1-18; Gospel John 10:11-18

Tuesday Acts 11:19-26; Gospel John 10:22-30

Wednesday Acts 12:24-13:5a; Gospel John 12:44-50

Thursday Acts 13:13-25; Gospel John 13:16-20

Friday Acts 13:26-33; Gospel John 14:1-6

Saturday Acts 13:44-52; Gospel John 14:7-14

Sunday Acts 6:1-7; 1 Peter 2:4-9; Gospel John 14:1-12

THIS WEEK’S SPECIAL EVENTS

Sunday, May 14 5th Sunday of Easter—Mothers Day
Second Collection to Support our National Shrine
 10:30am Carnations on Sale after Mass and Distribution of Change for Life Baby Bottles

Monday, May 15
 8:45am May Crowning @ Saint Joseph School
12:00pm Mass @ St. Luke in Youngsville
 12:00pm Flower Pick up (Loranger Hall)

Tuesday, May 16
 12:00pm Flower Pick up (Loranger Hall)
 4:30pm Soup Kitchen (Cafeteria)

Wednesday, May 17
9:05am School Mass
 10:30am Faith Share (Meyer Hall)
 6:30pm Estate Planning Seminar (Meyer Hall)
 6:30pm RCIA (Loranger Hall)

Thursday, May 18
 12:30pm-8:15pm Adoration (Mother’s Chapel)
 8:15pm Night Prayer & Benediction (Mother’s Chapel)

Friday, May 19

Saturday, May 20
 4:30pm to 5:15pm Reconciliation
 5:30pm Carnations on Sale after Mass and Distribution of Change for Life Baby Bottles

Sunday, May 21 5th Sunday of Easter—Mothers Day
Second Collection to Support our National Shrine
 10:30am Carnations on Sale after Mass and Distribution of Change for Life Baby Bottles

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULES

	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Extraordinary Ministers</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>
5/13 5:30pm	M Sandberg	K & C Darling, M Sowa, K Weigel, *A Kiehl, R Sharp, P Tack	E Darling I Darling J Darling
5/14 10:30am	Steve Lauser	*C Luppino, B Smelko, A & *L Tyers, *A & P Webster, A Wortman	B Alexander T Bablak I Goldthwaite

WEEKLY SANCTUARY CANDLES in Memory of
 Norbert Heisler by Grandchildren
 and
 Frank & Mary Molinaro by Family

VOCATIONS ICON

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

SPECIAL MEETING FOR ALL USHERS

A meeting for all ushers and interested would be ushers will be held on Friday, May 19th @ 6:30pm in the boardroom. All are welcome!

DONATE YOUR SOLES TO THE HOUSE OF HOPE

Help raise funds for the House of Hope by donating your new or used, gently worn shoes, sandals, and boots. A collection container for the shoes is located outside of the parish office.

Weekly Donations - May 7th - \$8176.00
 Good Shepherd Collection -
 Thank you for your continued generosity!

CARNATION FLOWERS WILL BE ON SALE FOR MOTHER’S DAY
 after Mass on May 13th and 14th. All proceeds will benefit our Helping Hands Program

CHANGE FOR LIFE BABY BOTTLES

Take an empty baby bottle home on Mother’s Day . Fill it up with spare change. Return it by Father’s Day. Handfuls of change add up to many needed items such as cribs, car seats, clothing, diapers, and more for babies in need. Thank you for your generosity and support.

CHILD PROTECTION AND CREATING SAFE ENVIRONMENTS

There is no better time than the Easter season to celebrate the protection of one of our most valuable gifts from God—our children. According to Scripture and Catholic teaching we are called to protect the life and dignity of all human persons, no matter how young or old. Child abuse remains a national problem and working to prevent this abuse is an important response to what we are called to do as Church. To see what the Diocese of Erie is doing to help create safe environments, check out <http://www.eriecd.org/protectyouth.htm>