



CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF SHARON

St Joseph Roman Catholic Church

79 Case Ave. • Sharon, PA 16146

724-981-3232

St. Anthony Roman Catholic Church

804 Idaho St. • Sharon, PA 16146

724-342-7391

SharonCatholic.org

Love



Advent

Pastor

Fr. James Power

JPower@ErieRCD.org

St Joseph Parish

StJosephChurchOffice@gmail.com

Mass Times

Saturday Vigil: 5: 15 pm

Sunday: 11:00 am

Daily: M, T, Th, F., 8:00 am

Wed. 12: 10 pm

Confession: Saturday, 4:00-4:45 pm
or by appointment

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 9:00 am-12:00

pm | by appointment from 1:30-
4:00 pm. Closed Friday

Parish Staff

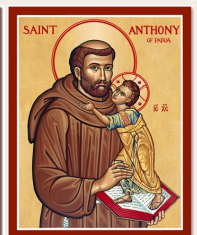
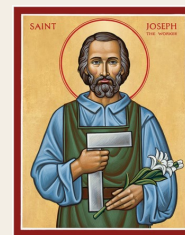
**Director of Faith Formation /
OCIA** Melissa Joseph

Parish Secretary Lori Vasconi

Financial Secretary Carol Koch

Music Director Mary Messina

Youth Ministry Gabby Herndon



St. Anthony Parish

TheMustardSeed3@yahoo.com

Mass Time

Sunday: 8:30 a.m.

Confession: by appointment

Parish Staff

Parish Secretary Lori Vasconi

Financial Secretary

Mary Ann Kleinfelder

Director of Maintenance

Jim Slanitz

Sacristan/Housekeeper

Karrie Kardos

Fourth Sunday of Advent Sunday, December 22, 2024

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From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

In just two more days we will be celebrating Christmas. We will hear the angel say to the shepherds: "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger" (Luke 2:10-12). Thus shepherds were told to look for a sign, and this sign is nothing extraordinary: simply a child born in a stable and laid in a feeding trough.

This is for us a sign of how God reigns - he does not come with power and outward splendor, ruling with strength - he wants from us only what this child wants from us - our love. We know that the great command of the old law is "you shall love the LORD your

God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength." But how are we to love that which seems distant, which we can only catch a glimpse of. At Christmas we celebrate that God is no longer distant, no longer unknown, no longer beyond our reach. He has become our neighbor - and not just any neighbor, but the weakest and poorest among us: an infant. In this way he teaches us to love the weak, to defend the poor, to support those who cannot support themselves. In a world dominated by arrogance and pride, the poverty of God is a message that we constantly need to hear.

If you have not yet made it to confession, I will be in the confessional on Monday from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM.

Be assured of my prayers,
Fr. Power

Scripture Readings

For the Week of December 22, 2024

Sunday

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

Monday

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14; Lk 1:57-66

Tuesday

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-3, 4, 5, 27 and 29; Lk 1:67-79

Wednesday

The Nativity of the Lord

Vigil Mass: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 or Mt 1:18-25

Mass during the Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

Mass at Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20

Mass during the Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14

Thursday

Feast of Saint Stephen, First Martyr

Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17; Mt 10:17-22

Friday

Feast of Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist

1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a and 2-8

Saturday

Feast of the Holy Innocents, Martyrs

1 Jn 1:5-2:2; Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7-cd-8; Mt 2:13-18

Sunday

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 or Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10; Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52



A dark blue graphic with a gold Christmas tree on the left. The text reads: "ST. JOSEPH HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS IN OBSERVANCE OF THE CHRISTMAS SEASON AND THE NEW YEAR, ST. JOSEPH OFFICES ARE CLOSED FROM DECEMBER 23 THROUGH JANUARY 1. MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY. - ST. JOSEPH STAFF -".

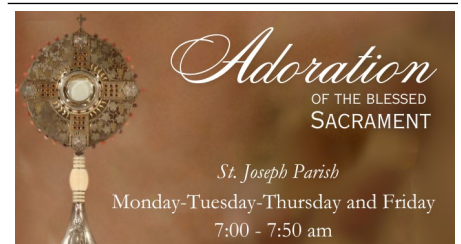
Feedback Requested! We would like to hear from our families about their interest in

Children's Liturgy of The Word

CLOW

reintroducing Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW) at the 11:00 a.m. Mass on Sundays. During CLOW, the children are dismissed from the main assembly with an adult leader and assistant to listen to the readings and Gospel using a biblical translation that is simple, but not

childish. They hear a reflection that can help them apply the readings to their lives, and they practice using the responses and prayers used in the Liturgy of the Word. The children return to celebrate the Liturgy of the Eucharist with their families and the general assembly. This ministry will require the help of several volunteers – adults and teens are welcome. Volunteers will need to complete the required Child Protection clearances. If you would like to have CLOW at Mass and/or are willing to help facilitate this program, please contact Melissa Joseph, DRE at 724-981-3232 or stjosephsharonfaithformation@gmail.com.



A graphic with a gold monstrance on the left. The text reads: "Adoration OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT St. Joseph Parish Monday-Tuesday-Thursday and Friday 7:00 - 7:50 am".

Mass Intentions

Monday, December 23

† 8:00 am • **St. Joseph**
Jim Black
(Dale Perry Family)

Tuesday, December 24

† 4:00 pm • **St. Joseph**
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Dach
(Peggy & Diane)

† 6:00 pm • **St. Anthony**
Living Parishioners of St. Anthony
and St. Joseph Parishes

† 10:00 pm • **St. Joseph**
William Ogg
(Dorothy and Family)

Wednesday, December 25

† 8:30 am • **St. Anthony**
Living Parishioners of St. Anthony
and St. Joseph Parishes

† 10:00 am • **St. Joseph**
Mr. & Mrs. Albert Billen
(Nancy Rehner)

Thursday, December 26

† 8:00 am • **St. Joseph**
St. Joseph Alumni Class of 1973

Friday, December 27

† 8:00 am • **St. Joseph**
Elizabeth Curry
(Karen & Julian Torres)

Saturday, December 28

† 5:15 pm • **St. Joseph, Vigil**
Mr. & Mrs. Max Gill
(Elizabeth Gill)

Sunday, December 29

† 8:30 am • **St. Anthony**
Charlotte Bechtel
(Joe Mastrian)

† 11:00 am • **St. Joseph**
Living Parishioners of St. Joseph
and St. Anthony Parishes

Weekly Reminders

For the Week of December 22

St. Joseph Offices will be closed
from December 23 through
January 1.

Altar Flowers

**St. Joseph • No Altar Flowers During Advent
and Christmas Season.**

Sign ups for 2025 Altar Flowers will begin
Monday, January 14, 2025.

Candles

St. Anthony • Week of December 22

The Sanctuary Candle at Saint Anthony
Church is lit for Jim Slanitz by Gary, Mary
Ann and Greg.

The Sacred Heart Candle at Saint Anthony
Church is lit for Art Pavlakis by Charlene
Styduhar.

The Blessed Virgin Mary Candle at Saint
Anthony Church is lit for John, Alice, and
Anita Ference by Joe.

The St. Joseph Candle at Saint Anthony
Church is lit for all parishioners of the
parishes.

The St. Anthony Candle at Saint Anthony
Church is lit for Rachel & Sarah Littleton by
Bonnie Zappa.

Please Pray For

Ford Bartle, Liam Rueberger, Peggy
Heldorfer, Gene Pacsi, William Harold-
son, Helen Donnelly, Msgr. Andrew
Karg, Lois Trimble, Adele Ontko,
Delbert Ontko, Beth Bottenfield, Rich
Pannutti, Ed Doughty, Jean Hetrick,
Barbara Burdick, Frances Rice, Marie
Peterson, Ed Gursky Sr., Ed Gursky Jr.,
Joe Biro, Chuck H., Mary Ellen
Luensman, Lorraine Penhos, Walter
Zuhosky, Loretta Krutsch, Lisa Dawson,
Marcie Mondoc, Dennis Staul, Carol
Thomas, Barbara LeMon and Levi
Bowser.

Usher Training – Those wishing to
serve as an usher (including those
who are currently assisting in this
ministry) are asked to attend a train-
ing session on Sunday, January 19,
2025, following the 11:00 a.m. Mass.
We welcome those who are at least
in sixth grade and above to partici-
pate. For more information, please
contact Melissa Joseph, DRE, at 724-
981-3232 or
StJosephSharonFaithFormation@
gmail.com

“WISDOM IS SEEING WITH GOD’S EYES.”
– POPE FRANCIS

SCRIPTURE AND THE TRADITION OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH PROVIDE AN ABUNDANCE OF
WISDOM, THOUGH IT CAN OFTEN BE CHALLENGING TO APPLY IT TO OUR LIVES. TO HELP YOU
LEARN TO GATHER AND LIVE WITH GREATER WISDOM, WE WILL BEGIN

WISDOM: GOD’S VISION FOR LIFE ON

TUES., JAN. 7 AT 11:00 A.M. AND 7:00 P.M.

THE PARTICIPANT FEE FOR THIS

8-WEEK COURSE IS \$30.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER, CONTACT MELISSA JOSEPH AT 724-981-3232
OR STJOSEPHSHARONFAITHFORMATION@GMAIL.COM.

YOU WILL NOT ONLY BENEFIT PERSONALLY FROM BEING PART OF THIS STUDY;
YOU WILL ALSO HELP US TO GROW IN FELLOWSHIP AS A PARISH AS WE GROW
CLOSER TO CHRIST TOGETHER.

St. Joseph News and Announcements



Featured Item: "Boxed Potatoes"

Please place your donation in the shopping cart located in the Gathering Space or at the Clepper's entrance.

Upcoming Featured Items

Canned Fruit * Cereal * Peanut Butter

For qualified individuals, upcoming December Food Pantry distribution dates are Friday, January 3rd and 17th from 9:30-11:00 am.

Slapsticks Productions presents

St. Joseph Catholic Church

8th Annual Funny Fundraiser!

Friday - January 31

Doors 5:30pm • Dinner 6:00pm • Showtime 7:00pm

Headliner

Mark Riccadonna
 DryBar Comedy Special

Feature

Chris Nakis
 Boston Comedy Festival

Host

David Kaye
 TBN Network & ABC-TV

St. Joseph Catholic Church
 Guild Hall
 79 Case Avenue
 Sharon, PA 16146

\$35⁰⁰ Guests 21 & Over
\$20⁰⁰ Guests Under 21
must be accompanied by an adult

Includes Dinner Buffet & Soft Drinks
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Clean Comedy!
 Food, Fun & Fellowship!

For Tickets & Additional Information
Contact Church Office
724-981-3232

Return of the Cupcake Raffle!
 50/50 & Assorted Raffles!

Tickets Online: slapsticksproductions.com



PLEASE JOIN US

to decorate
St. Joseph Church
 for Christmas

All parishioners are welcome to join us on Sunday, December 22 after the 11:00 a.m. Mass to hang lights on our trees and to prepare our church for Christmas.

St. Anthony News and Announcements

Oplatki is available for purchase for \$2 a packet. Packets are located on the back table by the confessional. Please put your money in the envelope located in the basket. Thank you.

St. Anthony 250 Club Raffle Deadline to return your tickets is Sunday, December 29. **If you choose not to participate it is important that you return your ticket to Mary Ann after 8:30 Mass.** St. Joseph parishioners, if interested, are welcome to purchase a ticket, please email: themustardseed3@yahoo.com.



BRUNCH & BUBBLY

JOIN US

St. Anthony Antonium

SUNDAY 5TH JANUARY 9:30 AM	DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS SUNDAY DEC., 29TH	\$15 PER PERSON <small>RESERVATIONS REQUIRED</small>
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To place a reservation please email:
themustardseed3@yahoo.com

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A Family Perspective

Mary was excited about her first pregnancy and rushed to share the news with her cousin. Sadly, children are often seen as a liability, "another mouth to feed," or an "obstacle to my career." While it is said that "Christmas is for children," it is more accurate to say, "Christmas is for adults to appreciate the gift of children!"

Parenting Pointers

Christmas gifts may be opened and enjoyed, but there's probably a lot of cleaning up to do. To be fully part of the family, include your children in the cleaning up too.

Ministry Schedule – December 28/29

St. Joseph • 5:15 pm (Saturday)

LectorS. McLaughlin
 Extraordinary Ministers
 of Communion P. Dach, K. Mueller, F. Smeraglia
 Altar ServerD. Eller, A. Jordan
 Greeter B. Charles

St. Anthony • 8:30 am (Sunday)

Lector K. Kardos
 Extraordinary Ministers
 of Communion R. Radkowski, C. Styduhar
 Altar ServerM. Podolan
 Offertory Counters Group 2

St. Joseph • 11:00 am (Sunday)

LectorK. Lepak
 Extraordinary Ministers
 of CommunionD. D'Amore, V. Mulligan, J. Sherbine
 Altar ServerC. McKnight, S. Pass
 Greeter B. Anzevino

LECTORS, EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS.

Altar Servers & Greeters

The 1st quarter Ministry Schedule, January 11 through-March 27, 2025 is available to view online via the Web Terminal. Please log onto your profile to view and/or print your schedule. For those who do not have internet access, please call the church office for assistance after January 2, 2025.



**Ministry
Scheduler
Pro**

Baptism: A pre-baptism class is required before scheduling a baptism. Please call 724-981-3232 to schedule a class and your baptism date.

Matrimony: Please contact the pastor for marriage preparation at least one year in advance of the wedding.

Prayer Line: For intentions, please call 724-981-3232.

St. Joseph



St. Anthony



Find Us On Social Media

Catholic Community of Sharon



Find our parish partner website at www.SharonCatholic.org
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facebook.com/StJosephSharon/



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Sign up today to receive St. Joseph/St. Anthony weekly bulletin straight to your inbox.
<https://bit.ly/4kHteoy>

VOLUNTEER IN YOUTH MINISTRY



DO YOU...

- Have a heart for walking with young people in encountering Christ?
- Desire to make an impact in generations to come?
- Desire to help our young people discover their God-given purpose?
- Desire to raise up our youth in their gifts and talents to bless those around them?

WAYS TO BE INVOLVED

Weekly High School Youth Nights will begin the end of January 2025, but we need YOUR help!

- **Weekly Core Team** | Lead small groups, give talks, lead games, or simply be present!
- **Meal Team** | Help us prepare and serve snacks and meals at events - weekly or pop-in!
- **Intercessors** | Join our team by interceding at home or in the church for our youth - this is an important foundation of our ministry!

**Let's make a
generational impact
together!**

Have questions or would like to learn more of how you could be involved?

EMAIL GABBY HERNDON:
youthforChrist@dioceseoferie.org

Training and formation for high school youth ministry will be provided.
 All adult volunteers are subject to screening and background checks.



Welcome to St. Joseph and St. Anthony Partnered Parishes.

We welcome you to join either parish by completing the pre-registration form below and placing it in the offertory basket at Mass.

I would like to become a member at:

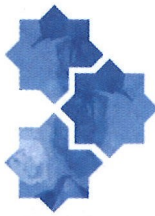
St. Joseph Parish

St. Anthony Parish

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____



Diocesan is proud to be printing *St. Joseph's and St. Anthony's Sunday Bulletin*

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CPA
Esther Zrile
CPA, CGMA, CSEP
LAZOR ZRILE CPA

1032 Orchard Rd Mercer, PA 16137
erzrile@gmail.com
724.342.7775 / 724.928.9567 (f)

Carrie M. Necastro
Manager-Gemologist

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at a price every family can afford.*

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By appointment only
Sunday & Monday: Closed

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