



# 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

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Today this scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing.”

Luke 4:21

### 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

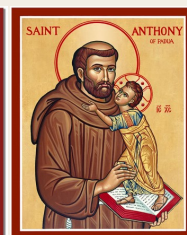
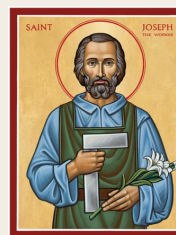
Parish Secretary Lori Vasconi

Financial Secretary Carol Koch

Maintenance John Spatara

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

Third Sunday In Ordinary Time  
Sunday, January 26, 2025

# From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

This past Friday, January 24, thousands upon thousands of people from across our country descended upon Washington DC for the 44th annual March for Life. We, Catholics, stand firmly on the side of Life. We acknowledge that every human life is sacred and that no one should be put in the position in which they are tempted to take the life of another. The March for Life is always held around the anniversary of the 1973 Supreme Court decision which incorrectly judged abortion to be a constitutionally protected right. It is a great tragedy that our nation has permitted over 60 million abortions since that incorrect ruling. Fortunately the ruling has since been overturned. But our work, as ambassadors of the Gospel of Life, is not nearly over. It is still our duty to build a world in which every human person is cherished and loved.

Some of our parishioners attended the March for Life on Friday. I

thank them for their witness to the Gospel of Life. But even if we aren't marching, all of us Catholics are called to live this Gospel of Life. It is our duty to create a world in which every person, no matter how old or how young, is treated with reverence and love.

I would like you to keep in your prayers our young people. Last Thursday we had the first gathering of Catholic young adults in the Shenango Valley. The event was a great success and I pray this group is a way that our young adult parishioners can grow in their faith and build up one another. On this upcoming Wednesday we will be having the first High School Youth Night for Catholic high schoolers in the Shenango Valley. I trust that God will work great things in the lives of our high schoolers through this ministry.

In Christ,  
Fr. Power

## Scripture Readings

*For the Week of January 26, 2025*

**Sunday**

**Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10; Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15; 1 Cor 12:12-30 or 1 Cor 12:12-14, 27; Lk 1:1-4, 4:14-21

**Monday**

Heb 9:15, 24-28; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6; Mk 3:22-30

**Tuesday**

**Memorial of Saint Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church**

Heb 10:1-10; Ps 40:2, 4ab, 7-8a, 10, 11; Mk 3:31-35

**Wednesday**

Heb 10:11-18; Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4; Mk 4:1-20

**Thursday**

Heb 10:19-25; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6; Mk 4:21-25

**Friday**

**Memorial of Saint John Bosco, Priest**

Heb 10:32-39; Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 23-24, 39-40; Mk 4:26-34

**Saturday**

Heb 11:1-2, 8-19; Lk 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75; Mk 4:35-41

**Sunday**

**Feast of the Presentation of the Lord**

Mal 3:1-4; Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40 or Lk 2:22-32

## We Are Theophilus

Luke introduces his Gospel with a message to Theophilus. Little is known about this figure, but he was likely an important leader, someone Luke expected to be influential in spreading the word about Jesus. We do know, though, that his Greek name, Theophilus, means "friend of God" or "loved by God." Luke was writing down his account of the life of Christ for a particular person at a particular time in history, but he was also writing for all people throughout time who are loved by God; he was writing for us, for you and me, that we may "realize the certainty of the teachings [we] have received."

After this introduction, today's Gospel reading jumps ahead to Chapter 4. John has recently baptized Jesus in the Jordan, and Jesus has just returned from his 40 days in the desert, where He was tempted. "In the power of the Spirit," the time of his public ministry has come.

Jesus teaches in the synagogues of Galilee to great acclaim. He then continues to his childhood home of Nazareth. He goes to the same synagogue where he has faithfully gone with his family on the sabbath, and they give him the book of the prophet Isaiah to read. It is an honor to read, and Jesus does so with great reverence and respect. He reads from Isaiah: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor ..." After reading, Jesus closes the book, gives it back to the person honored with its care, and sits down. "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing," he says.

We read that a couple thousand years later, and we skim right by it. Yep, Jesus reads Isaiah and says, "This is now," because it was — he's Jesus, Son of God, Savior of the World and all. But imagine that moment in time. He's Jesus, a neighborhood guy, son of Joseph. They grew up with him; they know his family. They know HIM, but something's different. He reads with an authority that gets their attention. They can see it. He finishes, he sits, and all eyes are on him. Silence. Wonder. And in that moment, he tells them: the time has come; the time is now. "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing." Mic drop in Nazareth.

Sit in that moment for a few minutes. Could they tell? Did they know? The verses that follow suggest that maybe they didn't just yet, but in that moment, what stirred within them? What stirs within *us*?

Jesus begins his public life among those he loves. Years later, Luke writes the story of that life to Theophilus, loved by God. Two millenia later, we, also loved by God, have the grace of reading the same story, of living the same moment so that we, too, may "realize the certainty of the teachings [we] have received."

By Pamela Kavanaugh

# Mass Intentions

**Monday, January 27**

† 8:00 am • St. Joseph  
Rosemary Rossi  
(Delp Family)

**Tuesday, January 28**

† 8:00 am • St. Joseph  
Grafius Family  
(Nancy Pace)

**Wednesday, January 29**

† 12:10 pm • St. Joseph  
Special Intention  
(Launa Morar)

**Thursday, January 30**

† 8:00 am • St. Joseph  
SJ Alumni Class of 1975  
(Estate)

**Friday, January 31**

† 8:00 am • St. Joseph  
Jim Black  
(John & Carol Stafford)

**Saturday, February 1**

† 5:15 pm • St. Joseph, Vigil  
Mark Mohan  
(Family)

**Sunday, February 2**

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

† 11:00 am • St. Joseph

Charles Koch  
(Carol Koch)

# Weekly Reminders

**For the Week of January 26**

**January 28 • St. Joseph**

11:00 am - Bible Study-Choir rm.

7:00 pm - Bible Study-Choir rm.

# Baptism

**St. Joseph • January 26**

**Welcome** Baptized this weekend is Ostara Vale Zolnier, daughter of Jeffrey and Ruby Zolnier.

# Altar Flowers

2025 Altar Flower Donor Program is a program offered at St. Joseph Church that provides an opportunity to honor a loved one and is based on a first come, first served sign-up list. A weekly altar flower bouquet is delivered from *Petals and Stems* and an announcement of the memorial is placed in the church bulletin.

The cost is \$50 and is to be collected at the time of reservation. To reserve your date, you may stop in the parish office between 9:00 am-12:00 pm M-TH or you may call the office to schedule an afternoon appointment.

Due to the high demand of this program, reservations are limited to one weekend per donor. After March 2025 if any dates remain, a second weekend can be reserved by the same donor.



## 2025 AVAILABLE ALTAR FLOWER DATES

Feb. 2, 9, 23	Aug. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
March 2	Sept. 7, 14
June 8, 22, 29	Oct. 12, 19, 26
July 6, 13, 20, 27	Nov. 2, 9, 16, 23

# Candles

**St. Anthony • Week of January 26**

**The Sanctuary Candle** at Saint Anthony Church is lit for Anita Ference from husband Joe.

**Blessed Virgin Mary Candle** at Saint Anthony Church is lit for Mitzi Pendel from children Mary Ann and Greg.

**The Sacred Heart Candle** at Saint Anthony Church is lit for Jack & Kay DeBonis from Donna and Linda.



# Please Pray For

Ford Bartle, Liam Rueberger, Peggy Heldorfer, Gene Pacsi, William Haroldson, 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., Lorraine Penhos, Walter Zuhosky, Loretta Krutsch, Lisa Dawson, Marcie Mondoc, Dennis Staul, Carol Thomas, Barbara LeMon, Levi Bowser and Joe Ference.

**Funeral** Our sympathy and prayers to the family of Wesley McKinney. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

Don't forget to purchase your Comedy Night tickets! Tickets will be on sale in the church office until Tuesday at Noon! Gather your friends and family for a fun filled night of laughter, good food and company! To purchase tickets stop by St. Joseph Church office by Tuesday, from 9:00 am -12:00 pm or go online to our secure website, [VANCO](http://VANCO) or call the church office at 724-981-3232 to make other arrangements.

Slapsticks Productions presents  
**St. Joseph Catholic Church**  
8th Annual **Funny Fundraiser!**  
**Friday - January 31**  
Doors 5:30pm • Dinner 6:00pm • Showtime 7:00pm

<b>Headliner</b>  Mark Riccadonna DryBar Comedy Special	<b>Feature</b>  Chris Nakis Boston Comedy Festival	<b>Host</b>  David Kaye TBN Network & ABC-TV
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**St. Joseph Catholic Church**  
Guild Hall  
79 Case Avenue  
Sharon, PA 16146

\$35.00 Guests 21 & Over  
\$20.00 Guests Under 21  
must be accompanied by an adult

Includes Dinner Buffet & Soft Drinks  
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**For Tickets & Additional Information**  
**Contact Church Office**  
**724-981-3232**

Clean Comedy!  
Food, Fun & Fellowship!

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

Tickets Online: [slapsticksproductions.com](http://slapsticksproductions.com)

## St. Joseph News and Announcements



### Featured Item: "Paper Towels"

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

### Upcoming Featured Items

Cereal \* Canned Soups \* Jelly

For qualified individuals, upcoming February Food Pantry distribution dates are Friday, February 7th and 21st from 9:30-11:00 am.

**Family Perspective** In today's gospel, Jesus was 'praised by all' except in his hometown of Nazareth, where 'the eyes of all were intently on him.' Acceptance can be difficult to find at home due to unrealistic EXPECTATIONS. Jesus challenges us to 'proclaim liberty' to anyone 'oppressed' or 'captive' by our EXPECTATIONS.

## St. Anthony News and Announcements

**Thank you** Thank you to John & Mary Beth Natoli and Stephanie & John Bilokonsky for your donation to St. Anthony Church in memory of Violet Matta.

God Bless You for your kindness and generosity.

**Coming Soon** St. Anthony Lenten Fish Fry

Serving Friday, March 7th and every Friday during Lent, including Good Friday.

Stay tuned for more information in upcoming bulletins.



There was no winner for the January 19th Pot O' Gold

Remember to enter your weekly envelope to be eligible for the drawing.

# WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

Join a conversation on life, faith & purpose.  
Every Wednesday Night starting January 29, 2025 through May.

January 29, 2025 | 6:00-7:30pm | Notre Dame Church  
High School Youth | 9-12th Grade | All Shenango Valley Youth

Dinner - Games - Conversations  
Bring your friends - you don't have to be Catholic. All are welcome!

# SHENANGO VALLEY CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULTS

A BRAND NEW MINISTRY

## GUINNESS & GOD

Young Adults (ages 18-39) are invited to the Kick-Off of Young Adult Ministry - a 3 week series. Come enjoy great food & drinks, meet new friends, & have faith-filled conversations!

### SPEAKER LINEUP

<b>JAN. 23</b> FR. JAMIE POWER	<b>JAN. 30</b> DR. KEITH LEPAK	<b>FEB. 06</b> FR. JOHN MILLER
 THE CANONIZATION PROCESS UP-CLOSE	 THE PAPACY & AMERICAN LIFE	 STORIES FROM A HOLY LAND MISSIONARY

RSVP to Gabby Herndon:  
Cell: (724) 301-6127 | Text or Call  
youthforChrist@DioceseofErie.org

**LOCATION**  
Hickory Bar & Grille | 6:30 PM  
1645 N Hermitage Rd, Hermitage, PA 16148  
Appetizers & Spiritual Nourishment provided.



**SEASONS OF HOPE BEREAVEMENT FACILITATORS NEEDED** As we prepare for our 2025 Seasons of Hope Ministry, our bereavement team invites any adult parishioner, who is interested in learning about becoming a group facilitator to contact our coordinator, Bob Clarke at 724-584-6847 or email [rclarke49@aol.com](mailto:rclarke49@aol.com).

## Our Stewardship

### Offertory for the

### Weekend of January 12

#### St. Anthony

Sunday Offertory.....\$2,001  
Attendance.....N/A

#### St Joseph

Sunday Offertory.....\$5,712  
Budgeted Offertory.....\$7,174  
Deficit.....\$1,462  
Number of Envelopes Returned ..... 139

*Our gratitude to those who support our parishes.*

## Ministry Schedule – February 1/2

### St. Joseph • 5:15 pm (Saturday)

Lector .....J. Necastro  
Extraordinary Ministers  
of Communion ..... C. Necastro, M. Orchard, F. Smeraglia  
Altar Servers ..... D. Eller, A. Jordan  
Greeter..... Volunteer

### St. Anthony • 8:30 am (Sunday)

Lector ..... Sr. Margaret  
Extraordinary Ministers  
of Communion..... C. Kordich, C. Styduhar  
Altar Server.....J. Slanitz  
Offertory Counters ..... Group 3

### St. Joseph • 11:00 am (Sunday)

Lector ..... S. Cleary  
Extraordinary Ministers  
of Communion ..... K. Bonomo, P. Emery, B. & G. Maffey,  
C. McKnight  
Altar Servers ..... A. & O. Haroldson  
Greeter.....J. McLaughlin

**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](http://www.SharonCatholic.org)  
SharonCatholic.org



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/48t8eay>



**KENNEDY CATHOLIC**  
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*"Christo Servire"*

## KENNEDY CATHOLIC MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL

### PROSPECTIVE FAMILY NIGHT

Monday, January 27th  
6:00PM

2120 Shenango Valley Fwy.  
Hermitage PA



**KENNEDY CATHOLIC**  
Family of Schools  
*"Christo Servire"*

## ST JOHN PAUL II ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

### PROSPECTIVE FAMILY DAY

Sunday, Feb. 2nd  
1PM

2335 Highland Rd.  
Hermitage PA



### 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:

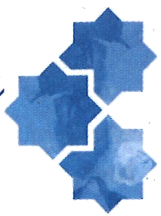
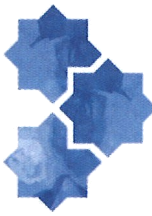
St. Joseph Parish

St. Anthony Parish

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

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For opportunities to advertise, please call 800-233-8200.

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