

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



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



The Holy Family by Joseph Paelinck circa 1820

Feast of the Holy Family Sunday, December 29, 2024

From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

After the birth of Jesus and the visit of the shepherds, we are told that "Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart" (Luke 2:19). We can imagine the scenario for Joseph and Mary: the busyness of the birth is over and they are now settling into their new routine of caring for this child. Yet all the while, we are told that Mary continues to "reflect on [these things] in her heart."

While society seems to think that Christmas ends on December 26, we know that it is actually just beginning. Like Mary, we are invited to spend this Christmas season cherishing the Lord Jesus in our hearts. We have spent four weeks preparing for this time; we do not want it to pass by us in a single day. Indeed Christmas, like Easter, is both an "octave" and a "season." An "octave" refers to eight days of celebration: both Christmas and Easter have 8 days of particularly joyful observance. Christmas is also a full liturgical "season:" the liturgical emphasis of Christmas

continues until the Baptism of the Lord on the second Sunday of January (this year it is January 8). You will also be familiar with the term "the 12 days of Christmas." This refers to the period of time between Christmas and the Epiphany (which is traditionally on January 6, but in the United States is moved to the first Sunday of January).

This Wednesday, January 1, is a Holy Day of Obligation for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. There will be a 5:30 PM Vigil Mass at St. Anthony Church on Tuesday, December 31, and a 10:00 AM Mass at St. Joseph Church on January 1.

Last of all I would like to thank everyone who made our Christmas celebrations so beautiful. I would particularly like to thank all who took their time to decorate our two churches as well as our musicians and choirs who worked so hard to prepare for these holy days.

May God bless you throughout this Christmas season. Fr. Power

"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.

Scripture Readings

For the Week of December 29, 2024

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

Monday

1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10; Lk 2:36-40

Tuesday

1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13; Jn 1:1 -18

Wednesday

Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God

Num 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5,6,8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

Thursday

Memorial of Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church

1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Jn 1:19-28

Friday

1 Jn 2:29-3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6; Jn 1:29-34

Saturday Memorial of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9; Jn 1:35-42

Sunday

The Epiphany of the Lord

Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

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 -



Mass Intentions

Monday, December 30

† 8:00 am • St. Joseph William Bicho (Estate)

Tuesday, December 31

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

† 5:30 pm • St. Anthony, Vigil Living Parishioners of St. Anthony

Wednesday, January 1

† 10:00 am • St. Joseph
Jim Black
(Ann Sheasley)

Thursday, January 2

† 8:00 am • St. Joseph Michael Kuzel (Jean Hetrick)

Friday, January 3

† 8:00 am • St. Joseph George Giroski (Family)

Saturday, January 4

† 5:15 pm • St. Joseph, Vigil

Living Members of St. Joseph and St. Anthony Parishes

Sunday, January 5

† 8:30 am • St. Anthony Mr. & Mrs. Jack DeBonis (Donna and Linda)

† 11:00 am • St. Joseph Albert Billen (Nancy Rehner)

Weekly Reminders

For the Week of December 29

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

Jan. 5 • St. Joseph Faith Formation, Confirmation Class and OCIA Resume.

Altar Flowers

St. Joseph • Reservations begin 1-19-2025

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 that 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 <u>one</u> <u>weekend per donor</u>. After March 2025 if any dates remain, a second weekend can be reserved by the same donor. Signup reservations will begin on **Monday, January 19, 2025.**

2025 AVAILABLE ALTAR FLOWER DATES

Jan. 26	July 6, 13, 20, 27
Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23	Aug. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
March 2	Sept. 7, 14, 21, 28
May 18, 25	Oct. 5, 12, 19, 26
June 1, 8, 22, 29	Nov. 2, 9, 16, 23

Candles

St. Anthony • Week of December 29

The Sanctuary Candle at Saint Anthony Church is lit for Charles Ference by Cindy Mastrianno and family.

Usher Training – Those wishing to serve as an usher (including those who are currently assisting in this ministry) are asked to attend a training 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 participate. For more information, please contact Melissa Joseph, DRE, at 724-981-3232 or StJosephSharonFaithFormation@gmail.com.

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., Mary Ellen Luensman, Lorraine Penhos, Walter Zuhosky, Loretta Krutsch, Lisa Dawson, Marcie Mondoc, Dennis Staul, Carol Thomas, Barbara LeMon and Levi Bowser.

Children's Liturgy of The Word

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

St. Joseph News and Announcements



Featured Item: "Canned Fruit"

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

Upcoming Featured Items

Cereal * Peanut Butter * Canned Vegetables

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

Don't forget to purchase your Comedy Night tickets! 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 Monday through Thursday from 9:00 am –12:00 pm or go online to our secure website, <u>VANCO</u> or call the church office at 724-981-3232 to make other arrangements.



A Family Perspective

Today's gospel reveals a truth about parenting: **"but his parents did not know."** One reason parenting is so challenging is that our children don't tell us everything. If even the Holy Family faced difficulties with their teenager, why should we expect it to be easier for us?

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: <u>themustardseed3@yahoo.com</u>.



Thank you To Joe Mastrian for donating your 250 Club winnings back to St. Anthony Church. May God Bless You for your kindness and generosity



There was no winner for the December 22nd Pot O' Gold. Remember to enter your weekly envelope to be eligible for the drawing.

Marriage Moments As one year ends and another begins, it's natural to review and plan. Share your favorite marital moment of 2024. What's one hope you have to enhance your love in 2025?

Ministry Schedule – January 4/5

St. Joseph • 5:15 pm (Saturday)

Lector	M. Norman
Extraordinary Ministers	5
of Communion	.T. H. Cole, S. Messina, D. Rubano
Altar Servers	D. Eller, Volunteer
Greeters	F. Giroski

St. Anthony • 8:30 am (Sunday)

Lector	M. Burns
Extraordinary Ministers	
of Communion	.J. Gunesch, K. Zurko
Altar Server	R. Radkowski
Offertory Counters	Group 3

St. Joseph • 11:00 am (Sunday)

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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.



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.





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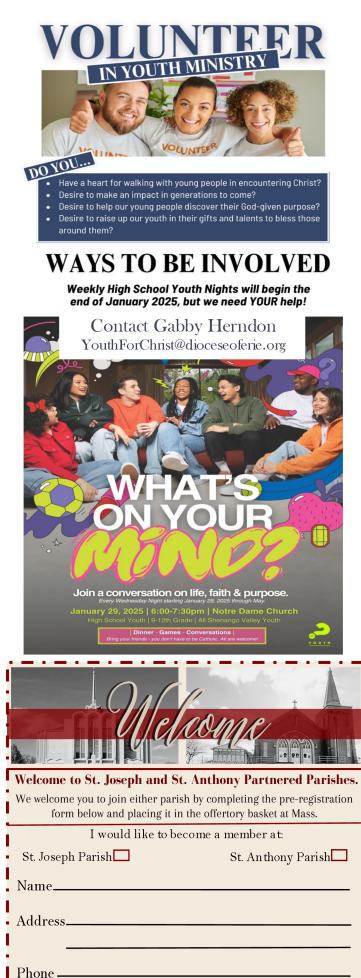


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