



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

Joy



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

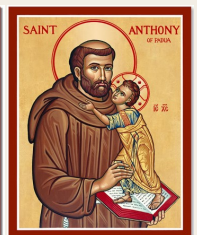
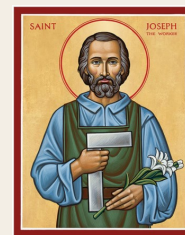
**Director of Faith Formation /
OCIA** Melissa Joseph

Parish Secretary Lori Vasconi

Financial Secretary Carol Koch

Music Director Mary Messina

Youth Ministry Gabby Herndon



St. Anthony Parish

TheMustardSeed@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 of Advent Sunday, December 15, 2024

From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners

This Sunday is Gaudéte Sunday (pronounced Gow-DAY-tay). The name of this Sunday comes from the entrance antiphon of the Mass, which uses Philippians 4:4: “Gaudéte in Domino semper; iterum dico, gaudéte” (“Rejoice in the Lord always; I say it again, rejoice!”). On Gaudéte Sunday we rejoice that the Lord’s coming is getting closer. The liturgical color is rose (a shade of pink), to reflect the glimmer of hope as we approach Christmas.

I would like to announce to you a big event that will be happening in the universal Church. This upcoming calendar year - the Year of Our Lord 2025 - is a Holy Year of Jubilee. In the Old Testament, God commanded the Israelites to celebrate a “jubilee year” every fiftieth year. During a jubilee year, all debts were forgiven. It was a year of particular rejoicing. In the middle ages, Holy Mother Church, in emulation of the Kingdom of Israel, decided to take up the Old Testament idea of a jubilee year to encourage people to celebrate God’s goodness. Since 50 years is too long a period of time, the Church decided to have a jubilee year every 25 years. This way, more people would be able to experience a jubilee.

Traditionally, the jubilee year would be a chance to take a pilgrimage to Rome. In the four great pilgrim basilicas of Rome, there are special doors which are only opened during the jubilee year. Once the jubilee year is finished those “Holy Doors” are bricked-up. The bricks are not removed again until the next jubilee. For those who cannot make a pilgrimage to Rome, every Cathedral is to designate one of their doors as a Holy Door for pilgrims to walk through. Every church around the world will be celebrating the opening of the Jubilee Year next Sunday at the end of Mass.

Lastly, if you haven’t gone to confession yet, be sure to put it on your calendar. On Sunday, December 15, there will be two penance services: one at Beloved Disciple (Grove City) at 2:00 pm and one at Immaculate Heart of Mary (Mercer) at 5:00 pm. Then we will be having a penance service at St. Joe’s on Thursday, December, 19 at 7:00 pm. Additionally, I will be in the confessional at St. Joe’s from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm on the following days: Monday, December 16, Friday, December 20, and Monday, December 23.

In Christ,
Fr. Power

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.

Scripture Readings

For the Week of December 15, 2024

Sunday

Third Sunday of Advent

Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

Monday

Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9; Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday

Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17

Wednesday

Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25

Thursday

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25

Friday

Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38

Saturday

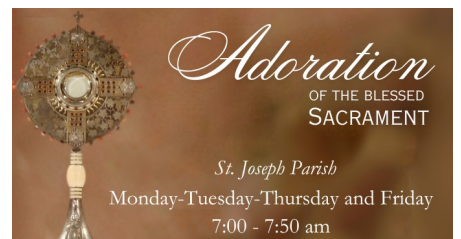
Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45

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

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



Mass Intentions

Monday, December 16

† 8:00 am • St. Joseph

Bill Lasche

(Dr. & Mrs. Robert Weiner Family)

Tuesday, December 17

† 8:00 am • St. Joseph

Jim Black

(Ron & Beth Schupp)

Wednesday, December 18

† 12:10 pm • St. Joseph

Connie Isco

(Patricia & Martin Yannerilla)

Thursday, December 19

† 8:00 am • St. Joseph

Elizabeth Hubert

(Nancy Pace)

Friday, December 20

† 8:00 am • St. Joseph

Marie Rindosh

(Gary & Elaine Hruska)

Saturday, December 21

† 5:15 pm • St. Joseph, Vigil

Palma M. Cirino

(Power Family)

Sunday, December 22

† 8:30 am • St. Anthony

Steven Pustinger

(Karrie & Marty Kardos)

† 11:00 am • St. Joseph

Melanie Giordano

(Eric & Joanne)

Living Members of St. Joseph &

St. Anthony Parishes

Weekly Reminders

For the Week of December 15

Sunday, December 15

9:30 am to 10:45 am • St. Joseph

Family Day - Guild Hall

9:30 am to 12:30 pm • St. Anthony

Cookie Walk & Holiday Market -

Antonium

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 15

The Sanctuary Candle at Saint Anthony Church is lit for Patrick Thomas by Phyllis Korab and Janet Groenendaal.

The Sacred Heart Candle at Saint Anthony Church is lit for Stephen Dovutovich by Ann Dovutovich.

The Blessed Virgin Mary Candle at Saint Anthony Church is lit for Nickey Krizancic by Ann Dovutovich.

The St. Joseph Candle at Saint Anthony Church is lit for Thomas Dovutovich by Ann Dovutovich.

The St. Anthony Candle at Saint Anthony Church is lit for Louis Styduhar by Helen.

Advent Penance Offerings

Sunday, December 15

2:00 pm • Beloved Disciple, Grove City

5:00 pm • Immaculate Heart, Mercer

Wednesday, December 18

7:00 pm • Epiphany of the Lord, Meadville

Thursday, December 19

7:00 pm • St. Joseph, Sharon

ADDITIONAL REGULAR SCHEDULED TIMES

Monday, December 16

4:00-6:00 pm • St. Joseph, Sharon

Friday, December 20

4:00-6:00 pm • St. Joseph, Sharon

6:00-7:00 pm • Immaculate Heart, Mercer

Monday, December 23

4:00-6:00 pm • St. Joseph, Sharon

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.

"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.

CHRISTMAS SIGN UP *All Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers and Greeters*

In preparation for Christmas Masses, for both St. Joseph and St. Anthony Parishes, if you know which Christmas Mass you will be attending and are able to serve, please sign up on the sign up sheet located in the main entrances of each parish by today, December 15. You may also sign up using the Web Terminal online until Wednesday, December 18.

St. Joseph News and Announcements



Featured Item: "Mac & Cheese"

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

Upcoming Featured Items

Boxed Potatoes * Canned Fruit * Cereal

For qualified individuals, upcoming December Food Pantry distribution dates are Friday, December 6th and 20th 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

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\$35.00 Guests 21 & Over
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 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.



Congratulations to the following December 250 Club Winners:
 \$250 winners-Sandy McFarland, Joe Mastrian and Cathy Zuhosky and the \$500 winner-Frank Egercic.



There was no winner for the December 8th Pot O' Gold. Remember to enter your weekly envelope to be eligible for the drawing.



BRUNCH & BUBBLY

JOIN US

St. Anthony Antonium

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

Our Stewardship

Offertory for the

Weekend of December 8

St. Anthony

Sunday Offertory.....\$2,950
Attendance.....107

St Joseph

Sunday Offertory.....\$10,407
Budgeted Offertory.....\$7,174
Surplus.....\$3,233
Number of Envelopes Returned.....188

Our gratitude to those who support our parishes.

Ministry Schedule – December 21/22

St. Joseph • 5:15 pm (Saturday)

Lector J. Necastro
Extraordinary Ministers of Communion C. Necastro, D. Dach, D. Rubano
Altar Server D. Eller, Volunteer
Greeter S. & R. Axtell

St. Anthony • 8:30 am (Sunday)

Lector M. Burns
Extraordinary Ministers of Communion K. Kardos, C. Kordich
Altar Server R. Radkowski
Offertory Counters Group 1

St. Joseph • 11:00 am (Sunday)

Lector E. Rodriguez
Extraordinary Ministers of Communion S. Cleary, M. B. Jones, J. McLaughlin
Altar Server C. Joseph, T. Joseph
Greeter O. Pacsi

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 partnered website at www.SharonCatholic.org
SharonCatholic.org



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:

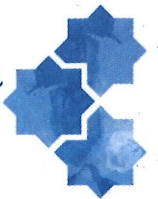
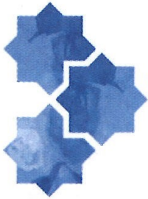
St. Joseph Parish

St. Anthony Parish

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____



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CPA, CGMA, CSEP
LAZOR ZRILE CPA

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

Carrie M. Necastro
Manager-Gemologist

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MARIA MESIN - Owner/Stylist

By appointment only
Sunday & Monday: Closed

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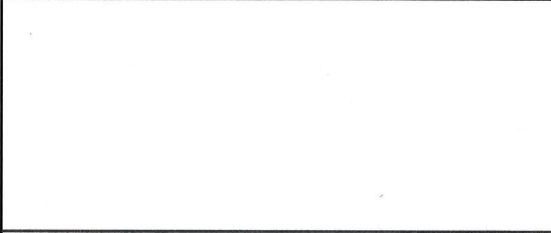
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