



DECEMBER 08, 2024

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS: DEC 07 - DEC 15, 2024

SAT, DEC 07 4:00 PM FOR GERRY HALBEDL
BY MARLENE HALBEDL

SUN, DEC 08 9:00 AM FOR JASON COLABOVE
BY HIS PARENTS, LOU & TERRI

**THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION**

**MON, DEC 09 8:00 AM FOR ALOIS POPPENWIMER
BY THE MINER & REISMIR FAMILIES**

**6:00 PM FOR JOSEPH WHARTON
By DOUG & JERRY JO MOORE**

TUE, DEC 10 6:00 PM FOR DOLORES SCHIRF
BY MR. & MRS. JOE KOEHLE

WED, DEC 11 7:30 AM HOLY HOUR WITH COMMUNION

SAT, DEC 14 4:00 PM FOR THE PEOPLE
BY THE PASTOR

SUN, DEC 15 9:00 AM FOR WALTER E. CHIHON, JR.
BY HIS GRANDCHILDREN &
GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN

MASS INTENTIONS: If you would like to have a Mass celebrated for the deceased or for special intentions, you will find envelopes at each entrance of the church or you can stop in or call the office. *Please keep in mind that we schedule as we receive mass intentions (we cannot schedule more than one year in advance) and will do our best to honor your requests. Let us be kind and considerate of others and allow as many as possible in our parish family to be able to request a celebration of Mass and remember that the value of a Mass is infinite no matter when it is celebrated.*

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

Saturday, Dec 14, 4:00 PM:

LECTORS: 1st Reading: A. Bucher
2nd Reading: T. Evanskey
Intercessions: T. Burr

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST:
Host: M. Kissell
Cup: Sr. Linda & T. Hoffer

ALTAR SERVERS: A. Bucher & T. Smith

HOSPITALITY: J. Genesi, S. Genesi, N. Lovrich, Sr., B. Risbon

Sunday, Dec 15, 9:00 AM:

LECTORS: 1st Reading: S. Shaulis
2nd Reading: T. Colabove
Intercessions: N. Lovrich

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST:
Host: W. Zapotoczny
Cup: T. Belis & J. Chestney

ALTAR SERVERS: E. Caldwell & S. Caldwell

HOSPITALITY: B. DelGrosso, E. Hunter, M. Kowalski, W. Rossi

WEEKLY PARISH OFFERING	Nov 25-DEC 01, 2024
WEEKLY (SUNDAY) COLLECTION GOAL	\$ 5,500.00
REGULAR WEEKLY (SUNDAY) COLLECTION:	\$ 3,046.00
OTHER: (HOLY DAYS, DIOCESAN COLLECTIONS, ETC.)	\$ 1,051.00
WEEKLY ONLINE DONATIONS:	\$ 1,515.00
TOTAL WEEKLY COLLECTION:	\$ 5,612.00
2024 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES DRIVE TARGET	\$ 19,753.00
CMD DONATIONS FOR 2024:	\$ 39,707.93

SAINT JOSEPH ON-LINE GIVING

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: WWW.SAINTJOSEPHBELLWOOD.ORG

THANK YOU for your Support and Generosity. Please remember that one can have a lot of money but still live a really poor life and one can have no money at all and live a really rich life. What makes a person truly rich is not how much they have but how much they give.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

ST. JOSEPH PARISH is a charitable trust of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, the Most Reverend Mark L. Bartchak, bishop and trustee.

BAPTISM OF INFANTS: Notify pastor during pregnancy for arrangements and parental/God-parent Faith formation. A Preparation class for Parents and God-parents is required prior to Child's Baptism. Please contact Sr. Linda LaMagna to make arrangements to attend a Preparation Class. (814) 742-7894 or llamagna@dioceseaj.org

CONFIRMATION: Formation, classes, and service hours as required by the Diocese.

HOLY MATRIMONY: Notify pastor at least six months before the desired wedding date; Diocesan-approved marriage preparation course required.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: By request.

PENANCE: Saturdays at 3:30 PM and anytime by request.

MASS SCHEDULE: Weekend: Saturday-4:00 PM, Sunday-9:00 AM Holy Days of Obligation and Daily Mass as published.

BULLETIN DEADLINE: The deadline to have information considered for the bulletin is Thursday at 12:00 NOON for the upcoming weekend. Information can be placed in the box on the office door, in the collection basket, or emailed to abishopamato@dioceseaj.org.

REVEREND FATHER MICHAEL PLEVA, PASTOR
Church Office at St. Joseph's: (814) 742-7075
Church Office at St. Matthew's: (814) 684-1480
Rectory: (814) 684-1480
Email: mpleva@dioceseaj.org

SR. LINDA LAMAGNA, CCW, PASTORAL MINISTER
Office: (814) 742-7894
Email: llamagna@dioceseaj.org

ALISON BISHOP-AMATO, ADMINISTRATIVE & FINANCIAL ASSISTANT
Hours: Tuesday, Thursday & Friday, 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM
Parish Office: (814) 742-7075
Email: abishopamato@dioceseaj.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
DRE: SR. LINDA LAMAGNA
Religious Education Office and Hall: (814) 742-7894
Church: (814) 742-7075
Email: llamagna@dioceseaj.org

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS
Stuart Crocker, Peter Gardella, Jr., Filomena Long,, Barbara Paranich, Janine Schirf, , Dominic Tornatore, Jessica Steinbauer, Christopher Wagner, Rebecca Wertz

SCHOOLS: St. Joseph Parish supports St. Matthew and Holy Trinity Catholic Schools, and Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School.

Interested in becoming Catholic? Contact Sr. Linda 814-742-7075.

CHRISTMAS EVE AND CHRISTMAS DAY MASS SCHEDULE

St. Joseph - Bellwood
Christmas Eve: 4:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.
Christmas Day: 9:00 a.m.

St. Matthew - Tyrone
Christmas Eve: 5:30 p.m. and Midnight
Christmas Day: 10:30 a.m.

HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT BECOMING A CATHOLIC?

WOULD YOU LIKE TO INQUIRE ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH? HAVE YOU EVER GIVEN THOUGHT ABOUT BECOMING A CATHOLIC CHRISTIAN BUT HAVE CONCERNS ABOUT YOUR BUSY AND FULL DAILY SCHEDULE?

We have designed a schedule for inquiring and learning about the Catholic Faith for those with a busy life, family needs and a crowded Schedule.

We can help you walk through the short-cut journey of learning and inquiring about our Catholic Faith and still allowing you to choose other opportunities for Faith enrichment, if you should want to learn more.

It is simple, it is easy, and it is a gentle way to experience the faith without total focus on attending classes.

What we need from you is your name and a list of days and times on which we can schedule a simple gathering. These Gathering sessions will begin in January of 2025 and will be set up at a time that is convenient for you and your family schedule. Please detach this form, include the necessary information on the back side, and either mail it to Sr. Linda, St. Joseph Church, 623 East Third Street, Bellwood, Pa. 16617, or drop it off in the collection basket.

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

- ◆ **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETING** - Monday, December 9, 7:00 p.m., in the Parish Meeting Room.
- ◆ **FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING** - Wednesday, January 08, 2025, 6:30 p.m., in the Parish Meeting Room.
- ◆ **PARISH ASSOCIATION CHRISTMAS DINNER** at Marzoni's in Greenwood - Monday, January 13, 2025, 5:30 p.m.
- ◆ **PARISH ASSOCIATION MEETING** - Tuesday, January 21, 2025, 6:30 p.m. after mass.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH FOR THE FOUR SUNDAY'S OF ADVENT - We are still looking for families to sign up for the lighting of the Advent Wreath. Please consider signing your family up to light the Advent Candle for the weeks of Advent. A Sign-up clip board can be found in the vestibule of the Church.

St. Joseph Singers Choir Practice
 Monday Dec. 9 7:00 – 8:30 PM
 Monday Dec. 16 7:00 – 8:30 PM



Bellwood Christmas Collection

This year, St. Joseph has been asked to collect three items for the Annual Bellwood Christmas Give-away for needy Families. We are asking our **Religious Education students** to donate a **toy, new or gently used**. A box will be provided in the Church Basement Religious Education Center for the collection of Toys. We would like to ask our **Parishioners** to donate **socks and underwear**, the same as we did last year. Boxes will be at both entrances of the Church for the collection of socks and underwear.

THE FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Good Shepherd Parish (867 Gray's Woods Boulevard, Port Matilda, PA 16870) sincerely invites you to join us as we honor the Blessed Virgin Mary who gave us our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and calls us to surrender our lives to Him. The celebration of **the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe**, Patroness of the Americas, will take place on **Thursday, December 12th**. It will begin at 4:30 with the prayer of the Holy Rosary, then at 5:00 PM the music and singing will be offered by a professional band from Baltimore, MD called "*Mariachi Esmeralda*". The band will also lead the congregation in singing during the mass, **presided by Bishop Mark**, that will begin at 5:30 PM. After the celebration of the Eucharist a reception will take place in the Parish (Agape) Hall.



Jumpstarting Jubilee 2025 – Advent Peace The second Advent candle symbolizes peace. The Jubilee Year is meant to be a time of Sabbath rest, reconciliation, and peace. Pope Francis encourages us during this time to be reconciled to God and one another. The Jubilee Year allows us to do this through opportunities for sacramental confession and the gaining of indulgences ("eased purgation from sin") offered throughout the year. May you come to know the Jubilee "Prince of Peace."

Stewardship Reflections - 2nd Sunday of Advent: The readings for the Second Week of Advent offer both encouragement and challenge during this brief but important season of the liturgical year. Recall from last week that the purpose of this season is reflection on and preparation for the two "comings" of Christ – His coming as a baby on the great feast of Christmas, and the anticipation of His second coming at the end of time.

Until He comes again, we must remain faithful to Him as true disciples and good stewards of all the gifts He has given us. While it can be tempting to give in to the materialism and calls for self-indulgence that surround us, our First Reading calls us back to the spiritual reality that this life is passing and that we are made for eternal life with God. We are called to prepare for eternal life by the way that we use our time, our talents, and our treasure now. This Advent let's turn away from any bad habits or sin that may have crept into our lives and turn our hearts and minds back to Christ. This is what the stewardship way of life is all about – moving ever closer in relationship with Christ and imitation of Him, ready to celebrate His birth, with eyes fixed on eternal life with Him.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Sunday, December 08, 2024

Grade School (K-6): 10:00-11:15 a.m.

High School (Grades 7-11): 6:00-8:00 p.m.



OPLATKI WAFERS are available at a table set up to the left of the altar. Donations will be accepted to off-set the cost.

SHOE DRIVE: "Saving Soles" Boy Scout Troop 49 from Our Lady of Lourdes Church is raising money for summer camp and other activities by collecting and repurposing shoes. The collected shoes then get shipped to micro-entrepreneurs worldwide so they can sell the shoes in their local markets and help themselves out of poverty. We accept all types and sizes of shoes from flip-flops to boots and anything in between. Please put your donations in the collection boxes. Thank You from Troop 49!

ON MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 2025, THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS IS SPONSORING A BOWLING AND PIZZA PARTY AT THE BAVARIAN HALL FOR K-12 STUDENTS FROM THE ST. JOSEPH AND ST. MATTHEW PARISHES AS WELL AS A GUEST FROM 1-3 PM. PLEASE SIGN UP EITHER IN THE BACK OF THE CHURCH OR SIDE ROOM OF ST. JOSEPH OR SIGN UP IN THE GATHERING ROOM OF ST. MATTHEW.

ADVENT PARISH RECONCILIATION SERVICE - Father Michael has set Sunday, December 15, at 5:00 p.m. For our Parish Reconciliation Service. Father invites several priests to assist him so that everyone has an opportunity for Confession. Our Junior High and High School students already have this date on their Religious Education calendars along with our Grade School students and their parents. Please make Confession a part of your Christmas preparations with your children.

Saint Joseph Parish Family Tree - You are invited to hang an ornament containing your family name on our new 12 ft. Parish Family Tree. The tree which is adorned with each of our individual ornaments shows our unity, especially under Christ who became one of us. It is an example of the beautiful things we can create when we join together as one family in Christ. Ornaments may be added starting Saturday, December 14, continuing through the Christmas season. You can pick them up after Epiphany Sunday or leave them for us to hang next year.

AREA PENANCE SERVICES

Sunday, December 8

Saint Mary Parish, Hollidaysburg – 4:00 PM

Tuesday, December 10

Basilica of Saint Michael the Archangel, Loretto – 7:00 PM

Wednesday, December 11

Saint Rose of Lima Parish, Altoona – 7:00 PM

Thursday, December 12

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Altoona – 5:30 PM

Saturday, December 14

Saint Therese of the Child Jesus Parish, Altoona – 10:00 AM

Sunday, December 15

Saint Joseph Parish, Bellwood – 5:00 PM

Monday, December 16

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Altoona – 7:00 PM

Tuesday, December 17

Good Shepherd Parish, Port Matilda – 7:00 PM

Wednesday, December 18

Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, Altoona – 6:00 PM

Friday, December 20

Our Lady of Victory Parish, State College- 6:00 PM

Monday, December 23

Our Lady of the Alleghenies Parish, Lilly – 6:00 PM

INQUIRY FORM

_____ Yes, I am interested in inquiring about the Catholic Faith

Name

Phone

Email Address

What day/s of the week is best for you?

_____ Monday _____ Tuesday _____ Wednesday _____ Thursday _____ Friday _____ Sunday

What time of the day works best for you?

_____ Mornings _____ Early Afternoon _____ During my lunch break _____ Early Evening _____ After 6:00 p.m.