



JANUARY 05, 2025

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS: JAN 04-JAN 12, 2025

Sat, Jan 04 4:00 PM for Olga Lawruk
by Mary Jo Palmer
Sun, Jan 05 9:00 AM for Deceased Wharton Family Members
by Beth Rossi
Mon, Jan 06 8:00 AM for James Lauer
by Joan Miner & Family
Tue, Jan 07 6:00 PM for Dolores Schirf
by Francis Rahm & Family
Wed, Jan 08 7:30 AM HOLY HOUR with Communion
Sat, Jan 11 4:00 PM for Jerry & Dolores Schirf
by Dave Schirf & Janine Schirf
Sun, Jan 12 9:00 AM for the People
by the Pastor

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, Jan 11, 4:00 PM:

LECTORS: 1st Reading: P. Wills
2nd Reading: B. Pennington
Intercessions: M. Riggle
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST:
Host: J. Steinbauer
Cup: T. Burr & J. Shelow
ALTAR SERVERS: A. Bucher & T. Smith
HOSPITALITY: J. Genesi, S. Genesi, D. Kissell, B. Risbon

Sunday, Jan 12, 9:00 AM:

LECTORS: 1st Reading: M. Zapotoczny
2nd Reading: T. Finn
Intercessions: B. Paranich
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST:
Host: T. Belis
Cup: J. Chestney & C. Weyandt
ALTAR SERVERS: E. Caldwell & S. Caldwell
HOSPITALITY: T. Carosielli, T. DelMastro, M. Kowalski, W. Rossi

THIRTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL RESPECT LIFE MARCH

Sunday January 19, 2025, 12:00 NOON - Prayer Service at St. Matthew Church in Tyrone, followed by the 1.25 mile walk to Oak Grove Cemetery to the grave of Baby Agnes Doe, for another short prayer service. A hot luncheon will be served in the parish hall after the march.



FREE SOUP & DESSERT every Wednesday thru the Hope Center. This is an outreach of the Council of Churches. Lunches will be delivered to the elderly & disabled. If you would like a meal or know of someone who would, call Stella. (814-742-9127)

Grace Lutheran Church
114 N. Cambria Street
Bellwood, PA
Any questions,
please call Janice Endress at
814-742-7416

Grace's Closet Clothing Give-Away
2nd Saturday of every month.
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

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 School and Bishop Guilfoyle Academy.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC? OCI (*Order of Christian Initiation*)
Director: Sr. Linda LaMagna. Team: Judy Diebold, Dick & Denny Nicewonger. Contact Sr. Linda 814-742-7075.

WEEKLY PARISH OFFERING	DEC 23-DEC 29, 2024	
WEEKLY (SUNDAY) COLLECTION GOAL	\$	5,500.00
REGULAR WEEKLY (SUNDAY) COLLECTION:	\$	2,093.00
OTHER: (HOLY DAYS, DIOCESAN COLLECTIONS, ETC.)	\$	6,067.00
WEEKLY ONLINE DONATIONS:	\$	950.00
TOTAL WEEKLY COLLECTION:	\$	9,110.00
2024 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES DRIVE TARGET	\$	19,753.00
CMD DONATIONS FOR 2024:	\$	\$40,087.93

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.

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

- ◆ **FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING** - Wednesday, January 08, 2025, 6:30 p.m., in the Parish Meeting Room.
- ◆ **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETING** - Monday, January 13, 7:00 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.

THE ALTOONA CHAPTER OF THE NOCTURNAL ADORATION SOCIETY holds a vigil prayer once a month from 8:00 PM -11:00 PM. Volunteers are needed during one hour of the Eucharistic Adoration. Please join other St. Joseph parishioners at Our Lady of Lourdes in Altoona on Friday, March 7, from 9:00-10:00 p.m.

Jan 5, 2025 – Second Sunday of Christmas/Epiphany of the Lord

As we continue our celebration of the Christmas season, we observe today the great Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord. The word 'epiphany' means manifestation and throughout the Christmas readings we have seen that the newborn King is eager to reveal Himself to all those willing to accept His presence in their lives. From poor and humble shepherds to the international group of magi featured in today's Gospel passage, Jesus makes it clear that He offers Himself as a gift to everyone.

We also see throughout the scriptures that God uses what is familiar to us to draw us to Himself, like using a star for the magi. Our Lord speaks to each of us daily, but we must be alert to 'hear' and 'see' Him our lives. To become better attuned to the ways God is speaking to us, we must strengthen our spiritual 'senses' by spending time with the Lord in prayer.

When we establish a regular, intentional, time for prayer daily, we will find that the Lord continues to speak to us throughout the day. We will more easily recognize the signs He places before us to draw us into a closer relationship with Him. We will begin to see that He is indeed present in our lives at every moment.

POVERTY AWARENESS MONTH: JANUARY 2025; ONLINE OVERVIEW OF BRIDGES OUT OF POVERTY OFFERED BY CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Pope Francis has decreed the year 2025 as a Jubilee year calling all to be Pilgrims of Hope. Catholic Charities is the human social service sector of the diocese, and we are to bring awareness of the social injustices that impact the marginalized. To do this, we must talk about the importance of looking through different lenses, the individual, the institution, the community, and the policies that often prevent those living in poverty from moving forward to being self-sufficient.

January is the month of National Poverty Awareness. Please consider joining a virtual overview of Bridges Out of Poverty: Strategies for Professionals and Communities to have a better understanding of a comprehensive approach to the dynamics that cause and maintain poverty, from the individual to the systemic level. We will have two options to share this information virtually: Friday, January 10th, 2025, from 10:00 AM until Noon or Thursday, January 23rd, 2025, from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM. To register for a session, please RSVP to coconnor@dioceseaj.org.

Additionally, Catholic Charities will be using this Jubilee year 2025 and the influence of Pope Francis to provide training opportunities to understand what poverty looks like in each parish community. Dates for the live workshops will be shared with each Deanery for the Lenten season. The knowledge provided will have participants embrace how they can bring hope and respond to real situations in their parish communities and local neighborhoods.

DON'T FORGET TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR RAISERIGHT (formerly Scrip) Program to purchase your grocery shopping gift cards as well as gift cards for all of your needs. See a representative in the Vestibule after mass to order gift cards for shopping at places like Hometown Market, Martin's, Sheetz, Sam's Club, Walmart, Lowe's or Home Depot. Place an order after mass and pick up your card the following weekend. (Bellwood Hometown Market cards are usually on hand.) Our parish will then receive a percentage back. Thank you for your support.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Sunday, January 05, 2025

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

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

Attention Religious Education Parents - We welcome you into a new semester and the New year of 2025. We have at least three events coming up in January which are on our Religious Education calendar which we would like to highlight:

◆ **PARENT/STUDENT EVENING SESSION ON THE GIFT OF LIFE, DECEPTIONS OF ABORTION, AND LOVING ALTERNATIVES TO ABORTION.** Next Sunday, January 12, we have the topic of Respect for Life on our calendar. This presentation will begin at 6:00 p.m. and end by 7:30 p.m. This is a presentation for our Junior High and High School students with their parents. Tony Conrad will be presenting a powerful slide show on the gift of life, the deceptions of abortion and loving alternatives to abortion. We feel this will be an excellent insight for both our students, parents and any adults who may wish to join us. It is an opportunity to learn what the Church holds as truth and know we are all created by God to become the image and likeness of God.

◆ **RESPECT LIFE MARCH** -Sunday, January 19, 2025, beginning with a 12:00 NOON Prayer Service at St. Matthew Church in Tyrone, followed by a 1.25 mile walk to Oak Grove Cemetery to the grave of Baby Agnes Doe, for another short prayer service and then returning to St. Matthew Church Hall after the March. We would like to see all our High School Students attend. This experience may be used for Service Hours.

◆ **BOWLING PARTY WITH PIZZA** – The Knights of Columbus are once again sponsoring a bowling and pizza party at the Bavarian Hall in Altoona, on Monday, January 20, from 1-3 pm, for students of St. Joseph and St. Matthew, grades K through 12. Students are welcome to bring a guest, and parents are welcome to come to engage as a family. Please sign up on the sign-up sheet indicating that you are coming and if you are bringing a friend.

◆ **A RETREAT FOR PARENTS AND SECOND GRADE STUDENTS OF ST. JOSEPH AND ST. MATTHEW PARISHES** will be held on Sunday, January 26, from 11:30 - 1:00 p.m. To prepare our 2nd Grade students for First Reconciliation. This Retreat will be held at St Matthew Parish Hall.

Thank you for your kind attention to all the above events.

In gratitude for all that you do,
Sr. Linda LaMagna CCW

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT - Journey Through loss is a nine-week program for those who have lost a loved one through death recently or in the past. The program provides the opportunity to share or to listen and offers positive ideas for coping. The next session begins on Tuesday, January 21. We will meet weekly from 1:30 to 3:00 PM in the convent building next to St. Michael's Church in Hollidaysburg. All faiths are welcome. For more information or to register contact Mary Petrak at 814-502-6076.