



## Contact Us

### St. Joseph Catholic Church

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# St. Joseph Catholic Church

Newsletter – March 2023

Dear Parishioners,

Lenten Blessings!

March has begun, the days are getting longer but the winter cold weather is still with us ... and with it, snowstorms, torrential rains and winds. Some of us even experienced days or weeks of no power and heater.

Yet, we know that spring is here ... and so is the season of Lent in our Church Liturgical calendar. In fact, Lent comes from the “Old English lencten springtime or spring.”

As we do our spring cleaning of thoroughly cleaning our homes and surroundings after a cold winter, so do we perform our spiritual cleansing during Lent. We do this through intense prayer, fasting and almsgiving as we look forward to the celebration of the Paschal Mystery.

For me, intensifying my prayers came with our devotion and celebration of the Solemnity of Saint Joseph last March 20. During our novena, I prayed, entrusted and consecrated the families of all parishioners to the care and intercession of Saint Joseph. Moreover, I also prayed that the needs of our Parish be provided for!

Some of you have expressed needs like: fencing around the Church, classroom/hall expansion, new office and Church roofing ... considering that the roofing is more than 25 years old! I jokingly responded that maybe Saint Joseph will provide a new Church in Middletown with fence, new office and new hall! Of course, new roofing for the rectory, too!

A response said in jest, but with great anticipation as I have personally experienced St. Joseph’s powerful intercession. Deep in my heart, I know that my devotion to St. Joseph brought to fruition my being assigned to this Parish dedicated to him ... and in his name!

Truly amazing is how the St. Joseph Church parishioners come together and help each other like a family to raise funds for a cause! I saw your creativity, generosity and overwhelming support for Bake Sales Fundraising for Parish Projects. I am truly grateful to the great bakers of our parish and to those who bought the goodies, all so deliciously baked.

It is heartwarming that we had thirteen children who received the Sacrament of Confirmation conferred by His Excellency Most Rev. Robert Vasa, Bishop of Santa Rosa at St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Lake Port. I thank Louise Martin for preparing the children for confirmation.

Also, let us all welcome into the Catholic Church, Russ Robert Oertel, who will be received into the full communion of the Catholic faith during our Easter Vigil celebration. I thank Roger Mattu for preparing and instructing our candidate.

Finally, let us all continue to prepare and be worthy to accompany our Lord during our commemoration of the Holy Week ... through the Sacred Paschal Triduum and Easter celebrations! *(continued on next page)*



Join us for our next Coffee Social, Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup> directly following the 9:30 mass

# Mass Times

## St. Joseph

Tuesday – Friday  
8:30 a.m.

Sunday's at 9:30 a.m.  
and  
4:00 p.m. (Spanish)

Our Lady of the Lake  
Loch Lomond

Saturday, 4:00 p.m.

Our Lady of the Pines

Closed for the Season.



SaintJosephMiddletown

Do join me in prayers for more children to be instructed into the Catholic faith and more adult conversions to the Catholic Church. With everyone's cooperation and prayers, the intercession of St. Joseph and with God's grace, I am confident that so much more can be accomplished!

Finally, let us all continue to prepare and be worthy to accompany our Lord during our commemoration of the Holy Week ... through the Sacred Paschal Triduum and Easter celebrations!

In His Service,

Rev. Fr. Lawrence Mendoza, Pastor  
St. Joseph Catholic Church, Middletown

MARK YOU CALENDARS FOR THE  
SUMMER CELEBRATION BANQUET  
JUNE 24<sup>TH</sup>  
(More fundraiser news to follow)

### Annual Ministry Appeal 2023

Our goal for 2023 is \$12,480 and we currently have pledges of \$6,136 which represents 25 families. You can donate online at [www.srdiocese.org](http://www.srdiocese.org) (click the GIVE link at top right of website and make sure you select St. Joseph Middletown when giving).

February 2023 Collection Totals			
	1st	2nd	Total
2/5/2023	\$1,369.00	\$2,249.00	\$ 3,618.00
02-11/2023 & 02/15/2023	\$ 283.00		\$ 283.00
2/12/2023	\$1,604.00	\$1,366.00	\$ 2,970.00
2/19/2023	\$1,003.00	\$1,432.00	\$ 2,435.00
2/22/2023	\$ 587.00		\$ 587.00
2/26/2023	\$1,078.00	\$ 797.00	\$ 1,875.00
Total	\$5,924.00	\$5,844.00	\$11,768.00



*Please pray for the sick in our parish... and those who care for them.... Lourdes Borzoni, Brendan "Ben" Coyne, Michael Davis, Chris Eergz, Alysia Hash, Jasmine Hash, Ron Hays, John Johnson, Jane Kloppenburg, Judy Knight, Maxine Lair, Joe Mc Sweeney, Elsa Meyer, Shirley Milner, Jodie Niezgoda, Karen Ness, Don Nielsen, Esther Oertel, Russ Oertel, Joaquina Ortega, Vera and Tyrone Rivera, Melody Royvel, Kirt Smartt, Judith Spears, Debbie Spicart, Leslie Thomas, Toni Vecellio and special intentions for all who suffer from cancer.*