

St. Joseph Catholic Church

Newsletter – February 2024

Dear Parishioners,

Blessings and Peace!

The Lenten Season has begun! It is a 40-day journey of faith with Jesus which is characterized by prayer, fasting and almsgiving. It is opportune that the first day of the Lenten Season this year coincides with Valentine's Day. This meaningfully reminds us of the greatest act of love ... that of God sending His only Son into the world that we might gain eternal life. Indeed, Lent is about love and sacrifice. It is a time to foster our love and union with God in prayer accompanied by acts of charity and self-denial, as expressions of our love for one another, as God loves us!

Last February 11, we had the welcoming rites for the RCIA catechumens and candidates, the burning of palms that were blessed last year in preparation for Ash Wednesday and the Anointing of the Sick.

Warm thanks and congratulations to Roger Mattu, our RCIA director, for ably and patiently teaching our catechumens and candidates. Let us include in our prayers the catechumens who will be receiving the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist this coming Easter Vigil celebration: namely, Sean Millerick, Tessa Millerick and Zachary Terry. Our prayers, too, for the candidates who will be received into the Full Communion to the Catholic Church: namely, Matthew Steven Jensen, Dave Fromer and Zoi Brasico.

My deepest appreciation to the St. Joseph Prayer Group for donating small bottles with holy water for distribution to each family in our Parish. Thank you, St. Joseph Prayer Group! May this encourage everyone to make use of sacramentals that our Parish provides to be reminded of our baptism and our need for repentance, purification and protection against evil.

This rainy and windy month of February has rendered our Parish roofing project more urgent than ever. Towards the end of last year, I had already announced the need to repair the aging and deteriorating roofs of our Church and the rectory. The February heavy rains and howling winds kept me worried thinking that these could worsen the roof condition. Waking up to ripped off shingles of portions of the classroom roof did not come as a surprise. I sent pictures of the ripped off roof shingles to the Finance Council. While one of them thanked God that it was not that bad, I was also advised to contact Francisco to fix the ripped off shingles which I did. My heartfelt thanks to Francisco for his immediate response and for fixing the damage for free!

Unfortunately, the major repairs of the Church and rectory roofs do not come free and thus the need to raise funds for these. As previously mentioned, a separate bank account, St. Joseph Roof Fund, has been opened at the Tri-Counties Bank for this purpose.

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Our Lady of the Lake

Mission Church

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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

Sunday's at 11:30 am.



SaintJosephMiddletown



Please pray for the sick in our parish and those who care for them.... Charlotte Baker, Charlie Bigelow, Larry Boll, Lourdes Borzoni Susan Conley, Cheryl Elliehausen, Hector Guerra, Alysia Hash, Jasmine Hash, Linda Hoogendoorn, John Johnson, Andre Kelley, Judy Knight, Helen Kruljac, Coleen McCluskey, Ines Mendoza, Elsa Meyer, Shirley Milner, Karen Ness, Don Nielsen, Andres Ochoa, Joaquina Ortega, Tyrone Rivera, Melody Royvel, Jim Serventi, Kirt Smartt, Judith Spears, Debbie Spicart, Leslie Thomas, Toni Vecellio, and special intentions for all who suffer from cancer.

Our first fundraising was the Super Bowl Squares. My sincere thanks to your overwhelming support. All squares were sold out! Congratulations to Ned Munger and John Johnson who received \$1,000 for winning the half time score and Sally Munger's great-grandchildren who received \$1,500 for winning the final score of the game. The \$2,500 from this fundraiser was deposited to our Roof Fund account. I consider these as the initial two (2) fishes and five (5) loaves which ... may we all ask Jesus to bless and multiply to make our fund grow!

This was followed by the Mardi Gras Bake Sale which was also a sell-out success! My personal thanks to those who donated and bought the baked items. We raised over \$1,300 and was again deposited to our Roof Fund account.

These are encouraging starters but do allow me to appeal for your continuing support and generosity till our roof project is completed. I invite you to make pledges for this project or to make an outright donation to the St. Joseph Roof Fund. Moreover, do support our subsequent fundraising activities for this project. Thank you very much in advance!

Entrusting our Parish families and communities to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the Immaculate Heart of Mary and to our Parish Patron Saint Joseph!

Fr. Lawrence Mendoza
Pastor
St. Joseph Catholic Church

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- During the Lenten season, we will not be using flowers for our Altar decorations. You may bring some green plants and leafy branches instead. We have sign-up sheets at the back of the church for those who want to donate.
- Year-end donation statements for tax purposes are still available. Contact the office for your statement.
- Annual Banquet Fundraiser plans are still in progress, more details at a later date.
- In a memo from our Bishop dated February 16, 2024, "Adam Kotas was laicized in January 2024."



Stations of the Cross
at St. Joseph During Lent
5:00 p.m. every Friday in English
6:00 p.m. every Friday in Spanish

St. Joseph "Roof Special Project"

We have started to receive checks for the Roof Fundraiser. Please make out your donation checks to St. Joseph Roof Fund. All donations towards the roof will go into this account, not the parish primary checking account. The total to date in our Roofing Account is \$3,844.

January 2024 Collection Totals			
	1st	2nd	Total
1/1/2024	\$ 972.00	\$ -	\$ 972.00
01/06-07/2024	\$ 1,816.50	\$ 2,761.75	\$ 4,578.25
01/13-14/2024	\$ 1,133.50	\$ 1,254.25	\$ 2,387.75
01/20-21/2024	\$ 1,022.00	\$ 1,540.00	\$ 2,562.00
01/27-28/2024	\$ 1,497.00	\$ 1,758.00	\$ 3,255.00
Total Received	\$ 6,441.00	\$ 7,314.00	\$ 13,755.00
	Monthly Target		\$ 17,202.00
	Overage/Loss		\$ (3,447.00)