

St. Joseph Catholic Church

Newsletter – March 2025



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St. Joseph Catholic Church

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Mission Church

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Dear Parishioners,

Lenten Blessings! “We adore you, O Christ and we praise you, for by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world!” Indeed, a beautiful statement of adoration and praise acknowledging Christ’s sacrifice on the cross for the salvation of humanity! Indeed, a beautiful statement to reflect on ... on this Season of Grace, that is Lent!

We all know the three pillars of Lent: prayer, fasting and almsgiving ... practices that we are encouraged to intensify during the 40-day period of Lent, to deepen our faith and develop a closer relationship with God. My heartfelt thanks to those who participated in the Friday Stations of the Cross, a meaningful way to reflect on Jesus’ passion and death and consequently our salvation!

This month we celebrated two great solemnities: the Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mother and the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord. I assume that Saint Joseph, the Silent Saint, inspired us all to listen ... in the silence of our hearts ... to God’s voice and reflect on the significance of Lent in our lives. Furthermore, may the celebration of the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord in this Season of Lent instilled in our hearts that our salvation began with Mary’s fiat to God!

This month had been special and productive to our Parish in so many ways. First, Jaymee Wignall and Monica Negrete were accepted as Elect at the Cathedral of Saint Eugene by His Excellency Robert Vasa. Let us all assure our Elect to accompany them with our prayers and to support them in the preparation for their baptism, confirmation and the reception of the Holy Eucharist during the Easter Vigil next month! Our heartfelt thanks to Esther Oertel and Elizabeth Weiss for teaching and instructing them about our faith.

Second, the Catholic Mutual did the safety inspection of our three Churches, the classrooms and the rectory. Thank God that only a few things were identified for fixing. This time each year, raising funds to pay for the insurance premiums for the three Churches is always a major concern. But through the intercession of St. Joseph and your generosity, we do manage to pull through with the fund raising. As always, the St. Joseph Annual Banquet Fundraiser was a great success! My special thanks to all for your unwavering support. Special thanks, too, to Toni Vecellio and Margaret Carlisle for organizing and sponsoring the Feast with the Priest which this year will be catered by Matt Medcalf, former Chef of Greenview Bar and Grill at Hidden Valley.

Third, repairs at Our Lady of the Lake Church are progressing encouragingly. The doors have been installed. Thanks to Francisco Cervantes for discovering very durable doors that are perfect for all kinds of Cobb weather. The Church gutters have likewise been replaced. We paid about \$1,500 for the doors but we have yet to be billed for the gutters. For the Church’s new heating and cooling unit, we had five bidders. Our Finance Council then the Chancery approved the bid from Jonas Heating and Cooling in the amount of \$12,875. Once again, I am appealing to your generosity for any financial assistance you can extend for the installation of the new heating and cooling unit. In addition, please support the Bake Sale on Easter Sunday that will be spearheaded by Our Lady of the Lake Guild. Funds raised at the Bake Sale will also go to the said project. An advance thank you to all! *Continued on next page.*

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 till Summer



SaintJosephMiddletown



Please pray for the sick in our parish, our family & friends, and those who care for them... Fr. Andre, Charlotte Baker, Charlie Bigelow, Larry Boll, Lourdes Borzoni, Kathleen Brune, Michael C, Debbie Cariela, Jim Coddington, Susan Conley, Barbara Farkas, Cheryl Fua, Cianna Gazperony, Hector Guerra, Monica Gerrero, Alysia Hash, Jasmine Hash, Laura Hilton, Linda Hoogendoorn, John Johnson, Barbara Kaelin, Joe & Mary Ann Kenny, Judy Knight, Helen Kruljac, Harry Krall, Pat Lambert, Ines Mendoza, Elsa Meyer, Shirley Milner, John Morris, Don Nielsen, Kathryn Nielsen, Maxine Lair, Andres Ochoa, Joaquina Ortega, Elinor Rich, Kirt Smartt, Judith Spears, Debbie Spicart, Rebeca Marie Stanley, Leslie Thomas, John Thompson, Toni Vecellio, Bobbie Whitely and **special intentions for all who suffer from cancer.**

Fourth and a great surprise to me, we acquired a container for storage, free of charge! A big thank you to Toni Vecellio, a good friend to a would-be supplier ... who generously donated the container to our Parish in honor of his friendship with Toni! A big thank you, too, to the donor, Mr. Jere Van Puffelen! Yes, the value of friendship can never be underestimated! Soon, we can securely and orderly store many of our Parish stuff in the container. As we look forward to Holy Week and Easter celebration next month, let us all pray that we keep to heart what this month has taught and brought us! Entrusting our Parish families and communities to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the Immaculate Heart of Mary and to our Parish Patron Saint Joseph in this great Season of Grace!

To God be the Glory!!!

In His Service,

Fr. Lawrence Mendoza
Pastor



**PALM SUNDAY
APRIL 12, Saturday
4:00 p.m. mass in English, Our Lady of the Lake
April 13, Sunday
9:30 a.m. Mass in English, St. Joseph
4:00 p.m. Mass in Spanish, St. Joseph**

**HOLY THURSDAY SERVICES
APRIL 17
5:30 p.m. in English, Mass of the Lord's Supper & Reposition
of the Blessed Sacrament, St. Joseph
8:30 p.m. in Spanish
Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament until 12 midnight**

**GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES
APRIL 18
12:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross in English
1:00 p.m. Passion of the Lord in English
5:00pm (Via Crucis) Passion Play in Spanish
6:00 p.m. Passion of the Lord in Spanish**

**EASTER VIGIL
Saturday, APRIL 19
4:00 p.m. Mass in English, Our Lady of the Lake
7:00 p.m. Mass in English, St. Joseph
9:30 p.m. Mass in Spanish, St. Joseph**

**EASTER SUNDAY
APRIL 20
9:30 a.m. Mass in English, St. Joseph
4:00 p.m. Mass in Spanish, St. Joseph**

Announcements

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

Year-end statements for tax purposes will be available until April 15. Email or call Sandy in the office if you would like a copy.

.Sign-up sheets available in the back of St. Joseph for Eucharistic Adoration scheduled every first Friday of the month. 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

February 2025 Collection Totals

	1st	2nd	Total
02/01-02/2025	\$ 1,436.00	\$4,543.00	\$ 5,979.00
02/08-09/2025	\$ 1,442.30	\$1,554.00	\$ 2,996.30
02/15-16/2025	\$ 1,413.00	\$1,248.00	\$ 2,661.00
02/22-23/2025	\$ 1,148.00	\$1,820.00	\$ 2,968.00
Total Received	\$ 4,003.30	\$9,165.00	\$ 14,604.30
	Monthly Target		\$ 17,202.00
	Overage/Loss		\$ (2,597.70)