

The Pain of Isolation When Winston was five years old, he was diagnosed with tuberculosis. In the early 1950s many young children with this disease were taken from their families and placed in a quarantine hospital. By today's standards of parenting, that's a frightening thought. Experts now tell us how important the early formative years are. Quarantined children surely must have felt isolated and frightened. Parents must have felt robbed. Lepers and their families must have experienced similar feelings in the severe isolation that was brought about by their disease.

Alienation and isolation separate people from one another. Sometimes we are the ones who feel the estrangement. Other times we know who the isolated people are. Perhaps we are even responsible for their situation. Who are the alienated you recognize in our world today? Where is the injustice of their situation? Is there one action you can take today, this week, this month, to bring a moment of peace to their troubled lives?

Jesus offers each one of us healing. When we go to him for help, he doesn't send us away. Remember, as he did with the leper, Jesus risks healing our pain when no one else will.

1. Where have you seen God's hand in healing people or groups of people or groups of people who are estranged? How has God healed you during times of separation?
2. Jesus showed compassion to the leper. He used his power to heal him. Recall a time when someone showed you compassion and used their resources to help you.
3. Have you ever had good news that just wouldn't keep-but you couldn't share it right away? How did you keep quiet? How did the silence feel? Why do you suppose the leper couldn't follow Jesus' request?

PARISH NEWS

Saturday Mass: St. Joseph's will be hosting all Saturday Masses at 4:00pm for the entire month of February. Please continue to watch the bulletin for further notices.

(SJP) Religious Education: February 11 - First Penance retreat for all students celebrating this sacrament at 8:30am - 1:00pm in the basement of the social hall.

February 15 - First Penance liturgy at 6:30pm in the church with a reception to follow.

(SJP) Bible Study: Monday 7:00 PM.

Today is Commitment Sunday for the 2018 Catholic Services Appeal. The theme for this year's Appeal is "United in Service". We are part of a larger family of faith—the Catholic Diocese of Erie. We share common needs and sometime require special services. We are the Church in northwestern Pennsylvania – Catholics, Families, Parishes in thirteen counties. We all do God's work. Support of the 2018 Catholic Services Appeal is part of God's work.

ATTENTION LADIES OF ST. JOSEPH PARISH: Someone or a group is needed to help head up the Rosary Society Dinners. Thanks to Donna everything is in order for each event with plenty of notes, calendar of events and much much more. Donna is also willing to help out as much as possible. Please think about your church and the direction you want it to go. Stop by the church office and check things out. Thank you!

Rosary Society Yearly Events:

- Trout Unlimited Dinner
- Noodle Days
- 4th of July Kitchen/Hall Volunteers
- Parish Picnic
- Fall Dinner

PARISH NEWS

Job Opening:

Thank you to everyone who has applied for the St. Michael office position. After the council has reviewed the candidates you will be notified for an interview with Fr. Joe.

Office: Until the office position is filled you may contact the office at St. Joseph for any questions or concerns you may have. 814-226-7288. Thank you for your understanding with this.

40 Cans for Lent Drive: The Msrg. Theobald K of C will again be sponsoring a 40 Cans for Lent Drive at St. Michael's. We ask each parish family to donate a can of food for each day of lent, Ash Wednesday through Palm Sunday. There will be boxes at each entrance of the Church to place the food items. Items collected will go to the North Clarion Food Pantry.

(SMP) Religious Education: To all Students and Parents of St. Michael Religious Education Program - Due to Confirmation on March 11, 2018, we need to make a change to our program. Religious Education Class on March 4, 2018 will be from 8:30a.m. until 11:45a.m. All REP Students will be attending 10:00a.m. Mass as a Parish family. Following Mass the students will be returning to school until 11:45a.m. The Students will have class on March 11, 2018.

Tax Statements: If anyone is in need of their tax statement from the church for 2017, please call the office at 814-226-7288. Thank you!

Liturgy Schedule February 17th & February 18th

4:00 p.m.

SAINT JOSEPH CHURCH

Altar Server: Kayla & Sara Aaron
Euch Min: Cele Schill, Janet Uzmack, Marion Lutz
Lector: Gina Fernandes
Ushers: Chip Wolbert, Tom Wolbert, Colin Lander, Ed Baumcratz
Rosary: Mary Ann Banner

7:30 a.m.

SAINT JOSEPH CHURCH

Altar Servers: Maddie Homan
Euch Min: Lori Callihan, Janice Johnson, Pete Judy
Lector: Linda Steiner Mander
Ushers: Wayne Wolbert, Pete Judy, Dick Schill, Bill Schmader

10:00 a.m.

SAINT MICHAEL CHURCH

Sacristan: Casey Rapp
Altar Server: Jake Eisenman, Mason Hooper
Euch Min: Casey Rapp, Dave Smerkar Sr.
Lector: Mark Baker
Ushers: Bern, Brad, Mark, Josh Beichner
Rosary: Marie Fletcher
R.S. Cleaner: Jackie Lewis

Mass Schedule February 12th - February 18th

Monday, February 12th

7:45 a.m. - (SJP) Robert Gentile by Kay Gentile
12:00 p.m. - (SMP) Alfred (Junior) Guth by the Schupp Children

Tuesday, February 13th

8:30 a.m. - (SJP) Roy Wolbert by Peg & Family
12:00 p.m. - (SMP) Dorothy Kerle by Jane & George Schmader

Wednesday, February 14th, Ash Wednesday

8:00 a.m. - (SMP) Flo & Ray Fescenmyer by Judy & Bob
9:30 a.m. - (SJP) Grace & Bus Wolbert by Bernie & Jane Hoover
12:00 p.m. - (SMP) Robert Gentile by Kay
7:00 p.m. - Services of the Ashes at both SJP & SMP

Thursday, February 15th

No Early Mass
12:00 p.m. - (SMP) Laura Maneer by Bernice Strauser
6:30 p.m. - (SJP) First Penance

Friday, February 16th

8:00 a.m. - (SMP) John Weaver Sr. by the Family
8:30 a.m. - (SMP) LAUDS
12:00 p.m. - (SMP) Russell Weaver by the Family

First Sunday of Lent

Saturday, February 17th

10:00 a.m. - (SMP) First Penance
Confession at St. Joseph, 3:00 p.m.
4:00 p.m. - (SJP) Parish Family

Sunday, February 18th

7:30 a.m. - (SJP) Betty Zacherl by Fred J. & George (Doug) Zacherl Families
10:00 a.m. - (SMP) Mary Carol Finfinger by Helen & Leroy

Collection Counters February 17 & 18

SJP: Nancy Ochs, Mike O'Neil, Rita Ochs
SMP: Sue Beichner, Todd Beichner, Judy Weirich

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE burning in memory of

SJP: Parish Family
SMP: Susan Obenrader by Ted & Susanna Kurtzhals

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR:

Parish Family, All Special Intentions

Service People on Active Duty

Bob Anderson, Brendan & Edward George, Nelson Ochs, Punkie Griebel, Jim Pfaff, Jake Siegel, Melissa Johnson and Deacon Mike
All victims of disasters and violence

Please call the Rectory or drop a note in collection basket if you would like to have someone added to the Prayer list.

School News:

Mass: Wednesday, February 14 at 9:30am.
Fish Fry: 1st Fish Fry lunch (11:00am - 1:00pm) & dinner (4:00pm - 7:00pm) Friday February 16th.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Special Thanks to all who sacrifice to support St. Joseph's February 4

Sunday Collection \$3,580
Loose Collection \$857

Special Thanks to all who sacrifice to support St. Michael's February 4

Sunday Collection \$1,737
Loose Collection \$138

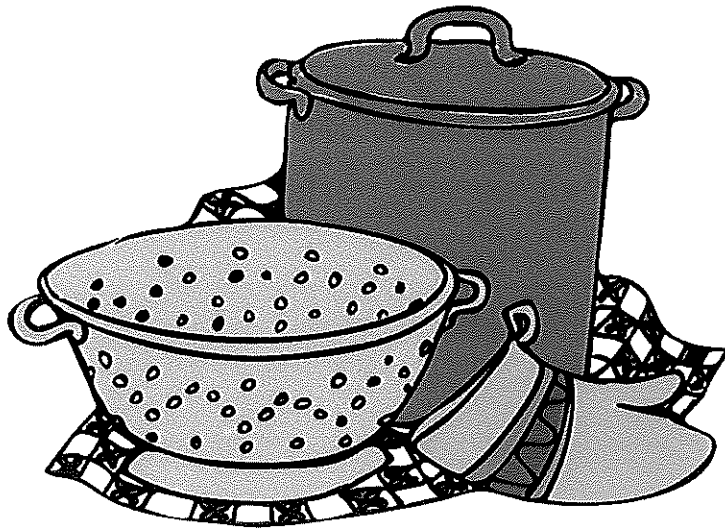
Today is Commitment Sunday for the 2018 Catholic Services Appeal. The theme for this year's Appeal is "United in Service". We are part of a larger family of faith—the Catholic Diocese of Erie. We share common needs and sometime require special services. We are the Church in northwestern Pennsylvania – Catholics, Families, Parishes in thirteen counties. We all do God's work. Support of the 2018 Catholic Services Appeal is part of God's work.

POT LUCK DINNER

Saturday, February 17, 2018

St. Joseph's Hall

After 4:00 mass



All are welcome! Bring your favorite dish!

Come enjoy an evening with your family &
friends

Hall will be open before mass to drop off your
dish.

*Sponsored by St. Joseph's Fellowship Committee &
Religious Education*

The Season of Lent begins this year on Ash Wednesday, February 14th.

Traditional Lenten practices of PRAYER, FASTING, ALMSGIVING, and other forms of self-denial, are recommended most warmly by the Church. Daily Mass is particularly encouraged.

ASH WEDNESDAY, ALL FRIDAYS IN LENT, and GOOD FRIDAY are days of abstinence from meat for those 14 years of age and older.

ASH WEDNESDAY AND GOOD FRIDAY are also days of fasting for those ages 18 to 58 inclusive. *(On these days, those bound by the law of fasting may take one full meal. Two smaller meals, sufficient to maintain strength according to one's needs, are also permitted. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids including milk and fruit juices are allowed. When health or work is seriously affected, the law does not oblige.)*

Stations of the Cross will start Tuesday February, 20th at 7:00pm a both SJP and SMP.

Mass Schedule:

7:00 p.m. - (SMP) Thursday, March 29th, Holy Thursday

3:00 p.m. - (SMP) Friday, March 30th, Good Friday

8:30 a.m. - (SJP) Saturday, March 31st, Holy Saturday

7:30 a.m. - (SJP) Sunday, April 4th, Easter Sunday

10:00 a.m. - (SMP) Sunday, April 4th, Easter Sunday

Lenten Penance Celebration:

March 7th, 7:00pm - St. Titus - Titusville

March 11th, 3:00pm - St. Joseph - Oil City

March 13th, 7:00pm - St Charles - New Bethlehem

March 18th, 3:00pm - St. Mary - Crown

March 20th, 7:00pm - St. Joseph - Lucinda

March 21st, 7:00pm - Immaculate Conception - Clarion

March 25th, 4:00pm - St. Patrick - Franklin

First Sunday of Lent
Sunday, February 18, 2018

Lec. 23

Genesis 9:8-15 1 Peter 3:18-22 Mark 1:12-15

Liturgy of the Word:

In the reading from Genesis, God establishes a covenant with Noah, declaring the rainbow as the reminder to all his people. In the second reading, we hear that the eight who had been saved by the water in the story of Noah prefigure our baptism which saves us now. In Marks's Gospel, Jesus begins his Galilean ministry by proclaiming the need to repent and believe.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Bible Study on Mark's Gospel

Welcome! Join Sister Marian and Sister Tina's Bible Study Group beginning on Feb. 20, each Tues. morning during Lent (10:15 - 11:45 am) at Assumption Social Hall (near church parking lot, Oil City). Our study will be on Mark's Gospel, "Jesus, the Suffering Servant" by Stephen J. Binz. For more info. call 677 2032. All are welcome.

Catholic Rural Ministry (814) 677-2032 ~ 7 Pulaski St., 16301

Sister Tina Geiger, RSM ~ ~ Sister Marian Wehler, OSB
ruralministry@yahoo.com

24 Hour Emergency

Pregnancy (814) 459-3103

Community Counseling (814) 793-6602

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

Pizza Pub