

The Parish Community of

St. John the Evangelist

December 26, 2021

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 4:30 p.m.
Sunday 9:00 a.m.
11:30 a.m.

DAILY MASSES

Monday-Friday
7:30 a.m.
(Lower Level Chapel)

MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA

Mondays immediately
after the 7:30 a.m. Mass

RECONCILIATION

Saturdays
3:45 p.m.-4:15 p.m.

HOLY DAYS

As indicated in bulletin

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday
9:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m.



GLORY
TO GOD
IN THE
HIGHEST
AND ON
EARTH
PEACE TO
THOSE
ON WHOM
HIS FAVOR
RESTS.

LUKE 2:14

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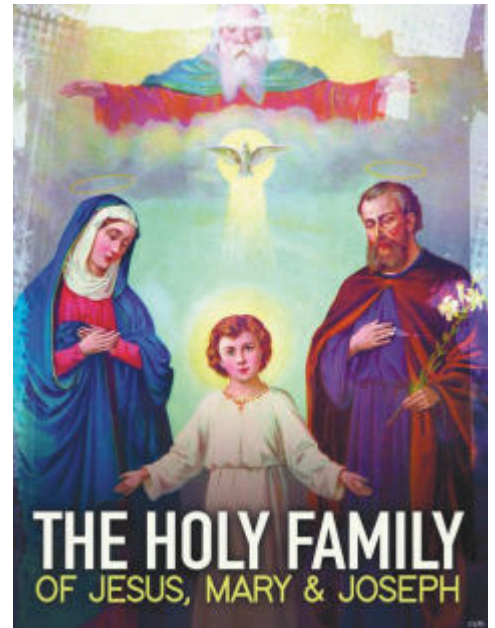
Web: stjohnspittston.com

FROM THE PASTOR



Dear Parishioners,

After the glorious celebration of Christmas, we are now immersed into the *season of Christmas!* Among the many gifts of Christmas is the fact that it is not limited to merely one day! We know that each year, Christmas seems to come earlier and earlier! By that, I mean that the signs of Christmas appear in our society and communities much before the actual day! Well, the Church provides the opportunity to keep the celebration going for some time even after the day! The immensity of the Christmas experience can't be confined to one day. We rejoice and celebrate for many days, up until the end of the Christmas season, the Baptism of the Lord, which this year will be on January 9. Today, we celebrate this reality by focusing on the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. Family has many connotations and challenges. It always has. Our current day may offer many unique situations, but in all days, family has had its varied ways of working itself out. This feast is not so much given to us so that we can compare ourselves to the lives of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, but more to realize that we are really not all that unlike them. Their special circumstances, made known to them by the message of an angel and by dreams, are certainly not the usual way we are informed about the course of our lives! As if that wasn't enough, the baby Jesus grew up raised by a young mother and a father who likely built furniture for a living. He grew up as a religious minority in an occupied territory. Family is usually a big part of the experience of Christmas. There are dynamics in every family that call us to a deep level of understanding, (sometimes patience!), and love. The example of the Holy Family, leading us by example and experience, helps us to grow by God's grace into the loving family of God, extending that love to our own families day by day. May the warmth of this season of Christmas bring to your family a renewed sense of the beauty and value of each person. Life can be complicated. The Holy Family were not strangers to this reality. Let us, like them, live every day in God's presence and love, trusting that He is with us in all things.



THE HOLY FAMILY
OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

THANK YOU
for your generosity

**Thank you for all your Christmas cards, gifts, and “goodies”!
They are very much appreciated!**

A Blessed and Happy New Year!

As we approach the dawn of another year, we wish you a very Happy and Blessed New Year. May it be filled with hope and may we live in the midst of God's grace each and every day. This season of Christmas serves to remind us how totally and unconditionally we are loved by God. Let that reality light this new year with hope and promise! Happy New Year!



HOLIDAY
OFFICE HOURS

**Remember that we will not have office hours this week!
The offices will reopen on *Monday, January 3, 2022.***

PARISH PATRONAL FEAST DAY

Monday, December 27 is the feast of Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist.

Please join us at the 7:30 a.m. Mass as we celebrate our parish patronal feast day.

Mass will be celebrated in the Upper Church with music.



DAILY MASS

On winter weather days when the Pittston Area School District is closed, delayed, or having a virtual instruction day, our 7:30 a.m. Mass will be cancelled. The 11:30 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph Marelo will still take place. Also, please note that on days when we have inclement weather, our parish offices may be closed.



WINTER COAT DRIVE



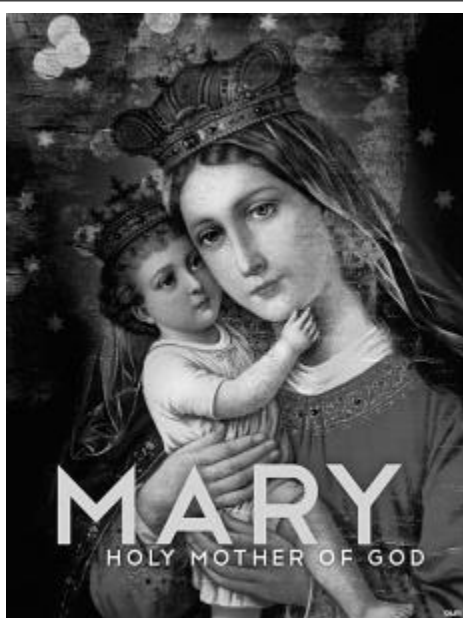
The Care & Concern Ministries are accepting donations of new or gently used adult winter coats. Also needed are hats, gloves, and scarves. No suits, sport coats, clothing, or shoes will be accepted. Coats will be made available to low-income households in the Pittston/Wyoming Area School Districts. Donations may be dropped off at St. John's Parish Office 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Mon-Fri.

HOLY NAME SOCIETY LOTTERY TICKETS

Tickets are now available at the Parish Office for February 2022, every Monday through Friday 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Lottery tickets are \$10 each. Proceeds benefit the Holy Name Society projects and our Parish. Returns must be in before January 28, 2022 in order to register all tickets. Thank you for your support.

CONCERT SERIES

Exciting news from St. John the Evangelist and St. Joseph Marelo Parishes! We are in the process of planning a concert series that we plan to begin this spring. Both of our churches will host concerts by our own parish musicians, as well as other musicians from near and far, including collegiate musical ensembles, renowned liturgical composers, and world-class concert organists. A complete schedule will be available later this winter, but we just wanted to give you a heads-up about something we will all be able to look forward to in the New Year!



MASS SCHEDULE FOR THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

Friday, December 31, 2021

5:00 p.m. Solemn Vespers at St. Joseph Marelo
5:30 p.m. Mass at St. Joseph Marelo

Saturday, January 1, 2021

10:00 a.m. Mass at St. John the Evangelist

PASTORAL TEAM

Pastor

Rev. Joseph Elston

Assistant Pastor

Rev. Jackson Pinheiro, OSJ

Pastor Emeritus

Msgr. John J. Bendik

Deacon

Deacon David Marx

Director of Religious Formation

JoAnne McHale

joannemchale@stjohnspittston.com

Director of Music Ministry

Dr. Charles Stevens

Pastoral Associate, Organist,

Youth & Young Adult Ministry

Michael Sowa

msowa@stjohnspittston.com

Office Staff

Cathy Rusnok

Theresa Schubel

Sacristans

Michael Brown

Jack Riley

Grounds & Maintenance

Bob Ayre

Rick Rinish

Jason Roche

Don Werkheiser

Rectory & Household Staff

Jane Roche

Midge Butsavage



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, Dec. 27 7:30 a.m.	Feast of St. John, Apostle and Evangelist James Doran <i>by Janet Delaney</i>
Tuesday, Dec. 28 7:30 a.m.	Feast of The Holy Innocents, Martyrs Mary Catherine Petroziello <i>by Mrs. Joan O'Boyle</i>
Wednesday, Dec. 29 7:30 a.m.	Fifth Day in the Octave of Christmas Dec'd of the Ackerman Family <i>by Paul and Sheila Kern</i>
Thursday, Dec. 30 7:30 a.m.	Sixth Day in the Octave of Christmas Anna Jacobs <i>by Family</i>
Friday, Dec. 31 No 7:30 a.m. Mass 5:30 p.m. Vigil Mass at St. Joseph Mareello ~ 2 0 2 2 ~	Seventh Day in the Octave of Christmas
Saturday, Jan. 1 10:00 a.m. No 4:30 p.m. Vigil Mass	Solemnity of Mary, the Most Holy Mother of God George and Angeline Cole <i>by Son, George</i>
Sunday, Jan. 2 9:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord Jay Delaney <i>by Frances Musto</i> Bernice Sarti <i>by Sperrazza Family</i>

MEMORIAL HONOR CANDLES
MONTH OF DECEMBERIn memory of Peter and Martha Gechunis
*by Daughter Cathy*In memory of Sam and Joseph Valenti
*by Family Theresa and Renee'*ETERNAL REST GRANT
UNTO THEM, O LORDPlease remember in your prayers
our parishioners and friends who
have recently passed.*Alex J. Nobile*

STEWARDSHIP: YOUR GIFT OF TIME, TALENT, AND TREASURE

Sunday Collection
for the Weekend of
December 11-12**\$6,172.00**

This includes:

Offertory:	\$ 5,464.00
Children:	\$ 64.00
Loose	\$ 214.00
Dues:	\$ 430.00

Total Envelopes Used: 331RETIREMENT FUND FOR
RELIGIOUSA sister writes, "Our prayers belong most of all to the generous benefactors whose donations have made this financial assistance possible." Thank you for supporting last week's collection. Visit retiredreligious.org to learn how your gift supports elderly sister, brothers, and religious order priests. A total of **\$540.00** was collected thank you for your generosity.

CARE AND CONCERN MINISTRIES

Important Updates for Our Ministries

FOOD PANTRY

Free food is given, **by appointment**, to qualifying households in the Pittston Area and Wyoming Area School Districts. Households may receive food once per month from September through May. **Pre-qualification** is done by phone at **570-654-9923**.

Proof of address (recent utility bill) is required at your first appointment **each year**. Food Pantry appointments are made for the **First and Second Wednesdays**

of each month. This ministry is closed from June through August.

KIDS CLOSET

The Kids Closet offers new and gently used clothing for free to children (sizes newborn through 16) to families in the Pittston Area and Wyoming Area School Districts. **Photo ID** is required to participate in this ministry. Families are able to visit the Kids Closet every **six weeks**.

This ministry is open the **First and Second Wednesdays** of each month from **9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. with no evening hours**.

TOY AND BOOK CORNER

The "Corner" offers new and gently used toys and books for free to children and families in the Pittston Area and Wyoming Area School Districts. **Photo ID** is required to participate in this ministry. Families are able to visit the Toy and Book Corner every **six weeks**.

This ministry is open the **First and Second Wednesdays** of each month from **9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. with no evening hours**.

PEDIATRIC HEALTH CLINIC

The Pediatric Clinic offers basic health care for children ages newborn through 11. Children must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

Call **570-855-6035** for more information.

Information about the Free Health Clinic is forthcoming.

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

We are most grateful for the following donations made to the many ministries of the Church and deeply appreciate the thoughtfulness.

FOOD PANTRY

John Cituk

Altar and Rosary Christmas Party

Mr. and Mrs. Demetrius Yedenak

CARE AND CONCERN MINISTRIES

Girls Dinner Group-Exeter High School Class of 1965

(In memory of Sam and Jean Granteed and Michael and Susan Augello) by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Augello

CARE AND CONCERN CLINIC

(In memory of Doreen Collins) by Mary Hudock

(In memory of Frank and Anna Duzen) by Daughters Paula and Donna



READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

January 2, 2022

The Epiphany of the Lord

First Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

Second Reading

Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12



Wishing you
a *blessed*

New Year

Saint John the Evangelist Parish
Take-Out

Pasta Dinner



Wednesday, January 19, 2022

Pickup from 12:00-1:30 p.m.

Msgr. Bendik Pastoral Center

Donation: \$15.00 per dinner

**Menu includes Pasta with Homemade Meatballs,
Salad, Bread, and Dessert.**

Please call Jane Roche at 570-905-0325 by Monday, January 17 to place your order.



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