

St. Joseph ~ Mother Church of the Berkshires

~Established 1849~



MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday-4:00 PM

Sunday~9:00 & 11:30 AM

9 AM Mass streamed live at
stjoepittsfield.com & the Parish
App

Daily Mass~12:10 PM

RCIA~Wed. 6:30 PM

Holy Hour ~Mon.-Fri. 11 AM

Rosary ~Mon - Fri. 11:30 AM

Prayer Line 413-443-1221

ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH

414 North Street, Pittsfield, MA 01201

Tel: (413) 445-5789

Hours: Mon.-Fri.: 9:00 AM-1:00 PM

Website: www.stjoepittsfield.com

THE STAFF

Pastor ~ Msgr. Michael Shershanovich
e-mail: msgrmike@berkshire.rr.com

Parochial Vicar~Rev. Michael Goodreau

Priest in Residence~

Most. Rev. Timothy McDonnell

Secretary~Michele Madden

e-mail: Michelemadden@berkshire.rr.com

Coordinator of Youth Religious Education

John Arasimowicz

e-mail: johnaccd@gmail.com

Pastoral Minister ~ Mrs. Patricia Momnie

ST. JOSEPH CEMETERY ~ (413) 499-1317

Website: www.stjoecem.com

e-mail: stjoecem@verizon.net



16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

When he disembarked
and saw the vast
crowd, his heart was
moved with pity for
them, for they were
like sheep without
a shepherd; and he
began to teach them
many things.

- Mk 6:34

July 18, 2021



ST. ANNE SOCIETY

On Sunday, July 25, we will be celebrating the St. Anne Feast Day at the 9:00 am Mass. Weather permitting Mass will be held outdoors in front of the church so bring a chair. Everyone is invited to join us for a coffee and doughnut gathering at the Parish Center following Mass.

VISITATION MONASTERY: Have you visited the Visitation Monastery? Located at 14 Beach Rd., Tyringham, MA. It is a place of amazing peace and prayer. The Visitation nuns are dedicated to the mystery of Mary's visit to her cousin Elizabeth. Through prayer, a simple lifestyle, cloistered living and devotion to the Sacred Heart they bring forward grace to our community. The chapel is open 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mass daily at 7:45 a.m. To find out more check out <https://vistyr.org> or stop by for a visit.

The sisters give talks on Sacred Heart Spirituality every First Sunday of the month. The talks are given in the Chapel.

Next Talk: Sunday, August 1st at 4pm.

2021 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

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Seeds*

“Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. “As we sow the seeds of our faith in the world may we understand that they are the seeds of God’s love and the seeds of hope. We are the face of the Catholic Church shown to the world through our actions and generosity. Please make your donation today. Contact 413-452-0670 or email aca@diospringfield.org



Sunday 9:00 a.m. mass will be held outdoors, weather permitting. Please remember to bring a chair or blanket to sit on.

Mass at 4:00 p.m. Saturday and 11:30 a.m. on Sunday will be continue to be held inside the church.

Anyone who has been fully vaccinated will no longer be required to wear a mask during Mass.



RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS (RCIA)

Preparing for the Holy Sacraments

If you have questions or if you would like to speak with someone about receiving the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation please call our parish office at 413-445-5789.





Please consider signing up to give your donations to our parish online. It is very easy to do. You can donate either with a credit card or a check and choose how much you would like to give and how often: weekly, monthly, semi-monthly, quarterly, semi-annually or annually. You can go directly to the website at <https://stjoepittsfield.weshareonline.org> to sign up. We thank you for your generosity during these difficult times.



FOOD PANTRY is in need of more volunteers. Anyone who is interested and has some available time please call the Rectory.

THE STEWARD'S WORK IS NEVER DONE

Woe to the shepherds who mislead and scatter the flock! When you hear these strong words from the Old Testament, you're probably thinking, thank goodness I don't have any sheep — dodged that bullet. Nobody misled here! No flock scattered on my watch! However, we are all shepherds of a kind, called to tend our own sheep: our families, our parishes, our communities.

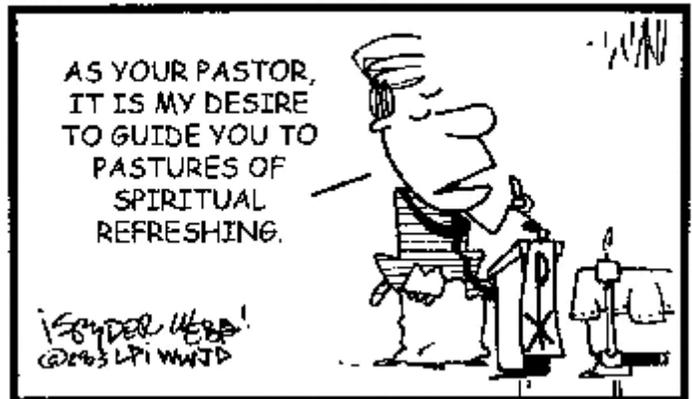
But it's exhausting. Don't we all sometimes just want to take a break from being a steward? The excuses are so familiar: we're tired, we've done enough, we've given all we can, what more does the parish (or my spouse, or my kids, or my boss, or my friends, or my community) want? We give ourselves permission to be selfish. So, what if the flock scatters just a little?

Jesus gets that. We can just imagine him weary with exhaustion, can't we? We see him on his boat, attempting to sneak away for a quick break — maybe just a chance to eat a bite of food in peace. He is God, but he was still human, after all. Even the most dedicated shepherds need to sleep. But people couldn't leave him alone. They were hungry for him. They needed what he could offer, and they needed it now.

As tough as it is, that's the example we are tasked with imitating. Everyday Stewardship demands accountability. It demands our showing up even when we are tired. It demands that we look at our lives, our time, our energies, our talents, our hearts, our bank accounts and think: where do I still have more to give?

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS: "Before the foundation of the world God chose us in Christ." Are you discerning the vocation that God has chosen for you in Christ? Might it be to serve the Church in the consecrated life or priesthood? If you are considering a call to be a priest, deacon or live the consecrated life, please contact Fr. Jon Reardon @ vocations@diospringfield.org or 413-248-7034

16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME





MASST REQUESTS

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|---|----------|
| Saturday, July 17th Stella Kozlowski—Birthday Remembrance Requested by Family | 4:00 PM |
| Sunday, July 18th Peter Dinh Van Nguyen Requested by Family | 9:00 AM |
| Barbara Breault Requested by Daughter & Granddaughter | 11:30 AM |
| Monday, July 19th Suchart “Bic” Surakan Requested by Bruce McKinney | 12:10 PM |
| Tuesday, July 20th Joel Whitcomb Requested by Timothy Ryan | 12:10 PM |
| Wednesday, July 21st For the Parish | 12:10 PM |
| Thursday, July 22nd Vito Ronco Requested by Marie & Joe | 12:10 PM |
| Friday, July 23rd Joseph & Mary Maciora Requested by Son | 12:10 PM |
| Saturday, July 24th Kathy Malumphy Requested by Dottie & Steve Miller | 4:00 PM |

JULY 18, 2021 16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

There’s an ordinary pine grove located on a tree farm not too far from town where life’s stresses and demands seem to melt away. It is here that all that seemed so important out there no longer is and one can get lost in the rows of trees and majestic beauty. God is here and all is good. We need to connect with the Divine Source of all that is in order to understand what it is we are doing and why we are doing it. Otherwise, things stop making sense and bitterness can overcome one’s spirit. It’s okay to play once in a while and to discover that place of profound life and peace. People always have needs and there is constantly something to do. And while all of that is necessary and we are needed, there is also that inner solitude within that needs to be celebrated and released.

We all need a pine grove. It’s that little place we can go and leave all that consumes us behind. It’s a place where technology can be set aside and wonder, and awe given some time. We don’t have to text, calculate, or orchestrate anything in the pine grove. It is a somewhat deserted place where all of that can be set aside and we can just be. The anger, frustration, exhaustion, discouragement, helplessness, and occasional apathy, all can fall to the ground like all of those pine needles that once held their place on the branch of a Fraser Fir. The needles can let go. We can let go. We are beings connected with Being and we all need to remember what really matters, who really matters and what life is truly all about. We need to find that place where we can rest and let go of all of the barnacles we accumulate. Rest, breathe, seek, and love.

The world will need us again when we leave the pine grove. It will all be waiting for us, beckoning for our attention. But we will have prayed and will have marveled at the silence and the beauty of goodness. We can go back, ready, and eager to listen, to help, to heal, to cry, to embrace, and attend to all that is asked of us. But, having let go of the distractions in that deserted place we will have a renewed sense of purpose. We will know better Who it is we serve and what we are meant to do. It will all be clearer now that we have been Divinely touched and refreshed.

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| READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 18TH |
| Sunday: Jer 23:1-6/Ps 23:1-3, 3-4, 5, 6 [1]/Eph 2:13-18/Mk 6:30-34 |
| Monday: Ex 14:5-18/Ex 15:1bc,-2, 3-4, 5-6 [1b]/Mt 12:38-42 |
| Tuesday: Ex 14:21—15:1/Ex 15:8-9, 10 and 12, 17 [1b]/Mt 12:46-50 |
| Wednesday: Ex 16:1-5, 9-15/Ps 78:18-19, 23-24, 25-26, 27-28 [24b]/Mt 13:1-9 |
| Thursday: Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [2]/Jn 20:1-2, 11-18 |
| Friday: Ex 20:1-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [cf. Jn 6:68c]/Mt 13:18-23 |
| Saturday: Ex 24:3-8/Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15 [14a]/Mt 13:24-30 |

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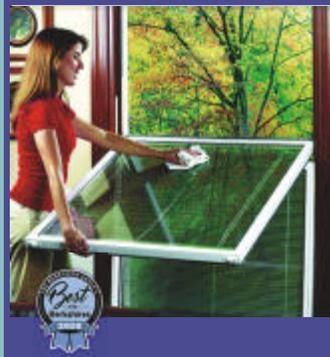
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