

# Saint Joseph Catholic Church

Saint Joseph Parish  
Rev. Matthew R. Larlick , Pastor  
The Rectory  
721 Monroe Street  
Berwick, Pennsylvania 18603  
February 21, 2021  
First Sunday in Lent

The Rossello Parish Office  
730 Washington Street  
Berwick Pa, 18603  
(570) 752-7000  
Monday—Thursday 9:00 am 4:00 pm

2021 THE YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH



## 1<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

“This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand.  
Repent, and believe in the gospel.” - Mk 1:15

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

[www.stjosephberwick.com](http://www.stjosephberwick.com)

**Saint Joseph Devotion, Seven Sundays .**  
**This is the Fourth Sunday Devotion**

His sorrow when he heard the prophecy of Simeon;  
his joy when he learned that many would be saved  
through the sufferings of Jesus.

**Introductory Prayer**

O most faithful Saint Joseph,  
who shared the mysteries of our redemption,  
the prophecy of Simeon,  
touching the sufferings of Jesus and Mary,  
caused you to shudder with mortal dread  
but at the same time filled you with a blessed joy  
for the salvation and glorious resurrection  
that would be attained by countless souls.  
By this sorrow and this joy,  
obtain for us that we may be  
of the number of those who,  
through the merits of Jesus  
and the intercession of Mary the Virgin Mother,  
are predestined to a glorious resurrection.

**Reading Lk 2:22-35** And when the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every male that opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons."

Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, looking for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And inspired by the Spirit he came into the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the law, he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

"Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace,  
according to thy word;

for mine eyes have seen thy salvation  
which thou hast prepared in the presence of all peoples,  
a light for revelation to the Gentiles,  
and for glory to thy people Israel."

And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him; and Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is spoken against (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that thoughts out of many hearts may be revealed."

**Consideration:** This rite, to which Luke refers, includes the ransom of the firstborn and sheds light on the subsequent stay of Jesus in the Temple at the age of twelve.

The *ransoming of the firstborn* is another obligation of the father, and it is fulfilled by Joseph. Represented in the firstborn is the people of the covenant, ransomed from slavery in order to belong to God. Here, too, Jesus—who is the true 'price' of ransom (cf. 1 Cor 6:20; 7:23; 1 Pt 1:19)—not only 'fulfills' the Old Testament rite, but at the same time transcends it, since he is not a subject to be redeemed, but the very author of redemption.

**Parish Staff : Phone # 570-752- 7000**

**Rev. Matthew R. Larlick, Pastor ext. 104**

**Debbie Mowery, Adm. Assistant ext. 101**

**Diane Kowalski, CRE ext. 102**

**Offertory collection for**

**February 14 2021**

**Offertory \$ 3, 276.00**

**vigils 67.00**

**Mission 186.00**

**Debt Reduction 270.00**

**Thank you for your continuous generosity.**

**Congratulations to:**

**David and Ruth Traugh**

**January 50/50 winners**

**GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE**

**February 21, 2021 1st Sunday of Lent**

St. Oscar Romero said, "Aspire not to have more, but to be more." These powerful words provide the perfect framework for a conversion oriented Lenten experience. God is giving us this Lenten sign to stop being concerned about what you have and focus on who you are. This requires that we create a desert space and listen more attentively for God to reveal His presence. It is all so wonderfully simple on the one hand and so incredibly challenging on the other. The message is simple: love God, neighbor, and self. Those simple words make great sense, but we struggle translating them into reality. Our attachments, compulsions, obsessions, addictions, routines, and busyness all anchor us to the "idol of the self," keeping us mired in our compulsive need for self-aggrandizement. It's not about us!

God vowed, long ago, to nurture, sustain and protect the relationship He has with His people. He called us into being, nurtures us in being, and sustains us in being. Without the Loving Divine Presence, all life would cease. Once we slow down a bit and clear away some of the clutter, we can see how the journey of our life is unfolding. We can see what brings us in and out of tune with God's love and how we can better imitate God's loving fidelity in our relationship with Him. In short, we will see our myopic short sightedness and figure out how we can better share the Divine Fire within with others. Lent isn't just about giving stuff up for forty days and indulging again at Easter. We need to push things much farther and wrestle with the question of how we can be more. "Being more" means becoming more fully alive and in touch with the holiness of life and the divinity that lives in and of our presence is crucial to being an effective witness and herald of God's unconditional love.

The illusion we have bought into causes us to believe that the wrong things and systems matter. We tirelessly fight to keep things the way they are, to return to the former ways of doing things or restore some nostalgic fantasy memory of "life in the good old days." Lent isn't about maintaining what we have or returning to something that is gone. It's about becoming something new. It's about being more focused, centered, convicted, and grounded so that we can be a person who truly loves and treasures being made in the image of God. The secret to Gospel living is not found in accumulating anything for ourselves, even merit points for heaven. Gospel living means learning how to live with less so that others can live with more. The thought of permanently giving something up makes us feel uncomfortable. Truth often does.

**Mass Schedule:**  
**Daily Mass is on Thursday**  
**Masks required at all Masses**

**Mon. Feb.22 Lenten Weekday**

**Tues. Feb.23 Lenten Weekday**  
**+ Ninh Thi Tran / Rev. Matthew Larlick**

**Wed. Feb.24 Lenten Weekday**  
**9:00 AM - Mass at Immaculate Conception Church**

**Thurs. Feb.25 Lenten Weekday**  
**8:30 AM + Fr. James Kennedy / Bev & Vince Komar**

**Friday Feb.26 Lenten Weekday**  
**+ Grace Cretella / Antoinette Montecalvo**  
**7:00 PM Stations of the Cross**

**Sat. Feb. 27 Lenten Weekday**  
**3:00 to 3:45 PM Confessions ( mask required )**

**Sunday Vigil**  
**4:00 PM + Edward Masich / Christopher & Stacey Cuba**

**Sunday Feb.28 Second Sunday of Lent**  
**8:00 AM + Paul Troiani / Family**

**11:00 AM People of the Parish**  
**Rosary is prayed half hour before each mass**

**Parish Prayer List**

Stewart Anderson  
 Wendy Bokrosh  
 Florian Bacon  
 Phquita Balderson  
 Vincenzo Cerasoli  
 Elaine DeFinis  
 Helen Dalberto  
 Dorothy Dalessandro  
 Jane DeFebo  
 Nancy DeMarco  
 Angelo DeMarco  
 Gloria Dendler  
 Millie Descul  
 Patricia Eckrote  
 Sophia Esposito  
 Steve Felix  
 Peter Ferro  
 Connie Fetterman  
 Mallory Frye  
 MaryLouise Gombos  
 Diane Howell  
 Jolene Hueholt  
 Beverly Hufford  
 Richard Kessler  
 Mary Knorr  
 Dorothy Kosciel  
 Diane Kowalski  
 Ryan Kowalski  
 Tyler Labus  
 Michael Labus  
 Beth Larlick

Stephen M. Lazar  
 Kelby Linsey  
 Tim Legg  
 Edith Marsicano  
 Nicole McCloskey  
Rose Miller  
 Debbie Modlesky  
 Marie Montecalvo  
 Lori Moran  
 Ryan Musser ( child)  
 Betty Penles  
 Carol Phillips  
 John Petruzella  
 Jerry Prushinski  
 Gregory Rheude, Jr.  
 Beth Snyder  
 C.J. Stalega  
 Christine Strohl  
 Jeannete Tomassacci  
 Alice Thomas  
 Julie Troiani  
 Christopher Turner  
 Christopher Urban  
 Nester Urban  
 Lucy Volpicelli  
 Mariann Waselus  
 Elijah Wolf ( Child)  
 Kathe Wunder  
 Matteo Young ( child)  
 Frances Zinich

**Week of February 21, 2021**

**Sanctuary Light:** + Paul Levitski/ Christine Hartley  
**Vigil Intentions**

**Saint Anthony + Theresa DiPippa/ Mary Dalpiaz**  
**Sacred Heart of Jesus: Honor of C.J. Stalega/ Lettie Hyde**

**Infant of Prague:** + Fr. Dominick Mammarella /  
 Tony & Francine Silvetti

**Our Lady of Fatima :** + Lillian DiPippa/  
 Angela Biacchi Harrison

**Saint Therese :** + Mary Jane Hunter / Dolores Norce

**Lenten Disciplines of Fasting & Abstinence**

Catholics in good health ages 18 to 59 are required to fast and to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

Fasting consists of eating only one meal, with the possibility of two smaller snacks that do not add up to a single full meal.

Catholics age 14 and older are to abstain from meat on all Fridays in Lent.

**Please pray for the safety of our men and women in the armed forces whether at home or abroad.**

**Steven Huntz, U.S. Air Force,**  
**Ryan Kowalski, Jamie Ferraro U.S. Navy,**  
**Victor (JR) Rosati, Ben Brown,**  
**U.S. Army National Guard**  
**Vincent Rosati, U.S. Marines.**  
**Dylan Everett, U.S. Army.**



**Saint Mary's ( Immaculate Conception Church BVM)**  
**Annual Fish Fry - Every Friday during Lent**  
**Serving 11 am to 7 pm**  
**Take Outs only \$9.00**  
**Thank you for your support**

**CORONAVIRUS PREVENTION**





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**Patsy Bowers** – ASSC. BROKER  
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 Office: 570.759.1600  
 Email: [patsybreaestate@gmail.com](mailto:patsybreaestate@gmail.com)  
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