



MASS INTENTIONS
Sunday, Dec. 24: † *Katie, Gabe, & Carmie* - Family
Christmas Masses: † *Flower envelope intentions*
Dec. 31: † *Kateryna Lackey* – Mike & Barb Fedele

LECTOR SCHEDULE			ALTAR SERVERS	
Dec. 24	12 noon	C. DeMarte	L. DeMarte	T. Tarantella
Dec. 31	12 noon	J. Kowalski	E. Snyder	M. Stone

MEMORIAL CANDLES				Dec. 15-31, 2023
Church Sanctuary	† <i>Elizabeth, Alice, Susan, & Marjorie</i> -Mary & Jeanne			
Chapel Sanctuary	† <i>Elizabeth, Alice, Susan, & Marjorie</i> -Mary & Jeanne			
Blessed Mother	† <i>Jack Hanobic – Wife & Family</i>	† <i>The Gilmore Family– Janet</i>	† <i>Class of 1976 – Cathy Himmel</i>	
Saint Joseph	† <i>Mattioli Family – Janet</i>	† <i>Mark Morocko – The Kurutz Family</i>	† <i>Charles Maxwell Jr– Lisa & Jack Houser</i>	

IN OUR PRAYERS♥

Jennifer Sauter, John “Tink” Green, Sandy Francis, John Laubscher, Kay Hirlinger, Connie Shope, Deanna Dare, Donald Felty, Bill O’Neill, Karen Tomko Strobel, Susan Nelson, Thomas Packer, Bill Leary Jr., Melinda O’Neill-Lewis, Bart Pickering, Katherine Huggler, Gayle Jenkins, Elaine Charcalla, John Kapp, Ron J. Long, Ruth Donnell, Vera Hough, Jeane Bressler, Grace DeSanto, Grace “Susie” Kisko, Liz Kalafut, Arnie Burrows, Brenda DeJoice, Caleb Leone, Adam Smith, Joyce Winkleman O’Brien, Chad Willard, Connie O’Toole Conrad, Kevin Dwyer, Denise Colvin, Frank Morton, Sue Sette, Mary Tripp, Estefan Nevarez, Merle Prebble, Larry Conly, Shawna Weaver, Kathy Jo Kalafut, Ben Moser, Kasey Knauff, Ruby Prebble, Chris Howlett, Willy Dressler, Joey Herridge, Anna O’Neill, Terry O’Laughlin, Mike Fantazier, John Tarantella, Lynn Anderson, Lisa Myers, Ed McGuire, Danielle Luzier, Kathy Smith, David Moore, Emma Christner, and Monica Fox

WEEKLY SCHEDULE				Collection Counters: Carol and Chris
MONDAY 12/25	Merry Christmas!			
TUESDAY 12/26				
WEDNESDAY 12/27				
THURSDAY 12/28				
FRIDAY 12/29				
SATURDAY 12/30				
SUNDAY 12/31	Mass	noon	Church	

December 24, 2023

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

CHURCH OF SAINT JOSEPH

925 Huron Avenue • Renovo, PA 17764
570-923-0172 • stjosephrenovo@dioceseaj.org
Website: www.stjosephchurchrenovopa.org



MASS TIME

Sunday: 12 noon

CONFESSION:

Sunday: 11:35 – 11:55 am
Wednesday by appt.



COMMUNION SERVICES

Tuesday: 8:30 a.m. (Chapel)
First Friday: 6:00 p.m. (Chapel)

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday: 9 am - 2 pm
Tuesday: Closed
Wednesday: 9 am - 5 pm
Thursday: 9 am - 2 pm
Friday: Closed

MISSION STATEMENT

As members of the family of God, our mission is to joyfully share the good news, reconnect with lapsed Catholics, and warmly welcome them back into the fold. We are dedicated to serving as positive role models for the youth in our parish, exemplifying the richness of the Catholic Faith. Through the pillars of prayer, education, hospitality, outreach, and stewardship, we aim to open our arms wide, embracing all who seek to be a part of our vibrant faith community.

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Joseph Orr.....*Pastor*
Rev. Daniel Heiser.....*Deacon*
Alison Heiser.....*Secretary/DRE*
Terry O’Laughlin.....*Finance/Sacristan*
Louis Roteagliano.....*Design Specialist/PR*

SICK CALL

Please notify the office when a parish member is in the hospital or cannot attend Church and wishes to receive Holy Communion at home.

MARRIAGES & BAPTISMS

Call the church office to schedule an appointment.

PARISHIONER REGISTRATION

If you wish to become a member of the parish, please reach out to the parish office. Additionally, if you are relocating from the parish, kindly inform us. Active membership, demonstrated through registration, practicing stewardship, and regular participation in the Sacraments, qualifies individuals to serve as godparents or sponsors. As a Church community aspiring to be faithful disciples and responsible stewards, contributing our time, talent, and treasure is vital for the collective well-being.



As we gather around the Manger and the Altar this Christmas, we extend my heartfelt wishes for your hearts to be filled with the warmth of love, the sparkle of joy, and the radiant light – gifts bestowed upon us by the Good Lord. Just as Jesus entered the human scene, disarming us like all babies do, let us reflect on the profound message of humility and love.

Though the Christ Child found no room in the inn, we are continually called, not just during the holiday season but throughout the year, to make room for His Presence in our lives. Saint Joseph Parish offers a nurturing environment to deepen our understanding of Jesus.

To our cherished guests joining us for Christmas, a warm welcome!

For those who may have missed Mass on Sundays, consider returning in the New Year; your presence is vital for the growth and prosperity of our Parish.

To all parishioners that we see every week, may blessings abound as we celebrate the ordinary and extraordinary moments in our shared journey of faith.

Merry Christmas and abundant blessings in 2024!

NORTHERN DEANERY RAFFLE

For just \$10 per ticket, participants have the opportunity to win one of four thrilling prizes. Starting in January, we will have an early bird drawing each month of 5 winners. Each winner will receive five replacement tickets for the one ticket drawn, and the seller listed on the ticket will receive a check for \$50!! This year, you can accept cash instead of the prize.

800TH ANNIVERSARY

This Sunday, December 24th is the 800th anniversary of the first manger scene. In 1223 St. Francis of Assisi had set up a manger scene in a cave where he preached during the Christmas Mass. Legend has it that during his homily he picked up the statue of the baby Jesus from the manger and as he spoke a glow surrounded the infant and it reached up its little hand to touch the cheek of Francis.



OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY to the family and friends of Marjorie Massaro. May God grant her eternal rest and bring comfort to all who mourn her loss. May Mary, the Sorrowful Mother, console the hearts of all who mourn the loss of a Loved One.



Sunday, December 24th ~ Christmas Eve

4:00 PM – St. Joseph, Renovo
7:00 PM – St. Agnes
10:00 PM – Immaculate Conception

Monday, December 25th ~ Christmas Day

9:30 AM – St. Agnes
12:00 Noon – St. Joseph, Renovo

* For the 4:00 & 7:00 PM Christmas Vigil Masses incense will be used. For those who have a sensitivity to incense, you are encouraged to be strategic when choosing your seating for the Mass. We suggest sitting further toward the back of the Church.

**Upon the conclusion of the Mass, we warmly invite everyone to approach the nativity and pay homage to our Blessed Mother and Jesus Christ. Additionally, if anyone wishes to light a votive candle, we welcome them to do so “on us” as we are pleased to cover the associated costs. Your participation in these meaningful acts is truly appreciated.

COMMUNION SERVICES AT ST. JOSEPH

Did you know that every Tuesday at 8:30 am, the dedicated volunteer Mike Fedele orchestrates a 20-minute Communion Service? Despite the profound significance of this regular gathering, it often goes unnoticed, with only a handful of parishioners, typically numbering between 4 to 5, in attendance each week. It seems that the awareness of this spiritually enriching event hasn't reached as many as it could, making it a hidden gem in our weekly schedule.

Furthermore, on every First Friday, Deacon Dan conducts a Communion service adorned with Benediction and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Given our limitation of one Mass per week, we find ourselves at a slight disadvantage compared to places where daily Mass is more accessible. Yet, we consider ourselves truly fortunate to have a compassionate deacon and dedicated volunteers who generously offer these additional services. As we approach the new year, perhaps consider making attending one of these uplifting gatherings a part of your spiritual journey.

****The next Communion Services will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 2nd at 8:30 am and Friday, Jan. 5th at 6:00 pm.***



CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS

<i>In loving Memory of...</i>	<i>Presented by:</i>
Alex Pizzino Family	George & Sandy Machak
John Machak Family	George & Sandy
Philip Dalphon	George & Sandy
Eugene Chip Kisko	Ronnie, Susan & Family
Diane Gentzyel	Ronnie, Susan & Family
Dale Summerson	Grandson, Gavin
Della & Julio Pizzino	Son, Gene
Deceased members of the Pizzino Family	Gene
Joseph A. Pizzino	Brother
Raymond Cozzi	Friend, Gene
Deceased members of the Fedele Family	Mike & Barb Fedele
Deceased members of the Edwards Family	Mike & Barb Fedele
Mom & Dad	Sue Smith
Michael Probst	Family
Mann & Janet Probst	Family
Janice Coleman	Sue
Albert & Sara Fye	Mr. & Mrs. Paul Maxwell
Charles & Mildred Maxwell	Mr. & Mrs. Paul Maxwell
Charles Maxwell, Jr	Mr. & Mrs. Paul Maxwell
Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Crouse Sr.	George & Marcie
Martha Crouse	George & Marcie
Betsy Crouse	George & Marcie
Sarah Schnars	George & Marcie
Regina Rhoades	George & Marcie
Elizabeth & Anthony Jeselnik	The Kerstetters
Mary Louise Johnson	Russell Johnson
Mr. & Mrs. John Mackey	Russell Johnson
Husband, Mother, Father, & Brother	Pattie Rauch
Wes Sykes	Wife, Martha
Joanie Francis	Martha Sykes
Peggy Tripp	Martha Sykes
Sarah Schnars	Martha Sykes

CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS

<i>In loving Memory of...</i>	<i>Presented by:</i>
Charles Maxwell, Jr.	Sarah Graw
Mom & Dad Fantazier	Sue Friese
Brothers: Phil & Bob	Sue Friese
The Serra Family	Livia L. Price
William "Bucky" Price	Livia L. Price
Laura (Lori) Smith	Livia L. Price
Gloria A. Sweitzer	Livia L. Price
Joseph Kisko	Shirley Kisko
Maggie Clemente	Shirley Kisko
Our Parents & Brother	Lisa & Jack Houser
Grandson, Caleb	Kathy Anderson
Tarantella & Gakle Family	John & Mary Ann Tarantella
Betsy Crouse	John & Mary Ann Tarantella
Jim & June DeJoice	Janet
Kylinn Stone Gilmore	Mom
Charles & Catherine Sacarnoski	Carol, John, & Marybeth
Elvera Tarantella	Tom & Ann Tarantella
Elizabeth Simon	Tom & Ann Tarantella
Mary Spangler	Tom & Ann Tarantella
Virginia Serafini	Tom & Ann Tarantella
Mr. Alex Rauch	Bruce & Maria Ransom
Mr. & Mrs. William Rooney	Bruce & Maria Ransom
Eleanor Hedgeland	Family
Deb Nelen	Family
Dad & Denise	George, Kathy, Ethan, and Quentin
Jack	George, Kathy, Ethan, and Quentin
James "Knobby" Nestlerode	Jean Nestlerode; Ken, Jen, Katelyn, Zach, & Gavin Pick
Jim & Helen O'Brien	Jean Nestlerode; Ken, Jen, Katelyn, Zach, & Gavin Pick
James & Helen Nestlerode	Jean Nestlerode; Ken, Jen, Katelyn, Zach, & Gavin Pick

CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS

<i>In loving Memory of...</i>	<i>Presented by:</i>
Anita & Francis Pompili, Sr.	Francis Pompili, Jr.
Deceased Family Members & Friends	Jim & Patty Cozzi
Anne Greene	Jim Miller
Joe & Shirley Rosamilia	Gina & Family
Machak, Knauff, & Brunner Families	James & Anna Knauff
Katie Himmel	Margie Sutliff
Fedele & Campana Families	Margie Sutliff
Maggie Clemente	Mom & Dad
Our Parents	George "Mike" & Michele Simon
Jack Hanobic	Jo Hanobic & Family
Our Families	Jo Hanobic & Family
Ryan Russell	Teresa Stone
Kirk Swanson	Teresa Stone
Lee Marshall	Teresa Stone
Paula Shelow	Teresa Stone
Fedele, Edwards, Saltsman, & Lavelle Families	Angie & Gene Lavelle
Joe & Shirley Rosamilia	Joe, Mary, & JR
Dorsey & Mary McGuire	Joe, Mary, & JR
Joanie Francis	Jesse Francis, Natalie & Evan Summerson
Tomasic & Buranosky Families	Terri, Jaci and Matt
Deceased members of the Matthis Family	Ron & Cathy Dremel
Deceased members of the Dremel Family	Ron & Cathy Dremel
Jack O'Toole	Family
Gene & Denise Kalafut	Liz
Gene & Denise Kalafut	Jim
Diamond Family, Lucy & Rod	Liz
Kalafut Family, Marjorie & George	Liz
Gorman & Gregory Families	Dee Gregory
Christopher Perry	The Rathmell Family
Jack "Moose" & Marcia Houser	Children
Fr. William Perri	Francis Pompili Jr.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS

<i>In loving Memory of...</i>	<i>Presented by:</i>
Elizabeth Bratton	Barb Mills
Martha Mills	Barb Mills
Mr. & Mrs. Francis DeMarte	DeMarte Children
Anna Marino & Family	DeMarte Children
Bill & Virginia Mainguth	Bill & Marcie Mainguth
Bob & Eleanor Chulak	Bill & Marcie Mainguth
Don Prebble	Wife, Ruby
Our Parents	Bob, Trudy, Brian, Kevin, Troy, Kristy, Devin & Josie
Ignatius Bauer	Bob, Trudy, Brian, Kevin, Troy, Kristy, Devin & Josie
Teresa Bauer	Bob, Trudy, Brian, Kevin, Troy, Kristy, Devin & Josie
Dick Bauer	Bob, Trudy, Brian, Kevin, Troy, Kristy, Devin & Josie
Teresa Stanza	Bob, Trudy, Brian, Kevin, Troy, Kristy, Devin & Josie
Tony Getz	Bob, Trudy, Brian, Kevin, Troy, Kristy, Devin & Josie
Joey Grey	Bob, Trudy, Brian, Kevin, Troy, Kristy, Devin & Josie
Mallory Kohler	Bob, Trudy, Brian, Kevin, Troy, Kristy, Devin & Josie
Marilyn Crane	Bob, Trudy, Brian, Kevin, Troy, Kristy, Devin & Josie
Ginny Serafini	Bob, Trudy, Brian, Kevin, Troy, Kristy, Devin & Josie
Eric Redis	Bob, Trudy, Brian, Kevin, Troy, Kristy, Devin & Josie
Ann Malizia	Bob, Trudy, Brian, Kevin, Troy, Kristy, Devin & Josie

May the beauty of our church this Christmas Season truly reflect the beauty of those lives that have touched our hearts and blessed our lives.

WELCOME

Welcome to all, especially visitors and guests, who have come to worship in our Church today! No matter how long you plan to be in the neighborhood, please consider St. Joseph’s your parish home. Call the parish office, 570-923-0172, to schedule an appointment with Father Orr to register.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25 Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96: 1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14
Tuesday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17/Mt 10:17-22
Wednesday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Thursday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8/Mt 2:13-18
Friday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6/Lk 2:22-35
Saturday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Lk 2:36-40
Next Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

FOURTH WEEK OF ADVENT

During this final week of Advent, we rejoice in the endless love that God has for us, which is made apparent in the birth of his Son. We reflect on the good news of God's love brought to us by the angel Gabriel.

Dear Jesus, may the light of your love always shine in our hearts. As Christmas draws closer, we marvel at your great love for us. Let your love transform every aspect of our lives and touch everyone we encounter. Our hearts are open to you, Jesus. Amen

Scripture Reflection: "And the angel said to them, “Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ, the Lord." Luke 2:10-11

Reading: But the angel said to him, “Do not be afraid, Zechariah, because your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall name him John. And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth. Luke 1: 13-14

Prayer: God of light, send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas. In our daily preparations and busyness, help us to seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day and prepare our hearts for your coming. Amen.

A fifth, and final, candle may be lit on Christmas Day. Known as the "Christ Candle", this white candle is placed in the middle of the Advent Wreath and lit on Christmas Day to represent the pure light of Jesus, who comes on Christmas day as a baby in a manger.

† Our Gifts to God †
Sunday Offering: Dec. 17, 2023

Regular Collection:	\$ 1,319.00
Monthly:	20.00
Children	7.00
	\$ 1,346.00

Votive: \$ 59.00
Christmas Flowers: \$360.00

Thank you for being good stewards.

CANDY BAR SALE

Indulge in the holiday spirit with our freshly restocked selection of delightful candy bars, perfect for spreading cheer as stocking stuffers! 🌟 For just \$1.00, treat yourself or a loved one to the sweet satisfaction of a delicious chocolate bar (peanut butter, roasted almond, crisp rice, and milk chocolate)

2024 CALENDARS

Free 2024 calendars are available in the back of the church, donated by Maxwell Helt Funeral Home. Every Catholic household should have one. Thank you to Maxwell’s Funeral Home for sponsoring St. Joseph's calendars.

2024 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

Your new offertory envelopes will be in the back of the church. Please pick yours up and your neighbors or friends. Please contact the parish office if you do not see a box with your name. Thank you!

The parish office will be closed this week except for this Wednesday, December 27th, from 9 am – 1 pm. Please note there will not be any Communion Services this week.

MEMORIALS AND DONATIONS

St. Joseph received the following memorial donations for our Improvement Fund
In Loving Memory of:
Charles Maxwell Jr by Diana Tolomay (\$25) and Martha Sykes (\$25)
Marjorie Massaro by Patt Lundfelt (\$50)
Mark Morocko by Martha Sykes (\$50)
Eugene & Catherine Monoski by Jeanne Monoski (\$1,000)
Kathleen, Patrick, and L. Gerald Renehan by Gloria Renehan (\$500)
Michael J & Mary B Barner by George “Mike” & Michele Simon (\$50)
Elizabeth “Betty” Simon by George “Mike” & Michele Simon (\$50)