

# SAINT JOSEPH CHURCH

January 29, 2017

*"Blessed the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!" Psalm 146:6*

**Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*Celebrating 165 years of living faith since the foundation of our parish in 1851.*

## God's Gift of Forgiveness

**"P**ace be with you!" With these words, the Risen Lord greeted his frightened Apostles in the Upper Room on the day of his Resurrection. They were troubled, anxious, and fearful—much like each one of us at some point in our lives. Christ repeated the words, "Peace be with you." But then he added: "Receive the holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them" (*John 20:19-23*).

What an extraordinary gift! The Risen Lord was proclaiming that all the suffering he had just endured was in order to make available the gifts of salvation and forgiveness. He wanted the Apostles to receive these gifts. He wanted them to become apostles of this forgiveness to others.

In the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation, also called confession, we meet the Lord, who wants to grant forgiveness and the grace to live a renewed life in him. In this sacrament, he prepares us to receive him free from serious sin, with a lively faith, earnest hope, and sacrificial love in the Eucharist.

**The Church also encourages frequent confession in order to grow closer to Christ Jesus.**

The Church sees confession as so important that she requires that every Catholic go at least once a year. The Church also encourages frequent confession in order to grow closer to Christ Jesus and his Body, the Church. By the grace of the Holy Spirit, we seek

forgiveness and repentance, let go of patterns of sin, grow in the life of virtue, and witness to a joyful conversion.

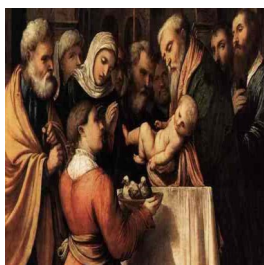
Since the graces of the sacrament are so similar to the purpose of the New Evangelization, Pope Benedict XVI has said: "The New Evangelization ... begins in the confessional!"

**God's Gift of Forgiveness:  
A Pastoral Exhortation on the  
Sacrament of Penance and  
Reconciliation**  
*United States Conference of Catholic  
Bishops*

## February 2nd: The Presentation of the Lord

**T**he Church lives on event and mystery. Today she draws life from the event of the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple, seeking to understand the mystery it holds. In a way, though, the Church draws each day from this event in Christ's life, meditating on its spiritual meaning. In fact, every evening the elderly Simeon's words that have just been proclaimed echo in churches and monasteries, chapels and homes throughout the world:

*"Lord, now let your servant depart in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel" (Luke 6:6<sup>3</sup>-32).*



So prayed Simeon, who in his old age had been granted to see the promises of the Old Covenant fulfilled. So prays the Church, which, sparing no effort, does all she can to bring the gift of the New Covenant to all peoples.

In the mysterious encounter between Simeon and Mary, the Old and New Testaments are joined. Together the aging prophet and the young mother give thanks for this Light which has kept the darkness from prevailing. It is the Light which shines in the heart of human life: Christ, the Savior and Redeemer of the world, "a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for the glory of his people Israel."

*Homily, St. Pope John Paul II  
Feast of the Presentation of the Lord  
February 1999*

### ‡ ANNOUNCED MASSES ‡

**Saturday, January 28**

**5:00 p.m.** 10th anniversary, Joseph Soprano, requested, family

**Sunday, January 29**

**Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**9:00 a.m.** Available

**11:15 a.m.** Memorial, Richard M. Hickey Sr., requested, Daniel S. Harrop III

**Monday, January 30**

**8:00 a.m.** Memorial, Loretta Roy, requested, niece Lorraine

**Tuesday, January 31**

**Saint John Bosco, Priest**

**8:00 a.m.** Intentions for the Parishioners of St. Joseph Church

**Thursday, February 2** **The Presentation of the Lord**

**8:00 a.m.** Available

**Friday, February 3**

**Saint Blaise, Bishop and Martyr**

**8:00 a.m.** Available

**Saturday February 4**

**5:00 p.m.** Available

**Sunday, February 5**

**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**9:00 a.m.** In honor of Saint Lucia

**11:15 a.m.** Memorial, Rita Moran, requested, Pastoral Council

**ALTAR SERVERS**

**Saturday February 4**

**5:00 p.m.** Ben, Will, Kirsten, Jessica

**Sunday, February 5**

**9:00 a.m.** Catherine, Lily, Joseph, Laura, Daniel

**11:15 a.m.** Danica, Hannah, Abigail, Michael, Sophia

**LECTORS**

**Saturday, February 4**

**5:00 p.m.** Jonathan Samit

**Sunday, February 5**

**9:00 a.m.** Helen Valcourt

**11:15 a.m.** David Gillis

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS**

**Saturday, February 4**

**5:00 p.m.** Jan Jaquinto

**Sunday, February 5**

**9:00 a.m.** Jim Vandermillen

**11:15 a.m.** Judy Gillis

**Please Note:** For those of you who use our Parish Giving service please access your secured account to print your 2016 statement for tax purposes. The IRS will accept this printout as proof of your contributions to St. Joseph Church for the year. You will receive a statement for any contribution made directly to St. Joseph Church

**Raffle Donations Needed for St. Joseph Feast Day Brunch**

The parish invites members of the St Joseph community to consider offering a gift to raffle at the next St. Joseph Day Brunch—**especially one that would be suitable to offer as a Grand Prize.** All raffle proceeds will directly benefit the parish and your gift is tax-deductible.

In recent years, parishioners have offered such items as iPods, TVs, and Patriots tickets. These and other attractive gifts—such as “theme” gift baskets (Italian basket, liquor basket, etc.)—were largely responsible for the success of past raffles, and we hope that parishioners’ continued generosity will again help make the upcoming raffle a wonderful success.

If you can help please contact the rectory at 421-9137.

Thanks and God bless.

**PLEASE SAVE THE DATE! Our brunch will be held on  
March 19th, 2017**

**2017 Catholic Charity Appeal  
“Faith and Good Works”**

The start of the 2017 Catholic Charity Appeal is fast approaching. Many of our parishioners will receive a mailing from Bishop Tobin asking for your support of the 2017 Appeal. For your convenience, a pledge card has been enclosed with this mailing. Please be assured that your parish will receive credit for the gift that you make through the mail.

Your gift to the 2017 Appeal reaches out to countless people in need throughout our diocese. No matter where you turn, you find someone who will benefit from your kindness.

**Please give generously to the 2017 Catholic Charity Appeal.**



**“LITTLE CHRISTMAS”**  
has been rescheduled for  
**Sunday February 5th, (NEXT WEEKEND)**  
**IMMEDIATELY**  
**FOLLOWING THE 11:15 Mass**



**Rosary**

Please join us in reciting the Rosary on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the chapel following the 8 a.m. Mass.

**Next week, copies of RHODE ISLAND CATHOLIC will be available after Masses as part of the annual subscription campaign. To subscribe and have delivered to you door. Keep updated on news from across the diocese, country and world !**



**PLEASE USE THE ENVELOPE PROVIDED INSIDE YOUR BUDGET ENVELOPES OR INSIDE THE NEWSPAPER.**

**For your convenience, you may drop it into the collection basket next weekend.**

**ABOUT MASS INTENTIONS**

It is the longstanding tradition of the Church that each Mass have an intention, for either a living person, a person who has died, or a particular intention. **The value of ONE Mass is beyond our imagining,** and the practice of having a Mass offered on someone else’s behalf is a reminder of our profound interconnectedness as members of the Body of Christ. Perhaps there is a deceased relative, a living friend or family member in need, or even an intention that you hold in your heart.

**The Mass Book for 2017 is now available. Please call the rectory at 421-9137 to reserve anniversary or memorial Mass dates, or dates for special intentions.**

**SACRIFICIAL GIVING**

	<b><u>2016</u></b>	<b><u>2017</u></b>
Envelopes	\$1,221.00	\$1,530.00
Loose:	\$ 117.00	\$ 137.00
Electronic giving	\$ 721.00	\$ 743.00
Children:	\$ 3.00	\$ 4.00
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>\$2,062.00</b>	<b>\$2,414.00</b>

**Catholic University: \$155.00**



**FIRST FRIDAY**

Friday, February 3rd is First Friday. From 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. in the chapel there will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, followed by Benediction