Very Rev. Jeffery J. Noble, V.F., Pastor

Weekend Masses
Saturday Evening: 6:00 pm
Sunday: 7:30 & 10:00 am

Confessions
Saturday: 4:30 pm
Thursday before First Friday: 4:00

Parish office hours: Monday thru Thursday - 9 am to 4 pm

Sacrament of Baptism
Arrangements are to be made in advance at the parish office. Parents and Godparents attend a Baptismal Preparation Session prior to the baptism.

Sacrament of Marriage
Couples planning to marry need to talk to a priest at least six months in advance of the wedding.

Sacrament of the Sick
Please call a priest immediately in case of illness. The homebound are urged to have their names placed on the Sunday and First Friday Communion lists.

Parish Care and Concern Prayer Chain
For those needing prayers, please call 781-3085 or 834-3844.

Music Ministry
Stephen Toney, Director / Organist - Phone: 389-4507
Peggy Hoffman, Assistant Director

Faith Formation
139 Church St.
Phone: 781-1042

Elk County Catholic School System
Sam MacDonald, President
600 Maurus Street – Phone: 834-7812

St. Marys Catholic Elementary School
114 Queens Road – Phone: 834-4169
Deborah Slay, Principal

St. Marys Catholic Middle School / Elk County Catholic High School
600 Maurus Street – Phone: 834-7800
John Schneider, Principal

School Finance Office
600 Maurus Street – Phone: 834-7812
Bob Breindel, Director

School Advancement Office - 834-7812
Susan Jansen, Director
Lindsey Straub, Director of Communications – 834-7812

For Director of Admissions
Call: 834-1480
Elementary / Middle / High School

December 23, 2018
LATE ADVENT & OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY

Monday, December 24th
7:00 AM  + Betty Bosnik
Tuesday, December 25th - The Nativity of the Lord
5:00 PM Vigil Monday  + Jack Biskup
10:00 PM Monday Principal Mass
L&D People of the Parish
9:00 AM  + Christine Meyer
Wednesday, December 26th
7:00 AM  Scripture & Communion Service
Thursday, December 27th
7:00 AM  Scripture & Communion Service
6:30 PM  Evening Prayer & Benediction
Friday, December 28th
7:00 AM  + Jerome Cavallini
Saturday, December 29th
7:00 AM  50th Wedding Anniversary of Carl & Pat Pfieue

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY and JOSEPH

6:00 PM - Sat. Vigil -  + Robert & Doris Fritz
7:30 AM  + Thomas Wittman
10:00 AM L&D Members of the Parish

THE SANCTUARY LAMP for the week of December 23rd burns in memory of Cheatle & Smith Families

Gospel Summary & Question of the Week
Read Sunday’s Gospel, Lk 1:39-45

4th Sunday of Advent - Cycle C

Gospel Summary:
Here we are, mere days from Christmas, and we hear a Gospel anticipating the birth of another child. Mary has received word that her cousin Elizabeth is with child. Pregnant as she is, Mary "set out and traveled to the hill country in haste." She has recently received the greatest news of her life - that she is to be mother to the Messiah by the power of the Holy Spirit - but her concern is for her cousin in need. Through God's grace, Elizabeth turns it into an opportunity to honor the coming Christ. "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb." Yet Mary’s example of selflessness should inspire us. As Christmas draws near, there is plenty of goodness to anticipate for many of us. We'll reunite with family and friends, uphold time-honored traditions, swap stories old and new, exchange gifts, and welcome Jesus at the Christmas liturgy. These are wonderful things! Of course, they probably all come with their own to-do list. Shop for last-minute gifts, pick up recipe ingredients, ready the guest room, or pack your own bags. Mary probably had things to do as well. She had a lot to consider, for one thing. How do you plan to tell your parents you're pregnant, but no man was involved? When Joseph finds out, who will care for the practical needs of you and your child? Into what may have been a chaos of questions, Mary receives news that someone is in need. She goes immediately. In these final days before Christmas, stay watchful and awake! You never know when God might invite you to welcome, hospitality, and compassion. It might be tempting to reject the opportunity for your own needs. Follow the example of Mary! If God is providing you an opportunity to love, He will provide the means to accomplish all your other tasks. This Christmas season, may you too hear, "Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled."

Question of the Week:
When was it hardest to trust in God’s plan, as Mary did? What can help you at such times?

MINISTERS' SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER 29th & 30th

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Altar Servers</th>
<th>Eucharistic Ministers</th>
<th>Lectors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:00 PM</td>
<td>Nancy Conway, Eva Feidler, Linda Hoffman</td>
<td>Kathy Meyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bill Miller, Terry Pontzer, Barb Rajchel</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30 AM</td>
<td>Paul Baumgratz, Terry Baumgratz, Angie Bennett</td>
<td>Amy Popielski</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Marvin Riddle, Lori Schreiber, Sue Shaffer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 AM</td>
<td>Wanda Dragone, Marie Giazzoni, Terri Lanzel</td>
<td>Mike Lanzel</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rodney Mills, Rita Peterson, Ken Vogt, Sr.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Greetings: Please feel free to welcome your fellow parishioners at the Mass you are attending. Thank you for your ministry!

Children’s Liturgy of the Word is held at the 10:00 AM Sunday Morning Mass. If your child is between the ages of 5 years old through to third grade, have them participate in this special Children’s Liturgy.

For the Christmas Ministers’ Schedule, please turn to page 3
VOCATION CALENDAR  Please consider joining the Parish 31 Club for Vocations to the Religious Life.

24th  Ada S, Monica Werner
25th  Gale O’Neill, Patty Brennen, Mary Ann
26th  Carol & Barry Lemmert, Timothy Stauffer, Jerry Meyer, Amy Popielski
27th  Mary Beth Schaut, Karen Cheatle, Rose Belsole
28th  Brian, Ann
29th  Kathy Meyer, Cathy Olson, Vivian Schlimm
30th  Hunter Samick, Tom Stauffer, Violet Vollmer

MAKE AN INVESTMENT IN YOUR FUTURE
A wedding is one day; but your marriage is for a lifetime! Invest in your marriage by attending Engagement Encounter. Spend a weekend away from the stress of planning for the wedding, and enjoy the special moments of creating your future marriage together. Call the Family Life Office at 814-824-1261 or familylife@erieRCD.org for more information.

BIBLE STUDY BEING OFFERED
Once again Fr. Michael Gabler, O.S.B. at Sacred Heart Church will go over the Gospel of Matthew beginning January 10th. Thursday evening sessions will be held 7:00 to 8:00 pm in the SH Parish Center Boy Scout room in the basement level. There is no fee and no obligation to attend every meeting.

At this time of the year we are very conscious of our family as we make preparations for Christmas. Try not to be consumed by all the consumer activity. This year appreciate the gift of people in your life. The best gift this season just might be your appreciation of others.

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION SESSIONS
Jan. 8  Queen of the World Church  834-4701
Jan. 23 Holy Rosary Church, Johnsonburg  965-2819
Please call the Church office of the church where you wish to attend to pre-register.

UPCOMING AREA HAPPENINGS

•  Sunday, 12/23: 2:00 pm - Shalom Christmas Concert at the Paul Reitz Theatre, 36 E. Scribner Ave, DuBois. Admission is free and all are welcome to attend.
•  Sunday, 12/23: 3:00 pm - Penance Service - St. Joseph Church, Force. This is the Last Advent Penance Service.
•  Wednesday, 12/26: 4:00 pm - Bowls of Love - A free meal at St. Marys First United Methodist Church.
•  Friday, 12/28: 7:00 am - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at Sacred Heart until 4 pm. Now all day!
•  Monday, 12/31: 6:30 pm - Elk County Catholic Athletic Assoc. “New Year’s Evening BINGO”. Doors open at 5 pm. Sauerkraut & Pork at 5:45 pm. Coverall.

ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY WINNERS
Those recently made happy with the QW Rosary Altar Society drawings were: Mary Ann Weinzierl, Dee & Mike PONTZER and Tom Newman. Congratulations and thank you to everyone who supports the Rosary Altar Society.

BELOVED NIGHTS
The Office of Chastity Education of the Diocese of Erie is offering Beloved Nights on Sunday, January 13 from 4 to 7 p.m. at St. Mary’s Church, 325 Church St. These are evenings for married couples of all ages, as well as engaged couples, to reconnect amidst the busyness of life. Free baby-sitting is offered, with a complimentary dinner provided for children. For more information, go to https://www.eriercd.org/chastity/beloved.html.

QUEEN OF THE WORLD PARISH MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name ____________________________  Phone No. ____________________________
Address ____________________________

Please check one:
I am new in the parish & wish to register
Change of Address  ______ Moving out of Parish
____ Want Envelopes
____ Interested in a Parish Ministry ___________________

MINISTERS’ SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER 24th & 25th

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Altar Servers</th>
<th>Eucharistic Ministers</th>
<th>Lectors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5:00 PM</td>
<td>Ryan Sharrow, Sady VanAlstine</td>
<td>Doug Bauer, Mary Lynn Carnovale, Char Geci</td>
<td>Eileen Erich</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Amy Jacob, Vic Pasi</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 PM</td>
<td>Jenna Feronti</td>
<td>Mary Ann Facetti, Amy Rupprecht, Mary Steele</td>
<td>Sub Requested</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>Thomas Defilippi, Mary Defilippi</td>
<td>Ministers Needed</td>
<td>Ann Caskey</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Keep up to date with “Rooted” Youth Ministry on Social Media!
Twitter: @MinistryRooted
Instagram: @smyouthministry3
Facebook: @SMYouthMin

Please visit disciples.life for the Faith Formation 2018–2019 Program calendar and information or you can call 781-1042. To reach the Youth and Young Adult Minister, contact Scott Becker, at 717-881-5856 or scottbecker28@gmail.com.

CHILD PROTECTION AND CREATING SAFE ENVIRONMENTS…..
Safety Rules Bear Repeating. Research reminds us that teaching children how to resist the overtures of a potential molester requires repetition and reinforcement. Children and young people need to know the rules, and they need to hear them over and over and over again so that the rules become part of a thought process. This is done in the same way we the the rules about looking both ways before crossing the street and the danger of getting too close to an open flame. Empowering children to speak up and resist the overtures of potential molesters can stop a child molester in his or her tracks. To see what the Diocese of Erie is doing to help create safe environments, check out http://www.eriered.org/protectyouth.htm.

DIOCESAN FREE E-NEWSLETTER
Have you subscribed to the Diocese of Erie-news yet? It’s easy and free. To receive your weekly email edition, visit nwpa.Catholic.com, click on the “subscribe” button, and provide a some basic information. Every Monday morning, you’ll receive headlines and photos with links to diocesan, national and Vatican news. You’ll also see a tweet sent out from Bishop Persico or from the diocese. Sign up today!

PRO-LIFE PERSPECTIVE — The Christmas story chronicling Jesus’ life in the womb of Mary and birth in a stable again draws our attention to the humanity of the unborn child and God’s great love and plans for each and every human baby, regardless of the circumstances of the child’s conception or birth.

INTERPARISH FAITH FORMATION CLASSES
Elementary School: Wednesday, Jan. 9th at 6 pm.
Middle School - Sunday, Jan. 6th - at QW 6 pm.
Life Teen - Sunday, Jan. 6th at QW at 6 pm.
Confirmation - Sunday, Jan. 6 at St. Boniface Church, Mass at 5 pm., Catechesis 6 pm.

MAKE THIS A ‘FAMILY’ CHRISTMAS
In his timeless classic, A Christmas Carol, Charles Dickens has left us all a literary legacy on the happiness of celebrating Christmas both in our hearts and in our homes.

If Christmas and the joys it brings have fallen into some remote, dusty corner of your life, this Christmas take steps to resurrect the spirit of Christmas in your life so that you can share once again its incomparable gifts of happiness and hope. To make this transformation in your life so that the miracle of Christmas can once more come alive in you - make it a family Christmas! Make whatever efforts are necessary to be the bond which draws your family members together to experience and to share the “Good News” of Christmas. How do you do that? By keeping in touch. By using a card, a letter, a phone call, a visit to open your life to make room for others to come into that life, by encouraging others’ lives to open, to venture away from a solitary, even lonely existence to taste the unsurpassed happiness of knowing, of sharing the feeling of family, of belonging, of loving.

The home, the family offer untold opportunities to us all to put into practice the virtues of kindness, patience, concern, caring. Christmastime multiples those opportunities even more. Whether you live in a home as a member of a family or in a parish, a neighborhood, a community or a member of an even larger family, you can share and spread the joy of a family Christmas with those around you.

Christmas offers us a golden opportunity to reflect our love of God and our fellow human beings. Remember those, who like Scrooge, do not keep Christmas or who have have forgotten how to keep Christmas. In your own way, through prayer, through the incomparable gift of yourself open their lives to Christmas, to a family Christmas. When you do these things you can be sure that your Christmas will truly be a happy one, a Christmas which will leave its mark on your life and on the lives of others all year long.

Merry Christmas

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK
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814-230-9010

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Dear Parishioners,

The front cover has a catchy saying, “Awake to Love.” It is an Advent reference, that in these final hours of preparation we are so alert for the coming of the Lord. Again, this points to Christmas, yes, but also to that final coming of our Savior to bring us to the fullness of the Reign of God, as well as to the many ways the Lord comes to us. Those ways include most especially our sacramental celebrations of Penance and Eucharist on a regular basis, our prayer lives, our service to others, and those moments of surprise when the Lord reaches into our hearts, our lives, and our world with graces we could never expect. But, “awakening to love” is also a great way to express Christmas. Every child awakens with excitement and yes, with love on Christmas morning. Each of us opens our eyes to a new day every day, and this is a gift of God’s love for us. We share that love, as spouses awaken to each other, family members fumble down the steps in the morning, we spend a moment in prayer to begin our day, we arrive at work with cheerful eagerness, we rummage through our schedule for the day in our minds, looking forward to its joys and challenges, etc. Let this Christmas week remind us that we are called to be alert for love at all times - the Love the Lord brings us in the freshness of a newborn Child. And the Love that we share because we believe that He has saved us. Indeed, let’s be awake to love, and blessed by the Love which awakens us. - - - fr jeff

WELCOME

Welcome to Queen of the World for the 4th Sunday of Advent and for our Christmas liturgies. We are happy that you, our parishioners, join us for these holy days. We welcome visitor from around town and anyone coming, like the Magi, from afar. We welcome home our college students on semester break. And, extended family who are natives of our area and our parish are joining us as well. Finally, to Christians of other denominations and people of all other faiths, we are glad you would come and pray with us. Obviously, more people make the effort to celebrate the Eucharist for Christmas, and that is good. But we also invite you to practice your Catholic faith year-round as a witness to the true meaning of the Lord’s coming among us.

CHRISTMAS

Fr. Jeff and our parish staff offer our prayers and best wishes that you and your family have a blessed, joyous and peace-filled Christmas. Remember that, unlike the world around us, we begin our Christmas celebrating at sundown Monday. It will continue for more that two weeks! So, let those “12 days” of Christmas begin!

Please note the limited Mass schedule and office hours this week as we also spend time with our families. We will be “in and out” so feel free to leave messages or check back during the week.

SO MANY ENVELOPES

We have many envelopes in our monthly packets, and the month of December brings the most. We announce “special collections” from the pulpit and in the bulletin. But still, sometimes we publish the wrong date or take up a collection which surprises you. The main reason for those “special collections” is to offer the opportunity for you to use cash if you don’t have your envelope. Otherwise, you can pretty much put any gift, well-marked, in the regular collection - we will sort it according to your desire for it to go to a certain cause. As long as these are multiple causes, there will be confusion. But we hope this helps you to be sure your gift goes for its intention. We also have some blank envelopes available for you to mark any offering for a specific purpose. Just ask one of our ushers for an envelope. Thank you for your generosity this time of year and always.

CHRISTMAS DINNER AVAILABLE

First United Methodist Church is offering Christmas Day Dinner to anyone who would like either to come or have a meal delivered. To make a reservation or order dinner, call 781-7401. To help prepare, serve, or clean up, call 834-2230.

BENEDICTINE GIFT SHOP

Looking for that last minute special Christmas gift, remember the Benedictine Gift Shop, 139 Church Street. This is the only Christian Gift Shop in a 100 mile radius. They are well stocked with Christmas ornaments, nativity sets, and much, much more. Be sure to stop in. 834-1353.

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Monday, December 24th  
2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-5, 27 and 29 [2]/Lk 1:67-79  
Tuesday, December 25th - The Nativity of the Lord  
Lk 2:1-14  
Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20  
Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3c]/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18  
or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14  
Wednesday, December 26th  
Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3-6, 8ab, 16bc, 17 [6]/Mt 10:17-22  
Thursday, December 27th  
1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn 20:1a, 2-8  
Friday, December 28th  
1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18  
Saturday, December 29th  
1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35  
Sunday, December 30th  
1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/  
Lk 2:41-52