

Feb 2 • 6pm • Rc • Presentation of the Lord
† Charles McHugh

Feb 3 • 10am • J • Blaise
Funeral: Nancy Robel

Feb 4 • Noon • Rc •
† Jenny Susko (1st anniv.)

Feb 6 • 6pm • Rc • Paul Miki & Companions • First Friday
† Julia Sider r/o Donna/Jessica Gulash
Adoration/Divine Mercy/Benediction

• Feb. 7/8 • 5th Sunday of the Year
4pm • J • † Alfred Antonelli r/o Sisters

5:45pm • M • † Ann Zakarevicz r/o Gavin Zakarevicz

8:15am • J • † Bob Stancik r/o Wife, Carol

10am • M • † John F. Washko r/o Son, John



❖ STEWARDSHIP: M: S: 1283; CRS: 129; Campaign: 1100
• J: S: 975; CRS: 293; Campaign: 190
Offered through myEoffering: M: \$248 J: \$60.
Stewardship of time, talent & treasure!

❖ SCRIPTURE: Dt 18:15-20; 1 Cor 7:32-35; Mk 1: 21-28
• Next Week: Jb 7:1-4,6-7; 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23; Mk 1: 29-39

Prayer List: Fill out the forms, even if you're healthy & would like to be prayed for in times of need! If you are family & don't have power of attorney or guardianship, we suggest: write their names in the Book of Intercessions!



Pray for: Dorothy Yanuskiewicz • John Washko
• Rose Ann & Tracey Aponick • Jean & Alice Jarzinko
• Joseph Washko • Ed & Sally McNamee • Jennifer Gilliam
• Margaret Burns • Loretta Zienkiewicz
❖ Birthday: Tom Campanici: 2/1; Cherise Yablonsky, Kathleen Richards, Judith Vasey: 2/2; Tracey Aponick: 2/5; Peg Burns, Dorothy Mattes, Jonathan Biros: 2/6; Melissa Antolick: 2/7; Sara Osilka, Dan Tomtishen: 2/8.

Condolences to the family of Nancy Robel, from St. Joseph's, whose funeral is celebrated this Tuesday. Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord.....

❖ **Altar Servers:** To memorialize one, they are \$200 each! We seek adults to serve: Family/Father/Sons. See Fr.



❖ Our next drawing: **St. Patrick's Day: Tues, March 17th, 7pm, Pa. Evening Daily 4 #; \$2 @.** Tickets sellers/buyers needed!

❖ **St. Joseph's 50/50:** January tickets are: \$2 @!
❖ **Year of St. Mark's Gospel continues!**
Read your Bible!

❖ **Stewardship:** *No one can do everything, everyone can do something!* Offer in Stewardship the offering of a gift you'll be giving for Valentine's Day!

❖ **Men's Spirituality:** We're establishing a "King's Men" regional group that will encourage men to be accountable to the Lord, His Church & each other & live as men of prayer. This is a group distinct from the Knights of Columbus council recently established. We encourage participation in either/both.

Reflection: 4th Sunday of Ordinary Time: Jesus uses his "authority", not in a way that asserts who He is as Lord & God, that will come in the strangest way, by the scandal of the cross. The root of the word "authority" comes from the Latin: "auctor": originator. Jesus has authority not because He is "of God" but because He IS God!

Mark is trying to impress on us the reality that we must confront battles waged between good and evil throughout our lives. As we grow older, those battles become more intense & real. They involve those things that affirm and support our relationship with God and each other and those that seek to destroy those relationships that leave us isolated/alone.

By grace, as followers of Jesus, we have the ability to root out the evil that seeks to destroy us. By what authority? Our baptism into Christ! By baptism God's Life given to us makes us holy. Truly, sometimes the power of evil is greater, that is when we need the help and prayers of others (the reason for our Book of Intercessions) and then there are those times we need the blessing of our priest or even a rite of exorcism. These more serious cases are not to be treated lightly, but the point St. Mark makes is that with Jesus we can confront whatever "demons" there are in our lives that keep us from surrendering ourselves over to the growth and life to which God calls us. The call to die to self is more than "words", it is the call to embrace our identity of who we truly are as sons and daughters of the "living God."

Be a saint...what else is there?

Fr. Jim & 🐾

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❖ **Diocesan Men's Retreat: Feb. 27: 7:30pm-Mar. 1: Noon.** St. Francis Center, Bethlehem. If you are interested in the weekend, contact the parish office. www.cmfd.org

❖ **"Women of Grace":** continues the journey with women gathering for 16 sessions alternating btw Shepton & Ringtown. We expect a deeper prayer life to enhance the lives of participants and families, including the parish family.

❖ **Catholic Men's Conference: King's College, Wilkes Barre: Sat, Ap 25.** \$30 before 3/31; students: \$15. Fr. Larry Richards & Damon Owens, Mike Guman & a presentation on Fr. Vincent Capodanno (the grunt padre). Adoration, Rosary, Confession, Holy Mass: 6am-3pm. The parish will pay for anyone who needs assistance. Fr's & Sons, Men of the Parish are encouraged to attend!

❖ **Knights of Columbus:** Meet: Sun. 2/15, 11:30 @ Rectory, Sheppton.

❖ **Interested in our Catholic faith?** Ask, encourage, invite! Share the gift of faith!

❖ **SCRIP:** Assist your parish: We've \$25 Amazon, \$25 Applebee's, \$10 Arby's, \$10 Burger King; \$10 Bed, Bath & Body, \$25 Cracker Barrel, \$25 Cabela's, \$10 Dairy Queen, \$10 Denny's, \$10 Domino's, \$10 Dunkin Donuts, \$25 Giant, \$25 Home Depot, \$25 iTunes, \$5 KFC, \$25 Weiss, \$10 Long John Silver's, \$25 Lowe's, \$25 Old Country Buffet, \$25 PetSmart, \$10 Pizza Hut, \$25 Regal Theatres, \$25 Sheetz, \$10 Taco Bell, \$10 Wendy's, \$100 & \$25 Walmart on hand. Contact the parish office. When you purchase from us, you receive the full value of the card, we receive % on each. We're looking for disciples to take a Mass @ month to make them available.

❖ **Campaign:** We've entered the 3rd year of our campaign. Your continued stewardship helps make necessary improvements & plans for future projects. As of this year, we can announce that **St. Mary's pledges have brought in \$112,000; St. Joseph's pledges have brought in \$74,000** (with our matching gift still anticipated for our building fund.)

❖ **Taxes:** like the flu, the Season is upon us, if you desire a statement of your stewardship, contact us via the parish office & thank you!



❖ **Ash Wed. Bleenie/Soup Sale:** St. Joseph's: 11:30am 'til sellout. Workers/Soup makers are needed. Signup sheets @ Church. {Monetary donations to help defray expenses are appreciated}

❖ **Soups for Lent:** with Lent in a few weeks, we're planning to sell soups at the weekend Masses. Can you make several quarts for us to sell each week? We'd like to make a calendar as some have already offered to make the reliable & tasty ones, as well as some new recipes! Contact us at the parish office.



❖ Our new bulletin is out & we forgot to thank the **Knights of Columbus** as one of our sponsors. We're always looking for additional/new sponsors! Know someone who might support our endeavor, pass the word about the beauty of our bulletins and the direct effect it has on your parish.

❖ **First Penance/Holy Communion:** meeting for parents/guardians will be held **Mon, Feb. 9th** in the rectory after the 6pm Mass: 6:45pm. Adults only.

❖ **Lent: Ash Wed. is Feb. 18th,** Easter: April 5th! We seek sponsors for our **PASCHAL CANDLES** this year 2015. Contact Fr. via the parish office. The candle is lit on Easter & used throughout the Easter Season, at Sacramental celebrations, especially Baptisms/Funerals.

Our Lenten symbols have arrived, we're looking to make a banner that will accompany the gifts.

Lenten Adult Ed: We're trying something "new"... similar to our Christmas Books, we've ordered 250 books to read during Lent: "The Real Story" by Dr. Edward Sri & Curtis Martin. The cost of the book is \$3 {freewill offering}; payment envelopes will be enclosed in each book. During Lent, we'll host "coffee time" to gather for a brief summary & share faith on the book.

For those who aren't readers, we've ordered 44 dvd's of "Ordinary Live/Extraordinary Mission" on the Saints and choosing to live like one in today's world. For our youth, they are free, adults: \$3.

❖ **Christmas Gift Books:** fyi, we received several donations to cover the cost of the books, [if you'd like to donate, feel free]. Feedback is very positive, touching thoughts on how much the devil was after St JP II throughout his life, his love of the Eucharist & the Rosary & comments on his "encounter" with youth & a president.

❖ **Block Party/Picnic:** Time to start planning, especially our **basket raffle** and **gifts for our ticket!**

St. Mary's is hosting a meeting: 2/11 @ 6pm, Barb/Dave Osilka's home (345 Ringtown Blvd.)

St. Joseph's will be scheduling theirs in the near future.

❖ **Visit us on the web:** stmarystjoseph.net

"Like" us: [facebook.com/stmarystjosephrcc](https://www.facebook.com/stmarystjosephrcc)



St. Joseph's: 4:30pm: Mass & Distribution of Ashes;

St. Mary's: 6:30pm

Liturgy of the Word & Distribution of Ashes

❖ **Outside Events:** ➤ **Chili Sale:** St. Paul's UCC; \$6.50 @ quart. Order by 2/22, pick up 2/24 from 4pm-6pm; Call Janice @ 570-889-3494. ➤ **Blood Drive:** Ringtown Fire & Rescue, 2/24, 2pm-7pm. ➤ **"Gun @ Week for a Year":** Sheppton & other Area Fire Co.'s: \$30 each. 384-4746.

➤ **Ringtown Food Pantry Walk-a-thon:** April.

