

Families and the Gospel Holy Family Lk 2:41-52 Today's gospel contains this truth about parenting: "but his parents did not know." One of the reasons parenting is so difficult is because our children don't tell us everything. If the Holy Family had trouble with their teenager, why do we think it will be easier for us?

2025 Children Envelopes are available in the Gathering Space. Even though our children do not have a regular income (aside from a possible allowance), they still need to begin learning about what the Bible teaches about being a generous and sacrificial giver. If you would like your child to participate in type of giving, please take a packet and provide your child's name and the envelope # on the list provided.

On Monday, January 20, 2025, the Knights of Columbus is sponsoring a bowling and pizza party at the Bavarian Hall in Altoona, PA for K-12 students from the St. Joseph and St. Matthew parishes as well as a guest from 1-3pm. Please sign up in the gathering space.

This is Christmas celebrating the Heart of Christmas on Monday, December 30th at 6 pm at The Basilica of St. Michael the Archangel in Loretto, PA invites you to a night of Christmas music performed by the Basilica Choir and the St. Michael Children's Choir. Enjoy the music and the beauty of our basilica during the Christmas Season! Make plans to join us!

The Christmas Radio Station – WTRN 100.7 and 96.9 FM and 1340 AM in Tyrone. Listen to continuous Christmas music and hear Father Michael's Christmas Message.

THIRTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL RESPECT LIFE MARCH - Sunday January 19, 2025, 12:00 NOON - Prayer Service at St. Matthew Church in Tyrone, followed by the 1.25 mile walk to Oak Grove Cemetery to the grave of Baby Agnes Doe, for another short prayer service. A hot luncheon will be served in the parish hall after the march.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR ILL AND HOMEBOUND (Dec. 1 to June 1, 2025) Sue Chambers, Jack Chambers, Virginia Frantz, Martha Hagg, John Lewis, Rose Long, Mary Jane Shank, Harry Sickler, Dorothy Smyder, Jeff Wevodau, Rachel Harshman Wiggins, Esther Zane

THANK YOU to all who purchased Christmas Flowers and wreaths. *Your intentions are posted on the bulletin boards in the vestibule, on the parish website, and copies available in the gathering space.* We once again say "Thank you" to Rozick's greenhouse for the lovely flowers, wreaths in the gathering space, and greens at the entrance doors.

CHURCH CHRISTMAS UNDECORATING will take place on Sunday, January 12th at 11:30 am, right after the 10:30 Mass.

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BLESSED BONDS OF LOVE AND CARE



"Jesus' parents found him sitting in the temple surrounded by the teachers." Luke 21: 28

THOUGHTS ON STEWARDSHIP AS A WAY OF LIFE

"See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are." 1 John 3: 1

During this season of giving, let us remember a beautiful gift that we have received – being children of God! As God's children, it's in our DNA that we share and express our love for others as well. Tell your spouse, children, other family members and friends that you love them, every day! Also, pray for those people that are different than you, those that you may not like or those that go out of their way to annoy you. Your prayers may be the start of a new friendship.

**SAINT MATTHEW
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
1105 Cameron Avenue
Tyrone, PA 16686**

Pastor: Reverend Father Michael Pleva
Phone: (814) 684-1480 (Parish Office & Rectory)
Fax: (814) 684-7969
Website: www.church.stmatthew-school.org
Email: stmatthewtyrone@gmail.com

Parish Office Staff:
Financial & Administrative Assistant: **Deborah Zakrzwski**

Office Hours:
Monday 9:00 am to 12:00 pm
Wednesday & Friday 8:30 am to 3:30 pm

Director of Religious Education: Lauren Wright
Call: (814) 312-0969 or email: lwright@dioceseaj.org

Director of Music: Leslie Estep
Call: (814) 684-4899 or email: lme458@verizon.net

Elementary to High School Classes: (Grades K-11):
Sunday mornings 9:00 am to 10:15 am (weekly during the school year)

OCIA: Susan Burkholder (814) 684-0352

Pastoral Council - Jason Terosky (814) 883-0077
Finance Council - Dennis Rozick (814) 684-5511

Saint Matthew Catholic School
"serving our community since 1869"
Principal: Pauline Wiley
School Phone: (814) 684-3510
School web-site: www.stmatthew-school.org

We welcome all visitors. If you live in the area, please call the Parish Office to register and become an active member of our parish family.

If you would like to have a MASS celebrated for the deceased members of your family, or friends, or for special intentions, please stop by or call the parish office.



December 29, 2024

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Weekend Mass Schedule: Saturday at 5:30 pm
Sunday at 7:30 am
Sunday at 10:30 am

Weekday Mass Schedule: Wed., Thurs. & Friday at 8:00 am
Holy Day of Obligation Mass Schedule: 9:00 am & 6:00 pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday at 12:30 pm
or anytime upon request.

Mass Schedule & Intentions

December 28, 2024 – January 5, 2025

Sat. 5:30 pm Megan Fortney - Family
Sun. 7:30 am Rosalie & Salvatore Cannistraci –
Mary Jane Cornelius
Sun. 10:30 am William and Hulda Engelman - Estate
Mon. 8:00 am St. Joseph

Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God – Holy Day of Obligation
Tues. 6:00 pm St. Joseph
Wed. 9:00 am St. Matthew For the People

Thurs. 8:00 am James Fleming – Mary & Jim Farrell
Fri. 8:00 am Art Swope – Zakrzwski Family
Fri. 8:30-9:30 am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament followed by Benediction
Sat. 5:30 pm Rob Hampton – Robert Hampton
Sun. 7:30 am For the People
Sun 10:30 am Donna Pavlic – John Pavlic



Sanctuary Candle for the week of December 29th is in memory of the deceased members of the family and friends of the Zakrzwski family.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES SCHEDULE

Weekdays S McNelis

Solemnity of Mary, Assignments

January 1, 2025 – 9:00 am

Lectors: S McNelis, J Ieraci, S Burkholder

Eucharistic Minister: L Wright

Altar Servers: J Gilliland, B Wright

Weekend Assignments

Lectors – Jan. 4 and 5, 2025

Sat. 5:30 pm R Bunch, S Burkholder, T Jeffries

Sun. 7:30 am S Zakrzwski, D Zakrzwski

Sun. 10:30 am A Brisbin, DD Murray,
K Auman-Gooding

Extraordinary Ministers Eucharist Jan. 4 and 5, 2025

Sat. 5:30 pm † P Lambert, C Golden, K Raffetto

Sun. 7:30 am † M Rozick, B Rozick, K Hoyne

Sun. 10:30 am † D Castagnola, S Stoner, J Terosky

Altar Servers: Jan. 4 and 5, 2025

Sat. 5:30 pm G Vaughn, B Ciampoli

Sun. 10:30 am D Castagnola, L Castagnola

Financial Report – December 22, 2024

Regular Weekly (Sunday) Collection \$5,945 \$9(children)

Beginning July 1, 2024 and Ending June 30, 2025

Year to date Sunday Collection Income \$ 135,228

2024 Year to date Bingo Net Income	\$ 36,922
Second Collection	\$ 359
SMS Catholic School Envelopes	\$ 172
Religious Education Envelopes	\$ 100
Good Samaritan	\$ 10

2024 Catholic Ministries Drive **TARGET** \$ 29,219

CMD Donations for 2024 \$ 87,513

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND GENEROSITY! Please remember that one can have a lot of money but still live a really poor life and one can have no money at all and live a really rich life, that's because what makes a person truly rich is not how much they have but how much they give.

Stewardship Reflection

Today's Gospel reading on the Feast of the Holy Family gives us a glimpse into the childhood of Jesus with his Mother, Mary, and his foster father, Joseph. This is a family like no other – consisting of the very Son of God, Mary the Queen of all Saints, and St. Joseph the patron of the Universal Church. Yet as we see in today's Scripture passage, they led a life typical of the families of their day. They experienced many of the same joys and trials that all parents and children experience, even today. And so, we can look to this Family for help in our own family lives and see in them a model of Stewardship in family life.

On this Feast of the Holy Family, let us reclaim the beauty and importance of family life. Let's commit to steward our families well in 2025, making time spent with God and practicing our faith the most important appointments on our family calendars. And let's make 2025 a year in our parish like never before. Happy Feast Day, parish family!

THE CHRISTMAS SEASON CONTINUES with today's **Feast of the Holy Family**, January 1st **Feast of Mary Mother of God**, and next Sunday's celebration of **Epiphany**. We are only in the midst of the "12 days of Christmas" so keep the spirit of the 2-week Christmas SEASON alive! *Contrary to the commercialism that surrounds us and ends on Christmas, Dec. 25th, let us Christians keep singing carols, exchanging gifts with family and friends, lighting indoor and outdoor decorations, and wishing peace and good will to all!*

Feast of the Holy Family - Scripture tells us practically nothing about the first years and the boyhood of the Child *Jesus*. All we know are the facts of the sojourn in Egypt, the return to Nazareth, and the incidents that occurred when the 12 yr. old boy accompanied his parents to Jerusalem. In her liturgy the Church hurries over this period of Christ's life with equal brevity. The general breakdown of the family, prompted the popes, especially the Pope Leo XIII, to promote the observance of this feast with the hope that it might instill into Christian families something of the faithful love and the devoted attachment that characterize the family of Nazareth.

The primary purpose of the Church in instituting and promoting this feast is to present the Holy Family as the model and exemplar of all Christian families.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT - Journey Through loss is a nine-week program for those who have lost a loved one through death recently or in the past. The program provides the opportunity to share or to listen and offers positive ideas for coping. The next session begins on Tuesday, January 21. We will meet weekly from 1:30 to 3:00 pm in the convent building next to St. Michael's Church in Hollidaysburg. All faiths are welcome. For more information or to register contact Mary Petrak at 814-502-6076.

All Saints Parish in Bowell (Somerset County) will host their annual signing of **Polish Christmas Carols** (known as *Koledy* or *Pastorki*) on Sunday, January 5th, at 2 pm at the church (325 Quemahoning Street, Boswell). The hymns will be sung by their Polish choir. Following the singing of hymns by the parish's Polish choir, there will be benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and refreshments. *Koledy* help to capture some of the finest sentiments, values, and emotions of the Polish religious, national, and artistic heritage. Polish Christmas customs are very rich; whether you are Polish or not, please come and experience the time-honored hymns celebrating the birth of Christ. For more information leas call the parish office at 814-629-5551.

Ethnic Bus Tour - Our Lady Queen of Angels Parish in Central City will host a bus pilgrimage on Saturday January 11th to visit the Nationality Rooms at the Cathedral of Learning of the University of Pittsburgh and two historic ethnic churches. The Nationality Rooms, uniquely adorned with accurate architecture and furnishings from thirty-one different nationalities, are a true treasure of Western Pennsylvania. Following the tour, Mass will be celebrated at the "Polish Cathedral of Pittsburgh," Immaculate Heart of Mary Church and there will be a tour of historic St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church. Bus pick up locations at Central

City, Boswell, and Latrobe. The cost is per person is \$70 and includes dinner. To register please call the parish (814) 754-5224.



The Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown will launch the local observance of the Jubilee Year 2025 with a special Mass on Sunday, December 29 at 2:00 pm at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Altoona, with Bishop Mark as celebrant and priests of the diocese as concelebrants. All Catholics are warmly invited to attend.

This upcoming Jubilee Year is a special time of grace for all Catholics during which we will highlight the hope that we share in Christ and share with each other. Bishop Mark has designated 13 parishes as "Holy Sites" for the Jubilee Year:

- Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Altoona
- Saint John Gualbert Cathedral in Johnstown
- Basilica of Saint Michael the Archangel in Loretto
- Immaculate Conception in Dudley
- Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Altoona
- Our Lady of the Alleghenies in Lilly
- Our Lady Queen of Angels in Central City
- Our Lady of Victory in State College
- Queen of Archangels in Clarence
- Saint Joseph Mission Church in Carrolltown
- Saint Mary in Shade Gap
- Seven Dolors of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Bean's Cove
- Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Johnstown

The faithful are invited to visit any or all of those 13 sites as a pilgrimage experience during the Jubilee.