



ST. JOAN OF ARC CATHOLIC CHURCH

359 WEST AREBA AVE, HERSHEY, PA 17033

DECEMBER 6, 2020

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday: 8:00 am - 12:00 pm & 1:00 - 4:00 pm

Sunday: Closed

Phone: (717) 533-7168 Fax: (717) 520-0526

Email: office@stjoanhershey.org

Website: www.stjoanhershey.org

PARISH OFFICE

(717) 533-7168

Rev. Alfred Sceski, Pastor Ext. 102

Rev. Kenneth Roth, Parochial Vicar Ext. 104

Rev. Modestus Ngwu, O.P., In Residence

Rev. Paul Oye, O.P., In Residence

Deacon Rodrigue Mortel, M.D.

John Triscik, Youth Coordinator Ext. 128

Jerry Crawford, Parish Manager Ext. 107

Michelle Gutshall, Finance Manager Ext. 103

Matt Dunkle, Director of Facilities Ext. 127

Michael Davis, Director of Music Ext. 109

Ayana Elmore, Dir. of Communications & IT Ext. 121

Earl Tropp, Director of Religious Education Ext. 122

Susan Robison, Parish Secretary Ext. 100

Mary Butch, Census Secretary Ext. 115

Betty Roksandic, REP Secretary Ext. 124

REP Program Ext. 306

SCHOOL OFFICE

(717) 533-2854

Sr. Eileen M. McGowan, D.M., Principal Ext. 118

Deb Rizzotto, Development Director Ext. 123

W.I.N.G.S. Program Ext. 117

HOSPITAL EMERGENCIES

(717) 857-5695

CONVENT

(717) 533-2864

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT:

We, the Eucharistic Community of St. Joan of Arc Parish, by the grace of God and through our participation in His Word, the Church's sacraments, and prayer, seek our eternal salvation.

We live out the doctrines and traditions of our Faith in communion with the holy, catholic, and apostolic Church, established by Our Lord Jesus Christ.

With courage, we follow the example of our patron saint and invoke her intercession as we strive to know God, love God, and serve God which moves us to actively promote and live the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the midst of our every



MASS SCHEDULE

MORNING MASSES

SUNDAY

7:30 am, 9:30 am (live), 11:30 am

MONDAY - FRIDAY

6:45 am, 9:00 am (live)

SATURDAY

9:00 am (live)

LOCATION

359 W Areba Ave, Hershey PA

EVENING MASSES

SATURDAY & SUNDAY

5:00 pm

LOCATION

1525 Sand Hill Road, Hummelstown PA



FROM THE PASTOR

- ✠ Thank you to all of you who have been supportive of our Christmas Raffle. It is proving to be a great success.
- ✠ Reminder that our “Christmas in the Air” Event takes place on December 12 from 6 to 8 PM. The barn behind the school on Sand Hill will become the stable in Bethlehem (or our American idea of the stable at Bethlehem!). Our SJA Children’s Choir will sing, we will have luminaries lighting the way and a bonfire to warm us, and a drawing of the winners of our Christmas Raffle. Simple refreshments will be available. Come and begin to get into the Christmas spirit. I think we can all use “a little Christmas now!”
- ✠ Another reminder that I cannot reply to anonymous letters. Please sign any letter that you send to the parish or to me personally. I promise I will try to address your concerns or clarify some misunderstandings.
- ✠ The wearing of a mask at Mass is a sign of putting into practice the great command of Jesus, “Love your neighbor!” I have been receiving emails and letters from concerned parishioners about some parishioners not wearing masks and social distancing at Mass. These concerns are raised almost exclusively from our elderly parishioners. Please wear your mask and try to keep a distance between your family and others. Thank you!
- ✠ My Christmas letter will be coming soon. On the last page is the Christmas Mass Schedule. Put it on your refrigerator or tack it to a bulletin board. **Remember: Masses, whether in the Church or Sand Hill gymnasium, or being livestreamed in the Parish Social Hall, Areba Avenue gym, WILL ALL START AT THE SAME TIME!** There are NO “overflow” Masses. We are not waiting until we get to capacity in one place before we start another. Just go to wherever you feel comfortable attending Mass and everything will start at the same time! Any questions, give us a call.
- ✠ While we look forward to Christmas, don’t forget to have a good and holy Advent!!!

Father Al



SENDING OUR CONDOLENCES

Please pray for the souls of **Rose Marie Brommer, mother of Father Brommer** who died recently. The parish community of St. Joan of Arc extends our deepest sympathies to their families and friends on their loss.

PARISH PRAYER INTENTIONS

The following parishioners or family members are ill. Please remember them, and all the sick of our parish, in your prayers: **David Lynch, Drew Fischer, Tracy Habacivch, Larry & Sharon Shindel, Grubb Family, Kokenvie Family, Barbara Kayser, Susan Peters, Mort Kayser, Joseph Grecia, and the Schilnder Family.**



With Much Gratitude...

We wish to thank the sponsor of the week for advertising in our parish bulletin:
GOOD'S AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE, INC.



HOLIDAY MASSES

CHRISTMAS EVE

Time	Mass Location	Livestream Rooms	Building Location
2:00 pm	Church	Social Hall & Gymnasium	Areba Avenue
2:00 pm	School Gymnasium	Cafeteria	Sand Hill Road
4:00 pm	Church	Social Hall & Gymnasium	Areba Avenue
4:00 pm	School Gymnasium	Cafeteria	Sand Hill Road
8:00 pm	Church	Social Hall & Gymnasium	Areba Avenue
12:00 am Midnight	Church	Social Hall & Gymnasium	Areba Avenue

CHRISTMAS DAY

9:00 am	Church	Social Hall & Gymnasium	Areba Avenue
11:00 am	Church	Social Hall & Gymnasium	Areba Avenue



MASS INTENTIONS & WEEKLY READINGS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 7: MEMORIAL OF SAINT AMBROSE, BISHOP AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Is 35:1-10; Lk 5:17-26

6:45 AM Amy Halstead

9:00 AM Marie Sakse

6:00 PM Sharon McQuate

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8: SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Gn 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

6:45 AM Theresa Freisen

9:00 AM Holy Souls in Purgatory

7:00 PM Aaron David Vargo

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9: SAINT JUAN DIEGO CUAUHTLATOATZIN

Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30

6:45 AM Thomas Bruckner

9:00 AM Marie Rafferty

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10: OUR LADY OF LORETO

Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15

6:45 AM Bill Smith, Jr.

9:00 AM Col. Robert V. Lewis and Jeffrey Michael Lewis

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11: SAINT DAMASUS I, POPE

Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19

6:45 AM Clarence Stuck

9:00 AM Rosemary Krupa Strish

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12: FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Zec 2:14-17; Lk 1:26-47

9:00 AM Shirley Sapphire

5:00 PM Steno Verrazzani

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13: THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

John witnesses to one who is to come, one far mightier than he, one who will proclaim freedom and deliverance from sin and death. As we await his coming again in glory, let us join with Mary in singing the praises of God.

7:30 AM People of the Parish

9:30 AM Bertha Pifer and Theresa Hittle

11:30 AM John J., John E. and Ida Feeney

5:00 PM Robert Damiani



YOUTH NEWS

LIFE TEEN (HIGH SCHOOL)

We will meet in the social hall from 6:15-7:30 pm.

This Week: "Participate" As we are in the 2nd week of Advent, we will conclude our short series on Miracles. How can we be open to the Holy Spirit to work in and through us to see miracles today?

Next Week: "Life Teen Reconciliation Service" As we prepare to celebrate Christmas, Life Teen will have the opportunity to prepare our hearts with the Sacrament of Reconciliation. For many of us, it's been a long time since we have gone so may we take advantage of this opportunity.

*** During Life Teen, everyone is required to wear a mask and to practice social distancing. Teens who have been around anyone with Covid-19 or have had any symptoms, please stay home. If you have recently traveled outside of the Hershey area, please stay home for at least a two week quarantine period. ***

📧 [John Triscik: jtriscik@stjoanhershey.org](mailto:jtriscik@stjoanhershey.org)



EDGE (MIDDLE SCHOOL)

Edge is for grades 6-8 and meets on the 1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month from 7:00-8:00 pm via Zoom.

Edge meets next on December 16 for our White Elephant Gift Exchange. Bring a wrapped gift (\$5-\$10 value) to share. We will meet in the gym on Areba Avenue.

📧 [John Triscik: jtriscik@stjoanhershey.org](mailto:jtriscik@stjoanhershey.org)

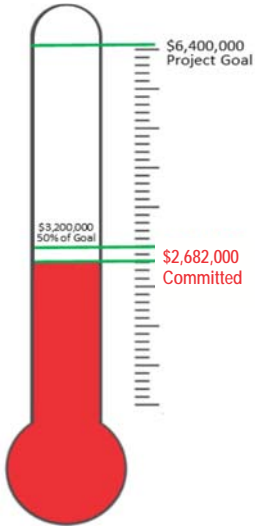
ADULT FAITH

YOUNG ADULTS (21-39)

Calling all young adults between the ages of 21-39, married or single! We meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month from 7:00-8:00 pm via Zoom.

We meet next on December 9 for our Annual White Elephant Gift Exchange. Bring a wrapped gift (\$5-\$10 value). We'll meet in the gym on Areba Avenue.

📧 [John Triscik: jtriscik@stjoanhershey.org](mailto:jtriscik@stjoanhershey.org)



New gifts and pledges to our Centennial Project 2020 amounted to \$29,000 for the past week. Thank you for your generous commitment to the faith, worship, and the education missions of St. Joan of Arc Parish.

There is still time to take advantage of the tax breaks for charitable giving for 2020. Just to highlight a few:

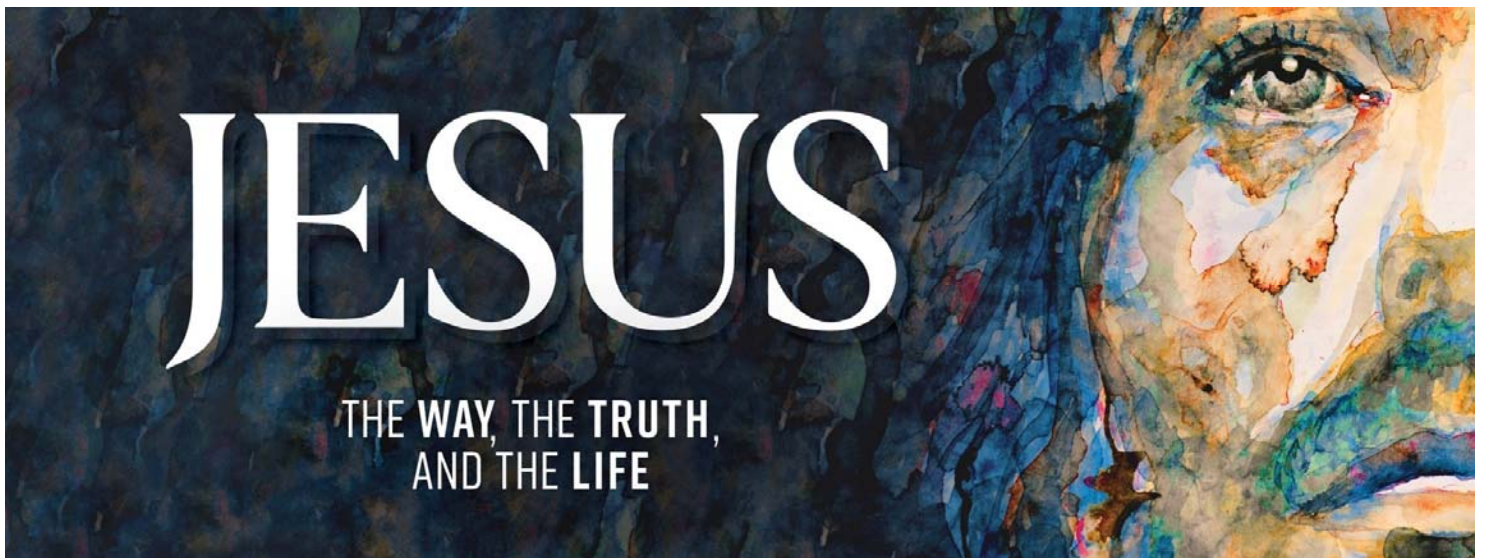
- All charitable cash contributions to qualifying organizations are deductible up to 100% of your adjusted gross income (AGI).
- Up to \$300 of charitable donations can be deducted from your AGI even if you don't itemize.
- A corporation can claim a charitable income tax deduction up to 25% of the corporation's taxable income.
- Charitable Gifts of Required Minimum Distributions (RMD) for qualifying retirement plans for those 72 years of age and up are 100% deductible.
- Please consult with your financial advisor to review the options that benefit your particular tax plan.

Other creative methods of tax deductible giving include:

- Gifts of Stock which have reached new highs on the indices.
- Gifts of Real Estate which are deductible at appraised value.
- Online giving with automatic payments.

For more information on the various opportunities to give, please contact Jerry Crawford at the Parish Office. 717-533-7168 ext. 107 or jcrawford@stjoanhershey.org.

For more information on how you can help, please visit www.stjoanhershey.org/TheCentennialProject



Jesus is our savior, our redeemer, our Lord, and our God. Our belief in Jesus is what makes us who we are as Catholics, as Christians, but do we really know him as we should? Is Jesus a part of your life, or is he at the center of your life as he should be? We invite you to make him the center of your life by joining us for Jesus: The Way, the Truth, and the Life, a 10-week video study program that explores the entirety of Jesus' life and what he means for us as Catholics today. St. Joan of Arc will begin the Jesus study on **January 12, 2021** at 10:00 am in person and 7:00 pm via Zoom. Participants will meet every week to view an engaging video presentation by Marcellino D'Ambrosio, Jeff Cavins, and Edward Sri, followed by a lively group discussion and fellowship.

An informational presentation will be held on **December 8** at 10:30 am in person in the Parish Social Hall as well as at 7:00 pm on Zoom. Please contact Earl Tropp at etropp@stjoanhershey.org or at 717 533-7168 x122 to make a reservation.

✝ MINISTRY NEWS

MASS INTENTION REQUESTS

The 2021 Mass Book is open. You can schedule up to 4 intentions for the year for \$10 each. You can order online or pick up a form at the parish office. A post card confirming your dates will be mailed to you. You can complete a request online.

📍 www.stjoanhershey.org/store/p74/intentions.html

RESPECT LIFE

A Prayer to our Lady of Guadalupe

Virgin of Guadalupe, Patroness of unborn children, we implore your intercession for every child at risk of abortion. Help expectant parents to welcome from God the priceless gift of their child's life. Console parents who have lost that gift through abortion, and lead them to forgiveness and healing through the Divine Mercy of your Son. Teach us to cherish and to care for family and friends until God calls them home. Help us never to see others as burdens. Guide our public officials to defend each and every human life through just laws. Inspire us all to bring our faith into public life, to speak for those who have no voice. We ask this in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, who is Love and Mercy itself. Amen. — *2010 Respect Life Liturgy Guide, USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities*

GIVING TREE PROGRAM

The Christmas Giving Tree Program, sponsored by the St. Vincent de Paul Society, will look different this year. This year we are **asking for donations to St. Vincent de Paul Society by December 13** either electronically on the church's online giving page under St. Vincent de Paul Giving Tree or you can drop your donation in a separate envelope marked St. Vincent de Paul Giving Tree and place in collection or at the Church office.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Knights of Columbus would like to thank our parishioners for their tremendous generosity during our recent Food Drive and Diaper Collection. We collected nearly 350 pounds of food for the Hershey Food Bank and 850 diapers for Lourdeshouse. Each organization also received almost \$500 in financial donations from this collection. This is just one of the many charitable activities conducted by the Knights. Visit our website to see what else we do.

📍 www.kofc6693.org

WE'RE HIRING

St. Joan of Arc is seeking a part-time custodian to work 16-20 hours per week for \$20/hour. Flexible schedule.

✝ MINISTRY NEWS

ROAD TO KINDNESS

We want to share some words from Father Al's 2019 Advent bulletin column, words that truly bring out the spirit and help us prepare for the beautiful Advent Season.

"Take some time each night to sit quietly in prayer, light a candle or dim the lights, calm your body and soul from the labors of the day—and contemplate the great mystery of the transcendent God taking on our human nature in that little babe in Bethlehem and of His coming again at the end of time to be the Judge of all creation. Slow down during this season of Advent (you know how hard that is to do when the world is pushing you to go faster, faster, faster!) and gently dwell in the presence of the Lord in prayer. It will, without a doubt, be the best preparation for Christmas you could ever imagine!"

Let's all become inspired to slow down, pray and prepare for the Advent Season. It is also a beautiful time of the year to share your kindness! We thank everyone for embracing our Advent Kindness Program! There are some wonderful Kindness Acts listed in our 25 Acts of Kindness during the Advent Season. We have heard from several families that they are completing a daily Kindness Act! You are an inspiration to all of us! Thank you to every family that is following God's Way – "The Road to Kindness" for this Advent Season! Blessings to you! Enjoy this wonderful Advent Season and have a week filled with kindness!

**TURN IN
YOUR ARTICLES
EARLY!**

R E M I N D E R :

Please take note of the early bulletin deadlines for the rest of the year.

All requests must be submitted by 9:00 am.

Bulletin	Article Deadline	
December 13	Monday	November 30
December 20	Monday	December 7
December 27	Monday	December 14
January 3	Friday	December 18



St. Joan of Arc School
Deb Rizzotto
Director of Development
329 W. Areba Avenue
Hershey, PA 17033
717 533-2854

Would you like Your PA state tax dollars to go directly to St. Joan of Arc School?

Did you know that if you pay more than \$3500 (Line 12 of your PA income Tax Return) in PA taxes you may be eligible to receive a 90% tax credit for a contribution to the Pennsylvania State EITC scholarship fund program that helps students afford tuition at a St. Joan of Arc. Families who join the Central Pennsylvania Scholarship Fund will receive a tax credit for 90% of the amount pledged, all of which will be given to the school in the form of a donation. (For example if you owe \$3500 in PA taxes, and you make a contribution with the attached agreement to St. Joan of Arc for \$3500, 90% or \$3150 will go to St. Joan of Arc, while your PA tax liability is reduced to \$350)

Your contributions could provide assistance to our school in the following ways:

- Enable the school to offer increased financial aid to more families.
- As participation in the program is for 2 years at a time it will allow us better planning.
- By increasing our funding for financial aid this may help us to keep our tuition costs as low as possible for all students and their families.
- Once a contributor joins the program they are able to continue renewing every two years indefinitely – so the donation could potentially become a long-term blessing to our school and its students.

To learn more you can visit www.pennsylvaniaeitc.org & fill out the attached joinder agreement.

If you have additional questions contact Deb Rizzotto, Director of Development, St. Joan of Arc School at 717 533-2854.

You may drop off or mail your completed application at St. Joan of Arc School (Attn: Tax Credits / Deb Rizzotto)

Please Note: The school is not able to offer professional tax advice. Please consult with your own tax professional to determine whether this program is right for you.