



# ST. JOAN OF ARC CATHOLIC CHURCH

359 WEST AREBA AVE, HERSHEY, PA 17033

## FEBRUARY 5, 2023

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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

**Address:** 305 West Areba Avenue, Hershey PA 17033

**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. Joshua Weaver, Parochial Vicar

Ext. 104

Rev. Christopher Oranyeli, O.P., In Residence

Deacon Joseph Gusherowski

Deacon Paul Koester

John Triscik, Youth Coordinator

Ext. 128

Jerry Crawford, Parish Manager

Ext. 107

Michelle Gutshall, Finance Manager

Ext. 103

Michael Davis, Director of Music

Ext. 109

Earl Tropp, Director of Religious Education

Ext. 122

Colene Swartz, Parish Secretary

Ext. 100

Bridget Brickley, Office Administrator

Ext. 112

Betty Roksandic, REP Secretary

Ext. 124

REP Program

Ext. 306

### SCHOOL OFFICE

(717) 533-2854

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

Ext. 118

Faris Beshara, Assistant Principal

Ext. 124

Deb Rizzotto, Development Director

Ext. 123

### HOSPITAL EMERGENCIES

(717) 857-5695

### CONVENT

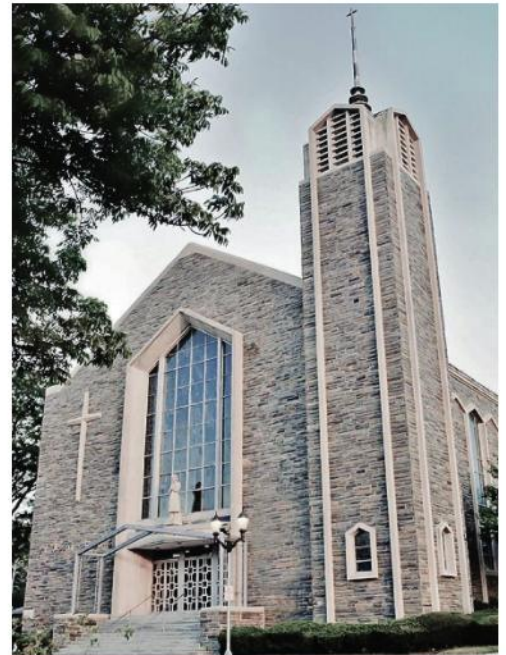
(717) 533-2864

### 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 day life.



## MASS SCHEDULE

### SATURDAY VIGIL

5:00 pm

### SUNDAY MASS

7:30 am

9:30 am (*livestreamed*)

11:30 am

5:00 pm

### DAILY MASS

Monday - Friday

6:45 am & 9:00 am (*livestreamed*)

Saturday

9:00 am (*livestreamed*)

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Wednesday

5:00-5:30 pm

Saturday

4:00-4:45 pm

5<sup>th</sup>  
Sunday  
in  
Ordinary  
Time

“Your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.”

*Matthew 5:16*

# FROM THE PASTOR

Last week, I gave you some statistics on where our parish ranks next to the other parishes in the diocese when it comes to finances. This week, I want to give you some stats about our parish specifically. If you recall, I mentioned that we are the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest parish in the diocese with almost 2600 families. We are an active, thriving and growing parish. Just a few stats to tell you a little more about Saint Joan's:

- Of the nearly 2600 families, we have 6,789 individuals.
- In 2022, we had:
  - \* 75 Baptisms
  - \* 72 First Holy Communions
  - \* 79 Confirmations
  - \* 23 Weddings
  - \* 58 Funerals

When your baptisms exceed your funerals, you are a healthy parish. The numbers for First Holy Communions, Confirmations and Weddings are all good, although they have come down a bit over the past number of years. Regarding the age groups in our parish, here are some interesting statistics.

- 22% of our parishioners are under 21 years of age
- 27% are between the age of 21 and 40
- 34% are between the age of 40 and 60
- 17% are 60 and over

Do you realize what this means? 61% of our parish is between the ages of 21 and 60! We have a VERY young parish. Now, to be cautious, we have to admit that these are REGISTERED members. Not everyone is coming to Mass, not everyone is participating in the life of the parish, not everyone is involved, not everyone is financially supporting the parish. We need to EVANGELIZE and bring people back! More on that in the weeks to come.

*Father Al*



## PARISH PRAYER INTENTIONS

The following parishioners or family members are ill. Please remember them, and all the sick of our parish, in your prayers: **Kathleen Weiss, William Claypoole, Philip & Patricia Spagnolo, Maggie & Dave Dull, Diane Holubek, Rosemary Connolly, Christopher Jordan, Fred Bender, Rosemarie Marone, Barbara Kayser, and Mary Beth Sheehan.**

## ALTAR FLOWERS

Dates are available to memorialize or dedicate for a loved one. Please call the parish office at (717) 533-7168.

### Altar Flower Pricing:

- Main Altar Vase-\$75 each
- Mary and Joseph-\$50 each
- Respect Life Roses-\$8 each



### Save the Date!

The Knights of Columbus Fish Fry:  
**February 24 & March 10**  
in the parish social hall.

Come and enjoy,  
Fish, Fries and  
Mac & Cheese.



### Collection Counters

### Volunteer Opportunity- Collection Counters

Are you searching for an opportunity to help out your parish? Do you have a few hours on a Monday morning?

We are looking for money counters to help out on a Monday morning with the collections. Approval is required by Fr. Al. **If you are interested and are available at that time, please email Michelle Gutshall at [mgutshall@stjoanhershey.org](mailto:mgutshall@stjoanhershey.org)**



We will collect last year's palms  
the weekend of  
**February 12 and February 19.**  
Look for baskets in the  
vestibule of the Church.

We wish to thank the sponsor of the week  
for advertising in our parish bulletin:

**TRAVEL DREAMS UNLIMITED**



## MASS INTENTIONS & WEEKLY READINGS

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6: MEMORIAL OF SAINT PAUL MIKI AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS

Gn 1:1-19; Mk 6:53-56

6:45 AM Thomas Carney  
9:00 AM Special Intentions for  
Mr. & Mrs. J. Hesburgh

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7:

Gn 1:20-2:4a; Mk 7:1-13

6:45 AM Ida Pugliese  
9:00 AM Frank Pecaitis, Jr.

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8:

Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17; Mk 7:14-23

6:45 AM Eleanor McElhinney  
9:00 AM Adam P. Schnupp & Family

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9:

Gn 2:18-25; Mk 7:24-30

6:45 AM Paul Shiffler  
9:00 AM Donnie Hardy

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10:

### MEMORIAL OF SAINT SCHOLASTICA, VIRGIN

Gn 3:1-8; Mk 7:31-37

6:45 AM Janet Polto  
9:00 AM Frederick Sontheimer, Jr.

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11:

Gn 3:9-24; Mk 8:1-10

9:00 AM Phyllis DeAngelo  
5:00 PM Judy Coughlin

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12:

### SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

*In Jesus is revealed a new wisdom, a new law, a new way of living. Happy are they who choose to keep his commandments and follow his ways.*

Sir 15:15-20; 1 Cor 2:6-10; Mt 5:17-37

7:30 AM Annarose Albanese  
9:30 AM Special Intentions for parents &  
grandparents of George Holobetz  
11:30 AM People of the Parish  
5:00 PM G. Frank Arters

## YOUTH NEWS

### Life Teen

**This Week:** "With Him"-We finish up our series on the Beatitudes as we see how they reveal to us that in order to achieve a just society, we must work for peace and be willing to suffer persecution for the sake of righteousness.

**Next Week:** "Chipotle and Bingo"-It is finally here! We continue a Life Teen tradition with bingo and Chipotle as we watch the Super Bowl. We will meet in the Youth Room from 6:15-8:30 pm. Invite your friends!

### 2023 Upcoming LIFE TEEN Schedule

Feb 12 Life Teen-"Super Bowl and Bingo"  
Feb 19 No Life Teen-President's Day Weekend  
Feb 22 Ash Wednesday-Lent begins!  
Feb 26 Life Teen-"Forever Young"

**EDGE (Middle School):** EDGE meets next on **February 15**. All 6-8<sup>th</sup> graders are welcome. We meet the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of the month. **Bring your friends!**

**Donations Always Appreciated:** Donations of water, juice, soda, and snacks for our youth ministry gatherings are greatly appreciated and can be dropped off at the parish office. Thank you!

**Summer Mission Trip:** We are hoping to head to Pittsburgh from June 18-23 for our Summer Mission Trip. The cost of the trip is \$500 with \$100 due at registration.

## YOUNG ADULT FAITH

Calling **Young Adults** between the ages of 21-39, married or single! We meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of the month from 7:00-8:15 pm in the Youth Room. Young Adults will gather next on **February 8** as we finish our study of the Book of Ruth.

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

☎ (717) 533-7168 Ext.128

## VOCATIONS CORNER

*Let your light shine and give God praise!  
Hiding your light doesn't serve anyone.  
Where will you choose to "glow?"*

If God may be calling you to be a priest, deacon or consecrated religious, visit our website at [www.hbgdiocese.org](http://www.hbgdiocese.org), or

**Contact Fr. Jonathan Sawicki, Vocation Director:**  
[frjsawicki@hbgdiocese.org](mailto:frjsawicki@hbgdiocese.org)  
(717) 657-4804 Ext. 282

*The Vocation Cross will be in the home of:*  
**Mr. & Mrs. Ed Gliot: Feb. 12-Feb. 19**  
**Mary Parsons: Feb. 19-Feb. 26**  
*Consider being a part of the Vocation Cross Rotation,  
call the Parish office for details.*

## MINISTRY NEWS

### Building a Culture of Life

#### CALL TO FAMILY, COMMUNITY & PARTICIPATION

The person is not only sacred but also social. How we organize our society—in economics and politics, in law and policy—directly affects human dignity and the capacity of individuals to grow in community. Marriage and family are the central social institutions that must be supported and strengthened, not undermined. We believe people have a right and a duty to participate in society, seeking together the common good and well-being of all, especially the poor and vulnerable.

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#### SOUP SALE Information:

If you're interested in donating any quarts of homemade soup, please contact [karencwilley@gmail.com](mailto:karencwilley@gmail.com). Our chefs have committed over 1200 quarts but we need more!

Quart containers and lids are available in the Parish Center and can be donated:

Friday, **Feb 10** from 4:00-6:00 pm in the Areba Ave. kitchen  
Saturday, **Feb 11** from 8:00 -11:00 am at the Diocesan Center

The sale will be held here at SJA and at eight local parishes after Masses on the weekend of February 11 & 12. We look forward to your support!

### Caelorum

We look forward to seeing everyone at Caelorum on Wednesday, **February 8** at 7:00 pm at St. Joan of Arc Church. Join your Brothers and Sisters in Christ as we come together to adore, praise and worship our Lord and Savior. Please join us! If you are unable to attend you may watch the live stream or recording at the Caelorum Facebook page -<https://fb.watch/gJnpuh3Pay/>. For more information, contact Lou Felice at (717) 215-4175.

### CCW

Our next meeting is Thursday, **February 9** at 6:30 pm in the Parish Social Hall. Alycia Laureti, President Dauphin District will be joining us. Come learn about the Council of Catholic Women. We hope to see you there!

### CCW-Cupcake Decorating Class

On **March 11**, at 2:00 pm in the Parish Social Hall the CCW will be hosting a 90 minute class with Moore Desserts by Julie. For \$45 per person, you will leave class with 6 cupcakes and the skills to make future cupcakes.

*Children under 10 must be accompanied by an adult. Minimum age for children is 5 years old. Register by February 28 by emailing your name(s) to Mary Ann King at [makingbear1@gmail.com](mailto:makingbear1@gmail.com)*

### Road to Kindness

January has flown by and we are all feeling the cold of winter. The winter months sometimes have a way of making our life challenging. Instead of enjoying life, we have a great deal of stress and tension. This week and during this time, it is so important that we take a moment to think about our Love for Life! Your Love for Life!



February provides many special holidays to  
**CELEBRATE LIFE:**

- Valentine's Day-February 14
- Random Acts of Kindness week-February 12-18 according to the RAK Foundation
- Random Acts of Kindness Day-February 17
- Ash Wednesday-February 22

Please take some time to think about and prepare for these special days and to prepare for the Lenten Season.

This week, take a moment and meditate on these selected words from Ralph Marston's "Love for Life" article and every morning as you wake up, be GRATEFUL for all you have and think about how you can share your KINDNESS and BLESSINGS with others!

**"Imagine today that you can simply let go of the tensions, of the pretensions, and love your life. That you can love others without needing to control their actions or influence their thoughts.**

**Look at the world, and approach each moment, with a love for life. Let go of whatever engenders conflict and make space for new goodness to flourish."**

Let's continue our mission of making a difference in our parish and community by following God's Way – "The Road to Kindness!"

### Faith Enrichment-Room 321

Faith Enrichment will start **February 7**. Sessions will be held on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 pm and Thursday mornings at 10:00 am. There will be no charge for this program. We will be presenting Bishop Barron's "Pivotal Players." **Any questions, please contact Earl Tropp at (717) 533-7168 Ext. 122.**



### Knights of Columbus: Super Bowl Sub Sale

**February 4 & 5**, is the last weekend to order subs. **Pick up** your order on Sunday, **February 12** in the parish social hall from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.



### Knights of Columbus Hershey Food Bank & Monetary Collection

Thank you for your support of the Hershey Food Bank and Monetary Donations. Look for the Knights to begin collecting this weekend, **February 4 & 5**. See any Knight for questions.

## 2023 PARISH FESTIVAL



### 2023 Parish Festival

The Festival Committee will be meeting on Wednesday, **February 8** at 6:30 pm in the Parish Center (former Convent) and every second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm through May. Please consider joining us for our planning meetings. **Any questions, contact Karen Willey at karenwilley@gmail.com.**

## EVENTS & HAPPENINGS

### Women of Grace

The Women of Grace Foundational Study will be offered at St. Joan of Arc Parish in Room 321 beginning Saturday, **February 18**, following the 9:00 am Mass for nine weeks. Discover the gift of authentic femininity, holiness of life, and God's awesome purpose and mission for you in the world today! The Women of Grace® Foundational Study Series is presented using DVD lessons taught by Johnnette Benkovic Williams, the book being studied, and its accompanying study guide.

**Questions, Contact Chris Arnold at carnold@womenofgrace.com or (717) 379-6041.**



## STEWARDSHIP

*We Are A Tithing Parish Following God's Plan For Giving*

**Weekly Tithing: \$23,715**

**Weekly Budget: \$28,269**

**Weekly Heart of the Parish: \$1,786**

*Week of January 22, 2023*



*February 5  
Society for the  
Propagation of the  
Faith Membership*

*Upcoming Special Collection:  
February 12  
Black and Indian/Poor Missions*



We are happy to announce a continued partnership and remind parishioners that donations keep this ministry available. Please call **Bridget at (717) 533-7168 Ext. 112** if you are interested to oversee the display located in the vestibule of the Church.

## HAITI SISTER PARISH

**Our Sister Parish in Haiti needs your help. Ash Wednesday, Feb 22, offers a great opportunity to make a difference, since 100% of the collection will benefit our Sister Parish in Haiti.**

**WE LOVINGLY REMEMBER THE LATE FR. MARIO & WELCOME OUR NEW PASTOR, FR. MÉRAT**



FATHER MARIO



FATHER MÉRAT

Donations can also be made at the parish office or online by clicking here:  
<https://www.stjoanhershey.org/store/p68/donations-haiti.html>

For more information about our Sister Parish or to join the Haiti Committee please click here:  
<https://www.stjoanhershey.org/haiti-sister-parish.html>

2022 was a difficult year with the ongoing socioeconomic and political crisis in Haiti which brought civil unrest against the government of Haiti, armed gang violence and fuel shortages. Our pastor, Father Mario, continued construction on a new rectory in the first half of the year, but it was halted due to unsafe conditions. Sadly in the fall, we received word that Father Mario had passed away suddenly due to illness. He will be greatly missed as we keep him in our prayers.

We now have a new pastor, Father Jean Mérat, whom we are in communication with and look forward to getting to know better in 2023. He is continuing construction of the rectory and will ensure that the school children are fed and the teachers are paid.

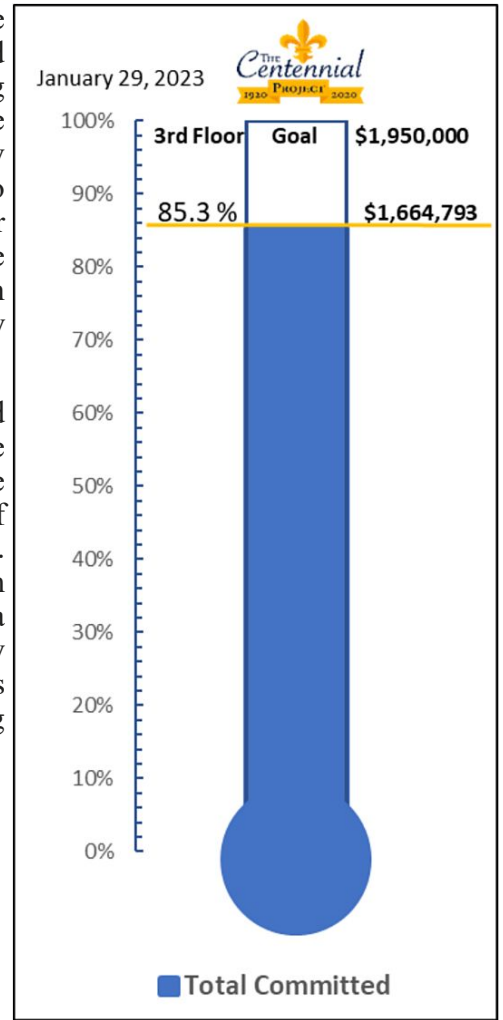
**CENTENNIAL PROJECT-FEBRUARY 5-IMPORTANT UPDATE**

In a meeting held on January 24<sup>th</sup>, the Diocesan Financial Committee queried our ability to service the loan conversion of the line of credit used to purchase the Sand Hill School, with the expressed purpose of guarding against a potential economic downturn. In retrospect, if we go back to the Fall of 2020, after having just relocated from the Areba School with fifty more students, we didn't expect the demand for enrollment to rise so quickly. Suddenly, it was necessary to expand the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor in 2022 in order to meet the two-year, 22% student body increase. Our other option at the time was to cap enrollment, which could have allowed us to take a portion of the Fund to reduce the loan principal. Given the choice, we prayerfully opted in favor of enhancing the footprint of our Catholic teaching mission.

Now, a year later, we are at a similar crossroads as far as funding and enrollment, but expenses include the additional principal required for the loan repayment. As a consequence, the Diocesan Finance Committee strongly advised that, for the near term, we only pursue the completion of the remaining classrooms, and put a pause on the chapel construction. Caution guided their recommendation to establish a substantial cash reserve, based on the prevailing opinion of many economists that a contraction was in the offing in the next year or two. Our meeting takeaway was an agreement that the timing for a stronger balance sheet was appropriate, while still finishing the space needed for the growing enrollment. With God's grace, the chapel will be back on track next year.

Here is a breakdown of our current Project Financing:

<b>Available Cash:</b>	<b>\$1,543,713.08</b>
Outstanding Pledges:	\$ 271,045.72
Grants:	\$ 50,000.00
Project Cost Classrooms & Chapel:	\$1,856,573.00
Balance:	\$ 8,185.80



First and foremost, the projected revenue and expenses indicate, (excluding inflation), that if all current pledges are met, the project is fully funded. However, our cash reserves would be essentially depleted. Second, meeting our campaign goal of \$1,950,000 (see thermometer) would provide an additional \$286,000 to cover any unaccounted price increases while leaving some margin of reserves.

The incremental approach advocated by the Diocesan Finance Committee immediately reduces the initial outlay by at least \$750,000, strengthening our balance sheet in the event of leaner times. **While completing the renovations of the school in one last fell swoop this summer is the desired goal, the prospect of a substantial increase in debt service tempers our zeal and informs a more conservative approach. Absent eleventh-hour white knights, (if you know of any, please tell them our story!), we will pursue the pragmatic route.**

**Thank you. Please give us a call if you can help, and please continue to pray for the success of the campaign.**

You can view a three and a half-minute video on the positive impact of the new school on the students: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Sm0ELXDZhk> or enjoy a virtual tour of the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor expansion at: <https://youtu.be/S0zANsm3Xvo>

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