

Lord, You invite all who are
burdened to come to you.

OUR RESPONSE TO COVID-19

ST. JOAN OF ARC CATHOLIC CHURCH

359 WEST AREBA AVE, HERSHEY, PA 17033

MARCH 19, 2020

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm (Closed 12:00 - 1:00 pm)

Sunday: 9:00 - 11:30 am

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 day life.



MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY - SATURDAY: 9:00 AM

SUNDAY: 9:30 AM





I have a feeling that my Pastor's Column will pretty much be the extent of our parish bulletin for the next couple of weeks! All Masses, devotions, and activities have been suspended because of this Covid-19 pandemic so there won't be much in the way of upcoming events and minister schedules. Let me update as to where we are as of right now.

- Mass will be celebrated Monday through Saturday at 9:00 am and on Sunday at 9:30 am in the Saint Lucy Chapel in the Parish Center. These Masses will be livestreamed via our Facebook page (which can be accessed through our website at stjoanhershey.org) and through our new YouTube channel at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church. We are using a livestreaming service and the quality of the picture and sound will only get better. Thanks, Father Roth, for being my technician in all things virtual! We have been getting a great response from those who are watching. We welcome comments but please respectful.
- Stations of the Cross will be livestreamed on Fridays during Lent at 7:00 pm.
- Both Masses and devotion being livestreamed are also being recorded so they can be watched at a later date.
- All the Mass intentions for Masses in the parish are being fulfilled by the priests of the parish, albeit privately.
- We have been given directives from Bishop Gainer regarding the celebration of the Sacraments:
 - Baptisms may occur but with the fewest participants as possible. It might be best to reschedule at a later date.
 - We have one marriage in March and none until June so we are taking care of that.
 - Confessions are not to be heard unless there is a danger of death. The same is true for the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. We will let you know as soon as possible if this changes.
 - As far as funerals go, if a parishioner dies, we are to have the Graveside committal service as soon as possible with the immediate family. A Mass for the Dead (Memorial Mass) can be held at a later date.
 - I don't have any information about Holy Week yet, but we are planning ahead to livestream them as well from the chapel.

Continued on next page...

Pastor's Column Continued...

- If anyone is in need (groceries, medicine, necessities of any kind, etc.) we have gotten calls from parishioners that they will help to deliver them as we move forward with this pandemic. We are especially sensitive to the needs of the sick, the elderly, and the poor. Let us know if we can help in any way!
- The most important support you can give to the parish right now is prayer! Prayer for the good health of our parishioners, for the many medical personnel in our parish serving the needs of our community, and for those who are lonely, sick, anxious, and depressed. Our individual prayers are powerful but together our prayers can move mountains. Pray, pray, pray for an end to this pandemic and for those who have been and will be touched by it!
- If you are able, remember to support us financially. We are going to detail how you can do that in another communication from me.
- Today is the Feast of Saint Joseph. He is the Patron Saint of the Universal Church, the family, workers, and of a happy death! May he who protected the Lord and our Blessed Mother so well in this life, pray that Jesus will bless our Church in these uncertain times, keep families safe, protect workers in times of unemployment and send his mercy to those who are sick and dying!
- My prayers are with you in a special way during this time. God bless.

Father Al



Online giving is a secure and easy way to tithe and make other contributions. You can even set up automatic payments that will occur periodically so you don't have to worry about remembering when to give. It works just like online banking with 24/7 access to your account.

Michelle: Ext. 103 | mgutshall@stjoanhershey.org

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

We were blessed to have 607 attend Mass this past Saturday and Sunday. The collection for the weekend amounted to \$18,873.84. We are humbled and extremely grateful for your continued generosity in these turbulent times. The church and school still need your support as we weather this crisis. With God's help, we will move forward day by day.

STAY CONNECTED

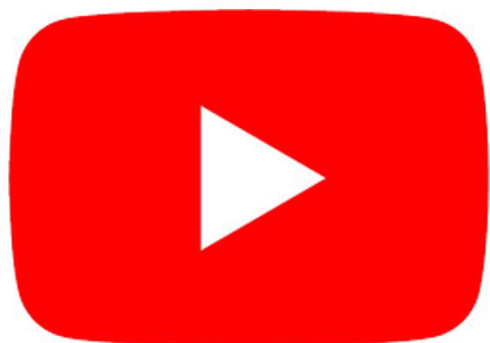
DAILY MASS LIVE STREAM



We are live streaming a private Mass via Facebook Live because we know how important attending Mass is to our parishioners. Tune in to Facebook for a daily Mass at 9:00 am and a Sunday Mass at 9:30 am. We will be broadcasting from our beautiful St. Lucy Chapel in the parish center.

FIND US ON FACEBOOK: @STJOANHERSHEY

VIEW OUR PARISH ANNOUNCEMENT



YouTube

IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19
MARCH 19, 2020

DON'T HAVE FACEBOOK? VIEW OUR LIVE STREAMS ON OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL
ST. JOAN OF ARC CATHOLIC CHURCH



IN LIGHT OF COVID-19

We're relying on our app to communicate with you
Please download the app and allow notifications

To Download

- Text "App" to 88202
- Search "myParish" in your app store



Our prayers go out to all of our parishioners as we feel the sense of separation amidst the closing of the diocesan churches. St. Padre Pio once said, “It would be easier for the world to exist without the sun than without the Holy Mass.” Knowing how critical the sun is to our existence on earth gives you an idea of how important the Mass is to our spiritual wellbeing. These are uncertain times, and feelings of anxiety are quite normal. After the Lord’s Prayer at Mass, the priest prays “to be safe from all distress.” St. John Paul the Great encouraged us “to be not afraid.”

If you are home, heeding the advice of the medical and epidemiological professionals, thank you. We will get through this but it is absolutely necessary to follow instructions in order to minimize the spread and impact of the outbreak. For the safety of your loved ones, especially those who are most susceptible, please listen to our government leaders.

To help you through this time, consider revisiting your relationship with Our Lord. It can be a time of prayer, scriptural reading, and meditation. It can be a time to reassess what is truly important in our lives. Know that the option of daily Mass at St. Joan of Arc is available online. If you are able, please join us on Facebook www.facebook.com/stjoanhershey for a live stream of Mass at 9:00 am on Monday through Saturday and on Sundays at 9:30 am. If you are unable to view the stream live, a recording will also be accessible. God bless.



Starting on Monday, March 23,
until further notice the

Parish Office will be open

8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Monday through Friday

O Great St. Rocco,
deliver us, we beseech thee,
from the scourges of God;
through thy intercession,
preserve our bodies from
contagious diseases, and
our souls from the contagion
of sin. Obtain for us salubrious
air; but, above all, purity of heart.
Assist us to make good use
of health, to

bear
suffering
with patience

and,
after thy example,
to live in the practice of
penance and charity,
that we may one day
enjoy the happiness which
thou has merited by thy virtues.

St. Rocco, pray for us