

“Were not our hearts burning within us...”



My Dear St. Joseph Family,

Entering into the Third Sunday of Easter, we are reminded again that hope in Jesus Christ is never wasted. In the Gospel, Jesus accompanies His disciples on the road to Emmaus. Amidst their fear and doubt, He shows them how He is working in their lives even at that moment. In the same way, the Lord walks with us even today and desires to use everything part of this day for His glory *if only we are willing to let Him!*

One of the many ways that the Lord is working in our lives even now is through the building up and strengthening of the *Ecclesia domestica*, or the domestic Church. The domestic Church is found in each and every one of our homes for it is first in our homes that we learn, by word and example, how to love one another. Our Lord will use this time to strengthen our domestic Church *if only we are willing to let Him!*

Our parish remains committed to aiding each and every one of you in building up the domestic Church. We continue to offer a variety of resources and prayer opportunities online and through social media while our Church building remains open as a sanctuary for individual prayer before our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. Even if the world may seem to be shut down, the work of the Gospel continues here at St. Joseph.

This past week, we've completed our second round of phone call outreach to every parishioner. We are calling every few weeks to simply reach out, see how everyone is doing, and if there is anything we can assist you with. If you did not receive a call, that means that the office does not have a working phone number for you. Please call the Parish Office (824-1380) to help keep our parish records up-to-date.

In our outreach, many have asked how the parish is doing during these trying times. Thanks to **your generosity**, we have been able to continue the good work and charitable work of St. Joseph. A financial update is available on the back of this bulletin. Thank you again for your continued generosity. If you yourself are in need or if you know of anyone who is, please contact the Parish Office. We are here for you. Let us always keep each other in prayer until we can gather together again.

Faithfully in Christ, Fr. David

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH ~ 1300 N. MAIN, BLUFFTON 46714 ~ (260) 824-1380

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PASTOR: Fr. David Violi ~ FR. DAVID'S EMAIL: frdavidvioli@gmail.com

* SACRAMENTAL EMERGENCY NUMBER: 260-296-0511 *

DIRECTOR OF LITURGICAL MUSIC: Sr. Rose Clare Ehrlich, CSA ~ ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT/DRE: Michelle Paxton



WELCOME DEACON STEPHEN FELICICHIA!

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings! Father Violi has asked me to do a brief introduction, seeing as I just kind of appeared on the live-stream one day with you all.

My name is Deacon Stephen Felicichia. I was born and raised in Fort Wayne, growing up in Waynedale, about 20 minutes up the road. My home parish is St. Therese, where I received all my Sacraments of Initiation and attended grade school.

I entered Bishop Luers High School, graduated in 2004, and immediately entered the United States Military Academy. Upon graduation in 2008, I was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Army as a Field Artillery Officer (which has greatly contributed to my hearing loss). Shipped up to Anchorage, Alaska, January 2009, I was attached to an airborne unit, serving in two deployments to Afghanistan, and was honorably discharged in 2013.

Throwing myself on the mercy of Bishop Rhoades, I was accepted into Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Maryland in 2014. There I became friends with your honorable and holy pastor (we overlapped for two years). If it pleases God, I will be ordained this June 6th, but, given the current circumstances, I remain at the mercy of God (as are we all). It has been a great delight to meet some of you piecemeal and I look forward to the time when I will be able to meet and thank you all in person.

In Christ, Deacon Stephen Felicichia

ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH FINANCE REPORT (3/17 - 4/17)

**Collections for March 17, 2020
through April 17, 2020**

Adult Envelopes- \$13,537.00
Child Envelopes- \$8.43
Loose- \$143.00
Religious Ed. Fund- \$641.00
Repair/Rainy Day Fund- \$2,670.00
Easter Flowers- \$525.00
Easter Offering- \$540.00
Votive Candles- \$307.55
Total- \$18,371.98

Our weekly budget is \$5, 116.40.

Budget for 3/17-4/17 - \$25,582.00

We are \$7,210.02 behind budget.

Other Collections within our Parish

St. Vincent de Paul Fund- \$1,330.00

St. Vincent de Paul Report

March/April 2020

Utilities- \$265.25

Housing- \$44.00

Charitable Donations- \$1000.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GIFTS TO ST. JOSEPH'S!

ONLINE GIVING: osvonlinegiving.com/4741