

January 27, 2017

Dear Members and Friends of St. Joseph Church,

May God bless you warmly as we face the months ahead. I know the month of February will be full of activities. Please consult the calendar to keep track of all that we have planned.

The first weekend of February, The Celebrate Team and the Ladies Guild will have a Bake Sale after the Masses. Sunday, February 5th, there will be an in-service for Liturgical Ministers. Lectors will meet at 9:30 am, Eucharistic Ministers will meet at 10:00 and Ushers will meet at 10:30. On Monday, February 6th, the sessions will be repeated with this schedule: Eucharistic Ministers at 6:00 pm, Lectors at 6:30 and Ushers at 7:00.

February 14 is a special day for Catholics. It is the Solemnity of Saints Cyril, Monk, and Methodius, Bishop. As many will be celebrating Valentine's Day, the parish will celebrate these very important Saints. We will have a Polka Mass at 11:00 am on Sunday, the 12th. This will be followed by a pot-luck dinner featuring Polish, Slavic and Hungarian dishes! Please come and join in the celebration and the "Hunky" Dinner!

The Parish will celebrate the Anointing of the Sick at a special liturgy on Thursday, February 16th, at 4:30 pm. All persons who are suffering from serious or chronic illnesses are invited to attend along with their family members. Immediately following Mass we will share a light supper of soup and sandwiches in the Social Hall. The meal is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. Please come and take part in this important ministry.

On Wednesday, February 22nd, we will have the first Faith Fiesta Planning Meeting at 6:30 pm in Lyons Hall. The date for the Faith Fiesta is Saturday, July 15th, 2017.

St. Joseph Church will join with other parishes from the Diocese of Youngstown to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation at St. Columba Cathedral on Saturday, February 25th. Please pray for our Confirmation Candidates and their families. On Sunday, February 26th, we will have our Growing Families Program beginning at 9:30 am in Church. All are welcome to attend.

To help prepare for the 50-day celebration of Easter we will be studying the Lenten Sunday Readings. The classes are scheduled from 6:30-8:30 pm on Tuesdays, beginning February 28. I encourage those who will be proclaiming the Readings at the weekend Masses to participate. This is an excellent way to observe the season of preparation for celebrating the Easter Sacraments. Ash Wednesday is March 1.

Praying that God continues to bless each of you, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,