

Bendersville Lutheran Parish

St. James
Wenksville
8:25 am

Christ
Aspers
9:45 am

Bethlehem
Bendersville
11:00 am

“We are rooted in scripture, watered in baptism and fed by communion. Our mission is to connect with God in community as we care for one another. Our vision is to bear fruit in the Upper Adams community by showing Jesus’ love to our neighbors, planting seeds of kindness, service and hope, trusting the Holy Spirit to grow this fruit in surprising ways.”

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

• April 6, 2025 •



Parish Office:

126 Church St. • P.O. Box 449

Bendersville, PA 17306-0449

Office Phone: (717) 677-9880

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3churches@bendersvillelutheranparish.com

The Rev. Susan E. Scott:

Phone: (717) 497-1013

Email:

pastorsusanscott2022@gmail.com

www.bendersvillelutheranparish.com

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Please stand as you are able.*

PRELUDE

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: Most merciful God,

C: **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

***GREETING**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

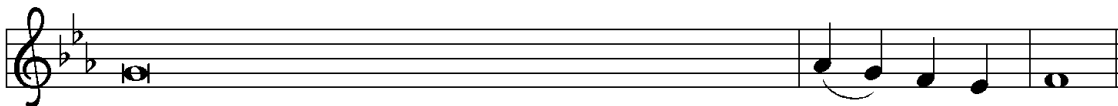
***KYRIE**



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



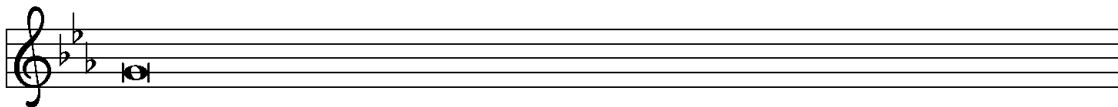
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



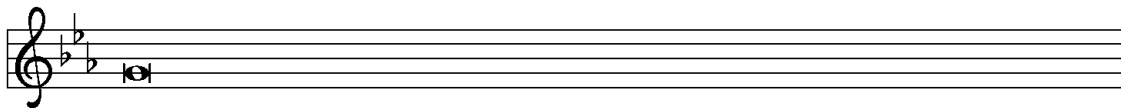
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

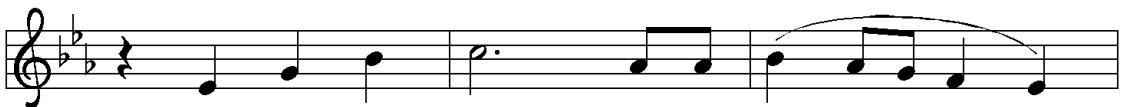


Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

***GLORIA: "Glory to God"** *(sung by all)*



Glo - ry to God in the high -

est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and

Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we

praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus

Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,

Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the

right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a -



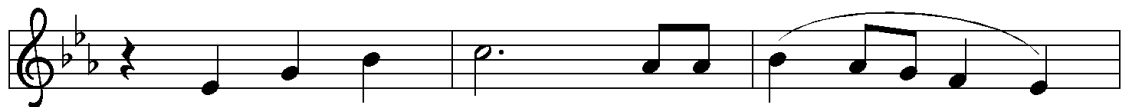
lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,



Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of



God the Fa - ther. A - men.



Glo - ry to God in the high -



est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray.

C: Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(Please be seated.)

FIRST READING:

Isaiah 43:16-21

The First Reading is from Isaiah, the forty-third chapter.

¹⁶ Thus says the LORD,
who makes a way in the sea,
a path in the mighty waters,
¹⁷ who brings out chariot and horse,
army and warrior;
they lie down, they cannot rise,
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
¹⁸ Do not remember the former things,
or consider the things of old.
¹⁹ I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.
²⁰ The wild animals will honor me,
the jackals and the ostriches;
for I give water in the wilderness,
rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,

²¹ the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM:

Psalm 126

L: When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
then were we like those who dream.

**C: Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy.
Then they said among the nations,
“The LORD has done great things for them.”**

L: The LORD has done great things for us,
and we are glad indeed.

**C: Restore our fortunes, O LORD,
like the watercourses of the Negeb.**

L: Those who sowed with tears
will reap with songs of joy.

**C: Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.**

SECOND READING:

Philippians 3:4b-14

The Second Reading is from Philippians, the third chapter.

[Paul writes:] ^{4b} If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.


¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³ Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

(Please stand.)

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: “Let Your Steadfast Love”**



Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.



Save us as you prom-ised; we will trust your word.

***GOSPEL:**

John 12:1-8

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the twelfth chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ² There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³ Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴ But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵ "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" ⁶ (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷ Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸ You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

(Please be seated.)

SERMON

Pastor Susan E. Scott

HYMN OF THE DAY: "Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus"

LBW 487

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

The church declares your praise, O God. Guide us in the example of Isaiah's imagination, Paul's transformed identity, and Mary's faith and devotion; that our lives, too, may be poured out in love as we trust in your promises. God, in your mercy,

C: receive our prayer.

P: The earth declares your praise, O God. Make a way for the planet's future in the sea and the wilderness, the mountains and plains, the tundra and wetlands. Repair habitats and sustainable ecosystems on, above, and beneath the ground. God, in your mercy,

C: receive our prayer.

P: The nations declare your praise, O God. Where religious differences divide, bring together those who worship you in the name of Jesus Christ and those who call to you with different names. Guide inter-religious dialogue, that faith may unite rather than divide communities. God, in your mercy,

C: receive our prayer.



that life's trou-bles nor its plea-sures ev - er may your work e - raise.



Let the clear in - scrip - tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,



is my life, my hope's foun-da-tion, all my glo-ry and sal - va - tion!

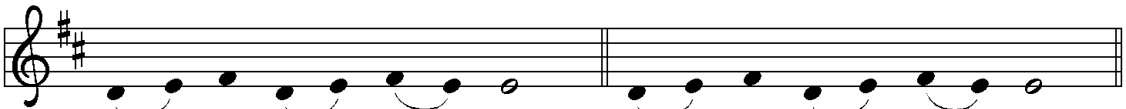
OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

Gracious Provider,
you set your immense treasures among us,
opening your heart to the world.
As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love,
deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others,
through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

DIALOGUE



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.



Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE *(sung by the pastor)*

SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of

pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the

name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: We give you thanks, ... both now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in Your Kingdom and teach us to pray ...

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

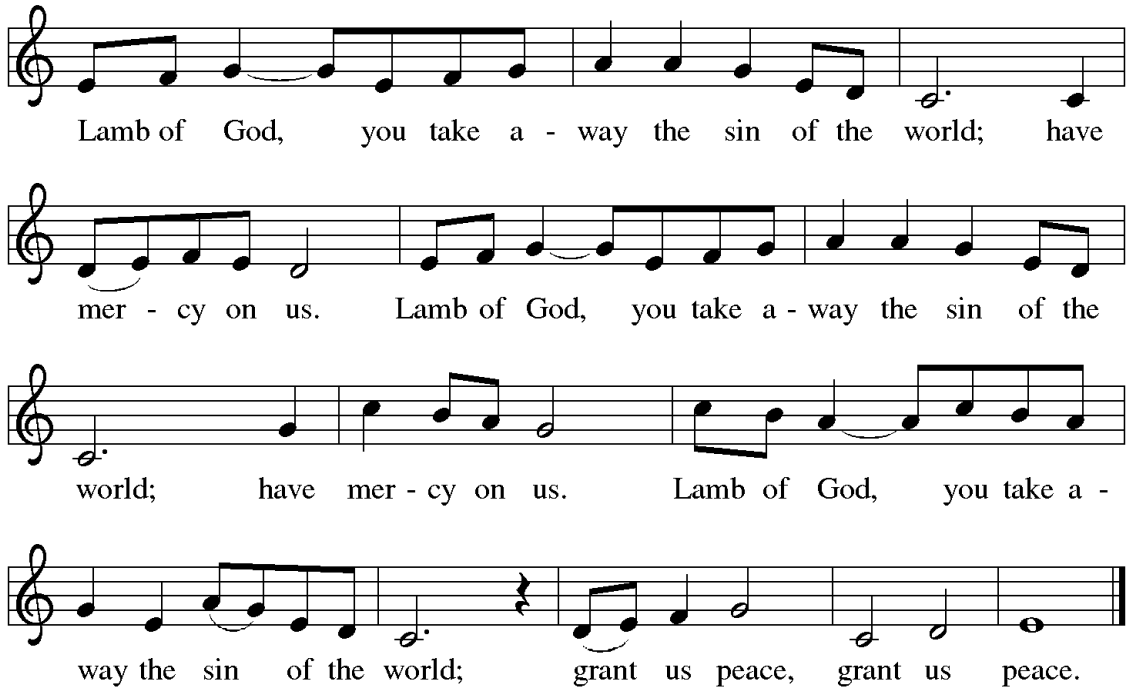
THE DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

All who wish to encounter Christ in Holy Communion are welcome to the Table. As directed, please come forward. The elements will be given by Pastor Susan or the Communion Assistant. If you would like a verbal blessing only, please let the Pastor know. Holy Communion may also be received at your seat. Just inform the Pastor or usher. The elements will be partaken at the Pastor's or Communion Assistant's direction:

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

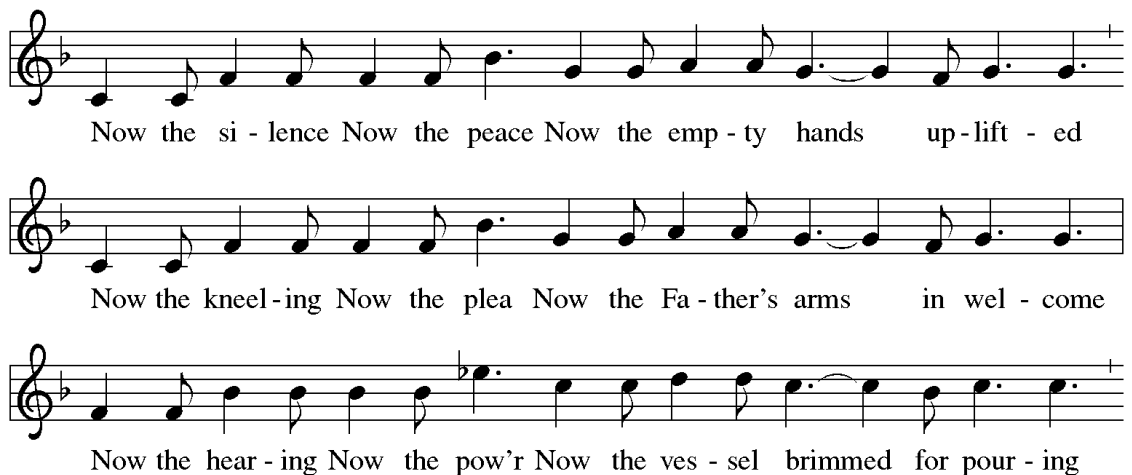
COMMUNION HYMN: *“Lamb of God”*



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN: *“Now the Silence”*

LBW 205



Now the si - lence Now the peace Now the emp - ty hands up - lift - ed
Now the kneel - ing Now the plea Now the Fa - ther's arms in wel - come
Now the hear - ing Now the pow'r Now the ves - sel brimmed for pour - ing



Now the bod - y Now the blood Now the joy - ful cel - e - bra - tion



Now the wed - ding Now the songs Now the heart for - giv - en leap - ing



Now the Spir - it's vis - i - ta - tion Now the Son's e - piph - a - ny



Now the Fa - ther's bless - ing Now Now Now

*POST-COMMUNION

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: **Amen.**

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Let us pray.

Generous Host,
you have shared your feast with us and made us new.
Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities,
that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom,
in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

***BLESSING**

P: God our tender parent,
God the crucified one,
God the reconciling Spirit,
✠ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

***SENDING SONG: “Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing” LBW 559**

***DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

C: Thanks be to God!

***POSTLUDE**

• APRIL 2025 •

SUN. April 6	MON. April 7	TUES. April 8	WED. April 9	THURS. April 10	FRI. April 11	SAT. April 12
8:25 am: St. James 9:45 am: Christ 11:00 am: Bethlehem <i>Birthday:</i> Aurora Bayles		7:00 pm: Council Meeting (Christ)	<u>Lent</u> 6:00 pm: Supper (Christ) 7:00 pm: Evening Prayer <i>Birthday:</i> Layna Lang			
SUN. April 13	MON. April 14	TUES. April 15	WED. April 16	THURS. April 17	FRI. April 18	SAT. April 19
<u>Palm/Passion Sunday</u> 8:25 am: St. James 9:45 am: Christ 11:00 am: Bethlehem	1:00 to 3:00 pm: New Hope Ministries (Bethlehem) 7:00 pm: Council Meeting (Bethlehem)	7:00 pm: Knit/Crochet Ministry (Bethlehem) <i>Birthday:</i> Felipe Caloca Gary Bretzman Dan Turner <i>Anniversary:</i> Jerry & Barbara Mahoney	<i>Birthday:</i> Michael Wolfe	<u>Maundy Thursday</u> 7:00 pm: Service (St. James) <i>Birthday:</i> John Ascencio Beverly Slaybaugh Brayden Mickley	<u>Good Friday</u> 7:00 pm: Service (Christ)	<u>Easter Vigil</u> 7:00 pm: Service (Bethlehem)

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

<u>Lector</u>	<u>Greeters/Ushers</u>	<u>Altar Guild</u>
J Harold Stoner	—	Harold & Kathy Stoner
C Larry Gantz	—	Deb & Dave Copenhaver
B Bruce Schachle	Loren & Ginger Mortorff	Kathy Singley

ALTAR FLOWERS



St. James, Christ & Bethlehem

To the Glory of God



OFFICE HOURS AND PASTORAL NEEDS

Pastor Susan has office hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1-4 p.m. at the Parsonage. You are welcome to stop by the Parsonage to visit. Her official day off is Friday, but she is available for pastoral emergencies.

For all your pastoral needs, please contact Pastor Susan Scott by phone/text at 717-497-1013 or email pastorsusanscott2022@gmail.com.



• LENTEN SERVICE •

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9

Christ Lutheran Church

6:00 p.m.: Supper

7:00 p.m.: Evening Prayer Service (Vespers)

The Wednesday gathering will offer a supper, a brief time of instruction and discussion, followed by Evening Prayer. This year's focus is on lament. Join us!

• **HOLY WEEK SERVICES** •

April 13: PALM/PASSION SUNDAY

Regular Sunday Worship Schedule



April 17: MAUNDY THURSDAY

7:00 p.m. at St. James

April 18: GOOD FRIDAY

7:00 p.m. at Christ

April 19: EASTER VIGIL

7:00 p.m. at Bethlehem

• **UPDATING CHURCH DIRECTORY** •

We are in the process of updating the church directory. If you haven't already done so, please fill out the yellow contact information sheet located with the bulletins at each church. You may give your completed sheet to Pastor Susan or place it in the offering plate.



**American
Red Cross**

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

THURSDAY, APRIL 24th

1:00 to 6:00 p.m.

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Biglerville

www.redcross.org



CARE & SHARE CARD MINISTRY

The Care & Share Card Ministry meets the last Tuesday of each month at 1:00 p.m. at 896 Upper Temple Road.

• NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, APRIL 29th •

All parish members on the prayer list continue to receive cards. As for family and friends that we pray for, whom you would like to receive a card, the committee will make a card for you to deliver or mail upon your request.

Thank you for your help distributing cards. If requesting a card, please contact:

Jackee McCartney – 717-321-0979

“Donations of stamps are always appreciated.”

PRAYER LIST GUIDELINES

“Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints.” – Ephesians 6:18



The Bendersville Lutheran Parish prays for one another, the world, and all those in need. Sometimes, though, we forget to tell others that someone has healed or has moved on to eternal life.

Let us be good stewards of the prayer list. Names on the prayer list will be removed after **one month** unless you let us know to keep praying.

WEEKLY DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

As a reminder, items for the bulletin should be received at the church office by Wednesday noon for that week’s Sunday Bulletin.

ON-LINE SUNDAY WORSHIP

Worship is livestreamed on YouTube at 11:00 AM on our Bendersville Lutheran Parish channel (this info can also be found on our website – www.bendersvillelutheranparish.com).



• REMEMBER OUR BLESSING BOXES •

Things we need to include:

Mac 'n cheese, soups, canned pasta meals (aka Chef Boyardee), instant potatoes, canned veggies, canned meat, canned fruit/fruit cups, instant rice, pasta, spaghetti sauce, beans (dried or canned), fruit gummies, sugary cereal, peanut butter, applesauce, instant cereal/oatmeal, toiletries (toilet paper, paper towels, feminine hygiene products, toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, hand sanitizer)

Our Blessing Boxes are definitely filling a need in our community!

Here are a few additional ideas of things we might think about contributing:

Shelf stable milk, powdered milk, can openers, canned food with pop tops, oil (cooking, vegetable, canola, olive, etc.), spices, salt, pepper, tea bags, coffee, sugar, flour, tuna packets, crackers (all kinds), bread, cake mix, frosting, dishwashing detergent, laundry detergent

- * Please don't buy bulk dry goods (rice, beans, pasta, etc.) and re-package at home. *
- * Due to food safety concerns, only factory sealed packaging should be put in the box. *
- * Be aware of glass items that might break. Take note to EXPIRATION DATES. *
- * Do not leave items OUTSIDE the box. *

“THANKS TO ALL WHO HAVE DONATED!”

FRUIT CUP DONATIONS NEEDED FOR JOHN'S MEALS!

John's Meals is currently providing meals to approximately 89 families in the Upper Adams School District. Your help is needed and appreciated to once again provide donations of fruit cups:

- MIXED FRUIT
- MANDARIN ORANGES
- PEACHES
- PEARS
- PINEAPPLES



“Thank You for your support of this important ministry!”



Prayer List - Parish Members

Adam & Laura Albright b
Dixie Atha c
Tony Bretzman b
Dolly Chronister c
Mary Chronister b
Patsy Gochenauer j

Wahnetta Harvey c
Harold Heller j
Linda Heller j
Lois Rinehart b
Mike Rinehart b
Alan Showers j

Bill Slaybaugh j
Rhonda Slaybaugh c
Dan Turner c
Mike Wolfe c

Friends of the Parish

Douglas Barbour
Mary 'Sis' Becker
Adam Black
Jeff Black
Tracy Brandt
Bev Bretzman
Nathan Bretzman
Valerie Bushey
June Cline
Nancy Cline
Nicole Cline

Dick Cook
Carl Corl
Jeanne Cuttitta
Peter Cuttitta
Bonnie DeHaven
Diane Fetters
John Gantz
Galen Hartz
Cody Johnson
Susanna Kidwell
Deb Litten

Nicole Mackey
Barbara Mahoney
Emily Maiolo
Doug Miller
Glenn Mulvey
Diane Myers
Zach Pelc
Brian Reed
Ginny Rinehart
Robert Tate
Marlea Williams

With Deepest Sympathy

We extend our sympathy and prayers to the families of those who have died in the faith and who are now at rest with their eternal Father (our saints who have gone before us).

Fay Black, Dorothy Gochenauer, Frances Orner, and Suzie Taylor