



MAKING CHRIST A REALITY IN THE COMMUNITY IN WHICH WE LIVE

Pastor: Rev. Joseph C. Bordonaro
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. J. A. Grant

School: 850 Euclid Avenue, Warrington
Principal: Mrs. Deborah Jaster
Religious Education: Mrs. Cathy Cain
CCD Office: 215-672-9990/ 3020
Music Director: Mrs. Maria Lennon
 mariaalennon@comcast.net

WEBSITE: WWW.SAINTJOSEPHCHURCH.US

RECTORY: 215-672-3020 (9AM-4PM Mon. to Fri.) **EMAIL:** sjc18976@verizon.net
SCHOOL: 215-343-5100

MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday: 5:30 PM
Sunday: 7:00 AM, 8:30 AM,
 10:00 AM, 11:30 AM
Weekdays: 8:00 AM

Saturdays: 8:00 AM

Holy Days: 5:30 PM Vigil
 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 7:00 PM

CONFESSIONS: Saturdays: 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM

MASS FOR SHUT-INS:

TV - Sunday, 5:30 a.m. WPVI Channel 6,
 Radio - Sunday, 9:00 a.m. 89.3 FM

BAPTISMS: Parents should make arrangements with the Pastor at least one month before the date wanted. Baptism is celebrated on the **FIRST** and **THIRD** Sundays of the month at 12:30 PM. Preparation is held on the **SECOND TUESDAY** of each month, 7:30 PM, in Room 18 of the Church Building. Godparents must be practicing the faith and present a Letter of Eligibility from their parish. No date can be set for baptism until parents have fulfilled these responsibilities.

MATRIMONY: To set a date for a wedding, couples must make an appointment at the Rectory at least 6 months prior to the wedding date. Weddings can be scheduled for most Saturdays, at 12:00 Noon or 2:00 PM, or on Friday afternoons.

SICK CALLS: Phone the Rectory,
 215-672-3020.

REGISTRATION: All Catholics who live within the parish boundaries should register. Boundaries: South of Street Road from Lower State Rd., to Norristown Rd., to County Line, to Blair Mill Rd., to Moreland Rd., to Maple Ave., to Horsham Rd., to Limekiln Pike, to Lower State Rd. & back to Street Road.

If you are not registered, we cannot serve you in ways which require us to know you. Please call the Rectory (215-672-3020.) We will welcome you as part of our community of faith.

PARISH ACTIVITIES: Catholic Youth Organization, CCD School of Religion, Choir (Adult and Children's), Home & School Association, Men's Group, Miraculous Medal Novena and Rosary, Respect Life Committee, Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, Senior Citizens, and Women's Group. (Notices for these groups are posted inside this bulletin.)

A Note from the Pastor



My Dear Parishioners,

I hope you all had a very enjoyable Thanksgiving celebration with family and friends. The turnout for our Thanksgiving Mass continues to inspire me. This week we begin a new liturgical year and the holy season of Advent. Advent is about preparing for the birth of Jesus, but it is also about actively waiting on the Lord. While we wait we also have to rush and get a lot of things done. It is a bit incongruous. I pray that you and I will take time to experience the wait, the longing for God that this season calls forth.

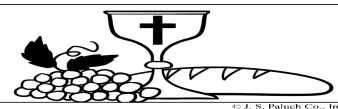
One way to prepare spiritually and to express your anticipation of Jesus is to make use of the various opportunities for confession. Our regular time for confession is Saturday afternoon from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. You will be receiving a special Christmas mailing and in it is a folder with all the additional times for confession. Please consider coming as a family to our Parish Advent Penance, on Thursday, December 14, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. when we will have additional priests available for confession. Please note that there will be no Penance Service, just the opportunity for individual confession.

The Christmas Bazaar is this Sunday, Dec. 3rd in the Church Hall. Please come down after Mass and get a jump on your Christmas shopping. If there are any of our Christmas Cards left you can pick them up there until they run out. A special thank you goes to Mrs. Rita Roley, and her fantastic team of helpers.

In the midst of all the hustle and preparations it is important that we take time to acknowledge the benefits and gifts God has blessed us with; I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you for the sacrifices you have made on behalf of your parish throughout the year. I am very grateful for your continued emotional, spiritual, and financial support. I also want to thank all those who generously give of their time and talent at our parish throughout the year. Our list of various volunteer groups includes: the Adult Altar Servers; those who care for the Altar linens; those who assist with decorating the altar and maintaining it; the collection counters; those involved as volunteers at our school or CCD including teachers, assistants, and hall monitors; Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion; Finance Committee; Food for the Poor; Giving Tree; Hope Committee; Lectors; Music Ministry; Rectory Office Volunteers; Health and Help Ministry (Nurses and assistants); Respect Life; RCIA; Ushers; and VINE Group. I also thank the student altar servers; they are a dedicated group of young people and an inspiration to our community. As in years past I invite all volunteers to pick up a special token of our appreciation in classroom 18. You can choose from a number of previous items. This year the featured gift is a custom mug with an imprint of our parish church.

Continued on page 3...

Masses for the Week



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|-----------------------|--------------------------|---------|---|
| Saturday | <u>December 2, 2017</u> | 5:30pm | People of the Parish |
| Sunday | <u>December 3, 2017</u> | 7:00am | Herbert Brings |
| | | 8:30am | Pasquale Speranza |
| | | 10:00am | Nathan Cain |
| | | 11:30am | Lucille Shehoski |
| Monday | | 8:00am | St. Joseph Memorial Society |
| Tuesday | | 8:00am | Gertrude & Enoch Kroutch, Sr. |
| Wednesday | | 8:00am | Raymond Generale |
| Thursday | | 8:00am | David Dziedzic |
| | | 5:30pm | Harry Cappa, Jr., 1 st Anniversary |
| Friday | | 8:00am | People of the Parish |
| Immaculate Conception | | 10:00am | Joe S. Pugnetti |
| | | 7:00pm | Richard Brawn |
| Saturday | | 8:00am | Mary Ellen Raub |
| Saturday | <u>December 9, 2017</u> | 5:30pm | Mary Ann Dowzicky |
| Sunday | <u>December 10, 2017</u> | 7:00am | People of the Parish |
| | | 8:30am | Raymond Generale |
| | | 10:00am | Dolores Connelly |
| | | 11:30am | Joseph Oberlies |

Please Pray For



Those who are ill: Betty Bell, Kim Bell, Lorraine Bovenkamp, Gary Cain, Alicia Cruz, Bill Gaida, Bob Hagan, Paul Moran Kilbride, Eleanor McDonald, Dave McKay, Patricia O'Mara, baby Ronan Power, Ann Scanlon, Gil Sleutaris, Dorothy Smedley, Lorraine Smith, Jack Striewski and baby Violet Grace.

This Week in Our Parish

Monday, December 4, 2017

- * Adoration – All Day – Church
- * Rosary & Benediction – 7:30 p.m. – Church
- * Men's Group Meeting – 8:00 p.m. – Room 18 Church Bldg

Wednesday, December 6, 2017

- * RCIA – 7 p.m. – Room 18 - Church Bldg.

Thursday, December 7, 2017

- * BSA Troop 137 – 7:00 p.m. – Rectory Basement

Friday, December 8, 2017

- * The Immaculate Conception of the BVM, Holy Day of Obligation

Readings for the Week

Monday: Is 2:1-5; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37
Thursday: Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6; Mt 9:35 — 10:1, 5a, 6-8
Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 85:9-14; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8

First Sunday of Advent, December 3, 2017
 Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come. — *Mark 13:33*

A Note from the Pastor Continued...



This year, Christmas falls on a Monday. This presents us with the unique situation of celebrating the Fourth Sunday of Advent on Dec. 23rd -24th and then Christmas Eve and Christmas Day on Sunday Evening and Monday morning. We will therefore have to decorate the church for Christmas before the Fourth Sunday of Advent, in order to be ready for the Christmas Season. Also there is the obligation to attend Sunday Mass and also Christmas Mass. For those who choose to do this, you may attend one of the regular Sunday Morning Masses and receive Holy Communion, and then also attend one of the afternoon or Midnight Vigil Masses and receive Holy Communion again.

God Bless you,
 Fr. Bordonaro

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary ~ Holy Day of Obligation
 Mass Schedule
Thursday, December 7th
 5:30 p.m. Vigil
Friday, December 8th
 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., and 7:00 p.m.

New Members Welcome!



The Music Ministry of St. Joseph Church is looking for new members for the **Adult and Children Choirs**. Both rehearse in the choir loft on Thursdays. The children rehearse from **4:30 to 5:45 p.m.**, and the adults from **7:30 to 9:30 p.m.** Both lead the Assembly in song at one or two Sunday masses each month and at special masses. Please contact Maria Lennon at 215-896-9484 or email her at mariaalennon@comcast.net for more details, or come to one of our rehearsals.

Monthly Food Drive



Our food collection is scheduled for this weekend, December 2nd and 3rd. Non-perishables only. Canned food items in greatest need are: **beef stew, tuna fish, fruit, vegetables, pasta, soups and pork & beans.**

St. Joseph Christmas Bazaar

Christmas Bazaar is this weekend!



Our Bazaar is this Sun., Dec. 3rd and we are in need of Volunteers and Bakers. Baked Goods for the Bazaar can be dropped off any time after 2pm on Saturday December 2nd or December 3rd in the morning. Please email Rita or Marilyn (rrole2325@comcast.net or tupperwaremom101@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

Tips from the Health and Help Ministry



Healthy Holiday Tips from The CDC:
 Wash Hands Often; Stay Warm(check on the elderly); Manage Stress;

Travel Safely (don't drink and drive, wear seat belts.); Be Smoke Free; Get Check Ups and Vaccinations; Watch the Kids (keep potentially dangerous items and foods out of reach, develop rules about acceptable and safe behaviors for all electronic media.) Prevent Injuries; Handle and Prepare Food Safely; Eat Healthy and Be Active.

To learn more visit: www.cdc.gov/family/holiday



Preventing the Flu: Good Health Habits Can Help Stop Germs

The single best way to prevent seasonal flu is to get vaccinated each year.

1. Avoid close contact. Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
2. Stay home when you are sick. If possible, stay home from work, school, and errands when you are sick.
3. Cover your mouth and nose. Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing.
4. Clean your hands. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub.
5. Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.
6. Practice other good health habits. Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces at home, work or school. Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids, eat nutritious food.

Content source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD)

CCD School of Religion

Please call 215-672-9990 or 215-672-3020 for information.



Class times: Tuesdays, 4:30- 5:50 p.m. and 6:15- 7:35 p.m.

December 2017

Tues., Dec. 5: Grades 1-6 and Sacrament Class in session including Junior/Senior High School.

Tues., Dec. 12: Grades 1-6 and Sacrament Class in session. Last CCD class until January 2, 2018! Merry Christmas!

January 2018

Tues., Jan. 2: Grades 1-6 and Sacrament Class in session including Junior/Senior High School.

Thurs., Jan. 4: 6:30 p.m., teachers meeting in school building.

Tues., Jan. 9: Grades "1", "2", "4", "5", "6" and Sacrament Class in session. 3rd Graders will report directly to the Church for First Penance practice from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Children will be dropped off and picked up from the Church not the school.

Wed., Jan. 10: Sacrament of First Penance for 3rd Graders, 7 p.m. in Church.

Tues., Jan. 16: Grades 1-6 and Sacrament Class in session. "Protecting God's Children" classes will be presented to all grades.

Tues., Jan. 23: Grades 1-6 and Sacrament Class in session. (Snow date for "Protecting God's Children" classes.)

Tues., Jan. 30: Grades 1-6 and Sacrament Class in session. End of first half of the year. Confirmation Class 2018 Service Projects due.

God has a Different Plan



We begin the season of Advent with a heartfelt call for our own repentance. We remember God's faithful love for us, and call upon God to help us to turn back. For "behold, you are angry, and we are sinful" (Isaiah 64:4). In the first reading and in the psalm, we recall God's promises and lament our unfaithfulness and our guilt. We call upon God's might and power in order to save us. With Isaiah, we ask God to "rend the heavens and come down, with the mountains quaking before you" (Isaiah 63:19).

Yes, God is faithful to us, because we are the work of God's hands. God is the potter, we are the clay. And yet, our concept of how God will come to save us is rooted in our own expectations of a warrior God who crushes mountains and thunders into our lives with great noise and glory. But God has a different plan: the Incarnation. *Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.*

Bulletin Submittals

Please submit your bulletin requests to the Rectory. Requests may be emailed to sjc18976@verizon.net or dropped off at the Rectory Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. We welcome your bulletin requests; however, all bulletin requests are subject to Pastor's approval and space availability.

St. Joseph/St. Robert School



ST. JOSEPH/ST. ROBERT SCHOOL
FOCUSED ON FAITH AND LEARNING

850 Euclid Avenue
Warrington, PA 18976
215-343-5100
www.STJSTR.ORG

Registration is now open for half day & full day Pre-K & K. Please call 215.343.5100, ext. 209 or email at kwilliamson@stjstr.org.

Tuition Assistance for 2018/2019 ~ Deadline Dec. 31, 2017

Applications for BLOCS Scholarships for the 2018-2019 year are now open. It is also recommended that you visit: www.Blocs.org and review the FAQ. It is very important that every SJR family review, and if you qualify, it is strongly recommended that you apply. Families can apply who have students enrolling in grades Pre-K through 12th. Families with one dependent must have an annual income of less than \$91, 620. For each additional dependent, you can make an additional \$15, 270 per child. To apply for tuition assistance please visit: <http://blocs.org/apply-scholarship/>

Congratulations Saints! The Varsity Saints CYO football team won the Buxmont Championship game this past weekend. Among the team members are some of our own Saints: **Tyler Traae, Jake Lesher, Nick Chesla, and Ryan Sorge.** (Let's hope our Eagles can follow their lead!)

Treasures from our Tradition



Advent calendars appear now in many homes, and newfangled formats are even available on line. Children have fun opening the doors and windows keyed to the days counting down to Christmas. Behind each door is a picture related to the Christmas mystery, perhaps a scripture verse or saying, but more and more these days something totally unconnected to religious life, like a small toy or a chocolate treat, appears instead. The Advent calendar is not very old as traditions go. We can trace it back to German-speaking Christians, both Protestant and Catholic. Lutherans might have originated the custom by placing chalk marks on doors starting December 1, lighting candles every day, or placing a new religious picture on the wall each day during Advent. The oldest known hand-made calendar goes back to 1851, and the first printed ones appeared in 1908 in Germany with Bible verses behind the doors. By far the most interesting calendar is a building, the town hall (*Rathaus*) of Gengenbach in Germany's Black Forest. Every year the townspeople invite an illustrator of children's books to create twenty-four paintings or motifs for each of the twenty-four main windows of the building. Every night the people gather to see a new window opened and illuminated.

Very few commercial Advent calendars pay much attention to the core values of our liturgical calendar: the pivotal place of Sunday, the importance of Advent feasts like Saint Lucy and Saint Nicholas, and the clear shift in tone on December 17 from Advent longing and preparation toward imminent hope in Christ's coming. That kind of creativity is left up to you!

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.