



**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,

As we draw closer to Christmas and the special time when we recognize all the benefits and gifts God has blessed us with, I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you for the continuing sacrifices you have made on behalf of your parish. I realize that times are challenging and I am very grateful for your continued emotional, spiritual, and financial support. The giving tree was once again a tremendous success and your response was amazing, as it is every year. I will let you know the final figures once they are completed. I also want to thank all those who generously give of their time and talent at our parish. I am inviting all volunteers who have been involved at St. Joseph over the past year to please stop by Classroom 18 to receive a small token of our appreciation. The list of various volunteer groups includes: the Adult servers; those who care for the Altar linens; those who assist with decorating the altar and maintaining it, collection counters; CCD teachers, assistants, and volunteers; Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion; Finance Committee; Food for the Poor; Giving Tree; Hope Committee; Lectors; Music Ministry; Office Volunteers; Health and Help Ministry (Nurses and assistants); Pastoral Council; Respect Life; RCIA; Ushers; VINE Group. I haven't forgotten about our student altar servers, I will have a separate gift for the young people available in the sacristy. If you are a volunteer and I have forgotten to list your group, please stop by and pick up your gift, and mention it to me, so that I won't forget next year.



I also take this opportunity to offer my annual reminder to our "regulars" that we will probably have a large number of visitors for Christmas. I certainly know that

this can try our patience but I ask your help in making all our worshipers feel welcome. Please do your best to follow our parking procedures to allow us to accommodate as many cars as possible. If you are parking in the lot nearest the church, the design is that you would enter from 611 and pull all the way up to County Line Road leaving the fire lane and also the walking path (yellow crosswalk) clear of cars, so that people may safely travel to the further back parking lot. A little bit of cooperation will go a long way in helping us all celebrate the Birth of our Savior in a calm and peaceful state of mind. Thank you for your understanding. If anyone is willing and available to assist people with parking, especially for the vigil Masses, please contact me. We will have our regular Sunday Mass schedule for the morning of Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> (to satisfy the obligation to attend for the Fourth Sunday of Advent). Then we will have the following Masses for Christmas: Sunday, Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m. and also at 12:00 midnight. On Monday, Christmas Day, our Masses are the same as a Sunday; 7:00 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

May God Bless You,  
Fr. Bordonaro



<b>Saturday</b>	<u>December 16, 2017</u>	Raymond & Clara Young
	5:30pm	
<b>Sunday</b>	<u>December 17, 2017</u>	
	7:00am	Jack Lucchesi
	8:30am	People of the Parish
	10:00am	Stephen Hamby
	11:30am	Matthew Reilly
<b>Monday</b>	8:00am	Karl & Anna Steiert
<b>Tuesday</b>	8:00am	Suzanne Jones
<b>Wednesday</b>	8:00am	Susan & Alfred Denofa
<b>Thursday</b>	8:00am	Margaret Dougherty
<b>Friday</b>	8:00am	Thomas J. Murray
<b>Saturday</b>	8:00am	Paul Soltis, 7 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary
<b>Saturday</b>	<u>December 23, 2017</u>	
	5:30pm	Joseph A. Gallen, Sr.
<b>Sunday</b>	<u>December 24, 2017</u>	
	7:00am	All Souls
	8:30am	Dr. Louis Cerritelli
	10:00am	William Kuscin
	11:30am	Dr. Louis Cerritelli

**Please Pray For**



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

**Sunday Collection**

12/10/17: \$ **8,867.00**  
12/11/16: \$ 9,837.00



**This Week in Our Parish**

**Monday, December 18, 2017**

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

**Wednesday, December 20, 2017**

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

**Thursday, December 21, 2017**

- \* Children's Choir Practice – 4:30 p.m. – Church
- \* BSA Troop 137 – 7:00 p.m. – Rectory Basement
- \* Adult's Choir Practice – 7:30 p.m. - Church

**Saturday, December 23, 2017**

- \* Confessions - 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

*\*Please note, the Rectory will be closed on Fri., Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup> – Tues., Dec. 26<sup>th</sup> for Christmas.*

## Readings for the Week

- Monday:** Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19;  
Mt 1:18-25
- Tuesday:** Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17;  
Lk 1:5-25
- Wednesday:** Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38
- Thursday:** Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a;  
Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
- Friday:** 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd;  
Lk 1:46-56
- Saturday:** Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14;  
Lk 1:57-66
- Sunday:** 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29;  
Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38



### Third Sunday of Advent, December 17, 2017

Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing.  
— 1 Thessalonians 5:16-17

## Treasures from our Tradition



Last week, we looked at a form of nativity scene called a *presepio*, characterized by framing the crèche of Jesus with a vast array of personalities and a rich geographical context. The tradition was carried to the New World, and finds very rich expression in Latin America today. While in Europe the *presepio* was reserved mostly to the homes of wealthy nobles and great churches, in Latin America it was claimed by the poor and expressed the skills of native artisans. In Mexico, you can still find clay figures in every village market. In a way, the native people took the religion of Spanish rule and baptized it with their Indian culture by surrounding the crib of Jesus with local geography and people. In Brazil, where Christmas falls in summer, the figure of the baby Jesus is wrapped in gold and gems, and set on a hillside surrounded by flowers and animals of all kinds. Sometimes there is a double *presepio*, presenting both Nativity and Crucifixion.

In some places in Latin America, even non-religious people take care to have a *presepio* in the home, sometimes dedicating one whole room in the house or apartment to the scene. Some cities have markets where people from the countryside sell plants and figurines. In Cuzco, churches and families provide hot chocolate for the children of the poor who come down to help create the nativity scenes. In Paraguay, the baby Jesus grows—the small infant who arrives on Christmas Eve is replaced at New Year with a toddler Jesus who holds in one hand the globe and in the other a cross. Few Christmas traditions have the vitality and variety of *presepios* and crèches honoring the Nativity.

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

## Monthly Food Drive



Our next food collection is scheduled for the weekend of January 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. Non-perishables only. Canned food items in greatest need are: **beef stew, tuna fish, fruit, vegetables, pasta, soups and pork & beans.** Thank you for your generosity in December of 985 pounds of food!

## Rejoice!



Isaiah proclaims truly good news to us! God's coming brings not sadness, guilt, fear, wrath, or condemnation. No, God's coming is a source of comfort and joy. Saying it once is not enough, for today's readings are full of joy. Mary's Magnificat substitutes for our psalm today, and our second reading encourages us to rejoice, to give thanks and praise. This is the root meaning of the Greek word for eucharist. We are urged to rejoice and give thanks, because the coming of the Lord brings joy, healing, liberty, release, vindication. It makes the very earth spring up with new life! Good tidings!  
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### Masses for Christmas

Sunday, Christmas Eve:

5:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m., 12:00 midnight.

Monday, Christmas Day:

7:00 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

## Choir News



Come to Christmas Mass early and join in singing or just listen to **Christmas Carols!** The Church Choirs, at the 5:30 p.m. Christmas Eve, and 10:00 a.m. Christmas morning masses, will be singing Christmas music for 20 minutes prior to Mass.

Any child who would like to sing with the Children's Choir at the 5:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass, please come to practice from 4:30 to 5:45 p.m. on Saturday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> in the choir loft.

Any Adults who would like to sing or play an instrument with the choir at the 10:00 a.m. Mass Christmas Day, please come to practice on Saturday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30 p.m. in the choir loft.

Adults who would like to sing or play an instrument the 11:30 am Christmas Mass, please meet at 11:00 a.m. in the Music Room Christmas morning.

Please contact Mrs. Maria Lennon at 215-896-9484 or mariaalennon@comcast.net for further information.

## 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

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. 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

## Tips from the Health and Help Ministry



**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)*

## Bulletin Submittals



Please submit your bulletin requests to the Rectory. Requests may be emailed to [sjc18976@verizon.net](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:kwilliamson@stjstr.org).

### St. Joseph / St. Robert School HSA

4th Annual BINGO BONANZA ~ Ladies Night Out

St. Robert Bellarmine, Msgr. Marley Hall

Fri., Jan. 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018

7 p.m. (Doors open at 6 p.m.)

Basket Raffles, \* 50/50 \*, Door Prizes

Tickets - \$ 35 includes: 15 Bingo rounds, Hot & Cold Beverages / Dessert

BYOB & Snacks

To purchase tickets please visit: [www.stjstr.org](http://www.stjstr.org)

or contact Daiana Fuller 215-801-8602 (tickets will sell out, get your tickets early!)

### Christmas Pageant

Will take place Wed., Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> in St. Robert Church beginning 7 p.m. Children should arrive at 6:50 p.m.

### Early Dismissal

Our school will dismiss for the Christmas holidays at 12 Noon, Thurs., Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>. Please contact Ms. Mealia regarding after school CARES availability.

## An Evening of Christmas Favorites



With Bill Monaghan & friends in association with Monaghan Music LLC. St. Vincent de Paul Church, 654 Hatboro Rd., Richboro

Tuesday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

Admission is free with donations encouraged. All proceeds will go to Philabundance and to support Bridge to Uganda and Pope John Paul II in Uganda, Africa.

Join us with your family and friends and share in the music and the Christmas spirit. Children are most welcome!

The seasonal sounds include some very special Christmas songs, featuring sacred and secular songs, and everyone will be invited to sing-a-long to Holiday favorites! Special guests include Carl Lichtner, Shannon McMullen, Christine Favorite and a very special guest from the North Pole.

For more information, email [info@monaghanmusic.com](mailto:info@monaghanmusic.com).

## Bucks County Community College

### Catholic Club

Won't you join us? Bucks students are welcome! The first meeting of the Spring Semester is Tuesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 12:30 p.m., at the Newtown campus. Please contact Club President, Aileen Young, [younga54936@live.bucks.edu](mailto:younga54936@live.bucks.edu) or Faculty Adviser, Jean Dolan, [jean.dolan@bucks.edu](mailto:jean.dolan@bucks.edu) or 215-968-8094.