

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 (Except Jan. 1): 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 need to apologize about the Christmas mailing; there was some incorrect information in the flyer regarding Mass times for Dec. 31/Jan. 1, The Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. Last year we made a change in the schedule because the New Year began on a Monday so it wasn't a Holy Day of Obligation. The current Christmas flyer went out with last year's schedule which is incorrect because January 1, 2019 is a Holy Day of Obligation. **So the corrected Mass times are: Vigil Mass Monday, Dec. 31, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. Masses on Tuesday, January 1, 2019 are at 8:30, 10:00, and 11:30 a.m.** Please note that there is NO evening Mass on January 1. I am sorry for the confusion.



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); Respect Life; RCIA; Ushers. 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. This year the featured gift is a mug with an imprint of our parish church, or you may choose from one of the previous years' gifts.

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.

Continued on page 3...



Saturday	<u>December 15, 2018</u>	5:30pm	Charles Dampf
Sunday	<u>December 16, 2018</u>	7:00am	People of the Parish
		8:30am	Linda Generale
		10:00am	Raymond & Clara Young
		11:30am	Mary Ann Dowzicky
Monday		8:00am	Albert Daugert
Tuesday		8:00am	Claire Kreuter
Wednesday		8:00am	Susan & Alfred Denofa
Thursday		8:00am	Dorothy Smedley
Friday		8:00am	Karl & Anna Steiert
Saturday		8:00am	Dorothy Smedley
Saturday	<u>December 22, 2018</u>	5:30pm	Paul Soltis, 8 th Anniversary
Sunday	<u>December 23, 2018</u>	7:00am	Joseph A. Gallen, Sr.
		8:30am	Peter Calabrese
		10:00am	Dr. Louis Cerritelli
		11:30am	People of the Parish

Please Pray For



Those who are ill: Kim Bell, Robert Conrad, Marcella Fay, John Ferro, Bill Gaida, Madeline Gorniak, Russel Heim, Dave McKay, Rose Murphy, baby Ronan Power, Michael Roche, and Wayne Woodruff.

Sunday Collections:

12/09/18: **\$ 11,814.00**
 12/10/17: \$ 8,867.00

Third Sunday of Advent, December 16, 2018

The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst,
 you have no further misfortune to fear.
 — Zephaniah 3:15b

This Week in Our Parish

Monday, December 17, 2018

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

Thursday, December 20, 2018

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

Readings for the Week

Monday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17

Tuesday: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25

Wednesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25

Thursday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Lk 1:26-38

Friday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45

Saturday: 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56

Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

A Note from the Pastor *Continued...*

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. The Masses for Christmas are as follows: Monday Dec. 24th Christmas Eve vigils at 5:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m. and also at 12:00 midnight. On Tuesday, Dec. 25th, 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.

God Bless you, Fr. Bordonaro

St. Joseph Music Ministry

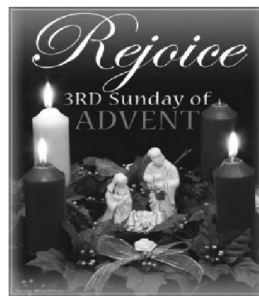
It's not too late to offer your musical gifts for Christmas!!

We are looking for more *singers*, and *trumpet, flute, oboe, or violin* players to enhance our Christmas liturgies! The *Children's Choir* will be singing at the

5:30 pm Mass Christmas Eve, and the *Adult Choir* will be at the **10:00 am Christmas Mass**. We are also **forming a group to cover the 11:30 am Christmas morning Mass**. Rehearsals are on Thursdays from **4:30 to 5:45 pm** for the Children's Choir, and from **7:30 to 9:30 pm** for the Adult Choir. Additional practices will be based on availability of singers. Please feel free to join us on any Thursday evening, or contact Mrs. Maria Lennon at 215-896-9484 or at mariaalennon@comast.net. New members are welcome any time! We can work out a flexible schedule convenient for you! No prior singing experience is necessary to sing praise to the Lord!!

Monthly Food Drive

Our next food collection is scheduled for the weekend of January 5th and 6th. 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 915 pounds of food!

Treasures From Our Tradition

Years ago, the trick question on religion quizzes would be to name all the liturgical colors, or the colors of the vestments worn at Mass. Rose is a color seldom seen, used at most two days a year. Today, "Gaudete Sunday," is one of those days. The name of the day is drawn from an opening verse in the old Latin Mass texts: *Gaudete* is Latin for "Rejoice!" This year's Gospel certainly reflects that mood as Elizabeth feels her infant within her leaping for joy at the presence of Mary. Mary's visit to her aged cousin is an act of compassion between women, as two kinswomen who are bearing children into the world share their joy.

Some churches retain the custom of having the priest wear rose vestments today, and many will use a rose candle in the Advent wreath. Violet is the official color for Advent and Lent, but many parishes employ different hues for each season, trying to keep them distinct. In medieval times, dye was costly, and poor parishes used unornamented plain cloth for vestments. Dyes were expensive and some colors, particularly purple, difficult to achieve. In England, purple dye was made from mollusks, yielding at best a deep indigo or blue and not the desired violet. Thus, the color of Advent in the British Isles has long been a deep blue, reminding many people of Mary's presence at the heart of the Advent mystery. That theology is largely unplanned: it's all because of the clams!

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

Office for the New Evangelization

Midnight Mass for New Year's and the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God (*Holy Day of Obligation*)
Tuesday, January 1, 2019,
12 Midnight
Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul, Philadelphia

The Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul invites you to celebrate the New Year and the feast of Our Lady at Midnight Mass. This Solemn Mass will take place in the Cathedral Chapel.

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.

Registration

You must be registered in the parish before signing your child up for the 2018-2019 CCD School Year, and a copy of your child's baptismal certificate is required if your child is new to the program. Payment is due at the time of registration. Classes are filled on a first come-first served basis!

December 2018

Tues., Dec. 18: Family Advent Presentation. Last CCD class until January 8, 2019. Merry Christmas!

January 2019

Thurs., Jan. 3: Teachers' Meeting 6:30 p.m. in the Valley Road School Building.

Tues., Jan. 8: Grades 1-6 and Sacrament Class in session including Junior/Senior High School.

Tues., Jan. 15: All Grades and Sacrament Class in session. 3rd Graders should report directly to the Church at 6 p.m. for Reconciliation practice and be picked up at the Church at 7 p.m.

Wed., Jan. 16: Sacrament of First Penance for 3rd Graders, 7 p.m. in the Church.

CD's and Books



Look for new titles in our CD & Book stand: Get practical ideas on parenting delivered with wit and wisdom by clinical psychologist and father of ten Dr. Ray Guarendi. Be inspired by Matthew Kelly's talks on prayer, the power of the Eucharist, and the joy of living out our Catholic faith. You'll find treasures like "Amazing Grace" songs by Marty Rotella, a cute book for children about a "Christmas bear," and even a "spiritual coloring book!" (Great stocking stuffers too!) Thank you for your donations in the slot at the stand to support our partnership with StewardshipMission.org.

St. Joseph Men's Group



Please join the men of the parish on the first and third Mondays each month -- we are starting a new series;

12/17: *Life After Sunday Series*

(topic: Beauty); <http://www.lifeaftersunday.com/issues/las-Beauty.pdf>

1/7: *Explosion of the Catholic Church in Africa*

1/21: Topic TBD

The sessions will be held in room 18, from 8 to 9 pm; all men are invited.

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



With over 700 audience members, St. Joseph/St. Robert School's inaugural Thespians Wizard of Oz Jr. performance was unforgettable. SJR'S "Thespians

Club" is a new club formed this year to promote confidence, creativity, and imagination amongst the school's student body. The club's "something for everyone" feel began in September with students auditioning for lead roles, performance, art and stage crew opportunities. Confidence was awakened with over 50 performers ranging from Kindergarten to 8th grade. All sets and props were created and designed by the SJR Thespian Art Crew led by Melanie Branchide. The Stage Crew children kept the play running smoothly.

"Through performing arts, children's inner strengths can be revealed that they may have never discovered until now. Our job is to bring out these strengths and self confidence that they can carry on through all aspects of life," say Lauren Kulp and Lindsay Keegan, the play's directors.

"We are so excited this year at SJR to have a Theater Arts program, our SJR Thespians. It is a wonderful addition to what we already consider to be a rigorous curriculum," states Mrs. Deborah Jaster, principal at SJR.

"Even though it is my last year here at SJR, I thought it was a great experience and I was able to make even more great memories at SJR while doing this show," says 8th grader Sofia Mazzarella, one of the plays lead performers.

For more information on the Theater Arts program at SJR, visit www.stjstr.org

Rejoice!



Today has traditionally been called "Gaudete Sunday." The Latin tag is derived from Paul's appeal in the second reading to "rejoice always in the Lord," and the Latin Mass text based on that reading. The irony and paradox of this Christian joy is underlined by the fact that Paul wrote those words in prison. But from there he could see the progress of God's work.

Is it obvious to us? We feel that this is not the time for joy when there is so much suffering and moral evil. It is interesting, then, that the first reading is from the prophet Zephaniah, who is almost exclusively concerned with gloomy visions of Judgment Day. Today the Church selects the only optimistic text in Zephaniah, in which the prophet has been touched by the spirit of joy.

This, we are assured on all sides, is "the season of joy." Let us recapture that feeling of joy in our lives and reflect it to those who are joyless.