

**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.)

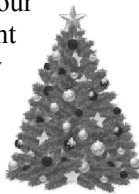
**A Note from the Pastor**



My Dear Parishioners,  
 I take the opportunity on behalf of Fr. Duffy, Msgr. McCoy, Msgr. Bolger, myself, and all those who minister here at St. Joseph to wish you all a very Blessed and joyous Christmas. We celebrate Jesus' birth over 2000 years ago as a human being, but Christmas is also about anticipating Jesus' return at the end of the world when we will be given the opportunity to live with Him in eternal happiness. We are grateful for the extreme love God shows us in wanting to save us, but also in wanting to be with us forever. Please accept my prayers for you and your family to experience a sacred renewal of the life that the Christ child brings at this time of year. I also pray that your New Year is filled with God's many blessings. I thank all of you for the opportunity to serve as your pastor and also for the witness and inspiration you provide me.



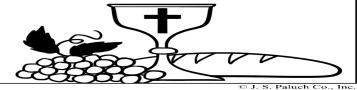
I also want to thank you for your extremely generous support of our Advent Giving Tree. We were able to help many families in our local area directly with their Christmas celebrations. In addition, we were able to help the following charities: Guiding Star ministries in Philadelphia, which helps pregnant women and children; Gift of Mary, which provides a similar ministry in Chester; Blessed Margaret of Castello Home, which is a crisis pregnancy center in Bensalem; St. Ignatius/Our Mother of Sorrows Church, which is a merged church in West Philadelphia and provides outreach to many families in need; and Mother of Mercy House which provides outreach to those in North Philadelphia. We are also able to help many more families in the future through our own Hope Committee and also through the tuition assistance provided. The majority of the remaining gifts and cards were given to Catholic Social Services located in Levittown.



I also want to remind our numerous volunteers to pick up a small token of our appreciation from Classroom 18. This year the "featured gift" is a personalized coffee mug with a picture of St. Joseph Church on it. 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; Socials Committee; and Ushers. I haven't forgotten about our student altar servers, I will have a separate gift for the young people available in the sacristy.

God Bless you,  
 Fr. Bordonaro

**Masses for the Week**



<b>Saturday</b>	<u>December 22, 2018</u>	Paul Soltis, 8 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary
	5:30pm	
<b>Sunday</b>	<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
<b>Monday</b>	8:00am	Barbara Soltis
Christmas Eve	5:30pm	Celebrant's Intention
	7:30pm	Celebrant's Intention
	Midnight	Celebrant's Intention
<b>Tuesday</b>	7:00am	Celebrant's Intention
Christmas	8:30am	Celebrant's Intention
	10:00am	Celebrant's Intention
	11:30am	Celebrant's Intention
<b>Wednesday</b>	8:00am	Doris Teufel
<b>Thursday</b>	8:00am	Georgette Rossetti
<b>Friday</b>	8:00am	Colleen Jackson, 5 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary
<b>Saturday</b>	8:00am	Joan Vollmar
<b>Saturday</b>	<u>December 29, 2018</u>	
	5:30pm	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday</b>	<u>December 30, 2018</u>	
	7:00am	Eleanor McDonald
	8:30am	Snyder Grossman Family
	10:00am	Robert Hagan
	11:30am	Helen Eells

**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.

**Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 23, 2018**

Blessed are you among women,  
 and blessed is the fruit of your womb.  
 — Luke 1:42

**This Week in Our Parish**

**Monday, December 24, 2018**

- \* Rectory Closed for Christmas Eve
- \* No Monday Night Rosary

**Tuesday, December 25, 2018**

- \* Merry Christmas
- \* Rectory Closed for Christmas

**Wednesday, December 26, 2018**

- \* Rectory Closed for Christmas



**Readings for the Week**

**Monday:** 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79

**Tuesday:** Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]  
Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14  
Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20  
Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]

**Wednesday:** Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22

**Thursday:** 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8

**Friday:** 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt 2:13-18

**Saturday:** 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35

**Sunday:** Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Ps 128:1-5 or Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10; Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52

**St. Joseph Music Ministry**

The Children's Choir (at the 5:30 pm Christmas Vigil Mass) and the Adult Choir (at the 10:00 am Christmas Mass), will be providing Christmas music for 25 minutes prior to Mass. Come early to Mass to listen and to join in singing praise to the Christ child with your favorite Christmas Hymns.

There will be no practice for the choirs on Thursday, December 27th. Practices will resume on January 7th at 4:30 pm for the Children's Choir & 7:30 pm for the Adult Choir. We are always looking for new members! Contact Mrs. Maria Lennon at 215-896-9484 or at mariaalennon@comast.net

**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;

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.

**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.

**Financial Report**

November 2018

**Sunday Collections:**

Not available at time of publication

**E-Giving:**

11/18: \$ 5,975.80

11/17: \$ 5,246.18

**MONTHLY REPORT**

School Subsidy	\$ 10,919.04
Archdiocese Assessment	\$ 8,400.00
Disability Insurance	\$ 97.92
Liability Insurance	\$ 1,266.67
Property Insurance	\$ 683.00
Worker's Comp Insurance	\$ 154.83
Priest Auto Insurance	\$ 218.75
Priest Health Insurance	\$ 1,283.00
Employees Health Insurance	\$ 1,379.40
Priest Ancillary Benefits	\$ 300.00
Priest Pension	\$ 8.33
Visiting Priest Honorarium	\$ 1,520.00
Employee Pay	\$ 18,454.79
Music Ministry	\$ 914.92
Payroll Service	\$ 99.20
PECO	\$ 1,143.68
Verizon	\$ 616.58
Church Cleaning	\$ 455.00
Trash Removal	\$ 314.67
Comcast Cable	\$ 140.85
Computer Support	\$ 277.50
Supplies	\$ 1,818.22
VRSB Roof Repairs	\$ 350.00
Services	\$ 646.82
Water and Sewer	\$ 325.48

**Monthly Food Drive**

beans.

Our next food collection is scheduled for the weekend of January 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. Non-perishables only. Canned food items in greatest need are: **beef stew, tuna fish, fruit, vegetables, pasta, soups and pork &**

**Addiction Support**

**Spiritual Support for Addiction: *Hope in Christ Seeking spiritual support in the journey towards recovery?***  
Many parishes around the Archdiocese are extending God's merciful and loving hand to those who have an addiction as well as their families and loved ones. The Hope in Christ: Spiritual Support for Addiction webpage provides a central location for resources, ongoing support, events, and testimonies that are happening throughout the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Visit [archphila.org/hope](http://archphila.org/hope) for new postings for Catholic resources available to you or a loved one.

## 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!

### 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. 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders, 7 p.m. in the Church.

## Retrouvaille

Malvern Retreat House

315 S. Warren Avenue Malvern, PA 19355

Weekend Retreat: February 8-10, 2019

### Retrouvaille for Stressed or Troubled Marriages

A healing program that offers a welcoming and loving space to married couples who have been living with the misery of a failing marriage. Retrouvaille offers hope that it is not too late for a different and better marriage. Go to [malvernretreat.com/eve](http://malvernretreat.com/eve) for more information.

## 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.

## Catholic Comedy Show

**"Bible Bingo"** ~ A Comedy of God, Games & Goofy Prizes. Saturday, January 26th, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Gym, Hilltown. Tickets \$25 per person. Online tickets are available for purchase at <https://www.olshilltown.com/parish100biblebingo/>. *Questions:* Please call OLSH Rectory at (215) 822-9224 or [olsh@comcast.net](mailto:olsh@comcast.net).

## 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)



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## Treasures From Our Tradition



In ancient pagan Rome, these days in mid-December were a time for general slacking off at work and far too much rejoicing. The period of leisure after the harvest and a whole

cluster of pagan festivals were a force for the church to reckon with. The Saturnalia, breaking out on December 17, was a time of high living and loose morals. Christians were advised by their bishops to drop out of the mayhem and do some serious fasting. A famous church council at Saragossa in Spain made a season of fasting mandatory from December 17 to December 23, exactly coinciding with the Saturnalia. The bishops at that time were perhaps less concerned with preparing for Christmas than with resisting the kind of loose living going on.

Modern times have restored a bit of the Saturnalia spirit to our culture, so that a general period of partying with a vague connection to religion is now upon us. How does a Christian keep balance? The practice of charity by remembering the poor in our gift-giving, of hospitality in finding a place at our holiday tables for the poor and lonely, and of daily prayer in the home and at church are great helps. Although Advent is not a penitential season like Lent, it is a time for making room in our lives for what matters most.

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

## Memories and Dreams



Throughout our lives, we retain the language and habits of our native region and family of origin. Should we return to our home after a long absence, we quickly revert to its familiar speech and practices. Our deep memory is reflected in old stories and words and speech patterns. This familiarity runs like an underground river

and accompanies us wherever we go.

Not only do we remember, we are incorporated into and made part of a greater memory. In remembering and recollecting, we are in turn gathered up and re-collected.

Today we remember Mary, a small figure travelling the country roads to visit Elizabeth. All the great pronouncements and dreams of the prophets point to this time when the Lord's words to Mary would be gathered and fulfilled. The memories of her people are alive in her, and memories of her nourish our own living faith.

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