

MAKING CHRIST A REALITY IN THE COMMUNITY IN WHICH WE LIVE

Pastor: Pastor Emeritus:

School: Principal: Religious Education: CCD Office: Music Director: Rev. Joseph C. Bordonaro Rev. J. A. Grant

850 Euclid Avenue, Warrington Mrs. Jennifer Durkin Mrs. Cathy Cain 215-672-9990/ 3020 Mrs. Maria Lennon mariaalennon@comcast.net

WEBSITE: <u>WWW.SAINTJOSEPHCHURCH.US</u> RECTORY: 215-672-3020 (9AM-4PM Mon. to Fri.) EMAIL: sjc18976@verizon.net SCHOOL: 215-343-5100

MASS SCHEDULE: Mass Schedule:

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Daily Mass (MonSat.)	8:00 AM
Saturday Vigil Mass	5:00 PM
Sunday Masses	7:30 AM
-	9:30 AM
&	11:30 AM

Holy Day Masses 5:30 PM (eve of Holy Day) 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM & 7:00 PM

(Christmas and New Year's have special schedules)

CONFESSIONS: Saturdays: 3:30 PM to 4:30 PM

MASS FOR SHUT-INS:

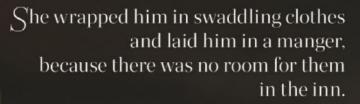
TV - Sunday, 5:30 a.m. WPVI Channel 6, Radio – Sunday, 9:00 a.m. 89.3 FM

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.)



LUKE 2:7

🐵 J. S. Paluch Co. Inc. Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass @ 2008, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970, CCD. All rights reserved. Photo: Bugaev/Adobe Stoc

LIGHT AND LIFE

The four Gospel portraits of Jesus take very different approaches to his origins. Mark has no record of Jesus' ancestry, except for his connection to John the Baptist. Matthew traces his genealogy back to Abraham; Luke even farther back, to Adam. The Gospel of John outdoes them all, tracing Jesus' origins back to the time before time, before the world was created! Jesus is the eternal Word of God. The Greek term for "Word" is logos, and it is a word with deep implications. The logos exists before creation, because all of creation came to be through the logos and, in turn, the logos will become the light of all it has created. This is what makes Christmas a season light and life. May our lives radiate this light, reflecting the life-giving Wordmade-Flesh. Let our discipleship truly and fully make incarnate once again the Wordin-flesh whom we celebrate and adore: Jesus Christ, our Lord!

THE SEASON OF LIGHT

It is customary to celebrate Christmas with lights of all sorts. This even happens in the southern hemisphere, where people aren't experiencing the shorter, darker days of northern climates. From little twinkles on Christmas trees to the glow of candles in church, Christmas is a celebration of the light born today in God's Word-made-flesh. As with other types of lights, the Christ-light takes on different forms. Sometimes its light is direct, while at other times it is a reflection. The lights of Christmas, like Jesus the Light of the world, offer comfort, ease fears, show us the way, and help us to see that God is present here. While we believe that Jesus is the light that no darkness can overcome, it can seem at times it seems as though the gloom around us is overcoming the light. We all are familiar with darkness's different forms that seem to bombard us daily, hourly—minute by minute, if we allow them to. And yet . . .

THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE

The relentless daily reports of darkness can easily lead us not to see the many glimmers of light around us. We who follow the Christ-light must always be on alert for signs of that light around us. Likewise, we who have that Christ-light in us must let it shine forth. No matter how little we think our light may be, we must recall that it is the light of Christ we bear within us. Like John the Baptist in today's Gospel passage, we are meant to testify to the power of light, to help others see glimpses of God-with-us. Our actions must bear good news, they must announce glad tidings. Even small deeds

of light can shine brightly, giving birth to Jesus once again each day. On Christmas day and every day we are called to be people of hope, messengers of peace who offer comfort and make God's glory known. Let the light of Christ in your life be one of the season's brightest!

TODAY'S READINGS

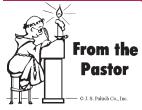
Isaiah 52:7–10 Psalm 98:1, 2–3, 3–4, 5–6 Hebrews 1:1–6 John 1:1–18

BER 25,

December 25, 2022

Massas East Tha Wash

A Note From The Pastor



My Dear Parishioners,

On our recent trip to the Holy Land, I was reminded that the word Bethlehem, in Hebrew means the "House of Bread." We know that the Messiah was prophesied to come from the line

of and hometown of King David – Bethlehem. How prophetic that the one who gives us the "Bread of Life" should come from a town known as the "House of Bread."

I found the following Christmas reflection and prayer, **Gracious Lord, Child of Bethlehem** on the US Bishop's website.

Christmas is one of the most important days of the Church year, second only to Easter itself. Celebrating the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ, it is the culmination of the mystery of the incarnation, the feast of God becoming flesh (the Latin "in carne" means "enfleshment"). It is a uniquely Christian teaching, the Divine choosing to become one of us. Because of this belief, God is not only Transcendent, but also wholly Immanent, Emmanuel (God-with-us). While remaining Transcendent (meaning we must rise above our present condition to reach Him), He is at the same time Immanent (meaning He is with us as we rise toward Him). Every Eucharist is like Christmas where the bread and wine are transformed into His flesh, His Body and Blood, and, in a sense, He is born anew on the altar.

The liturgical season of Christmas begins with the vigil Masses on Christmas Eve and concludes on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. During this season, we celebrate the birth of Christ into our world and into our hearts and reflect on the gift of salvation that is born with him, including the fact that he was born to die for us.

The Christmas tree and the Nativity scene are popular symbols of the season and a tradition in many Christian homes. It is also traditional to exchange Christmas gifts with family and friends to honor God the Father's gift of his only son to the world. Having received the gift of Christ, we naturally want to pass that gift along to our loved ones.

Gracious Lord, Child of Bethlehem

Gracious Lord, Child of Bethlehem,

As you were born into a family who fled to Egypt as refugees, help us grow in solidarity with refugees everywhere, to know we are all refugees, until our hearts find refuge in you.

As you were born under an oppressive regime, let us grow in solidarity with those whose governments deny them their rights and try to undermine their dignity. Help us work for just governance everywhere. *(Continued on page 4)*

Masses For The Week		
Saturday	Dec 24, 2022	
	4:30 p.m.	Celebrant's Intentions
	6:30 p.m.	Celebrant's Intentions
	12:00 MN	Celebrant's Intentions
Sunday	Dec 25, 2022	
	7:30 a.m.	Celebrant's Intentions
	9:30 a.m.	Celebrant's Intentions
	11:30 a.m.	Celebrant's Intentions
Monday	8:00 a.m.	Dale Cain
Tuesday	8:00 a.m.	Thomas J. Zehren
Wednesday	8:00 a.m.	Raymond Generale
Thursday	8:00 a.m.	For the Intentions of
		Brinda Robin
Friday	8:00 a.m.	Andrew H. Witt, Sr.
Saturday	8:00 a.m.	Cecilia G. Chapman
Saturday	Dec 31, 2022	
	5:00 p.m.	Jimmy & Jane
		O'Malley
Sunday	Jan. 1, 2023	
	7:30 a.m.	People of the Parish
	9:30 a.m.	Roy Smedley
	11:30 a.m.	For the Intentions of
		the Gomes Family

Please Pray For Those Who Are Ill:

Peter Sippel, Peter Evans, Kristina Crawford, Mary Ellen Flood, Louis Cerritelli, Robert Sautner, Rachel Higgins, Paul Hand, Brinda Robin, Steve Becker, John Hesser, James Ritsick, John Merritt, Annabelle Long, Stanley Travis, III, James Martin, Theresa Romaniello, Gino Romaniello, Michael Pham, Brian Stec, Kim Bell, Ralph Lawson, Mary Lishman, Dave McKay, Ronan Power, Marie Trotter Rickman, Jack Wilhelm.

This Week In Our Parish

Monday, December 26

*Rectory and Office – **CLOSED** No Adoration No Rosary

Tuesday, December 27

*Rectory and Office – CLOSED

Wednesday, December 28

*Adult Choir – 7:45 p.m.

Thursday, December 29

*Children's Choir – 5:30 p.m.

<u>Bulletin Submittals</u>

Requests may be emailed to <u>sjc18976@verizon.net</u>. All requests are subject to Pastor's approval and space availability.

Readings For The Week

Monday Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22 **Tuesday** 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8 Wednesday 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt 2:13-18 **Thursday** 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:36-40 Friday Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Col 3:12-21 [12-17]; Ps 128:1-5; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23 Saturday 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18 **Sunday** Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

<u>A Note From The Pastor (continued...)</u>

As it was workers, the shepherds, who first came to know you, the carpenter's son, let us remember the dignity of human labor- that you share a special love for those who work hard for their sustenance, and toil beside them.

Let us honor you, in work and in prayer, that livelihoods may be secure, and that workers not be exploited.

As you were adored by the Magi who came from far-off nations to honor you, let us bring to all nations the great good news that is your love.

As your coming was joyfully sung by angels, let us with joy celebrate the gift of life every time a child of God is conceived, and honor that gift with our care.

As you were denied any birthplace but a stable, help us to open our homes, our lives, our hearts to the coming of God and his presence in your people.

Be born this time into our hearts, dear Lord. Gracious Lord, Child of Bethlehem, through the cradle of our hearts, be born into our world.

> May God Bless You, Fr. Bordonaro



Reflect on the Reading

WHAT ALL THE WAITING HAS BEEN FOR

Today's readings are as familiar to most of us as the carols we sing and the commercials that overwhelm this holiday season. Often Christmas finds us tired, struggling with preparations and expectations. What we really want to feel is joy and peace. The stress of preparation, of waiting, is reflected in both Isaiah and Paul's letter to Titus. Luke tells us of the exhaustion that Mary and Joseph felt: a young pregnant wife and her husband, forced to travel just as she is about to give birth, unable even to find a room to stay in. It must have been miserable. They must have been afraid. In the midst of this exhaustion, misery, and fear, a child is born, a Son is given. The world is then filled with light and hope, joy and peace. In that moment they, and we, know what all the waiting has been for. -Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Virtual World Mission Rosary



Monday Evenings, 8 p.m. Join hundreds of people throughout the Archdiocese who have regularly been praying the ROSARY LIVE! United in this most powerful prayer, we ask for the miraculous intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary to hear our

intentions and renew our Catholic

faith as we pray in unity for our brothers and sisters in mission lands world-wide. On Mission Mondays, we pray the World Mission Rosary, created by Venerable Fulton Sheen, in which we offer each decade for one of five Mission areas, including the US. Use this Zoom link to join each Monday: https://zoom.us/s/494480541

Sponsored by the Pontifical Missions **Societies** (phillymissions.org)

Health and Help Ministry:



The RED CROSS BLOOD **DRIVE** will be held on Thursday, January 5, in the Church Hall. Please consider donating. For information and to schedule a donation time call Mary (215-674-4612).

A Transport Wheelchair and a First Aid Kit have been provided by the Health and Help Ministry. Hopefully these will never be needed BUT, IF a need arises while in Church, these supplies can be found in the closet in the back of church on The Blessed Mother's side.

December 25, 2022

Treasures from Our Tradition

An old joke asks, "What time is Midnight Mass?" The answer is not really obvious, since Christmas is unique in having several distinct celebrations. The readings and prayers vary greatly from hour to hour. The Vigil Mass hinges on the family heritage of Jesus and his origins. The concept of "midnight" predates clock time, and really has to do with a celebration in the hours of darkness. Years ago, it was not possible to receive Communion without fasting for a full day, so the late hour of this Mass made it possible for the people to receive. The first Mass after sunrise, the Mass at Dawn, was once known as "The Shepherds' Mass," and later Masses set aside stories of Jesus' birth to focus on the key to the day's celebration: John the Evangelist's majestic theology of Christ's identity as the Word made flesh, dwelling among us. One feast, four separate Masses. Only monasteries manage the whole round. Parishioners typically take just one entry point into the mystery. Yet there is much to savor and celebrate in the coming of Christ into the world. Christmas is not a day, but a season. You still have two weeks to send those Christmas cards before you're officially late! —James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



St. Joseph/St. Robert School is interviewing candidates for a Pre-K (4) position. The candidate, if hired, will be responsible for establishing and maintaining a warm, welcoming classroom environment that facilitates the spiritual, physical, emotional, intellectual and social development of the children.

Qualifications: Degree in education

Pennsylvania required clearances

Safe Environment Clearances required by the Archdiocese Please contact Mrs. Jennifer Durkin, Principal at jdurkin@stjstr.org or 215-343-5100.

Learned At Home

The mind of Christ is to be learned in the family. Strength of character may be acquired at work, but beauty of character is learned at home. —Henry Drummond

Our Fascinating Faith

Christmas Time

The feasts that make up Christmas Time all illuminate in their own way the fundamental mystery of the Incarnation that stands at the heart of this sacred season. Each celebration sheds its own distinct light on our conviction that, in the birth of Jesus, earth and heaven have been wedded together for the sake of our salvation. The feasts of the Holy Family, Mary the Mother of God, Epiphany, and the Baptism of the Lord all have their own particular histories. But they have been joined together in a single seasonal flow that invites us to trace the unfolding meanings of the Incarnation from myriad perspectives. As we follow the successive meanings of Jesus' birth, his participation in family life, the meaning of Mary's motherhood, the significance of the Magi's visit, and the beginning of Jesus' public ministry, we are invited to explore in deeper and deeper fashion the staggering truth that Jesus has shared completely in our human experience, has truly become one with us, fully human while remaining fully divine. -Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

Called to be Saints

A Catholic faith community of young adults and young families, invites you to our upcoming event!

- Saint Catherine of Siena, Horsham
- Thursday, January 5
- 7:00pm Mass in the Chapel, followed by

presentation and discussion in the farmhouse The celebration of the Eucharist at the Mass is the central act of worship in the Catholic Church: Christ's sacrifice made present, inviting us to participate in the redemptive power of the cross. This month, we'll consider the Mass with a critical lens: Why do we need the Mass? What is its purpose? What keeps us from perfect worship? Please join us for our January Disciples' Night, as we welcome Deacon

Mario Mirabelli for an engaging discussion. Bring your faith, an open mind, and a desire to draw closer to God. *Contact <u>scsyoungadults@gmail.com</u> or see our Facebook group "Called to be Saints" for more info on this and other upcoming events.*

The **Bucks County Pro-Life Coalition** invites you to join us for Mass on December 28th as we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Innocents. Mass will be at 7:00 p.m. at St. Martin of Tours Parish, 1 Riverstone Circle, New Hope, PA 18938.

Please join us as we gather to pray for the innocent unborn lives lost in the modern day massacre of abortion. There will be a small reception and fellowship to follow the Mass.

<u>CCD School Of Religion</u> stjosephccd.warrington@yahoo.com 215-672-9990 215-672-3020

St. Joseph Church Religious Education 2022-2023 In Person Class Times: Tuesdays 6:00 p.m. – 7:15 p.m.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY

Tuesday, January 3 – All grades in session.

<u>**Thursday, January 5**</u> – Teachers' Meeting, Valley Road School Building – 6:30 p.m.

<u>**Tuesday, January 10**</u> – Grades 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, and 7 in session Reconciliation Practice for 3^{rd} Grade students – Church Family Home School Drop Off/Pick Up Assignments –

CCD office.

<u>Wednesday, January 11</u> – First Penance – 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, January 17 – All grades in session.

"Kids Talk" presentation.

<u>Tuesday, January 24</u> – All grades in session. Tuesday, January 31 – All grades in session.

FEBRUARY

<u>Tuesday, February 7</u> – All grades in session. First semester Progress Reports distributed. <u>Tuesday, February 14</u> – All grades in session. Signed Progress Reports due. <u>Monday, February 20</u> – Confirmation Retreat for Confirmation students – 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. <u>Tuesday, February 21</u> – All grades in session <u>Tuesday, February 28</u> – Stations of the Cross for all students (Family Home Schooling and In-Person) - 6:15

MARCH

7 - All grades in sessi

<u>Tuesday, March 7</u> – All grades in session. Family Home Schooling Drop Off/Pick Up assignments in CCD office. <u>Wednesday, March 8</u> – Confirmation practice in church – 6:00 p.m. – 7:25 p.m. All students receiving confirmation must attend.

Thursday, March 9 – Confirmation Mass – 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday, March 14 – All grades in session.

p.m. in Church. Families are welcome.

<u>**Tuesday, March 21**</u> – All grades in session.

Tuesday, March 28 – All grades in session. Lenten

Penance Service for **all** students (Family Home Schooling and In-Person).



ST. JOSEPH/ST. ROBERT SCHOOL

Mrs. Jennifer Durkin, Principal 850 Euclid Avenue, Warrington, PA 18976 215-343-5100 <u>www.stjstr.org</u>

Prayer, music, and laughter are the hallmark sounds of a Catholic elementary school at this time of year.

Music transmits the spirit of Christmas in a very special way. Last week, SJR students were able to enjoy the sounds of Christmas with a matinee performance from our band under the direction of Mr. Larry Rumpf. The evening performance for parents was a joyous celebration as well.

All month, the students have been working during music class on the joyful music for our school Christmas pageant. This SJR tradition is the perfect way to end the week before breaking to celebrate Christmas with our families. The songs of the angels, shepherds, and wise men, prepare us to honor the love shown at Christmas as we celebrate God's plan for our salvation and the birth of His son, Jesus.

The students, faculty, and staff of St. Joseph/St. Robert School wish you a beautiful and blessed Christmas full of prayer, music, and laughter, too!

Mrs. Durkin





Parish Registration

New parishioners are always welcome!

To register see Fr. Bordonaro after Mass. Please help us keep our records updated by notifying the office if you are moving from the Parish or have changed your address, phone number, email address, etc., at 215-672-3020 or sjc18976@verizon.net.

Safe Environment Program

All people who <u>volunteer</u> for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia are **required** to fulfill the following obligations: **CLEARANCES:**

PA State Police Criminal Record Check

PA Dept. of Public Welfare Child Abuse Clearance Ck. Federal History Fingerprint Clearance*

**ONLY if you lived outside of PA within the last 10 years* Disclosure Statement Application for Volunteers

CLEARANCES MUST BE RENEWED EVERY 5 YEARS

FORMED

To gain access to all of FORMED's content, follow these simple steps:

- Go to <u>https://signup.for</u>med.org/
- Enter our parish's zip code 18976 then click on St. Joseph
- Enter your name and your email address

That's it! You're in. Now you can get the free FORMED app for your phone by searching *FORMED Catholic* in your app store.

American Sign Language Masses

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel will have a Sign Language Interpreter on the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th (when applicable) Sundays of the Month at the 10:30 a.m. Mass.

St. Stanislaus Church in Lansdale has a "Deaf Community Mass" at 11:45 a.m. on the 4th Sunday of each month.

Reminder

Please remember to make all checks for the Special and Second Collections payable to <u>St. Joseph Church</u>, not the individual charity. All donations received are then forwarded to the appropriate organization.

St. Joseph On-Line Giving

Giving online is easy and allows you to set up automatic recurring contributions and view your complete online giving history from anywhere you have access to the Internet. Simply follow these easy steps:

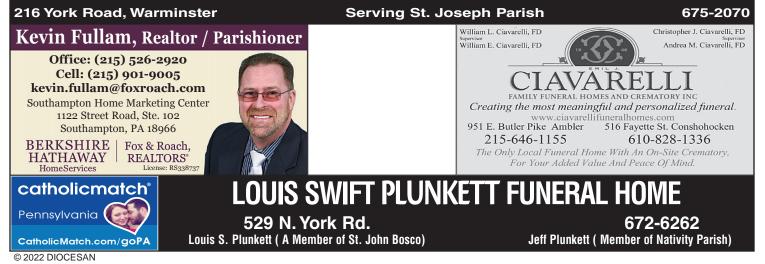
- 1. Visit the church website at <u>www.saintjosephchurch.us</u>
- 2. Click on the [ONLINE GIVING] button
- 3. Click on the Create Profile button

4. Follow the onscreen instructions to create an online profile and to schedule your recurring contributions.

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THE DECKER FUNERAL HOME

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