



# **CHRISTMAS AT ST. JOSEPH'S**

## **Advent Confessions**

Thursday, December 19 – 4:00 – 5:00 PM  
7:00 – 7:30 PM

## **Mass Schedule**

### **Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24**

4:00 PM Christmas Vigil Mass

6:30 PM Christmas Vigil Mass

12:00 Midnight Mass

### **Christmas Day, Wednesday, December 25**

Masses: 7:30, 9:30, and 11:30 AM

### **New Year's Eve, Tuesday, December 31**

Vigil Mass – 4:00 PM

### **New Year's Day, Wednesday, January 1, 2025**

Masses: 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM

JOY

*Pictures from the Christmas Bazaar*





## From the Desk of Fr. Pawelko

My Dear Parishioners,

Many of us have cherished Christmas decorations in our homes. Some of these decorations remind us of certain events in our lives such as the first Christmas after getting married or the first Christmas in a new home or the first Christmas after the birth of one of our children. Some of these decorations are family heirlooms and remind us of Christmases long past. Some of these cherished decorations remind us of those who gave us the decorations. Adorning our homes with our cherished decorations really is like opening an old photo album and taking a trip down memory lane, don't you agree?

Central to our cherished Christmas decorations are our Nativity Sets. Similar to our other decorations, they may remind us of Christmases past or special events in our lives.

Unlike other decorations, our Nativity Sets are specifically **religious decorations**. Religious art has two purposes: to edify and to teach.

Our Nativity Sets are the Gospel story told in art. As religious art, they remind us that Jesus really was born of the Holy Virgin over 2,000 years ago. As religious art, they teach us something and are teaching tools. This is especially important if we have uncatechized and unchurched children in our lives.

When we are sharing family stories with these uncatechized children and telling them the history and significance of our different Christmas decorations, we can use this as an opportunity to also teach them about the Nativity. We can teach them about the different "characters" and their roles in the Nativity, such as our Blessed Mother, St. Joseph, the shepherds, the angels, the animals, the star, the Wise Men. We can teach them why Jesus came into this world and teach them about Jesus's love for us. We can even read the Nativity accounts from the Holy Gospels to them. We can open their hearts and minds to Jesus just by teaching them about that very first Christmas through our Nativity Sets.

This week we will be providing bags of blessed straw to add to your Nativity Sets at home. This straw will be a reminder that when Jesus was laid on that bed of straw, He sanctified that manger and that straw. We thank Jack and Audrey Ford and their family for taking on the messy job of packing the bags of straw for us.

We also thank everyone who coordinated our Giving Tree and food drive and everyone who also supported these important outreaches.

Lastly, we thank everyone who contributed in any way to our Christmas Bazaar. We all agree that it was a great success!

This coming Thursday, December 19, we will have our Advent Confessions. The sessions are 4:00-5:00 and 7:00-7:30. *(Continued on page 4)*

## Masses For The Week

<b>Saturday</b>	<b><u>Dec. 14</u></b>	
	5:00 p.m.	Bill & Alice Hennessey
<b>Sunday</b>	<b><u>Dec. 15</u></b>	
	7:30 a.m.	People of the Parish
	9:30 a.m.	Andy Landmesser
	11:30 a.m.	Louis Cerritelli
<b>Monday</b>	8:00 a.m.	Kathleen Jacobs
<b>Tuesday</b>	8:00 a.m.	James Anthony DeVita, II
<b>Wednesday</b>	8:00 a.m.	Arlene M. Higman
<b>Thursday</b>	8:00 a.m.	For the Intentions of Michael Pham
<b>Friday</b>	8:00 a.m.	Susan & Alfred Denofa
<b>Saturday</b>	8:00 a.m.	Raymond Generale
	<b><u>Dec. 21</u></b>	
	5:00 p.m.	Rita Carsley
<b>Sunday</b>	<b><u>Dec. 22</u></b>	
	7:30 a.m.	Dorothy Smedley
	9:30 a.m.	People of the Parish
	11:30 a.m.	Dr. Louis, Francis, and Louis Cerritelli

### *Please Pray For Those Who Are Ill:*

*Paula Bielecki, Donna Cunningham, Paul Han, Dolores Krysztopowicz, Irene Lennon, Patricia McCloskey, Dave McKay, Art McLaughlin, John Merritt, Moira Merritt, Gertrude Nelson, Sarah Rank, Joseph Ranweiler, Gino, Theresa, Dean, & Rick Romaniello, Clare Smith, William Sparke, Stanley Travis, III, Patricia True, Jack Wilhelm, Joan Winterborne, John Zerbe.*

### *Let us Remember and Pray for Our Dead*

**Valerie Fidler & Celestino Rivera**

## *This Week In Our Parish*

### **Monday, December 16**

*\*Adoration – 8:30 am*

*\*Mass @ Christ Home – 2:30 pm*

*\*Rosary - 7:30 pm*

### **Wednesday, December 18**

*\*Children's Choir Practice – 5:30 – 6:45 pm*

*\*Adult Choir Practice – 7:30 – 9:30 pm*

### **Thursday, December 19**

*\*Charismatic Prayer Group – 7:00 pm-Church Hall*

### **Bulletin Submittals**

Email requests to [sjc18976@verizon.net](mailto:sjc18976@verizon.net). All requests are subject to Pastor's approval and space availability.

## Readings for The Week

**Mon:** Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9; Mt 21:23-27

**Tues:** Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17

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

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

**Fri:** Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38

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

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

## From the Desk of Fr. Pawelko (continued)

Additional priests will be available to hear Confessions and help prepare us for the celebration of the Nativity

Pondering the Nativity, we remember these ancient words of St. Ambrose that the Nativity was the beginning of the Church: *Consider the beginnings of the nascent Church. Christ is born and the shepherds have begun their vigil. They round up the flocks of the nations, nations that formerly lived like cattle. They gather them into the Lord's enclosure, lest these flocks suffer the assaults of spiritual wild beasts lurking concealed in the night's darkness. And the shepherds keep good watch, having received their formation from the Good Shepherd.*

*The flock, then, is the people; the night is the world; the shepherds, bishops. Perhaps, too, he could be a shepherd to whom it is said in the Apocalypse "Be watchful and strengthen..." For the Lord has not only disposed that bishops watch over the flock, but has also given His Angels charge over it. Thus, according to St. Ambrose, we can view our Nativity Sets as the first Catholic Church—think of that as you put up your Nativity Set.*

We also contemplate these ancient words of St. John Chrysostom that Jesus took on our human nature so that we can share in His Glory: *What shall I say! And how shall I describe this Birth to you? For this wonder fills me with astonishment. The Ancient of days has become an infant. He Who sits upon the sublime and heavenly Throne, now lies in a manger. And He Who cannot be touched, Who is simple, without complexity, and incorporeal, now lies subject to the hands of men. He Who has broken the bonds of sinners, is now bound by an infants bands. But He has decreed that ignominy shall become honor, infamy be clothed with glory, and total humiliation the measure of His Goodness.*

*For this He assumed my body, that I may become capable of His Word; taking my flesh, He gives me His spirit; and so He bestowing and I receiving, He prepares for me the treasure of Life. He takes my flesh, to sanctify me; He gives me His Spirit, that He may save me.*

*Come, then, let us observe the Feast. Truly wondrous is the whole chronicle of the Nativity. For this day the ancient slavery is ended, the devil confounded, the*

*demons take to flight, the power of death is broken, paradise is unlocked, the curse is taken away, sin is removed from us, error driven out, truth has been brought back, the speech of kindness diffused, and spreads on every side, a heavenly way of life has been planted on the earth, angels communicate with men without fear, and men now hold speech with angels.*

Let us continue to pray for each other and for our fallen and troubled world as we approach the Feast of the Nativity.

St. Joseph, Patron of the Church and our Patron, pray for us!  
Fr. Michael J Pawelko, Pastor

## \*IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT\*

Effective immediately you can no longer park in Jewelry Store driveway next door to the Rectory. Please heed this warning or your car may be towed.

## CONGRATULATIONS!!

Archbishop Wood High School is pleased to announce that the following students have achieved Academic Honors for the **First Quarter** of the 2024-2025 school year.

### FIRST HONORS

Emma Jacobsen '25,  
Nina Tkach '27,  
Avalon Waltrich '27



### SECOND HONORS

Jacob Bargerhuff '26,  
John Coughlin, '26,



	2024	2023
	December 1	December 3
Envelopes	\$ 7,089.00	\$ 8,435.00
Online Giving	\$ 1,424.05	\$ 2,781.55
Total	\$ 8,513.05	\$11,216.55

Thank You

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## Music Ministry

We are looking for more singers and instrumentalists for Christmas!!! If anyone- adults, teens or children would like to sing or play an instrument for one of the Christmas masses, please email Maria Lennon at [mariaalennon@gmail.com](mailto:mariaalennon@gmail.com) or call the rectory and leave a message for Mrs. Maria Lennon.

### Adult Choir

December 15<sup>th</sup> -11:30 am

December 24<sup>th</sup> - 6:30 pm\*

December 25<sup>th</sup> - 9:30 am\*

\*(Christmas carols begin ½ hour prior to each mass)

January 5<sup>th</sup> - 11:30 am

January 19<sup>th</sup> - 9:30 am

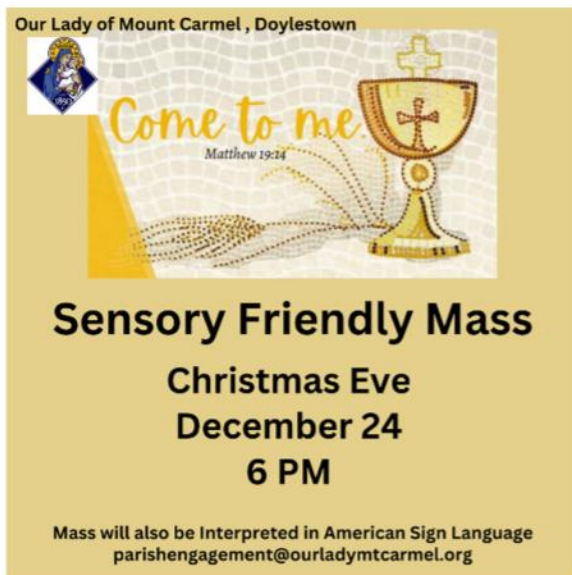
### Youth/Children Choir

December 24<sup>th</sup> - 4:00 pm mass

(Christmas music begins at 3:30 pm)

### Contemporary Group

February 16<sup>th</sup> -11:30 am mass



## Job Opportunity

Reit Energy Company, located on Mearns Road in Warminster, is looking to hire a dedicated and hardworking HVAC apprentice to join their team. They are looking for young men or women with a strong work ethic who are motivated and willing to learn. No experience necessary. If interested, contact Tracy Houser, Service Manager at 215 957 5900 or [tlh@reitfuel.com](mailto:tlh@reitfuel.com) for further details.



Weekend of December 14th and 15th

St. Robert Bellarmine Church

From 8:00 Am to 12 noon



We will have 85 parish bakers making different varieties of homemade ethnic and family favorite Christmas Cookies.

Come in and pick out the varieties you like to create your own special treat for yourself or someone else!

Cookies will be sold for \$12 a pound.

We will also have some hand decorated cookies for sale. available.





**St. Joseph Church**  
**Parish Religious Education Program**  
**Mrs. Danielle Staffieri, Coordinator**  
[stjosephccd.warrington@yahoo.com](mailto:stjosephccd.warrington@yahoo.com)  
 215-672-3020  
 Tuesdays 6:00 p.m. – 7:15 p.m.



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**Mrs. Jennifer Durkin, Principal**  
 850 Euclid Avenue, Warrington, PA 18976  
 215-343-5100 [www.stjstr.org](http://www.stjstr.org)

The Archdiocese of Philadelphia has limited spots for Middle and High School youth to attend Catholic Youth Summer Camp on **June 29 – July 4**. Bus transportation provided. Cost is \$620 per student. Bucks County DREs will offer one 7th or 8th Level PREP student a scholarship. The scholarship will be determined by an Essay. The flier below gives details for the scholarship essay.



**Catholic Youth Summer Camp 2025**  
**Archdiocese of Philadelphia Group**  
**Registration OPEN!**

## Gifts of the Holy Spirit



SCAN ME

To receive a **FULL Scholarship to CYSC**

Choose a gift of the Holy Spirit and give an example of how this gift has changed or could change your life

The essay should be **3-5 paragraphs** in length (min 500 words)

May be typed or neatly handwritten

The winner/parents will be notified via email or phone after the submission deadline

**Essay Submission Deadline:**  
**December 15, 2024**

Those who do not wish to apply for the scholarship or who do not get selected can register before the January 25 deadline at:

<https://www.damascus.net/catholic-youth-summer-camp>

Our school is truly blessed by the generosity and support of so many! We are especially grateful for your faithful encouragement and prayers. We're also very grateful for the support of our Home and School Association which just hosted a remarkable tree lighting ceremony for our students.

Today, I'd like to share the inspiring story of two remarkable individuals, Mr. John and Mrs. Josephine Connelly, and the enduring legacy of support that they've created for all of the schools in the Archdiocese.

In 1945, Mr. Connelly founded Connelly Containers and later, in 1957, took the helm of Crown Cork and Seal Company, relocating it to Philadelphia. Through their hard work and deep faith, Mr. and Mrs. Connelly used their success to bless countless others. For decades, their family and now the Connelly Foundation have been champions of Catholic education providing scholarships and funding for various educational opportunities.

Last week, our fifth through eighth-grade students had the privilege of visiting The Constitution Center in Philadelphia, thanks to the generosity of the Connelly Foundation. This enriching experience was a wonderful reminder of the powerful impact a committed Catholic community can make.

Please join me in giving thanks for the Connelly Foundation and for all the ways it uplifts Catholic education in the Greater Philadelphia area.

A reminder that enrollment for next year has begun for Pre-K and Kindergarten. Applications for new students can be submitted through our website at [www.stjstr.org](http://www.stjstr.org).

May God bless you abundantly for your continued prayers and support! Mrs. Durkin, Principal



***St. Joseph/St. Robert School does not discriminate in admissions or hiring based on race, color, religious creed, disability, ancestry, national origin, age or sex.***

## Parish Registration

New parishioners are always welcome! Call the Parish Office Monday – Thursday to register. Help us keep our records updated by notifying us 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](mailto:sjc18976@verizon.net).

## Safe Environment Program

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

PA State Police Criminal Record Check

<https://epatch.pa.gov/home>

PA Dept. of Public Welfare Child Abuse Clearance Ck.

<https://www.compass.state.pa.us>

Federal History Fingerprint Clearance\*

<https://uenroll.identogo.com>

**\*ONLY if you lived outside of PA within the last 10 years**

Disclosure Statement Application for Volunteers

**CLEARANCES MUST BE RENEWED EVERY FIVE (5) YEARS**

## Visit with Our Lady of Guadalupe

“The Pilgrim Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe” is brought to your home by a parishioner on Sunday. Our Lady wants to come and visit with you in a personal way for a whole week. Welcome her with love and gratitude. Gather each day to pray, speak to her about your concerns. Empty your heart out to her then in silence let her fill it with her maternal love, guidance and graces she obtains for you. Let her renew you in the spirit of her Son, Jesus Christ Our Lord and Savior. Then on the following Sunday the picture of “Our Lady of Guadalupe” will be picked up and continue on to her next family visit. To schedule a visit call Kathie Zajkowski @ 484-925-8080.

## Stay Informed at St. Joseph Parish



Stay Informed! We have adopted a new way of communicating with you. **Evangelus** is the communication system for our parish. Visit [eva.us/carpenter](http://eva.us/carpenter) to sign-up. You can also follow us on Social media and download our parish app as well.

## Reminder

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

## FORMED

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

- Go to <https://signup.formed.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.

## 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 [www.saintjosephchurch.us](http://www.saintjosephchurch.us)
2. Click on the [ONLINE GIVING] button
3. Click on the Donate button
4. Follow the onscreen instructions to create an online profile and to schedule your recurring contributions.

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