

January 4, 2026

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Founded June 16, 1922

1795 Columbia Avenue, Warrington, PA 18976



**MAKING CHRIST A REALITY IN THE COMMUNITY IN WHICH WE LIVE**

<b>Pastor:</b>	Rev. Michael J. Pawelko
<b>School:</b>	850 Euclid Avenue, Warrington
<b>Principal:</b>	Mrs. Jennifer Durkin
<b>Religious Education:</b>	Mrs. Danielle Staffieri
<b>PREP Office:</b>	215-672-3020
<b>Music Director:</b>	Mrs. Maria Lennon <a href="mailto:mariaalennon@gmail.com">mariaalennon@gmail.com</a>

**WEBSITE:** [www.saintjosephchurch.us](http://www.saintjosephchurch.us)

**RECTORY:** 215-672-3020 (9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Mon. - Thur.) (9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Fri.)

**EMAIL:** [sjc18976@verizon.net](mailto:sjc18976@verizon.net)

**SCHOOL:** 215-343-5100

**MASS SCHEDULE:**

**Mass Schedule:**

Daily Mass (Mon.-Sat.)	8:00 a.m.
Saturday Vigil Mass	<b>4:00 p.m.</b>
Sunday Masses	7:30 a.m.
	9:30 a.m.
	& 11:30 a.m.

**Holy Day Masses:**

8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

*(Christmas and New Year's have special schedules)*

**CONFESSIONS: Saturdays:** 8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.  
& 3:00 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.

**MASS FOR SHUT-INS:**

TV - Sunday, 5:30 a.m. WPVI Channel 6,  
Daily & Sunday, 8:00 a.m. EWTN

**BAPTISMS:** Parents should make arrangements with the Pastor at least one month before the requested date. Baptism is usually celebrated on Sundays at 12:30 pm (following 11:30 am Mass). Please contact Rev. Michael J. Pawelko for Pre-Jordan preparations. 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 p.m., 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 that 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, PREP (Parish Religious Education Program), Choir (Adult and Children's), Home & School Association, Men's Group, Rosary, Respect Life Committee, OCIA, Catholic in Recovery, Women's Group, Charismatic Prayer Group, Hospitality, Hope Committee, Health & Help Ministry, St. Vincent de Paul Society, Legion of Mary.

## From the Desk of Fr. Pawelko

My Dear Parishioners,

This weekend we celebrate the great Feast of the Epiphany, which is also known as Three Kings Day. In many parts of the world, this is the day gifts are exchanged, in remembrance of the gifts that the Magi brought to the child Jesus.

The gifts are rich in symbolism. The gold that was given was a gift for a King and so acknowledge the child Jesus as the newborn King of the Jews. The incense was, and still is, used for divine worship, and so the incense that was given was a gift for a priest. The myrrh was a spice that was used for embalming, and so that gift was for someone who could and would die. Together, they affirm for us that the child Jesus was in fact our True King and High Priest who would offer Himself on the altar of the Cross for the Salvation of the World.

One might ask the question “what did Our Blessed Mother and St. Joseph do with the gifts?” The answer to this question is not recorded in Sacred Scripture and so is open to speculation. A good answer, though, might be that they used the gifts to finance their flight into Egypt. That would make the gifts not only richly symbolic but also gifts that were definitely needed by the Holy Family. God is so good! His Providence is always at work!

Which brings us to the question, what gifts are we bringing to Jesus this New Year?

In our own times, the symbolic meaning of gold has changed. Gold is now seen as a symbol of timeless love, such as in a gold wedding band. So, as we think of a gift to give the child Jesus, we can give no greater gift than the gift of our love. We know that He will return a 100-fold whatever love we invest in Him. There’s no greater return on investment than to love Jesus!

Also, in remembrance of the incense that was given as the Magi adored the child Jesus, we can offer some additional time of prayer and maybe even add time of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament to our schedule. Again, the worship we give to Jesus in this life will allow us to worship Him for eternity.

Lastly, in remembrance of the myrrh that was given, we can continue to dedicate our lives for His Glory and for the good of souls. Whatever we do for the least, we do for Him. Our charity, to the living and the dead, only pleases Him and helps us to grow in the image and likeness of Jesus.

These would be truly beautiful gifts to offer to Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and the Holy Family in remembrance of the visit of the Magi.

I continue to thank all of those who have made our celebrations this Christmas Season so beautiful. I also continue to thank all of you for your generosity to our parish and to our many outreaches, and I pray that you will be richly rewarded for all you have done and continue to do.

I included a nice article on the three “manifestations” of Jesus Christ that we actually remember on this Feast of the Epiphany.

St. Joseph, Protector and Provider for the Holy Family, pray for us!

Fr. Michael J Pawelko, Pastor

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What Is the Feast of the Epiphany?  
Gillian Weyant, [www.coraevans.com](http://www.coraevans.com)

The feast of the Epiphany of Our Lord, traditionally celebrated on January 6th, tends to connote one thing primarily among many Catholics. Upon hearing the words “feast of the Epiphany,” many Catholics think only of the adoration of the magi after the birth of Jesus. While this event is indeed part of the celebration of the Epiphany, it is but one component of what is ultimately a much more extensive and important feast.

What Is the Epiphany?

According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, “The Epiphany is the manifestation of Jesus as Messiah of Israel, Son of God and Savior of the world. The great feast of Epiphany celebrates the adoration of Jesus by the wise men (magi) from the East, together with his baptism in the Jordan and the wedding feast at Cana in Galilee.” In this way, the scope of the Epiphany proves to be much greater than simply the adoration of the magi. *(Continued on Page 3)*

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

The symbolism of the events involved in the feast of the Epiphany is rich and complex. Let's begin with the adoration of the magi, or the three wise men.

**The Adoration of the Magi**

Regarding this event commemorated on the feast of the Epiphany, it is helpful to again turn to the Catechism, which states: "In the magi, representatives of the neighboring pagan religions, the Gospel sees the first-fruits of the nations, who welcome the good news of salvation through the Incarnation. The magi's coming to Jerusalem in order to pay homage to the king of the Jews shows that they seek in Israel, in the messianic light of the star of David, the one who will be king of the nations." This adoration of the magi is of immense importance, as it shows the possibility of redemption for everyone who seeks it.

The symbolism involved in the adoration of the magi has a number of layers, but the first one is relatively easy to see. The worship of Jesus by the magi shows us that Jesus' kingship began at his birth and superseded all other earthly kinds of royalty. Though the magi are often referred to as the three kings, it is not clear that they were in fact that specific type of royalty. According to Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, the term "magi" encompasses a number of different meanings. In terms of their religion, it is thought that the magi were members of a Persian priestly caste. They are also thought to have been philosophers, and others say they were involved in some way with the supernatural or astrology. In spite of the variety of definitions one could apply to the term magi, it is clear that these were men who held a certain amount of power and influence in the world at that time. The fact that they embarked on a journey and ultimately bowed down at the manger of Jesus shows that the kingship of Jesus supersedes all earthly power.

The adoration of the magi also shows us how it is possible for the Old Testament to be fulfilled in the New. If the magi were indeed members of a priestly caste, it is of great significance that those priests would surrender to the priesthood of Jesus as shown in the New Testament. In this way, we can see the words of Jesus born out in this event that occurred after the Nativity, after this occurrence of the Incarnation: "Behold, I make all things new."

**The Baptism in the Jordan**

The next event commemorated is another mystery of Jesus' public life, namely His baptism in the Jordan by John the Baptist. Although John initially hesitated to baptize his cousin among the crowd of sinners present at the time, Jesus insisted and allowed Himself to be numbered among sinners. This shows His acceptance of His mission to suffer for the sake of the rest of humanity: as He is baptized in this crowd, He anticipates the death He will suffer as a result of His Incarnation. After His baptism, it is stated in the Catechism: "The Spirit whom Jesus possessed in fullness from his conception comes to "rest on him". . .

(Continued on Page 4)

**Masses For The Week**

<b>Saturday</b>	<b><u>Jan. 3</u></b>	
	4:00pm	For The People of the Parish
<b>Sunday</b>	<b><u>Jan. 4</u></b>	
	7:30am	Raymond Generale
	9:30am	Tony Trotter
	11:30am	Christina Zaccaria
<b>Monday</b>	8:00am	St. Joseph Memorial Soc.
<b>Tuesday</b>	8:00am	Joseph Charney
<b>Wednesday</b>	8:00am	For the Intentions of Michael K. Pham
<b>Thursday</b>	8:00am	Tony Trotter
<b>Friday</b>	8:00am	Dale Muhlenkamp
<b>Saturday</b>	8:00am	William J. Holman, 10 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary
	<b><u>Jan.10</u></b>	
	4:00pm	Helene Burns
<b>Sunday</b>	<b><u>Jan. 11</u></b>	
	7:30am	The People of the Parish
	9:30am	John A. Angeloni, Jr.
	11:30am	Eileen Nelson

**Please Pray For Those Who Are Ill**

*Paula Bielecki, Lillian Cannon, Deborah Ciavola, Josh Craft, Robert Fisher, Jim Gordon, Paul Han, Dee Hottinger, Emery Kutney, Dolores Krysztopowicz, Irene Lennon, Dominic Lightcap, Patricia McCloskey, Dave McKay, Art McLaughlin, Joseph McNamara, John Merritt, Moira Merritt, Suzi Molz, Laura Masorli Nardone, Gertrude Nelson, Michael K. Pham, Patricia Picciocchi, Sarah Rank, Joseph Ranweiler, Michael Tashjian, Gino, Theresa, Dean, & Rick Romaniello, William Sparke, Rob Skalski, Stanley Travis, III, Patricia True, Jack Wilhelm, Joan Winterborne, Edward White, John Zerbe.*

**This Week In Our Parish****Monday, January 5**

- \*Adoration -8:30am – 7:30pm – Church
- \*Communion Service/Rosary @ Christ Home – 2:30pm
- \*Rosary & Benediction– 7:30pm – Church

**Tuesday, January 6**

- \*PREP – 6:00pm
- \*SVDP Clothing Sort – Church Hall – 7:00pm – 9:00pm
- \*Women's Group – Room 18 – 7:30pm

**Wednesday, January 7**

- \*Communion Service/Rosary @ Luther Woods – 1:30pm
- \*Children's Choir Practice – 5:30pm – 6:45pm
- \*Catholic In Recovery – Church Hall – 7:00pm
- \*Adult Choir Practice – 7:30pm – 9:30pm

**Thursday, January 8**

- \*SVDP Clothing Sort – Church Hall – 2:00pm – 6:00pm
- \*PREP Teacher Meeting – VRSB – 6:30pm
- \*OCIA – Room 18 – 7:00pm
- \*Charismatic Prayer Group – Church Hall - 7:00pm

**Readings for The Week**

**Mon:** 1 Jn 3:22-4:6; Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25  
**Tues:** 1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8; Mk 6:34-44  
**Wed:** 1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13; Mk 6:45-52  
**Thurs:** 1 Jn 4:19-5:4; Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17; Lk 4:14-22  
**Fri:** 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20; Lk 5:12-16  
**Sat:** 1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b; Jn 3:22-30  
**Sun:** Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 55:1-11 or Acts 10:34-38 or 1 Jn 5:1-9;  
 Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 or Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6; Mt 3:13-17

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

Jesus will be the source of the Spirit for all mankind. .  
 At his baptism "the heavens were opened" - the heavens that Adam's sin had closed - and the waters were sanctified by the descent of Jesus and the Spirit, a prelude to the new creation."

As the adoration of the magi showed the power of Jesus, the baptism in the Jordan is indicative of His vulnerability as a result of the Incarnation. Jesus Himself in no way needs the saving power of Baptism as Christians do, yet He submits Himself to it regardless. Jesus' baptism also shows us what we must do to reach heaven at the end of our lives. As said in the Catechism, "The Christian must enter into this mystery of humble self-abasement and repentance, go down into the water with Jesus in order to rise with him, be reborn of water and the Spirit so as to become the Father's beloved son in the Son and 'walk in newness of life.'"

**The Wedding Feast at Cana**

The wedding feast at Cana is the final event we remember as we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany. This wedding feast, at which Jesus performed the miracle of turning water into wine upon the request of His mother, proves to be much more than Jesus' first public miracle.

According to Pope Francis in an address to an audience, what occurs at the wedding feast at Cana illuminates the person of Jesus and the reason for His coming. The wedding feast mirrors the eventual wedding feast in heaven. In the Catechism, it states: "At Cana, the mother of Jesus asks her son for the needs of a wedding feast; this is the sign of another feast – that of the wedding of the Lamb where he gives his body and blood at the request of the Church, his Bride."

Additionally, the miracle at Cana gives us insight into the role of Mary as Mother. "It is at the hour of the New Covenant, at the foot of the cross, that Mary is heard as the Woman, the new Eve, the true 'Mother of all the living.'" The person of Mary as shown in Scripture fades into the background over time: she is present in Scripture throughout the time of the Annunciation, Nativity and in Jesus' early life, but is rarely mentioned in Jesus' later years. Her presence at this wedding feast evokes her humble importance as Mary, Mother of the Church: her humility is indicated in her request of a favor from her Son, and her importance is shown by Jesus' affirmation of it.

**Saint Vincent de Paul Society**

We are in the process of forming a Saint Vincent de Paul conference at St. Joseph's church. Here is the SVDP Mission Statement: "Inspired by Gospel values, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, a Catholic lay organization, leads women and men to join together to grow spiritually by offering person-to-person service to those who are needy and suffering. We conduct home visits in teams of two, meeting with those who are in need in our parish area". If interested in this amazing organization, please attend a meeting (St. Robert's church currently, first room on the right): first and third Mondays of the month, starting at 7:00pm. Questions? Call Tom Molz: 215-801-9158.

The **St. Joseph's Saint Vincent de Paul** conference is having a warm weather clothing drive after all masses on **January 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>**. Please bring any/all clothing for those whom we serve in the Kensington area (SVDP's "Feed the Hungry" ministry): coats/sweaters/hats/gloves.

Saint Vincent de Paul has received a large quantity of clothing (157 bags), which need to be sorted and organized, before the distribution of these items to our brothers and sisters in Kensington. If available please join us for 2 sessions -- any time between **7:00 pm and 9:00 pm on January 6**, and **2:00 pm and 6:00 pm on January 8** in the Church Hall. All are welcome. Any questions -- call Tom Molz: (215) 801-9158.

**From The Health and Help Ministry**

The American Red Cross will hold Blood Drive in St Joseph Parish Hall on **Thursday, January 22 from 1:00 – 7:00 pm**. Register to donate by calling Mary 215-806-5693.

**The Surprising Health Benefits of Donating Blood:**

Donating blood saves lives, but it also has health benefits for the donor.

**A Free Mini Health Screening-** vital signs are taken and you'll be screened for some infectious diseases.

**A Happier, Longer Life-**creating moments of kindness gives you a feeling of well-being.

**A Free Snack-**every time you donate blood, it's like burning 500 calories without exercising and you get to have juice and snacks afterwards.

(ref:NY Presbyterian Health Matters)



**Announcement**

**Some Office Updates**

Our Parish Secretary, Mrs. Mary Beth Van Note, is leaving after 5 years of service to our parish. She will be spending time with family and watching her grandchildren.

We thank Mary Beth for her faithful service to our parish, and may she have many happy years of retirement!

Please join in welcoming our new Parish Secretary, Mrs. Katrina Moser. Katie and her family are from Feasterville and attend Our Lady of the Assumption Parish. Katie has many years of experience working in parish offices. She will be starting January 5 and will be working full-time, Monday through Friday. Hopefully, she will have many happy years with us.

Fr. Pawelko

**Hospitality Sunday**

Today is Hospitality Sunday. Hosted by the Health and Help Ministry. Enjoy coffee, fellowship, and get your Blood Pressure checked after all



Sunday Masses.



**TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION**

Life hands us many epiphanies or “wake-up calls.” A few years ago, a young couple adopted a two-year-old child in a morass of red tape, complications, and court hearings. At the baby’s baptism, the priest suggested appending an “adoption blessing,” wherein the new relationship was expressed and affirmed. There is a place in that rite for the child to speak, and instead the priest said, “Can you give Daddy a kiss?” Standing in the midst of his church, the young adoptive father suddenly welled up with tears as he embraced the child. Afterward, he explained that through all the hassles and legal struggles he never until that moment in church understood that he was the parent of this child. The ritual claimed them for each other, gave expression to their relationship that the legal documents never could, and firmly cemented this child into the heart of a community as everyone erupted into heartfelt applause. This assembly witnessed in a powerful way what happens in every baptism: the mystery of adoption, the free flow of grace, the overwhelming sense of God’s presence at the heart of our life’s journey. —Rev. James Field

**RETROUVAILLE:**

**REDISCOVER THE LOVE IN YOUR MARRIAGE**

Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vy). If you know anyone who could benefit from this program, please pass this on. Couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next program begins the weekend of February 6-8, 2026 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information, or to register, call 215-766-3944 or visit [www.MarriageHelpDelVal.org](http://www.MarriageHelpDelVal.org). All inquiries are strictly confidential.

Hark  
the herald Angels sing  
"Glory to the Newborn King!"

December 16, 2025

St. Joseph Church  
1795 Columbia Avenue  
Warrington, PA 18976

To our Friends at St. Joseph Church,  
On behalf of the staff, volunteers, and clients that we serve here at Catholic Charities, Bucks County, we offer many heartfelt thanks to you for your thoughtful donation of Christmas gifts and gift cards totaling \$3,005.

It is because of people like you, people who understand the true meaning of community, who wish to help their neighbor, that we are able to keep our doors open.

Your donation will have a direct impact on our clients. Rest assured that your kindness will enable...

- ... a child to have new clothes
- ... a baby to have diapers
- ... a homeless friend to have a hot meal
- ... a single mom to put gas in her car
- ... and so much more!

Your moment of kindness will have a butterfly effect that will be felt for months and years to come!

Thank you for taking the time to help your neighbor. We will keep you in our thoughts and prayers and we wish you a joyous holiday season and a peaceful New Year.

*Sean Mulligan*  
Sean Mulligan, Administrator

**Weekly Collections**

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	2025	2024
	<b>December 21</b>	December 22
Envelopes	<b>\$10,036.00</b>	\$ 5,604.00
Online Giving	<b>\$ 3,759.29</b>	\$ 2,207.77
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$13,795.29</b>	\$ 7,811.77

**Thank You**

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**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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**Reminder:** If public schools are closed due to inclement weather, CCD will also be canceled. If you have provided us with your Email address, we will notify you via email.

As we begin this New Year together, I want to offer my sincere gratitude to our parish community for your continued prayers, generosity, and support. Your commitment to our parish and school is a true blessing, and it is because of you that our mission continues to grow. With hearts full of thanks and hope, we look forward to all that God has in store for us in the months ahead.

God bless you,

Mrs. Durkin



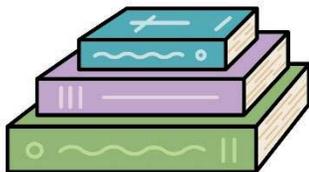
**TUESDAY, January 6** All grades in session.

**TUESDAY, January 13** All grades in session. 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students report directly to church at 6:00pm for reconciliation practice. 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students picked up at church at 6:45pm

**THURSDAY, January 15** First Penance for all 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students – 7:00pm

**TUESDAY, January 20** All grades in session. “Kids Talk” presented to all grades.

**TUESDAY, January 27** All grades in session. (Snow date for “Kids Talk” if necessary.)  
End of First Semester.



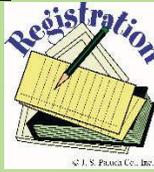
**TO CONFIRM THE LATEST SCHEDULE, PLEASE REFER TO THE PREP PAGE ON SAINT JOSEPH'S WEBSITE.**  
<https://www.saintjosephchurch.us/prep/>

*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**

## 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.

## Stay Informed at St. Joseph Parish

SIGN UP TO RECEIVE  
*Emails*

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.



## 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.

## 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.

## Bulletin Submittals

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

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