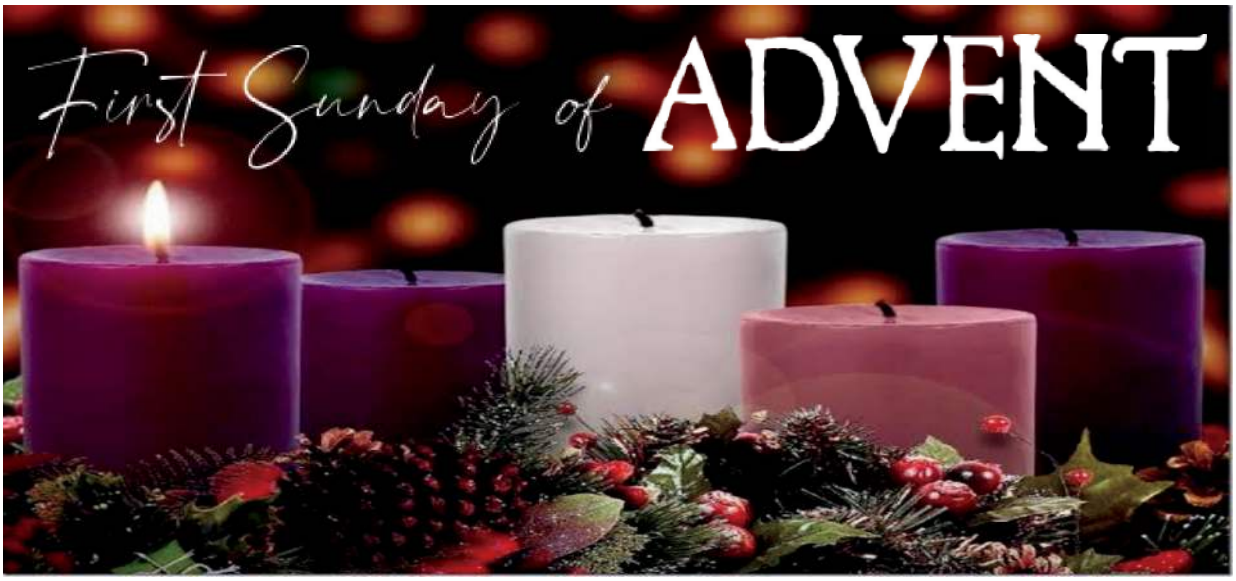
SAINT JOSEPH CHURCH

1795 Columbia Avenue, Warrington, PA 18976

Founded June 16, 1922

November 29, 2026



MAKING CHRIST A REALITY IN THE COMMUNITY IN WHICH WE LIVE

Pastor:	Rev. Michael J. Pawelko
In Residence:	Rev. Msgr. Richard T. Bolger
Office Manager:	Mrs. Katie Moser
School:	850 Euclid Avenue, Warrington (215) 343-5100
Principal:	Mrs. Jennifer Durkin
Religious Education:	Mrs. Danielle Staffieri stjosephprep.warrington@gmail.com
Music Director:	Mrs. Maria Lennon mariaalennon@gmail.com

WEBSITE: www.saintjosephchurch.us
EMAIL: sjc18976@verizon.net

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

MASS SCHEDULE:
Mass Schedule:

Daily Mass (Mon.-Sat.)	8:00 a.m.
Saturday Vigil Mass	**4:00 p.m.**
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.



My Dear Parishioners,

Imagine the quiet of a winter morning. The world still sleeps, yet the horizon begins to glow with the first light of dawn. That light is subtle, almost hidden, but it changes everything — it tells us the night is ending, and a new day is near.

Advent is that dawn. It is the season when the Church, like a watchman on the walls, looks toward the coming of Christ — not only remembering His birth in Bethlehem, but awaiting His return in Glory.

The Gospel today speaks of vigilance: *"Stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord will come."* Jesus Christ reminds us that the Christian life is not passive waiting, but active preparation. To watch means to live each day as if it were the day of His arrival. To watch means living with hearts purified by Grace, hands ready to serve in love, and eyes open to the signs of His presence.

You may ask: "Why wait? Why prepare? Life goes on as it always has." The answer is because the coming of Christ is not only a past or a future event. Jesus is present now, in every act of love, in every moment of Grace. Advent teaches us to recognize Him in the present, so we may welcome Him in the future.

In doing so, we confidently join Asaph, whose words are recorded in this weekend's responsorial psalm: *O shepherd of Israel, harken, from your throne upon the cherubin, shine forth. Rouse your power, and come to save us….May your help be with the man of your right hand, with the son of man whom you yourself made strong. Then we will no more withdraw from you; give us new life, and we will call upon your name (Psalm 80, a Psalm of Asaph).*

We rejoice moreover that Jesus has given us the tools to be *watchful and alert* in the gift of our Catholic Religion. As the Blessed Apostle St. Paul reminds us this weekend, we lack nothing. Jesus, through our Catholic Faith, has given all of the Spiritual Gifts that we need to embrace Him in every moment of every day. Thus, Jesus allows us to be always ready.

Advent then is not merely four weeks on the calendar. Advent is a school of hope. As parishioners of St. Joseph's, we walk through this Advent Season with hearts awake, eyes lifted toward the horizon, and lives ready to welcome the Lord. The dawn is breaking. The King is coming. Let us be found ready, with Joy.

St. Joseph, Patron of the Church and our Patron, pray for us!

Fr. Michael J. Pawelko, Pastor.

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com

Please Pray for Our Troops

Capt. Daniel Carroll – U.S. Army
Ch./Maj. Stephen McDermott – U.S. Army
1st Lt. Irene S. Poli – U.S. Army
Sgt. Maj. Tim Snyder – U.S. Army
Ensign. Conor J. Poli – U.S. Navy
Sr. Chief Gregory Thompson – U.S. Navy
LCpl Hunter Madison – U.S. Marines

If you would like to add the name of someone currently on active duty, please notify the parish office at **sjc18976@verizon.net**:

Name of Person, Branch of Service, and the name/contact information for requesting individual.

Names remain on the list while individuals are actively serving and are removed at the family's request. Submit names only with the service member's consent.

Thank you for helping us support our brothers and sisters in uniform with the power of prayer.

Prayer for our Troops

Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. We ask this in the name of Jesus, Our Lord and Savior. AMEN

Please pray for those who are ill, especially:

Paula Bielecki
Susan Bruno
Lillian Cannon
Deborah Ciavola
Josh Craft
Maria Figueroa
Robert Fisher
Anne Gabbamonte
Catherine Gaida
Paul Han
Ellen Hart
Dee Hottinger
Emery Kutney
Irene Lennon
Dominic Lightcap
Paul Malachowski
Dennis Matlack
Patricia McCloskey
Joseph McNamara
Suzi Molz
Laura Nardone
Charles Neary
Gertrude Nelson
Mariann Perez
Michael K. Pham
Sarah Rank
Joseph Ranweiler
Michael Tashjian
William Sparke
Stanley Travis, III
Patricia True
Jack Wilhelm
Joan Winterborne
Edward White

Mass Intentions

Saturday	**Nov 28**	
	4:00 pm	*James Martin*
Sunday	**Nov 29**	
	7:30 am	*People of the Parish*
	9:30 am	*Father John Bowe*
	11:30 am	*Brinda Robin*
Monday	*8:00 am*	*Intentions of Megan Racz*
Tuesday	*8:00 am*	*Christine R. Stewart*
Wednesday	*8:00 am*	*Helen Slauser*
Thursday	*8:00 am*	*William Fagan*
Friday	*8:00 am*	*Dale Cain*
Saturday	*8:00 am*	*Joe Pugnetti*
Saturday	**Dec 05**	
	4:00 pm	*Deceased Members of the Martin & Booth Families.*
Sunday	**Dec 06**	
	7:30 am	*Carolyn Ford*
	9:30 am	*Adeline McNulty*
	11:30 am	*People of the Parish*

Let us Remember and Pray for Our Dead

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

December 08, 2026

Masses

8:00 AM | 10:00 AM | 7:00 PM





We are collecting the following items:

Non-perishables only:
Foods currently requested at this time include: Cereal, Pancake Mix & Syrup, Condiments (Ketchup, Mayonnaise, Mustard), Egg Noodles, Saltines, Crackers, Family Size Juice, and Canned Fruit other than Apple Sauce.

Non Food items:
Store Gift Cards, Laundry Detergent (liquid or pods), Household Cleaning Supplies, Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, Oral Care, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, and **gently used grocery size paper bags**.

In Partnership with Warminster Food Bank

NO EXPIRED FOOD PLEASE

DECEMBER 5 & 6

Weekly Offerings

	2026 Nov. 08	2025 Nov. 09
Envelopes	**$ 7,043.00**	$ 5,496.00
Online Giving	**$ 4,293.00**	$ 4,831.44
Total	**$11,336.00**	$10,327.44
	Nov. 15	**Nov. 16**
Envelopes	**$ 7,412.00**	$ 5,578.00
Online Giving	**$ 1,713.00**	$ 1,896.14
Total	**$ 9,125.00**	$ 7,474.14

Parish Giving

St. Joseph Church is offering Parish Giving. Parish Giving offers a simple and secure way to support St. Joseph Church through online donations.

Please visit our website www.saintjosephchurch.us and click on Parish Giving for more information.

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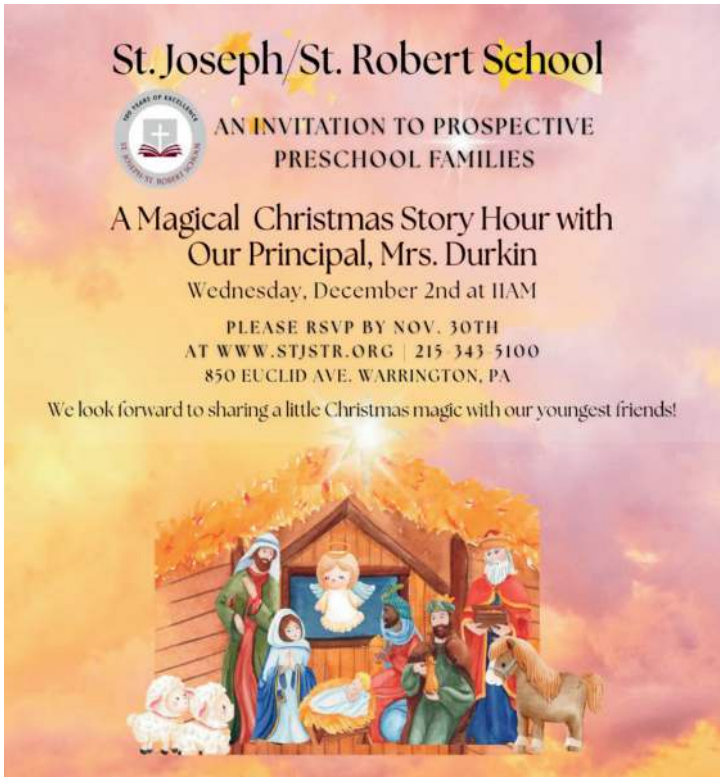
To gain access to all of FORMED's content, follow these simple steps:

- 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 / St. Robert School Update







The Real Meaning and Origin of the Christmas Tree

Published Dec. 05, 2018 | Updated Dec. 22, 2021
by Joanna Operacz | www.aleteia.org

It's older than you think and about much more than pretty holiday decor …

In his book on the history of the Christmas tree (published in Polish, *Historia świątecznej choinki*), author Fr. Józef Naumowicz explains, "The story of the Christmas tree began with performances (Paradiespiel) organized in the 12th century on the church squares before Christmas, depicting the expulsion of Adam and Eve from paradise."

Thus, the Christmas Tree is neither pagan nor Protestant. Sometimes we hear and even read in supposedly academic articles that the Christmas tree is a Christianized relic of pagan beliefs, symbolizing wealth and prosperity. Fr. Naumowicz in his book disproves this myth. There were no trees used in the celebrations of Christmas until the shows about exile from paradise……. According to another legend, the Christmas tree was invented by Martin Luther, who supposedly one day brought home and decorated a tree to surprise his wife. Of course, the Christmas tree is much older than that.

The Christmas Tree was an important "prop" to explain why God decided to become human, where original sin came from, and why we all need salvation……..In those early performances, the tree of knowledge of good and evil was an important prop. In Europe, it is difficult to find a fruiting apple tree in December, so the green coniferous tree played the part of the tree from paradise. The exact species did not matter. A healthy evergreen was chosen and placed in a central location. Later, symbolic decorations were hung — fruit, chains symbolizing the serpent that tempted Eve, and globes made from unconsecrated wafers symbolizing the world redeemed by Jesus.

The symbolism of light was also important. Lit candles were a sign of Eternal Light, which is to say, Jesus. A star symbolizing the one that led the three wise men to Bethlehem was placed at the top of the tree.

With time, the trees were moved into the churches, homes, and offices of various institutions. While the performances died out, the Christmas trees remained. They were a reminder that with the birth of Christ came the hope to regain the lost paradise.



what's happening

Monday, November 30:
- *Adoration ~ 8:30 AM*

Wednesday, December 01:
- *PREP ~ 6:00 PM*

Wednesday, December 02:
- *Communion Service @ Luther Woods ~ 1:30 PM*
- *Children Choir Practice ~ 5:30 PM*
- *Catholic in Recovery ~ 7:00 PM*
- *Adult Choir Practice ~ 7:15 PM*

Thursday, December 03:
- *Rosary @ Pathways ~ 1:30 PM*
- *Wedding Rehearsal ~ 4:30 PM*
- *OCIA ~ 7:00 PM (Room 18)*
- *Charismatic Prayer Group ~ 7:00 PM*

Saturday, December 04:
- *Wedding ~ 2:00 PM*

JOIN US FOR ST. JOSEPH

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

SUNDAY | DECEMBER 06, 2026

Father Grant Hall (Church)

9:00 AM ~ 1:00 PM



PHOTOS WITH SANTA AVAILABLE









$10.00/per person

PANCAKES, SAUSAGES, ORANGE JUICE, COFFEE, & TEA

Bakers Wanted!!

Do you have a favorite holiday recipe?
Do you enjoy baking?

We need you to help our Christmas Bazaar by making your favorite holiday recipe!!

You may drop-off your delicious Baked Goods

Saturday, December 5 from 5:00 – 6:00 PM
and/or
Sunday Morning (December 6) from 7:30 – 9:00 AM

at Fr. Grant Hall (Church)

A Christmas CONCERT

Featuring Bill Monaghan & Members of the Contemporary Choir

DECEMBER 11, 2026

7:00 PM

FR. GRANT HALL

Join us for a wonderful evening of Christmas music, fellowship, and holiday cheer as we celebrate this beautiful season together!

Refreshments will be served.

St. Joseph Parish

Christmas BAZAAR

Come & Shop for:
Crafters/Vendors
Raffle Baskets
Baked Goods
50/50
Food

DECEMBER 06, 2026

OPEN FROM 9 AM ~ 2 PM





St. Joseph Church

Christmas Giving Tree

November 21 - December 6, 2026

This is the last weekend for the Tags on the Giving Tree. Hopefully by the end of this weekend ALL of the Tags will be OFF the tree.

The Tags along with the Gift Cards are due back by Sunday, December 6. Please take a Tag that you know you can fulfill.

The Charities that the Tags will be distributed to:



Please attach the Tag to the Gift Card for identification purposes.

The Gift Card should be placed under the tree or dropped off to the Parish Office NO LATER than Sunday, December 6 as it takes time to sort and distribute.

NO WRAPPED GIFTS!!

Thank you for your kindness.
Your generosity during this season of giving is appreciated!

Kevin Fullam, Realtor / Parishioner

Office: (215) 355-5100
Cell: (215) 901-9005
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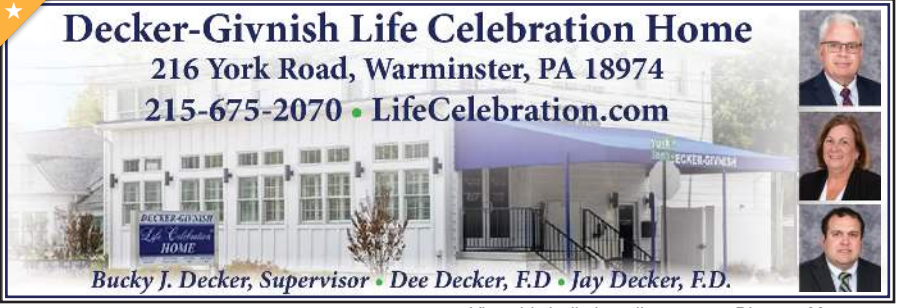

Bucky J. Decker, Supervisor • Dee Decker, F.D • Jay Decker, F.D.

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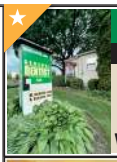
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