

Rev. Charles R. O'Hara, Pastor & Rev. Donato P. Silveri, In Residence

DECEMBER 22, 2024

# SAINT JOSEPH CHURCH

## MASSES

Daily Monday - Friday at 8:00 AM

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 PM, Sunday Masses: 7:30, 9:00 (streamed) & 11:00 AM

## Confession

Saturday, 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM



The readings for next Sunday are shared here to give you a chance to meditate on them in preparation for Mass.

1<sup>st</sup> Reading:

1 Samuel 1: 20-22, 24-28

Psalm

84: 2-3, 5-6, 9-10

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:

1 John 3: 1-2, 21-24

Gospel:

Luke 2: 41-52

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Friday: 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM

## 1<sup>ST</sup> SATURDAY DEVOTION & MASS

7:20 AM Rosary followed by Mass

## ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Daily from 8 AM until 7 PM

## BAPTISMS

Sundays at 12:15 PM by appointment

Baptismal Prep by appointment

## MINISTRY TO THE SICK

Those unable to attend Mass due to illness should call the Rectory to make arrangements to receive Holy Communion.

## Hospitalization

If a family member is hospitalized, please inform the Rectory so that we may remember them in our prayers.

## MARRIAGE

Couples contemplating marriage must contact the priest **at least 6 months in advance** to make an appointment to discuss marriage preparations.

## EDUCATION

### ***Parish Religious Education Program (PREP)***

Andrea Jackowski, Director

610-850-4228

stjosephprep@comcast.net

### ***Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS)***

Anne Pulsifer, Formation Leader

484-431-5156 cgsstjoseph@comcast.net

### ***Holy Family Catholic School***

221 Third Avenue, Phoenixville

Mrs. Jennifer D'Amelio, Principal

610-933-7562

myholyschool.org

## ST. VINCENT DE PAUL HELPLINE

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# December 22, 2024 - 4th Sunday of Advent



## Christmas Mass Schedule

### Christmas Eve Tuesday December 24th

4:30 pm, 7:00 pm & MIDNIGHT

### Christmas Day Wednesday December 25th

7:30 am, 9:00 am & 11:00 am

### New Year's Eve December 31, 2023

7:00 pm

### Solemnity of Mary January 1, 2024

8:00 am



Monday December 23	<b>Brett Ware</b> <i>Req. by Brandon &amp; Thuy Dinh</i>
Tuesday December 24	<b>Mario DiNardo</b>
Wednesday December 25	<b>Merry Christmas</b>
Thursday December 26	<b>Joanne Burnley</b> <i>Req. by The Mungin Sisters</i>
Friday December 27	<b>The George Yost Family</b> <i>Req. by The Family</i>

## Eucharistic Minister Schedule

### December 21

4:30 pm - K Martorano

### December 22

7:30 am - B Rigsby

9:00 am - S Prestia

11:00 am - M Arnold

### Christmas Eve Dec 24

4:30 pm - C Mungin + E Slanga  
H Coggins

7:00pm - S Prestia + M Frank

Midnight -

### Christmas Day Dec 24

7:30 am - J Zona + P Power

9:00 am - R Zeleski + S Winters

11:00 am - T Duffy + M Arnold

### December 28

4:30 pm - K Martorano

### December 29

7:30 am - P Power

9:00 am - S Prestia

11:00 am - K Cabot

### New Year Eve Dec 31

7:00 pm - R Zeleski

### Solemnity of Mary Jan 1

8:00 am - N Horning

## Lector Schedule

### December 21

4:30 pm - E Slanga

### December 22

7:30 am - J Kelly

9:00 am - R Keeley

11:00 am - M Arnold

### Christmas Eve Dec 24

4:30 pm - B Keeley

7:00pm - H Coggins

Midnight - C Staab

### Christmas Day Dec 24

7:30 am - J Kelly

9:00 am - J Michael

11:00 am - M Arnold

### December 28

4:30 pm - K Martorana

### December 29

7:30 am - C Staab

9:00 am - J Michael

11:00 am - S Lorenca

### New Year Eve Dec 31

7:00 pm - M Arnold

### Solemnity of Mary Jan 1

8:00 am - R Keeley



Ever think of joining the St Joseph Music Ministry?

We'd love to have you! Instrumentalists, cantors both.

Please see Leslie or Megan after Mass.

### Bulletin Date Date Due

January 5- December 26

January 12- January 2

January 19- January 9

Bulletin Submission Schedule  
Please submit any items for the bulletin to [St.Joes@comcast.net](mailto:St.Joes@comcast.net)

### WEEKLY EVENTS

#### SUNDAY

Masses 7:30, 9:00 & 11:00 am  
CGS Level I 8:45 am  
PREP every other Sunday 8:45 am  
PREP Confirmation Class 6:00 pm

#### MONDAY

Mass 8:00 am

#### TUESDAY

Mass 8:00 am  
CGS Level I - 9:00 am  
CGS Level II - 4:30 pm  
CGS Level III - 4:30 pm

**Holy Hour & Devotion -  
6:00pm**

#### WEDNESDAY

Mass 8:00 am

#### THURSDAY

Mass 8:00 am

#### FRIDAY

Mass 8:00 am

#### SATURDAY

Confession 2:30 - 4:00 pm  
Vigil Mass 4:30 pm

#### HOLY DAY SCHEDULE:

**Vigil Mass** 7:00 pm

**Holy Day:** 8:00 am, 12:00 pm, 7:00

## EVENTS & PROGRAMS

#### MONDAY, December 23

7:00pm - Knights of Columbus - Trailer 1

#### TUESDAY, December 24 CHRISTMAS EVE

**MASSES: 4:30 pm, 7:00 pm & Midnight**

10:00 am - Holy Hour - Unborn Children -Church

#### WEDNESDAY, December 25 CHRISTMAS DAY

**MASSES: 7:30 am, 9:00 am & 11:00 am**



Father O'Hara & Father Silveri along  
with the St. Joseph Staff wish you and your  
families very Merry Christmas and a

Blessed New Year.

### The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

The Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth (Luke 1:39-56)

The joy that Elizabeth proclaims when she greets Mary, and the joy of her unborn child leaping in her womb, are a forerunner of the joy of Mary and her gratitude to the Lord which is expressed in her beautiful prayer, the Magnificat. In the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd atrium, the children follow the example of these holy women, Mary and Elizabeth, whose faith prepared for Christ's coming with great joy.

For more information contact Anne Pulsifer  
484-431-5156 or [cgsstjoseph@comcast.net](mailto:cgsstjoseph@comcast.net)



# December 22, 2024 - 4th Sunday of Advent



**CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**Offered each Sunday  
during the 9 am Mass  
No registration required**



All children ages 3-12 are invited to join us.  
(Younger children welcome if accompanied  
by a parent.)  
Teens and adults welcome to help.

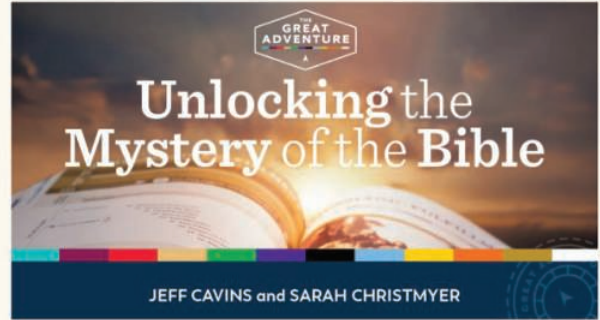
Children will be called forward during Mass before the First Reading. The leader will take the group to the designated area. During this special time, the children will be lead through readings, songs, and activities created just for them. Children will return to Mass in time for the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

Any questions, please contact Amy Snyder by voice or text at 484-919-8354.

**St. Joseph's Holy Hour** is a time-honored tradition since 2004 started by the Servants of Mary. They are held on Tuesday evenings from 6 pm to 7 pm. We pray the following: Rosary, Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Devotion Prayers and the Litany of Sacred Heart.

Starting **December 24th @ 10 am** we will add a focus on our weekly devotions to include the Unborn Children and then on **December 31st @ 10am** our Families of the Parish.

If you have someone you want to add to our devotions, please feel free to come and make that request. *All are Welcome*. Should you have any questions regarding this opportunity to Pray with Others, please do not hesitate to contact Mary Frank @ 610.310.4675.



## A QUICK JOURNEY THROUGH SALVATION HISTORY

The Bible is at the heart of our faith and our relationship with God. But where do we start in reading it? This program will guide participants through Jeff Cavins' "The Bible Timeline" learning system. This study seeks to draw us into God's plan of salvation, and thus in a deeper relationship with Jesus.

**MONDAYS 7:00 P.M. - 8:30 P.M. JANUARY 6 - FEBRUARY 24**

Register at QR code or contact  
Sophie Schneible  
SSchneible@saintalloysius.net  
610-326-5877 x 426



Cost: \$30 for workbook  
St. Aloysius Parish  
Lower Level of Gathering Center  
223 Beech St. Pottstown



## Congratulations To the Newly Baptized:

**Vera Mae Hanahan**

Parents: Tom & Amber Hanahan  
November 3 2024

**Amelia Calkins Tubiello**

Parents: Logan & Maggie Tubiello  
November 17, 2024

**Violet Harper Coyne**

Parents: Patrick Coyne & Jennifer Topper  
November 24, 2024



## The Stable's Tale

### The Fourth Week

Over these past weeks, beside Straw and the figures of the animals and people, something else began to show itself. There seemed to be Light, very faint in those first few weeks, but now in these last weeks the Light became brighter.

It seems to be coming from behind me, yet now, even in front of me there is a very strong glow, especially at night. I seem to have heard of this before: a song telling of something called a Star, a special Star, a Star of Wonder, a Star of Beauty, a Star guiding to the Perfect Light.

As the Light increased over the weeks, so have all the figures inside of me. It's getting a bit crowded! Yet there is still that empty space, that empty Center. I think that's where those last figures will go. I have a feeling that they will be arriving very soon.

It must be important that those last figures be placed in the Center. I remember there is a Woman, a Man, and a Baby. Could all of this gathering of animals, people, and Star be about a baby?



Who could this Child be to gather the me's of the world, the animals, the living things, and even those not so alive? I guess I belong to that category, yet for some reason I've been given this time (and it's been such a Wonderful time) to experience *being Alive*.

I think I've actually heard the names given to this Child: Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

That Star, that Bright Light,  
must be showing the Way to  
come to Him.

Yet that tiny, flickering light,  
already in This Place, seems to  
tell me He is already here.

If only I could bow before Him.  
If only I could say what a gift He  
has given me: to reveal His  
purpose for me: to be a Shelter  
in imitation of Him.

What Joy I have, that soon the  
figures of the Woman, the Man,  
and The Child will be within me  
and I will Shelter them.

The people will come. The men,  
the women, the children, will  
come to stand, to kneel, to  
pray. The Center will be filled:  
The Center of us all – the  
Meaning of all – even me!

And so, we  
Light our

Fourth Advent  
Candle, and

what else could  
it be, but the Candle of Love?



*For God so loved the world, that  
He gave His only Begotten Son,  
that whoever believes in Him  
should not perish but have  
everlasting Life.* JOHN 3:16

S. Mary Ann

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