

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

DECEMBER 15, 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.

1st Reading:

Micah 5: 1-4a

Psalm

80: 2-3, 15-16, 18-19

2nd Reading:

Hebrews 10: 5-10

Gospel:

Luke 1: 39-45

OFFICE HOURS

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

Friday: 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM

1ST 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

For those in need call 484-447-8947

3640 SCHUYLKILL ROAD, SPRING CITY, PA † PH: 610.948.7760 † FAX: 610.948.8509

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December 15, 2024 - 3rd Sunday of Advent



The St. Joseph Giving Tree Donations are due **Sunday December 15th**. This is to allow the items to be distributed in time for **Christmas!**

BLESSING OF MANGER FIGURES THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- at each of the Masses - December 14 and 15 -

St. Joseph Church will join in the Vatican's Tradition of Blessing Manger figures on the Third Sunday of Advent.

Bring your Baby Jesus or any Manger Figure to Mass on the weekend of December 14 and 15 for this special Blessing.



Advent Holy Hour - 7pm - Wednesday of Advent

- December 18 - starting at 7pm -

Come, refresh your spirit in a time of Eucharistic Adoration, quiet prayer, and sacred music. Encounter the forgiveness, mercy, and love of the Lord in the Sacrament of Reconciliation which will be available during each of our Holy Hour.

Bulletin Date	Date Due
December 29-	December 19
January 5-	December 26
January 12-	January 2

Bulletin Submission Schedule
Please submit any items for the bulletin to St.Joes@comcast.net

Eucharistic Minister Schedule

<u>December 14</u> 4:30- K Cabot	<u>December 21</u> 4:30- K Martorana
<u>December 15</u> 7:30 - J Zona 9:00 - S Winters 11:00 - C or G Reece	<u>December 22</u> 7:30 - B Rigsby 9:00 - S Prestia 11:00 - M Arnold



Monday December 16	Barbara Wynne <i>Req. by Debbie & Artie Cole</i>
Tuesday December 17	James Smith <i>Req. by JoAnne & Judy Zona</i>
Wednesday December 18	Dolores Hart <i>Req. by Gary & Kim Martorana</i>
Thursday December 19	Hieu Nguyen <i>Req. by Brandon & Thuy Dinh</i>
Friday December 20	Zona Family <i>Req. by JoAnne & Judy Zona</i>



Lector Schedule

<u>December 14</u> 4:30 - K Martorana	<u>December 21</u> 4:30 - E Slanga
<u>December 15</u> 7:30 - C Staab 9:00 - J Michael 11:00 - M Benton	<u>December 22</u> 7:30 - J Kelly 9:00 - R Keeley 11:00 - M Arnold



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.

December 15, 2024 - 3rd Sunday of Advent

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 - 6:00 pm

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 pm

EVENTS & PROGRAMS

SUNDAY, December 15

- 2:00 pm - Pageant Practice - Church

MONDAY, December 16

6:30 pm - Knights of Columbus - Trailer 1

TUESDAY, December 17

7:00 pm - MOJO Meeting - Trailer 1

8:30 pm - Building Committee Meeting - Trailer 1

WEDNESDAY, December 18

7:00 pm - Advent Adoration, Sacred Music & Reconciliation - Church.

THURSDAY, December 19

6:00 pm - Pageant Dress Rehearsal - Church

7:00 pm - St Vincent dePaul Meeting - Narthex

FRIDAY, December 20

7:00 pm - Christmas Pageant - Church



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.

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Jerusalem

This was the most important city in the Land of Israel and the life of Jesus Christ. It was in the city of Jerusalem where Jesus died and was resurrected. We do not speak about one of these moments without the other. From the beginning of the atrium year with young children we introduce "the core mystery of Jesus' death and resurrection to young children." It gives the children the sense that these moments in Jesus' life are one great event of Jesus giving his life.

For more information contact Anne Pulsifer
484-431-5156 or cgsstjoseph@comcast.net



December 15, 2024 - 3rd Sunday of Advent

ALL St. Joseph Parish children in grades K-3 are welcome to be a part of our annual Christmas Pageant. **Practices Sunday December 15th at 2:00 pm** in church. **Dress Rehearsal Thursday December 19th at 6pm** in church. For more information or to sign up, please contact stjosephprep@comcast.net

Friday December 20th
at 7pm

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

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

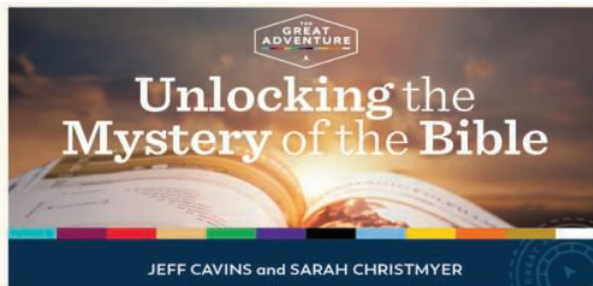


Jesus is the reason for the season

The Knights of Columbus would like to thank you all for a very successful Kids Coat Drive.

With your wonderful generosity, we collected over 250 very nice coats that will benefit kids going into this winter. In fact, we delivered these coats to Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity on Tuesday, November 25th for their immediate distribution to needy children in Montgomery County.

Again, your local Knights Council is proud to serve our faith community and the needs of our parishes.



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



Caring for the Poor in our Community

We will be accepting donations for both PACS (Phoenixville Area Community Services) and Project Outreach located in Spring City that help contribute the necessary items to struggling families in our area.

The following donations are needed:

Soups
Ready to Eat Canned Goods
Chef Boyardee Items
Cereals
Canned Tuna & Chicken
Paste Sauce

You may place the donated items in the large cabinet in the Narthex.
We are very grateful to all of you for your support in the mission to Care for the Poor!

The professional musical ensemble, **GAUDEAMUS**, will be presenting three Christmas concerts at local churches.

- Sunday, December 15th at 7 PM at Epiphany of Our Lord (Plymouth Meeting)

The program will include sacred, classical, and traditional music of the season. Concerts are free and open to the public. A free-will donation will benefit the charitable works of Gaudeamus. For more information, please visit www.letusrejoice.org



Gabrielle Tamburro

&

Darian Storti

10/26/24



The Stable's Tale The Third Week

These past two weeks have been

quite an experience. As you know, I was set up much earlier than usual and was empty except for Straw. Yet as I sat in the stillness and emptiness, I really wasn't alone. I really wasn't empty. I felt a Presence was with me: a Presence, here in This Place, filled me and stilled me.

Even when they, whoever they are, began to put in place the animal figures, (to whom I had never paid attention!), the peace and stillness remained. This stillness, this Peace, what is it?

I seem to remember one of the songs I heard in past years – *O Little Town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie...* To be still, to be at Peace, is certainly a marvel, a Wonder.

I have to say the animal figures and I have gotten along quite well. It seems strange to say this, but they seem, in their stillness, to be a bit restless. They seem to sense something is about to happen: Something, Someone is about to come.

This past week seemed to be about seeing and hearing all the little things, although all of this is new to me. I've watched the sunlight coming through the Church windows; heard what I think they call rain pounding on the roof; been hours and hours in darkness, yet comforted by what seems to be a tiny, flickering light that's always here; took notice of the creatures here with me, each unique, each a Wonder of Creation.

I never thought about these things, really never thought at all – what a gift it's been!

Two days ago, other figures arrived, placed in peaceful reverence, placed within me, me, their Stable Shelter. Yet, some are missing: the scene is still not complete.

These figures are like the people who come in front of me each year: some standing, some kneeling, but now all looking at that empty Center space.

They, like the animals, must be waiting. That bare Center has gathered them: The Center that is yet to come.

Today we
Light our Third



Advent Candle, Candle of Joy,
Candle of the Shepherd.

As we saw last year the themes of our candles are really not separate, they depend on each other and flow from each other.

They are, in a sense, nested in each other: Stabled in each other. To live in Joy, my heart must be at Peace. Peace is rooted in Hope and Hope rooted in Trust, utter Trust: utter union of heart, will, & mind to Him, the Faithful Shepherd, the only true Stable Shelter for my soul. — *S. Mary Ann*

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