

DECEMBER 24, 2017

4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT

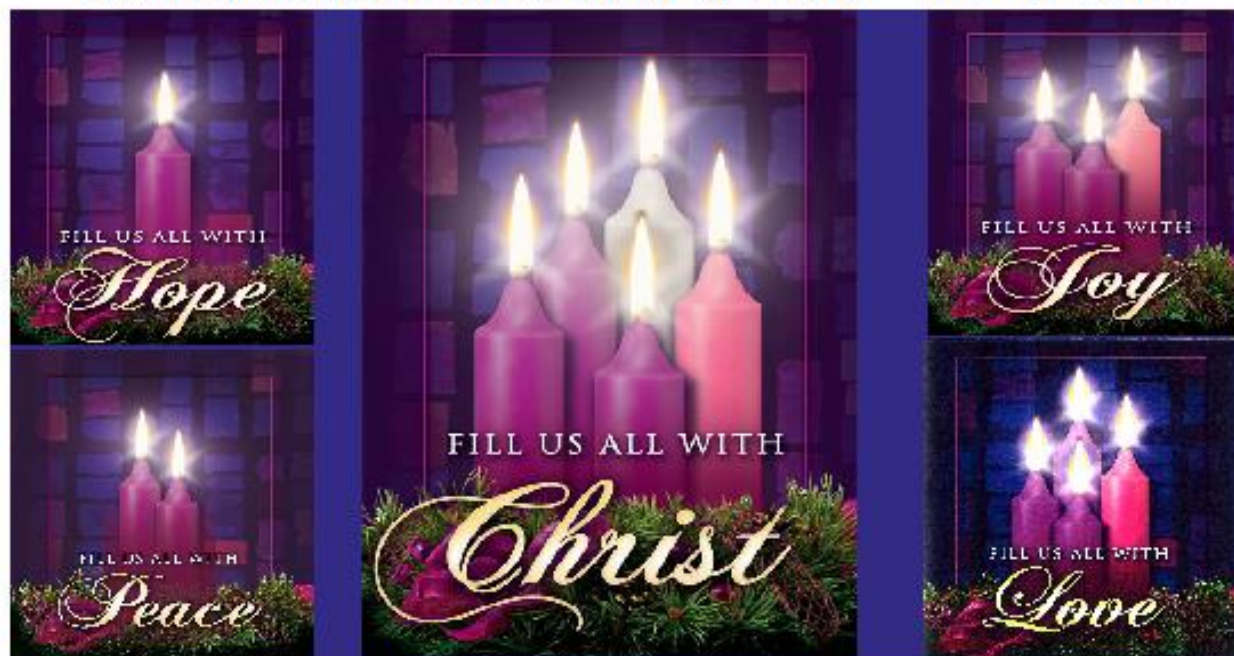


St. Joseph

Catholic Church

*A community
of faith
growing in
God's love*

91 Stillhouse Rd., Millstone Twp., NJ 08510 732-792-2270



MASS

Sat. 5:00PM

Sun. 9:00AM & 11:00AM

Mon. 9:00AM

Tues. 9:00AM

Wed. 9:00AM

Fri. 9:00AM

Holy Days—check bulletin

SERVED BY

Rev. Michael P. Lang, Pastor

frmlkestjoseph@optonline.net

Robert Follnus, Deacon

robstjoseph@optonline.net

Chris Chandonnet, Deacon

chrisstjoseph@optonline.net

Carol Schulz

cschulzstjoseph@optonline.net

Genevieve Semanchick

jeanstjoseph@optonline.net

CONNECT

Fax: 732-792-2271

Online:

www.stjosephmillstone.org

Facebook:

@stjosephchurchmillstone

Twitter:

@frmlkestjoseph

Some thoughts from Fr. Mike...

Dear Friends,

Christmas is almost upon us and, on this Fourth Sunday of Advent, we are called to give attention to the theme of LOVE. Love is what the celebration of Christmas is all about. We should never forget that God loved us so much that God took on human form and came among us so that in accepting God's gift, we would have the promise of eternal life. God's love has no limits. God's love has no conditions. God's love is simply offered to every one of us as pure gift. The season of Advent is the shortest that it can be this year with the fourth Sunday of Advent only lasting a matter of hours before we move into the Season of Christmas, but the impact of the theme for this last day of Advent should be something that remains with us for the entire Christmas Season and beyond.

As we prepare for the celebration Christmas, I wish each one of you a very merry, blessed and holy Christmas. I pray that the love that God poured out in taking on human flesh and coming among us is something that we feel every day. If we allow God's love to fully impact our lives we will come to know that there is no way for us to be defeated, no way for evil to win and no way for the joy that God desires for us to escape from us. We may face challenges, obstacles, grief, heartache, illness and all the other pressures of life in this world, but accepting God's gift of love reassures us that we will be victorious.

I give thanks for the support that you offer to our Faith Community. All the ways that you assist, participate and pray for this community are great gifts and serve to help to bond us together as members of the family of God. Please continue to pray for our Parish that we will always be open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit and the example of Jesus.

During the season of Christmas may all the themes of Advent come to you as gift from God. May you always have hope in God to lead you on the right path. May you experience the peace that comes from knowing you never face anything alone. May you have the joy that comes from being filled with God's Word. And may God's love give you reassurance no matter what you face. May God bless you!

Love, peace and prayers,

Fr. Mike

Mass Schedule + Readings

Saturday December -23 *Late Advent Weekday*
Saint John of Kanty
(Mal 3:1-4, 23-24 Lk 1:57-66)

5:00pm *Patricia & Jerry Calviello*
r/b The Polito Family

Sunday December -24 *4th Sunday of Advent*
(2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 Rom 16:25-27 Lk 1:26-38)

10:00am *Rose Riccobono* r/b The MarsicovetereFamily

CHRISTMAS EVE

4:00pm *The Fama Family* r/b The Family

6:30pm *Bernadette Lang* r/b Her Family

Monday December -25 *Christmas*
(Is 62:1-5/Acts 13:16-17,22-25 Mt1:1-25 or 1:18-25)

12 midnight *Leo & Caroline Wolf* r/b The Family
(Is 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/Jn1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9:14)

9:00am *Jason Robert Sawicz* r/b His Family

11:00am *Anna Morin* r/b Her Family

Tuesday December -26 *St Stephen*
(Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59 Mt 10:17-22)

9:00am *No Mass*

Wednesday December -27 *St John*
(1 Jn 1:1-4 Jn 20:1a, 2-8)

9:00am *No Mass*

Thursday December -28 *The Holy Innocents*
(1 Jn 1:5-2:2 Mt 2:13-18) **NO MASS**

Friday December -29 *St Thomas Becket*
Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
(1 Jn 2:3-11 Lk 2:22-35)

9:00am *Tim Sager* r/b Friends

Saturday December -30
Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
(1 Jn 2:12-17 Lk 2:36-40)

5:00pm *Joseph & Katalin Melezer* r/b Their Family

Sunday December -31
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
(Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6, 21:1-3 Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17
or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19 Lk 2:22-40)

9:00am *Edward & Ldiane Mazurowski*
r/b Catherine Messinger

11:00am *Ronald Cannelle* r/b Janet Palmer



Sanctuary Candle... this week
Dec'd Mbrs of the Reilly & Semanchick
Families r/b John & Jean

To dedicate a Sanctuary Candle in memory of or for the intention of a loved one, Please call the office @ 732-792-2270. The donation is \$10.00.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER...

The most valuable possession we can ever have is the love of God residing in our hearts.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE REPORT

December 17th - \$8,302.00

Debt Reduction - \$235.00

*Thank you for your generosity and
may God bless you for your support!*

MORNING MASS

There will not be morning Mass on Tuesday, December 26 or Wednesday, December 27.

PARISH OFFICE

Please remember that the parish office will be closed on Tuesday, December 26. The Office will reopen on Wednesday, December 27.

Parish Religious Education Classes

There will be no Parish Religious Education Classes on Monday, Dec 25, Tuesday, Dec 26, Monday Jan 1 or Tuesday Jan 2. Classes will resume on Monday, January 8. Have a Blessed Christmas.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Anyone who would like to contribute toward the decorations/flowers for Christmas in memory or in honor of a loved one will find envelopes on the table at the entrance of the church. List the names of those you wish to have remembered. All those listed on the envelopes will be remembered at our Christmas Masses.

PARISH GIVING TREE

Thank you to everyone who has taken a tag from the Giving Tree. Your generosity and concern will bring smiles to faces of many children on Christmas morning. Your kindness will also help to reassure others that someone cares. Thanks!

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, December 24

4:00 PM (Children's Mass)

6:30PM

MONDAY, December 25

12:00AM (Midnight Mass)

Singing will start about 11:40PM

9:00AM

11:00AM

O Come let us adore Him!

JANUARY 1 – NEW YEAR DAY

10:00AM Mass

JANUARY 1

Monday, January 1 is New Year Day and the Feast of Mary, Mother of God. Mass will be celebrated at 10:00AM.

SAVE THE DATE

For our Parent/Child Breakfast (*formerly known as the Father/Son Breakfast*) on Sunday, January 28 at 12:00Noon. All are invited. There will be a wonderful breakfast, speakers to share thought with children, some prizes and a good time. Tickets are \$5.00 per person and will go on sale in January. There will be a limit to the number of tickets available, so please get your tickets as soon as possible.

BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSIONS



Parents who will have a child baptized must attend a Baptism Preparation session. Sponsors (Godparents) are invited to attend. The next session will take place on Friday, January 5th at 7:00PM. Please contact the Parish Office to register. For questions about Baptismal Preparation please contact the Parish Office.

FOOD COLLECTION



Food collections are held on the 1st and 3rd weekends of each month. The next food collection will be on January 6/7.

Non-perishable food items, paper goods and toiletries are appreciated. Parishioners can bring frozen food contributions to the Millstone Community Center on any Tuesday morning between 10:00AM and 11:30AM at the door to the lower level on Stage Coach Rd. You may also contact Greg at 732- 539-5042 to arrange pick up of frozen foods. **Thanks for your generosity and support.**

Special note – please do not bring food items that are past the use by or expiration date. We cannot send those items to the food bank. Also, we do not collect clothing or household goods (except for announced special collections) – please do not drop them off at the church as we do not have the means to get them to places that do collect such items.

MUSIC MINISTRY –

CHILDREN'S CHOIR and ST. JOSEPH CHOIR

Includes the Choirs, Cantors and Musicians who help us lift our voices in song to God. There is a Children's Choir and a Choir for Teens and Adults. Musicians are welcome to share their talents by playing at our Liturgies.

We invite you to think about joining Choir so that we can make a joyful noise to God. If you want information about any of the opportunities in Music Ministry, contact Kristine at Kris0373@aol.com or 973-768-4184.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE



The Building and Grounds Committee will be meeting on Monday – January 8 at 7:00 PM.

The January meeting will take place in the Rectory. Any parishioner is welcome to come to meeting to find out more about how this committee works to keep our buildings and grounds in top shape. For more information about the Building and Grounds Committee contact Tom P. at tom@tlpclimatecontrol.com or Tom B. at ttaber@moneymailer.com.

ST. JOSEPH READERS' CLUB

The next Reader's Club selection is **One-in-a-Million Boy** by Monica Wood. Meeting date is **December 28 at 7:00PM.** Christmas is the theme for refreshments. In this book Monica Wood tells a beautifully written story about the healing power of friendship, music, and unexpected, generation-spanning connections. Join us on the 28th for an evening of lively conversation and delicious holiday fare. Just email your attendance or questions to Fran at ambiofran@gmail.com

LADIES OF ST. JOSEPH



The Ladies of St. Joseph Will hold their monthly meeting this Tuesday, January 2 at 7:30 PM. The January meeting will take place at the

Rectory. We invite all women of the Parish to be a part of our Parish women's group. Getting involved in our group is a great way to become active in the parish and meet other women of the parish. Come and find out how you can help with our many parish activities. For more information about the Ladies of St. Joseph contact Jo Ann at jannkronenthal@gmail.com or 732-446-4326.

MEN'S GUILD



The Men's Guild will hold their monthly meeting on Tuesday, January 9 at 7:30 PM. The

January meeting will take place at the Rectory. All men of the Parish are invited to come and be a part of our Parish men's group. We look forward to hearing your ideas for activities and your help with the activities we currently offer. It's also a great way to meet other men of the parish and to feel even more connected to your parish.

For more information about the Men's Guild contact Dave dcerulosr@gmail.com or 732-781-6623.

*May God's love at
Christmas fill you with
hope, peace and joy every
day of your life.*

STAY CONNECTED -

FIND THE LATEST NEWS

Be sure to take advantage of the variety of online tools available for our parish. Stay connected so you know about what is being offered, last minute changes and unforeseen cancellations.

Find out much about the parish on our website at www.stjosephmillstone.org. Read the latest bulletin, find the time for a meeting, learn more about what is taking place.

Connect with the parish on Facebook. Give our page a like to keep informed about events. See pictures of things that have taken place. Find out if the weather has forced a cancellation.

You can find the parish page on Facebook at St. Joseph Catholic Church Millstone Twp. NJ or @stjosephchurchmillstone. If you are a tweeter, follow the parish on Twitter @frmikestjoseph.

Stay informed – stay connected!

SHOP AT AMAZON - SUPPORT THE PARISH

Help support the parish by designating St. Joseph Church as the charity you wish to support.

Eligible purchases will result in Amazon donating a portion to the parish. You do have to designate St. Joseph Church, Millstone Twp. as your charity. You also have to use the Amazon Smile site instead of the normal Amazon site.

To check it out go to

<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/22-6103657>

(a direct link) or go to our website and click the link. Thanks for your support!

Parish Giving

A convenient way to donate is through online Parish Giving. This is offered free of charge to you so that you may make donations by credit card or transfer from your checking account. Check it out at

WWW.stjosephmillstone.org and click on

“Contribute/Donate” then click on the link for

Electronic Giving. You can then set up an account or choose a onetime donation without an account. If you have any questions about this, please feel free to contact the Parish Office.

➔ Calendar of Events ➔

- Dec 24 10:00AM – Mass (*for 4th Sunday of Advent*)
(*no 9:00AM or 11:00AM Mass*)
4:00PM – Mass *Christmas Eve*
6:30PM – Mass *Christmas Eve*
- Dec 25 12:00AM – Midnight Mass
9:00AM – Christmas Mass
11:00AM – Christmas Mass
- Dec 26 No Morning Mass
Parish Office Closed
No Religious Education Classes
- Dec 27 No Morning Mass
9:30AM – Legion of Mary
- Dec 28 7:00PM – Readers’ Club Meeting
- Jan 1 New Year Day
10:00AM – Mass
Parish Office Closed
No Religious Education Classes
- Jan 2 No Religious Education Classes
7:30PM – Ladies of St. Joseph Meeting
- Jan 4 5:00PM – Children’s Choir Practice
6:00PM – Choir Practice
- Jan 7 Parish Food Collection
Children’s Liturgy of the Word
10:00AM – Coffee & Conversation
12:30PM – Baptisms
- Jan 8 7:00PM – Building & Grounds Committee
- Jan 9 7:30PM – Men’s Guild Meeting
- Jan 10 1:00AM – Prayer Shawl Ministry
- Jan 14 Hospitality Sunday
- Jan 15 Martin Luther King Day
No Morning Mass
No Religious Education Classes
Parish Office Closed
- Jan 16 No Religious Education Classes
- Jan 20 Sub Sale
- Jan 21 Sub Sale
Children’s Liturgy of the Word
Parish Food Collection
Confirmation Candidates Rite of Acceptance
12:30PM – Baptisms
- Jan 28 Parent/Child Breakfast

Let us praise God in all we do.

*Have a very Blessed Christmas
and a New Year filled with
God's peace!*

PARISH INFORMATION

Parish Office: 732-792-2270
Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9:30AM - 2:30PM
Mailing Address: 91 Stillhouse Road
Millstone Twp, NJ 08510
WWW.STJOSEPHMILLSTONE.ORG

PARISH STAFF	MASS TIMES
<i>Rev. Michael P. Lang - Pastor</i> fmikestjoseph@optonline.net	Saturday Evening - 5:00 PM
<i>Rob Folinus - Permanent Deacon</i> Robstjoseph@optonline.net	Sunday Morning - 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM
<i>Chris Chandonnet, Permanent Deacon</i> Chrisstjoseph@optonline.net	Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri - 9:00AM
<i>Carol Schulz, Pastoral Associate</i> CSchulzstjoseph@optonline.net	Holy Days: as listed in the bulletin
<i>Jean Semanchick, Parish Secretary & Coordinator of Religious Education</i> Jeanstjoseph@optonline.net	Confessions: After the 5:00 PM Mass on Saturday or by appointment.
<i>Kristine Reide, Music Ministry Leader</i> Kris0373@aol.com	

BAPTISM – The Sacrament of Baptism is normally celebrated on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month at 12:30 PM. Parents are asked to register for a Baptism Preparation Session prior to the Baptism. Baptisms must be scheduled in advance by calling the Parish Office. Sponsors must obtain Sponsor forms from their home parish – Sponsors must be active practicing Catholics. The Sacrament of Baptism is not celebrated during the Season of Lent.

Marriage – Diocesan policy requires that arrangements for Marriage be made one (1) year in advance of the wedding. Refer any questions to the Pastor.

Sick Calls – Please contact the Parish Office when someone is seriously ill requiring a visit by a Priest. If someone is unable to attend Mass on a regular basis and would like to receive Communion please call the Parish Office

Registration – We are glad you are here and want you to feel like a full member of the parish. Registering as a parishioner helps us to know who you are and to stay in touch. Registration is required for sponsor forms.

Sponsor Certificates – This is a form required to be a Godparent or Sponsor for Confirmation. To receive a form, the following is required: -Be a registered, active (attends Mass) member of the parish (for at least 6 months); be at least 16 years of age; must have completed the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation; If married, have a valid marriage within the Church.