

St. Joseph's Church



1012 French Street
Wilm., DE 19801
302-658-4535 (Tel)
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THE CRADLE OF AFRICAN AMERICAN CATHOLICISM IN DELAWARE

Office Hours: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm Tuesday thru Thursday
10:00 am - 1:00 pm Friday

Parish Secretary: parishsecretary@stjosephfrenchst.org

Website: www.stjosephfrenchst.org

YouTube Channel: St Josephs Downtown Wilmington
<https://www.youtube.com/c/StJoseph'sDowntownWilmington>

I KNOW THIS MUCH:

**I WAS BLIND,
BUT NOW I SEE.**

John 9:1-41

LENT

If you would like to register with the parish, please access the registration form located on our website www.stjosephfrenchst.org

MARRIAGE:

All couples contemplating marriage are asked to give the Pastor at least one year prior notice in order to satisfy all diocesan requirements for marriage.

BAPTISM:

Before a child is Baptized, the parents and Godparents are asked to participate in a Pre-Baptismal program. Please call the Pastoral Center to make arrangements.

NEW PARISHIONERS: Welcome!

We encourage new families moving into the area to stop in or call the Parish Office and complete a registration form.

CARE OF THE SICK AND

HOMEBOUND: This ministry is restricted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, please notify the Parish Office if any parishioner is ill or hospitalized.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS, EMAIL, TELEPHONE

NUMBER: Contact the Parish Office if your personal contact information changes.



MASS SCHEDULE FOR LENT

Saturday Vigil — 5:00 pm Sunday — 10:00 am
Tuesday thru Friday — 12:10 pm

Confessions are heard on Saturday at 4:30 pm and by appointment.

Fourth Sunday of Lent - Sunday, March 19, 2023

KPC Annual Fish Fry, Fridays from 11am - 2pm
Order Online!

<https://stjosephfrenchst.org/lenten-fish-fry>

- Rosary Prayer ~ Mondays @ 12:15 pm via Conference Call 1-716-427-1572, access code 178602
- Lenten Bible Study, Tuesdays, 6:30 pm, 6 Week Session
The Bible Timeline: The Story of Salvation
- Stations of the Cross - Friday's @ 7pm, during Lent via Zoom, (301)715-8592 Meeting ID: 950 750 0067 Pass Code: 478044
- The Chosen: 1pm-3:30pm, Viewing & Discussion
Saturday's During Lent, Parish Center Conference Room
- March 15 - Gospel Stations of the Cross - 6:30 pm
- March 27 - Book Club, 7:00 pm "The Girl Who Wrote in Silk" by Kelli Estes
- April 02 - 74th Annual Palm Sunday Breakfast — Tickets Available Now!

Holy Week Schedule

- April 01/02 - Palm Sunday of the Passion of Our Lord
- April 03 - Reconciliation Monday - 3:00pm - 8:00pm
- April 04 - Chrism Mass @ 7:00pm, Holy Cross Church, Dover
- April 06 - Mass of the Lord's Supper @ 7:00pm, Adoration until 10:00pm
- April 07 - **Good Friday**
 - Meditative Stations of the Cross - 12:00pm
 - Passion of the Lord - 3:00pm
- April 08 - Easter Vigil Mass - 8:00 pm
- April 09 - Easter Sunday Mass - The Resurrection of the Lord - 10:00am

Mass Intentions March 11, 2023— March 12, 2023

Saturday, 3/18/2023	5:00 pm	For the People of the Parish
Sunday, 3/19/2023	10:00 am	† Alessandro Scarpone Requested by Jane Crowley
Tuesday, 3/21/2023	12:10 pm	Stanley Munfar Ali
Wednesday, 3/22/2023	12:10 pm	Souls in Purgatory
Thursday, 03/23/2023	12:10 pm	Priests of the Diocese
Friday, 3/24/2023	12:10 pm	Most Rev. William E. Koenig
Saturday, 3/25/2023	5:00 pm	For the People of the Parish
Sunday, 3/26/2023	10:00 am	† Hattie Coleman Leonard & Loretta Young

PARISH STAFF

Pastor:	Vy. Rev. Glenn M. Evers, V.C.
Deacon:	Robert J. Cousar
Admin. Assistant	Loretta L. Young
Receptionist:	Lavon Robinson
Coord. Religious Education:	Vacant
Dir. Music Ministry:	Brenda Burns
Bookkeeper:	Jane Putscher

Introduction to the Liturgy

Today, having reached the halfway point of Lent, we celebrate the Laetare Sunday. This Latin word, pronounced *lay-TAR-ray*, means "rejoice." We rejoice in the knowledge that the cross does not end in death, that Jesus' story does not end in the tomb. The Church also celebrates the second scrutiny today, a significant step for catechumens but also an opportunity for all of us to look into our hearts for the sinful habits and tendencies we may not even see. In today's Gospel, Jesus heals a blind man. More significantly, he can heal our blindness to sin as well.

Let us rejoice!



*The Chosen is a TV series based on biblical events surrounding the ministry years of Jesus Christ after His baptism by John the Baptist and His 40 days in the desert. The first season of this series covers the beginning of Jesus' ministry up until His encounter with a Samaritan woman at the well (John 4:4-29). The Chosen takes liberties with artistic imagination and dialogue to present a backstory of some of the characters which helps add to the significance of the biblical events even though it's fictitious. The series provides a fresh perspective on familiar biblical characters and presents an inspiring yet entertaining story. **Mark your calendars each Saturday thru April 1st, 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm** and plan to join the viewing and discussion in the parish center. For More information see Deanna Cardenas or Dana Crumety.*

Refresher on the Rules of Fasting & Abstinence During Lent 2023

Abstinence: All who have celebrated their 14th birthday are bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, all Fridays of Lent and Good Friday.

Fasting: Everyone, from the celebration of their 18th birthday to their 59th birthday, is bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Fasting means eating only one full meal each day. Two other partial meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken; but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids are allowed.

Almsgiving: Catholics are encouraged to support generously the charitable works of the whole Church: through regular stewardship to their parish, support of charities, and their generous response to the diocesan Catholic Stewardship Appeal.

Prayer: To deepen one's love for Christ, Catholics are urged to participate in the sacramental life of the Church during Lent by attending daily Mass and frequenting the sacrament of Reconciliation.

Reconciliation Monday: Lent is also a privileged time for celebrating the **Sacrament of Reconciliation**. On **Monday, April 3rd, 3:00—8:00 pm, Father Evers will be available for anyone wishing to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation before Easter.**

Question of the Week

**What keeps me from seeing the truth?
What keeps me from acknowledging
what I see?**

Weekly Collections

The parish requires a weekly collection of \$4,901 to cover expenses. The collection from **March 12, 2023 was \$3,857**. In addition, we estimate \$500 from on-line contributions. We have multiple ways to enable your consistent giving: In-Pew, On-line, US Mail, and Bank Checks. Either way, remember that the Parish relies on your consistent contributions and we ask that you continue to be prayerful about your gifts to the parish. Thank you for your faithfulness with giving back to the Lord!

**PREPARE YOUR HEART
FOR EASTER**

RECONCILIATION MONDAY

APRIL 3, 2023 3 - 8 P.M.

VISIT A CATHOLIC CHURCH IN DELAWARE OR MARYLAND'S
EASTERN SHORE DURING OUR EXTENDED CONFESSION HOURS.
VISIT CDOW.ORG TO FIND A CHURCH NEAR YOU.



Good News

from the
Office of Communications



Listen to Catholic Forum each week. Next Saturday, March 25th, Dr. Thomas Williams will discuss his book, "The Coming Christian Persecution." Catholic Forum airs on Saturday afternoons at 1:30 on Relevant Radio 640. You can listen online anytime at cdow.org/CatholicForum, or by searching "Catholic Forum" on Apple, Spotify, iHeartRadio, or Amazon Music podcasts. For photos, information regarding upcoming guests, links and more, "Like" Catholic Forum on Facebook at facebook.com/CatholicForum



Sunday Fellowship

Sponsored by

Gail & John Rando

Thank You for your Generosity!!



Answer Bishop Koenig's Invitation to join him for the Twelfth Cross Pilgrimage

Bishop Koenig invites youth, young adults, and families from all parishes and schools to join him as we come together for the Twelfth Cross Pilgrimage on Saturday, April 1, 2023. Pilgrims from across the diocese will carry the diocesan pilgrimage cross through the streets of Wilmington with the Bishop as a representation of Jesus' entry to Jerusalem and His journey on Good Friday to Calvary. The day begins at St. Elizabeth parish with opening prayer and a concert featuring The Scally Brothers at 10:00 am. We conclude with the 4pm Mass at St. Elizabeth. Don't miss this great opportunity to wrap up your Lenten journey with hundreds of your peers. Cost for the day is \$15 per person or \$45 max per family (bring your own lunch). To register, please contact (*parish contact information here*) For more information, visit www.cdowcym.org. Registration deadline is March 26, 2023 (*unless otherwise noted*).

Parish Bus - March



DATE	DRIVER
Sun, Mar 05	Yolanda Mohammed
Sun, Mar 12	Tony Miller
Sun, Mar 19	Judd Williams
Sun Mar 26	Tony Miller

March Special Collections

If you're not using a box set of collection envelopes and making your weekly contributions directly through your bank or via our website with online giving, below is a list of our special collections for the month of February. We hope that you will continue supporting these important ministries and acts of charity.

- **March 5 - Building Fund •**
- **March 5 - St. Vincent dePaul •**
- **March 4/5 - Catholic Relief Services and Church in Latin America**

When making on-line donations, please use the drop down menu and select the special collection for which your gift is designated. We're grateful for your generosity and support of our ministries and aid to others. To contribute please log on to www.st.josephfrenchst.org; click **Online Giving**, complete the form or simply scan our QR code with your cellphone.



St. Joseph's Book Club

Meets in the Parish Center and via Zoom. Bring your book, a friend, snack, and your insights to this lively discussion. The next meeting is **March 27, 2023** and the book for discussion is **"The Girl Who Wrote in Silk" by Kelli Estes**. See Geraldine Cochran for additional detail.

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

PLEASE REMEMBER AND PRAY FOR OUR SICK AND SHUT-IN, AND THOSE WHO SERVE IN THE MILITARY

Gerry Reybold	Jean Toy	Guissepina Fazzone	Leonard J. Young, Jr.	
Ben Pearce	John Madison	Ron Toy	Mercedes Zahralbin	
Carolyn & Charles Wing	Avril Madison	Mary Bossack	Julianna McGill	
August Hazeur	Donna Scott May	Mary Polk	Nelson Brockenborough	
Judy Gallagher	Meghan & Eric Pitts	Roxanne Wallace		

If you would like to be added to our sick and shut-in list, please send email to parishsecretary@stjosephfrenchst.org. Names of parishioners in hospitals or facilities will remain on the list indefinitely. All others will remain for one month, unless there are extenuating circumstances.

PUT PREVENTION INTO PRACTICE

MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS EDUCATION and AWARENESS MONTH

Multiple sclerosis, or MS, is a disease of the central nervous system that can cause symptoms throughout the body ranging from difficulty walking to bladder dysfunction to changes in memory and thinking abilities. MS is believed to be an autoimmune condition, in which the immune system mistakenly attacks the myelin sheath that normally protects nerve fibers in the brain, spinal cord, and optic nerve. As the myelin sheath is gradually destroyed, the resulting scar tissue (sclerosis) disrupts the electrical impulses between the brain and other parts of the body. It's not clear what causes the onset of this immune reaction, although recent research points to infection with the Epstein-Barr virus as a likely trigger. And while there are treatments that can slow the progression of MS, there is no cure. (Source: <https://www.everydayhealth.com/multiple-sclerosis/awareness-month/>)

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH

National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month is observed in March in the U.S. This class of disabilities can refer to impairments in learning and behavior, such as autism, attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder, and impairments in physical and/or intellectual functioning such as cerebral palsy, spina bifida, and Down syndrome. The campaign seeks to raise awareness about including people with developmental disabilities in all facets of community life. It also creates awareness of the difficulties that people with disabilities still face in fitting into the communities in which they live. (Source: <https://nationaltoday.com/national-developmental-disabilities-awareness-month/>)

NATIONAL DRUG AND ALCOHOL FACTS WEEK MARCH 21-27

National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week®, or NDAFW, is an annual, week-long, health observance that inspires dialogue about the science of drug use and addiction among youth. It provides an opportunity to bring together scientists, students, educators, healthcare providers, and community partners to help advance the science and address youth drug and alcohol use in communities and nationwide. Learn more at: <https://NIDA.nih.gov/> [Learn About National Drug & Alcohol Facts Week® \(NDAFW\)](https://NIDA.nih.gov/learn-about-national-drug-and-alcohol-facts-week/) | [National Institute on Drug Abuse \(NIDA\) \(nih.gov\)](https://NIDA.nih.gov/)

NATIONAL POISON PREVENTION WEEK MARCH 19-25

National Poison Prevention Week raises awareness of poison prevention nationwide during the third full week of March every year. The week is an opportunity to highlight the dangers of poisonings for people of all ages and promote community involvement in poisoning prevention. Take a peek under your kitchen sink or in your laundry room and there'll be tons of stuff that could be dangerous. (Source: poisonhelp.hrsa.gov/.../poison-prevention-week)

Birthdays of the Month

Jasmine Blackwell	02
Stephen Thorpe	03
Blanche Tucker	03
Ikesha McGill	07
Lettie Williams	07
James Wesley Mobley	08
Kenneth Pulliam, Sr.	11
William Ray, Jr.	12
Jean Toy	12
Ron Toy	13
Chris Wright	15
Victor Newman	17
James Corbett	18
J. Barcon Hilton	18
Mercedes Zahralbin	19
Martin Willis	20
Stella Caesar	22
Avril Madison	22
Frances David	23
D'Aviona Perrigan	27
Deidre Rogers	27
Joseph Rafter	29
Vincent Crumety	30
Pierre Sterling	30
Bertley Wharton	31

Note: Apologies if your name does not appear on the birthday list. If this is the case, please call the parish office at 302.658.4535 or email the parish secretary at parishsecretary@stjosephfrenchst.org. Please include your name, month, day and year of birth.

