

St. Joseph's Church



1012 French Street
Wilm., DE 19801
302-658-4535 (Tel)
302-658-2006 (Fax)

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>

The Lord says:

LAZARUS,
COME OUT!

John 11:38-44

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.

Fifth Sunday of Lent - Sunday, March 26, 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 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, Easter Novena Begins
- April 09 - Easter Sunday Mass - The Resurrection of the Lord - 10:00am

Mass Intentions March 25, 2023— April 2, 2023

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
Tuesday, 3/28/2023	12:10 pm	Patricia Owens
Wednesday, 3/29/2023	12:10 pm	Souls in Purgatory
Thursday, 03/30/2023	12:10 pm	
Friday, 3/31/2023	12:10 pm	St. Thomas More Society
Saturday, 4/01/2023	5:00 pm	For the People of the Parish
Sunday, 4/02/2023	10:00 am	

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

On this final Sunday of Lent before Palm Sunday, we hear Jesus call Lazarus forth from the tomb. Jesus calls us as well, calls us forth from our tombs of sin and death, where our harmful habits and attitudes separate us from God, from life. He is the resurrection. He is the life. Jesus' words to Martha then are his words to us now:

Do you believe this?

Do you believe that God can bring life out of death?

Do you believe that God can free us from the burial bands of sin?

Let us recover that faith within us and so prepare ourselves to witness the Resurrection.

Question of the Week

What spiritual darkness is Jesus calling me to come out of today? What difficulties can I anticipate in shedding these burial bands that separate me from God's grace?

Easter Flower Fund

Your support of the altar flower fund in memory /honor of a special person is appreciated. A special envelope is included in the box sets and additional Easter flower envelopes are located in the back of the church. Please consider contributing as this will help off-set the cost incurred by the parish.

May God bless you for your generosity!

Easter Mass Novena

(9 Days of Grace)

Beginning Saturday, April 8th we will begin our Easter Mass Novena. For nine days the Mass will be offered for our living and deceased family members.

How to include your family members and friends in these nine Novena Masses as we celebrate Easter? Simply use the Easter Novena envelope located in your box set or those located in the church, and write down the names of your loved ones on the envelope along with the suggested donation of \$10. The Easter Mass Novena will be offered for the people whose names are written on those special envelopes.

Every Mass has a Mass Intention, where the Mass is being offered for that person or a group of people. The person or persons either living or deceased for whom the Mass is being offered receive all of the graces that God offers to us for this special act of prayer which is the living Memorial of Jesus' Passion, Death, and Resurrection. The best way to spiritually love someone and to help them with whatever they need is to offer a Mass for them. Share God's Love and these prayers with your family and friends this Easter by including them in our Novena of Masses!

We pray that you will participate in the Easter Mass Novena by enrolling the name of a loved one as we collectively lift up their needs to receive the graces promised by our loving savior, Jesus Christ.

Weekly Collections

The parish requires a weekly collection of \$4,901 to cover expenses. The collection from **March 19, 2023 was \$4,693.** 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!



Sunday Fellowship

Sponsored by
Mary & Jerry Kegelman



We're in need of additional sponsors for our Sunday Fellowship. The contribution is only \$65 and helps to cover the cost of donuts, coffee and supplies.

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).



*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.*



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.

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

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.

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.

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.**



**Stewardship is not about just giving,
it's about giving everything.**



April 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 April. We hope that you will continue supporting these important ministries and acts of charity.

- **April 2 - Building Fund •**
- **April 2 - Easter Flower Fund**
- **April 7 - Holy Land Offering - Good Friday**
- **April 8- Easter Novena**
- **April 9 - Easter**
- **April 15/16 - St. Vincent dePaul •**
- **April 29/30 - Faith & Charity Annual Appeal**

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.stjosephfrenchst.org; click **Online Giving**, complete the form or simply scan our QR code with your cellphone.