

# St. Joseph's Church



## THE CRADLE OF AFRICAN AMERICAN CATHOLICISM IN DELAWARE

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

**Office Hours:** 10:00 am - 4:00 pm Tuesday thru Thursday

**Parish Secretary:** [office@sjfschurch.org](mailto:office@sjfschurch.org) - **New Email Address**

**Website:** [www.sjfschurch.org](http://www.sjfschurch.org) - **New Website Address**

**YouTube Channel:** St Josephs Downtown Wilmington  
<https://www.youtube.com/c/StJosephsDowntownWilmington>

## Second Sunday of *Advent*

### MASS SCHEDULE

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

**If you would like to register with the parish, please access the registration form located on our website [www.sjfschurch.org](http://www.sjfschurch.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.

**Wedding Anniversary Blessings:** Contact the parish office to schedule or inform Father Evers or our Deacons prior to Mass.

#### **BAPTISM:**

Before a child is Baptized, the parents are asked to participate in a Pre-Baptismal program. Please call the parish office 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:** Please notify the Parish Office if any parishioner is ill or hospitalized.

#### **BECOMING CATHOLIC:**

- ♦ Are you or someone you know interested in joining the Catholic Church?
- ♦ Have you been away, and want to come back to the Church and not sure how?
- ♦ Do you have a non-Catholic family member or friend who would like to know more about the Catholic Faith?
- ♦ Were you baptized but did not receive First Holy Communion or Confirmation?

If the answer is yes to any of these questions, please accept this as a personal invitation to join us. Simply see Father Glenn or call the parish office. This journey of faith is an enriching process and the most rewarding and beneficial journey a person can take!

#### **CHANGE OF ADDRESS, EMAIL, TELEPHONE**

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

## December 7, 2025

- Rosary Prayer - Mondays @ 12:15 pm via Conference Call 1-716-427-1572, code 178602
- Dec 08 - **Immaculate Conception, Mass @ 12:10pm**  
Holy Day of Obligation
- Dec 10 & 17 - **Advent Reflection Series - Deacon Phil**
- Dec 15 - **Advent Confessions in the City**  
12-2pm and 5pm-7pm
- Dec 21 - *Begin Christmas Decorating*
- Dec 24 - **Christmas Eve**
  - 4:15pm Christmas Nativity
  - 4:45pm Christmas Caroling
  - 5:00pm Mass
- Dec 25 - **Christmas Day** - 10:00 am Mass  
Christmas Novena Begins
- Dec 28 - **Feast of the Holy Family** - 10:00 am Mass
- Dec 30 - **Kwanza Celebration** - Blue Room
- January 01, 2026 - **New Year's Day** - 10:00 am Mass  
Feast of Mary, the Mother of God
- ♦ January 4 - After Mass, prepare Fellowship Hall for Mass
- ♦ January 10/11 - Begin Mass in Fellowship Hall
- ♦ January 12 - Painting of Church Begins

**Parish Office will be closed for Christmas and New Year's  
December 24th and will reopen on Tuesday, January 6, 2026**

More Detail Inside

**Mass Intentions  
December 6, 2025— December 14, 2025**

Saturday, 12/06/2025	5:00 pm	For the People of the Parish
Sunday, 12/07/2025	10:00 am	† Anita Young
Monday, 12/08/2025	12:10pm	For the People of the Parish
Tuesday, 12/09/2025	12:10 pm	† Mark Beard Requested by Denis Kirlin
Wednesday, 12/10/2025	12:10 pm	Michael & Pam Boyd Requested by Mary Hatch
Thursday, 12/11/2025	12:10 pm	† Ginny Lewis Requested by Dolores Fountain
Saturday, 12/13/2025	5:00 pm	For the People of the Parish
Sunday, 12/14/2025	10:00 am	Kelli Snavelly

**PARISH STAFF**

Pastor:	Vy. Rev. Glenn M. Evers, V.C.
Deacons:	Robert J. Cousar Phillip Gonzalez
Admin. Assistant	Loretta L. Young
Receptionist:	Lavon Robinson
Coord. Religious Education:	Vacant
Dir. Music Ministry:	Daniel Stevens
Bookkeeper:	Tiffany Ostrishko

**Introduction of the Liturgy of the Day**

During this season of anticipation, we are reminded that Jesus did not come into the world only once, as a newborn baby over two thousand years ago, but also comes into the world—and our hearts—throughout our lives. Furthermore, as we hear in today’s Gospel, He will return to the world without warning on the day of judgment. Therefore, over the Advent season we have a great incentive to prepare our hearts for His coming. May Jesus’ words to His disciples resonate with us today: “You also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.”

**CHURCH PAINTING PROJECT**

We have all heard the expression “**one project, leads to the another**” and many have probably had experiences in our homes with this reality. Our parish home is no different. Once we saw our beautiful flooring, it did not take long to realize that our church walls were in need of care and attention as it has been many decades since the church walls were renewed with a fresh coat of paint.

Last June, we obtained a quote from a reputable painting contractor for \$18,600 which was within our means with a little help. **Fully trusting that the Good Lord will provide, we moved forward.**

The only issue being, *how do we obtain the necessary funding to even begin the painting project?* Truly guided by the Holy Spirit, on the last possible day in June - the deadline for grant submission, we completed and submitted a grant request from the Raskob Foundation whose 80th anniversary we celebrated here this past September. Thanks be to God, mid November we received an award letter granting us \$15,000 toward our painting project. Along with a \$1,700 gift from a generous donor, we are on our way to reaching the \$18,600 needed for this project.

***Yes, how blessed we are, as God truly provides!***

Our **painting project for the interior of the church walls and ceiling is now scheduled to begin on Monday, January 12, 2026** and will last approximately 2-3 weeks. During this time, we will celebrate weekday and weekend Masses in the Fellowship Hall as we did before.

To make this happen, we must relocate the church to the fellowship hall. **On Sunday, January 4th, it’s all hands on deck after Mass to relocate the church to the Fellowship Hall until the painting is complete.** Please mark your calendars for this day and plan to join us. We have done this before, so I know it will be a smooth transition.

Many thanks to all of our friends and our parishioners for the support and care of the parish and thanks be to the God, our Father who continuously showers blessings upon Saint Joseph Parish! Gpd is very good!



**Angel Tree**

**Let’s help brighten the holidays for a family in need during this season of giving!**

The holidays can bring added financial and emotional stress for families and individuals living in poverty as many must chose between shelter and warmth versus gifts for their children.

Catholic Charities has identified several families in need and is they seek our help.

**We have agreed to sponsor a family with four teenage boys.**

An Angel tree has been placed in the back of the church with tags identifying items requested/needed by the family. **Please select a tag, purchase the item and bring to church by Sunday, December 21, 2025, unwrapped with the tag attached to the gift.**

Thank you for supporting this program and for helping to bring joy to this family.

For questions, please contact Loretta Young.

## Christmas Decorations Fund



Consider honoring a family member, friend or loved one by contributing toward the Christmas decorations fund. This is a very nice way to remember loved ones, during the season of Our Savior's Birth, while supporting your parish. Envelopes are in your box set and the church pews.



### Parish Bus — December



DATE	DRIVER
Sun, Dec 7	Judd Williams
Sun, Dec 14	Yolanda Mohammed
Sun, Dec 21	Judd Williams
Sun, Dec 28	Judd Williams

**God Bless Our Bus Drivers!**

### Sunday Fellowship

Sponsored by

## Blessed Mother Sodality

**The parish is grateful to all who continue to support this ministry.**

### Socks For Shelters

The Junior Daughters of the Knights of Peter Claver are collecting socks for homeless shelters. Warm socks for children, men and women are appreciated.

A collection box in at the church entrance. The socks will be collected through December 21, 2025.

Thanks for your support!

## Advent Bible Study Series

**December 10 & 17th**  
with  
**Deacon Phil Gonzalez**

**"Angels We Have Heard on High"**

**6:00pm Supper,  
6:30pm Session**

### Question of the Week

How can I prepare my heart this Advent to receive Jesus whenever He comes?

### December 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 July/ We hope that you will continue supporting these important ministries and acts of charity.

- **Dec 06/07 - Christmas Flowers**
- **Dec 06/07 - Building & Maintenance**
- **Dec 08 - Immaculate Conception**
- **Dec 13/14 - Retirement Fund for Religious**
- **Dec 20/21 - Christmas Novena**
- **Dec 25 - Christmas**



When making on-line donations, please use the drop down menu and select the special collection for which your gift is designated.

### Purchase Gift Cards Support Knights of Peter Claver

The holiday gift giving time is upon us. If you are planning to lighten your shopping burden by giving gift cards, the time to order them is NOW! Cards are available for Department Stores, Total Wines, Home Depot and Lowes, gas stations, grocery stores, restaurants, and many other retailers. Orders are submitted on **MONDAY!!!** And will be issued to you the following Sunday. Remember, there is no activation fee when cards are purchased through the Knights of Peter Claver Council #383. Please see Grand Knight Vincent Robinson to place your orders.

### Wedding Anniversary Blessings



*Contact the parish office to schedule or inform Father Evers or Deacon Phil prior to Mass if you would like to receive a Wedding Anniversary*

### Weekly Collections

The parish requires a weekly collection of \$4,901 to cover expenses. **The weekend collections on November 29th & 30th totaled \$2,706.** In addition, we average \$600 per week from on-line donations. 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!

**IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS**

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

<i>Megan Pitts</i>	<i>Jean Toy</i>	<i>Guissepina Fazzone</i>	<i>Mavis Woolley</i>	<i>Barbara Pulliam</i>
<i>Glenda Townsend</i>	<i>Nicole Raye Shaw</i>	<i>Ron Toy</i>	<i>Mercedes Zahralbin</i>	<i>Mary Polk</i>
<i>Judy Gallagher</i>	<i>Donna Scott May</i>	<i>Yvonne Hill</i>	<i>Don Skomsky</i>	<i>Michelle Hamilton</i>
<i>Constance H. Hamilton</i>	<i>Deidre Rogers</i>	<i>Julian Hinds</i>	<i>Rose Henderson</i>	

If you would like to be added to our sick and shut-in list, please send email to [parishsecretary@stjosephfrenchst.org](mailto: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.



Ryan Small	02
Willow Harmon	02
Vanel Fleury	03
Josephine Griffin	03
William Cavin	04
Marie Corbitt	05
Alisha Cruz	08
Rosetta Henderson	08
Iona Johnson	08
Ricardo Taylor, II	08
Maria Bairos	09
Irmina Hudson	10
Willa Seth	12
Dana Jackson	13
Tristan Thompson	14
Xavier Wycliffe	14
Kenneth Cunningham	15
Donald Cory Towles	15
Olivia Frances Clark	16
Michala Leventry	17
Carlvin Joseph	21
Patrick Abili	22
Lisa Hudson	25
Rita Watts	25
Gabriel Elijah Towles	28
Leatitia Bedminster	29
Desiree Blackwell	29
Christopher Sterling	29
Colby Twyman	29
Marquis Baynard	30
Tracy Purnell	30
James Forrest	31
Janice Jolly	31
Paula Willis	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 at [office@sjfchurch.org](mailto:office@sjfchurch.org). Please include your name, month, day and year of birth.*



Listen to Catholic Forum each week. This week, local author, Mike McGrew will discuss his picture book titled, "The Boy Who Would Be Santa". The Catholic Forum podcast on Apple, Spotify, iHeartRadio, Amazon Music podcasts and YouTube.com/DiocesefofWilm debuts every Wednesday at 12:00 p.m.; and on Relevant Radio 640 every Saturday afternoon at 1:30. More information is available at [cdow.org/CatholicForum](http://cdow.org/CatholicForum) and [FaceBook.com/CatholicForum](https://www.facebook.com/CatholicForum).



**PUT PREVENTION INTO PRACTICE**

**NATIONAL SAFE TOYS and GIFTS MONTH**

Safe Toys & Gifts Month focuses on raising awareness about the importance of selecting toys and gifts that meet safety standards and align with a child's age and developmental stage. The goal is to prevent accidents and injuries caused by inappropriate or hazardous toys, especially during a time when gift-giving is common. (Source: <https://www.awarenessdays.com>)

**STRESS FREE FAMILY HOLIDAYS MONTH**

Stress, anxiety, and depression around the holiday season is real and normal. The stressors that come along with the holiday season can create a perfect storm for increased mental health symptoms and setbacks. Again, the good news is there are resources to help you manage the holiday season. Whether you would prefer to manage **Talk Space**. (Source: National Stress-Free Family Holiday Month/Carruth Center/West Virginia University/wvu.edu). Utilizing a network of thousands of licensed clinicians, Talk Space is an online therapy service that connects users to a dedicated therapist from a secure, HIPAA-compliant platform. Registered users can send text, voice or video messages to their therapist —anytime, anywhere— including from the comfort of home. Seeking professional support is a way to proactively manage your mental health leading up to, during, and following the holidays. (Source: [TalkSpace@talkspace.com](mailto:TalkSpace@talkspace.com))

**GIVE THE GIFT OF SIGHT MONTH DECEMBER**

More than 100 years ago, Prevent Blindness was founded as a public health advocacy organization, dedicated to eliminating blind eye disease in newborns (ophthalmia neonatorum). Today, Prevent Blindness, and its affiliates, have expanded the mission to serve millions of Americans across the age spectrum by raising awareness and educating the public about conditions related to vision and eye health; advocating for vision health-related public policy; promoting early detection as a key to the prevention of vision loss and blindness; supporting public health research to identify the scope of vision problems across the United States; and producing expert-reviewed resources that meet patient and caregiver needs. (Source: <https://preventblindness.org/december-give-the-gift-of-sight/>)

*Saint Joseph Catholic Church is committed to ensuring that no person is excluded from participation in or denied the benefits of its transportation services based on race, color, or national origin, as protected by Title VI in the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Circular 4702.1B. For additional information on Saint Joseph Catholic Church nondiscrimination policies and procedures, or to file a complaint, please visit the website at [www.stjosephfrenchst.org](http://www.stjosephfrenchst.org) or contact St. Joseph Parish Office, 1012 N. French Street, Wilmington, DE 19801.*