

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 - New Email Address

Website: www.sjfschurch.org - New Website Address

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



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

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 14, 2025

REHEARSAL FOR NATIVITY PRESENTATION TODAY - ALL YOUTH ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE

- Rosary Prayer - Mondays @ 12:15 pm via Conference Call 1-716-427-1572, code 178602
- Dec 15 - **Advent Confessions in the City**
12-2pm and 5pm-7pm
- Dec 17 - **Advent Reflection Series - Deacon Phil**
- Dec 21 - *Finalize Christmas Decorating*
- Dec 24 - **Christmas Eve**
 - 4:30pm 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 - **Kwanzaa Celebration**
- 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 6 - 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 13, 2025— December 21, 2025**

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

Saturday, 12/13/2025	5:00 pm	For the People of the Parish
Sunday, 12/14/2025	10:00 am	Kelli Snavely + Paula Williams Requested by D. Kirlin
Tuesday, 12/16/2025	12:10 pm	+ Jean O'Connell Byrnes Requested by Rafter & O'Connell Families
Wednesday, 12/17/2025	12:10 pm	+ Vivian B. Young Requested by Loretta L. Young
Thursday, 12/18/2025	12:10 pm	For the People of the Parish
Saturday, 12/20/2025	5:00 pm	Joseph Marro Requested by D. Kirlin
Sunday, 12/21/2025	10:00 am	

Introduction of the Liturgy of the Day

We will hear it at least a few times over the next two weeks: "It's better to give than to receive." We recognize this when we see the expressions of joy in a child's face or tears of appreciation from a parent or spouse when they open a gift we've given them. Jesus himself said the same words to His disciples, though in a context more like the one we hear today with John the Baptist preaching to the crowds to share what they have with those who have less. As we prepare for the Lord's coming, let us share from the bounty the Lord has blessed us with and give to those in need. In our hearts, may we continually relearn the blessings.

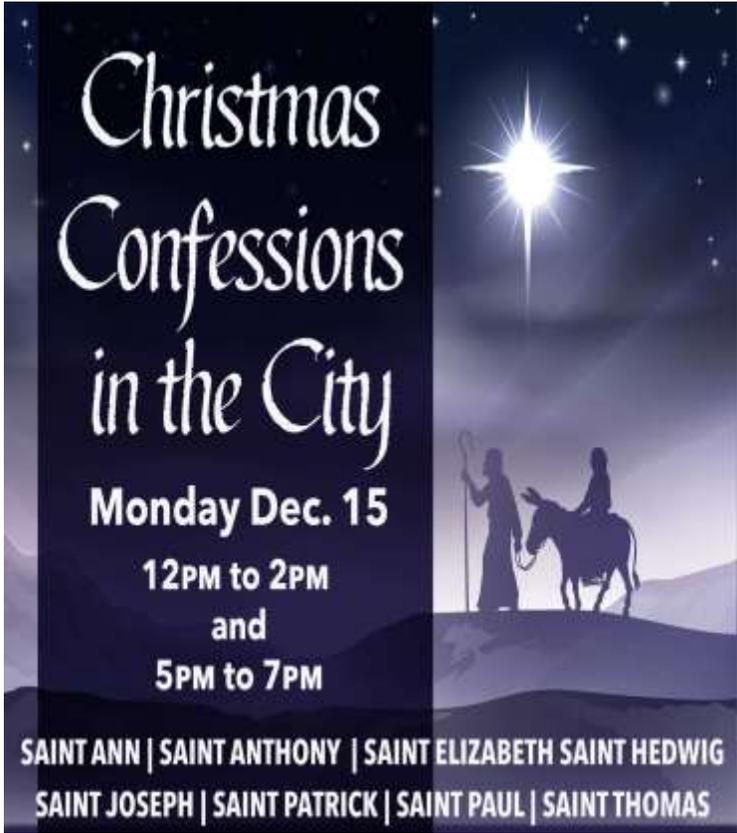
CHURCH PAINTING PROJECT

We fully trusted that the Good Lord would provide the remaining \$1,900 needed for our painting project, and so it happened. Thanks to the support of a very generous parishioner, **we have received the total \$18,600 needed to complete the painting of our church interior — thank you!**

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 God, our Father who continuously showers blessings upon Saint Joseph Parish! God is very good!

Angel Tree

Thank you to all who picked up a gift tag from our Angel Tree. We have a few tags remaining if you would like to support this family with four teenage boys. Please select a tag from the tree, purchase the item and bring the gift to **church or to the parish office by Sunday, December 21, 2025.** The gift should be unwrapped with the angel tag attached. Thank you for supporting this program and for helping to bring joy to this family. For questions, please contact Loretta Young in the parish office.

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

Gwen Cavin

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



Question of the Week

What will help remind me to try to see the Lord in those in need?

Advent Bible Study Series

December 17th
with
Deacon Phil Gonzalez

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

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

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!

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

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. To donate please simply scan our QR code with your cellphone.

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 Blessing at Mass.

Weekly Collections

The parish requires a weekly collection of \$4,901 to cover expenses. **The weekend collections on December 6th & 7th totaled \$4,792.** 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. 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. Please include your name, month, day and year of birth.

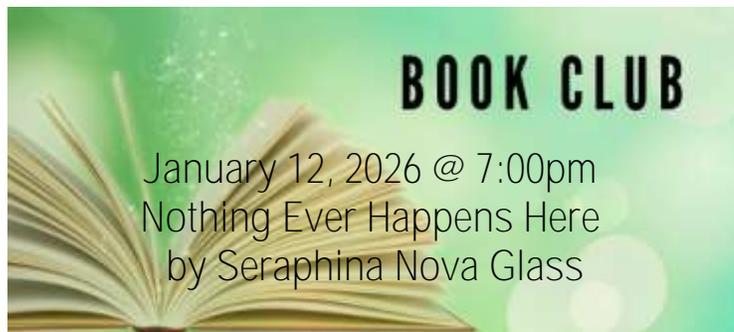
PUT PREVENTION INTO PRACTICE

WINTER SAFETY

Take steps to keep you and your loved ones safe and healthy. Brighten the holidays by making your health and safety a priority. Take steps to keep you and your loved ones safe and healthy—and ready to enjoy the holidays. The Extreme Cold Prevention Guide combines all of the key content of the CDC Winter Weather website into one downloadable, printable file. Printing this PDF file ensures that you will have important winter weather health and safety information available even when you're without power or Internet service. The Extreme Cold Guide is provided in the link below. Download the Prevention Guide Extreme link: (<http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/winter/pdf/extreme-cold-guide.pdf>)

SEASONAL FLU

Flu symptoms include fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue. Some people also may have vomiting and diarrhea. People may be infected with flu and have respiratory symptoms without a fever. Visit CDC's website to find out [what to do if you get sick with flu](#). Learn about some of the [similarities and differences between flu and COVID-19](#), and the [difference between flu and the common cold](#). <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/prevent/prevention.htm>



Listen to Catholic Forum each week. This week, Catholic country music singer and songwriter, Bradley Banning will be the guest and perform his Christmas song. The Catholic Forum podcast on Apple, Spotify, iHeartRadio, Amazon Music podcasts and YouTube.com/DiocesefWilm 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 and Facebook.com/CatholicForum.

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 or contact St. Joseph Parish Office, 1012 N. French Street, Wilmington, DE 19801.