

St. Joseph's Church



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

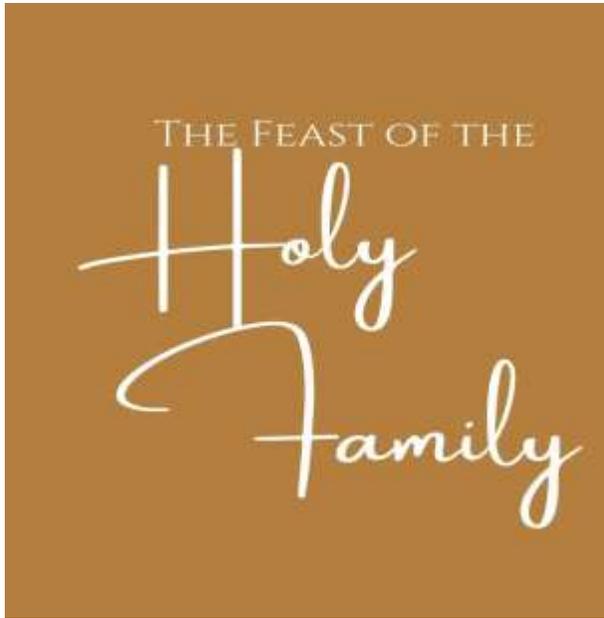
THE CRADLE OF AFRICAN AMERICAN CATHOLICISM IN DELAWARE

Office Hours: 10:00 am - 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>



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.

MASS SCHEDULE

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

December 28, 2025

- Rosary Prayer - Mondays @ 12:15 pm via Conference Call 1-716-427-1572, code 178602
- Dec 28 - **Feast of the Holy Family** - 10:00 am Mass
- Dec 30 - **Kwanzaa Celebration, 1:30pm**
- January 01, 2026 - **New Year's Day** - 10:00 am Mass
Feast of Mary, the Mother of God - No 12:10pm Mass
- ♦ January 4 - After Mass, prepare Hall for Mass
- ♦ January 6 - Begin Mass in Fellowship Hall
- ♦ January 7 - Bible Study Resumes, 6pm Supper, 6:30pm session begins - Parish Center Conference Room
- ♦ January 12 - Painting of Church Begins
- ♦ January 12 - Book Club, 7pm Parish Center
Nothing Ever Happens Here
by Seraphina Nova Glass

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

Mass Intentions December 27, 2025 - January 4, 2026

Saturday, 12/27/2025	5:00 pm	For the People of the Parish
Sunday, 12/28/2025	10:00 am	Christmas Novena #2
Tuesday, 12/30/2025	12:10 pm	Christmas Novena #3
Wednesday, 12/31/2025	12:10 pm	Christmas Novena #4
Happy New Year! Thursday, 01/01/2026	10:00 am	For the People of the Parish
Saturday, 01/03/2025	5:00 pm	For the People of the Parish
Sunday, 01/04/2025	10:00 am	Christmas Novena #5

PARISH STAFF

Pastor:	Vy. Rev. Glenn M. Evers, V.C.
Deacons:	Robert J. Couzar 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

On the Sunday after Christmas, we honor the Holy Family and hold them up as a model for our own families. From the start, Jesus, Mary, and Joseph had to deal with hardships, uncertainty, and even danger. But together they placed their trust in God and grew ever stronger in their bond with each other. We too are called to trust in the Lord as we face the trials and difficulties of our own lives. As we continue our Christmas celebration, may our families be consecrated in the love of the Holy Family.

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!



Question of the Week

As this tumultuous year comes to an end,
what can I do for those who are strangers
in a strange land?



Include your special intentions to be remembered in our **Christmas Mass Novena**. Please use the Envelopes at the church entrance to record the names of loved ones to be remembered during Christmas time. Submit your envelope in the collection basket or to the parish office.

Sunday Fellowship

Sponsored by



Rita & Lesly Watts

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

Parish Bus – January



DATE	DRIVER
Sun, Jan 4	Yolanda Mohammed
Sun, Jan 11	Judd Williams
Sun, Jan 18	Judd Williams
Sun, Jan 25	Judd Williams

God Bless Our Bus Drivers!

Weekly Collections

The parish requires a weekly collection of \$4,901 to cover expenses. **The weekend collections on December 20th & 21st totaled \$4,399.** 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!



Year-End Giving

Dear Parishioners, Family, & Friends of Saint Joseph,

As we draw near to the joyful celebration of the Nativity of our Lord and bring this year to its close, **my heart is overflowing with much gratitude for the very blessed journey we have shared together throughout 2025.** In this holy season, when we contemplate the mystery of Emmanuel, "God-with-us", I give thanks for the many ways our parish family has reflected the light of Christ in the world.

Together, we have gathered faithfully around the altar to worship and glorify God at Mass on our amazing new flooring. We have prayed, shared meals and fellowship, served one another and our neighbors in need, and rejoiced in the countless signs of God's goodness among us. I trust that each of us has grown more deeply in our personal relationship with the Lord, and I know with certainty that our parish community has been strengthened through your generous acts of faith, love, and perseverance.

I am deeply grateful for your prayers, your service, and your generosity. Each of you has played an essential role in carrying forward the mission the Lord has entrusted to us here at Saint Joseph. Whether by warmly welcoming newcomers, participating in Bible study, serving meals to homeless families, collecting socks for local shelters, supporting the Angel Tree, or offering the unique gifts and talents God has given you in so many hidden ways, you have truly been the hands and feet of Jesus within our parish and beyond.

As we prepare to embark upon a New Year, **I invite you to join me in praying for a continued increase in our vibrancy and a courageous openness to share the Hope Christ brings us with those who do not yet know our Savior, those searching for a church to call home, and those who have lost their way and need to reconnect to the Lord.** By God's grace, we at Saint Joseph have always been a warm, welcoming, and faith-filled family, and so we are continually challenged to remain a place where people can truly encounter the Love of Christ.

In these final days of Advent with Christmas soon to come, we have arrived at a moment called to finish the year strong in our financial support of our mission. Your generosity helps us conclude this year well and begin 2026 with the resources needed to serve even more faithfully and effectively

Please consider making a generous Christmas gift to our Lord Jesus through the Church of Saint Joseph. You may give during our weekend Masses, by U.S. Mail, or online by scanning the QR code below. Every gift, regardless of size, truly makes a difference in advancing God's work through our parish.

May the Joy and Peace of the Christ Child fill your hearts and homes during this holy season! May the coming Year of 2026 be one of abundant blessings, deep personal spiritual advancement, continued growth for our parish, and joyful service in the name of Jesus, Emmanuel. Know of my ongoing appreciation in journeying by your side to heaven here at Saint Joseph's!



January 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.

- **Jan 01– Solemnity of Mary**
- **Jan 03/04 - Building & Maintenance & St. Vincent dePaul**
- **Jan 10/11– Catholic University and Catholic Communications**
- **Jan 17/18 - St. Joseph Catholic Education Scholarship**



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.

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>	<i>Pat Robbins</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.



December

- 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

January

- Francis Crumety 01
- Arielle Mobley 03
- Gail Rando 04
- LeRoy Wiles 05
- Fred Ashe 08
- Phyllis Chambers-Mobley 08
- Sam McDermott 08
- Albert Fletcher 09
- Denise McIntyre 09
- Deborah Robinson 09
- Constance H. Hamilton 12
- C. Owen Cardenas 13
- Sheris Owens 14
- Chantal David Towles 14
- Sokvannarie Mong 14
- Alexis Caesar 15
- Mikayla Purnell 20
- Herbert Bracy 21
- James Francia 21
- Kyle Hopson 22
- Jane Crowley 23

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

SPIRITUAL LITERACY MONTH: Spiritual Literacy Month invites everyone to explore spirituality through reading. It is a time to dive into books that deepen our understanding of spiritual practices and beliefs. This month-long celebration encourages people to connect with their inner selves and the wider world. By reading spiritual texts, individuals can find new perspectives and meanings in everyday life. This month promotes respect and understanding of different religious traditions. It encourages people to read books from various spiritual backgrounds, helping to foster a sense of global community. (Source: <https://daysoftheyear.com/days/spiritual-literacy-month/>)

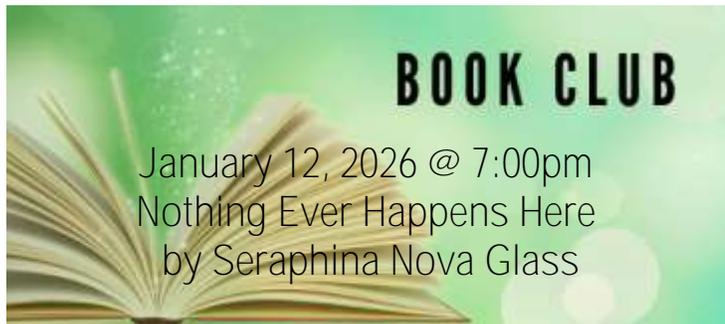
HOLY INNOCENTS DAY-December 28: The Feast of the Holy Innocents is a Christian feast in remembrance of the massacre of young children by King Herod in his attempt to kill the infant Jesus. The feast is observed by the Christian churches in the West on December 28 and in the Eastern churches on December 29. (Source: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Feast-of-the-Holy-Innocents>)



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.



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.