

# Saint Joseph Catholic Church

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Father Andrew Royals, Pastor

## First Sunday of Advent

November 30, 2025

### **Mass Times**

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.  
Tues, Wed, & Fri: Check website  
Saturday: 5:00 p.m. (Fulfills Sunday  
Obligation)

### **Confessions**

Sunday: Before Mass; After 8:00 a.m. Mass  
Tues, Wed, & Fri: Before Mass; 4:30-5:00 p.m.  
Saturday: 4:00-4:45 p.m.

### **Office Hours**

Tues & Fri: 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.,  
Wed: 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

### **Adoration**

The Church is open for prayer and adoration from 8:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. unless Fr. Drew is away from the premises.

**Please pray for those who are sick in our parish**, especially Barbara Watson, Sarah Hancock, Billy Joe Hill, Annie T. Nelson, Joseph Tippet, Yvonne Lennon, John Hunt, Kathy Norris, Larry Miller, John Campbell, Max Long, Gailann White, Georgia Nelson, James Davis, Tommy Johnson, Barbara Lilly, Joseph "Zip" Douglas, Josh Johnson, Alya Nelson, David Russell, Grant Bidle, Mary Helen Knight, and Billy Patton.

<i>Mass Intentions for November 30<sup>th</sup> through December 6<sup>th</sup></i>	
11/30 Sun – 8 a.m.	<i>Pro Populo: LL SMOOCH</i>
10 a.m.	Special Intention of the Araujo Family
12/2 Tues – 12 p.m.	Gerald Freberg
12/3 Wed – 5 p.m.	Paul Smith
12/5 Fri – 12 p.m.	Rev. Klaus J. Sirianni
12/6 Sat – 5 p.m.	Carole "Donie" Alvey
<b>November 23, 2025 Offertory</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>\$2,753.00</b></span>	
<b>Thank you for your generosity!</b>	

**Advent Companions** – There are Magnificat Advent Companions available in the back of the church, please pick up one for your family.

**Christmas Caring Program** – At St. Joseph's, the Christmas Caring Program offers parishioners a chance to help needy children by donating gifts of clothing and toys. Beginning this weekend, please take a tag from one of the trees which will be placed in the church and return the wrapped gifts with the original tag and code by December 14 or contact Karen Gailey (contact Rectory Office for her contact information). Thank you!

**First Sunday Potluck** – All are welcome to join the parish family for a potluck after the 10:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday, December 7, instead of our regularly scheduled coffee and donuts. Please bring a dish to share and/or simply join us for the fellowship!



**–Holy Day of Obligation–**  
Monday, December 8 is a Holy Day of Obligation  
***The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception***  
Mass will be celebrated at 5 p.m. on December 8

## *From Father's Desk*

My Dear Parish,

There is a pivot point that distinguishes the two phases in the progression of the season of Advent. Phase One takes us from this Sunday through the 16th of December. Phase Two takes us from the 17th until Christmas Eve. Both of these phases emphasize the coming of Christ, but each in its own distinct way.

The First Phase focuses us on the coming of Christ at the ending of the ages. We speak about this at the conclusion of the Creed when we say “He will come again in Glory to judge the living and the dead.” These first 18 days of Advent are devoted to the contemplation of this mystery of the Catholic Faith. The first words that the Apostles heard after they watched Jesus ascend into heaven were from the angels who said, “This Jesus...will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.” These days we prepare ourselves for that coming.

The Second Phase beginning on December 17th helps us to complete the First Phase by calling to mind that Our Savior did in fact come once already. During this phase we consider in special detail both his anticipated coming through the prophecies foretold in the Old Testament as well as the Gospel narratives of Luke and Matthew which describe the immediate details of how the Word was made flesh.

This season, if we live it well, will prepare our souls for God's action of filling us with a deeper understanding of his desire for us and for deeper union with him.

With paternal affection,  
Fr. Drew

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***Upcoming Events for the Chesterton Academy of St. Mary's*** – Middle School Event on Friday, December 12, 2025 from 6-8 PM. Shadow Days are ongoing throughout the school year by appointment only. For links to RSVP for any of these events, please visit <https://www.chestertonstmarys.org/events>.

***Christmas Craft Sale at Immaculate Conception*** – Immaculate Conception Church is having a Christmas craft sale on Saturday, December 6th at 5:30 pm and Sunday December 7th at 12:30 pm. Handmade items include quilts of many sizes, holiday ornaments, table centerpieces, holiday decor, and much more! Proceeds shared between the parish and St. Vincent de Paul society.

***St. Nicholas Lunch at St. Mary's Newport*** – Join us for a festive St. Nicholas Lunch on Saturday, December 13th, from 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM in St. Francis Hall, St. Mary's Newport -11555 St. Mary's Church Road, Charlotte Hall, MD. 20662 Enjoy good food, warm fellowship, and a joyful start to the Christmas season! Please RSVP: Frank Wathen – 240-682-1145

***P3 Young Adult Group*** – Most Wednesday's at Our Lady Star of the Sea in Solomons for Mass at 5:30 followed by adoration and a young adult social. Email us at [paxcatholicministry@gmail.com](mailto:paxcatholicministry@gmail.com) for questions or to join our flocknote or GroupMe.

***Bear Hugs for Healing*** – To give a sick child a “bear hug” this Christmas, please drop off your bear donations at Heavenly Presents. Operated by volunteers, store hours are Tuesday and Thursday, 10am to 5pm, Wednesday and Friday, 10am to 6pm and Saturday, 10am to 3pm. An afterhours drop box is also available on our front porch. Your tax-deductible donations to purchase bears at a discount, can be made on our website at [www.breadoflifecenterforpeace.org](http://www.breadoflifecenterforpeace.org) or make checks payable to the Bread of Life Center for Peace and mail them to: PO Box 338, Leonardtown, MD 20650. Due to health and safety concerns, donated bears must be newly purchased and delivered in their original packing with store tags attached, used stuffed bears are not accepted by the hospitals.