

St Joseph Catholic Church

2020 St Joseph Drive, Largo Maryland, 20774
301-773-4838 Fax 301-773-6832 Website: www.stjoseph-largo.org

Sunday December 11, 2022 ~ The Third Sunday of Advent

From the Bishop's Pen...

"Are you the one who is to come or should we look for another?"

In today's Gospel, Jesus must not have "looked" like the Messiah John had expected. He did not "look like" or "do" what John thought the Messiah would look like or do. John is now hearing reports of a very different kind of Messiah than he had pictured, and he is puzzled. The preaching of this Rabbi from Nazareth, whom John himself had baptized, seemed to go in a very different direction from the fiery one that John was looking for.

He sent his disciples to ask Jesus, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?" John's disciples reported back to him what Jesus said to them in reply, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them."

This Jesus if He was the Messiah, had come to heal, not to judge. Is it any wonder why John the Baptist was confused? John had performed a baptism of repentance telling all, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand! Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance." John expected the Christ to carry out the final judgment and to destroy all who had not produced good fruit. Instead of bringing the imminent judgment of God, Jesus brings the love, mercy, and healing of God, offered to all, righteous and sinners.

This may be a good weekend to examine our own image of Jesus. Who do we think He should look like? What do we think He should do? As we prepare for Jesus' coming, we must remind ourselves that He is **The Perfect Gift** from God to the world. Jesus forgives. Jesus heals. Jesus cleanses. Jesus brings back to life that which was dead. Jesus brings good news to those in desperation. The love of Christ always brings healing.

What Jesus does, makes one thing plain: between the mission of John the Baptist and that of Jesus something so decisive has happened, that it constitutes a parting of the waters between two periods, the Old Covenant, ending with John the Baptist, and the New Covenant, beginning with Christ. The focus of history has shifted: that which is important is not in an imminent future, but that the kingdom of God is "here now," in Christ.

Today is "Gaudete" Sunday, the Sunday of Rejoicing. Therefore we light a rose candle on our Advent wreath. It signifies patient anticipation, because our Lord's coming with healing and salvation is near. Come Lord Jesus, come, and heal us, so that the least of us may become greater in the kingdom of heaven!

– Bishop Roy Campbell

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

The church office hours:

Monday thru Friday
10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The office is closed for business on:

ALL Weekends
Federal Gov't Closings
Holidays and Holy Days
Phone: (301)773-4838

Website: www.stjoseph-largo.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/StJosephLargo

Email: parishoffice@stjosephlargo.org

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor

Most Rev. Roy E. Campbell, Jr.
rcampbell@stjosephlargo.org

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Patrick Mullan
pmullan@stjosephlargo.org

Deacons

Deacon Steven Nash
snash@stjosephlargo.org

Deacon Kyle Simon
ksimon@stjosephlargo.org

(Please make appointments for private meetings)

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday - 5:00 pm

Sunday - 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 pm

Daily Mass 8:30 am

Weekly on Tuesday
Exposition / Adoration 6:00 pm
Evening Mass 7:00 pm

Sunday 10:00 am Mass, Daily Masses and
Tuesday Adoration
Live Stream via Facebook Page stjoseph-largo.org

PARISH STAFF

Cherry Neal, Office Manager ;
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kmarshall@stjosephlargo.org; ext 10

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lhayling@stjosephlargo.org; ext 14

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religioused@stjosephlargo.org

Theresa Leeke, Music; Tleeke@aol.com

Stephen Joy, Facilities Manager;
sjoy@stjosephlargo.org ; ext 16



To The St Joseph Catholic Church Community

Our desire is that every member of our parish family encounters Jesus Christ in a very personal and life-changing way as they journey through life within our community. That now includes you and we welcome you to this very personal, communal journey of faith as part of our parish family. As you begin the next part of your faith journey with us, we encourage you to check in at the Welcome Table and complete the parish registration form. You may also get the form from a Hospitality minister. Stay connected with the St Joseph Community through our Website, Facebook and FlockNote. God has given you gifts to share in helping the Church build the kingdom and accomplish her mission. Seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit to help you discern where you are meant to serve. When we fully reopen, please check out our Ministries and Organizations at the Welcome Table or our Website.

Pray, discern, then take that leap of faith and get engaged in the life of the parish.

LET US KNOW YOU ARE HERE SO WE CAN PROPERLY WELCOME YOU!

ST JOSEPH PARISH COUNCIL
parishcouncil@stjosephlargo.org

PARISH TITHING AND CONTRIBUTIONS

As we reopen for public Masses, please use your offertory envelopes, and please fill them out completely. Enclose your check or cash in your offertory envelope and write the amount on the envelope. As a reminder money/checks do not stay together with the envelopes so if there's no information or amount on the envelope you may not receive proper acknowledgement for your offering. If you choose to send in your Church envelopes by mail or drop them off at the Church, please continue to do so. Your tax deductible offerings are based on the information on your envelopes. We have also set-up Online Giving through **Faith Direct**, which is an easy, simple, and secure way to continue supporting the ministry and mission of our parish. We had to make a number of decisions regarding our current Church staff because we are unable to collect our regular offertory. Please go to the link: <https://www.stjoseph-largo.org/online-giving> to sign-up for **Faith Direct**, make a contribution, and to view a video about enrollment and have your questions answered about online giving.

We thank all who contribute regularly and generously to the support of our Parish

SUPPORT MINISTRIES

Audiovisual Support: Chuck Clay
chuck.clay@comcast.net

Bereavement Support: Etoile Hawkins
etoile1706@aol.com

Food Pantry/St. Vincent DePaul Society:
Rhonda Burriss or Pam White 301-773-0102 ext 13

Good Samaritans Ministry: Kelly Hamilton
kellyhamilton2@gmail.com 202-345-5446 and
Arleen Jeter apj24@msn.com 301-518-8139

RCIA Coordinator: Deacon Steven Nash
snash@stjosephlargo.org

Repast Ministry:
Contact - To Be Announced

Social Justice Social Concerns Ministry:
Contact - To Be Announced

Wedding Coordinator: Thelma Lucas
sugarseven@aol.com

Youth Ministry: Beverly Dandridge
fntraveler6@gmail.com

MASS SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Mass Intentions are made in the Church Office during regular business hours or may be given to Hospitality Minister after the Sunday Masses. You will be contacted if the date requested is not available. Bookings for one name for several days in succession will not be accepted. An offering is **\$10.00 cash** per date / per envelope. Mass intentions are acknowledged at the Sunday and daily Masses. **Mass intentions must be received in the office by Monday 9:00 am to be included in the bulletin for the next week.**

Our Parish Family's Weekly Offering

\$25,971.68 December 4, 2022

*Our average weekly parish expenses for
October 2022 - \$15,653.69*

*Our Offertory last week was 165.0 %
of Expenses*

Faith Direct: October 2022 - \$22,358.89

Last Week's Attendance - 638

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNOUNCEMENTS for the **NEXT** bulletin are due in the Church Office on Monday by 12 noon. The bulletin is sent to the printer on Tuesday morning.
Late submissions will go into the next bulletin.

COMMUNION CALLS / HOME VISITS

Fr. Pat and the Eucharistic Ministry have resumed communion calls and home visits If you or someone you know is homebound but would like to receive communion on a regular basis, contact the office to schedule a visit.

Please contact the office at:
Monday through Friday
between 10:00 am and 5:00 pm

St Joseph Church Calendar for this Week

WEEKLY MASS / OBSERVANCES AND RECONCILIATION SCHEDULE

Sunday December 11, 2022
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
ST. DAMASUS I, POPE

Masses
 8:00 am - 10:00 am -12:00 pm

10:00 AM MASS LIVE STREAMED

Monday December 12, 2022
OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Daily Mass - 8:30 am

Tuesday December 13, 2022
ST. LUCY, VIRGIN AND MARTYR

Daily Mass - 8:30 am

Exposition / Adoration - 6:00 pm
 Benediction - 6:30 pm

Wednesday December 14, 2022
ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS, PRIEST AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Daily Mass - 8:30 am

Thursday December 15, 2022

Daily Mass - 8:30 am

Friday December 16, 2022

Daily Mass - 8:30 am

Adoration - After Morning Mass

Benediction 10:00 am

Saturday December 17, 2022

3:00 pm - 4:15 pm
 Confession / Reconciliation

Vigil Mass - 5:00 pm

Next Sunday
Sunday December 18, 2022

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

Sunday December 11

- **SJCC Gospel Choir (CL2)** 9:00 am
- **St Joseph Ladies Auxiliary No. 141 Knights of St John Intl (CL 1)** 11:15 am
- **RCIA Sunday Breakout (CLR 1)** 12:00 pm
- **Rededication of Memorial Candle - James Edward Marshall (CH)** 12:00 pm
- **SJYM Meeting (RR-A)** 1:30 pm

Monday December 12

- **RCIA Class (Virtual)** 7:00 pm
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81533487037?pwd=YTRhbkg3YINCdlevd2>

Tuesday December 13

- **African and Friends Choir Rehearsal (CL2)** 7:00 pm

Wednesday December 14

- **Perpetual Helpers - Team 4 (CH)** 9:30 am
- **Line Dancing (RR)** 11:00 am
- **St Joseph Gospel Choir Rehearsal (CH)** 7:00 pm

Thursday December 15

- **Beginners Line Dancing Class (RR)** 12:30 pm
- **St Joseph Sodality -Pray the Rosary - (Virtual)** 5:00 pm
 Call in number (848) 220-3100
 Conference ID: 06241954#
- **African and Friend Charismatic Group (CL2)** 7:00 pm
- **KC - Council Meeting (RR)** 6:30 pm

Calendar continued on page 5

Daily Readings for the Week

Week of December 11, 2022

Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10/Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11

Monday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23/Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday: Is 45:6c-8, 18, 21c-25/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Lk 7:18b-23

Thursday: Is 54:1-10/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b/Lk 7:24-30

Friday: Is 56:1-3a, 6-8/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8/Jn 5:33-36

Saturday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17/Mt 1:1-17

Next Sunday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [7c, 10b]/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

For Our Young Parishioners

Sharing the Gospel

Name someone that you think is very important. Jesus said that John the Baptist was the greatest man ever born. John the Baptist did not live in a big house or wear nice clothes. He was not the president, and he did not own a huge company. You would probably think he was very poor. But John the Baptist was truly great because he loved and trusted God with his whole heart. He helped other people follow God, too.

Prayer

Dear God, show me ways to help my friends follow God, too.

Mission for the Week

If you have any videos that tell Bible stories, watch one or two together with your family.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of the greatest man ever born.

Please Pray for the Sick and Shut-in...

Richard and Gloria Anderson, Shelia Anderson, Shuri Bangan, Agnes Bell, Carla Amorim, Benton Family, Veronica Blakeney, Otto Boswell, Rachel Brewer, Eleanor Brooks, Maxine Brown, Virginia Brust, Renee Burroughs, Paula Butler, Roger Butler, Tanesha Butler, Angela & Wick Cartwright, Edwinda Castleberry, Alberta Christian, Angela Clark, Chuck Clay, Angella Coker, Kennard Dalrymple, Herman Davis, James Doe, Verna Etheredge, Tammy Flarisee, Mary E. Fletcher, Larry & Evelyn Frelow, Delores Garner, Regina Gary, Maureen Gramby, Agnes Grayson, Catherine & Jennifer Gresham, Juanita Grillo, Kimberly Grimes, Thelma Harrison, Eva Henson, Sheila Hinton, Doris Hite, Luis Howell, Cathy Jackson, Demetrius Jackson, Katie Jackson, Melvin James, Joseph Jennifer, Lyell Johnson, Roland Joyner, Duke Kelly, Mark Landry Sr, Mark Landry Jr, Gabrielle Landry, Ernest Lewis, Henrietta Long, Patricia McCullough, Sadie Malveaux, Barbara Marshall, Marilyn Marshall, Leondre Massey, Anthony Mc Donald, Kathleen Mitchell, Nancy Mooney, Madga Nelson, Paul Newman, Gail Norris, Cynthia Obedike, LaTanya Pelt, Larry Peters, Claudette Randall, Barbara Reece-Jones, Danielle Rhodes, Carolyn Richardson, Irene Richmond, Miriam Ross, Teresa Ross, Ronald G. Sanders, Sheryl Sanders, Marcia Savoy, Lucille Shaw, James Shorter, Thomas W. Scott, Kenneth Taylor, Carolyn Thrash, Lamont Wade, William "Billy" Tolbert, Erma Torney, Frances Tyler, Michael Younger, Cecilia Whittaker, Darryll Wilcots, Paula Wynn

And the Recently Deceased:

Eternal Rest grant to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.



Sunday 10:00
James Edward Marshall †

Sunday 12:00 pm
Tiras Aching (SI)

Monday 8:30 am
Callistus Nwankpa †

Wednesday 8:30 am
In Memory of
Bernadette Crawford †

Thursday 8:30 am
Tony & Chinedu Nduim
(Birthday Blessings)

Friday 8:30 am
Rose Asi (D)

Saturday 5:00 pm
For The St Joseph
Family (SI)

LIVE THE LITURGY!

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

We can often feel parched, desolate, lifeless, and dark. Even though we still engage in the business and demands of life, we find ourselves somewhat detached, disengaged, and removed. We lack joy, wonder, awe, and zest. Rather than being an experience of freedom and excitement, life holds us captive. We are tethered to systems, agendas, protocols, regulations, and expectations that go against the grain of what it means to be God's child. We find ourselves in a desert. Jesus came to release us from all of this negativity and desolation. John the Baptist announced the arrival of the One who embodies healing, reconciliation, freedom, and life. Stop complaining about what you don't have. Prepare for the arrival of the remedy to life's despair. Be strong, fear not! Christ will save us from life's distortions, illusions, and disappointments. Be patient. With proper time and care, all will be well.

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK - FOR REFLECTION

First Reading

Isaiah encouraged his community to "be strong, do not fear!" since God has planned a future restoration of both the land and the people. **Who in your life needs to hear words of encouragement and support right now?**

Second Reading

James urges his community to be patient and non-judgmental with each other as we wait for the coming of the Lord. **In what ways is this a challenge for you this Advent season?**

Gospel Reading

In today's reading, Matthew offers a glimpse into the personal relationship between Jesus and John the Baptist. Jesus has great respect for John yet counts him "least" in the kingdom of heaven. **What do you think this tells us about those in the kingdom of heaven?**

**WHY DO WE DO THAT?
CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED**

Strengthening Faith

Question:

Our prayer group is discussing ways we can change and strengthen our faith. What one thing could we change that would have the greatest impact on our faith?

Answer:

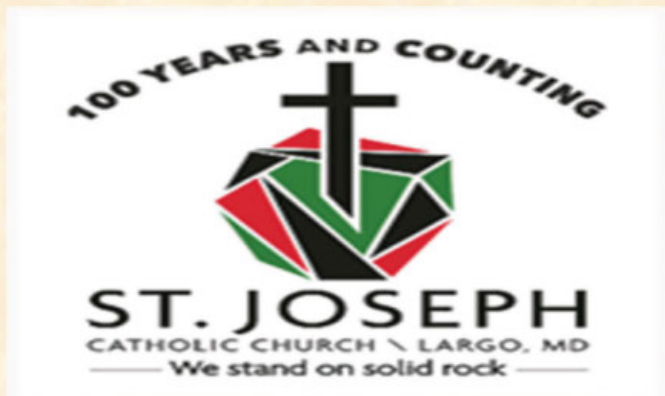
A famous coach once said that when the team is in trouble and things aren't going well, go back to the basics; when the team is winning and things are going well, go back to the basics! Any renewal program, faith development, or spiritual growth effort has to start with the basic core of what it means to believe. If the foundation is not strong, the house will not stand. So if you work on one thing, begin with the idea that God is love, who loves us and calls us to love one another. If we really take that belief to heart, it changes how we see God, ourselves, and one another. It would change how we pray, how we treat others, and how we understand and live our own life. Our sense of mission and purpose will be more focused on God's plan and our role in it. Love is the core of faith, the goal of life, and the hope of heaven. Whatever we do to strengthen and deepen our faith will begin and end with love.

HOLY HUMOR

Helpful Prayer

Billy had been misbehaving and was sent to his room. After a while he emerged and informed his mother that he had thought it over and then said a prayer. "Fine," said the pleased mother. "If you ask God to help you not misbehave, He will help you." "Oh, I didn't ask Him to help me not misbehave," said Johnny. "I asked Him to help you put up with me."

**CELEBRATING OUR CENTENNIAL
ST JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH 1922 - 2022**



**Welcome to St Joseph Parish
Most Reverend Wilton Cardinal Gregory**



OUR LADY OF GRACE SODALITY

Have you ever thought about joining Our Lady of Grace Sodality at St. Joseph Church? Now is the right time, and all are welcome. Our Lady of Grace Sodality, established in 1943, is the oldest religious society of men and women at St. Joseph Church. The Sodality sponsors programs in liturgy, evangelization, ecumenism, and community outreach. The meetings are held on the 3rd Saturday of the month at 3:00pm. We celebrate Mass on the First Sunday of each month at 8:00 am. The Sodality's mission is to promote devotion and prayers to our Blessed Mother. If you are interested in knowing more about the Sodality, Sodality members will be available after all Masses to answer questions about Our Lady of Grace Sodality.

PREPARING FOR YEAR END

We are approaching the end of the year.

If you have relocated during the year and your address or name has changed, please contact the parish office (301-773-4838) to update your information. We want to ensure that your year end contribution tax statements have the correct name and address.

THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

Continued:

Saturday December 17

- **Religious Ed Classes** (All classrooms/RR) 9:00 am
- **SVDP - Food Distribution** (WW) 11:00 am
- **Arts and Environment** (CH) 11:00 am
- **Altar Server Training** (CLR 3 and CH) 3:00 pm
- **Cantor Rehearsal for Vigil Mass** (CL2) 3:00 pm
- **SJCAF - Youth Christmas Event** (CH) 7:00 pm



As We Prepare...

ADVENT SCHEDULE

Saturday December 17th 5:00 pm Mass

Most Reverend Wilton Cardinal Gregory - Celebrant

Saturday December 17th 7:00 pm

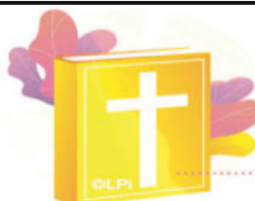
St Joseph Community of Africans and Friends (SJCAF)
Tree Lighting and Youth Christmas Program
The 9 Lessons and Carols in the church

Wednesday December 21st 7:00 pm

Advent Penance Service



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