



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 31 2023 ~ The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

From the Bishop's Pen...

"The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom."

Joseph and Mary were devout Jews, living by the laws of their faith. Joseph was a carpenter, a man who worked to provide for his family. Joseph was not a wealthy man, for when he took Jesus to the Temple to be circumcised and Mary to be purified he offered the sacrifice of two turtledoves or a pair of pigeons, allowed only for those who could not afford a lamb. There, they met Simeon, the holy man who foretold the great things that would come about, because of this new born baby. Mary realized from Simeon's words, how great her suffering would be, in bearing witness to her Son's sacrifice to redeem mankind.

We hear a lot in Scripture about Mary, but not much about Jesus' human foster father. Joseph revealed in his humanity the unique role of fathers to proclaim God's truth by word and deed. His paradoxical situation of "foster father to Jesus" draws attention to the truth about fatherhood, which is more than a mere fact of biological generation. A man is a father most when he invests himself in the spiritual and moral formation of his children. Joseph was keenly aware, as every father should be, that he served as the representative of God the Father.

Joseph's life reminds us that a home or community is not built on power and possessions but goodness; not on riches and wealth, but on faith, fidelity, purity and mutual love. Joseph took Jesus and Mary to their new home in Nazareth as a family firmly bonded in love and respect for each other, and obedience to the will of God. The family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph is the family described in our readings from St. Paul's letter to the Colossians and in the Book of Sirach; for children to respect their parents and for everyone to love each other as the Lord loves us.

The family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph is the family we are called to imitate. We must learn to live in our own families with the love, respect, and obedience shown in the Holy Family.

– Bishop Roy Campbell

PARISH 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
Fax: (301) 773-6832

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. Vincent Tinh Vu
vincentvu@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
Benediction 6:45 pm
Evening Mass 7:00 pm

Weekly on Friday
Exposition / Adoration after 8:30 am Mass
Benediction 9:30 am

PARISH STAFF

Cherry Neal
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SUPPORT MINISTRIES

Audiovisual Support:

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Food Pantry/

St. Vincent DePaul Society:

Rhonda Burriss or Pam White
301-773-0102 ext 13

Good Samaritans Ministry:

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kellyhamilton2@gmail.com 202-345-5446
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RCIA Coordinator:

Deacon Steven Nash
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Wedding Coordinator:

Thelma Lucas
sugarseven@aol.com

Youth Ministry:

Beverly Dandridge
fnptraveler6@gmail.com



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 and Facebook 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!**

PARISH TITHING AND CONTRIBUTIONS

Please use your offertory envelopes, and 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 is no information or amount on the envelope you may not receive proper acknowledgment for your offering. If you choose to send in your Church envelopes by mail or drop them off at the Church, please 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.

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

\$ N/A December 24, 2023

Our average weekly parish expenses for
November 2023 - \$15,504.99

Our Offertory last week was N/A
% of Expenses

Faith Direct: November 2023 - \$23,614.44

Last Week's Attendance Total:

Sunday Masses - N/A

NOTE: N/A DUE TO EARLY BULLETIN SUBMISSION

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNOUNCEMENTS for the **NEXT** bulletin are due in the Church Office on Monday by 12:00 noon. The bulletin is sent to the printer on Tuesday morning.

COMMUNION CALLS / HOME VISITS

The Eucharistic Ministry is available for 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 parish office (301-773-4838) to schedule a visit. Monday through Friday 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

St Joseph Catholic Church ~ Calendar for this Week

MASSES / OBSERVANCES AND CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Sunday December 31, 2023

NEW YEAR'S EVE

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

**THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS,
MARY AND JOSEPH**
Vigil Mass - 5:00 pm

Monday January 1, 2024

**MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD,
NEW YEAR'S DAY,
WORLD DAY OF PEACE**
Mass - 10:00 am

Tuesday January 2, 2024

**STS. BASIL THE GREAT AND
GREGORY NAZIANZEN, BISHOPS AND
DOCTORS OF THE CHURCH**
Daily Mass - 8:30 am

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

Evening Mass - 7:00 pm

Wednesday January 3, 2024

THE MOST HOLY NAME OF JESUS
Daily Mass - 8:30 am

Thursday January 4, 2024

**ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON,
RELIGIOUS**
Daily Mass - 8:30 AM

Friday January 5, 2024

**FIRST FRIDAY
ST. JOHN NEUMANN, BISHOP**
Daily Mass - 8:30 am

Exposition / Adoration
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING MORNING MASS
Benediction - 6:00 pm

Saturday January 6, 2024

**FIRST SATURDAY
ST. ANDRÉ BESSETTE, RELIGIOUS**
First Saturday Mass - 8:00 am

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

Vigil Mass - 5:00 pm

THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

Sunday December 31

- **SJCC Gospel Choir** (CLR 2) 9:00 am
- **SJCAF - African and Friends Choir Practice** (CL2) 10:30 am

Wednesday January 3

- **Line Dancing (RR)** 11:30 am

Thursday January 4

- **Line Dancing (RR)** 12:30 pm
- **St Joseph Sodality Pray the Rosary** (Virtual) 5:00 pm Call in number (848) 220-3100 Conference ID: 06241954#
- **Cantor Rehearsal (CH)** 5:30 pm
- **SJCAF-Charismatic Group (CLR 1)** 7:00 pm
- **KC - Officers Planning Meeting (RR)** 7:00 pm

Saturday January 6

- **Men's Ministry Meeting (CL2)** 7:30 am
- **Religious Ed Classes (CH, RR, All Classrooms)** 10:00 am
- **Fr. Vincent (CLR1)** 11:30 am
- **Cantors Workshop with Ron Harbour (CH)** 12:30 pm
- **Altar Server Training (CLR 3 and CH)** 3:00 PM
- **Cantor Rehearsal for Vigil Mass (CLR2)** 3:30 pm

*Prayer for the Family
Dear Lord,*

*We lift our families to you in prayer — every generation!
Bind our wounds, forgive our debts, show your mercy!
Lead us to deeper communion with each other and You.
Help us, too, to be a holy family.
Amen.*

Daily Readings for the Week

Week of December 31, 2023

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/ Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

Monday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 (2a)/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 1:19-28

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:29—3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6/Jn 1:29-34

Thursday: 1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Jn 1:35-42

Friday: 1 Jn 3:11-21/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Jn 1:43-51

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38 or 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38

Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 (see 11)/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

For Our Young Parishioners

SHARING THE GOSPEL

**DECEMBER 31ST:
THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS,
MARY AND JOSEPH**

Mary and Joseph went to the temple and presented the baby Jesus to God. Two older people recognized that Jesus was the Messiah. They gave him special blessings. They thanked God for this child. Just like Mary and Joseph, your parents gave thanks to God when you were born. They were very happy God gave you to them. They had you baptized in church, and presented you as a gift to God, too.

PRAYER

Lord, thank you for bringing the baby Jesus into my life.

SOMETHING TO DRAW

Draw Mary and Joseph carrying the baby Jesus to the altar in the temple.

MISSION FOR THE WEEK

I will offer everything I do for you, Lord, Jesus Christ.

SEE PAGE 5 FOR MORE Y.P.

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

Gerry Anderson, Agnes Bell, Carla Amorim, Melody Atkinson, Randy Belt, Veronica Blakeney, Rachel Brewer, Eleanor Brooks, Roger Brooks, Maxine Brown, Virginia Brust, , Renee Burroughs, Paula Butler, Tanesha Butler, Angela & Wick Cartwright, Alberta Christian, Angela Clark, Connie Clark, Chuck Clay, Angella Coker, Herman Davis, James Doe, Gregory Eades, Verna Etheredge, Tammy Flarisee, Mary E. Fletcher, Larry & Evelyn Frelow, Gina Geron, James Gant, Regina Gary, Maureen Gramby, Agnes Grayson, Catherine & Jennifer Gresham, Juanita Grillo, Kimberly Grimes, Mable Helm, Eva Henson, Lawrence Hill, Sheila Hinton, Doris Hite, Luis Howell, Mark Humphrey, Cathy Jackson, Gwen Jarman, Demetrius Jackson, Katie Jackson, Melvin James, Lyell Johnson, Roland Joyner, Duke Kelly, Fr. Mike King, Mark Sr/ Mark Jr & Gabrielle Landry, Alton Ernest Lewis, Henrietta Long, Karee Lucas, Sadie Malveaux, Barbara Marshall, Marilyn Marshall, Leondre Massey, Anthony Mc Donald, Carlos Menefee, Kathleen Mitchell, Nancy Mooney, Madga Nelson, Paul Newman, Ronald Nickens, Gail Norris, Cynthia Obedike, LaTanya Pelt, Larry Peters, , Claudette Randall, Barbara Reece-Jones, Danielle Rhodes, Irene Richmond, Miriam Ross, Teresa Ross, Ronald G. Sanders, Sheryl Sanders, Marcia Savoy, Thomas W. Scott, Carolyn & William Scriber, Virginette Scott, Dana Chapman-Sewell, Lucille Shaw, Madeline Stillwell, Gwen Sutton, Lucille Swann, Candice Taylor, Kenneth Taylor, Carolyn Thrash, William "Billy" Tolbert, Erma Torney, Frances Tyler, Nicholas Walter, Cecilia Whittaker, Darryll Wilcots, Leon Williams, Paula Wynn, Michael Younger

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
Vanessa Ruiz
Birthday Blessings

Sunday 12:00 pm
The St Joseph Family

Tuesday 7:00 pm
Ezemobis Children

Saturday 5:00 pm
Allen Gant †

LIVE THE LITURGY!

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

God's timing is not always our timing. Sometimes, we have to wait years for the answer to our prayer. Never despair. Remember, that God keeps His word.

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK - FOR YOUR REFLECTION

FIRST READING

Abraham and Sarah relied on their faith in the Lord as they struggled with family matters. **When have you needed to rely on faith when it comes to your family?**

SECOND READING

Hebrews teaches us that at every challenge in his life, Abraham consistently trusted and obeyed God. **When have you had to surrender complete trust to God?**

GOSPEL READING

In their purification ritual in the Jerusalem Temple, Mary and Joseph learn news from Simeon and Anna about their newborn baby, Jesus. **In your family, how do you deal with startling or unsettling news?**

Just a Thought...

MARY, MOTHER OF GOD



WHY DO WE DO THAT? CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

Servant Songs

Question:

What are the servant songs of Isaiah? How do they relate to Jesus' life and ministry?

Answer:

The four servant songs (Isaiah 42:1-4, 49:1-6, 50:4-9, and 52:13—53:12) are strategically placed in Second Isaiah to offer hope and consolation to a suffering Israel during its Babylonian Exile.

Israel had been defeated by the Babylonians, who destroyed their temple, killed the last of the kings in David's lineage, exiled them from their land, and transported them to Babylon. This is the context in which Second Isaiah composes his powerfully poetic book of hope and consolation. A significant part of that message is the portrait of God's servant, who is called to be a source of hope and encouragement for the people.

Each of the four poems emphasizes God's choice and election of the servant. The last poem stresses the suffering and rejection of God's servant, along with his eventual death. Isaiah is certain that God will use the servant's innocent suffering as a way to redeem and remove the guilt and sin of others. Thus, the servant becomes a source of salvation for himself and for others.

Who is this servant? Many suggest that Isaiah was referring to Israel herself, as she underwent exilic suffering which would ultimately prove to be redemptive. Jesus' followers, including those for whom Mark wrote his Gospel, understood Jesus' ministry in terms of Isaiah's suffering servant whose innocent suffering and death became the means of salvation for all.



For Our Young Parishioners

SHARING THE GOSPEL

JANUARY 1ST, 2024:
THE MOST HOLY NAME OF JESUS

Mothers think their babies are pretty special, and Mary was no different. She probably kissed his nose, snuggled his little cheeks, and sang songs to him. But a lot of people thought her baby was special. Mary had more than just curious relatives showing up to visit. Angels praised God, and shepherds came running to see the baby, too. When it was time to name him Jesus, Mary knew he was the Savior.

PRAYER

Dear God, thank you for letting everyone know that Jesus was more than a special baby.

He was the Savior. In Jesus' name, Amen.

SOMETHING TO DRAW

Draw a picture of Mary giving baby Jesus snuggles.

MISSION FOR THE WEEK

Ask your parents what they enjoyed about you as a little baby. You might also want to look at some baby pictures together.

Thank You!

The SJYM would like to thank everyone who supported our successful December pop up Krispy Kreme fundraiser!
Will see you again in the spring.

**What is Your
New Year's
Resolution?**



**Invite
a Friend**
to Mass next Sunday

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