



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 1, 2024 ~ The First Sunday of Advent

From the Bishop's Pen...

"Your redemption is at hand."

BE PREPARED, for He is coming! This is Advent's message to us and to the world. The word advent means "the arrival of a notable person or thing." That person is the Word of God made flesh in Jesus Christ. God is fulfilling His promise, as we heard in our reading from Jeremiah, "The days are coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and Judah."

However, Advent also means the Second Coming of Christ, as King and judge of all. We also heard in our reading from Jeremiah, "he shall do what is right and just in the land. In those days Judah shall be safe, and Jerusalem shall dwell secure; this is what they shall call her: 'The LORD our justice.'" Jeremiah lived during Israel's exile in Babylon. The Israelites may have thought that he spoke of their earthly Jerusalem, but we know that our Lord of justice will bring us the safety of the New Jerusalem, the kingdom of heaven.

We are called to be a part of the New Jerusalem, by staying prepared, by growing spiritually in Christ, the Light of the World. We grow spiritually in Christ when we treat others as He does, with care and compassion. This takes away our fright of what is to come, just as it did for the martyrs who gave their lives for Christ. When we prepare for the coming of Christ, when we recognize the signs of His coming, we can stand straight, secure in our faith, our hope, and our love of God and each other, knowing that we have strived for holiness in this life, to receive it abundantly in eternal life.

Today, the Advent Wreath has one candle lit, the lowest on the stand. Each week of Advent we will light another candle, one level higher than the previous week. The increased brightness of each additional candle lit, represents the increasing brightness of the coming of the Light of the World, our Lord, Jesus Christ at Christmas.

– 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 / ADORATION SCHEDULE

Saturday - 5:00 pm

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

Daily Mass 8:30 am

Every Tuesday

Exposition / Adoration 6:00 pm

Benediction 6:45 pm

Evening Mass 7:00 pm

Every Friday

Exposition / Adoration

after 8:30 am Mass

Benediction 10:00 am

PARISH STAFF

Cherry Neal

Parish Office Manager
cneal@stjosephlargo.org - ext 24

Karen Marshall

Parish Secretary
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Loraine Hayling

Financial Services
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Stephen Joy

Facilities Manager
sjoy@stjosephlargo.org - ext 16

Dr. Michael Clark

Director of Music
drmclark@stjosephlargo.org

Religious Education

religioused@stjosephlargo.org - ext 15

SUPPORT MINISTRIES

Audiovisual Support:

Chuck Clay chuck.clay@comcast.net

Altar Servers:

Deacon Kyle Simon ksmmon@stjosephlargo.org

Bereavement Support:

Etoile Hawkins etoile1706@aol.com

Eucharistic Ministry:

Bernard Brodus bbroadus53@gmail.com

Food Pantry/ St. Vincent DePaul Society:

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

Good Samaritans Ministry:

Kelly Hamilton / Arleen Jeter
sjgoodsamaritans@gmail.com

OCIA Coordinator:

Deacon Steven Nash snash@stjosephlargo.org

Parish Council

Patricia Baker-Simon, President
sjccparishcouncil@stjosephlargo.org

Wedding Coordinator:

Thelma Lucas tlucas844@gmail.com

Youth Ministry:

Beverly Dandridge fnptraveler6@gmail.com

Our Parish Family's Weekly Offering

\$ 39,836.38 November 24, 2024

Our average weekly parish expenses for
October 2024 \$22,086.29

Our offertory last week was 180.3%
of expenses

Faith Direct: October 2024 - \$25, 513.91

Last Week's Attendance Total: 898



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. 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 Parish 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.**

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Late submissions will go into the next bulletin.

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 on 301-773-4838 to schedule a visit. The office is open Monday through Friday 10:00 am - 6:00 pm

St Joseph Catholic Church ~ Calendar for this Week

MASSES / OBSERVANCES AND CHURCH ACTIVITIES

THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

Sunday December 1, 2024
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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

Monday December 2, 2024
Mass - 8:30 am

Tuesday December 3, 2024
ST. FRANCIS XAVIER, PRIEST
Daily Mass - 8:30 am
Exposition / Adoration - 6:00 pm
Benediction - 6:30 pm
Evening Mass - 7:00 pm

Wednesday December 4, 2024
ST. JOHN DAMASCENE, PRIEST AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH
Daily Mass - 8:30 am

Thursday December 5, 2024
Daily Mass - 8:30 am

Friday December 6, 2024
FIRST FRIDAY
ST. NICHOLAS, BISHOP
Daily Mass - 8:30 am
Exposition/Adoration
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING
MORNING MASS
Benediction 6:00 pm

Saturday December 7, 2024
FIRST SATURDAY
ST. AMBROSE, BISHOP AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH
Saturday Mass - 8:00 am
Confession / Reconciliation
3:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Vigil Mass - 5:00 pm

Sunday December 1

- **Sodality Sunday** - (Rosary before 8:00 am Mass)
- **Dr. Clarke** (CLR 2) 9:00 am
- **Children's Liturgy** 10:00 am (RR-A)
- **Children's Choir Rehearsal** (RR-B) 11:00 am
- **OCIA - Order of Christian Initiation of Adults** (CLR1) 12:00 pm
- **Altar Server Parent Meeting** (CLR2) 1:00 pm
- **SJYM Meeting** (CLR1) 1:30 pm

Monday December 2

- **GSM Ministry - Project Warmth** (RR) 6:00 pm
- **OCIA - Order of Christian Initiation of Adults** (Virtual) 7:00 pm
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89944235053?pwd=bFYHqh48x0moVo76CexBSsZg2T31A6.1>
Meeting ID: 899 4423 5053 Passcode: 092357

Tuesday December 3

- **Dr Clarke** - (CLR2) 5:00 pm

Wednesday December 4

- **Line Dancing** (RR) 10:00 am
- **Dr Clarke** - (CLR2) 5:00 pm

Thursday December 5

- **Beginners Line Dancing Class** (RR) 12:30 pm
- **Dr. Clark** (CLR2) 5:00 pm
- **Cantor Rehearsal with Denese Clay** (CH) 5:30 pm
- **SJCAF - Charismatic Prayer Group** (CLR1) 7:00 pm
- **KC - Officers Council Meeting** (RR) 7:00 pm

Saturday December 7

- **Men's Ministry Meeting** (CLR2) 7:30 am
- **Faith Formation /Religious Ed** (All Classrooms) 10:00 am
- **Youth Choir Rehearsal** (CLR2) 12:00 pm
- **Dr. Clarke Grow Your Own Musicians** (CLR2) 12:00 pm
- **Catholic Council of Women - Christmas card making** (RR-A) 1:30 pm
- **SJYM Fashion Show Rehearsal** (RR-B) 2:00 pm
- **Dr. Clarke - Cantor Rehearsal for Vigil Mass** (CLR 2) 3:30 pm

PRAYER FOR THE FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT

Prayer of Expectation

Dear God,

As we prepare for Your arrival,
align our hearts and homes to
Your will.

Pour into us Your grace,
as we wait in joyful expectation.

Amen.

Daily Readings for the Week of December 1, 2024

Sunday: Jer 33:14-16/Ps 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14 (1b)/1 Thes 3:12-4:2/Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

Monday: Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Mt 15:29-37

Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a/Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday: Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Mt 9:27-31

Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

Next Sunday: Bar 5:1-9/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 (3)/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6

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

Cathrine Abrams, Gerry Anderson, Carla Amorim, Theresa Agorel, Melody & Carl Atkinson, Randy Belt, Agnes Bell, Veronica Blakeney, Maxine Brown, Renee Burroughs, Paula Butler, Tanesha Butler, Angela & Wick Cartwright, Alberta Christian, Angela Clark, Connie Clark, Chuck Clay, Angella Coker, Herman Davis, James Doe, James Dudley, Martin Ekeh, Verna Etheredge, Tammy Flarisee, Larry & Evelyn Frelow, Adrienne, Fraser-Darling, Rita Gant, Regina Gary, Gina Geron, Maureen Gramby, Agnes Grayson, Catherine & Jennifer Gresham, Juanita Grillo, Kimberly Grimes, Lawrence Hill, Sheila Hinton, Doris Hite, Luis Howell, Mark Humphrey, Cathy Jackson, Gwen Jarman, Demetrius Jackson, Katie Jackson, Melvin James, Wendell John, Donald Johnson, Latashia Johnson, Lyell Johnson, Roland Joyner, Duke Kelly, Fr. Mike King, Mark Sr/ Mark Jr & Gabrielle Landry, Alton Ernest Lewis, Henrietta Long, Gennie Huntley-Lopez, Edwina Love, Karee Lucas, Sadie Malveaux, Ebony Marble, Barbara Marshall, Marilyn Marshall, Leondre Massey, Anthony Mc Donald, Carlos Menefee, Solomon T. Miles, Jr. Thomasine M. Miles, Kathleen Mitchell, Nancy & William Mooney, Fr. Ray Moore, Loraine Moses, Madga Nelson, Nolan McWilliams, Kameron Neal, Paul Newman, Ronald Nickens, Gail Norris, Cynthia Obedike, Earline Parks, James & Stephen Parks, LaTanya Pelt, Larry Peters, Barbara Reece-Jones, Danielle Rhodes, Irene Richmond, Miriam Ross, Teresa Ross, Clifton Rush, Ronald G. Sanders, Sheryl Sanders, Marcia Savoy, Johnnie Scott, Thomas W. Scott, Carolyn & William Scriber, Tyrone Sellers, Dorothy Seth, Dana Chapman-Sewell, Lucille Shaw, Madeline Stillwell, Gwen Sutton, Lucille Swann, Candice Taylor, Kenneth Taylor, Carolyn Thrash, Erma Torney, Frances Tyler, Cecilia Whittaker, Darryll Wilcots, Leon Williams, 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.



Mass Intentions

Sunday

8:00 AM THE ST JOSEPH FAMILY

10:00 AM AGNES AWOYEMI

(BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS)

12:00 PM JOHN & ELIZABETH AGBIM †

Monday

8:30 AM SARAH & ERSKY FREEMAN †

Tuesday

8:30 AM AGNES AWOYEMI (SI)

7:00 PM THE ST JOSEPH FAMILY

Wednesday

8:30 AM THE ST JOSEPH FAMILY

Thursday

8:30 AM ELEANOR KLEMAN (SI)

Friday

8:30 AM Alexander Baldrige
(BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS)

Saturday

5:00 PM MARY LUCILLE JOHNSON †

LIVE THE LITURGY:

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Jesus tells us to “be vigilant at all times.” Advent is a time of watchfulness. Things are moving and shifting and changing — in our souls, in heaven, on earth. It’s a time of great consequence. Great trial. Great hope. So, look to Jesus. He is coming.

Questions of the Week - for Your Reflection

FIRST READING:

The prophet Jeremiah speaks of God’s promise to save Jerusalem so all can “dwell safely” in the land. **Where in your life do you feel the safest?**

SECOND READING:

In preparation for the return of Jesus, Paul prayed that the believers in Thessalonica would love one another and conduct themselves in a way pleasing to God. **As we enter the season of Advent, what could you do to actively prepare for the return of Jesus?**

GOSPEL:

Jesus forewarns his disciples not to let the daily anxieties of life distract them from the coming day of his return. **Who helps you when you are overcome with anxiety?**

WHY DO WE DO THAT?

CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

The Advent Wreath

Question:

What’s the story behind the Advent wreath?

Answer:

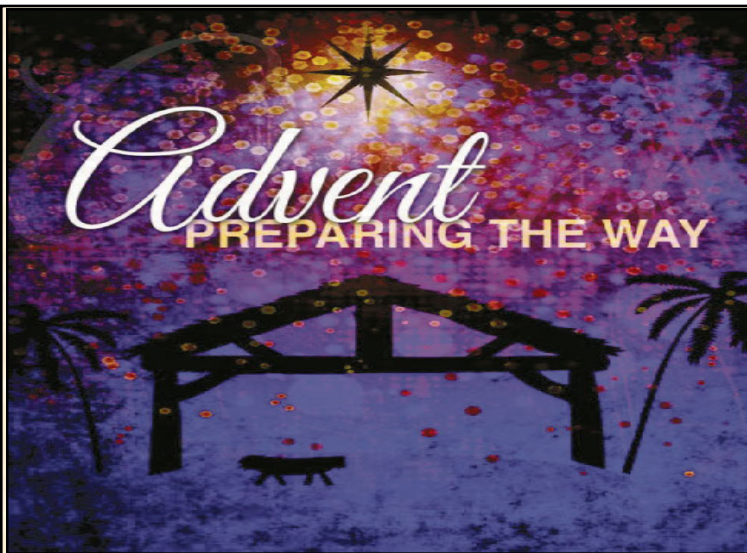
Each season in the liturgical calendar comes with its own local and regional rituals. During the Advent season, wreaths adorn church sanctuaries and family dining room tables. You may have said Advent wreath prayers in childhood or taken a turn lighting the candles. The Advent wreath is full of symbolism about Christ and his coming at Christmas. The wreath is made of evergreen boughs, reminding us that the life of grace doesn’t falter with the changing seasons. It always remains fresh and new. Similarly, a circular wreath reminds us of the eternal, never-ending nature of God’s love.

Candles remind us that Christ is the light of the world, the One who “shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.” We use four candles to represent each week of Advent. Traditionally they come in the liturgical colors of the season. Purple has historically represented penance and sacrifice. We see the same color for the season of Lent. On the third Sunday of Advent, however, we light a rose color. The priest will wear rose vestments at Mass. This is Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete means “rejoice” in Latin. On the third Sunday of Advent, we’re roughly halfway through the season. The Church chooses the midpoint to remind us to celebrate in the midst of our anticipation! Whatever the color and whatever the day, the Advent wreath is a beautiful practice to focus our attention on Christ’s coming at Christmas.

CATHOLIC TRIVIA - DID YOU KNOW?

Question: What is the difference between a cross and a crucifix?

Answer: (a) One has Christ’s body (b) No difference



PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION

There are six nominees for the four openings on our Parish Council. Their information will be available next weekend, December 7th and 8th and voting will take place the weekend of December 14th and 15th by ballot in church, or electronically by Survey Monkey.

CAN YOU THINK OF ...

THREE WAYS TO CELEBRATE ADVENT OUTSIDE OF MASS:



PROJECT WARMTH 2024

December 1, 2024 - **LAST DAY TO DONATE**
The Good Samaritan Ministry is asking for your assistance again this year to bring warmth to needy children at local elementary schools. Please donate NEW coats, hats, gloves, and navy-blue socks. Placed all donations in the Project Warmth collection box located in the church foyer. If you wish to make a monetary donation, please make your check payable to: Good Samaritan Ministry" (Note "Project Warmth 2024" on the memo line) Deposit checks in the small box located on the table.

ST JOSEPH 2025 MISSAL

The 2025 St Joseph Missal will be available after each Mass starting through December 1st, for \$6.00. This year The St Joseph Missal, complete addition for \$35.00 will be available for pre-order. The complete addition has the three liturgical cycles. Please have exact change if paying by cash.

COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN, ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON

Invites you on
Saturday December 7th -1:30 - 4:30 pm
to battle the winter gloom by serving women in our community and bringing a smile to their faces by making Christmas gifts and cards.
We will be furnishing the material to make the Christmas cards
Please help us with the gift bags, by bringing one or more sets of 5 travel-sized toiletries in a quart size Ziplock bag. Each set of toiletries should include a toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, lotion, and deodorant.
See the flyer in the information center for more information or sign up via the link below:

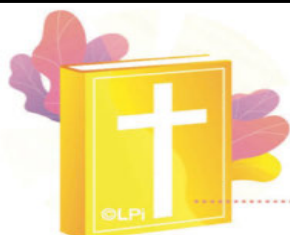
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F084FA5A929AA8-52674731-ccwadw>

A LITTLE HOLY HUMOR



CATHOLIC TRIVIA – DID YOU KNOW?

You are correct if you answered (a) A crucifix always includes Christ's body and a cross does not.



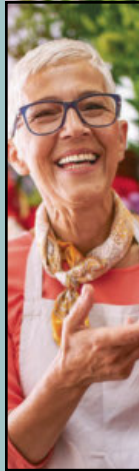
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