



# St Joseph Catholic Church

2020 St Joseph Drive, Largo Maryland, 20774  
301-773-4838 Fax 301-773-6832 Website: [www.stjoseph-largo.org](http://www.stjoseph-largo.org)

**SUNDAY DECEMBER 7, 2025**  
**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**From the Bishop's Pen...**

**"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!"**

God sent John the Baptist to call the Jews to prepare for our Lord's coming, "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" Many who came to John were sincerely sorry for straying into the chaos of sin. They acknowledged their sins and John baptized them with water as a sign of their repentance, their change of heart.

By his own life and actions, John lived the conversion of heart that he called others to live. John's baptism of repentance was preparing those contrite Jews for the One who will baptize them with the "Holy Spirit and fire." Repentance calls for a change of heart and how one lives their life, a turning of one's life from rebellion to obedience to God.

Not everyone who heard John's message of repentance and came to him was sincerely sorry for their sins. They did not have a true conversion of heart. These included many Pharisees and Sadducees, the religious leaders of the Jews. They would not accept a baptism of repentance. To do so would mean their admission that they too were sinners, not the "self-righteous" people they pretended to be. John knew them for who they really were, hypocrites! Their outward show did not match what was in their hearts! They were only giving "lip service" to John's message of repentance.

That is why John said to them "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance." That is our Gospel's message for us today. "Produce good fruit as evidence of our repentance." When we sincerely pray to God for forgiveness, true repentance means that we change the way we live. It means that we are truly ready for Christ's coming in our lives.

When we sincerely ask for forgiveness of our sins, we prepare ourselves for Christ's coming at Christmas and His "Second Coming" by "making straight the way of the Lord" in our lives. When we sincerely ask for forgiveness of our sins, God's forgiveness strengthens us to be able to forgive others and help them to prepare for the coming of Christ. When we repent, and open our hearts, God can give us His graces and we will be prepared when Jesus comes again!

– 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](http://www.stjoseph-largo.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/StJosephLargo](http://www.facebook.com/StJosephLargo)

Email: [parishoffice@stjosephlargo.org](mailto:parishoffice@stjosephlargo.org)

## PASTORAL STAFF

### Pastor

**Most Rev. Roy E. Campbell, Jr.**  
[rcampbell@stjosephlargo.org](mailto:rcampbell@stjosephlargo.org)

### Parochial Vicar

**Rev. Stephen Wong**  
[frstephen@stjosephlargo.org](mailto:frstephen@stjosephlargo.org)

### Deacons

**Deacon Steven Nash**  
[snash@stjosephlargo.org](mailto:snash@stjosephlargo.org)

**Deacon Kyle Simon**  
[ksimon@stjosephlargo.org](mailto: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

Tuesday Evening Mass 7:00 pm

Adoration  
Tuesday  
Exposition / Adoration 6:00 pm  
Benediction 6:45 pm  
Every Friday  
Exposition / Adoration after morning Mass  
Benediction 10:00 am  
First Friday Benediction 6:00 pm

**PARISH STAFF**

**Cherry Neal**  
Parish Office Manager  
cneal@stjosephlargo.org - ext 24

**Karen Marshall**  
Parish Secretary  
kmarshall@stjosephlargo.org - ext 10

**Loraine Hayling**  
Financial Services  
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**Stephen Joy**  
Facilities Manager  
sjoy@stjosephlargo.org - ext 16

**Dr. Michael Clarke**  
Director of Music  
drmclark@stjosephlargo.org

**Sr. Huong Pham**  
Faith Formation  
religioused@stjosephlargo.org - ext 15

**Deacon Steven Nash**  
OCIA Coordinator  
snash@stjosephlargo.org



**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!**

**SUPPORT MINISTRIES**

**Audiovisual Support:**

Chuck Clay chuck.clay@comcast.net

**Altar Servers:**

Deacon Kyle Simon ksmon@stjosephlargo.org

**Bereavement Support:**

Contact Parish Office

**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:**

Arleap Jeter, / Aida Massey  
sjgoodsamaritans@gmail.com

**Parish Council:**

Patricia Baker-Simon, President  
sjccparishcouncil@stjosephlargo.org

**Wedding Coordinator:**

Thelma Lucas tlucas844@gmail.com

**Youth Ministry:**

Beverly Dandridge fnptraveler6@gmail.com

**PARISH TITHING AND CONTRIBUTIONS**

We kindly request that you utilize your offertory envelopes and complete all necessary information. Please enclose your check or cash within the envelope and clearly indicate the enclosed amount on the exterior. This ensures accurate acknowledgment of your generous contributions, as funds and envelopes are processed separately. You are welcome to mail your completed envelopes or drop them off at the Church. Your tax-deductible offerings are processed based on the information provided on these envelopes. You may also make your contribution through our online giving portal ParishSOFT Giving. This platform offers a simple, secure, and convenient way to support the ministry and mission of our parish. To enroll, or make a contribution please visit:

<https://giving.parishsoft.com/App/Giving/FD-651>

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

**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

**Our Parish Family's Weekly Offering**

\$ November 30, 2025  
Our average weekly parish expenses for  
October 2025 \$ N/A

Our offertory last week was N/A%  
of expenses  
ParishSoft Giving: October \$N/A

Last Week's Attendance: 837  
(N/A DUE TO EARLY SUBMISSION TO PRINT-  
ER)

# SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ PAGE 3

## MASSSES / OBSERVANCES



Sunday  
December 7, 2025

MASSSES:  
8:00 AM, 10:00 AM  
& 12:00 PM

Monday December 8, 2025

**THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION  
OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY  
(HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION)**

Masses: 8:30 am, 12:00 pm & 7:00 pm

Tuesday December 9, 2025

**St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatatzin**  
Daily Mass: 8:30 am  
Exposition/Adoration: 6:00 pm  
Benediction: 6:45 pm  
Evening Mass 7:00 pm

Wednesday December 10, 2025

**OUR LADY OF LORETO**  
Daily Mass: 8:30 am

Thursday December 11, 2025

**St. DAMASUS I, POPE**  
Daily Mass: 8:30 am

Friday December 12, 2025

**OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE**

Mass: 8:30 am  
Adoration:  
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING MASS  
Benediction: 10:00 am

Saturday December 13, 2025

**St. LUCY, VIRGIN AND MARTYR**  
Mass - 8:30 am  
CONFESSION / RECONCILIATION  
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM  
VIGIL MASS: 5:00 PM

**PRAYER FOR ADVENT - PEACE**

*Come, Lord Jesus!  
Bring your peace to our world. Inspire  
reconciliation, heal divisions, bind  
wounds, rewrite scripts. You are the  
Prince of Peace,  
bring that light into every space.  
Amen.*

## CHURCH CALENDAR / ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday December 7

- **SJYM - Gift Bag Sales** - After all Masses
- **Sodality Rosary** - After 8:00 am Mass (CLR1)
- **Dr. Clarke** (CLR 2) 9:00 am

Monday December 8

- **O CIA - Virtual 7:00 pm**  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89944235053?pwd=bFYHqh48x0moVo76CexBSsZg2T31A6.1>  
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+13017158592,,89944235053#,,,,\*092357# US (Washington DC)

Tuesday December 9

- **Line Dancing** (RR) 11:00 am
- **Dr Clarke Choir Rehearsal** (CLR2) 7:00 pm

Friday December 12

- **No Activities**

Wednesday December 10

- **Advance Line Dancing** (RR) 10:30 am
- **Dr Clarke Choir Rehearsal** (CLR2) 7:00 pm
- **Social Justice & Concerns Meeting** (Virtual)

Saturday December 13

- **Faith Formation** - Rel Ed (RR, CLR1,2,3,WW,CH) 10:00 am
- **Dr. Clarke - Grow Your Own Musicians** (CLR2) 11:30 am
- **Youth Choir Rehearsal** (CH) 12:00 pm
- **Denese Clay - Grow Your Own Musicians** (CLR1) 1:00 pm
- **Dr. Clarke - Cantor Rehearsal for Vigil Mass** (CLR 2) 3:30 pm
- **Good Samaritan Ministry** (CH) 5:00 pm Mass
- **Christmas Tree Lighting/ Youth Christmas Program** (CH) 6:30 pm

Thursday December 11

- **Beginners Line Dancing Class** (RR) 12:30 pm
- **Denese Clay - Grow Your Own Musicians** (CLR1) 4:00 pm
- **Dr. Clarke Cantor Rehearsal** (CLR2) 5:00 pm
- **Denese Clay - Cantor/ VOP Rehearsal** (CH) 6:00 pm
- **SJCAF - African and Friends Charismatic Prayer Group** (CLR1) 7:00 pm

## Daily Readings for the Week of December 7, 2025

Sunday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 (see 7)/Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12

Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday: Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13/Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab/Mt 11:11-15

Friday: 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

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Next Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10/Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10 (see Is 35:4)/Jas 5:7-10/  
Mt 11:2-11

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

*Cathrine Abrams, Theresa Agorel, Gerry Anderson, Carla Amorim, Melody & Carl Atkinson, Shelia Bailey, Randy Belt, Agnes Bell, Veronica Blakeney, Maxine Brown, Allen*

*Burroughs, Paula Butler, Tanesha Butler, Angela & Wick Cartwright, 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, Catherine & Jennifer Gresham, Juanita Grillo, Kimberly Grimes, Cecelia Handy, Lawrence Hill, Sheila Hinton, Luis Howell, Mark Humphrey, Gennie Huntley-Lopez, Cathy Jackson, Gwen Jarman, Demetrius Jackson, Katie Jackson, Melvin James, Sebastien Jean-Marie, Wendell John, Donald Johnson, Latashia Johnson, Lyell Johnson, Roland Joyner, Duke Kelly, Fr. Mike King, Mark Sr/ Mark Jr & Gabrielle Landry, Alton Ernest Lewis, Marionetta D Lofton-Sutton, 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, Cheryl Mills, Kathleen Mitchell, Nancy & William Mooney, Fr. Ray Moore, Loraine Moses, Madga Nelson, Nolan McWilliams, William Musee, Kameron Neal, Paul Newman, Ronald Nickens, Gail Norris, Cynthia Obedike, Earline Parks, James & Stephen Parks, Robin Parsell, LaTanya Pelt, Larry Peters, Barbara Reece-Jones, Danielle Rhodes, Irene Richmond, Miriam Ross, Teresa Ross, Clifton Rush, Sheryl Sanders, Johnnie Scott, Thomas W. Scott, William Scriber, Tyrone Sellers, Dorothy Seth, Dana Chapman-Sewell, Lucille Shaw, Eunice Sparkman, Madeline Stillwell, Gwen Sutton, Percy Swain, Lucille Swann, Candice Taylor, Kenneth Taylor, Richard Taylor, Eileen Thomas, Carolyn Thrash, Erma Torney, Frances Tyler, Eric Walker, 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.



**Mass Intentions**

**Sunday**

8:00 AM THE ST JOSEPH COMMUNITY (SI)  
10:00 AM DARRYL WILCOTS (SI)  
12:00 PM EMMA AMONDJI †

**MONDAY**

8:30 AM SHARON RIPLEY  
BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS

**Tuesday**

8:30 AM NDM FAMILY (SI)  
7:00 PM NWANKWO FAMILY (SI)

**WEDNESDAY**

8:30 AM ROSEMARY SIMON †

**THURSDAY**

10:00 AM Angel Nwankwo (SI)

**FRIDAY**

8:30 AM NDM FAMILY (SI)

**SATURDAY**

5:00 PM CALLISTUS NWANKPA †

**LIVE THE LITURGY:**

**INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK**

The story of Advent is a story of repentance. John the Baptist held up a mirror to the chosen people. He urged them to look at what they saw there. This Advent, will we look in the mirror? Will we choose repentance?

**Questions of the Week - for Your Reflection**

**1st Reading Question:**

Isaiah foresaw God's future when the world will be ruled by a new and ideal 'King David' ("a shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse") and the earth will be filled with knowledge of the Lord. **What do you hope for in your future?**

**2nd Reading Question:**

Paul encouraged the community of believers in Rome to be in harmony with each other in thought and mind. **Are there relationships in your life you consider to be harmonious?**

**Gospel Question:**

John the Baptist taught the people to prepare for the kingdom of heaven by repenting of sins and producing "good fruit." **What could you do this second week of Advent to make a positive impact?**

**WHY DO WE DO THAT?**

**CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED**

**Immaculate Conception**

**Question:**

I've heard people call Jesus' conception by the Holy Spirit being "immaculately conceived." Is that what the Immaculate Conception is?

**Answer:**

While these two events are often confused, they are not the same thing. We celebrated the conception of Jesus on March 25th, the feast of the Annunciation. While that was surely miraculous, it isn't what we refer to as the "immaculate conception." The Immaculate Conception is Mary's conception, and we typically celebrate it on December 8th. If the 8th happens to be a Sunday, the Church moves the feast to December 9th. It is a holy day of obligation. Why does the Church consider it so important to celebrate?

Mary's conception is immaculate because she was conceived without original sin. The angel Gabriel acknowledges this when he hails Mary as "full of grace" (Luke 1:28). Scripture scholars identify several theological ideas that confirm this. In the Old Testament, the sacred, pristine Ark of the Covenant held the presence of God. The presence of God is now held within a new "arc" — the womb of Mary. Genesis 3 also prophesies of a woman who would oppose the devil and whose child would crush the devil's head. Christ is the "New Adam." This passage sets up Mary, then, as the "New Eve." Jesus and Mary are the beginnings of a new creation, one we all can participate in through the grace of our baptism. After all, God's love is more "original" than our sin!

**CATHOLIC TRIVIA...**

**Question:**

Name the three biblical archangels?

**Answer:**

See Answer on page 5



save the date

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK**

Saturday December 13th  
Vigil Mass - 5:00 pm

**CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**

Christmas Tree Lighting  
Children & Youth Christmas Program  
6:30 pm

**2026 MEN'S DISCERNMENT RETREAT**

February 13 to February 15  
Saint John Paul II Seminary,  
145 Taylor Street, NE, Washington, D.C.  
Event begins Friday evening and concludes Sunday after  
brunch. Open to men (18 to 40s) who want to learn more  
about a vocation to the priesthood. Weekend includes daily  
Mass, talks, fraternity with other men who are discerning,  
and discussions with seminarians and priests.

No cost to participate; but registration is required  
at <https://dcpriest.org/event/2026-mens-discernment-retreat/>

For more information, contact Fr. Mark Ivany, Director of  
Priest Vocations, at [vocations@adw.org](mailto:vocations@adw.org) or 202-636-9020.

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**  
OF THE *Blessed Virgin Mary*

"Immaculate Mary, your praises we sing!" December 8th is one of our feasts celebrating Mary - the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. From the beginnings of the Church, spiritual writers and theologians have acknowledged the innocence and holiness of Mary. St. Irenaeus called her the "new Eve." Both faced with the pure freedom to accept or reject God, Mary began with work of redemption with her yes to Christ! The Church began to celebrate the feast of Mary's conception in the early Middle Ages. In 1854, Pope Pius IX infallibly declared that Mary was free of original sin from the first moment of her conception. On this feast day, we celebrate the beauty and goodness of Our Lady!

*For Our Young Parishioners*

**SHARING THE GOSPEL**

John the Baptist taught people to get ready for Jesus. He told them to change their lives. John helped many people wash away all their mistakes and bad choices. He washed away all their cheating, lying, fighting, and stealing. Once they were clean, John wanted them to see that living God's way is so much better. John told the people not only to clean their bodies, but to show that they love God by the way that they live.

**PRAYER**

Dear God, help my words and my choices to show that I love you.

**SOMETHING TO DRAW**

Draw a picture of John washing you in the Jordan River.

**MISSION FOR THE WEEK**

Write a prayer to God, asking him to help you stop doing those things, and start being honest, giving and kind.

**JUST A THOUGHT...**



**CATHOLIC TRIVIA...**

You are correct if you guessed :  
Gabriel, Michael, and Raphael.

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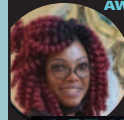
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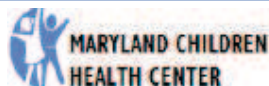
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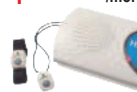
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