



# 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 JANUARY 4, 2026 ~  
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**

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

*"Now it has been revealed that the Gentiles are coheirs of the promise."*

**The Pastor's Thoughts!**

"Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you." The magi followed a star that led them to Bethlehem, to the splendor of Jerusalem, the Light of the world, the baby Jesus.

Astronomers have presented different theories throughout the centuries as to what type of celestial event "caused" the "star" that the magi followed. Was it an alignment of the planets Jupiter and Venus, or a super nova (exploding star) from a neighboring galaxy? What happened was that God commanded the universe He created, whether to align planets or stars, to announce to the world that its Savior had been born. The Magi symbolized the coming of God to the Gentiles, God's Epiphany (Revelation) to the whole world, in all its history.

The Epiphany of Christ to the magi is also about faith. The magi were court astrologers of kings, who studied the stars and knew of the Hebrew prophecy of the birth of a King, from the Old Testament. The light of the "star" led the magi to the Light that had come into our world. The King that the magi came to see is the Light that the darkness of the world will not overcome.

The reality of our Christian religion is that God reveals Himself to us. God comes to us; He makes Himself known to us in our humanity, in Jesus Christ. It is fundamental to Christian belief that God entered our human condition to be in close communion with us. From Adam and Eve until now, it is God who comes to search us out.

Epiphany tells us that God has decided to come to us where we are, as we are. We should be concerned with our vision of God. The Church wants us to see the Light of the World, to see things in God's Light as He presents Himself to us in our lives.

Today let us become the magi who followed Bethlehem's star to the birthplace of the Son of David. Today let us renew once again our commitment to see God's Light in our lives. Today let us see God's Light together, in His beloved Son, born as one of us to become one with us, so that we can become one in Him.

**I prayerfully ask the Light of World that each of us has a holy and Blessed Epiphany!**

**– 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)

**MASS SCHEDULE**

Daily Mass 8:30 am  
Saturday Vigil Mass - 5:00 pm  
Sunday Masses 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 pm  
Tuesday Evening Mass 7:00 pm

**ADORATION SCHEDULE**

**Tuesday**  
Exposition / Adoration 6:00 pm  
Benediction 6:45 pm  
**Every Friday**  
Exposition / Adoration after morning Mass  
Benediction 10:00 am  
**First Friday**  
Exposition / Adoration after morning Mass  
Praise and Worship 6:00 pm  
Benediction 7:00 pm

**PARISH STAFF**

**Cherry Neal**

Parish Office Manager  
cneal@stjosephlargo.org - ext 24

**Karen Marshall**

Parish Secretary  
kmarshall@stjosephlargo.org - ext 10

**Lorraine Hayling**

Financial Services  
lhayling@stjosephlargo.org - ext 14

**Stephen Joy**

Facilities Manager  
sjoy@stjosephlargo.org - ext 16

**Dr. Michael Clarke**

Director of Music  
drmclark@stjosephlargo.org

**Sr. Huong Pham**

Faith Formation  
religiousued@stjosephlargo.org - ext 15

**Deacon Steven Nash**

OCIA Coordinator

snash@stjosephlargo.org

**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 Burris or Pam White  
301-773-0102 ext 13

**Good Samaritans Ministry:**

Arleen 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

**Our Parish Family's Weekly Offering**

\$ December 28, 2025

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

Our offertory last week was N/A%  
of expenses

ParishSoft Giving: November \$N/A

Last Week's Attendance:

Christmas Eve/Day 905

Sunday Masses 895

(N/A - DUE TO EARLY SUBMISSION DUE TO  
HOLIDAYS)



**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**

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

# THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD ~ PAGE 3

## MASSES / OBSERVANCES



**Sunday January 4, 2026**  
**MASSES:**  
**8:00 AM, 10:00 AM & 12:00 PM**

**Monday January 5, 2026**  
**ST. JOHN NEUMANN, BISHOP**  
 Mass 8:30 am

**Tuesday January 6, 2026**  
**ST. ANDRÉ BESSETTE, RELIGIOUS**  
 Daily Mass: 8:30 am  
 Exposition/Adoration: 6:00 pm  
 Benediction: 6:45 pm  
 Evening Mass 7:00 pm

**Wednesday January 7, 2026**  
**ST. RAYMOND OF PENYAFORT, PRIEST**  
 Daily Mass: 8:30 am

**Thursday January 8, 2026**  
 Daily Mass: 8:30 am

**Friday January 9, 2026**  
 Mass: 8:30 am  
 Adoration: IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING MASS  
 Benediction: 10:30 am

**Saturday January 10, 2026**  
**CONFESION / RECONCILIATION**  
 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM  
**VIGIL MASS: 5:00 PM**

**Next Sunday**  
 January 11, 2026  
**BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

### **Epiphany Blessing**

Dear God,

*It was You who inspired the Magi to follow the star to find You. Inspire us to seek You, as well. Bless our homes and families this season, make them places where we can encounter You through prayer and community*

## CHURCH CALENDAR / ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

### Sunday January 4

- **Dr. Clarke** (CLR 2) 9:00 am

### Monday January 5

- **OCIA - Virtual 7:00 pm**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89944235053?pwd=bFYHqh48x0moVo76CexBSsZg2T31A6.1>

Meeting ID: 899 4423 5053 Passcode: 092357

One tap mobile +19294362866,,89944235053#,,,\*092357# US (New York)

### Tuesday January 6

- **Beginners Line Dance**  
 Class (RR) 10:30 am
- **Dr Clarke Choir**  
 Rehearsal (CLR2) 7:00 pm

### Wednesday January 7

- **Advance Line Dance**  
 Class (RR) 10:30 am
- **Dr Clarke Choir**  
 Rehearsal (CLR2) 7:00 pm

### Thursday January 8

- **Beginners Line Dance**  
 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

### Friday January 9

- **No Activities**

### Saturday January 10

- **Faith Formation (CH, CLR1,2,&3, WW)** 10:00 am
- **Youth Choir Rehearsal (CH)** 12:00 pm
- **Denese Clay - Grow Your Own Musicians - (CLR1)** 1:00 pm
- **EMHC Training (CH)** 2:00 pm
- **Dr. Clarke - Cantor Rehearsal for Vigil Mass (CLR2)** 3:30 pm

## Daily Readings for the Week of January 4, 2026

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

Monday: 1 Jn 3:22-4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8/Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/Mk 6:45-52

Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19-5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17/Lk 4:14-22a

Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Lk 5:12-16

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b/Jn 3:22-30

Next Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10/Acts 10:34-38/

Mt 3:13-17

**Please Pray for the Sick and Shut-in...** Cathrine Abrams, Theresa Agore, Gerry Anderson, Carla Amorim, Melody & Carl Atkinson, Shelia Bailey, Randy Belt, Agnes Bell, Veronica Blakeney, Betty Brown, 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, Patricia Greene, 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, Edwin 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:**

Louise Washington

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  
10:00 AM MARION CECILIA NEWMAN †  
12:00 PM Mary Ogunsanya (SI)

**MONDAY**

8:30 AM PIUS NWANKPA †

**TUESDAY**

8:30 AM THE ST JOSEPH COMMUNITY

7:00 PM ELIZABETH OGUNSANYA (SI)

**WEDNESDAY**

8:30 AM LAWRENCE NWANKWO  
(Birthday Blessings)

**THURSDAY**

10:00 AM KARLA ROSAS (SI)

**FRIDAY**

8:30 AM CHIDI ECHEOZO (SI)

**SATURDAY**

5:00 PM ROSEMARY SIMON †

**LIVE THE LITURGY:**

**INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK**

The journey of the Magi reflects how treacherous our Christian life on earth can be. Always, evil works against us — Satan lays traps. He sows confusion. May we, like the Magi, recognize the will of God as our guiding star.

**WHY DO WE DO THAT?**

**CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED**

**The Three Wise Men**

**Question:**

Magi, Three Kings, Three Wise Men...who were they?

**Answer:**

We sing songs, give gifts, and move three mysterious men into our manger scenes. There's a rich heritage in the Catholic Church of celebrating the magi, but their origins are steeped in mystery. The original Greek calls these men *magoi*. The word is translated elsewhere in Scripture to mean "magician," but a similar word was used in ancient history to describe an entirely different set of people altogether. In what is now modern-day Iran, the ruling empire had a wealthy priestly caste known as the Magi. At the time of Christ, the Magi formed one of the ruling councils of the Parthian Empire. These priests interpreted dreams and read the stars to anticipate major events that could affect the fortunes of the empire.

We're not exactly sure where the magi of the Gospels traveled from. Matthew simply says "the east." History tells us that the ancient regions of Persia, Assyria, and Babylon all had a magi priesthood at the time of Christ. Whichever region they hailed from, they likely traveled over one thousand miles over the course of several months to arrive at the Holy Family. Unfortunately for the classic song, there is no concrete evidence these men were themselves kings, though they did bear gifts "from afar" at the prompting of their astronomical calculations.

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

**1st Reading Question:**

Isaiah prophesies a coming of age when the glory of the Lord would shine upon Israel and their hearts would throb with joy. **Can you share an experience that brought you deep joy and happiness?**

**2nd Reading Question:**

Paul tells the Ephesians that the Holy Spirit revealed to him that all believers in Jesus (Jew and Gentile alike) were coheirs and members of the same body. **Have you ever felt like an outsider who was welcomed by others?**

**Gospel Question:**

In the story of the birth of Jesus, Matthew contrasts the fear and concern of King Herod with the joy and praise of the Magi.

**What feelings does the season of Christmas evoke for you?**

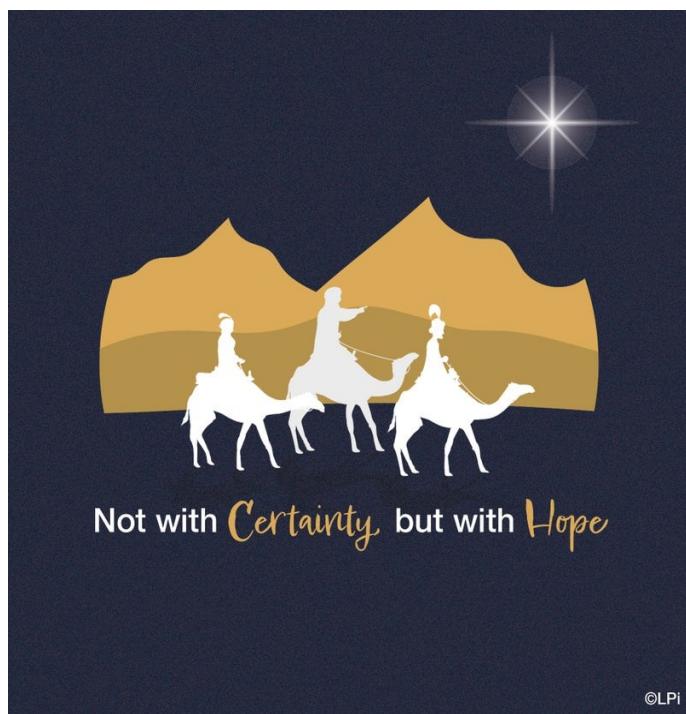
**CATHOLIC TRIVIA...**

**Question:**

Who are the four Gospel authors?

**Answer:**

(a) Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John (b) Matthew, Peter , Luke, and John (c) Matthew, Mark, James, and John



## For Our Young Parishioners

### SHARING THE GOSPEL

When Jesus was born, angels sang. I'll bet you never thought stars could sing for Jesus, too. But the stars in the sky sang in their own way, just by moving and twinkling in the sky. The Savior was born. Jesus was the King that God's people had been waiting for. Magi who had been watching the sky saw a star much brighter than the rest. They followed that star until they found Jesus, and they worshipped their new king.

### PRAYER

Dear God, thank you for making the stars move and twinkle in a special way, so that the Magi could find Jesus.

### SOMETHING TO DRAW

Draw a picture of the Magi following the brightest star.

### MISSION FOR THE WEEK

Ask your family if you can visit a planetarium, or look through a special telescope, so you can see the stars God made.

### JUST A THOUGHT...

Love

*The virtue of love seeks the good of the other, a reflection of the love of God who created us for this very purpose. In practicing this virtue, we express the fullness of our identities as sons and daughters of God.*

*In true Christian love, we find freedom.*

## What's Happening

### 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.

### ANNUAL WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

The annual Wedding Anniversary Mass to Celebrate the Vocation of Marriage will be celebrated at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on Saturday, February 14, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.

Most Reverend Evelio Menjivar-Ayala will be the main celebrant. Any couple is welcome to attend regardless of the anniversary year. There is no restriction on the number of couples who can attend the Mass and/or receive an anniversary certificate, however, you will need to register with the Parish Office.

The deadline to register with the parish is

Friday, February 6, 2026

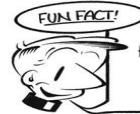
Please contact the Parish office for more information.

### A LITTLE HOLY HUMOR ...

"I thought you said this was a chest of gold?"



"Yes! It's 14 carrots!"



The Magi offered Jesus gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Gold was a gift recognizing Jesus' Kingship, even as a humble baby.

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**CATHOLIC TRIVIA...** You are correct if you guessed :  
(a) Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John



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