



# CHURCH OF ST. JOSEPH AND ST. BONIFACE



*March 9, 2025*



## INTO THE DESERT.

— LUKE 4:1 —

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

©LPI

### SERVED BY:

#### Pastor:

Rev. Father Levelt Germain

#### Parochial Vicars:

Rev. Father Mike Petit-Homme

**Deacon:** Mr. Jose Peña

**Music Director:** Mark Howell

**Office Manager:** Djena Abraham

**Prep Coordinator:** Chevon Dos Reis

**Administrative Assistant**

**Morning:** Marielle Laborde

**Evening:** Deisy Nova

### MASS SCHEDULE

#### WEEKDAY

Monday–Friday  
9:00 am & 5:30 pm

#### WEEKEND Main church

**Saturday:**  
9:00 am (English)  
5:00 pm (English)  
7:30 pm (Spanish)

#### Sunday:

7:30 am (English)  
9:00 am (English)  
11:00 am (Spanish)  
1:15 pm (French / Creole)

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

Office 845.356.0311

Monday–Friday 9:00 am–7:00 pm

Saturday and Sunday closed

Religious Education Program 845.356.0054

Hours Mon–Wed. 6:00–8:00 pm



# HOPE & FAITH RENEWED<sub>AT</sub>

St. Joseph & St. Boniface



WITH DEACON LARRY ONEY  
(REVIVALIST)

March 16, 17 & 18 2025  
7:30 pm.



*Spreading a message  
of hope and purpose.*

Church of Saint Joseph & Saint Boniface  
245 North Main Street  
Spring Valley, New York 10977  
sjsbchurch.org (845) 356-0311



## Devotions, *Explained!*

### Fasting

**Mini Explanation** Fasting was practiced by righteous men and women of the Old Testament and later by Christ himself. It remains an important part of the Christian devotional life today, being most strongly associated with the penitential season of Lent.

### Fasting, *Explained*

The practice of fasting predates Christianity. The Old Testament is full of examples of righteous men and women mortifying their flesh for the purpose of making atonement or simply to grow closer to God. Jesus himself fasted for forty days and forty nights in preparation for the beginning of his public ministry, and we see his disciples following his example in the Acts of the Apostles.

Fasting continues to be an important part of Christian devotional life today. Many people feel the practice of fasting enhances their prayer and helps them fulfill St. Paul's advice to "put to death the deeds of the body" (Romans 8:13) to grow in the Spirit. Most Catholics will associate fasting with the liturgical season of Lent, which begins and ends with obligatory fasting for all members of the Latin Catholic Church between ages 18 and 59. ©LPi

## MIRACLE PRAYER TO THE SLEEPING ST. JOSEPH

"Oh Saint Joseph,  
You are a man greatly  
favored by the  
Most High.



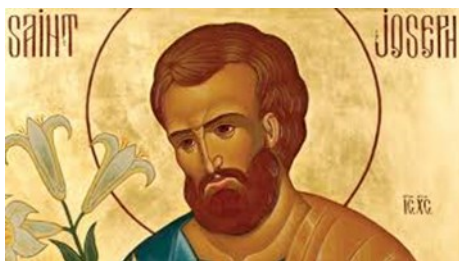
The angel of the Lord appeared to you in dreams, while you slept, to warn you and guide you as you cared for the Holy Family.

You were both silent and strong, a loyal and courageous protector.

Dear Saint Joseph,  
as you rest in the Lord, confident of His absolute power and goodness, look upon me. Please take my need... **(mention your request here)** ... into your heart, dream of it, and present it to your Son. Help me then, good Saint Joseph, to hear the voice of God, to arise, and act with love. I praise and thank God with joy.

Saint Joseph, I love you. Amen."

## A Reflection on St. Joseph By: Marta Timar



While the Gospels do not record any words Saint Joseph might have spoken, the eloquent silence nonetheless allows us a glimpse into his character. Righteous. Obedient. Pure. Humble. Silent (contemplative). Husband. Protector and guardian of the Savior and the Blessed Virgin. Saint Joseph experienced the same difficulties in life we all do, yet he lived an exemplary life. Saint Joseph was a man possessed of unwavering faith and utmost trust in God's providence. God was first and foremost, above all, in Saint Joseph's life. In short, he is an upright man of faith and outstanding virtues. As such, he serves as a wonderful role model for us in today's often unruly culture.

For Saint Joseph, doing God's will was paramount. Saint Joseph never questioned what God told him and carried out God's promptings without hesitation or delay – his response was immediate and he would carry out the task at hand the way God wanted it done. After the angel appeared to him in a dream, assuring him that Mary's child was conceived through the Holy Spirit, Joseph took Mary into his home as his wife. After the visit of the magi, upon receiving the angel's warning, Joseph wasted no time, immediately getting up and taking his little family and fleeing to Egypt in the middle of the night to escape King Herod's murderous wrath. Later, after Herod's death, the angel again instructed Joseph that it was time to return to the land of Israel, and while he probably intended to return to Bethlehem in Judea, chose rather to go to Nazareth in Galilee upon being warned by the angel that Herod's son ruled Judea in his place. When God told Joseph to get up and go, Joseph unhesitatingly got up and went.

Saint Joseph was a man of action, obeying God's will for him in the ordinary duties of daily life. He faithfully and tenderly loved, protected and provided for the Child Jesus and the Virgin Mary. He kept the Sabbath and went to the Temple in Jerusalem for the Passover. He did the ordinary things of everyday, ordinary life with love.

By following Saint Joseph's example, we can find considerable peace of mind in knowing we are faithfully doing the ordinary, little things that God wants us to do.

## DEVOTIONS, *EXPLAINED!* – CONNECT WITH TRADITION AND GROW YOUR FAITH

### The Sign of the Cross - March 9, 2025

#### Mini Explanation —

Christians have been making the sign of the cross since ancient times. It is not only an important component of formal liturgies and sacramental rites, but also a daily devotional practice whereby the faithful invoke the blessing and protection of God.

#### The Sign of the Cross, *Explained*

"I claim you for Christ by the sign of his cross." These words from the Rite of Baptism, spoken as the priest traces a cross on the infant's forehead, perfectly communicate the significance of that simple, familiar action. In signing the cross, we claim ourselves again and again for Christ, unite ourselves with His sacrifice on Calvary, and confess his victory over death.

Christians have been making the sign of the cross since ancient times, as evidenced by writings from Tertullian, Hippolytus and St. Cyprian. The ritual action is not only an important component of formal liturgies and sacramental rites, but also a daily devotional practice whereby the faithful invoke the blessing and protection of God.

In the Latin rite, it is made either with a movement of the full hand from one's forehead, breast and shoulders (going right to left) or with the thumb tracing the cross on the forehead, lips and breast. ©LPi

- Station I: Jesus is condemned to death -



www.CatholicPlayground.com

#### IN MEMORIAM

Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. (1 Thessalonians 4:13-14)

A special thought in memory of our deceased of March 2024 : Ines Barjon & Juan Carlos Galvez.

## MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY MARCH 9	7:30 AM	N/A
	9:00 AM	Josette Etienne (B) Marie Joceline Louis Paul (T) Mark Howell (T)
	11:00 AM	Multiple Intentions
	1:15 PM	Multiple Intentions
MONDAY MARCH 10	9:00 AM	+Andres Ancheta Jr.
	5:30 PM	N/A
TUESDAY MARCH 11	9:00 AM	Josette Cazeau (B)
	5:30 PM	N/A
WEDNESDAY MARCH 12	9:00 AM	In honor of Joseph + Pierre Max MaSaint rseille + Tazine Marseille
	5:30 PM	+Dulia & Luc Celestin
THURSDAY MARCH 13	9:00 AM	N/A
	5:30 PM	Agglae Thomas (In honor of the Virgin Mary)
FRIDAY MARCH 14	9:00 AM	Levi Lavarino (B) Ketty Montrevil (B)
	5:30 PM	N/A
SATURDAY MARCH 15	9:00 AM	N/A
	5:00 PM	N/A
	7:30 PM	Multiple Intentions

Sanctuary  
lamp



Altar bread



Altar wine



## SPONSORS of this week



Altar incense



Altar flowers

**ALTAR BREAD:** In Thanksgiving for **Marie Lucita Jocelyn**  
**ALTAR WINE:** In Thanksgiving for **Darille Jean Baptiste**  
**SANCTUARY LAMP:** In Memory of **Chantale Lauture**  
**ALTAR INCENSE:** Healing for **Barbara Palmentiero**

prayer for the sick

*Loving God, I **pray** that you will comfort me in my suffering, lend skill to the hands of my healers, and bless the means used for my cure. Give me such confidence in the power of your grace, that even when I am afraid, I may put my whole trust in you; through our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.*

**Let us keep in our prayer:** Julito Solis, Ellen Abanes Solis, Annette Frederique, Sierra Felice Sainte-Rose, Marguerite Pascal, Celeste Pena, Joseph Bertrand Gerard, Inamisse Joseph, Yvrose Fils-Aime, Gustave Louime, Marie Therese Nazaire, Joseph Thomas, Dawn Mary Stanley, Rosemond Louis, Jean C Joseph, Christiane Napoleon, Marie Alicia Jean Baptiste, Jean Elie Ternemil, Jeannette Bis-sainthe, Giselle Pierre, Joseph Nestor Alfred, Anicia Millien, Barbara Palmentiero, Marguerite Pierre Louis, Antonio Pignard, Creda Montilus.



*Heal me, O LORD,  
and I shall be healed;  
save me, and I shall be saved:  
for you are my praise.  
Jeremiah 17:14*

## TITHES & OFFERINGS

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY**

**February 2nd Collection: \$13,329.00**  
 Last year at this time: \$14,586.00

If you missed the Collection basket, it is not too late to give. Visit [www.sjsbchurch.org](http://www.sjsbchurch.org)

The purpose of tithing is to teach you always how to put God first in your lives. (Deuteronomy 14:28b)



**GOSPEL MEDITATION -  
ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE**

One of the most fascinating moments in American history is when George Washington could have become the king of the newly liberated United States and didn't. At the height of his power and fame, on Dec. 23, 1783, he resigned his commission as Commander-in-Chief, and went home. The astonished King of England remarked that in doing so, Washington was "the greatest man in the world." Greatness is often defined by what we could do but don't. Greatness is measured by the temptations we overcome.

Jesus' greatness is revealed in his victory over temptations, too. The three offered him by the devil contain, we might say, all potential possible temptations: food, power and fame. They correspond to the triple human needs of body, soul and spirit. In overcoming these three, he says "no" in essence to every and even the greatest temptation. We see that every desire of his humanity — body, soul and spirit — is perfectly united to God, to love. This is a power available to each member of his body. It is the path to true greatness. How can we, who so easily fall into even small temptations, find the power to overcome large ones? By entering into the great dynamics of Jesus' temptations.

**Lenten challenge:** This first week of Lent, list some concrete ways you can overcome temptations that correspond with your desires. For example, you may give up snacks between meals, choose not to participate in an activity of which you are an expert, and decide to reduce social media posting by 50%. It may not seem like much, but by saying "no" to the tyranny of food, power, and fame (in this example), you'll discover true greatness. — *Father John Muir* ©LPi



**PRAYER,  
FASTING,  
AND  
ALMSGIVING**

©LPi



*A los pies de Nuestro Señor de Esquipulas, veneremos las reliquias de los beatos Tulio Maruzzo y Obdulio Arroyo, beatos mártires de Guatemala.*

*At the feet of Our Lord of Esquipulas, we will venerate the relics of blessed Tulio Maruzzo and Obdulio Arroyo, blessed martyrs of Guatemala.*

**WELCOME TO ST. JOSEPH & ST. BONIFACE PARISH**

We invite those who are newly arrived to register as a member of our parish by filling out this form. Please place it in the collection, mail it or bring it to our office.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_ TEL.: \_\_\_\_\_

**BIENVENIDOS A LA PARROQUIA  
DE SAN JOSE Y SAN BONIFACIO**

Invitamos a todos aquellos recién llegados a registrarse como miembros de nuestra parroquia, llenando este formulario. Por favor depositelo en la colecta, envíelo por correo o traigalo a la oficina.

NOMBRE: \_\_\_\_\_

DIRECCION: \_\_\_\_\_

CIUDAD: \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_ TEL.: \_\_\_\_\_

**PARISH WORSHIP AND  
DEVOTION PRAYER GROUP**

Healing Mass—3rd. Monday 7:30PM

Eucharistic Adoration (creole)

2nd. Tuesday 7:00 PM

Novena Mass/Benediction to our Lady of  
Perpetual Help—Wednesday 7:30PM

Eucharistic Adoration (Spanish)

Thursday 8:00PM

Eucharistic Adoration - Friday 5:00PM



## SACRAMENTS

**Baptism:** English, Spanish & French: Classes take place every Friday at 7:00 pm in the school classroom 13.  
Please use the main entrance to enter.

Baptism celebrated on:

English 2nd & 4th Saturday of the month at 12:30 pm

French/Creole - 3rd Saturday of the month at 12:30 pm

Spanish- Last Saturday of the month at 2:00 pm.

To Schedule a baptism please contact the office for more information at 845-356-0311.

**Reconciliation:** You may come to the parish office located in the school building to speak to the priest on duty.

**Marriage:** Please contact our parish office at least 6 months prior to your scheduled wedding date to schedule a meeting with one of our priests.

**Religious Education:**

Sacramental preparation for First Communion and Confirmation is offered for public school students in grades 1 through 10.

All children should be registered before attending class.

For further information please call 845-356-0054.

**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA):** A process of liturgical and spiritual formation for those seeking to receive the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. For more information contact our parish office.

**Anointing of the sick:** Please contact the parish office at any time and make arrangements with one of our priests.

**Wednesday Dedication to St. Joseph**

*The Church traditionally ascribed focal points for reflection to each day of the week. As Saturdays were and still are devoted to Our Lady, Wednesdays were once devoted to St. Joseph. This year, consider giving your Wednesdays to St. Joseph and focus on learning about him and asking for his intercession for your family and home.*



Novena Mass  
Benediction to  
Our Lady of Perpetual Help  
  
Every Wednesday 7:30 PM

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