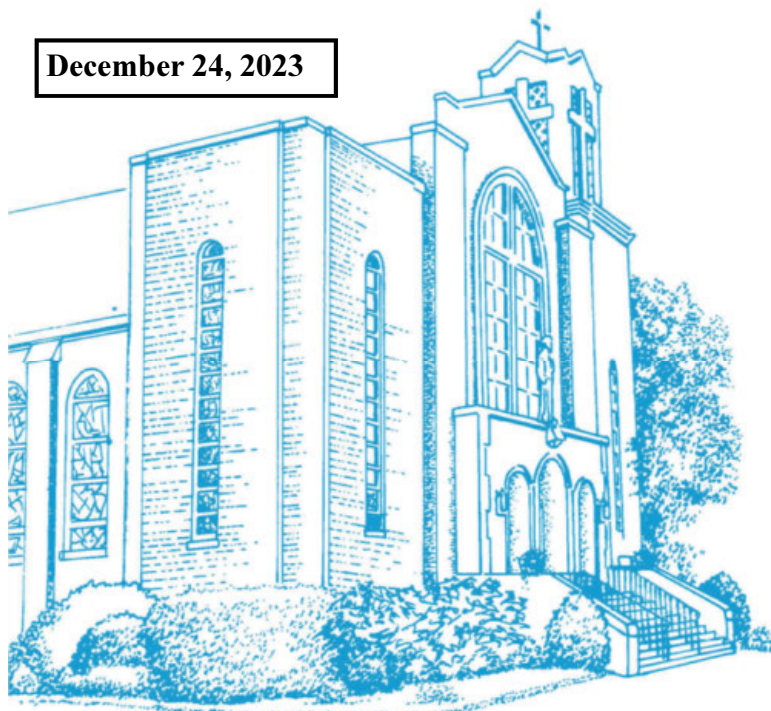


December 24, 2023



Saint Joseph Church

Established in 1905

33 West Street
Rockville, Connecticut

Father ***TADEUSZ ZADOROZNY, pastor***

WELCOME... You enter this Church not as a stranger, but as a child of God, your Heavenly Father. Come, then, with joy in your heart and thanks on your lips into His presence, offering Him your love and service.

www.stjosephct.org

Please visit our website
www.stjosephct.org

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday 4:00 pm Vigil
Sunday 8:00am in Polish
Sunday 10am in English
Saturday Polish Mass 6:00pm (once a month)
First Friday Mass 8:00pm

DAILY MASSES

7:30 am - Wednesday through Saturday
7:00pm - Tuesday

HOLY DAY MASSES

As announced

RECONCILIATION

After 7:30am Mass on Saturdays
3:00-3:45pm on Saturdays (before 4pm Vigil) and
7:00-8:00pm on Thursdays (during Holy Hour) or by appointment.

DEVOTIONS/ADORATION

Thursdays - Holy Hour - 7:00 pm-8:00 pm **(except NOT on Holidays)**

Divine Mercy Novena - 3:00pm Fridays, **(except NOT on Holidays)**

Saturdays - Holy Hour after 7:30am Mass until 9:00am.
First Friday - 7:00pm-8:00pm

Mission Statement

The Parish of Saint Joseph Church in Rockville is a Roman Catholic faith community in the Diocese of Norwich, CT. It is united to the Catholic Church throughout the world. As a parish we invoke the Holy Spirit to put the love of Christ into action by providing for the spiritual nourishment of the community, living according to the Gospel message of Jesus Christ, reaching out to those in need, sharing with others the gifts and talents we have received from God and extending the love of Christ to all people.

REGISTRATION

New parishioners should register with the parish as soon as possible. Parishioners should notify the office of any change of address or phone number.

Rectory Office: 860-871-1970; Fax 860-872-0333

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9am-1pm
Wednesday Evening, 4pm-6pm

Secretaries: Dorota Prytko and Jolanta Wiszniak

Religious Ed: Jim Smart

Music Director: Mark Roszczewski

Email: **info@stjosephct.org**

Website: **www.stjosephct.org**

FAITH FORMATION/SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT

RCIA

Jim Smart, 872-7101; Tues. Classes 7:00 pm

Rel. Ed.

Jim Smart Coordinator, 872-7101

Classes Gr. 1-8; Wednesdays 4:00 - 5:15 pm

Confirmation

Tom Brown, Coordinator, 860-328-0694

Classes - Tuesdays 6:00pm-7:15pm

Knights of Columbus Tony Bifulco, 860-709-1290

Baptismal Preparation Angela Atwater, 860-872-3349

3rd Order Franciscans Jim Smart, 860-872-7101

Altar Servers - Gina Transki sjcaltarservers1905@gmail.com

PARISH MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

Pastoral Council

Date and time TBD

Men's Club

3rd Tuesday of the month, 7 pm

Coffee Sundays

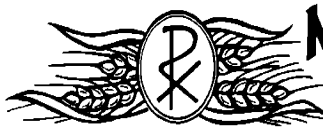
Date TBD

Ladies of St. Joseph

2nd Wednesday of the month,
6pm

3rd Order Franciscans 3rd Sunday of the month at
1:30pm

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH, ROCKVILLE, CT



Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, December 23, 2023

7:30am Deceased members of Carisco, Wilcox and Voisine Families.....
4:00pm + Grace and David Enggas.....Sister Angela

Sunday, December 24, 2023 - 4th Sunday of Advent

8:00am For Parishioners.....
10:00am + John Wiszniak.....Brother with Family
(Live Stream)

4:00pm Christmas Vigil

+ Genevieve and William Wajda.....

9:00pm Christmas Eve Mass

Thanksgiving Mass from Irene.....

Monday, December 25, 2023 - Christmas Day

8:00am + Walter and Lottie Knybel.....Beverly and Michael Knybel
10:00am + William and Anna Cosgrove.....Daughter Ann

Tuesday, December 26, 2023 - Mass without people

+ Genevieve and William Wajda.....Daughter B.

Wednesday, December 27, 2023 Mass without people

Birthday Blessings for Matt Reardon.....Family

Thursday, December 28, 2023 - Mass without people

+ Daniel Skiba.....St. Joseph Men's Club

Friday, December 29, 2023 - Mass without people

+ Genowefa Zajkowska.....Family

Saturday, December 30, 2023

Mass without people - Birthday Blessings for Sean Callahan.....Mon and Dad

3:00pm Confessions

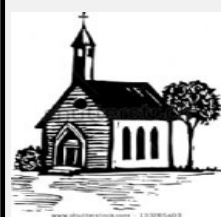
4:00pm + William Schon.....Daughter

Sunday, December 31, 2023 - The Holy Family

8:00am For Parishioners.....
10:00am + Chester Bloniarz (6th Anniv.).....Daughter Mary
(Live Stream)

December - month of

Immaculate Conception



*It is our joy to welcome new members to our community.
If you are interested in becoming a parishioner, please contact parish office at 860-871-1970.*



Collection for December 3, 2023 was \$ 7,926.61
Collection for December 17, 2023 was \$ 9,627.60

May God Bless You All.

St. Joseph Church's Expenditures for month of October, 2023

Operating Costs.....\$ 22,069.62
Heat/Electricity/Other Utilities.....\$3,648.71
Repairs/Maintenance/Furnishing.....\$ 241.38
Cathedraticum.....\$2,239.94

Total Expenditures October, 2023
\$ 28,199.65

Total income.....\$ 30,508.31

Weekly Collection

Dec. 24 1. Weekly
Dec. 25 1. Christmas
Dec. 31 1. Weekly
Jan 01 1. Solemnity of Mary



BAPTISMS A pre-Baptism meeting is held at 5:00 pm on the third Sunday of each month. Parents must be registered parishioners. Parents and Godparents should be practicing Catholics. Please call Angela Atwater at 872-3349 to register.

MINISTRY TO THE SICK OR HOMEBOUND Please call the rectory if you or someone you know is ill or homebound and desires to receive Reconciliation, Eucharist, and/or Anointing of the Sick. Emergencies call any time.

MARRIAGES Couples should make arrangements by registering their marriage intentions at the rectory one year in advance. The wedding date should not be set until a priest or deacon has been consulted.

BLESSED SACRAMENT—

Adorations and Confessions on every
Thursday 7pm-8pm and every **Saturday**
after 7:30am Mass until 9am.

All are welcome!



**Don't Forget To Check Our new
WEBSITE -**

st.josephct.org



Announcement!

We would like to inform you that on December 26, 27, 28 and 29, 2023 will be NO 7:30am Mass.

Thank You for Your Understanding

News of Great Joy

I am not going to wish you a Merry Christmas.

I have no problem with merriness, and I certainly hope you have your share of it today. May the frosting on your cookies be extra thick. May the lights of your tree be particularly twinkly. May the crackling of your fire be especially pleasant, and the places around your table filled by smiling loved ones. No, there is nothing wrong with being merry, especially on such a day.

But the angels did not bring news of great merriment. They brought news of great joy, and though our world often confuses the two, they are not the same thing.

Joy is harder to achieve than merriness, but it's easier to keep because it is far, far more durable. Joy can withstand the roughness of this earthly life in a way that merriness never could. Merriness cannot live in the hearts of people whose plans have been upended, whose futures have been rearranged and whose very lives are in danger. But joy certainly can.

Merriness doesn't follow from a long and uncertain journey, with no reassurances except the steadfast belief that you are doing the will of God. But joy does.

Merriness does not shiver in a stable or hang on a cross. But joy can, and it has.

May you have a truly joyful Christmas.

"You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing..." — Isaiah 9:2

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Lighting Candles in Church

Question:

Why do Catholics light candles in church?

Answer:

Candles have been part of the Church's worship from the earliest times. In the days before electricity, candles and oil lamps were the ways that people lighted buildings. Even today, we often still depend on candles during power outages, relying on their flickering flames to bring light into the dark.

Like our ancestors, we also light candles on special occasions. Think about a festive family meal or a romantic dinner for two — there will often be candles on the table, special objects for a special event. We light candles on birthday cakes and carry them in processions. We also place candles at makeshift memorials that appear when there has been an accident or act of violence. In these moments, their light casts aside a different kind of darkness — the darkness of grief, fear, and death.

The custom of the early Christians lighting candles and lamps at the tombs of the martyrs gave way to the practice of having candles at Mass, honoring the sacredness of the celebration.

As Christians decorated their worship spaces with statues and icons, they would burn candles in front of sacred images and the relics of the saints, basically "shining a light" on what they held to be sacred.

When pilgrims would visit these shrines, they would often bring candles to light before the image or relic. These candles came to be a symbol of the person, and their prayer and the burning these candles came to be understood as an extension and continuation of the prayer that was offered. What began as a practical way to provide light has come to be a symbol of the hopes, desires, loves, losses, fears, and faith of everyday Christians offering their prayers to God and his saints.

©LPi



We would like to invite you for a New Year Mass on January 1, 2024 at 9:00am. All are welcome!!!

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

The Journey

Advent comes along every year and will continue to do so until Jesus returns. As this season draws to a close, we can each ask ourselves, “Am I now any better a disciple of Jesus Christ and more of a steward of all my gifts than before the Advent season started?” I have been on this earth for 40+ years. I have had 40+ Advents to draw closer to God and to work on taking more seriously my baptismal call. Some have gone better than others, but I would like to think my spiritual life progressed at least a small amount during each of them.

Conversion is a process. Stewardship is about a way of living and it is about more than simply being generous when a situation calls for it. Stewardship and conversion go hand-in-hand and we are always moving closer to holiness in Jesus Christ. Living in this way takes practice and commitment. If this Advent didn’t go as you had hoped, remember is not really an end. It is just another step along your journey.

This Christmas, while you are giving and receiving gifts and hopefully spending time with those you love, may you take the time to cherish the true gift that came to us over 2000 years ago and continues to call us to this day: Jesus. Let us be grateful beyond measure for this gift above all gifts, let us continue on our journey, and let our lives give testimony to the one who leads us.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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What Is Your Fiat?

Are you an anxious people-pleaser prone to overcommitting yourself? Welcome to the club! We have slogans, and for your convenience I’ve listed them here:

“Sounds great!”

“No worries!”

“Absolutely, I can do that, not a problem!”

These are your go-to responses for when someone requests a favor that is a huge inconvenience, but you would rather die than disappoint. It’s not *exactly* disingenuous — it’s just a little neurotic. Again, welcome to the club.

You know who doesn’t belong to this club? The Blessed Mother. For many reasons, I’m sure, but the biggest one is that she’s always completely up-front. Take her response to the Angel Gabriel: “Let it be done.”

If there are more powerful words than these, I can’t think of them now. And yet, as responses go, this certainly isn’t an enthusiastic one. There was never a human creature more willing to obey God than Mary, full of grace, so it makes it all the more striking that her response to Gabriel is this reserved — and it makes it all the more certain that she means exactly what she says.

Let it be done.

Not: Yes, this is exactly that I asked for!

Not: Nope. This sounds awful. Count me out.

But precisely this: If God is asking, my answer is yes.

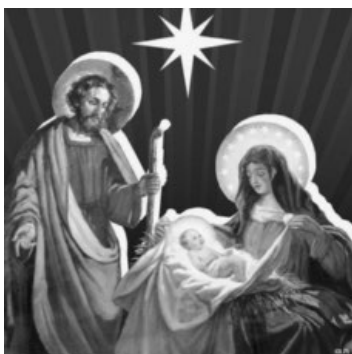
The Angel Gabriel visits us all, in a way, at some point or another, bearing news we did not expect. When we can say, in the face of that uncertainty, “Let it be done,” we are embracing our calling as disciples. We are becoming like Mary.

“Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord.” — Luke 1:38

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Merry Christmas - Wesolych Swiat !!!

Father Tadeusz would like to wish you All Very Merry Christmas and Blessed and Happy New Year.!!!



Rosary before Mass!!!

You are invited to pray The Holy Rosary half an hour before every Saturday Vigil and before the Sunday Masses.

Over the centuries Our Blessed Mother has asked us to pray the Rosary for PEACE.

Please consider joining our parish family in honoring this request.



Loving Father, we lift up all those who are facing illness today. We ask that You would Bring healing, comfort and peace to their bodies. Calm their fears and let them experience the healing power of Your love, In Jesus` name.

Amen

We pray for our sick Parishioners

Martha Battles, Dorothy Pacetti, Barbara Cowan, Wanda Satkiewicz, Veronica Adams, Norman Beaudet, Stephen Jasek, Janet Maciolek, Toni Carterud, Eric Anderson, Odette Victor, Marie Shilleh, Baby Evelyn, Pat Chamberlain, Matt Stein, Janet Santos, Timothy Monahan, Cecilia Prytko, Jadwiga Liszewska.

Annual Catholic Appeal Update

The Diocese of Norwich counts on our participation in the ACA. With the money collected, the diocese can provide many important ministries to our parishioners in a variety of ways. It is in working together that we can provide food for those in need, faith education for the young and compassionate care for the elderly. We need to work together as **One Faith One Family**. These services continue throughout the year. If you have not donated, **please** prayerfully consider participating. Place your donation in an envelope marked ACA and place it in the collection basket any Sunday. Most of us have been so blessed in life.

Please remember those who have not been as fortunate.



LECTORS

Saturday, December 23, 2023

4:00pm - S. Westmoreland

Sunday, December 24, 2023

8:00am - A. Dziewa

10:00am - D. Bonadies

Saturday, December 30, 2023

4:00pm - S. Westmoreland

Sunday, December 31, 2023

8:00am - A. Dziewa

10:00am - F. Borysevicz



In Loving Memory

Deceased & Living Members of PRCU
Vincent & Sophie Orlowski
Thomas & Mary Strycharz
Frank & Sophie Cyrkiewicz
Frank & Sophie Synol & Family



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