

# Saint Joseph on the Brandywine

## Founded 1841



"Go and tell John what you hear and see:  
the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed,  
the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them."  
MATTHEW 11:4-5

### *Parish Office*

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### *Schedule of Liturgies*

#### *Confession*

Saturday 4:00 p.m. or by appointment

#### *Mass*

Saturday 5:00 p.m.

First Sat. 8:00 a.m.

Sunday 7:30 a.m.

10:00 a.m.

#### *Weekday*

M-W 7:00 a.m.

T-Th 12:05 p.m.

Friday No Mass

**HOLY DAY EUCHARIST:** As announced

**SICK CALLS:** anytime

**BAPTISMS:** By appointment with at least one preparation session for new parents.

**WEDDINGS:** Engaged couples wishing to marry in the church should contact a Parish Priest at least one year prior to the planned wedding date to begin the marriage preparation process. The year-long process includes diocesan pre-marriage classes and meetings with clergy.



Membership in the Knights of Columbus is open to all men 18 years of age or older who are practicing Catholics. Council #15436 meets in the Family Center bi-monthly at 6:00 PM for one hour. Male Parishioners interested in becoming a Knight may attend any meeting or request further information via <http://bit.ly/Council15436>.

For upcoming meeting dates, please contact either John Strusowski, 302-753-2928, [Johnstru@comcast.net](mailto:Johnstru@comcast.net) or Paul Thorson, 302-229-5644, [LTCThorson@gmail.com](mailto:LTCThorson@gmail.com).

## Pastor's Column

THE ONE FOR WHOM OUR HEARTS LONG

Put yourself in the scene of today's Gospel passage. John the Baptist is in prison. He has heard stories of what Jesus is doing, and wants reassurance that Jesus is the long-awaited Messiah. John's disciples and those who surrounded Jesus were faithful Jews who would have known Isaiah's prophecies by heart. God would send One who would bring sight to the blind, healing to those who were ill, salvation to all who longed to know God's mercy and peace. Jesus' response to the disciples' question rings as powerfully in our ears today as it surely did for the people who were with him that day. His actions are precisely those that the people had been told to expect. Jesus is the One for whom the people have been patiently yet anxiously waiting, like the farmer who waits for the fruits of his labor. Jesus is the One for whom our hearts long.

### St. Joseph on the Brandywine Cemetery Christmas Decoration Program



We are now offering an online Christmas Decoration Program featuring fresh evergreen blankets or decorative cemetery logs for cemetery sites, and artificial niche vase arrangements for Columbarium Mausoleum.

We even do the decorating for you! It's easy to take advantage of this convenient

way to remember your loved ones.

Christmas Decorations are still available for order. Decorations will be placed beginning December 1.

To get started visit:

[https://www.stjosephonthebrandywine.org/cemetery-christmas.](https://www.stjosephonthebrandywine.org/cemetery-christmas)

Catholic Charities to honor Delaware and Maryland Knights of Columbus at 2023 Annual Tribute Dinner. The Knights of Columbus State Councils from Delaware and Maryland will receive the 2023 Msgr. Thomas J. Reese Award at Catholic Charities Annual Tribute Dinner on Thursday, April 27, 2023. The Award, created in 1989 in memory of Msgr. Thomas J. Reese, community activist and longtime director of Catholic Social Services, the forerunner of Catholic Charities, recognizes exemplary individuals who have demonstrated a deep commitment to promoting and restoring the well-being of people – Catholic Charities' mission. The mission of the Knights of Columbus is empowering Catholic men to live their faith at home, in their parish, at work and in their community.

## OUR FASCINATING FAITH Our Lady of Guadalupe (December 12)

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas, first appeared to Cuauhtlatzin (Juan Diego) on December 9, 1531 while he was on his way to a Eucharistic celebration in Tlatelolco, Mexico. The Virgin addressed him by his indigenous name, asking him to go to the palace of Archbishop Zumárraga to request that a shrine be erected there at the site of the apparition, in Tepeyac, so as to share her love and compassion for all believers. Juan Diego did so, but the archbishop did not believe him, demanding proof of his story and of the Lady's identity. He returned to Our Lady daily, and on December 12, he conveyed to her the archbishop's request for proof. She showed him Castilian roses blooming there through the stony ground despite the winter's cold. He picked the flowers and carried them in his *tilma* (mantle) to the archbishop. When he unfolded his *tilma* to present the roses, Mary's image was imprinted on the mantle! Her blue sash and the flower over her womb were traditional Aztec symbols of pregnancy and new life. But her features were those of a *mestiza*, indicating mixed Aztec-European heritage. Thus Our Lady of Guadalupe remains the enduring icon of unity-in-diversity, the fruit of our one baptism into Jesus, her Son.



### Upcoming Holiday Day & Holiday Mass Schedule

- DECEMBER 24: 4:00 PM, 6:00 PM, 10:00 PM. The choir will sing carols starting at 9:30 PM and will sing at the 10 PM Mass.
- DECEMBER 25: 9:00 AM

#### Mary, Mother of God

- DECEMBER 31: 5:00 PM
- JANUARY 1: 9:00 AM

<https://www.stjosephonthebrandywine.org/mass-times>

Those who wish to honor loved ones in a novena for Christmas may do so by returning the novena envelopes in your monthly packets.

## Religious Education

Dear Religious Education families,

Happy third Sunday of Advent! Our students are preparing for our little Christmas pageant on December 18 as well as the birth of our Lord.

The focus of the Gospel Weeklies this weekend is preparing for Jesus' coming. Advent is about patience, but it is also about tangible actions. How are you and your family preparing for Jesus? What are you doing to share the resources you have? After class, ask your children what ideas they discussed with their catechists and peers.

*In his service, Jessie*

The *Advent Angel Tree* is an opportunity to bring the love of Christ to our neighbors in need during the Christmas season. This program has been remarkably successful in the past due to the generosity of St. Joseph on the Brandywine parishioners. We work closely with the St. Vincent DePaul Society of St. Catherine of Siena, Corpus Christi, and Martha's House to help many families. We will be collecting gift cards and checks. The most needed gift cards are Walmart, ShopRite, Aldi, Walgreens, Wawa, and Dollar Tree. Donations can be made at <https://www.stjosephonthebrandywine.org/adventangel>.

Money raised will be used for rental and electric assistance for our families in need. In addition, you may also continue to make checks payable to St. Joseph on the Brandywine with ADVENT ANGEL in the memo line. *Donations are now due, and may be placed in the Mass collection baskets, mailed, or placed in the locked drop box at the rectory anytime. Please place all donations and or gift cards in an envelope clearly labeled ADVENT ANGEL. Feel free to take a red envelope located in church.*

### *Keep Christ in Christmas*

To remind travelers of the true meaning of the season, we will display an outdoor manger. Perhaps you could put up a nativity scene when decorating your lawn this season. Imagine what could happen if people saw nativity scenes all over town proclaiming the birth of the King – the true meaning of Christmas.

### *The Role of the Sponsor*

The role of the sponsor(s) for the Sacrament of Baptism or Confirmation, presumes that those chosen will have a significant influence in the future of the child. At least one Sponsor must be a practicing Catholic in good standing with the church. Godparent(s) must provide a certificate of

eligibility letter from their current parish. The person should have received all the Sacraments of Initiation;

Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation. The Sponsor must be at least 16 years of age. By issuing a Sponsor Certificate, we assure members of the faithful that a person is a Catholic in good standing who is eligible to serve as a sponsor for Baptism and/or Confirmation.

## Mass Intentions

Saturday, Dec. 10

5:00 p.m. Parishioners

Sunday, Dec. 11

7:30 a.m. Adeline Mannarino by Sheila & Ed Montooth

10:00 a.m. Edmund & Beatrix Daley by Anne Wattman

Monday, Dec. 12

7:00 a.m. Paul Moncevicz by Dr. Bill

Tuesday, Dec. 13

12:05 p.m. John E. Heaney by the Calandra family

Wednesday, Dec. 14

7:00 a.m. Gloria Pierse by Anthony & Kathy Poppiti

Thursday, Dec. 15

12:05 p.m. Mary Christine Byrd by Bernard Brady

Friday, Dec. 16 No Mass

Saturday, Dec. 17

5:00 p.m. Carol Mical by Gene & Cathy Kelleher

## Around Town

You're invited to a Meet & Greet with W. Bruce Ingram in celebration of 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of birth of St. Therese of Lisieux - Monday, January 2 1 – 3 pm. St. John the Beloved.

\*\*\*\*\*

St. Mary Assumption will host a women's retreat on January 21<sup>st</sup> 9 – 3 p.m. Register at

<http://www.smachurch.com/retreat>

\*\*\*\*\*

The Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass will be held on World Marriage Sunday, February 12, 2023, at 1 pm at Saint Margaret of Scotland Church in Newark, Delaware. The Mass coincides with National Marriage Week, February 7 through 12. For more information, please contact the Office for Marriage and Family Life 302-295-0657 or [egaus@cdow.org](mailto:egaus@cdow.org)

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Thank you