



St. Joseph Parish
Downingtown, PA

175th
anniversary

1851 - 2026

338 Manor Avenue, Downingtown, PA 19335
Phone: (610) 269-8294 Website: www.stjosephrc.org

Sunday, August 30, 2026

22nd Sunday of Ordinary Time - Year A

Served By

Rev. Christopher B. Rogers, *Pastor*
Rev. Alexander B. Cross, *Parochial Vicar*
Rev. Stephen A. Moerman, *Parochial Vicar*
Deacon Matt Coyne
Deacon Michael Murtha

Parish Office

Allan Anderson, CPA, *Business Manager*
Joyce Castaldi, *Parish Secretary*
Kelly Ennis, *Elder Care Manager*
Dr. Paul Futer, *Director of Music*
Anne Metz, *Youth Ministry Coordinator*
Dodie Milano, *Receptionist*
Mary Beth Mostyn, *Administrator*
Deacon Michael Murtha, *Ministry Coordinator*
Carol Orphanos, *Bookkeeper*
Darrin Preston, *Facilities Manager*
Janet Schramm, *Evening Receptionist*

Parish School

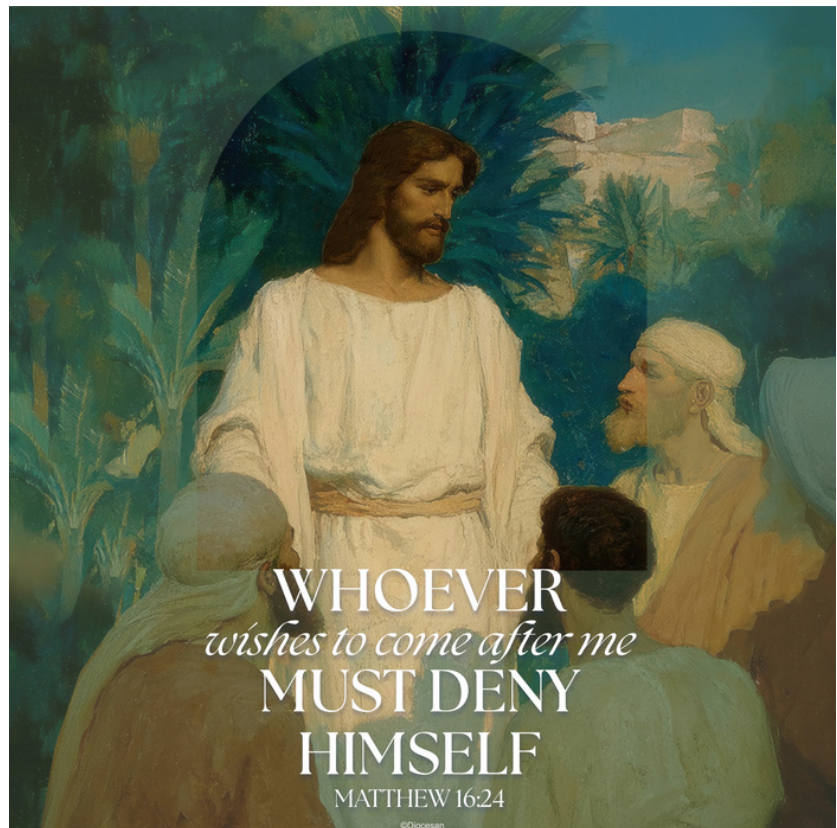
340 Manor Avenue
www.StJosephRCSchool.org
610-269-8999
Sister Lisa Ann Golden, I.H.M., *Principal*
Sister Diane Licordare, I.H.M., *Vice Principal*
Mary Jane McGeehan, *Administrative Assistant*

Parish Religious Education Program

www.StJosephRC.org/PREP
610-873-8798
Kathleen Greco,
Director of Religious Education

Mass Schedule

Daily Mass (M-F): 7AM & 9AM
Saturday: 8AM & 5:00PM Vigil Mass
Sunday: 6AM, 7:30AM, 9:00AM, 10:30AM,
12:00PM, and 4:00PM



Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:30PM-4:30PM
Wednesdays: 6:30AM, 8:30AM, 6:30PM

Baptism

Sundays after Noon Mass. Please visit
www.StJosephRC.org/Baptism for details.

Matrimony

Engaged couples are asked to meet with their
parish priest as soon as possible to enroll in a
marriage-prep program at least 6 months
prior to the wedding.

Anointing of the Sick

Please contact the Parish Office.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Available 24/7 in the Perpetual Adoration Chapel,
located in the Parish Office building.

Daily Devotions

The Holy Rosary: Daily before 9AM Mass.
Miraculous Medal: Tues after 9AM Mass.
Novena to St. Joseph: Weds after 9AM Mass.
Divine Mercy Chaplet: Thurs after 9AM Mass.
Sacred Heart Litany: First Fridays after 9AM Mass.
First Saturday: First Saturdays at 830AM.

Parish Mission Statement

*Motivated by our belief in Jesus Christ and bound together by our Roman Catholic faith,
we are a parish that seeks to respond to the Gospel invitation by living as God's people.
Baptized into Christ Jesus, confirmed by the gift of the Holy Spirit, and nourished by the Eucharist,
we are a community that gives glory to God and proclaims His message of love and salvation.*

Weekly Stewardship Report

Stewardship Report for Aug. 23rd will appear in the Sept. 6 bulletin.

Join the St. Joseph Legacy Society

In order to ensure the ongoing sustainability of our parish, parishioners are invited to join the St. Joseph Legacy Society, which recognizes everyone who has advised the parish that they have made a gift to the parish in their Will, Trust, Individual Retirement Account, 401k, 403b, or life insurance policy. Please consider becoming a charter member of the Society. Kindly call the parish office or Lou Teti (610-322-6769) for more details on how to become a charter member!



Join the Parish

Welcome to St. Joseph Parish! We are happy that you have chosen us as your parish family and we look forward to meeting you.

Registration can be completed online by visiting:

www.stjosephrc.org/join-the-parish

Weekly Mass Intentions

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30

This week, the Sanctuary Candle burns in loving memory of: Andrew J. Cozzone

5pm Saturday Vigil: Josephine Fornicola

6am: Parishioners
7:30am: Robert Pomento
9am: Nancy Coccetti
10:30am: Charles J. Neral
12pm: Todd McNeil
4pm: Brian Hines

MONDAY, AUGUST 31

7am: Pasquale P. Angiulo
9am: Nancy Coccetti

TUESDAY, SEPT. 1

7am: Catherine Gold
9am: Lillian Reed

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 2

7am: Frank Steidler, III
9am: Virginia & Donald Morris

THURSDAY, SEPT. 3

7am: Lucia G. Napoleone
9am: Dennis O'Donnell

FRIDAY, SEPT. 4

7am: Butchie Viscichini
9am: Andrew J. Cozzone, 19th Anniv.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 5

8am: Susan & Rich Schwab (Living) Wedding Anniv.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 6

5pm Saturday Vigil: Ramon Rodriguez
6am: Parishioners
7:30am: Chris Celii
9am: Dominic Castaldi
10:30am: Memorial Society: Nguyen Family, Joseph & Marie Gasper, Joe Lyon, Jennifer Mento, Joseph R. Walsh, Robert Banner, Matthew Thais, Agata Catanese, Marie Hill, Sebastian (Busty) Ruffini, Patty Murtha, Cpl. Timothy O'Connor
12pm: Frederick Phillips, II
4pm: Dec'd Members of the Muzii Family

Please Keep in Your Prayers

For those that are serving our country:

GySgt Steve & GySgt Shaina Anderson, USMC, GM2 (SW/AW) Braire Bastian, USN, Capt. Mitch Byers, Specialist, Major Joseph S. DiBerardinis, Lt. JG Jude DiMedio, USN, Airman First Class, James G. DiSantis, SFC Peter Karol, Aidan Krechmoyer, 82nd Airborne, Alexis Mary Linkins, USN, Timothy Linkins, USAF, Col. J. Kevin McKittrick, LCpl. Thomas D. Miller, III, USMC, Sr. Airman Sean T. Murray, Cpt. Joseph Rule, Capt. Elizabeth Scheivert and LtCdr. Sean Sweeney

For those who are sick:

Roseann Barnes, Randi Bianco, Baby Botero, Anthony Borda, Ashlyn Brown, Miriam Brown, Kathleen Cirucci, Jim Curley, John Czap, Robinson Dalpiaz, Gerry Daney, Kari D'Amore, Baby Kai D'Amore, William Nicholas Dooley, Jack Falkner, Michael Falkner, Carol Gray, Joanne Stevens Hoetz, Frank Keane, Matthew Keenan, Ann Marie Kelly, Edward Koroly, Wayne Langdale, James & Elizabeth Leisse, David LeFever, Mark Lisney, Jack and Maryann Logan, Theresa MacBride, James Mento Jr, Mary McDonald, Rosemarie McReynolds, Mark Michaels, Susan Nichols, De Anna Ousey, Betty Poole, Stephen, Tracey Sessa, Jaxon Sirhal, Justin Smith, Catherine Anne Snyder, George Stuhl, Edward Aaron Stoltzfus, Brendan Sweeney, Robert Tolentino, Christian Toner, Joshua Tripp, Anna Marie Urbine, Paul Zahner, and Annlouise Zizza.

My Dear Parishioners,

Praise Be Jesus Christ! This week marks 10 years since Mother Theresa of Calcutta was declared a Saint. Saturday is the anniversary of her death and her Feast day! This Saint who lived in our times continues to be worth noting, not just what she did but how she did it. Recently, I found this article about her on the website GovLeaders.org! While a surprise to me to find it on that site, I was encouraged and share it here with you. May the Leadership/ Intercession of St. Mother Theresa assist us in our leadership in this new week!

Peace,
Fr. Rogers

One Person at a Time: The Leadership Genius of Mother Teresa

By Don Jacobson

"Do small things with great love." Mother Teresa

In 2010, while on business in Kolkata (the Indian megalopolis formerly known as Calcutta), a few colleagues and I had the privilege of meeting with some of the senior religious Sisters of the Missionaries of Charity, the group founded by Mother Teresa* in 1950. We had asked to speak with some of the Sisters about Mother Teresa's leadership. Renowned for her tireless efforts to help the poorest of the poor, the fact that Mother Teresa had established a thriving Order in the Catholic Church at a time when most Orders were shrinking seemed to be proof positive of extraordinary leadership.

We met at Mother House, which had served as the home and headquarters for Mother Teresa for nearly 50 years. (She is still there; Mother Teresa's remains rest in a stone tomb in a modest chapel on the second floor.) We sat around a simple wooden table with Sister Prema, the current Superior General of the Missionaries of Charity. A large handwritten Mission Statement of the Order stood out as the only non-religious item on the wall.

Sister Prema described a number of Mother Teresa's leadership practices. For example, she told us that Mother Teresa had played an active role in the orientation of new novitiates and always made an effort to get to know each of her people's strengths and needs. Always focused on others, Mother Teresa was also a great listener and focused a great deal on helping others grow. And, of course, Mother Teresa tirelessly modeled the caring, selfless dedication to the poor that she hoped others would emulate.

Then one of my colleagues asked The Question. Prior to our visit to Mother House, we had spent the morning struggling to come up with a Big, Hairy, Audacious Goal (BHAG) for our team, so my colleague asked Sister Prema if Mother Teresa "had set any big, audacious goals, like eliminating poverty."

Sister Prema responded: "Oh no. Mother Teresa was completely focused on helping one person at a time." One person at a time?! Wait, let me get this straight... Mother Teresa had dedicated her life to helping the poorest of the poor in a city that had millions of people living in the most extreme poverty imaginable, and her strategy was to help just one person at a time?

To a group of government managers who were accustomed to thinking in terms of big programs, Mother Teresa's approach didn't sound very efficient. When my colleagues and I were discussing it later in the day, it struck us that, given the extent of the poverty that surrounded Mother Teresa in Calcutta, the idea of focusing on one desperately sick and/or poor person at a time was a goal so daunting - -so audacious- -that it was overwhelming just to think about it.

Then it hit me. Mother Teresa was on to something. Many politicians, government agencies and NGOs have devised big, systemic plans to address major societal problems like poverty, drug abuse, illiteracy, or crime. Coming up with a big idea is the easy part, however. The hard part is the execution at the front lines. Are the people who deliver the services at the local level making the right decisions? Do they treat each customer with respect and dignity? Do they approach their work with a laser-like focus on their organization's mission?

One of Mother Teresa's great strengths was her relentless focus on the core mission of her organization: serving the poorest of the poor, both materially and spiritually. She spent much of her own time helping individuals in extreme need. Her personal example still serves as the model for the Missionaries of Charity.



HOPE Transportation Ministry

HOPE is a transportation ministry which provides rides to doctor's appointments, the pharmacy and other necessary errands. Rides require a minimum of 48 hours notice and can be requested a week in advance. Volunteer drivers are always welcome and needed! ***This parish transportation ministry is a vital life-line for those who can't drive. Can you help?*** Please contact Debbie Hastings at 610-304-0631.

For the week of Aug. 31

Diane Sweeney

484-678-2738

Meredith DiPietro (secondary)

267-481-3873

For the week of Sept. 7

Meredith DiPietro

267-481-3873

Casey Rhoads (secondary)

908-489-0174

Women of Hope Casserole Schedule

Group 3:

Southwest Chicken w/ Corn & Rice

Group 4:

Chinese Chicken & Noodles

Requested New Items:

Womens Underwear (L & XL)
Body Wash, Lotion, Deodorant, Combs,
Brushes, Small Snack Bags, Bottled
Water

*Please leave items in the Loaves and
Fishes closet in the designated basket.*



CUB SCOUT PACK 2 - Downingtown OPEN HOUSE & REGISTRATION NIGHT



Wednesday, September 16 • 7-8pm

St. Joseph Parish Meeting Center

Boys in Grades K-5 • Ages 5-11

**Come learn more about Cub Scouts and
sign up for an unforgettable year of:**

- Hands-on learning and outdoor adventures
- Friendship, confidence, and new skills
- Community service and family fun

<https://pmweb.troopmaster.com/mysite/pack2dtown>

**LEARN
MORE**



**Scan to visit
our website**

**Email
pack2dtown@gmail.com
for any questions
or interest**

Adventure starts here. Bring your questions and meet Pack 2!

Have You Been Affected by Gun Violence?

A parishioner is spearheading a project to collect faith testimonies from Catholic survivors of gun violence. The goal is to create an anthology or booklet with these stories, as well as mental health and prayer resources, for Catholics in the diocese who are looking for hope, healing, and connection.

If you are interested in contributing or if you have thoughts on the subject in general, we would like to hear from you.

Please contact DeaconMurtha@stjosephrc.org for more details.

Altar Server Training

Calling all students going into grade 4 in the fall of 2026 and older! Your help is needed as an altar server at daily and weekend Masses.

**Join us on Sunday, September 27 at 1:15
pm in the church to learn how to
become a server.**

Only one session is required. Parents are asked to be sure new servers get signed in as they enter the narthex and to stay for a short presentation about how servers are scheduled and what their responsibilities will be. Even if you already have servers in the ministry, please ensure that your new server signs in, so we know who to put on the schedule!



Announced Mass Request Form (January 2027–December 2027)

Beginning on Tuesday, Sept. 1st, Mass Intentions will be honored in the parish office on a first-come, first-served basis, in the order in which the request is received. Households are welcome to request up to two Sunday Masses and three weekday Masses. At this time, no intentions will be accepted via phone. The suggested stipend for a Mass intention is \$10. **Forms dropped off at the parish office prior to Sept. 1st will not be honored.**

Mass Intentions cannot be scheduled for Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, Easter Sunday, Mother's Day, Father's Day, All Souls Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Once an intention has been added to the calendar, requests to change the date/time will not be accepted. The pastor reserves the right to reschedule a Mass intention due to unforeseen parish conflicts.

REQUESTER NAME:		PHONE #:
SUNDAY MASSES <u>Available Mass Times:</u> 7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am, 12:00pm, 4:00pm & 5:00pm Saturday Vigil		
Mass Intention For:		
Date & Time:	Alternate Date & Time:	
<i>Mass Card Needed?</i> ☐ Yes ☐ No		
Mass Intention For:		
Date & Time:	Alternate Date & Time:	
<i>Mass Card Needed?</i> ☐ Yes ☐ No		

WEEKDAY MASSES <u>Available Mass Times:</u> 7:00am & 9:00am		
Mass Intention For:		
Date & Time:	Alternate Date & Time:	
<i>Mass Card Needed?</i> ☐ Yes ☐ No		
Mass Intention For:		
Date & Time:	Alternate Date & Time:	
<i>Mass Card Needed?</i> ☐ Yes ☐ No		
Mass Intention For:		
Date & Time:	Alternate Date & Time:	
<i>Mass Card Needed?</i> ☐ Yes ☐ No		

Day of Honor: Welcome Home, Heroes



On **September 19 at 6:00 PM**, join us at Saints Simon and Jude Parish in West Chester to give our Vietnam veterans the Welcome Home they deserved more than 50 years ago.

As they return from their Day of Honor in Washington, D.C., bring your family, wave a flag, and help surround these heroes with the love, respect, and gratitude they earned through their service and sacrifice. Come help us finally say, "Welcome Home."

Come early and enjoy the food, fun and music.



Holy Moments

Each year, the Holy Father asks for our prayers for a specific intention each month. Let us unite our prayers with the Holy Father:

AUGUST:
For evangelization in the city

Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.



Register Today!: RISE & SOAR Weekly Focus Groups

Weekly Focus Groups for both SOAR (High School Students) and RISE (Middle School Students in grades 7th & 8th) are led by vibrant, faithful leaders and meet regularly in The Nest. Groups will meet each week, enjoy time together, & participate in faith-based discussions and activities.

A vibrant poster for a Cornhole Tournament. The background is a lush green cornfield under a blue sky. In the center is a large, stylized cornhole board with an orange and yellow design. Text on the poster includes: "ST. JOSEPH YOUTH MINISTRY" at the top, "CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT" in large bold letters, "SATURDAY, SEPT. 26TH 1 PM - 4 PM" on a red banner, "LINE DANCING!" on the left, "SNACKS! CRAFTS!" on the right, "OPEN TO ALL PARISHIONERS IN GRADES 6TH - 12TH" at the bottom, and "PRIZE FOR THE WINNING TEAM" and "PRIZE FOR BEST TEAM NAME" with a small trophy icon. A large arrow points to a QR code with the text "PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED".



BECOMING CATHOLIC

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN
INITIATION OF ADULTS



Do you know someone who wants to be Catholic? Are you missing sacraments? Why should you be Catholic? It's a simple question, but not an easy one to answer quickly. It begins with simple truths to which everyone can relate. Begin your journey with us. We walk alongside you. Come join us to...

- Hear the story of salvation history as revealed in Sacred Scripture
- Discover the love that God has for you, and deepend your faith in Him
- Learn about the Catholic Church, her doctrines, devotions and practices
- Be welcomed into the Catholic Church and complete your Sacraments

Contact us without obligation to learn more!
Kathleen Greco, Director of Religious Education
610-873-8798 or KathleenG@stjosephrc.org

Catholicism: A 10-Week Series with Adult Faith Formation

Journey with acclaimed author, speaker and theologian **Bishop Robert Barron** to more than 50 locations throughout 15 countries. Be illuminated by the spiritual and artistic treasures of this global culture that claims more than one billion of the earth's people. Join Adult Faith Formation Tuesdays starting Sept 15th. Morning and Evening Sessions available.

- **Morning group** will meet after the 9am daily Mass in the St John Neumann room in church. Starting around 9:30.
- **Evening group** will meet in the (PMC) Parish Meeting Center starting at 7pm.

No books or materials necessary. Registration not required but greatly appreciated.

<https://stjosephrc.org/catholicism-series>

O Come Let Us ADORE Him

Over the summer Adoration has lost a number of our committed Adorers. Escape to the quiet of the Lord's company and prayerfully consider signing up for a regular holy hour.

Life is faster and busier than ever and the Lord is calling you to *"lay your burdens upon His shoulders, for His burden is easy and His burden is light."*



Please use the QR code to look at the schedule and see if you are able to commit to just one hour a week to spend with Jesus.



Knights of Columbus

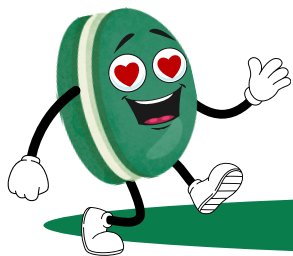
Chicken BBQ Dinner

Saturday, September 12



Each \$18 dinner includes:

- Crispy half bbq chicken
- Fluffy baked potato
- Creamy coleslaw
- Decadent whoopie pie
- Chilled 18oz iced tea



Pre-Order Today: <https://tinyurl.com/KnightsChickenBBQ>

Drive-Thru orders only. No eat-in dining.

Rise

AGAINST HUNGER

EXPERIENCE

Rise Against Hunger works in countries worldwide to fight hunger, targeting communities facing high rates of food insecurity.

Join the movement!

Will you join us for an exciting, hands-on volunteer opportunity to package meals for global hunger relief? Check out our Rise Against Hunger Experience meal packaging event details below. We hope to see you there!



November 7, 2026

Shifts begin at 10 AM

St. Joseph School Cafeteria
Questions? Contact Suzi Wentzel,
smwentzel@outlook.com

Meal Goal: 10,152

Donation Goal: \$4,100



Donate and sign up to volunteer using QR code