



**St. Joseph Parish
Downingtown, PA**

**175th
anniversary**

1851 - 2026

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

Sunday, September 6, 2026

23rd 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

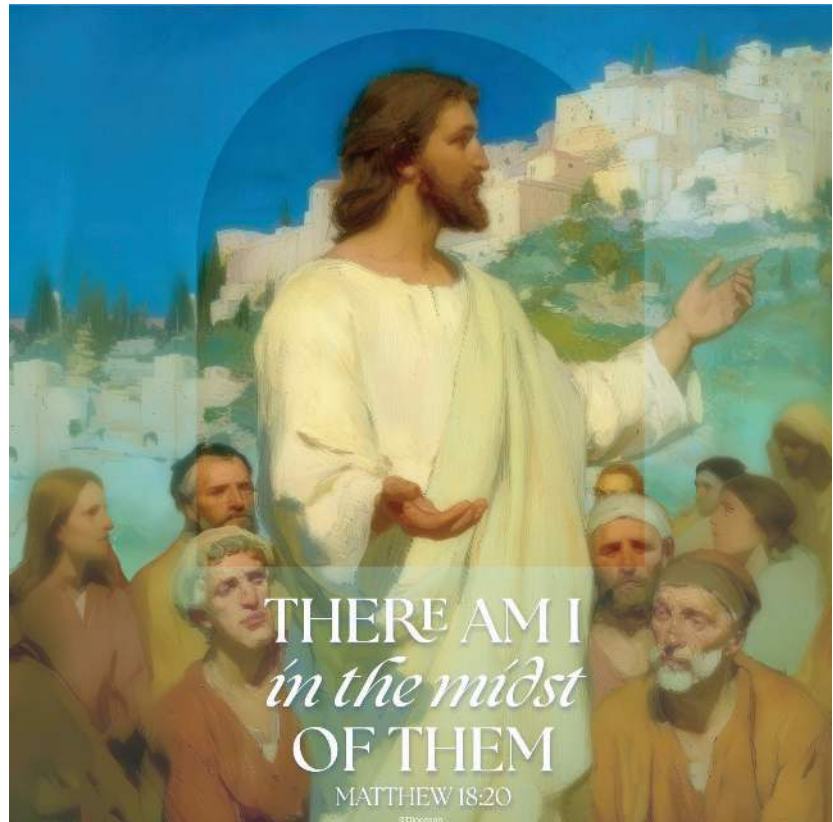
340 Manor Avenue
www.StJosephRCSchool.org
610-269-8999
Sister Lisa Ann Golden, I.H.M., *Principal*
Sister Diane Licordare, I.H.M., *Vice Principal*
Mary Jane McGeehan, *Administrative Assistant*

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

August 23: \$37,145
August 30: \$31,175

August Poor Box
St. Vincent de Paul
\$1,494

2026-2027
Fiscal Year to Date
\$428,016

2025-2026
Fiscal Year to Date
\$411,810

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, SEPT. 6

This week, the Sanctuary Candle burns in loving memory of: Dec'd Members of the Muzii Family. The Chapel Sanctuary Candle burns in loving memory of: Lucia G. Napoleone

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

MONDAY, SEPT. 7

Labor Day

9am: Nicholas Chilla

TUESDAY, SEPT. 8

7am: Michael Marano

9am: Rose Castaldi

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 9

7am: Herbert Daniels

9am: Michael DiPuppo

THURSDAY, SEPT. 10

7am: Charlie Kirk

9am: Dec'd Members of Gringer Family

FRIDAY, SEPT. 11

7am: Catherine Gold

9am: John Mattioni

SATURDAY, SEPT. 12

8am: Alexander D. Wilson

SUNDAY, SEPT. 13

5pm Saturday Vigil: Julian & Joanna Saska

6am: Parishioners

7:30am: Lauren Hinfey

9am: Dec'd Members of the Ganley Family

10:30am: Patricia Mullen

12pm: Lawrence Sr. & Rosemary Branigan

4pm: Theresa Stuhl

Please Keep in Your Prayers

For those that are serving our country:

GySgt Steve & GySgt Shaina Anderson, USMC, GM2 (SW/AW) Briaire 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, Barbara Boyle, Ashlyn Brown, Miriam Brown, Kathleen Cirucci, Jim Curley, 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, Edward Koroly, Wayne Langdale, James & Elizabeth Leisse, David LeFever, Mark Lisney, Jack and Maryann Logan, Theresa MacBride, James Mento Jr, Mary McDonald, Mark Michaels, Susan Nichols, De Anna Ousey, Stephen, Valerie Schaffer, Jaxon Sirhal, Catherine Anne Snyder, George Stuhl, Edward Aaron Stoltzfus, Brendan Sweeney, Christian Toner, Joshua Tripp, Anna Marie Urbine, Paul Zahner, and Annlouise Zizza.

Please call the parish office to add names. Names are removed after 3 months.

My Dear Parishioners,

Praise Be Jesus Christ! As we enter the first full week of September, it's worth noting that in Catholic tradition, September is the Month of the Cross. From a Liturgical standpoint, it makes sense as we celebrate the Triumph of the Cross on the 14th and Our Mother of Sorrows on the 15th. But from a secular standpoint, it is fitting as well. For even this very week, we remember Labor Day and September 11; two days that highlight the cross in our lives, our history and our experience. Indeed, we cannot Labor or Live without the cross.

From the Christian Vantage point, every cross finds purpose and meaning in Christ. Some of the most beautiful hymns are about the Cross. Some of my favs are "Where you There?" and "The Old Rugged Cross". They are worth listening to or praying with this month. Such an exercise can move one to tears, to repentance, to gratitude and even to joy. For the truth is, there is no peace without the cross and in His Cross there is the fullness of Peace.

The great Fulton Sheen – whose beatification I will attend later this month – said: "Unless souls are saved, nothing is saved. There can be no world peace unless there is soul peace." And Soul Peace is found only in the Cross of Christ!

This week, on September 9th, we celebrate the Feast Day of St. Peter Claver, a Jesuit priest from Spain who travelled to the New World. He served the enslaved Africans in Colombia for 38 years. St. Peter Claver baptized more than 300,000 people and called himself the "slave of the slaves forever". He died in 1654 and was canonized by Pope Leo XIII in 1888. He is the patron saint of African Americans and of enslaved peoples and a Saint who brought Soul Peace, Jesus – His Cross and Resurrection -- the Gospel to others.

This week, as we remember the Anniversary of 9/11; as we salute those who have and do labor for us each day; as we continue to experience the reality of a world at war; Let us not overlook the Cross of Christ from which and in which true Peace is found.

St. Peter Claver, pray for us!

Peace,
Fr. Rogers

*When I survey the wondrous Cross
on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.*

*Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
save in the death of Christ, my God!
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them through his blood.*

*See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?*

*Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small.
Love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.*

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!





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 Sept. 7

Meredith DiPietro

267-481-3873

Casey Rhoads (secondary)

908-489-0174

For the week of Sept. 14

Casey Rhoads

908-489-0174

Janet Shramm (secondary)

484-631-8875

Women of Hope Casserole Schedule

Group 1:

Southwest Chicken w/ Corn & Rice

Group 2:

Stuffing-Crusted Creamy Chicken

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.

ST. JOSEPH YOUTH MINISTRY

CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT

SATURDAY, SEPT. 26TH
1 PM - 4 PM

LINE DANCING!

SNACKS!
CRAFTS!

OPEN TO ALL PARISHIONERS IN GRADES 6TH - 12TH

PRIZE FOR THE WINNING TEAM

PRIZE FOR BEST TEAM NAME

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

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.





Called to Serve: Meet the Knights



Bob Angiulo

Brother Bob Angiulo has been a dedicated member of Rev. William T. Fenerty Council 7208 for nearly 20 years, serving as both Treasurer and Grand Knight. He is especially proud of helping revive St. Joseph Parish's beloved Festival, which has grown into one of the community's signature events. Through the hard work of countless volunteers, the festival has supported the parish and even helped fund the beautiful stained-glass window depicting Jesus giving the keys to St. Peter.

Bob is a retired tax accountant who continues to assist clients during tax season. He has faithfully served on the parish Finance Council, Capital Campaign, and Budget Committee. He and his wife, Joan, enjoy traveling, attending Phillies games, and spending time with their four children and seven grandchildren.

Outside of parish life, Bob enjoys gardening and building radio-controlled airplanes, including a one-third-scale Piper Cub nearing its first flight. During Christmas, many parish families know him best as the familiar face behind "Santa" at Breakfast with Santa, a tradition that has brought joy to generations of children. Bob encourages every Catholic man to consider joining the Knights, calling it one of the most rewarding ways to serve the Church and community.



More than 2.2 million men in more than 17,000 councils around the world call themselves brothers in the Knights of Columbus.

Founded by Blessed Michael McGivney in 1882, the Knights of Columbus is the premier lay Catholic men's organization.

Are You Ready to Learn More?



www.kofc7208.com



Join the Knights for Donuts & Coffee
Sunday, Sept. 13 after 10:30am Mass

PREP Catechists Still Needed!

PREP is fortunate to have so many parishioners who practice stewardship in giving their time and talent, returning to the Lord what He has given them.

Please prayerfully consider becoming a Catechist for this school year. To learn more, please contact PREP@stjosephrc.org or call 610-873-8798.





Caring for the Caregiver

Virtually every one of us will care for a loved one at some time in our life. Though rewarding, it's not always easy. Nourish for Caregivers is for anyone juggling the challenges of everyday life, health, career and caring for an aging parent, spouse or grandparent, in town or at a distance. Nourish provides caregivers a faith perspective, as well as practical and emotional supports, useful tools, and shared experience. Discover the blessings that come from caring for another.

Our Saint Joseph Nourish for Caregiver Group starts on October 3, 2026 at 10:30 am in the Nest. Use this link to sign up or to contact us with any questions.

stjosephrc.org/nourish-for-caregivers

Catholic Reading Group: Finishing Well

A new men's ministry group will begin on Tuesday, Sept. 15 at 1pm in the St. John Neumann room of the Church. The Catholic Reading Group will focus on classic and contemporary Christian writings.

The first sessions will focus on **Finishing Well**, a 10-week experience that will examine the lives of key Old Testament leaders. Together, we will look at their life journeys - their victories, their blind spots, and their final chapters.

Each 1-hour session will begin with a short overview of a leader's life, followed by a shared reading of a single, pivotal Bible chapter. The group will openly discuss how these men ran their races; then we'll leap ahead in time to look at modern day examples of faithful endurance using insights from Bob Buford's book, **Finishing Well**. (Available new or used on Amazon).

Please join us for practical, life-related conversations and an opportunity to for fellowship with other Christian men. Group co-leaders for Finishing Well are Gary Henderson (St. Joe's parishioner) and Whitney Kuniholm, noted author, speaker and President Emeritus of Scripture Union USA.

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com



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>

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

LEARN MORE



Scan to visit our website

Email
pack2dtown@gmail.com
for any questions or interest

Cub Scout Pack 2: Annual Mum Sale

Cub Scout Pack 2 will be selling 9" Mums (Variety of Colors) before and after mass on Saturday, September 12, (4:00pm - 6:30pm) and Sunday, September 13 (6:30am - 1:30pm). Consider purchasing some for your garden for the fall.

Please support the Scouts!



Discover Girl Scouts!



Come join Downingtown Service Unit 602 and learn what Girl Scouts is all about, and how your girl can grow, explore, and make a difference while having fun!

Girls will enjoy hands on activities and see part of the Girl Scout experience, while Adults will learn about the Girl Scout Program, how volunteering makes a difference, and participate in a Q&A with Downingtown Girl Scout Leaders.

Registration is required. Please Note: This is NOT a drop off event; an adult must attend with each girl. Questions? Email GirlScoutsDTown@gmail.com

Event Registration: <https://tinyurl.com/DTownGirlScoutOpenHouse>



walking with purpose

SO MUCH MORE THAN A BIBLE STUDY

Come as you are. You are welcome here. WWP Bible studies combine personal study with small group discussion, linking our everyday challenges to the solutions given to us through the teachings of Christ and the Catholic Church. If you desire to grow in your faith in a supportive community of Catholic women, Walking with Purpose is for you!

This year we will be offering *Opening Your Heart* and a newly published study, *Spiritual Motherhood*, in person on Wednesdays at 9 AM* or 7 PM. Our virtual group will offer *Discovering Our Dignity* on Mondays at 7:30 PM.

Opening Your Heart explores the fundamental questions of our Catholic faith and our relationship with Jesus Christ and is recommended for women new to Bible study.

Spiritual Motherhood: The Transforming Power of the Feminine Genius will lead you on a journey of discovering your true identity. Cultivate your unique capacity to nurture, restore, and bring others closer to Christ.

Discovering Our Dignity studies women of the Old and New Testaments who were as flawed and broken as we can be, yet the power of God worked in their lives.

Questions? Contact Amy McDonald for more info at:
WWPStJosephDtwn@gmail.com
or to register, scan the QR code.

(*Child care is offered on Wednesday morning)



What Our Faith Teaches Us About... Work

Brought to you by the St. Joseph Faith and Justice-CRS Team

The obligation to earn one's bread by the sweat of one's brow also presumes the right to do so. A society in which this right is systematically denied, in which economic policies do not allow workers to reach satisfactory levels of employment, cannot be justified from an ethical point of view, nor can that society attain social peace."

St. John Paul II, *Centesimus annus*, no. 43



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:

SEPTEMBER:
For the care of water

Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

Ready to Learn More About Becoming Catholic?

Do you know someone who wants to be Catholic? Are you missing sacraments? 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 deepen 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! Call 610-873-8798 or KathleenG@stjosephrc.org

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com

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>

Rachel's Vineyard Weekend Retreats

A Rachel's Vineyard retreat provides as safe, confidential, non-judgmental environment in which women and men can experience the forgiveness, mercy and compassion of God and grieve the loss of the child while understanding and releasing any feelings of anger, shame and regret that they may have. No matter how much time has past, there is a place for you to heal. For more information contact Susan at 610-716-4795 Susiemck@comcast.net or Georgeann at 484-955-4278 Geemcgarry@gmail.com

Retreats are held in Spring and Fall at IHM Spirituality Center Malvern, PA. Next retreat is October 16 – 18, 2026

Volunteer Opportunity: Mother's Home

Located in Darby, the region's oldest and most comprehensive residential shelter for homeless pregnant women and their babies, is in need of a part-time volunteer who can play a critically important role in helping to implement and manage a new CRM (Customer Relationship Management) program as well as if possible, assist with social media and website design. If interested, please contact Brigid Risko at brisko@mothershome.org. Thank you!



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**Workshop for
Extraordinary Ministers
of Holy Communion**

AT
SS PETER AND PAUL

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2026
AT 7:00 PM

TO REGISTER FOR WORKSHOPS, EMAIL:
worship@archphila.org

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 Pre-Orders only. No eat-in dining.
No orders can be accepted at the door.**

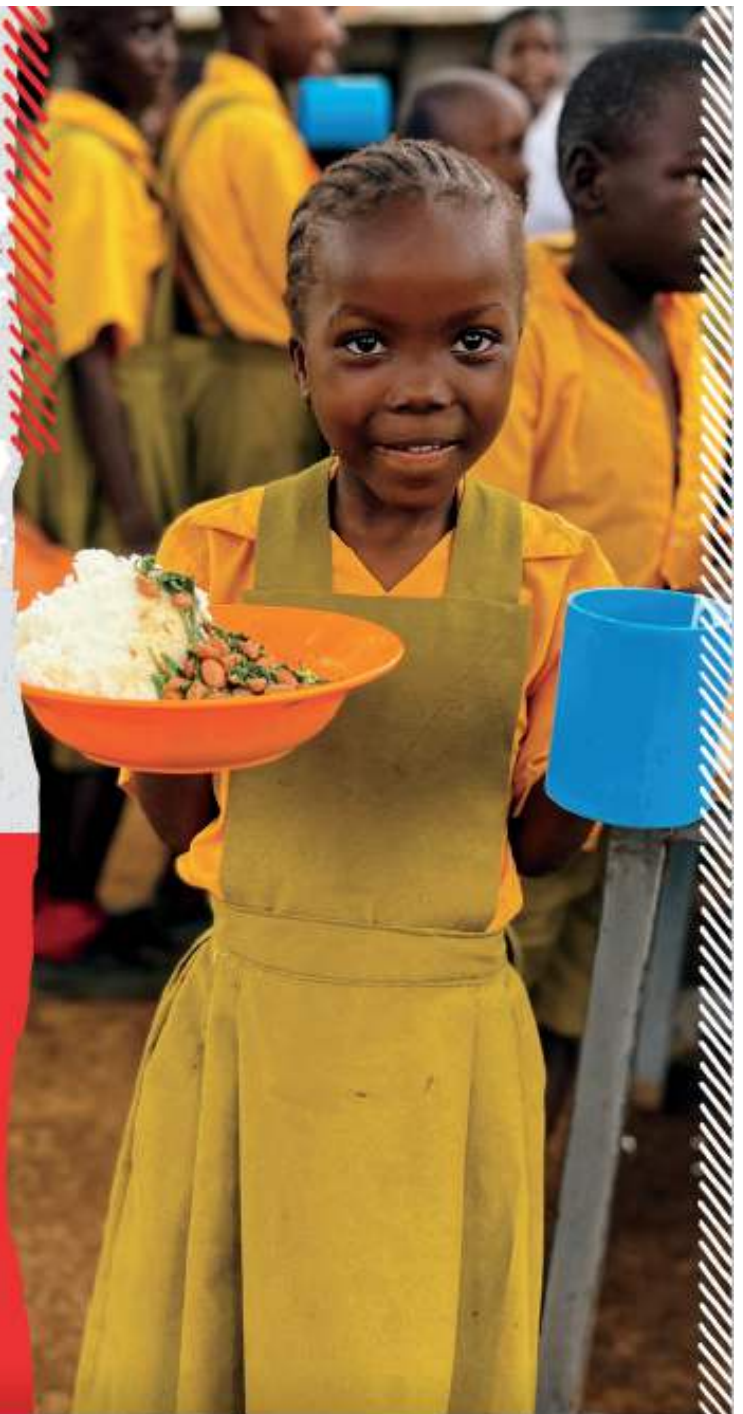


Rise

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

Diocesan is proud to be printing

St. Joseph's Sunday Bulletin

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- Fence Installs
- Hardscaping
- Power Washing
- Snow Removal
- Retaining Wall
- Sidewalks

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- Rapid autism evaluations for all ages from 18 months through adulthood, with results in 4 weeks in PA, NJ, DE
- Psychiatric medication management, BCBA parent coaching, and upcoming RiseNow Launchpad skills program for teens and adults

Richard D'Amato, CRNP, MBA, Co-Founder & Parishioner

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