

ST. JOSEPH PARISH / PARROQUIA SAN JOSE

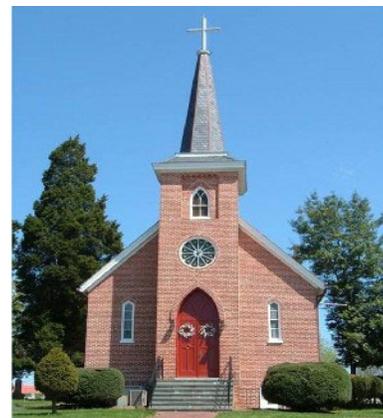


Saint Joseph Church

371 East Main Street
Middletown, Delaware

THE HOLY FAMILY OF
JESUS, MARY AND
JOSEPH

DECEMBER 31, 2017



Saint Rose of Lima Church

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

*We, the faithful of St. Joseph Parish,
willingly accept our baptismal call
to gather and worship as a community,
to proclaim the Word of God,
and to serve in the image of Jesus Christ.*

MISIÓN DE LA PARROQUIA

*Nosotros, los fieles de la Parroquia de San José,
aceptamos de buena voluntad
nuestro llamado bautismal
a reunirnos y adorar como comunidad,
a proclamar la Palabra de Dios,
y a servir en la imagen de Jesucristo.*

OUR CHURCHES & SACRAMENT SCHEDULE

St. Joseph Church:

371 East Main Street, Middletown, DE, 19709

Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:00 PM

Sunday Masses: 7:30, 9:30 11:30AM

Misa Dominical: 2:00 PM (Español)

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 8:30 AM

Reconciliation: Saturday at 4:00 PM

St. Rose of Lima Mission:

301 Lock St, Chesapeake City, MD, 21915

Sunday Masses: 8:00, 9:30 AM

Tuesday Mass: 8:30 AM

Reconciliation: Sunday at 9:00 AM

St. Francis Xavier Shrine:

1604 Church Road, Warwick, MD, 21912

Mass Dates: May 21—4:00 PM, May 29—10:00 AM,
Sept 17—4:00 PM and Oct 22—4:00 PM

COUNCIL EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Finance Council: John Sanders (410-275-1428)

Pastoral Council: Ed Holley (302-378-8081)

PASTORAL OFFICE STAFF

Rev. Msgr. David F. Kelley, VC., Pastor

Rev. Timothy Brady, O.de.M., Associate Pastor

Tim Enright, Deacon

David Feaster, Deacon

Bob Altmiller, Facilities Manager

Peggy Barrow, Business Manager

Vidette Benn, Parish Secretary

Lauren Cataldi, Organist

Jackie Delaporte, Special Assistant, Sacristan

Diana Gotthold, Formation Office

Rosemary Hadland, Coordinator of Music Ministry

Matthew Jewell, Organist

Mary Kirk, Director of Religious Education

Antonia "Tonie" Vandenberg, Ministerio Hispano

Mark Winterbottom, Confirmation Coordinator

GENERAL INFORMATION

E-mail: vbenn@stjosephmiddletown.com

Website: www.stjosephmiddletown.com

Pastoral Center / Centro Pastoral:

371 E. Main Street

Middletown, DE 19709

(entrance on Cleaver Farm Road)

302-378-5800, 302-378-5808 (FAX)

(toll-free from Maryland: 888-433-1874)

Ministerio Hispano: 302-378-5805, Ext. 104

Office Hours / Horario de la Oficina:

Monday – Thursday: 9:00 AM – 8:00 PM

Friday: 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Christ the Teacher Regional Catholic School

2451 Frazer Road

Newark, DE 19702

302-838-8850

www.christtheteacher.org

Sr. LaVerne King, RSM – Principal

Liturgy Notes

THANK YOU

Thank you to all who did so much to make our Christmas celebrations so prayerful, spiritually uplifting, and joyful. We appreciate the leadership of our musicians in helping us to raise our voices in praise and worship of the Word made flesh: the contemporary ensemble, the choir, cantors and the instrumentalists. We are grateful to our ushers, lectors, extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, altar servers and sacristans, who minister so well together to make liturgy every weekend and opportunity to encounter our Lord in Word and Sacrament. Finally, thanks to our Martha's Guild and all those who take such care in providing an environment that invites us to raise our hearts and voices in prayer as we celebrate the sacred mysteries of our salvation throughout the year. We offer each and every one of you our gratitude for your generosity of service to all of us who worship at St. Joseph and St. Rose Churches.

Feast of the Holy Family **Saturday, December 30**

5:00 PM St. Joseph

Feast of the Holy Family **Sunday, December 31**

7:30 AM St. Joseph
8:00 AM St. Rose of Lima
9:30 AM St. Joseph
9:30 AM St. Rose of Lima
11:30 AM St. Joseph
2:00 PM St. Joseph (Spanish)

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Monday, January 1

9:00 AM St. Joseph
9:00 AM St. Rose of Lima

MUSIC MINISTRY

Please join us on Sunday, January 7, 2018 For The Epiphany of the Lord at 5:00 p.m. in Saint Joseph Church as members of the Music Ministry present Our Christmas Story Celebrating of the Season of our Savior's Birth.

Presider's Intentions

This week, our presiders will offer Masses for these intentions:

Monday, January 1

Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

9:00 AM (SJ) Anthony "Tony" John Oroszo
9:00 AM (SR)

Tuesday, January 2

Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen

8:30 AM (SR)

Wednesday, January 3

The Most Holy Name of Jesus

8:30 AM (SJ) Ed Bisone

Thursday, January 4

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

8:30 AM (SJ) Dennis Bilinski

Friday, January 5

St. John Neumann

8:30 AM (SJ) Intentions of Frank & Pat Duchesne

Saturday, January 6

5:00 PM (SJ) Ed Bisone

Sunday, January 7

The Epiphany of the Lord

7:30 AM (SJ) Kyle Lauser
9:30 AM (SJ) Ed Bisone
11:30 AM (SJ) Letterio John Crisafulli
2:00 PM (SJ)
8:00 AM (SR) Frank Tierney
9:30 AM (SR) Jacqueline Sheehan

**MASS INTENTIONS ARE OPEN FOR
APRIL, MAY & JUNE 2018**

ELECTION OF PARISH TRUSTEES FOR ST. JOSEPH AND ST. ROSE CHURCHES

Each year on the first weekend following New Year's Day, each parish in the Diocese of Wilmington is required to elect two lay trustees to satisfy the legal requirements for parish corporations in the state of Delaware and Maryland. This election will take place on Saturday evening, January 6th, immediately following the 5:00 PM mass in the meeting room at St. Joseph Church and on Sunday morning, January 7th, immediately following the 8:00 AM mass in the sacristy at St. Rose Church. All parishioners over the age of 18 are invited to participate.

***The Word in Our Lives:
Readings for January 7, 2018
The Epiphany of the Lord***

First Reading: *Isaiah 60:1-6*

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you. See, darkness covers the earth, and thick clouds cover the peoples; but upon you the LORD shines, and over you appears his glory. Nations shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance. Raise your eyes and look about; they all gather and come to you: your sons come from afar, and your daughters in the arms of their nurses.

Then you shall be radiant at what you see, your heart shall throb and overflow, for the riches of the sea shall be emptied out before you, the wealth of nations shall be brought to you. Caravans of camels shall fill you, dromedaries from Midian and Ephah; all from Sheba shall come bearing gold and frankincense, and proclaiming the praises of the LORD.

Responsorial Psalm: *Psalms 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13*

Second Reading: *Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6*

Brothers and sisters: You have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for your benefit, namely, that the mystery was made known to me by revelation. It was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Gospel: *Matthew 2:22-40*

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was greatly troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.

Assembling all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, He inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it has been written through the prophet: And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; since from you shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people Israel." Then Herod called the magi secretly and ascertained from them the time of the star's appearance.

He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search diligently for the child. When you have found him, bring me word, that I too may go and do him homage." After their audience with the king they set out. And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way.

La Palabra en Nuestra Vidas:
7 De Enero De 2018
Epifanía Del Señor

Primera Lectura: *Isaías 60, 1-6*

Levántate y resplandece, Jerusalén, porque ha llegado tu luz y la gloria del Señor alborea sobre ti. Mira: las tinieblas cubren la tierra y espesa niebla envuelve a los pueblos; pero sobre ti resplandece el Señor y en ti se manifiesta su gloria. Caminarán los pueblos a tu luz y los reyes, al resplandor de tu aurora. Levanta los ojos y mira alrededor: todos se reúnen y vienen a ti; tus hijos llegan de lejos, a tus hijas las traen en brazos. Entonces verás esto radiante de alegría; tu corazón se alegrará, y se ensanchará, cuando se vuelquen sobre ti los tesoros del mar y te traigan las riquezas de los pueblos. Te inundará una multitud de camellos y dromedarios, procedentes de Madián y de Efé. Vendrán todos los de Sabá trayendo incienso y oro y proclamando las alabanzas del Señor.

Salmo Responsorial: *Salmo 71, 1-2. 7-8. 10-11. 12-13*

Segunda Lectura: *Efesios 3, 2-3a. 5-6*

Hermanos: Han oído hablar de la distribución de la gracia de Dios, que se me ha confiado en favor de ustedes. Por revelación se me dio a conocer este misterio, que no había sido manifestado a los hombres en otros tiempos, pero que ha sido revelado ahora por el Espíritu a sus santos apóstoles y profetas: es decir, que por el Evangelio, también los paganos son coherederos de la misma herencia, miembros del mismo cuerpo y partícipes de la misma promesa en Jesucristo.

Evangelio: *Mateo 2, 1-12*

Jesús nació en Belén de Judá, en tiempos del rey Herodes. Unos magos de oriente llegaron entonces a Jerusalén y preguntaron: "¿Dónde está el rey de los judíos que acaba de nacer? Porque vimos surgir su estrella y hemos venido a adorarlo". Al enterarse de esto, el rey Herodes se sobresaltó y toda Jerusalén con él. Convocó entonces a los sumos sacerdotes y a los escribas del pueblo y les preguntó dónde tenía que nacer el Mesías. Ellos le contestaron: "En Belén de Judá, porque así lo ha escrito el profeta: Y tú, Belén, tierra de Judá, no eres en manera alguna la menor entre las ciudades ilustres de Judá, pues de ti saldrá un jefe, que será el pastor de mi pueblo, Israel".

Entonces Herodes llamó en secreto a los magos, para que le precisaran el tiempo en que se les había aparecido la estrella y los mandó a Belén, diciéndoles: "Vayan a averiguar cuidadosamente qué hay de ese niño y, cuando lo encuentren, avísenme para que yo también vaya a adorarlo".

Después de oír al rey, los magos se pusieron en camino, y de pronto la estrella que habían visto surgir, comenzó a guiarlos, hasta que se detuvo encima de donde estaba el niño. Al ver de nuevo la estrella, se llenaron de inmensa alegría. Entraron en la casa y vieron al niño con María, su madre, y postrándose, lo adoraron. Después, abriendo sus cofres, le ofrecieron regalos: oro, incienso y mirra. Advertidos durante el sueño de que no volvieran a Herodes, regresaron a su tierra por otro camino.

El padre y la madre del niño estaban admirados de semejantes palabras. Simeón los bendijo, y a María, la madre de Jesús, le anunció: "Este niño ha sido puesto para ruina y resurgimiento de muchos en Israel, como signo que provocará contradicción, para que queden al descubierto los pensamientos de todos los corazones. Y a ti, una espada te atravesará el alma".

Había también una profetisa, Ana, hija de Fanuel, de la tribu de Aser. Era una mujer muy anciana. De joven, había vivido siete años casada y tenía ya ochenta y cuatro años de edad. No se apartaba del templo ni de día ni de noche, sirviendo a Dios con ayunos y oraciones. Ana se acercó en aquel momento, dando gracias a Dios y hablando del niño a todos los que aguardaban la liberación de Israel. Y cuando cumplieron todo lo que prescribía la ley del Señor, se volvieron a Galilea, a su ciudad de Nazaret. El niño iba creciendo y fortaleciéndose, se llenaba de sabiduría y la gracia de Dios estaba con él.

Stewardship

Happy New Year! As the saying goes ... "Take time to enjoy the view at the top of the mountain before climbing the next one." Perhaps now is such a moment. As parishioners looking back on 2017, we are thankful for our blessings and for sharing of our time, talent, and treasure. We look forward to the year ahead as we continue to give of ourselves to further Christ's redemptive work. May 2018 bring much happiness, health, wealth, and good fortune to all.

The offertory collection for last weekend was not available at the time of publication and will be in the next bulletin. Thank you for accepting the responsibility of faithful stewardship.

The Finance Council

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT AND BENEDICTION

Please join us this Friday, January 5 for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament beginning at the close of the 8:30 AM daily Mass, and concluding with Benediction at 12:00 noon. We encourage you to consider taking this opportunity to spend some quiet time with the Lord. As we need to ensure that at least one person is present with the Blessed Sacrament at all times from 8:30 AM through noon, we invite you to sign-up for a specific time block. Sign-up sheets are available in the church gathering space on the tables beneath the bulletin boards.



ADORACIÓN AL SANTÍSIMO SACRAMENTO Y BENEDICIÓN

Este viernes el 5 de enero tendremos Adoración del Santísimo Sacramento al final de la misa de la 8:30 am y concluyendo con la Bendición a las 12:00 de la tarde. Le animamos a que considere tomar esta oportunidad para pasar un rato tranquilo con el Señor. Como tenemos que asegurarnos de que al menos una persona está presente con el Santísimo Sacramento en todo momento desde las 8:30 am hasta el mediodía, le invitamos a inscribirse para un bloque de tiempo específico. Hojas Suscríbete están disponibles en el espacio de reunión de la iglesia en las mesas debajo de los tableros de anuncios.

Team 3 will clean on Thursday, January 4, 2018

Joan Huhn, Captain

Kathy Wisniewski	Marie Kreck
Shirley Stafford	Peggy Calvani
Anthony Davies	Audrey Taylor
Kathleen Majewski	Joe Ruff
Ella Garvine	Loretta Williams
Jim Bosco	Kathy Ursitti
Donald Strong	Eleanor Knorr

For more information or to volunteer, please call Loretta Williams, 302-378-8635.

DEBT REDUCTION COLLECTION

Next weekend is our monthly collection for debt reduction. The parish staff recognizes that we live in uncertain economic times and we must all be careful with our budgets. The staff also acknowledges the sacrifices you make and knows that your continued financial support is an act of faith. The staff thanks you for continually making our parish a priority in your giving.

Thank You

***Esquire Plumbing, Heating
& Air Conditioning***

for advertising in our parish bulletin.

Please be sure to visit our parish website and check out those businesses who advertise in our bulletin. Your support of these sponsors is one way to say thank you for their generosity.

PAT'S PIZZA

Pat's Pizza Family Restaurant, located at 311 N. Broad Street in Middletown, will donate a portion of all receipts we return to them. Please place your saved receipts in the collection basket or drop them off at the parish office. We are blessed that our local businesses continue to support our parish. Please thank them for their generosity when you visit Pat's.

REDNER'S RECEIPTS

The CCEA collects Redner's receipts. Receipts can be put in the collection basket or dropped off at the church or CCEA office. Please submit the whole receipt as partial receipts will not be considered. Refunds from the Redner receipts covers the expenditure for meats purchased by the food pantry staff for our clients. Thank you for your assistance, it is appreciated.

Parish Life

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL

We remember in prayer all those who are ill, especially:

Oremos por los enfermos:

Mary Ann Romantini, Joyce Storey, Merriam Brelsford, Joyce Asplen, Tony Dooley, John Viars, Anne White, Heather Seramone, Danielle Mundell, Michael LoSapio, Reid LoSapio, Edward Hudack, Daisy Pabon, Richard Bengermينو, Emily Knorr, Steven Brown, Lea Castelli, Ludwig Possenti, Ron Huff, Joel Rivera, Andrew Tomaino, Ronald McGrath, Jim Barrett, Karen Weis, Trudy Copley, Paul Henderson, Keith Delaney, Margaret Cassling, Karen Gabrielsen, Irene Shestock, Christine Cavaliere, Mary Maycen, Brandon Austin, Krystina Paulson, Matt Malus, Terrie Dunn, Peggy Robinson, Joseph Nelson, Joan Huhn, Connie Beardsley, Shelly DiPietrapaul, Jackie Provost, Alvin Atallian, Catrina Copley and Tess Dooley.

We also remember in prayer their caregivers and all others in need of our prayers.

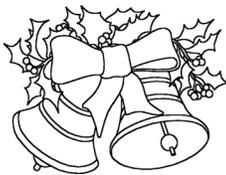
También recordamos en oración a sus cuidadores y a todos los demás que necesitan nuestras oraciones.

MAY THE ANGELS LEAD THEM INTO PARADISE

Please remember in your prayers our deceased parishioners, loved ones and benefactors.



*Grant them eternal rest, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.*



MASS AT BROADMEADOW NURSING HOME

There will be a Mass at Broadmeadow Nursing Home on Tuesday, January 2 at 10:00 a.m. Parishioners are invited. Any questions call George Latsko, at 302-376-5779.

This Week in Our Parish

Monday, January 1

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

9:00 AM—New Year's Mass at St. Joseph Church

9:00 AM—New Year's Mass at St Rose of Lima

7:00 PM—Friends of Bill W in Rooms 5 & 7

Tuesday, January 2

8:30 AM—Mass at St. Rose Church

10:00 AM—Mass at Broadmeadow Nursing Home

7:00 PM—Cub Scouts in Office Complex

Wednesday, January 3

8:30 AM—Mass at St. Joseph Church

9:30 AM—Bible Study in Rooms 5 & 7

9:30 AM—English as a Second Language

in Rooms 3 & 6

6:00 PM—Cantor Rehearsal in St. Joseph Church

6:30 PM—Contemporary Ensemble

in St. Joseph Church

7:00 PM—Choir Rehearsal in St. Joseph Church

7:00 PM—Knights of Columbus in Parish Hall

Thursday, January 4

8:30 AM—Mass at St. Joseph Church

6:30 PM—Boy Scouts in Parish Hall

7:00 PM—Liturgy Meeting in Room 3

7:00 PM—Friends of Bill W in Rooms 5 & 7

Friday, January 5

8:30 AM—Mass at St. Joseph Church

9:00 AM—Adoration & Benediction

in St. Joseph Church

Saturday, January 6

4:00 PM—Confessions in St. Joseph Church

5:00 PM—Mass in St. Joseph Church

5:00 PM—Trustee Election in St. Joseph Church

6:00 PM—Event at St. Rose Hall

Sunday, January 7

8:30 AM—Trustee Election in St. Rose Sacristy

8:45 AM—PREP Session E in Office Complex

11:45 AM—PREP Session G in Office Complex

12:00 PM—Columbiettes in St. Rose Hall

2:00 PM—Mass at St. Joseph (Spanish)

2:00 PM—Confirmation Formation Session

in Parish Hall

5:00 PM—Music Ministry Christmas Program

in St. Joseph Parish



Being raised in the traditions of the Church can sometime feel like an unnecessary burden and inconvenience. We are reminded today, however, that even Christ adhered to His parent's traditions. Surely we cannot claim to know more than Christ. Our traditions are what strengthen our faith, and what brings us closer to the Lord. We should be thankful that individuals like our parents have prioritized our faith in order to pass on these traditions, and the truths that they reveal. This week take a moment to thank those that have helped to raise you in the faith. Say a prayer to thank God for placing them in your life and blessing you with their guidance.



OUR DAILY BREAD

Our Daily Bread feeds low income families, individuals, children, the elderly and those in need in the MOT communities with nutritious meals in a safe environment. They serve Lunch, Monday, Wednesday, Friday from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm and Dinner Tuesday & Thursday from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm. If you have any questions email: ourdailybread.2016@gmail.com or call 302-285-9540. Our Daily Bread is located at 214 North Broad Street, Middletown.



CLASES DE INGLÉS

Las clases comenzarán el lunes 18 de septiembre de 9:30 am a 12:00 pm. Los Lunes y Miércoles según el año escolar.

Social Concerns

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY
302-463-6255
DEDICATED TO THE SERVICE OF THOSE
IN NEED IN THE MOT AREA

CANNED GOODS COLLECTION



This week is our monthly canned goods collection to replenish the shelves at the food pantry. Canned goods may be brought to either St. Joseph or St. Rose church. Your donations are taken to the Chesapeake City Ecumenical Association for distribution.

CCEA FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

Items needed:

- Bakery items:** Shelf stable cookies, Mixes: cake, brownie, cornbread, biscuit, or muffin, flour
- Boxed Meals (complete):** Hamburger Helper
- Breakfast Items:** Box cereals
- Condiments:** Sugar, salt, pepper, mustard, ketchup, spices, mayo, salad dressings, marinade packets
- Crackers:** Saltines, Oyster, snack
- Drinks:** shelf stable milk or dry milk, juices, drink mixes, tea/coffee
- Fruit (canned):** Any variety of canned fruit
- Meats/Fish(canned):** Chicken, ham, beef, pork, Vienna sausages, Spam or Treet, corned beef hash, corned beef, tuna, salmon
- Personal care:** Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, Shampoo and Conditioner
- Snack items:** Jelly
- Soup:** Canned soups and Ramen noodle soups- all varieties
- Vegetables (canned):** All: potatoes, spinach, peas, tomatoes, beets, corn, green beans, or baked beans

Saturday, January 20th, 2018
4-8 p.m.
Chesapeake City VFW

\$8 adult in advance \$10 at the door,
children under 5 eat free!
Spaghetti, meatballs, salad, dessert, & iced tea.
VFW bar open for alcoholic beverages.
Takeout available
Tickets/takeout www.ccea4u.com
*All proceeds benefit the Chesapeake City Ecumenical Association **Food Pantry** — a registered 501(3).*

ELKTON COMMUNITY KITCHEN

Thank you to all the volunteers who have helped with the Community Kitchen during 2017. Our December 8 Luncheon was a most successful day serving over 120 meals. Your support continues to make this such a successful ministry. Mark your calendars for our next date of February 9, 2018. All are most welcome and we would be glad to have new volunteers. Please contact Linda Ziegler, 908 216-4224, lmrziegler@verizon.net or Wilma Fitzner, 443 907-7506, wilmafitzner@gmail if interested in participating.

ROMAN CATHOLIC AD ALTARE DEI AWARD

Attention all Boy Scouts and Crew members at least 13 years or older, interested in the Roman Catholic Ad Altare Dei award? Classes are starting February 2018. Please contact Steve and Stacey Tomaszewski at snstomaszewski@gmail.com or call 302-376-7476 by January 31, 2018 to enroll (space is limited).



PORTADORES DE LA PALABRA

La Iglesia ha puesto unos cuantos días de fiesta notables enseguida después de la Navidad. Las fiestas de Esteban, Juan el Bautista y los Santos Inocentes forman un sumario de la vida vivida en Cristo, la Palabra hecha carne. ¿Qué relación tienen estas fiestas con la fiesta de la Sagrada Familia, que corona la Octava de la Navidad? Estas fiestas nos recuerdan que habrá sufrimiento al tratar de cumplir la misión de Cristo, y que estamos todos llamados a ser portadores de esta Palabra cuyo nacimiento celebramos. También vemos la manifestación de esta verdad en las vidas de José y María, quienes se exponen a riesgos sociales y religiosos para obedecer la voluntad de Dios, y estaban abiertos a la Palabra que Dios les enviaba del cielo. Así ambos fueron prefigurados de Jesús.

Es muy probable que muy pocos de nosotros fuimos a la misa del jueves, el viernes o el sábado pasado, pero la esencia de estas fiestas y la esencia de la santidad de José, María y Jesús es central, santidad que celebramos hoy.

SEASONS OF HOPE

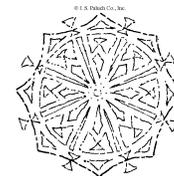
If you're in need of consolation after losing a loved one, this Christ-centered faith sharing group is for you. It meets for six Wednesdays, beginning January 3. Prayer, scripture, faith sharing, and fellowship begins at 7:00 PM for 6 weeks. For more details, pick up a Seasons of Hope brochure in the church gathering space or call Dee Headley at 302-740-4212.

BEARERS OF THE WORD

The Church has placed a number of notable feast days immediately after Christmas. The feasts of Stephen, John the Evangelist, and the Holy Innocents form a summary of the life lived in Christ, the Word made flesh. What do these have to do with the feast of the Holy Family, which crowns the Octave of Christmas? These feasts remind us that suffering will occur in fulfilling the mission of Christ, and that we are all called to be bearers of this Word whose birth we celebrate.

We also see this manifested in the lives of Joseph and Mary, both of whom took social and religious risks in obedience to the will of God, and both of whom were open to the word of God sent to them from on high. In these ways they prefigured the life of Jesus himself. Most likely, few of us found ourselves at Mass this past Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday, but the essence of these feasts and the essence of the holiness of Joseph, Mary, and Jesus remain central, a holiness we celebrate today.

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Winter

A Winter's Reminder—

- Before venturing out, it is always prudent to call the parish office to check our open or closed status. You may also consult our parish website.
- Personal Safety (yours and others on the road) is our main concern.

One does not put one's self in a state of serious sin by missing Mass on a day when travel to/from church would be hazardous and put one's self or others in danger.

Christian Formation

BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER GROUP

Our group meets on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Tuesdays of the month at 6:30pm. Please call Jan Faust at 302-584-8703 for more information. All are welcome!

A second group, hosted by Ed Sumner & Ellen Losse, meets on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month to discuss the readings for the following Sunday. Please call Ed @ 302-449-2387 or Ellen at 302-449-5532 for directions.

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Please join us for Bible Study on Wednesday mornings at 9:30 AM in the parish center when we break open the Scriptures for the coming Sunday. We encourage people to share how the readings touch their lives or to sit quietly and listen as others reflect on them. The conversation is easy and informative. Come when and as often as you'd like. If you have questions please call 302-378-5800.



POWER OF PRAYER

Prayer is powerful.....do you have someone or something for which you would like prayers? You may phone the Parish Office or email your prayer requests to Kathy Dolde at kdolde@gmail.com and they will pass them on to members of our Prayer Chain. Parishioners are also welcome to join our prayer group. All it involves is getting an email and praying for the person or petition. If you are interested, please contact Kathy.

ROSARY AT BROADMEADOW

The Rosary is prayed each Wednesday at 10:00 AM at Broadmeadow Nursing Home. Any parishioner is welcome to attend and participate. We are also in need of people to lead the rosary. If you are able to help please call Helen Gaden at 302-376-0711.

VOCATIONS REFLECTION

We have so much to learn from the Holy Family: Mary allows God's will to change her life; Joseph pays close attention to and follows the prompting of the angel; Jesus says to the Father "not my will, but Thine be done." What is the Father's will for you? Are you taking steps to find out? If you think God might be calling you to live out a religious vocation, please call or write Father Norm Carroll, Diocesan Director of Priestly and Religious Vocations (302-573-3113 or vocations@cdow.org). Be sure to visit our website: www.cdow.org/vocations!

PASS THE WORD

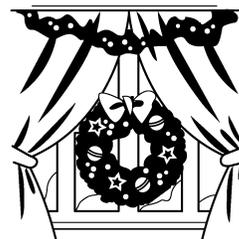
Pass the Word is an annual Diocesan Vocation initiative that seeks to introduce our young men in high school to the possibility of a vocation to the Priesthood through a day long program with the Bishop, priests and seminarians. It is on Tuesday, February 27, 2018 at St. Mary's Seminary & University, Baltimore, MD. Please mark your calendars and share this date with all who work with our youth. We also invite you to begin thinking about young men in grades 9th to 12th to nominate and ask you to join us in our prayers for priestly vocations. More information about the day's events and the nomination process will be forth coming in January of 2018.

PUNTEROS DE CRIANZA

¿Cómo celebrarás a finales de 2017? Reúna y recuerde las alegrías del año (cumpleaños, logros, hitos) y penas (muertes, daños, errores). Termine con un abrazo grupal.

PARENTING POINTERS

How will you celebrate the end of 2017? Gather and remember the joys of the year (birthdays, accomplishments, milestones) and sorrows (deaths, hurts, mistakes). End with a group hug.



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MOMENTOS DE MARTRIMONIO

la Navidad ha terminado pero la visita y la compañía pueden continuar durante las vacaciones. Aunque generalmente es un momento feliz de unión familiar, también puede ser un momento en que el estrés causa mal genio. Sea consciente y misericordioso con su amada en estos días cuando pueda estar juntos en lugares muy cercanos

MARRIAGE MOMENTS

Christmas is over but the visiting and company may continue through the holidays. Although generally a happy time of family togetherness, it can also be a time when stress causes short tempers. Be mindful and merciful with your beloved these days when you might be together in extremely close quarters.

Around the Diocese

GOOD NEWS

Happy New Year from Catholic Forum! Listen to Catholic Forum every Sunday morning at 10:05 a.m. on WDEL 101.7 FM, 1150 AM and www.wdel.com. Next Sunday, January 7th, tune in to hear an interview with Deacon Hal Jopp, recently retired Director of the Office for Deacons for the Diocese of Wilmington. For photos, information regarding upcoming guests, podcasts and more, "Like" Catholic Forum on Facebook at www.facebook.com/catholicforum. Listen to past episodes of Catholic Forum online at cdow.org/communications or search "Catholic Forum" on Apple Podcasts or iHeartRadio podcasts.

AM AHL AND THE NIGHT VISITORS

Saint Anthony of Padua RC Church Presents "Amahl and the Night Visitors", by Gian Carlo Menotti on Sunday, January 7, 2018 at 4 PM. Amahl is a charming one act operetta about a 12 year old cripple boy who is visited by the Three Kings as they make their way to visit the Christ Child. It full of fun and frolic as Amahl questions and taunts the Three Kings. It's a perfect evening for the entire family.

Amahl—David Goodall

Morther—Andrea Arena

Balthazar—Marcel Sawyer

Kaspar—James Longacre

Melchoir—Daniel Terrazas

Page—Matthew Zimnoch

Choir and Choral Scholars of Saint Anthony Church
Dancers of the Wilmington Ballet, Louis L. Perazza,
Organist and Music Director

A \$10.00 donation is asked of the adults while children are admitted free. King Kaspar will give each child in attendance a Candy Cane !!!!

ST. THOMAS COLUMBIETTES 12374

MARCH FOR LIFE

St. Thomas the Apostle Knights of Columbus has chartered a bus for people of all ages, weather permitting, for the *March for Life* held on Friday, January 19th. There will be a stop at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception for those unable to make the March. Seats will be available on a first come basis. The only cost to the individual passenger is a tip for the bus driver. Please contact Theresa Collurafici at 12374Columbiettes@gmail.com or 302-322-2929 to sign up

ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION

St. Mary of the Assumption Early Education Open House is on Sunday, January 21, 2018 from 10am-12noon. Registration is from January 1st-February 9th. For More Information please call Karen Rombach at 302-239-7100 ext. 34.

SAVING GRACE CHRISTIAN BOOKSTORE

Saving Grace Christian Bookstore, located at 109 W Main St, Middletown, DE 19709 has in stock the St Joseph Missal, Church Advent candles, Advent calendars, Nativity sets, Rosary beads, and St Joseph Statues.

CATHOLIC PRIESTS OF THE DIOCESE OF WILMINGTON

"Catholic Priests of the Diocese of Wilmington" by Fr. Tom Peterman is now available to order as a great gift for Christmas, birthdays, Mother's Day, Father's Day, and more. The cost is \$50, which includes shipping and handling. To order and pay, you can email petermanpublication@gmail.com or to Rev. Thomas Peterman, 2505 Centerville Road, Wilmington DE 19808.

NORTHEAST CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Northeast Catholic College is pleased to announce that it will be offering a four-year \$8,000 scholarship for room and board to any freshman or transfer student who enrolls at Northeast Catholic College by August 15, 2018. The college is offering this award in an effort to make a quality, liberal arts education accessible to families who otherwise might not be able to afford it. The reduction in cost represents an \$8,000 discount for the fall 2018-2019 academic year and will be worth \$32,000 over four years. Northeast Catholic College is also still offering additional merit and need-based aid for the fall 2018 semester. For information on how to apply, please contact the admissions office at 603.456.2656 or admissions@NortheastCatholic.edu.

WILMINGTON HANDBELL ENSEMBLE

Delaware's premier auditioned bell choir, a sponsored ministry of St. Paul's United Methodist Church is pleased to announce their Winter 2017 schedule.

Friday, January 5 at 7:30 PM:
West Nottingham Presbyterian

For more information, visit our website at www.wilmingtonhandbellensemble.org.