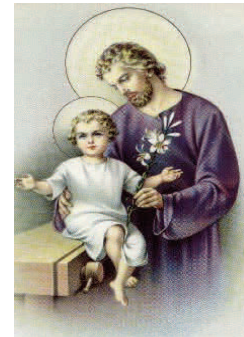


St. Joseph Catholic Community

St. Joseph Catholic Church * 1300 N. Main, Bluffton 46714
260-824-1380 * email: stjosephchurch@adamswells.com
website: stjosephchurchbluffton.org



Second Sunday of Advent December 9, 2018



Pastor: Fr. David Violi

Fr. David's direct email: frdavidvioli@gmail.com

Sacramental Emergency Number: 260-296-0511

Director of Liturgical Music: Sr. Rose Clare Ehrlich, CSA

Administrative Assistant/DRE: Michelle Paxton

Parish Council Members:

Mike Lautzenheiser, chairman– 820-0316

Dave Huss– 622-7531

Barb Ault, Secretary– 638-4725/ Beth Gordon– 694-6828

Jeff Miller– 812-272-3430/ Nancy Wagner– 260-273-1223

Finance Committee Members:

Doug Lehman– 824-0367

Rick Singer– 824-8009

Becky Biberstein– 565-4143

Jim Yonker– 824-0651

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Oscar Heyne– 273-1415

Doral Smith– 824-1484

Joe Baur– 824-1760

Dan Sudhoff– (317)-654-2075

Social Committee Members:

Jessica Seago– 273-3475/Ann Reifsteck– 824-1044

Carrie Onweller– 273-9734/ Jenny Esmond– 260-414-1969

Missy Huss– 820-0411/ Mary Ann Flowers– 824-1132

Rebecca Anderson– 273-3353/Tori Emrah– 622-1241

Welcome! We extend our hearts and hands to all who celebrate with us at St. Josephs. We would like to invite any guest to fill out the form below, if interested in becoming a registered member of this Parish.

Thank you for worshipping with us! Again Welcome, Bienvenidos, Benvenuto, Willkommen, Nno-nu, Byenveni!

----- (cut here) -----

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

e-mail address: _____

[] New Parishioners, please send a Parish Registration Form

[] We've Moved, here is our new information

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 8 - The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary - A Holy Day of Obligation -

7:30 a.m. Norma Bauman +

10:00 a.m. Madly Schortgen +

4:00 p.m. Confessions

4:35 p.m. Rosary

5:00 p.m. Viola Smith +

Sunday, December 9

- Second Sunday of Advent -

7:10 a.m. Rosary

7:30 a.m. Parish Family

9:40 a.m. Rosary

10:00 a.m. Jim & Dee Yonker Family

Monday, December 10

8:00 a.m. Barnard Hickert +

8:30 a.m. Rosary

Tuesday, December 11

7:00 a.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

8:00 a.m. Robert Lehman +

8:30 a.m. Rosary

8:30 a.m. Confession

Wednesday, December 12

6:25 p.m. Rosary

7:00 p.m. Living & Deceased of Leo Gilig Family

Thursday, December 13

8:00 a.m. Dolorose Schandler +

8:30 a.m. Rosary

Friday, December 14

8:00 a.m. Robert & Mary Ellen Geimer +

8:30 a.m. Rosary

Saturday, December 15

8:00 a.m. No Mass Intention

8:30 a.m. Rosary

4:00 p.m. Confessions

4:35 p.m. Rosary

5:00 p.m. Norbert Huseman +

Sunday, December 9

- Third Sunday of Advent -

7:10 a.m. Rosary

7:30 a.m. Leo Volk +

9:40 a.m. Rosary

10:00 a.m. Parish Family

MASS READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon., Dec. 10 - Second Week of Advent - Is 35:1-10/
Lk 5:17-26

Tues., Dec. 11 - St. Damasus I, Pope - Is 40:1-11/ Mt
18:12-14

Wed., Dec. 12 - Our Lady Of Guadalupe - Zec 2:14-
17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/ Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-
47

Thurs., Dec. 13 - St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr - Is
41:13-20/ Mt 11:11-15

**Fri., Dec. 14 - St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doc-
tor of the Church -** Is 48:17-19/ Mt 11:16-19

Sat., Dec. 15 - Sir 48:1-4,9-11/ Mt 17:9a,10-13

Sun., Dec. 16 - Third Sunday of Advent - Zep 3:14-
18a/ Phil 4:4-7/ Lk 3:10-18

Second Sunday of Advent - December 9, 2018 - Year C

The very start of our Gospel today (Luke 3:1-6) reminds us that Jesus' nativity is not only a salvific event, but also a historical one. In listing the civil and religious leaders of the day, St. Luke, as he often does, solidly inserts the reader of his gospel into the Palestinian and Roman history in which Jesus' life and ministry takes place. In understanding this history, we can begin to glimpse the excitement present in Israel at the time of Jesus' nativity. Holding the Old Testament prophecies (cf. Daniel 9) in their hearts, the people of Israel know that the time of the Messiah, whom they have awaited for centuries, is near, if not already before them. For this reason, the cry of John the Baptist begins to build excitement throughout all of Israel. The long-awaited Messiah is near.

The excitement of Israel for the coming of the Messiah is beautifully depicted for us in our first reading from the prophet Baruch (Bar 5:1-9). Baruch is an assistant to the prophet Jeremiah and, as with Jeremiah, lived during the time of the Babylonian exile. His prophecies, then, speak to an Israel who had been taken captive, exiled from their homeland, and lived in desolation. Though all seemed lost, Baruch reminds Israel that all hope is not lost if they place their trust in the Lord. He calls Israel to repent of their idolatrous ways and return to the Lord. The Lord, through the Messiah, will joyfully return Israel to their true homeland and, once again, make of them a great nation. Though this may have seemed impossible, Baruch reminds Israel that, by trusting in the Lord, all things become possible.

The joy of Israel that Baruch prophesies is captured today by the Psalmist (Psalm 127). "The Lord has done great things for us; We are filled with joy!" This same feeling of joy is arising in Israel just surely as the star arose above Bethlehem on Christmas Eve. The time is truly at hand. John the Baptist, crying out from the desert, only increases Israel's anticipation. This anticipation finds its fulfillment only in Jesus Christ. And, as this anticipation is with Israel in our Gospel today, so it must be with us everyday, especially this Advent season. Just as Jesus Christ, the Son of God, took on flesh and entered the world on Christmas Day, now we must prepare for Him to enter our hearts through the Holy Eucharist, His true presence, and to come again in glory at the end of time. As Israel responded to the call of repentance from John the Baptist, we to must respond to the call of repentance from our Lord ("*Repent, and believe in the Gospel.*" Mark 1:15).

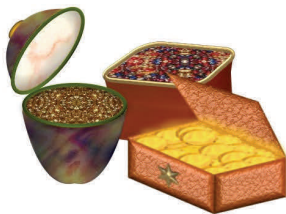
Our readings today remind us that Advent is truly a penitential time. Though we may face the temptation to move right ahead to the joy and celebration of Christmas, we mustn't lose sight of what we are celebrating. This Second Sunday of Advent reminds us that we celebrate something greater than a holiday: We celebrate a holy day as we welcome salvation Himself, Jesus Christ, into the world. And, just as He came into the world, so He wishes to come into our lives. Just as Jesus first entered the world in a time of great unrest, so He wishes to enter into our lives right now. He does not wish to wait until everything is perfect because that time will never come this side of heaven.

Jesus wishes to be with us right now in our trials, struggles, and mess. He enters into our lives to bring His peace, calm, and joy. In Advent, we spend this time preparing our hearts to welcome and enthrone Him, both as the Christ-child on Christmas Day and the Saviour who will come again in glory and majesty. May we welcome Jesus now into the messiness of our lives. We do this not by trying to have the perfect holiday, but by seeing Jesus in every moment of the day; When everything is going right and, most especially, when everything is going wrong.

Even in the midst their desolation, Israel finds hope in God. We, as followers of Jesus Christ, are called to do the same. Through daily personal prayer, prayer as a family, reading of the Sacred Scriptures and spiritual reading, reception of the Sacraments (especially Confession), attendance at Holy Mass, works of charity: In these ways, we can encounter Jesus Christ this Advent. And, every time that we encounter Jesus Christ, our life is changed. Entering this second week of Advent, what are we doing to prepare not simply for Christmas, but for Christ? How are we welcoming Him into our lives, even our messiness, right now? Christ is coming. May we always be prepared to receive Him anew. - Fr. David



Our Love & Prayers Go Out To... Bud & Sharon Miller, Genevieve Lohmuller, Becky Biberstein, Fern Britton, Evelyn Morrissey, Betty Meyer, David Carr, Ronnie & Bonnie Burns, Michael Green, Rick Cotterman, Frances Carr, Kelsey Peters, Tom Richhart, Carol Lochtefeld, Priscilla Rhodes, Tom Williams, Betty Anderson and John R. Smith.



SOUP'S ON!

Please gather together in the Social Hall for a soup dinner at 6:00p.m. and stay for the Advent Parish Mission- The Three Symbolic Gifts at 7:00p.m. December 6, 13 and 20th.

Advent Reconciliation-

On December 20, after the Mission, confessions will be offered from 7:30-8:30 p.m. For your convenience, there will be several Priests here.



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

CONFESSIONS

Fr. David will be in the Confessional after all Masses offering the Sacrament of Reconciliation through Sunday, December 23rd.



Happy Birthday Fr. David!
December 9



First of all, I just wanted to say thank you for all of your support! The hot chocolate sales was a huge success. The hot chocolate will be ready for pick up next weekend (December 15/16)! If you have not paid yet please have your payment ready for next weekend! Thank you again! Elisse Huss

PARISH CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER 2018

- Tues., Dec. 11 - Women's Christmas Party/Dinner - 6:00 p.m. Please bring a finger food/appetizer to share. All women of the Parish are welcome!
- Thurs., Dec. 13 - Advent Parish Mission- Enjoy a bowl of soup at 6:00 in the Social Hall and stay for the Parish Mission: The Three Symbolic Gifts - Frankincense, Symbol of Prayer- 7:00 p.m. Church.
- Sun., Dec. 16 - Juice/Milk & Donuts after 7:30 & 10:00 a.m. Masses served by the Knights of Columbus
- Thurs., Dec. 20 - Advent Parish Mission- Enjoy a bowl of soup at 6:00 in the Social Hall and stay for the Parish Mission: The Three Symbolic Gifts - Myrrh, Symbol of Death - 7:00 p.m. Church -
* Confessions immediately following- 7:30-8:30 p.m.
- The Parish Office will be closed December 24 through December 28; will be open Monday, December 31 and closed January 1; then open January 2 . . .
- Mon., Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve Family Mass- 5:00 p.m.
- Mon., Dec. 24 - St. Joseph Choir Christmas Concert- 9:30 p.m.
- Mon., Dec. 24 - Christmas Night Mass- 10:00 p.m.
- Tues., Dec. 25 - Christmas Mass- 9:00 a.m.
- Mon., Dec. 31 - Vigil Mass of Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God Mass- 5:00 p.m.
- Tues., Jan. 1- Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God Masses- 7:30 & 10:00 a.m.

WEEKEND OF December 15/16, 2018

CANTORS:

5:00 Sophie Emrah
7:30 Donna Geisel
10:00 Nancy Leitz (Choir Mass)

LECTORS:

5:00 Ginny Fenstermaker
7:30 Steve Wagner
10:00 Dan Geimer

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

5:00 Dan/Beth Gordon, Christine Zadulak
7:30 Dave/ Margie Huss, Sherry Makowski
10:00 Monica Harris, Larisa Sudhoff, Jeff Miller, Rick Singer, Sandy Smythe, Diana Cole

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY:

5:00 Volunteers
7:30 Dan/Sarah McCorkle
10:00 Dan/Larisa Sudhoff, Mike/Brenden Kobryn

SERVERS:

5:00 Brooklynn Huss, McKenna McNabb, Alex Mechling
7:30 Mitchel/Justin/Phillip Mayer
10:00 Kody Coyne, Eve/Gabe McElhaney

Collection for Weekend of December 1/2, 2018

Adult Envelopes- \$3,057.00
Child Envelopes-\$25.36
Loose- \$257.00
Religious Ed. Fund- \$50.00
Repair/Rainy Day Fund-
\$1,213.00
Christmas Flowers- \$10.00
Immaculate Conception- \$10.00
Total- \$4,622.36

Thank you for your gifts

The amount needed each week to make budget is \$5,116.40.

We are \$494.04 behind our
monthly budget.

Other Collections within our Parish:

Bolivian Mission- \$200.00
Diocesan Special Collections:
Campaign for Human Development-
\$20.00
Religious Retirement- \$1,707.00

Sunday, December 16 after 7:30 and 10:00 a.m. Masses
Juice/Milk and Donuts served by Knights of Columbus.



ST. JOSEPH WOMEN'S GROUP CHRISTMAS PARTY

Tuesday, December 11 - 6:00 p.m. in the Social Hall.
There will not be a gift exchange this year; we will
have finger foods and continue with our book,
Beyond Sunday, Chapter Two- The Church as a Field
Hospital. Please bring a finger food to share and
don't forget your book!



STEWARDSHIP CORNER

"I could not figure out why it was that it seemed to be that Catholics worshiped Mary, even though I knew worship of Mary was clearly condemned by the Church. Then I got an insight: Protestants defined worship as songs, prayers and a sermon. So when Catholics sang songs to Mary, petitioned Mary in prayer and preached about her, Protestants concluded she was being worshiped. But Catholics defined worship as the sacrifice of the Body and Blood of Jesus, and Catholics would never have offered a sacrifice of Mary nor to Mary on the altar. This was helpful food for thought."

- Kimberly Hahn, *Rome Sweet Home*

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Kris Thompson, Parishioner



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Dan Gordon, Tony Crowell
Michelle Adler, David Anthony,
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it's over
smile
because it happened.
-Dr. Seuss



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everywhere you go.
Let no one ever
come to you
without leaving
happier.

-Mother Teresa

Before you speak...

THINK!

T - is it true?
h - is it helpful?
i - is it inspiring?
n - is it necessary?
k - is it kind?