

St. Joseph Catholic Church

1300 N. Main, Bluffton 46714 (260)-824-1380 stjosephchurch@adamswells.com stjosephchurchbluffton.org

A PRAYER FOR THE Fourth Sunday of Advent

Jesus, you are constantly coming to your people,
even when we fail to see you.
In each and every moment that we are blessed
to recognize you here and now,
give us the courage to leap with joy at your coming.
Amen.



CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES - 5 PM AND 10 PM*

**THE CHOIR WILL LEAD CAROLS BEGINNING AT 9:30 PM*

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS - 9 AM

MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

DEC. 31ST - 5 PM | JAN. 1ST - 7:30 AM AND 10 AM

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

Welcome! We extend our hearts and hands to all who celebrate with us at St. Josephs.

------(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 21

- 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. Living & Deceased members of Dennis Heyne Family

Sunday, December 22

- Fourth Sunday of Advent -

- 7:10 a.m. Rosary
- 7:30 a.m. Parish Family
- 9:40 a.m. Rosary
- 10:00 a.m. Rose Marie & Robert Bates +

Monday, December 23

- 8:00 a.m. Nick Wyss +
- 8:30 a.m. Rosary

Tuesday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

- 5:00 p.m. Robert & Mary Haecker Family
- 9:30 p.m. St. Joseph Choir
- 10:00 p.m. Edward Bushee +

Wednesday, December 25 - Christmas Day

- 9:00 a.m. All Living & Deceased Priests of St. Joseph Church

Thursday, December 26 - Mass time change!

- 7:00 p.m. Ann Burk +
- 7:30 p.m. Rosary

Friday, December 27

- 8:00 a.m. Robert Bender +
- 8:30 a.m. Rosary

Saturday, December 28

- 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. David Paul Butler +

Sunday, December 29

- Fourth Sunday of Advent -

- 7:10 a.m. Rosary
- 7:30 a.m. Parish Family
- 9:40 a.m. Rosary
- 10:00 a.m. Cynthia Sailors +

MASS READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon., Dec. 23 - Fourth Week of Advent - St. John of Kanty, Priest - Mal 3:1-4,23-24/ Lk 1:57-66

Tues., Dec. 24 - Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Acts 13:16-17,22-25/ Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25 **Night:** Is 9:1-6/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14

Wed., Dec. 25 - The Nativity of the Lord; Christmas - Is 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5,9-14

Thurs., Dec. 26 - St. Stephen, The First Martyr - Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/ Mt 10:17-22

Fri., Dec. 27 - St. John, Apostle and Evangelist - 1 Jn 1:1-4/Jn 20:1a,2-8

Sat., Dec. 28 - The Holy Innocents, Martyrs - 1 Jn 1:5-2:2/ Mt 2:13-18

Sun., Dec. 29 - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph - Sir 3:2-6,12-14/ Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/ Mt 2:13-15,19-23

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - December 22, 2019

As we enter into these last few days of the Advent season, our joy becomes palpable. This time of preparation is about to give way to the advent of Jesus Christ to the world on Christmas Day. As the St. Luke reveals in our Gospel today, Jesus is Emmanuel, or “**God is with us.**” He comes into the world and into our lives to bring His peace and joy. May we use these next two days to continue our preparation, preparing for the coming of the Christ child. Jesus has come into the world for us so that we might have eternal life. He remains **with us** every step of the way and challenges us to become the Saints we have been called to be.

As we are just preparing to enter into the Christmas season, it may feel that it has already passed us by. Our secular and consumerist world has already shifted its focus to the next coming holiday even though Christmas Day is not yet here. And, when it does arrive, we are only beginning the Christmas season, or Christmastide. Our Christmas celebrations will continue throughout the twelve days of Christmas, which brings us to the Epiphany, or the coming of the Magi. Even then, Christmastide goes even further, ending only in the Baptism of the Lord the following weekend.

May we continue our celebration of this glorious day throughout all of Christmastide, for we celebrate not just a holiday, but one of the holiest days of our liturgical year as the Word was made flesh (John 1:14) and salvation entered the world. Throughout Christmastide, we also celebrate many beautiful feast days, including St. Stephen, St. John the Evangelist, the Holy Innocents, and the Holy Family. I invite you to join us throughout the next week in these liturgical celebrations at daily Mass.

Parish Updates

Our **interior lighting project** (completing the conversion of the lighting in the Sanctuary to LED fixtures) is facing an unexpected delay and **will not be able to be completed until after the New Year.** For the time being, we have been able to redirect several of the exterior Sanctuary spotlights to illuminate the front of the Sanctuary (near the Tabernacle). I apologize for these delays and thank you for your patience as we work to bring this project to completion.

After our inaugural **Young Adult Social** this past weekend, we will add this group as a regular monthly gathering to our parish schedule in the New Year. Starting in January, our parish **Young Adult Group** will meet **every third Sunday of the month from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM.** These gatherings offer a great chance to help build and strengthen community within our parish family. (*Reminder: Our **Knights of Columbus** meet every first Tuesday at 7:00 PM in the Parish Social Hall and our **St. Joseph Women's Group** meet every second Tuesday at 7:00 PM in the Parish Conference Room. New members are always welcome!*)

On **Thursday, January 9th**, we will offer a **Teaching Mass in the Church from 5:30 - 6:30 PM.** This is being offered as a part of our Rite of Christian Initiations for Adults (RCIA) Sessions and **all are invited to join us to learn more about the Mass.** (*Note: A “Teaching Mass” is not an actual Mass. Our daily Mass that day will be offered at its normal time: 8:00 AM. Instead, a “Teaching Mass” is a chance for us to walk-through, ask questions about, and explain the various parts of the Mass in a more in-depth manner.*)

Faithfully in Christ, Fr. David



Sharon Miller, Genevieve Lohmuller, Becky Biberstein, Evelyn Morrissey, Betty Meyer, David Carr, Ronnie & Bonnie Burns, Michael Green, Rick Cotterman, Frances Carr, Tom Richhart, Priscilla Rhodes, Carol Leitner, Pat Pfeifer, Troy Cook, Cheryl Jackson, Mary Ann Flowers, Sandy Arnold, Lynn Rickord, Jimmy Robbins, Jean Steele, Cindy Monticue, and Carol Campbell.

ABC STUDIO & ACTIVITY CENTER TUMBLING PROGRAM

We are so excited to be starting our next tumbling session in the gym here at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, January 13 - February 22, 2020. This will be a temporary space for the 2-six week sessions. Our studio will be offering a 20% discount for any St. Joseph Parishioners who would like to join us. Please let us know if you have any questions: Andrea Mann (260)433-3417 andrea.abcstudio@gmail.com

Registration forms may be found on the desk in the Church narthex.



REMINDER:

We will not have Religious Education class Sunday, December 29, 2019 and January 5, 2020 for Christmas Break.



Blessed

Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

Luke 1:42



Dec. 24- Christmas Eve Family Mass - 5:00 p.m.

Dec. 24- St. Joseph Choir Christmas Concert - 9:30 p.m.

Dec. 24- Christmas Vigil Mass - 10:00 p.m.

Dec. 25- Christmas Day Mass - 9:00 a.m.

PARISH CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

- Tues., Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve Family Mass - 5:00 p.m.
- Tues., Dec. 24 - St. Joseph Choir Christmas Concert - 9:30 p.m.
- Tues., Dec. 24 - Christmas Vigil Mass - 10:00 p.m.
- Wed., Dec. 25 - Christmas Day Mass - 9:00 a.m.
- **Thurs., Dec. 26 - Mass 7:00 p.m.** (not 8:00 a.m. as usual)
- Thurs., & Fr., Dec. 26/27 - Office Closed
- Sun., Dec. 29 - No Religious Ed. Classes; Christmas Break
- Mon., & Tues., Dec. 30/31 - Office Closed
- **Tues., Dec. 31 - Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Vigil - A Holy Day of Obligation - Mass - 5:00 p.m.**
- **Wed., Jan. 1, 2020 - Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary - A Holy Day of Obligation - Mass - 7:30 & 10:00 a.m.**
- Wed., Jan. 1, 2020 - Office Closed - Happy New Year!
- Thurs., Jan. 2, 2020 - Mass at River Terrace - 10:30 a.m.
- Sun., Jan. 5, 2020 - No Religious Ed. Classes; Christmas Break
- Sun., Jan. 19 - American Red Cross Blood Drive - 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

WEEKEND OF DECEMBER 28/29, 2019

CANTORS:

- 5:00 Marita Crawfis
- 7:30 Mike Morrissey
- 10:00 Nancy Leitz

LECTORS:

- 5:00 Ginny Fenstermaker
- 7:30 Ben Wagner
- 10:00 Dan Geimer

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

- 5:00 Kathy Marshall, Kevin or Jessica Seago, Michelle Paxton
- 7:30 Dave/Margie Huss, Barb Ault
- 10:00 Tammi Helm, Jeff Miller, Larisa Sudhoff, Diana Cole, Rick Singer

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY:

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

SERVERS:

- 5:00 Catherine Crawfis, Alex Mechling, Volunteer
- 7:30 Justin Mayer, Clayton Vachon, Abby Wagner
- 10:00 Quinn Dreiband, Grant Reifsteck, Volunteer

Please sign up on the sheet in the narthex if you are able to help minister at any of the Holy Day Masses this Christmas season.

Collection for Weekend of December 14/15, 2019

Adult Envelopes- \$3,598.00
Child Envelopes- \$13.31
Loose- \$218.00
Religious Ed. Fund- \$204.00
Repair/Rainy Day Fund- \$175.00
Christmas Flowers- \$75.00
Immaculate Conception- \$85.00
Donuts Donations- \$35.00
Total- \$4,403.31

Thank you for your gifts to St. Joseph's!

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

We are \$1,968.23 ahead of our monthly budget.

Other Collections within our Parish-

St. Vincent de Paul Fund- \$1,402.00

Diocesan Special Collections-

Campaign for Human Development- \$30.00

Religious Retirement- \$140.00

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"It is Christmas every time you let God love others through you. Yes, it is Christmas every time you smile at your brother and offer him your hand."

St. Teresa of Calcutta

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makes you the mother
of a dead child.



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Dr. Julayne Miller, Parishioner

Don't cry because
it's over
smile
because it happened.
-Dr. Seuss

To our men and women
in uniform...
past, present and future,



Thank you and
God Bless You!

Before you speak...

THINK!

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

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

-Mother Teresa