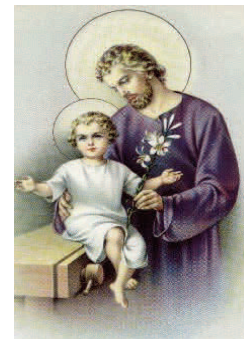


# St. Joseph Catholic Community

## First Sunday of Advent

### December 3, 21017



**St. Joseph Catholic Church**  
1300 N. Main, Bluffton 46714  
260-824-1380

email: [stjosephchurch@adamswells.com](mailto:stjosephchurch@adamswells.com)  
website: [stjosephchurchbluffton.org](http://stjosephchurchbluffton.org)

Pastor: Rev. Msgr. Pius N. Ilechukwu

Msgr. Pius' direct email: [stjosephchurch1875@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephchurch1875@gmail.com)

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

Administrative Assistant/DRE: Michelle Paxton

Director of Youth Ministry: Steve Higgins

Steve's email: [sehiggins78@yahoo.com](mailto:sehiggins78@yahoo.com)

#### Finance Committee Members:

Doug Lehman- 824-0367 / Rick Singer- 824-8009  
Becky Biberstein- 565-4143 / Jim Yonker- 824-0651

#### Parish Council Members:

Barb Ault- 638-4725 / John Horn- 433-5544  
Monica Harris- 450-9818 / Dave Huss- 622-7531  
Mike Lautzenheiser- 820-0316 / Sue Singer- 824-8009

#### Social Committee Members:

Jessica Seago, Chairperson- 273-3475  
Ann Reifsteck- 824-1044 / Carrie Onweller- 273-9734  
Jenny Esmond- 824-4312 / Missy Huss- 820-0411  
Tori Emrah- 622-1241 / Mary Ann Flowers- 824-1132  
Rebecca Anderson- 273-3353

#### Building Board Committee Members:

Oscar Heyne- 273-1415 / Doral Smith- 824-1484  
Joe Baur- 824-1760 / Dan Sudhoff- (317)-654-2075

**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 2

- 7:45 a.m. Morning Prayer
- 8:00 a.m. Evelyn Morrissey & Carolyn Flaughery by Mike & Jill Morrissey
- 8:30 a.m. Rosary
- 4:00 p.m. Confessions
- 4:35 p.m. Rosary
- 5:00 p.m. Maria Edwards + by Gloria & Gerry Riveros

### Sunday, December 3

#### - First Sunday of Advent -

- 7:10 a.m. Rosary
- 7:30 a.m. Parish Family
- 9:40 a.m. Rosary
- 10:00 a.m. Diane Humphrey by Friends

### Monday, December 4

- 7:45 a.m. Morning Prayer
- 8:00 a.m. Beatrice "Tucky" Hickert + George & Dianne Witwer Family
- 8:30 a.m. Rosary

### Tuesday, December 5

#### Eucharistic Adoration- 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.

- 7:45 a.m. Morning Prayer
- 8:00 a.m. Deceased member of Francisco Sanchez Family
- 8:30 a.m. Rosary
- 8:30 a.m. Confession

### Wednesday, December 6

- 6:25 p.m. Rosary
- 6:45 p.m. Evening Prayer
- 7:00 p.m. Deceased members of Sr. Rose Clare Ehrlich Family by Friends

### Thursday, December 7

- 7:45 a.m. Morning Prayer
- 8:00 a.m. Trent Patterson + by Genevieve Lohmuller
- 8:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. Adoration
- 6:30 p.m. Evening Prayer
- 6:45 p.m. Litany of the Eucharist/Benediction
- 7:00 p.m. Mass

### Friday, December 8 - Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

- 7:00 a.m. Richard & Madlyn Schortgen + by Kurt & Becky Biberstein
- 7:00 p.m. Jim Cole + by Diana Cole

### Saturday, December 9

- 7:45 a.m. Morning Prayer
- 8:00 a.m. Fr. Maurice O'Connell + by Steve & Michele Butler AND Mike Watson + Carmie Anderson
- 8:30 a.m. Rosary
- 4:00 p.m. Confessions
- 4:35 p.m. Rosary
- 5:00 p.m. Donald Smith Family by Don & Mary Lou Smith

### Sunday, December 10

#### - Second Sunday of Advent -

- 7:10 a.m. Rosary
- 7:30 a.m. Deceased members of Tim & Donna Geisel Family by Tim & Donna Geisel
- 9:40 a.m. Rosary
- 10:00 a.m. Parish Family

**Please pray for...** Bud & Sharon Miller, Ramon Villamil, Genevieve Lohmuller, Becky Biberstein, Fern Britton, James A. Yonker, Sr., Evelyn Morrissey, Betty Meyer, Ron Payne, David Carr, Ronnie & Bonnie Burns, Michael Green, Dorothy 'Dottie' Marbach and Rick Cotterman.

## 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT: DECEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup>, 2017 YR. B

### WE ARE ADVISED TO STAY AWAKE, BE VIGILANT, BE ON YOUR GUARD AND BE OBEDIENT

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ, I say, peace be with you all. In this weekend, we begin a new Liturgical year. Sunday readings are taken from Circle B and weekday readings are taken from Cycle 11. Thus, today also is the first Sunday of Advent, and thus we are beginning the season of Advent. We have 4 weeks to go. So be prepared to work hard and then be ready for the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. Prepare for this coming Christmas as if it is your first Advent and Christmas and will be your last Advent and Christmas here on earth. "Stay awake, be vigilant, be on your guard and be prepared for you do not know when the Lord is coming." **This reminds us of the cry of the early Christian: "MARANATHA!" 'Come Lord Jesus'.**

Think of this: Imagine, this is happening as you come home. In your house, you saw your 4 or 5 months' child crawling towards the railings of the upstairs and the railings have spaces such that the baby could crawl through any of them and fall from up there to the ground where you were standing, and the baby-sitter was on a chair sleeping deeply in the living room. And the baby was almost falling. How would you feel? Think about it. Imagine that it happened. What will you do? What would you think of the baby-sitter? So be awake. Do not allow yourself to be caught sleeping on duty by the Lord Jesus, when He comes. We need to be vigilant, awake, sober, prepared and waiting for His coming. **"MARANATHA!" 'Come Lord Jesus'.**

**In the First Reading: Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7;** Was pleading on our behalf, soliciting God to come down from heaven. Asking Him not to be angry with us, in spite of our sins. So, do not let the apologies of Prophet Isaiah on our behalf be in vain for you as a person. Recognize that we are the clay and God is the potter. If we are the clay, we are then weak, but we need to struggle, make effort to be good clay in the hands of God.

**Again, in the Second Reading: 1 Cor 1:3-9;** St. Paul was praying for us. Do you know that: Isaiah, all the prophets, St. Paul, and all the Saints are praying for us. Angels and Archangels are praying and interceding for us. The Church is praying for us. I am praying for you every day. I am sure you are praying for me too. Christ Himself is pleading for us before the Father. Since all these are praying for us, why can't we try and help ourselves and be saved? If anyone is not seen in heaven that person must blame himself or herself.

If you look around, you will see that some people have begun to clean and decorate their homes, their shops, their surroundings and streets. These are signs and good preparations for Christmas. As you prepare your homes, your places of work, your surroundings and streets, do not forget to prepare your soul which is the most important thing to be prepared at Christmas for the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.

**He, the Lord Jesus Christ admonished us in the Gospel; Mk 13:33-37:** He said, "Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come." Thus, prepare yourself and help others to prepare themselves by going to confession and confess your sins. Make peace with your neighbors. Forgive those who offended you. **"Let go"** the past and get prepared for the future. Help your wife, your husband, your children, your parents, and your neighbors to prepare well for the Lord's coming. **Remember our parish Confession on December 11<sup>th</sup> by 7:00 p.m. here in this Church.** Create awareness by helping others to know and go to Confession. Dust off, the dust of sin in your soul, so that Christ will be born in you, in your family and in your neighborhood. **Remember: "The Story of the Two Bottles".** Stay awake. Be ready and wait. **"MARANATHA!" 'Come Lord Jesus'.**

God bless you Rev. Msgr. Pius N. Ilechukwu

**The story of a woodcutter with unsharpened "Axe"**

**NB: 1. We plan for Pilgrimage to the Holy Land, to join in the "Foot Steps of Jesus Christ". So, consider seriously of joining us to the home land of Our Lord Jesus Christ. You will never regret going. It will help you to understand more vividly the Scripture passages. It is from April 23 to May 2, 2018. Thanks to Janet Lehman and Stacey Couillardot for coordinating this. The Brochure is now available. Pick up one at the Narthex, read and register. For more information and guidance contact Janet Lehman: 260-824-0367 or Stacey Couillardot: 260-466-1224 or Parish Office at 260-824-1380.**

**2. Advent Penance Service is fast approaching on Monday December 11, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. here in this Church. Please tell others, come you yourself and encourage others to come. So, get ready for it.**

God bless you. Rev. Msgr. Pius N. Ilechukwu

**"Heaven is for us all. I hope you are doing something about it".**



#### MEETING REMINDER!

**Tuesday, December 5** - Meet in Church for the Rosary at 6:40 and meeting to follow in social hall at 7:00.

#### From Death To New Life

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of Sr. Margaretta Ehrlich, sister of Sr. Rose Clare Ehrlich, died October 21, 2017

May God welcome her home,  
Fill her with peace and bless those who will miss her.

Eternal Rest Grant unto her O Lord, and let Perpetual light shine upon her. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in Peace. Amen.

**St. Joseph CCW Christmas Party**  
**Tuesday, December 12- 6:00 p.m. at Sassafras on Main**  
 In lieu of a gift exchange, we will be taking up a donation for a needy family.  
 If you plan to attend, please call the office at 824-1380 or email: [stjosephchurch@adamswells.com](mailto:stjosephchurch@adamswells.com) before December 8th. All women of the Parish are welcome!

#### ST. JOSEPH'S 2017 PARISH CALENDAR

- Thurs., Dec. 7, 2017 - All Day Adoration- 8:30a.m. - 7:00 p.m. / Evening Prayer- 6:30 p.m. / Litany of the Eucharist/ Benediction- 6:45 p.m. / Mass- 7:00 p.m.
- Fri., Dec. 8- The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary- A Holy Day of Obligation- Masses at 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
- Mon., Dec. 11- St. Joseph's Advent Penance Service- 7:00 p.m.
- Sun., Dec. 17- Coffee & Donuts after 7:30 & 10:00 a.m. Masses by Knights of Columbus
- Sat./Sun., Dec. 23 & 24- 4th Sunday of Advent Masses- 5:00 p.m., 7:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.
- Sun., Dec. 24 & Sun., Dec. 31- No Religious Ed. Classes/ Christmas break
- Sun./Mon., Dec. 24 & 25- The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)- Family Mass Dec. 24- 5:00 p.m. / Christmas Night Mass- 10:00 p.m. / Mon., Dec. 25- Christmas Day Mass- 9:00 a.m.
- Sat./Sun., Dec. 30 & 31- Usual Mass Times
- Mon., Jan. 1, 2018- Mass 9:00 a.m.-(Not a Holy Day of Obligation)

#### WEEKEND OF DECEMBER 9/10, 2017

##### CANTORS:

5:00 Nancy Leitz  
 7:30 Mike Morrissey  
 10:00 Jay Crisp

##### LECTORS:

5:00 Ginny Fenstermaker  
 7:30 Steve Wagner  
 10:00 Marita Crawfis

##### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

5:00 Kevin or Jessica Seago, Christine Zadyak, Missy Huss  
 7:30 Barb Ault, Jill Morrissey, Sherry Makowski  
 10:00 Diana Cole, Ann Reifsteck, Monica Harris, Steve Higgins, Dan Geimer

##### MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY:

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

##### SERVERS:

5:00 Darren or Corey or Brooklynn Huss, Wyatt Girod, McKenna McNabb  
 7:30 Oriana Makowski, Mitchel/Justin Mayer  
 10:00 Quinn Dreiband, Catherine Crawfis, Kody Coyne

#### Collection for Weekend of November 25/26, 2017

Adult Envelopes- \$2,983.00  
 Child Envelopes- \$15.00  
 Loose- \$224.00  
 Religious Ed. Fund- \$0  
 Repair/Rainy Day Fund- \$10.00  
**Total- \$3,232.00**

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

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

We are \$1,884.40 behind budget from last week and \$1,950.73 behind for the month of November.

**Other Collections within our Parish-** Farm Land Rent- \$4,500.00

**Diocesan Special Collections:**  
 Campaign for Human Development- \$55.00



#### KARING FOR KIDS ANGEL TREE PROJECT

Please return all the gifts, unwrapped, by December 5th.  
**THANK YOU!!!**

#### SCRIPTURE/MASS READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Mon., Dec. 4 - 1st Week of Advent - St. John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church - Is 2:1-5/ Mt 8:5-11**  
**Tues., Dec. 5 - Is 11:1-10/ Lk 10:21-24**  
**Wed., Dec. 6 - St. Nicholas, Bishop - Is 25:6-10a/ Mt 15:29-37**  
**Thurs., Dec. 7 - St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church - Is 26:1-6/ Mt 7:21,24-27**  
**Fri., Dec. 8 - The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Gn 3:9-15,20/ Eph 1:3-6,11-12/ Lk 1:26-38**  
**Sat., Dec. 9 - St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin - Is 30:19-21,23-26/ Mt 9:35-10:1,5a,6-8**  
**Sun., Dec. 10 - Second Sunday of Advent - Is 40:1-5,9-11/ 2 Pt 3:8-14/ Mk 1:1-8**

#### STEWARDSHIP CORNER

*All that we have belongs to God.*

"The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it" (Psalm 24:1).



**St. Joseph Council  
Of Catholic Women**



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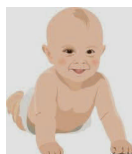


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It's a child, not a  
choice...  
Abortion does not make  
you "un-pregnant", it  
makes you the mother  
of a dead child.

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it's over  
**smile**  
because it happened.

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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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John Horn MS, MBA- Parishioner

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

-Mother Teresa