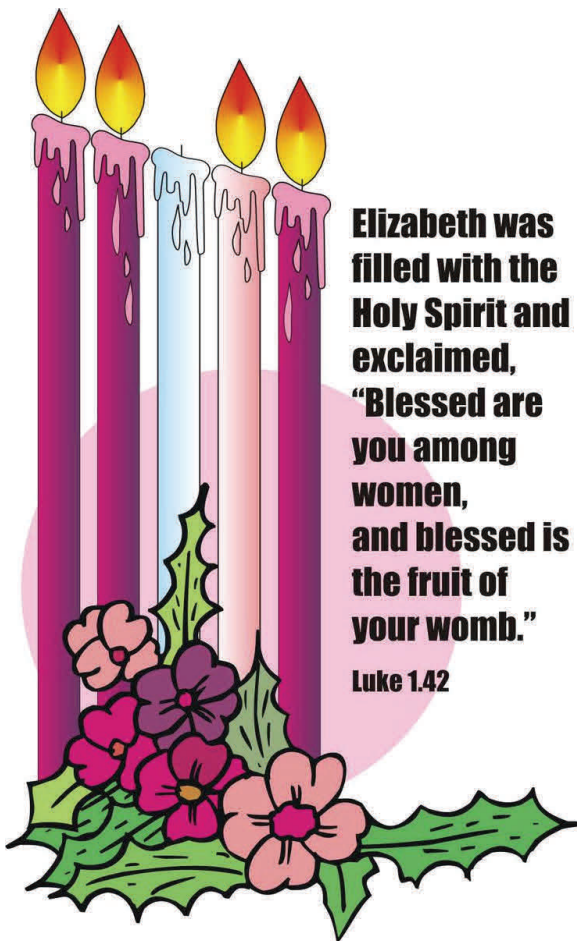


St. Joseph Catholic Community

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



Fourth Sunday of Advent December 23, 2018



**Elizabeth was
filled with the
Holy Spirit and
exclaimed,
“Blessed are
you among
women,
and blessed is
the fruit of
your womb.”**

Luke 1:42

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

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Rick Singer– 824-8009

Becky Biberstein– 565-4143

Jim Yonker– 824-0651

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Doral Smith– 824-1484

Joe Baur– 824-1760

Dan Sudhoff– (317)-654-2075

Social Committee Members:

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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

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

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 22

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. Delfin Rios +

Sunday, December 23

- Fourth Sunday of Advent -

7:10 a.m. Rosary

7:30 a.m. Parish Family

9:40 a.m. Rosary

10:00 a.m. Bob & Rose Marie Bates +

Monday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

8:00 a.m. Deceased members of Diane Humphrey Family

5:00 p.m. Bob & Mary Haecker Family

9:30 p.m. St. Joseph Choir- Christmas Carols

10:00 p.m. Christmas Night Mass-Edward Bushee+

Tuesday, December 25 - Christmas Day

9:00 a.m. Terry Flowers & Angie Flowers-Morris+

Wednesday, December 26

6:25 p.m. Rosary

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

Thursday, December 27

8:00 a.m. Clarissa & Michael Kobryn

8:30 a.m. Rosary

Friday, December 28

8:00 a.m. Dale Pearson

8:30 a.m. Rosary

Saturday, December 29

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. Robert & Mary Ellen Geimer +

Sunday, December 30

- The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph -

7:10 a.m. Rosary

7:30 a.m. Parish Family

9:40 a.m. Rosary

10:00 a.m. Rose Mary Helm +

MASS READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon., Dec. 24 - Late Advent Weekday - Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5,8b-12,16/ Lk 1:67-79

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

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

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

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

Sat., Dec. 29 - Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord, St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr - 1 Jn 2:3-11/ Lk 2:22-35

Sun., Dec. 30 - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph - 1 Sm 1:20-22,24-28/ 1 Jn 3:1-2,21-24/ Lk 2:41-52

Fourth Sunday of Advent - December 23, 2018 - Year C

A special "Welcome Home!" to all of our university students. May you have a blessed and relaxing break and we look forward to rejoicing together in the Nativity of our Lord on Christmas Day.

With Christmas so near, our anticipation for this joyous day may be uncontainable. And, it should be. In just one more day, we will celebrate together that greatest of days on which light entered into the world in that most subtle and yet perfect of ways as God became man. As God has become a part of the human family, we are called to be a part of the family of God for all eternity. As we anticipate the celebration of the Incarnation of Jesus Christ, we find ourselves right here on the Fourth Sunday of Advent. Just as we may be making our last minute preparations for the holiday, so we also have the chance these last few hours to prepare for the Holy Day.

Serene as our Nativity scenes may often seem, we mustn't forget that the Christ-child entered into a world of noise and struggle. He entered precisely for this reason: to bring peace to a world so desperately in need of it. And, He comes to do the same today. Many problems still exist within our world and peace, so often, seems to be lacking. Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, is the only one who can bring His true peace into our world and our lives.

As we continue in this Advent season and prepare for the coming of Christ into our hearts, we mustn't be lost in the noise of the world. We may find ourselves caught up in preparation for Christmas through shopping, parties, etc... As overwhelming as these moments can often become, they are not in themselves evil; they can be used for good. So often, they are truly moments that can bring great joy and love into our lives. To do this, however, these moments must always be based in and point us to the Christ-child. For it is in Him that we see what is missing in our world: simplicity, innocence, and love. By keeping Christ as the very heart of our Christmas celebration, the noise of the world is transformed into a joyful noise made to the Lord.

Our readings for this Fourth Sunday of Advent remind us that, though Christmas is only hours away, our time of preparation continues even still. We must make use of every moment in preparing the way to our hearts for Jesus Christ and to keep Him at the very heart of everything that we do.

In our first reading (Micah 5:1-4), the prophet Micah reminds Israel of the coming of the Messiah. Micah, himself an outsider to Jerusalem, has entered the holy city and charged Israel with unfaithfulness to the Lord. For their transgressions, he prophesies the destruction of Jerusalem. To the Israelites, Micah's words calls to mind feelings of despair and sadness as they are reminded of the destruction of the Temple during the Babylonian exile. For this reason, the coming of the Messiah, the Son of David, is a message of hope for "he shall be peace;" a peace long-awaited and desired by Israel.

We find, with great anticipation, this message of hope fulfilled in our Gospel reading (Luke 1:39-45). Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cries out in praise of our Blessed Mother (words we know so well from the *Hail Mary*) as she carries our Lord in her womb (an ancient title of Mary is the *Theotokos*, or, literally, Mother of God; Mary as *Theotokos* is the Holy Day we will celebrate on January 1st). As King David danced and leaped before the Ark of the Covenant (2 Samuel 6:1-15), which bears the Ten Commandments (Word of God), the Manna (Bread from Heaven), and the priestly staff of Aaron, John the Baptist leaps in the womb of Elizabeth as Mary approaches, as she carries in her womb He who is the Word of God (John 1:1). the Bread from Heaven (John 6:30-40), and the eternal High Priest (Hebrews 4:14-16). Peace Himself is about to enter into the world and the world can barely contain itself.

May we, in these last moments of Advent, share in the excitement of the coming of Christ. And, as Christians who are called to welcome the Lord anew each and everyday of our lives, may we share in this excitement always. Salvation is near and soon to be here. Let us make use of every single moment to prepare our hearts to receive Him. Praised be Jesus Christ, now and forever. In Christ, Fr. David

As we approach our Christmas liturgies, please extend an invitation to all those you know to join us in our worship of the Lord and the Sacrifice of the Mass on Christmas Eve and Day. What greater gift can there be than to join together in praise and worship of God on this most joyous of days.



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.

MINISTER'S FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON MASSES...

There are still some open spots for trained ministers to help serve at the Christmas Masses. Please check the sign up board in the narthex and help where you can. Thank you!



INFORMATION
TO
COME...



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Wishes to Thank everyone for their generous donations to the Pancake/Sausage breakfast held this past November. They purchased 4 cases or 48 coats for boys and girls from surrounding schools.



Mother Mary, pray for us, that we might be inspired by the way you received your life and God's. Draw us close to your Son, that we might trust Him with our lives, as He learned to trust His Father by His trust in you. Amen.

PARISH CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER 2018/JANUARY 2019

- No Religious Education Classes/ Christmas Break Sunday, December 23 and Sunday, December 30, 2018; classes resume Sunday, January 6, 2019
- 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.
- Thurs., Jan. 3, 2019 - All Day Adoration, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament - 8:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. (Morning Mass at 8:00 a.m.). Please sign up on the sheet in the narthex.

WEEKEND OF December 29/30, 2018

CANTORS:

5:00 Marita Crawfis
7:30 Mike Morrissey
10:00 Jay Crisp

LECTORS:

5:00 Glenn Ryan
7:30 Carol Butler
10:00 Dan Geimer

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

5:00 Christine Zadyak, John Horn, Twilla Herr
7:30 Jill Morrissey, Sherry Makowski, Barb Ault
10:00 Diana Cole, Sandy Smythe, Larisa Sudhoff, Rick Singer, Ann Reifsteck

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY:

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

SERVERS:

5:00 Wyatt Girod, Catherine Crawfis, McKenna McNabb
7:30 Brendan/Spencer McCorkle, Clayton Vachon
10:00 Kody Coyne, Grant Reifsteck, Volunteer

Collection for Weekend of December 15/16, 2018

Adult Envelopes- \$3,630.00
Child Envelopes-\$15.50
Loose- \$167.76
Religious Ed. Fund- \$247.00
Repair/Rainy Day Fund-
\$135.00
Christmas Flowers- \$500.00
Immaculate Conception- \$25.00
Votive Candles- \$73.25
St. Joseph CCW Reimb- \$20.00
Spiritual CDs- \$3.00
Total- \$4,816.51

The amount needed each week to
make budget is \$5,116.40.
We are \$272.73 behind our
monthly budget.

Other Collections within our Parish:

St. Vincent de Paul Fund- \$779.00
31st ABA- Payment #10- \$72.75
Diocesan Special Collections:
Religious Retirement- \$400.00

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

AM I ALL IN?

2019 Rekindle the Fire Men's Conference
Saturday, February 16, 2019
Century Center, South Bend, IN
Featured Speakers:

Scott Hahn, PH.D., Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers
Fr. Don Calloway and Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades
Registration forms and more information may be found in the narthex. You may also register on line at REKINDLETHEFIRE.NET.



ALL DAY ADORATION EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Thursday, January 3, 2019 - 8:30a.m. - 7:00 p.m. /
Litany of the Eucharist/Benediction- 6:45 p.m. /
Mass at 7:00 p.m. Please sign up on the sheet in the narthex
and come spend an hour with Jesus in quiet prayer.

Remember! With God all things are possible! Luke 1:37

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Bluffton, IN 46714



Sam Haiflich, Parishioner
St. Aloysius Parish, Yoder, IN

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Kris Thompson Cell # 820-2333
Kent Thompson Cell # 307-6584

Kris Thompson, Parishioner



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you "un-pregnant", it
makes you the mother
of a dead child.

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



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God Bless You!

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Attorneys

Dan Gordon, Tony Crowell
Michelle Adler, David Anthony,
And Matt Hayes

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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?