



January 28, 2024

SAINT JOSEPH

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PARISH INFORMATION

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Josephite Website

www.josephite.com

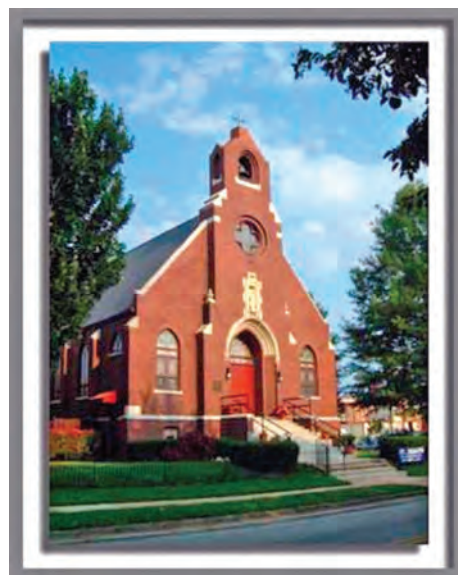
Rectory Office Hours

Tuesday - Friday
9:30 to 12:00 noon &
12:30 to 3:30 pm

Office is closed on Monday

Bulletin Deadline

All bulletin requests
are due by Monday
2:00 pm - Email to
stjosephalexva@gmail.com



Electronic Giving: For more information or to sign up for electronic giving to St. Joseph, go to the website of FAITHDIRECT at www.faithdirect.net. Our parish code is VA561.



Sunday Masses

8:30 am & 11:00 am

Livestream for 11:00 am Mass only

Weekdays (In Chapel)

Monday: 7:00 pm - Holy Hour & Novena to St. Joseph

Tuesday: 7:00 pm - Mass

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday:
8:30 am - Mass

Confessions: Sundays, 8:00 am & 10:30 am and upon request

Baptisms: See inside of the bulletin for the schedule of the Baptism classes. Baptism will be scheduled by the Deacon.

Marriage: Please contact the Rectory at least six months prior to your desired wedding date. Do not set dates until you have a meeting with Deacon or Father.

RCIA: Becoming a Catholic: Are you interested in becoming a Catholic? Do you know someone who is or who has mentioned it to you? Have them contact Janell Cline.

New Parishioners: We would like to extend a warm welcome to new members of our congregation. Call the Rectory, or email stjosephalexva@gmail.com. Register online, www.stjosephva.org.

Our Mission at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, a historically African American Catholic church... is to praise the Lord and embrace the future while engaging and transforming the community.

Our Values are:

Catholic Spirituality Stewardship Fellowship Compassion
Inclusion Heritage Serving the Community Family

All are welcome!

"Our sole wish is to do the will of God." — Mother Mary Lange

Mass Intentions – Week of January 28, 2024

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. For the People of Saint Joseph's
 Sunday: 11:00 a.m. Kara and Ray Butt
 Monday: 7:00 p.m. Holy Hour & St. Joseph Novena
 Tues. 7:00 p.m. Barbara Wanski
 Wed: 8:30 a.m. Mervish Family
 Thurs: 8:30 a.m. Chris and John Erfort Families
 Friday: 8:30 a.m. Deacon Bill Strathmann
 Sunday: 8:30 a.m. For the People of Saint Joseph's
 Sunday: 11:00 a.m. Fr. Fest by Pat Hilgard

Mark Your Calendar

Jan 30: 7:00 p.m. Social Justice Meeting in the Parish Hall

January 31: 7:00 p.m. Faith Formation/Bible Studies

February 1: 7:00 p.m. Gospel Choir Rehearsal in Hall

---- Movie *"The Chosen"* season 4, at movie theaters

February 2 - 6:00 p.m. Chorale Choir Rehearsal in Hall

February 4: Blessing of the Throats at both Masses

-- National Day of Prayer - African American Family

February 7 --7:00 p.m. Faith Formation/Bible Studies

February 8 -- 7:00 p.m. Gospel Choir Rehearsal in Hall

February 9 -- 6:00 p.m. Chorale Choir Rehearsal in Hall

Feb 11: Sale of Wood Carvings from the Holy Land

--- Mardi Gras fundraiser by Junior Daughters

Feb. 14 – ASH WEDNESDAY: Day of fast and abstinence: 2 services here:

-12:10 p.m. Service with distribution of Ashes

-7:00 p.m. Mass with Distribution of Ashes.

--- No Faith Formation/Bible Studies tonight

February 15 -- 7:00 p.m. Gospel Choir Rehearsal in Hall

February 16: 6:00 p.m. Chorale Choir Rehearsal in Hall

---- 7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross/Confessions

Feb. 18: after Mass Celebrating our local Black writers.

February 21 -7:00 p.m. Faith Formation/Bible Studies

February 28 -- 7:00 p.m. Faith Formation/Bible Studies

Mar 2: Diocesan Men Conf. at St. Joseph in Herndon

Mar 9: Diocesan Women Conf. at St. Joseph in Herndon

Upcoming Special Collections

Today -- For the Church in Latin America

February 4 -- Josephite Share In Mission Monthly Appeal

February 11 -- The Arlington Catholic Newspaper

February 14 -- For the Church in Eastern Europe

February 25 -- Black and Indian Mission Collection

March 3 -- Josephite Share In Mission Monthly Appeal



PARISH SICK AND SHUT- INS We list them here so that we not only keep them in our prayers, but remember them with occasional cards, phone calls and visits. They are Herve &

Betsy Aitken, Sr. Katherine Brent OSP, Phyllis Bickham, Florence Calloway, Maria Calloway, Theresa Carroll, Juanita Carter, Maurice Crump, Doretha Delandro, Helen Desfosses, Therese Didon, John Cannady, Dorothea Campbell, Vernessa Carter, Hazel Edelin, Bobby Giggetts, Patricia Hilgard, Harold Jackson Sr., Antionette Jones, Calvin & Dora Jones, Ed Jones, Ben McCarter, Bro Sean McLaughlan, Linwood Smith, Brenda Stewart, Don & Gwen Washington, Julia Williams, and Leander Wick.

Baptism Preparation Class for Parents and Godparents:

The next Baptism preparation class is February 6 in the Parish Hall. Class dates after that are March 5, April 2, May 7 etc. All classes take place in the Parish Hall at 6:00 p.m. Please note: **You must email the rectory to register for these classes and then you will receive a confirmation email allowing you to attend.**

FAITH FORMATION/BIBLE STUDIES PROGRAM Please contact Desiree Brooks, 571 212-8923 or email desinmk2@cox.net on how to register and join us by Zoom this Wednesday at 7 p.m. Our format is we open the session allowing anyone to ask questions about our faith, after discussing that, we watch a video then have a discussion on what we have seen. Sessions are from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Men's Conference 2024 - Renewed in Christ: Reflecting His Light to the World, Saturday, March 2, 2024, Join Bishop Burbidge and men from across the Diocese of Arlington at the 2024 Diocesan Men's Conference! \$65.00 through February 1, 2024. \$80.00 after February 1, 2024, arlingtondiocese.org/men

Fall Prevention" Event Senior Services of Alexandria and At-Home in Alexandria are teaming with the Northern Virginia Falls Prevention Alliance for a special Fall Prevention workshop February 21, 1-3 pm at Beatley Central library, 5005 Duke Street. The event will include screening of the documentary *"Saving Claire"* about one woman's life after a fall, followed by a panel discussion on the importance of fall prevention. Register for this free event by emailing events@seniorservicesalex.or or call 703-836-4414, ext. 110.

Women's Conference 2024 - Behold, I Make All Things New, Saturday, March 9, 2024- Both events, Men's and women's conference will be held at St. Joseph Church in Herndon, 750 Peachtree St. **Both conferences have the same cost and early registration.**

Knights of Columbus Free Throw Competition – Friday, Feb. 2, at 6 p.m., Basilica School of St. Mary's Gym. Join us for the Free Throw Competition on Friday, February 2. Children, ages 9 through 14, are encouraged to compete in this event and potentially move on to the Knights of Columbus district and state events. This is open to all students from St. Joseph's and the Basilica of Saint Mary's CCD students. All participants are required to fill out the free throw entry form and permission slip. Click [here](#) for more details and to register.

AARP Tax Prep Aid. This program provides free federal tax return preparation and e-filing by volunteers certified by the IRS beginning in the first week in February (Mason District Government Center opens January 29). The eleven Northern Virginia centers also prepare Virginia returns, and some sites have counselors qualified to prepare Maryland and DC returns. Counselors handle almost all forms of income. Although there are no income limits, clients are generally low -and middle- income taxpayers.

Monday Join the celebration for Mother Lange January 30, 9:30am at St. Francis Academy Community Center, 501 East Chase St., Baltimore, Md. Archbishop Lori will celebrate the elevation of Mother Mary Lange to Venerable and Catholic Schools Week on the historic grounds of St. Frances Academy founded by Mother Lange in 1828.

Mardi Gras Fundraiser- The Jr. Daughters are planning a fundraiser on Sunday February 11 after both Masses. There will be breakfast after 8:30am Mass and Lunch after 11:00am Mass. Proceeds from this fundraiser will be used to pay travel expenses for the Junior Conference in Norfolk Virginia in April.

Blessing of Throats. The Feast of Saint Blaise is February 3, and is the traditional day for the blessing of throats. Here at St. Joseph's, we will bless throats after both Masses next Sunday, February 4.

Why do we celebrate Black History Month-Carter G. Woodson developed the idea for Negro History Week to promote the history, culture and achievements of African Americans and other people of color worldwide. Designed to coincide with Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass' celebratory birthdays, Woodson launched Negro History Week in February of 1926 as a coordinated effort to develop lessons and encourage the teaching of Black history across the nation's communities and public schools. Woodson, the son of former slaves who became the second African American to earn a Ph.D. from Harvard University, recognized the importance of establishing an initiative that could be celebrated annually and on a national scale.

Black History Month events

Sunday, February 4. National Day of Prayer for African and African American families-all families are invited to join. **The Prayer is in the electronic version of this bulletin.** Plan now to have your family gather on this day for family prayer.

- **Sunday, February 18.** Celebrating local Black Writers after both Masses in the Parish Hall.

- **Sunday, February 25** - Representatives from the Divine Nine traditionally African American Fraternities and Sororities will be here to tell us more about them and their history.

February 2 is the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord and is also known as the World Day for Consecrated Life in which we honor those men and women who dedicate their lives to God as religious nuns, brothers, priests, and monks. Some live in monasteries, convents, rectories and serve the Lord either in a cloistered, closed life or in active ministry as do the Josephites and the Daughters of Saint Paul. On that day let us remember them all in prayer as they do us. Also on this day the Church blesses candles which will be used through the coming year.

2024 Bishop's Lenten Appeal. The 2024 BLA mailing was recently sent out to all parishioners in the Diocese. The theme this year is shared with the theme of our Diocesan Jubilee: ***"Behold I make all things new."*** After reflecting upon all the gifts God has given you, please prayerfully consider what your pledge will be to this annual Lenten appeal. The programs your gift supports is included in your mailing. Everyone cannot give the same gift, but everyone can give something. *Lent begins February 14, Ash Wednesday.*

Partners in FAITH™



Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith.

January 2024

St. Joseph Church

Director of Religious Education



Thoughtful Moments

St. Marguerite Bourgeoys

Born at Troyes, France in 1620, St. Marguerite desired early on to become a missionary. A friend introduced her to the mayor of Ville Marie (now Montreal, Canada) and, at his invitation, St. Marguerite traveled to Canada to teach the children of the colony. She was later joined by several women – all consecrated to God and devoted to teaching and Works of Mercy. In 1676, she gained approval for her order, the Congregation of Notre-Dame de Montreal.



Fishers of Men

Some of the first apostles were fishermen working in the Sea of Galilee. The fish there were known for their quality and commanded a high price. Next time you eat fresh fish, remember Peter and Simon, James and John, the hard-working fishermen who left their boats to follow Jesus.

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has passed away, behold, the new has come"
(2 Corinthians 5:17).



Shape children's hearts with virtues

A key element of Catholic parenting is to shape the hearts of our children, not just manage their behavior. One way to shape a child's heart is to offer opportunities to grow in virtue:

Modesty: "Modesty protects the intimate center of a person. It means refusing to unveil what should remain hidden"

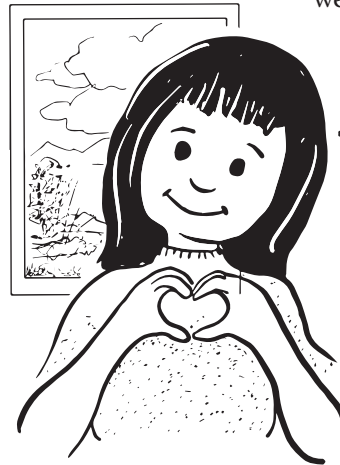
(*Catechism of the Catholic Church* (CCC), #2521). Modesty awakens in youngsters a respect for the human person. Teach them to dress, speak, and take in entertainment that is wholesome, uplifting, and respectful of themselves and others.

Faithfulness: When children see that their parents are faithful to one another, for example, they intuit that

faithfulness or fidelity means to act in a way that honors a commitment. Children may not always hear what we say, but they are influenced by what they see us do.

Meekness: Meekness is not timidity. It fuels self-control. St. Thomas Aquinas cautioned against expressing physical anger because it makes anger outsized. Guide and model how to use meekness to manage anger. Meekness will help prevent evil from ruling actions.

Charity: "If I...have not love, I gain nothing" (1 Corinthians 13:3). Charity is giving love without an expectation of receiving in return. Teach children to put others' needs first. They will find that as they grow in charity, they will be happier and more joy-filled.



Why Do Catholics Do That ?

As a Sacrament, Baptism conveys grace and the "washing away" of sin and the "rebirth" of the baptized as a child of God. It starts us on the surest path to salvation: "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved; whoever does not believe will

Why do Catholics have infants baptized?



be condemned" (Mark 16:16).

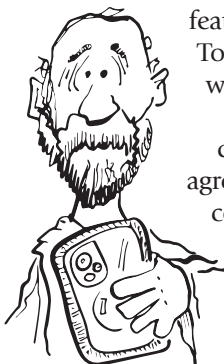
Catholic parents, desiring the best for their children, baptize them as infants, believing it will give them the best chance of true joy in this life and eternal life in the next.

If the saints had social media, what would they post?

Is there a “holy” way to use social media? Consider these suggestions from the saints:

To friend or unfriend? St. Teresa of Ávila cautioned that parents “be very careful whom they allow to mix with their children when young.” Although socially outgoing and fun-loving, she didn’t try to be liked by everyone, but sought the close friendships with those who encouraged her in holiness.

“Kind comments, only.” St. Philip Neri advised someone who gossiped to pluck a chicken and scatter the feathers in the wind. Those far-flung



feathers were like rumors – impossible to take back. Today, he would warn us to be careful what we post; who knows how many will see it.

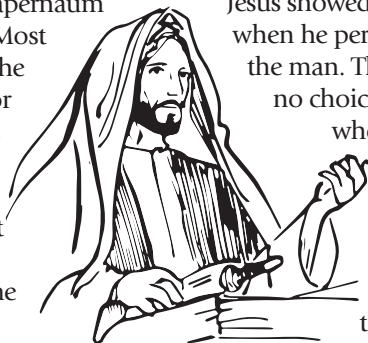
Disagree, but charitably: St. Thomas Aquinas debated often and won admiration, if not agreement, from his adversaries for his respectful conduct. “We must love [those who agree and disagree]...for they help us in the finding of [the truth].” For those in online debates, he would advise all to respond with charity and humility while still seeking the Truth.

Scripture LESSON

Mark 1:21-28, Jesus is no ordinary teacher

In this Gospel reading, we read that Jesus entered the synagogue at Capernaum with His apostles to teach. Most teachers would draw from the writings of other scholars for authority, and would begin, “Thus says the Lord...” but Jesus said, “I tell you...” As God, He already knew what the Scriptures meant without leaning on someone else’s teaching.

Jesus taught as one who had the authority of God and that astonished His listeners. Even the unclean spirits who were torturing a man at the synagogue recognized Jesus as “the Holy One of Israel.” Clearly, this was



no ordinary teacher!

Jesus showed His authority again when he performed an exorcism on the man. The unclean spirits had no choice but to obey Him when he commanded them to depart, despite their reluctance.

What can a parent do? Jesus shows us that God’s power and love are greater than any evil. Teach children that they can talk to Jesus about anything that happens, good or bad. At the same time, stress that Jesus is God and deserves to be worshipped and obeyed.

Parent TALK

Our busyness was crowding out family time. Between homework, practices, and playdates, we hardly ever had family dinner or attended Mass together. One Sunday when my daughter expected to skip Mass for a soccer tournament, I realized we needed a reboot.

That Saturday night we gathered around the table. I lit a candle and announced that Family Day had begun. I said that God wants us to keep Sunday holy, so Family Day starts at sundown on Saturday and goes through Sunday.

Now Sunday morning begins with church music while we dress for Mass. There are muffins or coffee cake made the night before so we can enjoy them and still observe the Communion fast. Then we attend Mass together and have a meal afterwards.

Then, whatever we do during the day, we do together. After dinner we blow out the “Sunday Candle” and feel ready to face the week.



Feasts & Celebrations

January 3 – Feast of the Most Holy Name of Jesus. “...At the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth” (Philippians 2:10). Today, a deep bow of the head at the Name is an accepted form of respect.

January 7 – Epiphany of Our Lord. Epiphany is Greek for “manifestation.” When they honored the infant Jesus, the three wise men bore witness to the fulfillment of God’s promise of a savior.

January 21 – St. Agnes (304). St.

Agnes consecrated herself to God. Reportedly she was betrayed for being a Christian by a suitor whom she refused to marry. She maintained her faith and was executed as a result.

January 25 – The Conversion of St. Paul. Formally called “Saul” he persecuted the Christians until Jesus appeared to him on the road to Damascus, saying, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting” (Acts 9:5). After that, Saul became Paul and traveled around the known world, preaching the Faith.



Our Mission

To help parents raise faithful Catholic children
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