



February 4, 2024

# SAINT JOSEPH

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711 North Columbus Street, Alexandria, VA 22314 • Phone: 703-836-3725 • Fax: 703-837-9066

## PARISH INFORMATION

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**Deacon Albert A. Anderson Jr.** ----- *Deacon*  
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### Parish Email

[stjosephalexva@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephalexva@gmail.com)

### Josephite Website

[www.josephite.com](http://www.josephite.com)

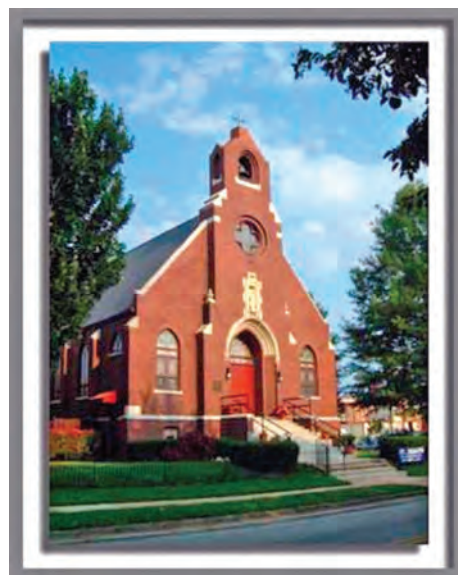
### Rectory Office Hours

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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:stjosephalexva@gmail.com). Register online, [www.stjosephva.org](http://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 February 4, 2024**

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. For the People of Saint Joseph's  
 Sunday: 11:00 a.m. Fr. Fest by Patricia Hilgard  
 Monday: 7:00 p.m. Holy Hour & Saint Joseph Novena  
 Tues. 7 p.m. Garfield Haynes by Linwood/Sharon/Jesurena  
 Wednesday: 8:30 a.m. Josephite Intentions  
 Thurs: 8:30 a.m. Peter Ford by Mary Goodson  
 Friday: 8:30 a.m. JoAnn Graeb  
 Sunday: 8:30 a.m. For the People of Saint Joseph's  
 Sun: 11am Deborah Lebeaux by Linwood/Sharon/Jesurena

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**Today:** National Day of Prayer for African and African American Family - see back page in this bulletin

**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

**February 11** – 11:00 a.m. Children's Choir Rehearsal

**Feb. 18:** after Mass Celebrating our local Black authors

**February 19** – 7pm – Special Holy Hour in the Church

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

**February 22** – 7:00 p.m. Gospel Choir Rehearsal in Hall

**February 23** – 6:00 p.m. Chorale Choir Rehearsal in Hall

**February 23** – 7 p.m. Stations of the Cross/Confessions

**Feb. 24** – Men's Health Program at Charles Houston Ct.

**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** – 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](mailto: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. (No Session Ash Wednesday)

**Diocesan News....**

*Both events below, the Men's and the Women's Conferences will be held at St. Joseph Church in Herndon, 750 Peachtree Street. Both conferences have the same cost and registration fees:*

**+ March 2 - The 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! \$80.00 after February 1, 2024, [arlingtondiocese.org/men](http://arlingtondiocese.org/men)

**+ March 9 - The Women's Conference 2024 - Behold, I Make All Things New**, Saturday, March 9, 2024.

**Next Sunday - Mardi Gras Fundraiser** the Junior Daughters are planning a fundraiser next Sunday after both Masses. Breakfast after the 8:30am Mass and Lunch after the 11:00am Mass. Proceeds from this fundraiser will be used to pay travel expenses for the Junior Conference in April in Norfolk, Virginia.

**February is Black History Month – Events include:**  
**Today- National Day of Prayer for African and African American families** - all families are invited to join. *Find the prayer in this bulletin.*

+ **Sunday, February 18.** Celebrating local Black Authors and their works 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 their history and what services they continue to provide today.

**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 and in the insert in today’s bulletin. Everyone cannot give the same gift, but everyone can give something. *Lent begins February 14, Ash Wednesday.*

**Healthcare workers needed-** The parish is undergoing a review of our emergency procedures and would like to know who works/have worked in healthcare and would be willing to assist with our review. If you are willing to share in the effort, contact the rectory, 703 836-3725.

**“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.org](mailto:events@seniorservicesalex.org) or call 703-836-4414, ext. 110.

**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. Virginia centers also prepare Virginia returns, and some sites have counselors qualified to prepare Maryland and D.C. returns. Counselors handle almost all forms of income. No income limits, clients are generally low- and middle- income taxpayers. To make an appointment, go to [novataxaide.org/sites](http://novataxaide.org/sites).

**Saint Joseph Parish Contributions Statements for 2023** were mailed out last week. Please review your statement and if any corrections are needed please call or email [stjosephalexva@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephalexva@gmail.com). We are very grateful for all your support of our parish and our mission undertakings. **This week we mailed out the Josephite Share In Mission statements for 2023 contributions...** again, please check your statement and contact us for any corrections needed.

**Wood Carvings from Bethlehem, Israel - Will Be Here Next Sunday** – The company representing Catholics from Bethlehem of Judea, who carve items from olive wood to support themselves, will be here next Sunday selling their beautiful pieces. As you know, Catholics are Palestinians and have suffered from the lack of tourism in their city. Help support them next Sunday. Nice opportunity to buy a Valentine’s or Easter gift.

**Are You Being Called?** Ministries are the heart and soul of our parish, providing opportunities for spiritual growth, fellowship, and service. Whether you are a longtime member or a newcomer to our community, there is a place for everyone to contribute their unique gifts and talents. Stay tuned for more information in the coming weeks as we share details about the various ministries available and how you can take the next steps to join in this enriching experience. There will be opportunities for all ages and interests, so we encourage you to explore the possibilities and find a ministry that resonates with your passion and skills. In the meantime, please keep this endeavor in your prayers, asking the Holy Spirit to guide you in discovering where your talents may be best utilized. If you would like to discuss contact [christian.bentley@stjosephva.org](mailto:christian.bentley@stjosephva.org)



# Partners in FAITH™



Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith.

February 2024

Saint Joseph Church  
Director of Religious Education



## Thoughtful Moments

### St. Josephine Bakhita

St. Josephine Bakhita was a young girl in Darfur, Sudan when she was captured and sold into slavery. Despite serving under cruel masters for many years, she remained sweet and kind. Eventually, the Michielis, who treated her very kindly, bought her. While in Italy, they introduced her to the Canossian Sisters of Charity. She joined in 1893. She spent the rest of her time there as a cook and sacristan. She also helped to prepare young sisters.



### Unconditional love

Children learn about God's love by experiencing love from their parents. Children who feel unconditionally loved by their parents are less likely to fear failure or judgment and more likely to look at their parents as advocates rather than adversaries. They are also more likely to be open to a relationship with a loving God as Father.

*"A wise son hears his father's instruction, but a scoffer does not listen to rebuke"*  
(Proverbs 13:1).



## Forgiveness leads to holiness

In family life, conflict may be commonplace as children learn to navigate relationships but learning how to forgive is essential to healthy development.

Forgiveness is also essential for holiness. *"If you forgive others their transgressions, your heavenly Father will forgive you"* (Matthew 6:14). Teach children how:

Say the words. Encourage children to say, "I'm sorry," "I was wrong," when they have hurt someone. Asking for forgiveness starts the process of recognizing when they have transgressed and understanding that amends must be made. When someone says the words, immediately offer forgiveness by saying, "I forgive you."



Release grudges. Old resentments keep us from fully experiencing God's love and forgiveness.

Encourage each member of the family to write at least one grudge or

resentment they are ready to let go of on a piece of paper and put it into a "grudge jar." Then, take out all the grudges, rip them up, and move on.

Practice humility. Humility reminds us that we're

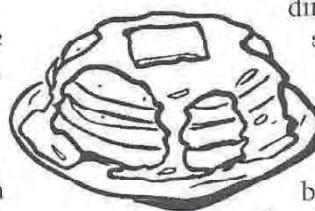
saints-in-progress who need God's mercy. We are flawed beings who make mistakes that require God's forgiveness. Offering mercy to others in recognition of this need is an act of both humility and hope.

Pray for each other. Praying together as a family opens us up to much-needed graces. Plus, it's hard to stay mad at someone for whom you pray!

## Why Do Catholics Do That?

### Why do Catholics serve pancakes on Fat Tuesday (Mardi Gras)?

In the early Church, it was customary to give up rich foods and meat during the penitential season of Lent. This included milk, eggs, butter, cheese, and fat. On the Tuesday before Lent began, families would rush to empty the pantry of the



forbidden foods by enjoying a dinner of pancakes (or in some places, fried doughnuts). In several countries, it is even called "Pancake

Tuesday." It was meant to be one final celebration of feasting before the Lenten fast.

## **FIRST SUNDAY OF BLACK HISTORY Month**

**FEBRUARY 4, 2024**

### **NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE AFRICAN AMERICAN AND AFRICAN FAMILY**

God of Mercy and Love we place our African American and African Families before You today. May we be proud of our history and never forget those who paid a great price for our liberation. Bless us one by one and keep our hearts and minds fixed on higher ground.

Help us to live for you and not for ourselves, and may we cherish and proclaim the gift of life. Bless our parents, guardians and grandparents, relatives and friends. Give us the amazing grace to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. Help us, as Your children, to live in such a way that the beauty and greatness of authentic love is reflected in all that we say and do.

Give a healing anointing to those less fortunate, especially the motherless, the fatherless, the broken, the sick and the lonely. Bless our departed family members and friends. May they be led into the light of Your dwelling place where we will never grow old, where we will share the fullness of redemption and shout the victory for all eternity.

This we ask in the Precious Name of Jesus, our Savior and Blessed Assurance. Amen.

Holy Mary, Mother of Our Families, pray for us.

*Prayer composed by FR. JIM GOODE, OFM, who in 1989 founded this National Day of Prayer for the African American and African Family*



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