



November 2, 2025

SAINT JOSEPH

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PARISH INFORMATION

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Parish Email

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Josephite Website

www.josephite.com

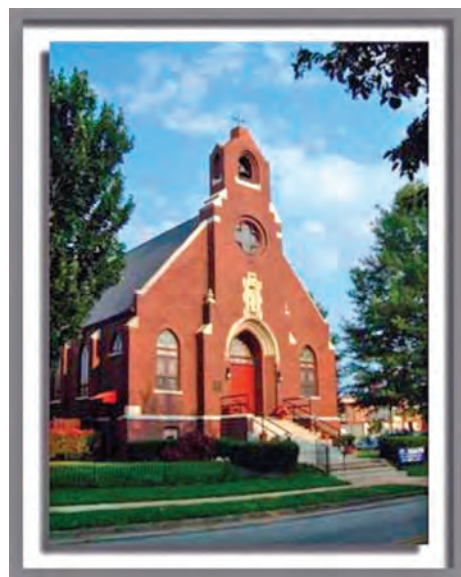
Rectory Office Hours

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
Office@stjosephva.org



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
Gospel choir 1st & 3rd Sunday at 11 am Mass

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.

OCIA: 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 Dan Brendel at danjbrendel@gmail.com.

New Parishioners: We would like to extend a warm welcome to new members of our congregation. Call the Rectory, or email Office@stjosephva.org. 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 November 2, 2025

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. All Souls novena of Masses # 2
Sunday: 11:00 a.m. All Souls Novena of Masses # 3
Monday: 7:00 p.m. Holy Hour and Novena to St. Joseph
Tuesday: 7:00 p.m. All Souls Novena of Masses # 4
Wednesday: 8:30 a.m. All souls Novena of Masses # 5
Thursday: 8:30 a.m. All Souls Novena of Masses # 6
Friday: 8:30 a.m. All Souls Novena of Masses # 7
Sunday: 8:30 a.m. All Souls Novena of Masses # 8
Sunday: 11:00 a.m. All Souls Novena of Masses # 9

Mark Your Calendars

November 2 – All Souls Day – Regular Mass schedule

>> November 4 – Election Day – GO OUT AND VOTE <<

November 5 – 6:00 p.m. Chorale Choir Rehearsal in Hall

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

November 6 – 7:00 p.m. Gospel Choir Rehearsal in Hall

November 7 – 6:00 p.m. Legion of Mary Meeting in Chapel

November 9 – Stewardship Sunday

November 12 – 6:00 p.m. Chorale Choir Rehearsal in Hall

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

November 13 – 7:00 p.m. Gospel Choir Rehearsal in Hall

November 14 – 6:00 p.m. Legion of Mary Meeting in Chapel

November 15 – 10:00 a.m. Welcome Committee Meeting

November 22 – 8:00am to 1:00pm Family Garden Ministry

November 26 – NO Bible Studies/Faith Formation Class

November 27 – 9:00 a.m. Thanksgiving Day Mass

November 28 – No 8:30 a.m. Mass today

November 30 – First Sunday in Advent

December 3 – 6:00 p.m. Chorale Choir Rehearsal in Hall

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

December 4 – 7:00 p.m. Gospel Choir Rehearsal in Hall

December 5 – 6:00 p.m. Legion of Mary Meeting in Chapel

December 6 – 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Christmas Bazaar

December 17 – 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Christmas Confessions

Upcoming Special & Second Collections

***November 2 – Josephite Monthly Share In Mission**

***November 9 – Archdiocese for Military Services**

***November 16 – Retirement Fund for Religious**

Nov. 23 – Catholic Campaign for Human Development

November 30 – Christmas Flower Collection

Dec. 8 – Feast of the Immaculate Conception Holy Day

December 14 – Catholic Charities Christmas Collection

*** Please be aware of the 3 dates above marked with a (*)**

Your envelopes have been dated incorrectly, and we will follow the schedule mentioned in the section above. Sorry for the inconvenience.



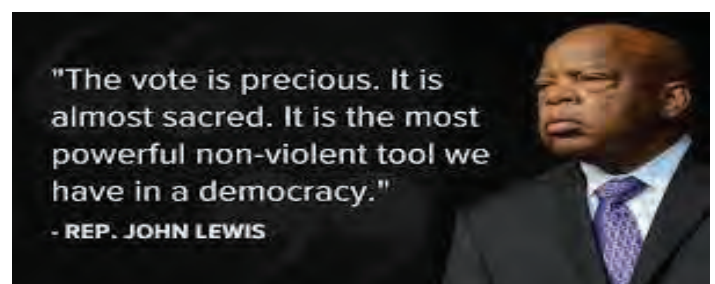
PARISH SICK AND SHUT- INS: We list them here to not only keep them in our prayers, but also to remember them with occasional cards, phone calls and visits. They are Arlene Atkinson, Florence Calloway, Maria Calloway, Juanita Carter, Maurice Crump, Doretha Delandro, Helen Desfosses, Vernessa Carter, Residents at Cogir, Deidre Dineene, James Downes, Hazel Edelin, John Fay, Bobby Giggetts, Bobby Giggetts Jr., Mary Goodson, Jesurena Smith-Griffin, Patricia Hilgard, Tomasa Lockman-Haynes, Dora and Calvin Jones, Jesurena Smith-Griffin, Linwood Smith, Brenda Stewart, Ellen Sukolsky, and Elvira Talton.

Baptism Preparation Class for Parents and Godparents

The next Baptism preparation class is **November 4** in the Parish Hall. Class dates after that are on the First Tuesday of each month in the Parish Hall at 6:00 p.m. Upcoming dates Dec. 2, January 6, 2026, February 3, March 3, etc. Please note: **You must email the rectory to register for these classes and then you will receive a confirmation email allowing you to attend.**

Learn more about the Catholic Faith through OCIA Are you interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith? Would you like to become a Catholic? Do you wish to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, or Holy Eucharist? To express your interest, and for more information, please contact the Parish office at Office@stjosephva.org. **We meet on Sundays at 1:00pm in the school building.**

Faith Formation/Bible Study – Faith Formation/Bible study meets 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. every Wednesday via Zoom. Each session begins with a discussion of anything the attendees have questions about, or want to inform the group about, related to the Catholic church. We then watch a movie or engage in something on Formed.org, followed by a discussion. Everyone is invited to attend. To be added to the group, email Desiree Brooks at desinmk2@cox.net. You will get an email with the Zoom link. The link will be sent out the day before each session. Tune in and join us!



2025 See's Candies Fundraiser Profits benefit St. Joseph's. Victoria Avery will take your pre-order after Mass, by phone/text, or e-mail beginning November 2 thru Nov. 16. Candy will be available at the annual Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, December 6. Call or text (703) 870-0953 or e-mail averyv2004@yahoo.com for more information. All orders must be paid for and picked up by December 14.

Saint Joseph Parish's 2026 Pilgrimage to Marian Shrines in Spain, Portugal and France. You are invited to join us on a 13-day Pilgrimage to the Marian Shrines visiting holy places in Lisbon, Fatima, Santiago de Compostela, Avila, Zaragoza, Lourdes, Lisieux, and Paris as part of our 110th Anniversary Celebration, October 4 to 16, 2026. Pilgrimage directors will be Fr. Donald Fest, SSJ and Fr. Roderick Coates, SSJ. Early registration is encouraged as space will be limited to 40 people! For further information and/or to receive a registration form and brochure, please contact Sharon McCarter, 703-888-8996 (shmccarter@verizon.net), or Desiree Brooks at 571-212-8923 (desinmk2@cox.net).

November - Black Catholic History Month - Events

1. November 7, Friday 6:00 p.m., **A Place at the Table** will be shown at St. John Neumann Church, 11900 Lawyers Road, Reston, VA about African Americans on the Road to Sainthood

2. November 8, Saturday 9:45 a.m., Minkisi Annual Retreat, at Our Lady Queen of Peace, 2700 S.19th St. Arlington, Retreat speaker is Ralph McCloud, former director of the USCCB's annual Campaign for Human Development.

3. November 13, Thursday 8:00 p.m. The webinar, Generation Vocations. Is a discussion about understanding and encouraging the next generation of Black Catholic leaders. Register online: www.KOFPC.org/1113

4. November 15-- Holy Family Catholic Church, 14160 Ferndale Rd, Woodbridge, Mass at 5:00pm, St. Joseph Choir will be the guest choir.

5. November 23, Sunday 11:00am Black Catholic History Mass at St. John Neumann Catholic Church, 11900 Lawyers Rd. Reston VA with Bishop Michael Burbidge as celebrant and homilist.

6. November 24, Monday, 7:00 p.m. Prayer Service for Unity and Healing in the United States with Bishop Michael Burbidge, celebrant and homilist.

The Parish Hall is booked until 2026 – If you have not scheduled the use of the Parish Hall through December 31, 2025, YOU ARE PROBABLY TOO LATE. Please check the bulletin for scheduled events. **TO ALL GROUPS...** WE NEED YOUR 2026 CALENDAR OF EVENTS, MEETINGS, REHEARSALS, ETC. NOW.



2025 On the Road to Sainthood Campaign ... From November 3 to 23, join the Mother Mary Lange Guild fundraiser for helping to smooth the road to Sainthood for Mother Lange. For more information and to sign up visit:

www.runsignup.com/race/nmd/halethorpe/roadtosainthoodwalkathon

HELP MAKE OUR STREETS SAFE for walking and biking! Have you almost been hit by a car when walking or cycling? Now, you can report those “near misses” and help make your streets safer! Just go to the [Northern Virginia Families for Safe Streets \(NoVA FSS\)](http://www.novafss.org) Near Miss/Dangerous Location Survey and report what happened, where it happened and when it happened. The months of November through February are some of the most fatal months for pedestrians. Please look both ways before walking in a crosswalk **and make sure you have some type of illumination on your person at night**. Also, remember to STOP LOOK WAVE at the driver when crossing the street. 25% of pedestrian crashes happen because drivers are distracted and never see the pedestrian in time to stop. To learn more about pedestrian safety, go to <https://novasafestreets.org> or contact Mike Doyle at: mike@novafss.org

THANK YOU - Fr. Fest wishes to express his thanks and appreciation to all who sent greetings and cards of sympathy at the death of his younger brother, Richard.

End of Mass Announcements: All announcements at the end of Mass must be in writing, on paper, and approved by Father before Mass begins. Please no surprise announcements.



Special Thank you! The 110 Anniversary Committee would like to thank all who attended the luncheon this past Sunday. It was a day of fellowship and good food as we celebrated St. Joseph's parish. The Committee did an outstanding job. Thanks to everyone!

ALL SOULS DAY... We pray: *May the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in Peace! Amen.*



Discovering **hope** and **joy** in the Catholic faith.

November 2025

St. Joseph Church
Adult Faith Formation Resource

One Minute Meditations

St. Albert the Great

Possibly one of the Church's greatest intellectuals, St. Albert was the eldest son of a powerful German military official. Despite opposition from his family, he joined the Dominican Order. Being well educated, St. Albert desired to make all the learning of the East available to the Latin-speaking West. He earned his doctorate at the University of Paris in 1245 and taught at Paris and Cologne. He is best known as the master of St. Thomas Aquinas.

Praying for the dead

Catholics see Purgatory as an expression of God's mercy — a place where souls who die in His grace, but need further purification, are prepared for Heaven. This month, we pray for our departed loved ones, asking God to bring them quickly into His presence.

One tradition is to request a Mass on the anniversary of a loved one's death. If that soul is already in Heaven, the graces benefit others still in need. In God's mercy, nothing is ever wasted.

"Forgiveness comes...through the soul's desire to be united to me [i.e., to God], the infinite Good, according to the measure of love attained by the recipient's desire and prayer. A person receives as much of my goodness as he gives to me." St. Catherine of Siena, *The Dialogue*

Christ as King of our hearts

When we proclaim, "Christ is King," we're not making a poetic or symbolic statement. We're declaring a truth that shapes every part of our lives. To live under Christ's rule is to give Him authority over what we believe, how we worship, how we act, and how we spend our time.

What we believe: At the center of our faith is a relationship. Knowing Jesus personally — through the Gospels, through prayer, through the lives of the saints — transforms abstract belief into living faith. When someone asks, "Why are you Catholic?" our answer should come from experience, not just theology.

How we worship: Imagine a king hosting a free, lavish banquet every week for all his subjects. Every Sunday, we're invited to a banquet — not of food, but of grace. To say, "Christ is King" is to obey His words: "*Do this in remembrance of me*" (Luke 22:19). The

Mass is not just a weekly routine; it's a divine encounter.

How we act: Our actions, especially the small ones, speak volumes. Reverence, patience, honesty, integrity,

"You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I have come into the world, to bear witness to the truth."
John 18:37

and generosity are everyday ways of making Christ visible through us. These aren't just virtues — they're signs of loyalty to our true King.

How we spend our time: Daily prayer proclaims that Christ reigns not only over Sunday, but over our entire lives. Whether prayer feels powerful or dry, it anchors us in Him. No time given to Christ is ever wasted.

To say "Christ is King" is to surrender everything to Him. It's a declaration that He reigns not just in Heaven, but here, now, in us.

Why Do Catholics Do That?

An indulgence is "the remission before God of the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*). This "temporal punishment" refers to the purification the soul undergoes before entering Heaven.

The power of indulgences flows from Christ's sacrifice and is applied through

Why does the Church offer indulgences?

the merits of the saints and prayers of the Church. Indulgences are not shortcuts to Heaven or "free passes"; they require repentance and conversion of heart.

To obtain an indulgence, conditions must be met: sacramental Confession, reception of Holy Communion, prayer for the Holy Father's intentions, and performance of the indulgenced act.

"Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Matthew 6:21)

There's a common lesson in driver's education: "Your vehicle goes where your eyes go." Spiritually, the same is true — our lives follow what we focus on. What we treasure most lays claim to our hearts. The challenge is to set our hearts on what truly lasts.

"*You cannot serve two masters*" (Matthew 6:24). What treasure do you set your heart on? A desire for holiness requires us to examine how we live day to day. Are we cultivating trust in God, or grasping for control? Realignment often begins with small, intentional acts: spending time in prayer instead of mindless scrolling; reading the Gospel before the news; choosing simplicity over indulgence and

giving generously to those in need. These are daily decisions that reflect where our heart truly lies.

Trust instead of worrying. Jesus does not condemn wealth, hard work, or responsible planning. Instead, He calls us to live as sons and daughters of God. That means trusting His love, accepting His timing, and offering our lives in service to His Kingdom. Ask yourself: Do I invite God into my decisions, or do I act alone? Am I content to wait on His timing, or do I insist on my own?

When we prioritize the things of God, we invest in a treasure that does not fade — one that shapes who we are now, and endures into eternity.

from Scripture

Matthew 24:37-44, Preparing hearts for Christ's coming

In this Gospel reading, Jesus reminds us that we do not know the day or the hour when He will come for us. "*At an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.*" His message is clear: live each day prepared to meet Him.

Next month, we celebrate His first coming at Christmas. But Christ will come again — at our death, and at the end of time. Advent invites us to ask: "What must I do to be ready?"

Begin by striving to remain in a state of grace. If you are aware of having committed mortal sin, seek God's mercy without delay through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Even if you are not conscious of serious sin,

aim to go to Confession regularly — every four to six weeks, if possible. Examine your conscience honestly, and choose one or two areas of sin to actively work on.

Attend Sunday Mass faithfully, make more time for prayer, and look for opportunities to serve others with love and humility. These practices not only prepare us to welcome Christ when we finally meet Him face-to-face, but they also draw us closer to Him now.

When Christmas arrives, may you greet the Lord not with fear, but with joy — knowing your heart is open, your hands are ready, and your soul is at peace.

Feasts & Celebrations

November 2 – All Souls Day. On this day we pray for the dead, especially our loved ones and the souls in Purgatory. Our prayers and sacrifices can help them get to Heaven faster.

November 4 – St. Charles Borromeo (1584). Born into a wealthy family in 1538 in Lombardy, Italy, St. Charles was chosen for the priesthood to follow in the footsteps of his uncle, Giovanni Angelo de Medici, the future Pope Pius IV. After earning doctorates in civil and canon law by the age of 21, Charles was named cardinal and bishop of Milan. He worked to reform his diocese of

corruption and cared for the poor and sick when a plague struck Milan.

November 23 – Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ the King. God promised his people a king who would be triumphant over their enemies. Jesus is our King, who triumphed over the enemies of sin and death. In Baptism and Confirmation, we are brought under His kingship.

November 30 – 1st Sunday of Advent. During this four-week season, we anticipate the Messiah's birth, remembering the time when He was awaited. During Advent we also look forward to Christ's reign and His coming on the Last Day. We light candles in an Advent wreath each night of the season to signal the coming of the true light of Christ.

Q & A

Do Catholics practice tithing?

Tithing is the practice of giving ten percent of your income to the Church. In fact, the word itself comes from an Old English word meaning, "one-tenth." It was based on Jewish tradition in the Old Testament and its first recorded practice was Abraham's offering of a tenth of all he had as a "thank offering" to God for his victory in battle (Genesis 14:18-20). It's still practiced by the Mormon Church.

The Catholic Church does not require tithing; there is no "fixed sum" that God requires of us. Catholics are, however, required to support the material needs of the Church (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #2043). How much — or little — is between you and God and in light of the needs of your state in life.

Money isn't the only way to support your parish, diocese, or the Church. Giving of your time to volunteer in your parish, donating some of what you don't need to the poor, and even devoting prayers specifically for the needs of your parish priests are all praiseworthy ways to give back.

Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.

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(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible - Revised)

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