



April 5, 2026

SAINT JOSEPH

Catholic Church • www.stjosephva.org

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

PARISH INFORMATION

Rev. Donald Fest, S.S.J.----- *Pastor*

pastor@stjosephva.org

Deacon Albert A. Anderson Jr. ----- *Deacon*

deacon@stjosephva.org

Ms. Princess McEvelley ----- *Faith Formation*

sjcdre@gmail.com

Ms. Chajurnee Lomax----- *Youth Council*

charjurnee.lomax@gmail.com

Ms. Beverly Anderson ----- *Business Manager*

office@stjosephva.org

Mr. Eugene Harper ----- *Director of Music*

Music_director@stjosephva.org

Mr. Dan Brendel ----- *Voice Coordinator*

danjbrendel@gmail.com

Mr. Christian Bentley ----- *Communications*

communications@stjosephva.org

Mr. Nate Grauvogel----- *Live Streaming*

multimedia@stjosephva.org

Mr. DeMia Pressley----- *Compliance Coordinator*

compliance@stjosephva.org

Ms. Ann Liddle ----- *Welcome Committee*

welcome@stjosephva.org

Mr. Rich Grohol

website@stjosephva.org

Parish Email

Office@stjosephva.org

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

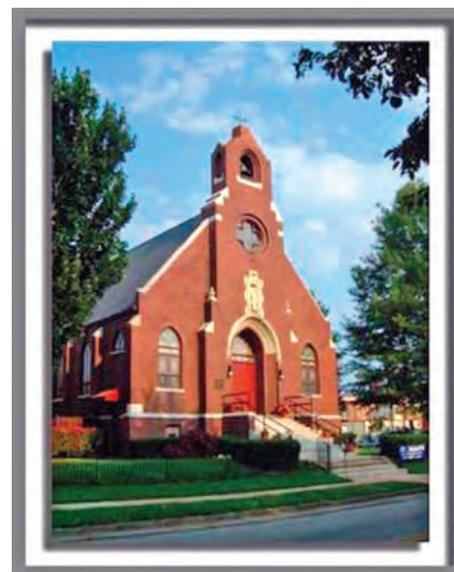
Bulletin Deadline

All bulletin requests

are due by Monday

2:00 pm – Email to

Office@stjosephva.org



Electronic Giving: Contact Parishsoft giving donor support at 866 930-4774 option 6 or donorsupport@parishsoft.com

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 APRIL 5, 2026

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. Easter Novena of Masses #3
Sunday: 11:00 a.m. Easter Novena of Masses #4
Monday: 7:00 p.m. Holy Hour and Novena to Saint Joseph
Tuesday: No Mass here today
Wednesday: No Mass here today
Thursday: 8:30 a.m. Easter Novena of Masses #5
Friday: 8:30 a.m. Easter Novena of Masses #6
Sunday: 8:30 a.m. Easter Novena of Masses #7
Sunday: 11:00 a.m. Easter Novena of Masses #8



Mark Your Calendars

April 8 – 6:00 p.m. Chorale Choir Rehearsal in Hall
--- 7:00 p.m. Faith Formation/Bible Studies
April 9 – 7:00 p.m. Gospel Choir Rehearsal in Hall
April 11 – Spring Clothes drop off-10am-12:00pm – Parish Hall
--- 12 Noon – Legion of Mary Meeting – Rectory Chapel
April 12 – Divine Mercy Sunday -
-- 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. - Divine Mercy Chaplet by Young Adults.
April 14 – 6 to 9 p.m. – Young Adult’s Gathering in Hall
April 15 – 6:00 p.m. Chorale rehearsal in the Hall
--- 7:00 p.m. Faith Formation/Bible Studies
April 16 – 7:00 p.m. Gospel Choir rehearsal in the Hall
April 18 – 10am-Noon: KPC Ladies Auxiliary Spring Clothes Giveaway
--- 12 Noon Legion of Mary Meeting in Rectory Chapel
April 19 – after Masses: KPC Ladies Auxiliary sponsored Breakfast.
April 22 – 6:00 p.m. Chorale Choir Rehearsal in Hall
--- 7:00 p.m. Faith Formation/Bible Studies
April 23 – 7:00 p.m. Gospel Choir rehearsal in the Hall
April 25 – 12 Noon – Legion of Mary Meeting – Rectory Chapel
April 26 – 11:00 a.m. Mass: First Holy Communion
May 3 – after 8:30 Mass – May Crowning of the Blessed Mother

Our Diocese will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation for Adult Catholics who have never received this important Sacrament on May 17 and again on May 31 at the Cathedral. Those adult Catholics, 18 and older, interested in receiving this sacrament, please contact the rectory as soon as possible. The diocese will offer a Confirmation “crash course” April 13, 20, 27 and May 4 at St. Thomas More School, 7 to 8 p.m. each day. For complete information about this Confirmation “crash course”, and to register, call the Cathedral office (703) 525-1300.



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, Roseann Brent, Florence Calloway, Maria Calloway, Vernessa Carter, Juanita Carter, Maurice Crump, Doretha Delandro, Helen Desfosses, Michael Diffley, Deidre Dineene, Hazel Edelin, John Fay, Bobby Giggetts, Mary Goodson, Jesurena Smith-Griffin, Patricia Hilgard, Tomasa Lockman-Haynes, Residents at Cogir, Sharon Johnson, Dora and Calvin Jones, Linwood Smith, Brenda Stewart, Ellen Sukolsky, and Elvira Talton.

Baptism Preparation Class for Parents and Godparents

The next Baptism preparation class will be in the Parish Hall on April 7. Class dates after that are on the First Tuesday of the month in the Parish Hall at 6:00 p.m. Upcoming dates are May 5, June 3, July 7, etc. Please note: **You must email the rectory office@stjosephva.org 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, and/or Holy Eucharist? To express your interest, and for more information, please contact the Parish office at Office@stjosephva.org. New class will begin soon.

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. Email Desiree Brooks desinmk2@cox.net to be added to the group.

Spring Community Clothes Giveaway - On April 18,

between 10 a.m. and Noon, we will have a Spring clothes giveaway for the community. Please drop off CLEAN new or gently used Spring clothes **on April 11 between 10 and Noon**. If you need to drop off before April 11, please call the rectory, 703 836-3725. **Please do not leave clothes on the steps to the Parish Hall, they may get wet or picked through by passersby.** We do need men’s and baby clothes. Your “Spring cleaning” can really help us out.

Upcoming Special & Second Collections

TODAY – Josephite Share In Mission Monthly appeal
April 19 – The Catholic Home (USA) Missions appeal
April 26 – Mother’s Day Novena of Masses Enrollment
May 3 - Josephite Share In Mission Monthly appeal

Did you make your gift to the 2026 BLA? Use the QR on the Bishop's Lenten Appeal (BLA) envelope or go to arlingtondiocese.org and click on "Giving" then go to BLA and pledge. This can serve as your Lenten Self-denial sacrifice.



Legion of Mary Needs New Active Members!

Our unit of the Legion of Mary appeals to you to prayerfully consider becoming active members of our Mother of the Holy Family Praesidium to prevent its closure by our higher council. We need four or more new members fully re-establish the organization. This is essential to continuing our great apostolic work of evangelizing the community and the parish. See Arlie Lebeau after Mass or Father. **The Legion of Mary meets on Saturdays at 12:00 Noon in the Rectory Chapel.**

Church Bells. Bells have long been the heartbeat of the church in the community. Their ringing marks the rhythm of daily life, a call to worship on Sunday morning. Every day, they say something simple but powerful - the church is here. Catholic Churches ring bells at 6 a.m., 12 Noon and 6 p.m. and is called “The Angelus”. It commemorates the Angel of the Lord declaring to Mary that she is to have a son – who will be called Jesus, and He will be the Savior of the world. And she said: “Yes. Let it be done unto me according to your word.” This occurred at the Annunciation, a feast we celebrate Mar. 25 – 9 months before Christmas Dec. 25.

Camp Saint Charles – a Catholic overnight summer camp for boys and girls in Newburg, MD will host an Open House April 12 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. which includes a tour, lunch, and chance to meet the staff. For more information, directions, and sign-up go to www.campstcharles.org or email at director@campstcharles.org or call 301-934-8799.

St. Joseph’s Softball Season begins Monday The City of Alexandria’s Church League Softball Season starts Monday, April 6th and runs through the middle of June. Games are on Mondays and all games will start at either 7 pm or 8:15 pm. The games will be played at the new Joseph Henley Softball Field off Eisenhower Ave. Contact Mike Doyle mednovahill@gmail.com with any questions. Join us for the fellowship with old and new friends and help St Joe’s Softball Team get to the playoffs!

*The Lord has risen as He said!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Our 2026 OCIA Baptism Class **Collin Guillo Barbosa** **Brandon Weddle**

*And entering into Full Communion
in the Catholic Faith are*
Caroline Grace Banaszak
Kirk Wayne Cline
Bernard Threat
Brandie Nikole Weddle
Venice Williams

We warmly welcome them and thank all who encouraged them on their faith journey, especially catechists Dan Brendel and Mike McCormick, and all those who assisted with the program.

THANK YOU - We are so grateful to all who participated in making Holy Week such a special time for our parish including the choirs and musicians, altar servers, lectors, ministers of hospitality, those who set up and cleaned up both inside and out. This is how we truly exalt the Risen Savior as we lift Him high for all to see. Thanks to everyone who labored through Lent and Holy Week to make this season so spiritually fruitful!

And THANK YOU - Deacon Al Anderson, Jr. and Fr. Fest wish to thank all of you for your cards, Easter gifts, kindnesses and help at this especially busy season. God Bless You all. Amen!

Days of Remembrance of the Victims of the Holocaust - April 14 at noon, the city will have its 37th Annual ceremony at Charles Beatley Jr. Central Library, 5005 Duke St, Alexandria. Each year since 1988, the city of Alexandria has had a civic ceremony observing the remembrance of the victims of the Holocaust. For more information call 703 746-5565 or alexandriava.gov/Recreation.

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. Space is limited to 40 people – 20 have already registered! For further information and/or to receive a registration form and brochure, contact Sharon McCarter 703-888-8996 (shmccarter@verizon.net), or Desiree Brooks at 571-212-8923 (desinmk2@cox.net).

Picking up your cross every day – in Faith, Hope and Love

Trusting in the promise of Resurrection

In an age marked by uncertainty and grief, the promise of Resurrection stands as a beacon of hope for many. The narrative of Lazarus found in the Gospel of John (11:1-45)—serves as a profound testament to the power of faith and the divine assurance of life beyond death.

This miraculous event not only restores Lazarus to life but also foreshadows Jesus' own resurrection—a cornerstone of the Christian faith. The implications of this miracle extend far beyond the grave of Lazarus. It challenges believers to reassess their understanding of life, death, and faith. The assurance of Resurrection invites a deeper faith, transforming how we approach life's inevitable challenges.

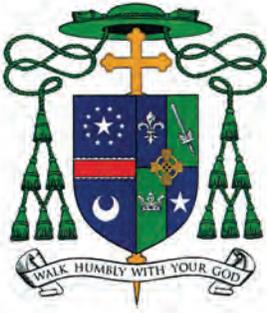
In moments of despair, when faced with loss or the trials of existence, the words of Jesus echo: ***“I am the Resurrection and the life.”*** The narrative invites us to reflect on our own beliefs about life and death. Are we willing to trust in the promise of Resurrection, even when faced with overwhelming sorrow and uncertainty?

In a world that may often seem bleak, the message of this gospel reminds us that faith is not merely an escape from reality but a profound engagement with it—an affirmation that, through Christ, hope prevails over despair and life triumphs over death.

As we contemplate the significance of this passage, **let us hold onto the surety of Resurrection** that calls us to embrace faith, even amidst life's darkest moments. Just as Lazarus was called forth from the tomb, **we too are invited to step into the light of life that Christ offers**, assured that our faith leads us to that ultimate promise of Resurrection.

The story of Lazarus serves as a powerful reminder that the hope of Resurrection is not just an abstract concept but a tangible reality for believers. In faith, we find strength; in Resurrection, we find life.

May the assurance of this promise inspire us to live with purpose and hope, no matter the challenges we face. For those seeking solace or understanding in times of distress, the message of Resurrection remains steadfast—a foundation of belief that endures through generations, offering comfort and assurance to all who choose to believe.



DIocese of ARLINGTON

Office of the Bishop

200 North Glebe Road, Suite 914 • Arlington, Virginia 22203 • Office (703) 841-2511 • Fax (703) 524-5028

Easter 2026

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Jesus Christ is truly risen, Alleluia! It is with great joy that I wish you a blessed Easter.

On that first Easter morning, the angel asks the women who had come to the empty tomb: *“Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen”* (Luke 24:5). This proclamation continues to echo in the world today. These words remind us that Christ is alive and present, enlightening every darkness.

Easter is the fulfillment of God’s promise. Through his passion, death, and resurrection, our Lord has opened the way to new life. The cross reveals the depth of God’s love and the empty tomb reveals God’s saving power. No burden is too heavy, no wound too deep, that our Lord cannot divinely heal and so transform our lives.

Easter, of course, is not a single day but a sacred season. I encourage you to begin each day with renewed faith. He is alive and with you and will lead, guide, and protect you. With abiding trust, commit your life to him and consistently and enthusiastically practice and live your holy Catholic faith.

May Our Risen Lord Jesus bless you with his peace throughout the Easter season and always.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge
Bishop of Arlington

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