

The Catholic Communities of

St. Joseph Church

600 N. Russell Street
Marion, IL 62959
618-993-3194

Web Site: stjoseph-stpaul.com

Facebook: St. Joseph Catholic Church-Marion, Illinois

St. Paul Church

1103 Washington Avenue
Johnston City, IL 62951
618-983-5073

Email: stpaulsw47@gmail.com



*“For today
in the city
of David, a
savior has
been born
for you
who is
Christ and
Lord.”*

Luke 2:11

Mass Times

Saturday Vigil Mass: St. Joseph-4:30 pm
Sunday Masses: St. Paul-9:00 am
St. Joseph-10:30 am

Morning Prayer-St. Joseph

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday: 7:40 am
Friday: 11:30 am-Rosary

Daily Masses

Tuesday and Thursday: St. Joseph-8:00 am
Wednesday: St. Paul 12:00 pm
Friday: St. Joseph-12:00 pm

Sacrament of Penance

Saturday: St. Joseph-3:30-4:00 pm
Sunday: St. Paul-8:30-8:50 am

St. Joseph Church

Parish Office Hours
618-993-3194

Monday-Thursday: 8:30 am-12:30 pm
1:00-4:00 pm
Friday: 8:30 am-12:00 pm



St. Paul Church

Parish Office Hours
618-983-5073

Monday-Thursday: 7:30 am-11:30 am
Closed on Friday

Pastor
 Reverend Brian Barker
 heapwah99@hotmail.com

St. Joseph Church

Parish Secretary
 LaVerne Williams
 secsjm@frontier.com

Coordinator of Parish Ministries
 Cintia Yong
 cpmsjm@frontier.com

Coordinator of Youth Faith Formation
 Angela Lees
 cresjm@frontier.com

Youth Faith Formation Facebook link
 St Joseph and St Paul Youth Faith Formation

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults
 Jo Mayer: Coordinator

Music Director
 Melissa Bound

Choir Director
 Patty Lynn

Maintenance Supervisor
 Randy Barton
 maintsjm@frontier.com

St. Paul

Parish Secretary
 Sandi West
 stpaulsw47@gmail.com

Bookkeeper
 Pat Restivo

Youth Faith Formation (YFF)
 Cindy Pulsford
 stpaulcp85@gmail.com

Elizabeth Williams-Megan Leitzen

SHARING GOD'S GIFTS

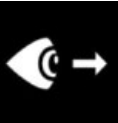
St. Joseph & St. Paul
December 2021

Due to early bulletin transmissions, the money count will be
sometime after Christmas.



Pray for the Sick and Homebound

Remember all the sick and homebound of our parish especially: Agnes Benzek, Betty Blades, Everett Blades, Gene Blades, Doris Bound, Carol Davis, Judy & Ron Evans, Ernie French, Ed Glos, Celeste Grider, Diane Gualdoni, Kelley Halper, Matthew Heckel, Robert Hopkins, Thom Ivastanin, Jan Jansco, Jr., Tammy Jones, Betty Lou Kainz, Maureen Kee, Joshua Loyd, Melody Lukesh, John Macier, Margaret Mocaby, Harry Mosley, Lorraine Musial, Agnes Olsen, John & Sheila Phillips, Angela Poskevich, Debbie Pulley, Ernie Rinella, Bernadette Romans, John & Cathi Roth, Leticia Sanchez, Christian Shoaff, Dorothy Shoaff, Herbert Soberg, Webb Sullivan, Ida Nell Wargel, and Patti Zanotti.



Anyone who needs prayers because they are sick and/or homebound, please call the office and your name will be put on the above list.

Dear Friends in Christ,

As we celebrate the Nativity of our Lord, I think of the words St. John wrote in one of his epistles: “we have come to know and believe in the love God has for us.” My sincere prayer for the people of our diocese is that as we celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus, each of us comes to know and believe more deeply in the love God has for us. May this Christmas be filled with a spirit of kindness and compassion, and may you, your families and loved ones be filled with the peace of Christ.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
 Bishop Michael McGovern

The 2021 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal

Whoever believes in me will do the works that I do
John 14:12

The true joy of Christmas is in the everlasting love of Christ. May you find His peace, love and joy now and in the coming New Year. With deepest gratitude for your prayers and generosity,

Ministries and Programs Funded by
The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal

Sunday 26

Mass-9:00 am-SP-No PSR
Mass-10:30 am-SJ-No Children's Liturgy
Readings: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

NO YFF

Monday 27

Morning Prayer-7:40 am-SJ
Communion Service
Readings: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Church Bingo-7:00 pm-KC Marion

Tuesday 28

Morning Prayer-7:40 am-SJ
Communion Service
Readings: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18



The angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.” - Lk 2:10-12

Mass Intentions

- Sat Dec. 25 Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Day)**
-10:00 am Parish Family-SJ
-NO 4:30 pm Mass
- *Sun Dec. 26 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**
-9:00 am † Mary Maroni Thomas-SP
-10:30 am † Bob Perlowski & Family-SJ
- Mon Dec. 27 St. John**
-7:40 am Morning Prayer-SJ
-Communion Service
- Tues Dec. 28 Holy Innocents**
No Services
- Wed Dec. 29 5th Day within the Octave**
-No Services
- Thurs Dec. 30 6th Day within the Octave**
-7:40 am Morning Prayer-SJ
-8:00 am † Father Wes Lamb
- Fri Dec. 31 Vigil: Solemnity of Mary**
-4:30 pm † Agatha Tran Thi Thuy-SJ
- Sat Jan. 1 Solemnity of Mary**
-10:00 am Parish Family-SP
Vigil: Epiphany of the Lord
-4:30 pm † Leslie Campbell-SJ
- Sun Jan. 2 Epiphany of the Lord**
-9:00 am Dale Jones-SP
-10:30 am Parish Family-SJ

*In Memory of Bill Lawler

Pray for Those in the Military

We remember in prayer our parishioners, relatives and friends serving in the military, especially Jesse Armstrong, Jared Broemmel, Nathaniel Broemmel, Steven and Michael Garland, Christopher Garwood, Jim McCarty, Jacque Risley, Elizabeth Shaw, Ian Shaw, Simon Shaw, Kyle Shea, Sean Shea, Dakotah Smith, Dylan Teckenbrock, Brendan Vaughn, Paul Wetstein, Daniel Wiesner, Zachary Wiesner, Ashton Worack, and John Ryan Worack, Jr. Pray for peace in the world.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Solemnity of Mary-December 31-4:30 am

- L** Matt Lees
- EM** Angela Lees, Theresa Sternberg
- S** Madison & Hayden Lees
- HM** L Williams, C Braswell, 2 Volunteers
- Sac.** Carl Sternberg

Epiphany of the Lord-January 1-4:30 am

- L** Brenda Crackel
- EM** Carolyn Middleton, Curt Cox
- S** Banks Gordon, Logan Arnold
- HM** C Braswell, L Williams, D Smith, L Smith
- Sac.** Dick Heckel

Epiphany of the Lord-January 2-10:30 am

- L** Ron DaRosa
- EM** Judy Broemmel, Karen Saffelder
- S** Keira & Ehren Neikes
- HM** D Smith, T Rabideau, T Hopkins, D Stachnik
- Sac.** Cindy Gibbons
- CLW** Janice Abell



† **Tom Bleyer**, father of **Brooks** and step-father to **Lisa**, died on December 14.

Please remember Tom and his family in your prayers.

Wednesday 29

No Services

Readings: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35

Marion KC Mtg.-7:30 pm

Thursday 30

Morning Prayer-7:40 am-SJ

Mass-8:00 am-SJ

Readings: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40

Pickleball 5-7 pm FLC

Bingo-7:00 pm-KC Hall

Friday 31

Mass-4:30 pm-SJ

Readings: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18

New Years
Eve 4:30 pm St. Joseph
Day 10:00am St. Paul

God Be With You at Christmas and Always!
As we celebrate the birthday of Our Lord, the King of Peace, may God bless you abundantly with joys that will increase...
And through the months to follow, may you find He's always near, to guard you with His tender love and guide you throughout the year.

Merry Christmas

Sanctuary Candles
A Sanctuary Candle burns in the Church to indicate the presence of our Lord. The candle burns for 14 days and then is replaced by a new candle. If you would like to have a candle in memory of a loved one or as a thanksgiving offering ("on the occasion of..." "In honor of...") please call LaVerne at the parish office 618-993-3194. The stipend for a candle will be \$10.00. The name(s) or occasion will be listed in the Sunday bulletin.

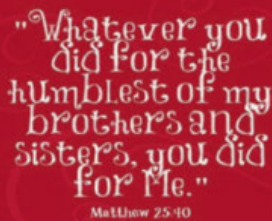
Home Bound and Hospital Visits
Please call if you or a family member would like to receive a visit from Father Brian Barker or one of the parishioners.
Please call Rita Dutton at 889-7215 or the office in Marion at 993-3194, opt. 1 or Sandi West in Johnston City at 983-5073.

Saturday 1
Mass-10 am-Solemnity of Mary-SP
Reconciliation-3:30-4:00 pm
Mass-4:30 pm-SJ
Happy New Year

Sunday 2
Mass-9:00 am-SP
NO PSR
Mass-10:30 am-SJ
Children's Liturgy Word
Readings: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12
NO YFF



E-giving Benefits
Simplify your life, and support ministry and mission! St. Joseph offers givers e-giving to help support our Church.
For details, call the office at 618-993-3194 opt. 1



Do you have 2 or 3 hours a month to help your neighbor? We are still looking for a few folks, to serve as alternates, to help deliver lunches, once or twice a month, to our homebound seniors. Deliveries are all local in town, and are made between 10:30 am-noon, Monday thru Friday. Contact Donna Stachnik at 630.675.4186 to sign up or get more information. This is sponsored by "Meals on Wheels."

Office Closed
The office will be closed on Christmas Eve, December 24, and reopen on Tuesday, January 4.

Pickleball
FLC

From 5:00pm-7:00pm
Family Life Center Gym
For more details call Chuck Ehrhardt 618-525-1005.

My Christmas Catholic Christians,

One of my favorite places to visit on earth is Bethlehem. The Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem was originally built in 339. It was erected over a cave where tradition believes that Jesus was born. It's one of the oldest Christian shrines in the world.

Its outward appearance is quite deceiving. You would think that the entrance to one of the most important places in Christianity, would have a grand entrance, but it doesn't. It's disarmingly simple. It's lone door is only four feet high and two feet wide. To go inside and see the place where Christ was born, you have to first lower yourself and pass through this "door of humility." To me it is a reminder of how Christ humbled himself to become one like us and entered our broken, human condition. The proud can't understand this mystery, nor can those puffed up by their own uprightness; only those who know their own unworthiness have the wisdom to bow down before entering into this sacred space.

The Magi were the first to contemplate this mystery and to bow before the King of Kings. Only by bowing down, can they be raised up. Only by sharing their own treasures, could they be enriched beyond all measure. Only by leaving their own kingdoms, could they enter the Kingdom of God.

Maybe that's why we bow before receiving Jesus in the Eucharist. We bow as a sign of humility to the One who humbled himself to save us. We can learn a lot from a bow of humility.

The reason Jesus came into the world was not just to teach us how to get to heaven. He also came to teach us how to become fully human as we journey through this world. May we be the souls God calls us to be, with a spirit of humbleness, gratitude and joy.

Merry Christmas!

Fr. Brian



Worldwide Marriage Encounter is excited to announce that an **IN-PERSON** Experience will be held locally in Springfield, IL at the Villa Maria Catholic Life Center the weekend of March 18-20, 2022! Early registration is suggested due to limited space. We will have in place all the needed precautions to provide a safe environment for participants. For more information or to apply, go to wwme.org, or call Terry & Eric Engholm at 314-649-7317.



St. Paul & St. Joseph Parishes'
Anniversary Dinner

FEBRUARY 12, 2022
4:30 PM MASS
FOLLOWED BY A RECEPTION & DINNER AT
ST. JOSEPH FAMILY LIFE CENTER

Honoring the Sacredness of Married Love and Commitment
Couples celebrating their 1,5,10,15,20, ... and all couples
celebrating 60+ Anniversary are invited to attend. Couples
who celebrated anniversaries last year are invited.

R.S.V.P. by January 23th

Mr. & Mrs. _____
Wedding Date _____
Phone Number _____

Complete the above & drop off at or call the office 618-993-3194

St. Paul Church



LAMP INTENTIONS:

Prayers for better health for Barbara & Brian Pitcher from Carol Ratachie
Special Intention for Jan from Mom

Special intention from a Parishioner
Special intentions of a Parishioner
In honor of St. Francis of Assisi

LAMP INTENTIONS IN LOVING MEMORY AND REPOSE OF SOULS

Joe, Agnes and Phyllis Poskevich from their Family
Paul Farthing by Marilyn & Family
Rebekah Anne from Grandpa & Grandma
Joan Skyles from a Friend
Rose Jansco Roberson from the Family
Mary Moroni Thomas from Dwain & Martin
Wally Musial from Lorraine
Peter & Frances Glad & Family from Lorraine Musial
Joseph & Palmira Poskevich from their Family
Loren, Georgina, & Ben from Daniel & Nicki
Tom Evans from Sandra Evans & Family
Rebekah from Gary, Tammy, John Michael, Jeremy & Brent
Jack Hatfield from Gary, Tammy, John Michael, Jeremy & Brent
Holly Pyle from Gary, Tammy, John Michael, Jeremy & Brent

Grandma & Grandpa Helfrich from Gary, Tammy, John Michael, Jeremy & Brent
William F. & Jimmy Smith by their Family
Nono, Noni, JoAnn & Pedro from Chuck, Judy & Ryan
Sam & Mary Davis, Dave, C.B. Scott & Jerry from Chuck, Judy & Ryan
Erin from Dad, Mama & Ry
Vernon Kee from Maureen, Scott, Karen, Judi, Tim & Rick
Ralph & Eileen Lee by Maureen Kee & Family
Granny & Grampy Anderson with love Rob, Andrea, Amelia & Ava
Polich, Zasada and Bishop Families from Donnie & Janice
Molly Jeanette by her Dads
Vernon Kee by son Tim & Rick
Richard & Jeanette Wade by sons Rick & Tim
Loved Ones from a Parishioner
Johnny from Sis
Bob Sniegowski from Carol Ratachie

Birthday Blessings

None in our records.

ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

None in our records.

Adopt a Seminarian

How can I adopt a Seminarian? There are lots of ways:

- Remember his birthday
- Become his prayer warrior
- Send a care package
- Remember him at Christmas

Send notes of encouragement and support

Our best "adoptive" practice – Prayer! Seminarian Prayer

Cards on the tables in back of church. Please take one.

Christmas Giving Tree - Pregnancy Matters

"The Christmas Giving Tree" is to help provide needed baby items for the Pregnancy Matters Center. Please take an "Ornament" and purchase that item and return it to church. The tree will be up from December 19th thru January 9th.

Calendar of Events

December

- 26 Mass-9:00 am-SP
No PSR
- 29 No 12:00 pm Mass
- 31 Mass-4:30 pm...Solemnity of Mary-SJ

January

- 1 Mass-10:00 am...Solemnity of Mary-SP
Happy New Year
- 2 Mass-9:00 am-SP
No PSR

MINISTRY ASSIGNMENTS AT ST. PAUL

January 2, 2022-Epiphany of the Lord-9:00 am

- L Lyndell Zanotti
- S Cayden & Karson Baird
- EM Lon Richard
- G Lon & Shari Richard
- GB Carol Jones
- U T Kee, R Wade, T Burton, J Pulsford

Thank You

Thanks to Judy Evans for doing the church linens in November/December and to Sandi West for doing them in January/February.

The Messenger

Don't miss the six-month calendar for the Diocese coming in January! Subscribe to The Messenger at 618-233-8670. To subscribe online go to www.bellevillemessenger.org

GOSPEL MEDITATION

December 26, 2021

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Families can be very difficult things to negotiate. This is true not only of our families of origin, the current family of which we are a part, the family of our Church, our society, and our global family as well. Everything human can be found in family stories. Those stories speak of wonderful life-giving successes as well as painful spirit-robbing abuses. Our greatest joys and our greatest wounds are usually connected with the experience of family. Our needs, experiences, and unresolved baggage often color what we bring to our familiar relationships. They contribute to our level of defensiveness, how guarded and protected we become, and what prejudices we believe.

In order to break the cycle of dysfunction we have to remember that it is not only by human effort that we negotiate the difficult and challenging events of our lives. There is a Divine Effort at work as well. For sure, the human effort can create quite a mess and easily destroy lives. This is true of any family with which we are associated. Today's Feast of the Holy Family serves to help us understand that there is a Divine Story being told as well. It is a story of perseverance in the face of hardship, determination in the face of despair, healing when we see nothing but wounds, and light where there is darkness.

Do we believe that God is always working, guiding, restoring, and leading? Unless we do, we will never be free from the imperfections and wounds that bind us and never be able to understand what it really means to forgive. Pope Francis tells us that the "light which comes from the Holy Family encourages us to offer human warmth to other families." While this is most certainly true, we can only really begin to do this when we realize that we are still works in progress, not anchored to the wounds and sins of our past, and still a leading star in God's continually unfolding story of love. The Holy Family persevered and radiated warmth because they knew they were not alone. We can too. ©LPi

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