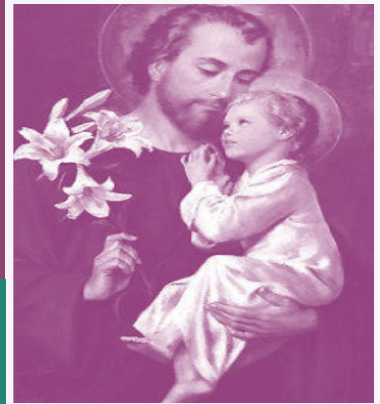


saint Joseph church  
December 19th, 2021



# 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday OF ADVENT



### Mission Statement

St. Joseph Catholic Church strives to be a living, growing community of prayer, support and service formed by the Gospel. We try to live out these Gospel values in our Catholic heritage and pass them onto the upcoming generations. In the spirit of Jesus we try to reach out to those among us who are in need of our support and care within our parish and beyond.

Pastor:

Msgr. James E. Margason

Pastoral Associate:

Deb Kuth  
lebstjoepa@gmail.com

Music Director:

Drew Cowell

Administrative Assistant:

Pattie Herr  
lebstjoe@gmail.com

Parish Office Hours:

Tuesday-Friday;  
8:30am-2pm  
Phone: 537-2575

Website:

[www.stjosephlebanon.org](http://www.stjosephlebanon.org)  
Facebook:  
Lebanon St. Joseph's Catholic Church

Corpus Christi Rectory/  
Office: 632-5631/7614



# Mass Intentions

December 19	Steve Hogg Don & Joe Christ
December 24	Jason Martin Mildred Mueller Hogg
December 26	Justin & Gera Thacker For the Partnership Parish
January 2	Vincent Hogg & Family Blessings & Good Health

## Heavenly Father we pray for. . .

Christina Fairlie	Father James Margason
Jerry Ohanian	Theresa Keeper
Diane Sonneman	

We also pray for their loved ones and caregivers.  
May they never lose sight of the love of God.

For those serving in the Military -  
May God protect those who protect us!



To assist you with your 2021 tax deductions, all contributions must be dated no later than December 31 and received in the Parish Office no later than January 16, 2022.

Thank you for your Patronage!

### Weekly Readings Week of December 19, 2021

Sunday:	Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/ Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45
Monday:	Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 7c and 10b]/Lk 1:26-38
Tuesday:	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11- 12, 20-21 [1a; 3a]/Lk 1:39-45
Wednesday:	1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd [cf. 1a]/Lk 1:46-56
Thursday:	Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14 [cf. Lk 21:28]/Lk 1:57-66
Friday:	Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 [2]/Lk 1:67-79
Saturday:	Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 [2a]/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25 Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 [Lk 2:11]/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14 Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20 Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3c]/ Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

## December 19, 2021 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

St. Augustine tells us that a “Christian is a mind through which Christ thinks, a heart through which Christ loves, a voice through which Christ speaks and a hand through which Christ helps.” As we look around and out at the world, we do not have to search too far before we come face to face with inequity and injustice. There is so much unfairness, prejudice, anger, hatred, violence, and want. The stories of human heartache, people being hurt, deprived of life’s necessities, loneliness, and sickness are far too commonplace. For many of the world’s ills, the vices of greed, lust, pride, gluttony, and jealousy are clearly among the more significant root causes.

Why doesn’t God just step in and fix this mess? After all, God created this world, and one would hope that he would step up and take some measure of responsibility for it! Once we sit with this thinking for a while, we can begin to realize just how flawed it really is. God did take responsibility and God did fix the problem! God sent us Jesus Christ as the divine solution to the world’s ills. It is not God who has shirked responsibility, we have. We are the ones who continually fail to set our own personal needs, wants, and securities aside so that One more powerful than us can use us.

Mary had to set her needs aside in order for the Son of God to come into the world. Put simply, Mary listened and believed. Having opened herself to being an instrument of the Divine, God could use her as his mind, heart, voice, and hand. She became God’s vessel so that God’s greatness could reach the ends of the earth and peace could come upon the world. God’s fix for the world’s difficulties is you and me. We are the ones who confess that Jesus Christ came into the world as the Son of God, the Prince of Peace, and herald of justice. All we have to do is believe, as did Mary, that what has been spoken to us by the Lord will be fulfilled. Then, we can step aside and be the Christians we claim to be. What a difference it would make if every person who professed to be Christian truly understood that their one and only vocation is to be God’s instrument. What a beautiful, equitable, and just world it would be. ©LPi



### The Giving Tree

St. Joseph is again sponsoring a Giving Tree this Advent. There is a tree in the Vestibule with hand carved ornaments made by Tom Vernier. For a minimum donation of \$5, the donor can pick the ornament of their choice. Donations can be made in cash or check payable to St. Joseph.

All Donations benefit Holy Angels Shelter

**Diocesan Christmas Collection December 24-25**



The 44th Annual Diocesan Christmas Collection will be taken up at all Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Parishes and agencies throughout the diocese will request monies from this collection during 2022 to assist those who are in need with food, clothing, shelter, utility payments, healthcare and medications, funeral and burial expenses, transportation and emergency assistance of all types. Please consider giving as you are able. Many people benefit from the Christmas Collection. Thank you so much. . .

**December 19 –**



The vocation of Jesus Christ was to be born and incarnate to our world, humbling Himself from eternity into the temporal of our world. In the same way, our vocation calls us to humble ourselves and enter into the unknown to be stretched beyond what we can normally do in our human capacity. We celebrate this Christmas as a model for our own call to service and gift, knowing that the way won't be easy. Mary and Joseph sacrificed much in their "yes" to vocation to allow Jesus to redeem the world. We are called to that same "yes" for Jesus!

**JOIN US CHRISTMAS EVE**

*Mass*

*Friday  
December 24  
2021*

Mass at 4 p.m.

Join us in Celebrating the Birth of Jesus

St. Joseph Catholic Church  
901 N. Alton  
Lebanon, IL 62254

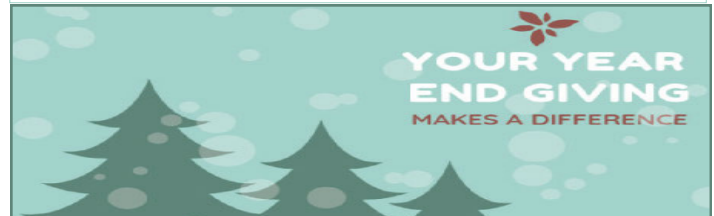
Please Call the Parish Office for Questions at (618)-537-2575



December 20	Mark Wilhelm
December 21	Kelly Rutherford
December 22	Susan Knapp
December 24	Claire Buechele
	Paige Buechele
December 25	Mari Hansen

**Tithe & Offerings  
Attendance Dec 8 (30)  
December 12 - 46**

Weekly Offering	\$3,415.00
Loose	\$ 20.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 15.00
Christmas Offering	\$ 25.00
Hall Rental	\$ 100.00
Retired Religious	\$ 93.00
Christmas Needy Collection	\$ 10.00
Building Collection	\$ 65.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 190.00
Giving Tree Ornament	\$ 105.00
Matthew Ministries	\$ 25.00
<b>Total Collections</b>	<b>\$4,063.00</b>



Congratulations to Alan & Stephanie (Copelin) Sax on your recent nuptials. Blessings to the Happy Couple!



NO PSR  
December 26 & January 2

Enjoy your holidays!



December 19	Cookie Exchange & Manger Set up immediately after Mass
December 24	Christmas Eve Mass 4:00 PM at Both St Joseph & Corpus Christi
December 25	Christmas Mass at Corpus Christi 9AM
December 26	10:30 AM Mass St. Joseph/NO PSR

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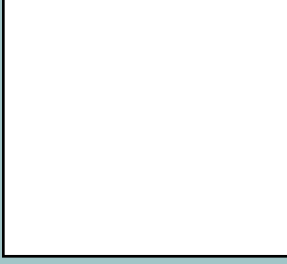
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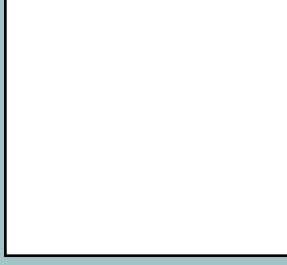
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