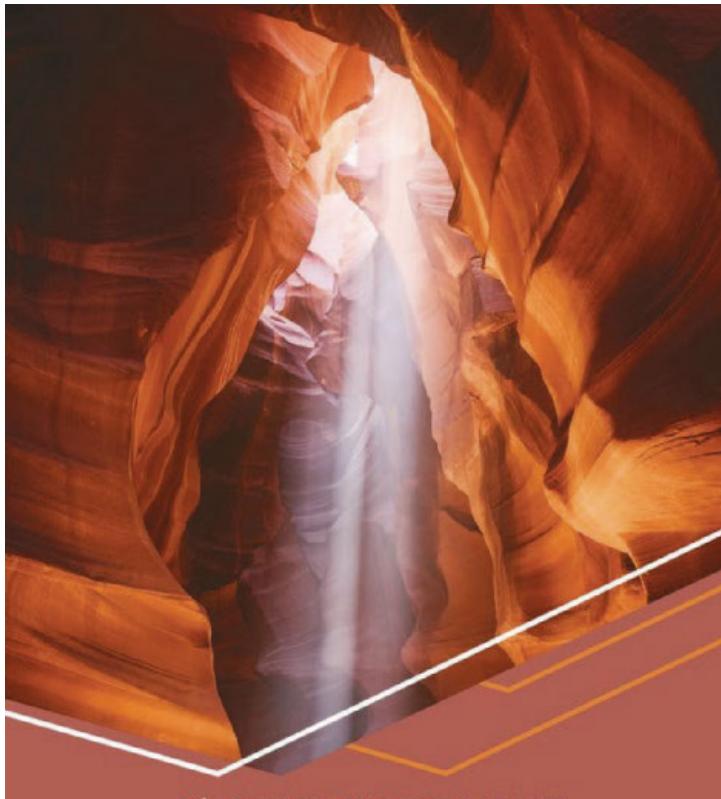


Established 1763

March 30, 2025

Saint Joseph Church



4th SUNDAY OF LENT

"His son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son.' But his father ordered his servants, 'Let us celebrate with a feast, because this son of mine was dead, and has come to life again.'" - Lk 15:21-22a, 23b-24a

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass © 2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

4590 St. Joseph Way, Pomfret, MD 20675
301-539-3903 (office) | 301-539-3912 (fax)
stjoepomfret.weconnect.com

Office hours: M-Th 9am-4pm, F 9am-12pm

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 4:00pm
Sunday 9:00am, 11:00am
M-Th 9:00am

Holy Days see website

CONFESION SCHEDULE

Saturday 3:00-3:45pm in the confessional
Or by appointment

Pastor Reverend Harry Stokes stjoepastor@comcast.net

Permanent Deacon

Deacon Johnny Barnes

Parish Secretary

Beth DeLabar
stjoeoffice@comcast.net

Permanent Deacon

Deacon Jim Tittinger
jim.tittinger@comcast.net

Administrative Assistant

stjoeapa@comcast.net

Religious Education/

Youth Ministry Coordinator
Vacant
stjoeformation@comcast.net

Director of Music

Andrew Blumhardt
stjoomusic@comcast.net

Bookkeeper

Property Caretaker
André Martin

WE WALK BY FAITH IN HIS PRESENCE

A EUCHARISTIC PROCESSION
SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2025

BE PART OF THIS EVENT IN
WHATEVER WAY YOU ARE
ABLE. PLEASE REGISTER NOW!



PARISH AND COMMUNITY

St. Joseph's Women's Group presents the following events:

Quarter Auction in PC on Sunday, April 27, 2025

Please note that this event is scheduled for Sunday NOT the usual Friday. More details to follow.

Community Outdoor Flea Market in New Parking Lot

Saturday, May 10, 2025 from 9am - 3pm

(Rain Date: May 17, 2025)

12th Annual Potter's Bowl Dinner --- SUPPER WITH SINATRA!

Sat, April 12, 2025, 5:00pm in Parish Center, \$70.00/person

This year, we have invited a Frank Sinatra tribute singer to serenade us while we enjoy our Italian feast! Your ticket includes a hand crafted pasta bowl. Thanks to you and the generosity of our 100 Women of Carmel volunteers and donors, 100% of the proceeds will go toward helping to cover the cost of improving the safety of the walkways throughout the grounds of the Mt. Carmel campus. **Reservations: Ann Rees (410) 991-8848**

First Sunday Mass & Fellowship

Join us on the First Sunday of every month for a special First Sunday Mass at St. Joseph - Pomfret. This Mass offers a unique opportunity for families and parishioners of all ages to come together in reverence, fellowship, and learning. After Mass, we invite you to Brady Hall for donuts and a brief faith talk focused on deepening our understanding of the Catholic faith.

This is a wonderful chance to nourish both body and soul as we grow together as a parish family. Whether you're new to the faith or a lifelong Catholic, our First Sunday gatherings are for everyone! Come for the Mass, stay for the fellowship. We look forward to seeing you there!



FOOD DRIVE

FAST * PRAY* GIVE
ST. JOSEPH FAITH FORMATION
LENTEN FOOD DRIVE
March 10 – April 7, 2025



The three pillars of Lent are:
Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving.

As part of our commitment to service, we are hosting for the St. Joseph's Food Pantry.

Items Needed:

Instant Mashed Potatoes

Rice

Pasta

Spaghetti Sauce

Jelly/Jam

Peanut Butter

Canned Fruit

Canned Vegetables



Drop Off:

**Brady Hall on Mondays
 before or after class
 or in drop box
 in the church.**



Thank you to all of our volunteers, sponsors and players for another successful Purse Bingo! Please save the date for our next event scheduled for September 20, 2025.

Line Dancing...



Join us in the Parish Center after the 11:00am Mass on Sunday, March 30, for an hour of line dancing, including instruction. Young or old, experienced or not...join us for a little bit of fun! Bring some water with you.

BULLETIN BITE

Covering Statues and Images for Passiontide

As we approach Passiontide, the final two weeks of Lent, you may notice that statues and images in the church are covered with purple veils. This tradition, which begins on the Fifth Sunday of Lent, also known as Passion Sunday, serves as a powerful visual reminder of the somber and penitential nature of this time leading up to Easter. The practice of covering sacred images during Passiontide helps us to focus more intensely on the mysteries of Christ's Passion and to enter more deeply into the spirit of Lent.

The veiling of statues and images has its roots in the medieval Church, where it was customary to drape large, often elaborate, Lenten veils across the sanctuary. Over time, this practice evolved into the more common tradition of covering individual statues and crucifixes. The purple veils symbolize penance and mourning, inviting us to turn our attention inward and to reflect on the suffering and sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

By covering these sacred images, the Church aims to create a sense of anticipation and longing. The temporary absence of these visual reminders of the saints and of Christ Himself highlights the stark reality of Jesus' impending Passion and death. It also mirrors the Gospel reading for Passion Sunday, where Jesus "hid himself" from the people (John 8:59). The veiling of images fosters a deeper sense of reflection and anticipation, leading us to a more profound appreciation of the joy and glory of the Resurrection.

The practice of covering statues and images also invites us to consider the role of sensory deprivation in our spiritual lives. By removing these familiar sights, we are encouraged to focus more fully on the Word of God and the liturgical actions of the Mass. This period of visual fasting can heighten our awareness of the sacred mysteries we are preparing to celebrate and deepen our spiritual preparation for Holy Week and Easter.

As we enter Passiontide, let us embrace this tradition with a spirit of humility and reverence. The veiling of statues and images is a call to deepen our prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, and to enter more fully into the mystery of Christ's Passion. It is an invitation to walk with Jesus on His journey to the cross, to share in His suffering, and to prepare our hearts for the joy of His Resurrection.

May this practice of covering statues and images during Passiontide help us to focus more intently on the love and sacrifice of Jesus Christ. As we approach Holy Week, let us open our hearts to the grace and mercy that flow from His Passion and prepare ourselves to celebrate the glory of the Resurrection with renewed faith and devotion.

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

PARISH AND COMMUNITY

Mass, Adoration and Confession

Wednesday Night from 6:30pm - 8pm in the church

(No 9am Mass - ONLY 6:30pm)

THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU - Confession is offered after Mass.

Lenten Soup Suppers

Friday Night from 6pm - 7:15pm in the PC (except Apr 4 in AC)

Come and enjoy hot soup with your fellow parishioners. All are welcome. No cost.

Stations of the Cross

Fridays at 7:30pm in the church

Come and pray with Jesus through His Passion.

Knights of Columbus Fish Fry

Friday, April 11, from 6pm - 7:15pm in the PC

More details to come.



Holy Week Schedule

More details to come.

Easter Memorial Flowers

Anyone interested in having Easter flowers placed on the altar in memory of a loved one can do so by completing an Easter Memorial Flower envelope (available in the foyer) and dropping it in the collection basket with a suggested donation of \$20.00.

Easter Egg Hunt

Get your egg baskets ready! There will be an Easter Egg Hunt at St. Joseph's on Easter Sunday after the 11:00am Mass in the cemetery. Don't forget to bring your baskets.



Devotions, Explained! The Sign of the Cross

Christians have been making the sign of the cross since ancient times. It is not only an important component of formal liturgies and sacramental rites, but also a daily devotional practice whereby the faithful invoke the blessing and protection of God.

MASS INTENTIONS AND PARISH ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30 <i>4th Sunday of Lent</i> <i>Second Collection Catholic Relief Services</i>	31	April 1	2 St. Francis of Paola	3	4 St. Isidore  <i>First Friday</i>	5 St. Vincent Ferrer  7:30am 8:00am Mass Souls in Purgatory 
8:15am Rosary	8:30am Rosary	8:30am Rosary	8:30am Rosary	8:30am Rosary	9:00am CH Rosary (no Mass) 9:45am AC Rosary Fellowship 	9:30am Eucharistic Procession starts at MD Readiness Center 
9:00am Mass James F. Mackert †	9:00am Mass Kelly Moorleghen 9:30am AC Bible Study	9:00am Mass Carolyn Vice † 9:30am AC Prayer Group	No 9:00am Mass	9:00am Mass Joseph Lombardi	6:00pm PC Soup Supper 	4:00pm Mass Carolyn Vice †
11:00pm Mass Paul Dover †						Sunday April 6 9:00am Mass James F. Makert † 11:00am Mass Joseph Mona †
12:15pm PC Line Dancing 			6:30pm Mass Deacon John Barnes Confessions/ Adoration 	6:30pm AC 1st Reconciliation/ 1st Communion 	7:00pm AC Women's Group	7:30pm CH Stations of the Cross
7:45pm AC NA	7:45pm AC/Zoom OCIA (aka RCIA)	7:30pm AC KOC Meeting 	8:00pm AC(BH) AA/Al-Anon			

Location Key: **AC** = Activity Center; **CH** = Church; **PC** = Parish Center; **PO** = Parish Office; **PG**=Parish Grounds

Mass Color Key: **Purple** = Advent/Lent; **Red** = Passion Sunday, Good Friday, Pentecost, Apostles and Martyrs; **Gold** = White = Easter and Christmas Seasons, Blessed Mother, Saints; **Rose/Pink** = 3rd Sunday Advent, 4th Sunday Lent ; **Green** = Ordinary Time

PARISH INFORMATION

MARCH 30, 2025

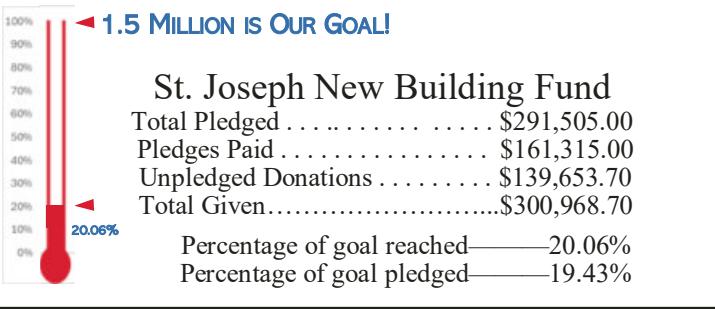
COLLECTION REPORT

March 22/23, 2025

Offertory & gifts (in-pew)	\$6,456.00
Online offertory & gifts.	\$2,377.65
Total	\$8,883.65
Amount Needed to cover parish weekly budget.	\$10,400.00
Poor Box*.	\$3,080.58

Thank you for your generosity.

**If you are using the Poor Box to make your offertory donation, please do not use your offertory envelope. Use a separate envelope and clearly mark it as donation. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we navigate the Archdiocese's financial changes.*



For information about the Maurice J. McDonough Council 12128 of the Knights of Columbus, please call or text Ric Navarro, FS, at 301-643-6626.

PRIVILEGED TO SERVE Ministries at St. Joseph's -- April 5/6

Celebrant(s)	Communion Ministers	Lector
4:00pm Fr. Harry Stokes	Maria Murga Joe Jaworski	Meegan Lyles
9:00am Fr. Harry Stokes	Joe Johnson Mary Beth Gawthrop	Lisa Counts
11:00am Fr. Harry Stokes	Carol Kenney Chris Young	Destiny Dudley

Church Cleaners April 4

Team 8: Rosemary Yestramski, Debbie Milstead, Patricia Maynard, Ally & Ryan Jimenez

Altar Guild April 5

Team 3: Debbie Goodwin, Sonny Militar

Do you have a broken rosary?

Parishioner Diane Kenney has graciously offered to repair our broken rosaries free of charge! Put your rosary in a plastic bag with your name and phone number and place it in the basket in the vestibule. Diane will call you when your rosary has been repaired.

OUR PARISH



St. Joseph's - Pomfret



@ # stjoepomfret

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH, Pomfret

Parish Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9am - 4pm

PARISH MEMBERSHIP

We welcome new families and individuals to our parish. Please register as soon as possible. **Benefits of membership are extended to those who have been registered for at least six months and who are actively participating in parish life and are known to the pastor.** Registration forms are available in the back of the church, the parish office or download from the website. Forms can be returned via the collection basket, the mail or to the parish office. Please note that once children leave the household they should register on their own.

PARISH COUNCIL

Vanessa Aportadera (Chair), Betsy Chalifoux, Kimberly Floehr, Mary Beth Gawthrop, Tammy Hilburn, Jojo Manato, Maggie Murgia, Joshua Namyst, Seth Rak

FINANCE COUNCIL

Harry Shasho (Chair), Maggie Murgia, Rich Muscato, Pamela Young

SECURITY COUNCIL

Ray Aportadera (Chair), Bruce Gentile, Edward Holland

BAPTISM—Parents desiring Baptism for their child should register at tinyurl.com/stjoebaptism. Our DRE will then contact you for class requirements and scheduling. Classes meet monthly with a few exceptions. Parents requesting baptism should be registered for at least six (6) months and be regularly attending Mass.

MARRIAGE—Couples must make arrangements with the pastor at least six months prior to the proposed wedding date. No date can be guaranteed before meeting with the pastor.

PARISH CENTER—Please contact the parish office for rental information.

PARISH CEMETERY—Please call Catholic Cemeteries at 301-475-5005 or 301-932-1766.

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION—We welcome non-Catholics who are interested in joining the Catholic Church or in learning more about the Catholic faith, as well as Catholics who have not received First Holy Communion or Confirmation. Classes take place on Monday at 7:45pm in person or via Zoom. Please contact the parish office for more information.

NEW PARISHIONERS—Welcome to our parish community! Please obtain a registration form in the back of the church or contact the parish office. Please also notify the parish office if you change your address or move from the parish.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK—Please call the parish office to inform us of anyone who is hospitalized or confined at home and would like to receive a visit, Communion and/or anointing.

VOCATION CORNER



Vocations Cross Devotion

Please consider signing up for the Vocations Cross. This devotion requires praying for a few minutes each day for just one week.

Scan the QR code



or sign-up online at <https://giving.parishsoft.com/App/Form/cfd7c738-34d1-4845-a63b-5397ebd309a0>

or call Georgiana at 301-643-0948.

**GOD'S ON THE LINE.
DON'T HANG UP!**

Vocations Are Everybody's Business



SHORT-TERM: Bill Baker, Joyce, Gentilo, Joseph Lombardi, Jan & Bob Barr, Lauren Walker, Bruce Day, David Hunt, Dennis Hunt, Addison Cross, Nate Wood, Sydney Tyler, Greta Tyler, Wayne Swann, John Winborne, David Douglas, Mira Recchio, Steve Winkler, Alonzo Hart, Paul Short, Barbara Sazynski, Mary Allan, Joyce May Proctor, Steven Anderson, Meghan Allen, Mike Mudd, Debbie King, Janice Simpson, Yvette Countryman, Sandy Tolson

UPDATING OUR PRAYER LIST: Names will remain on our short-term list for 3 months. Call the parish office to re-request a name after 3 months or to remove a name when the person has regained health.

CONTINUING: Johnny Abell, Tony Anderson, Steve Bautista, Kevin Bean, Linda Blesy, William Briggs, Fina Broadwater, Judy Burke, Richard Buschman, Joyce Clements, James Russell Cooper, Therese Curry, Margaret Dillon, Diane Dries, Anita Elder, Margaret Ferguson, Shoko Ferguson, Walter Glovan, James Green, Zynae Green, Peggy Gregory, Joe Hebb, Mary Hill, Brenda J. Jenkins, Joan Johnson, Lorraine Kozloski-Celijewski, Katie Lakie, Ellen Lariscy, Christopher Lee, Sam Lombardi, Colleen Long, Meegan Lyles, Alice McGriff, Jill Morris, Chris Moorhouse, Joey Moughan, Martin Muschette, Sr., Vera O'Boyle, Kim Owens, Richard Patton, William Patton, Jr., Tammy Payne, Richard Pickeral, Theresa Pickeral, Derrick Proctor, Eulo Regala, Dotty Rembish, April Sheffield, Angela Smith, Dolores Steinhilber, Vicki Thompson, Billy Vogelson III, Kimberly J. Walker, Regina Weist, Thomas Wellons, Wilhelmenia Winston

OUR ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY:

Air Force: SSgt Kamryn A. Dyson, TSgt Sam Martinez, Jr., E5 Justin Phelps, SSgt Marco D. Proctor, MSgt Ronald Panciera III, SSgt Danielle Panciera, Maj Jimmy Tittinger USAF, Capt Shane Tittinger USAF

Army: WO3 Kevin Toomey, Staff Sgt Brandon Robey Wilson, Sgt Ryan King, Sgt John Williams, CPT Kevin Burns, MAJ Jonathan Swan

Coast Guard: SN Cole J. Jackson, E4 Ryan M. Lloyd

Navy: PO2 Zachary D. Proctor, Patrick Ryan, Mark Cahill, LT David M. Phelps

RECENTLY DECEASED: Marcia Hildreth, Judy Heiston

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