# SAINT JOSEPH ON THE BRANDYWINE

**A Catholic Community within the Diocese of Wilmington**
**Member Brandywine Hundred Deanery**

## *Pastor*

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## *Pastoral Associates*

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Deacon Michael J. Stankewicz
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## *Schedule of Masses*

Saturday Vigil – 5:00 p.m.
Sunday – 7:30 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.
Monday & Wednesday – 7:00 a.m.
Tuesday & Thursday – 12:05 p.m.
Friday – No Mass

First Saturday – 8:00 a.m.
Recitation of the Holy Rosary follows Mass.
Holy Days as announced.

## *Address*

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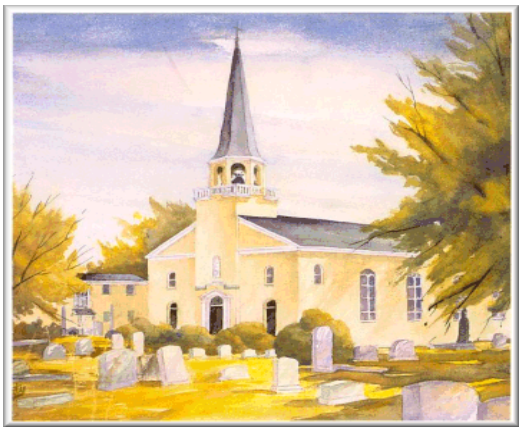

*W. James McGlynn'90 Founded 1841*

## *Reconciliation*

Saturday – 4:00 p.m. & by appointment.

## *Sick Calls*

Contact the Parish Office.

## *Baptism, Funeral, & Marriage*

Contact the Parish Office.

## *Communion to those unable to come to Mass*

If you or a family member are not able to come to Mass and would like to receive communion, please contact the Parish Office.

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## Pastor's Notes

**Jesus speaks to us today about his identity as our King and Judge. He separates those who inherit the kingdom from those who do not. The King explains, "Whatever you did for one of the least brothers of mine, you did for me" (Matthew 25:40). His judgment hinges on willingness to participate in love. Heaven is not a prize imposed at the end of life. It is a life freely chosen and engaged. Hell is not a destination prepared for human beings, but a terrible and sad acknowledgment of an opting out which God never intends for us.**

**Jesus' role as judge proclaims to us: "Heaven only works if you actually want to love." How do we know if we want it? How we serve the hungry, the sick, the imprisoned, and the forgotten. These acts of mercy are not arbitrary tests. They are the very shape of divine life. There is no better game to play than this. We ought to begin playing it right now. The King will come to judge us.**







**If you're visiting us for the first time today, we're happy you're here. May you find St. Joseph on the Brandywine a place that becomes a true spiritual home where you grow in faith, connect with others, and share your unique gifts. You may register online or by stopping by the parish office.**




## About Choral Music

**The Church, on this last Sunday of the liturgical year, celebrate the sovereignty of Jesus Christ, The readings and psalm portray our Lord as a loving shepherd who cares for his sheep.**

**Presented as a prelude to the Mass, *Let All the World in Every Corner Sing* was composed by Ralph Vaughn William (1872-1958). The piece is the finale of his *Five Mystical Songs* (1911). The words are by 17th-century poet George Herbert. Vaughan Williams used a musical technique called "text painting" to physically match the words with the music. When the choir sings that "the heavens are not too high," the high voices take the melody; when they sing "the earth is not too low," the low voices take the lead. As the work builds to a climatic end, bringing the song to "ev'ry corner" of the earth, the vocal parts are layered, one over the other, creating a rich and full sound of a worldwide chorus shouting out in praise.**

**The hymn at the Preparation of Gifts is *Christus vincit.* This Latin antiphon translates to "Christ conquers, Christ reigns, Christ commands". It is an ancient Christian acclamation, famously used in the traditional Laudes Regiae (Royal Praises) chanted at coronations and the Feast of Christ the King. Historically, the phrase has been inscribed on papal coins, church monuments, and various coats of arms.**

**The Song of Praise is *My Shepherd Is Lord* by Harrison Oxley (1933-2009), using text from Psalm 23, prays, "My shepherd is Lord, I have all I need." We leave this liturgical year with the joy and comfort of knowing that our God is both all-powerful and gentle and loving toward us. We have all that we need!**

## Faith Formation

**This Sunday, as we celebrate the Feast of Christ the King, we bring the Church year to a close by reflecting on the life and teachings of Jesus, who ushers in a new way to perceive kingship. In the Gospel, Jesus reminds us that his kingdom is one of love, mercy, compassion, and service. He teaches us that when we care for those who are hungry, thirsty, lonely, or in need, we are caring for him. As we continue our Faith Formation journey, may we encourage our children to listen with the ear of their hearts so they can recognize Jesus in those around them and respond with kindness, generosity, and love. As we prepare to begin a new liturgical year, may we grow ever closer to Christ and share His love through our everyday actions.**

**Faith Formation Schedule Reminder: There will be no Faith Formation classes next Monday, November 23 in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday. In this season of Thanksgiving, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to our catechists, volunteers, and snack providers who generously share their time, talents, and gifts to make our time together so special. Your presence and willingness to serve help create a welcoming community where our children can learn, grow, and experience God's love. Thank you! Classes will resume on Monday, November 30, when we will gather for an All-Family Advent Prayer Service to begin the Advent season together in prayer. Details will be sent to families. We look forward to celebrating this special evening with everyone!**

### Save the Date! Breakfast in Bethlehem – December 6

**Join us on Sunday, December 6, following the 10:00 am Mass, for Breakfast in Bethlehem! Enjoy bagels, fruit, yogurt, pastries, coffee, and juice while sharing in fun, intergenerational activities and crafts celebrating the Advent season. All parishioners and visitors are welcome as we gather as a parish community and prepare our hearts for Christmas. We hope to see you there!**

**As part of our parish's Baskets for Babies ministry, sponsored by the Respect Life Committee, we will be collecting new baby items and clothing for a baby girl at Breakfast in Bethlehem. Clothing in all sizes is welcome! Donations will be shared with Birthright of Delaware to help support a mother and welcome her precious new baby. All gifts will be distributed in December. Thank you for helping us celebrate the gift of life and share the spirit of generosity this Advent season!**

### Bringing Communion to the Sick and Homebound

**Our ministry of bringing Holy Communion to the sick and homebound is expanding, thanks to additional parishioners who have volunteered to serve in this important ministry. We are grateful for their willingness to help ensure that members of our parish family who are unable to attend Mass remain connected to the Eucharist and our faith community. If you or someone you know is homebound or unable to participate in Mass and would like to receive Holy Communion at home, please contact the parish office.**

### Are you interested in getting more involved in the parish?

**We are looking for additional Extraordinary Ministers for both Mass and serving the homebound and sick. Please contact Barbara Loeslein at loesleinbarbara@gmail.com.**

## Mass Intentions

**Saturday, Nov. 21st**
**5:00 p.m. Kathryn Magerr by David & Darlene Magerr**
**Sunday, Nov. 22nd**
**7:30 a.m. Parish & Donald Courtney by Pat & Terry Blewett**
**10:00 a.m. Sister Imelda Dooley by Barbara & Pat Bagley**
**Monday, Nov. 23rd**
**7:00 a.m. Martin Cormican by Theresa Glynn**
**Tuesday, Nov. 24th**
**12:05 p.m. Gerry Romans by Bernard Brady**
**Wednesday, Nov. 25th**
**7:00 a.m. Franciszek Malinger by Maria Rafalski**
**Thursday, Nov. 26th Thanksgiving Day**
**9:00 a.m. Vince McCorkle by family**
**Friday, Nov. 27th** ***No Mass***
**Saturday, Nov. 28th**
**5:00 p.m. Matthew Tyler Snook by Bernard Brady**

***Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.***

**We will celebrate one Mass Thanksgiving Day at 9 a.m. to thank God in prayer and song for blessings received individually, as a family parish and nation. The offices will be closed on Thursday & Friday November 26 & 27.**

### Prayer for Thanksgiving

**Lord, we thank you**
**for the goodness of our people**
**and for the spirit of justice**
**that fills this nation.**
**We thank you for the beauty and fullness of the**
**land and the challenge of the cities.**
**We thank you for our work and our rest,**
**for one another, and for our homes.**
**We thank you, Lord:**
**accept our thanksgiving on this day.**
**We pray and give thanks through Jesus Christ our Lord.**
Amen.





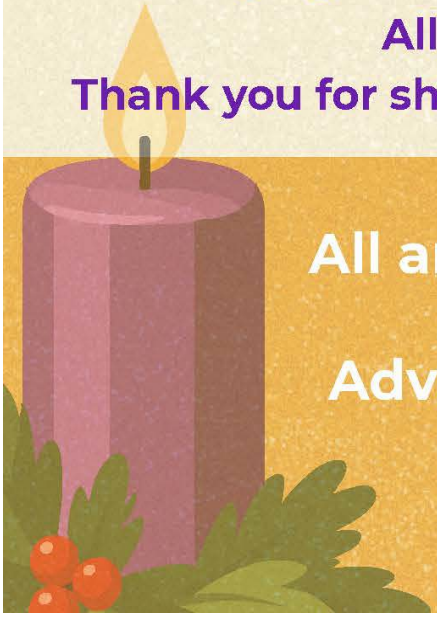

**Please join us for an Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service, hosted this year by Saint Joseph on the Brandywine Parish on Tuesday, November 24, at 7:30 PM in the Church. Members of our parish choir will be joined by choir members from Lower Brandywine Presbyterian Church, Green Hill Presbyterian Church, and St. Michael Lutheran Church. The pastors from each of these churches, along with our pastor, Msgr. John Hopkins, will lead the service that will include beautiful choral selections and congregational singing. A reception in the Family Center will follow the approximately 45-50 minute service.**

# Breakfast in Bethlehem

## Sunday, December 6
## Following the 10 am Mass

Celebrate the season of Advent with your parish family! Breakfast in Bethlehem is a special intergenerational gathering where all ages can come together for a joyful morning as we prepare our hearts for Christmas.

**Help support our parish's Baskets for Babies ministry by bringing a new baby item or clothing for a baby girl.**
**All clothing sizes are welcome!**
**Thank you for sharing the joy of giving this Advent season!**



## All are invited to join in the spirit of the season with breakfast and Advent-themed crafts and activities!

A special thank-you to our Knights of Columbus for helping to sponsor this event.

## Cemetery Christmas Decorations




**St. Joseph on the Brandywine is once again offering our Christmas Decoration Program featuring fresh evergreen blankets or decorative cemetery logs, and pots for cemetery sites.**

**We even do the decorating for you! It's easy to take advantage of this convenient way to remember your loved ones.**

**Prices include the decoration, delivery and installation on the grave, and disposal after the Christmas season.**

**Christmas Decorations are available for order until December 13th. Decorations will be placed beginning in early December.**

**Item Descriptions can be viewed on our website.**

**Decorations may differ slightly from the photos shown.**

**ITEM A ($119) - Grave Mound with fresh evergreens, artificial poinsettias, baby's breath, pinecones, and ribbon**

**ITEM B ($95) - Grave log - fresh evergreens with artificial Poinsettias, baby's breath, pinecones, and a red ribbon.**

**ITEM C ($50) - Christmas Evergreens in a Pot: fresh evergreens with artificial Poinsettias, baby's breath, pinecones**

**Christmas Clean up begins January 31, pending ground conditions.**
***Please remove any holiday decorations you wish to keep by January 30.***

**Thank you for helping keep our cemeteries beautiful and safe for all.**

**For selections and to purchase visit https://stjosephonthebrandywine.org/cemetery-christmas**

## Making Spirits Bright




**The Advent Angel Tree is an annual ministry of St. Joseph on the Brandywine with the mission of assisting the needy. It is an opportunity to bring the love of Christ to our neighbors in need during the Christmas season.**

**We work closely with difference organizations and churches within the Diocese of Wilmington to help as many families as possible. *Monies raised will be used for rental and electric assistance for our families in need.***

**Thanks to the generosity of St. Joseph on the Brandywine parishioners, this program has been very successful in the past.**

**We ask that all donations be given by Wednesday, December 16th.**

**Donations by Credit Card, Debit Card, or e-Check can be made on our website.**

**Donations of Gift Cards or by Check:**
**In addition to monetary donations, we are also collecting gift cards and/or checks. For your convenience, there will be a basket in the church to accept donations and/or gift cards. You may also mail a donation to St Joseph on the Brandywine in an envelope clearly labeled "Advent Angel Program."**

- **The most needed gift cards are from Walmart, ShopRite, Aldi, Walgreens, Wawa, and Dollar Tree. Other gift cards are also acceptable.**
- **Donations by check should be made payable to St. Joseph on the Brandywine with "ADVENT ANGEL" on the memo line.**
- **Please place your donations in the collection basket at Mass, mail them to the parish office, or place them in the locked drop box outside the Family Center.**

**Thank you for your continued generosity & support to Advent Angels.**

***If you have any questions, please call the Parish Office.***

## Christmas Concert



Please join us on Sunday, December 13, at 2 PM in the Church for our annual parish Christmas Concert presented by the Music Ministry of the parish. This year, the first half of the concert will feature a collection of classical Christmas works for choir, organ, and chamber ensemble. The second half of the concert is devoted to traditional Christmas Carols with participation by the assembly, joining the ensemble of voices and instruments.

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