SAINT JOHN THE APOSTLE

506 SEABURY AVE., MILFORD, DE 19963

EMAIL ADDRESS: stjohn@stjohnsmilford.com **WEBSITE:** WWW.STJOHNSMILFORD.COM

Fourth Sunday of Advent December 19, 2021

Parish Office (St. John) 302-422-5123

Parish Office (St. Bernadette) 302-398-8269

Rev. Anthony Giamello, Pastor	pastor@stjohnsmilford.com
Rev. Johnny Laura Lazo	422-5123 x 102
Mr. Phillip Gonzalez, Deacon	908-405-3056
Mr. Scott Landis, Deacon	424-2259
Mr. John Molitor, Deacon	570-916-9608
Mr. Nick Vasquez, Deacon	302-363-7698
Vivian Alvarado, Executive Secret	tary 422-5123 ext. 100
Darcee Impagliazzo, Bookkeeper	422-5123 ext. 104
Carole Giarmo, Music Director	422-5123
Society of St. Vincent De Paul	841-5096
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Religious Education

St. John

Coordinator of Religious Education ext. 103 Judy Purcell ccdstjohn@stjohnsmilford.com

St. Bernadette 398-8269

Judy Purcell Coordinator of Religious Education 398-8269 ext. 201 ccdstbernadette@stjohnsmilford.com 398-8269 ext. 200 Vivian Alvarado Executive Secretary

St. John Mass Schedule

Saturday Evening: 5:00PM, First Saturday Only 9AM

Sunday: 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM, 6:00 PM (español)

Monday: 12:00 PM Tuesday: 9:00 AM Thursday: 9:00 AM Friday: 9:00AM

St. Bernadette Mass Schedule

Saturday: 4:00 PM Sunday: 10:00 AM Wednesday: 9:00 AM

Confession:

St. John - Saturday 4:00 PM - 4:45PM or by appointment *The last confession on Saturday will be heard at 4:45pm St. Bernadette– Saturday 3:15pm - 3:45pm



Check us out on Facebook by searching St. John the Apostle/Bernadette Parish

Sacrament of Baptism: Parents seeking to have their children baptized should be registered with our parish. Applications for Baptism may be found on our website or picked up in the parish office. Once your application is completed and submitted to the office you will be registered for the Baptismal class and then will be able to schedule your child's Baptism.

Sacrament of Marriage: Arrangements for Marriage must be made one year in advance by contacting a Parish priest to set the wedding date and to plan for pre-Cana instruction.

Holy Orders and Religious Life: If you believe you have, or someone you know has, a vocation to the priesthood or religious life, please contact Fr. Norman Carroll at 302) 573-3113.

Hospital Visitation: If a member of the family is in the hospital and would like to be visited, please call the Parish Office.

Parish Registration: We kindly request that all those who attend mass register with the parish. Registration forms are available at the exits of the church or may be mailed to you.

Envelopes/Weekly Offering: All parishioners are strongly encouraged to make use of the parish envelopes which assist us in predicting our income and preparing our budget for expenses. A record of yearly contributions are kept for you in our office and can be provided for income tax purposes. Thank you for your continued support.

Online Giving: is available for those prefer electronic giving. Log on to our website and look for the PARISH SOFT ONLINE GIVING button.

Office Hours: St. John - Mon, Tues, Thurs & Friday 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Wed 12:30pm - 4:00pm.

St. Bernadette - 8:30am to 12:00pm (Wednesday)

Parish Council Members

Dawn Curtiss, Ron DiMeo, Andrew Fulton, Filadelfo Gonzalez, Michael Gumrot, Marcus Hammond, Kevin Joseph, Summer Lewis, Stephanie McDonough, Jeannette Minner, Ramon Quinene, Alberto Ramos, Kathy Trombello, Mike Welsh & Cindy Zarraga

> SAINT BERNADETTE CHURCH 302-398-8269 109 Dixon St., Harrington, DE 19952

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Parishioners,

There are some stories that we never get tired of hearing or telling. This is especially true of the Christmas story. Although it records the story of God's love, Christmas is far more than a story. At the heart of Christmas is a Person! God's Only-begotten Son, Whom we call Jesus because He saves us from our sins and from eternal death, so much does He love us! However, God intends that we do more than hear or tell the story of Christmas. God desires that we relive the Birth of His Only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ. How are we to relive the reality of Christmas? By our willingness to let Christ be formed in us.

This Christmas, like the shepherds, we too come in haste and find Mary, Joseph and the Holy Infant lying in the manger. As we gaze upon Him, lying in the manger and truly present on the altar, we offer Him the love of our hearts and ask Him to come and live in us; to come and be formed more deeply within our beings, so we can more and more become His people, eager to do good.

I look forward to seeing you this Christmas Season at Mass. Below you will find our Christmas Mass Schedule.

Sincerely, yours in Christ

Rev. Anthony Giamello Pastor



Christmas Masses

Friday, December 24th 4:00 pm St. Bernadette 4:00 pm St. John 6:00 pm St. John 10:00 pm St. John

Midnight Mass (Español) St. John

Saturday, December 25th 9:00 am St. John 10:00 am St. Bernadette 11:00 am St. John

*Christmas Day 11am Mass at St. John's will be celebrated by Most Rev. William E. Koenig Bishop of Wilmington

Religious Education News



There will be No RE for all Classes today.

Come join us for Christmas around the World January 2 at St. John the Apostle 10-1230

The fourth and last Sunday of the advent season is today. The fourth candle is lit on this day along with the first three. It is the Angel's candle, reminding of the heavenly hosts that proclaimed Christ's arrival with "Behold, I bring unto you good tiding of great joy!"

The theme of readings and teachings during Advent is often to prepare for the Second Coming while commemorating the First Coming of Christ at Christmas. With the view of directing the thoughts of Christians to the first coming of Jesus Christ as savior and to his second coming

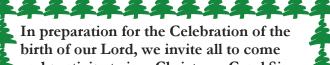
Known in Mexico as "flor de Nochebuena" (Christmas



Eve flower) and in the world as "Poinsettia," this flower of Mexican origin prevails today in homes during Christmas around the world. The Aztecs, who used it during several celebrations

dedicated to the god Huitzilopochtli, knew it as "cuetlaxóchitl," which means "flower that withers" in Nahuatl. The name comes from a myth of a rebellion of the Chontales group, who refused to pay the "taxes" imposed by the Aztecs. This rebellion happened in the place that today is Taxco, where a bush of white flowers grew. The Aztecs brutally defeated the Chontales, and the flowers withered after that (which explains the name). Because of the blood prints of the defeated ones, the bushes were covered with red flowers on the next blooming, symbolizing the spirit of the fallen ones. When the Spanish arrived, the flower was renamed as Nochebuena (Christmas Eve flower) because it could keep its red color during the Christmas celebrations. The Spanish missionaries took advantage of this opportunity to distance the symbolism from the blood of the defeated, and gave the flower a Christian reinterpretation. In the 19th century, the ambassador of the United States, Joel Robert Poinsett, saw the flower for the first time. The Christmas Eve flower was patented in the United States, where was named "Poinsettia," after the ambassador. Excerpts from @ 2018 FluentFlix Limited

St. John's



birth of our Lord, we invite all to come and participate in a Christmas Carol Sing along with our guest soloists and instrumentalists at 9:30 pm on Christmas Eve prior to the 10:00pm Mass.

Knights of Columbus -The St. Joseph Council 3792 would like to congratulate Sir Knight Dominic Romano on being named the Knight of the Quarter for Winter 2021. Dominic has been a member of the Knights for 24 years serving in various councils. Dominic has served in numerous officer positions within the order, but for the St. Joseph Council he served as Grand Knight from 2018 to 2020, and currently serves as the 2nd year trustee for the council. Dominic was recognized for his leadership with the councils Intellectual Disabilities drive, in which the council raises money for Kent-Sussex Industries. Dominic also volunteers for numerous Council activities such as Coats for Kids, Breakfast events, Right to Life, Veteran's support, and is the Council's Fourth Degree representative at the State Council. Dominic is also an advocate for the Knights with his recruitment of new council members. Dominic is an exemplification of the Order's values of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity. Please join the Officers and Gentlemen of St. Joseph Council 3792 in congratulating Dominic Romano on his achievement.



St. John's Rosary Altar Society -Come and pray the Rosary with us every 1st Saturday of the month at 8:30 am before the 9:00 Mass The next meeting of St. John's Rosary Altar Society will be **6:30 pm Dec. 21.** We will meet in the Church for the Rosary and

conclude with business meeting in the Hall. This month will be having a Christmas Cookie Swap, so bring 2 dozen of your favorite homemade cookies to swap and share. All ladies of St. John's are welcome. Yearly dues are \$5.00. Meetings are on 3rd Tuesdays.

(Looking ahead: next Sunday Social will be January 30 at noon after the 11 o'clock Mass)

Iron Men's Lectio Divina - Come join faithful Catholic men, for the study of scripture, prayer, and fellowship. Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month in Saint John's basement at 7:00pm. Call or email Kevin Joseph with interest. "Iron is sharpened by Iron; one person sharpens another." Proverbs 27:17

St. Bernadette's

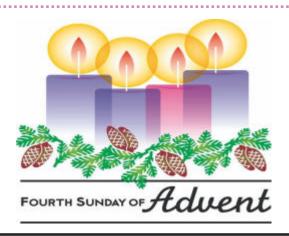
Attention Parishioners – Jeannette Minner will be preparing the Church for the Christmas Season; your help will be greatly appreciated. The date is Dec 22, 2021, after the 9am Mass. Please contact Jeannette Minner with any questions.



All practicing Catholic men are invited to join the St. Bernadette's Knights of Columbus in our efforts to support our church and community through service and fellowship. The Knights of Columbus is an international order of Catholic men who are called to lead by faith, protect our families, serve others, and defend our values in a busy and changing world. Go to www.kfc-org and click on "Join Us" to become a member or contact Grand Knight, John McCartney jmccart63@gmail.com or Financial Secretary, Tom Svienty tjs14317koc@comcast.net. You can also ask one of the ushers at Mass for more information.



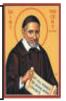
The Ladies Auxiliary of St. Bernadette's is open to welcoming new members to our group. We meet on the third Monday of the month at 1:00pm in St. Bernadette's Hall. Along with our mission to support St. Bernadette's Knights of Columbus (you do not have to be married to a Knight to join), the Auxiliary is involved in several activities throughout the year. If you are interested in learning more about our mission, please either contact Mary Lou Perrone at teacherloulou@verizon.net, President of the Auxiliary.



PARISH NEWS

Due to the Christmas Holiday the Parish Office will be closed December 23rd, and December 24th. We wish all our Parishioners a Merry and Blessed Christmas.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul- Jesus was born during the night of the year when darkness is the longest. The Savior of the world comes for the people in dark places. The real, lasting, and deep joy is that the Light shines there. Through your gift to the St. Vincent de Paul poor box, "Light" has shown, bringing real, lasting and deep joy to the hearts of the poor who live in dark places in our community.



MESSENGERS OF HOPE From the Messengers of Hope to those who are grieving the loss of a loved one! On behalf of the community of St. John the Apostle/St. Bernadette, please know that we are thinking of you and keeping you in our prayers. If you are seeking help in coping with grief, we invite you to our grief support group. We meet in the Hall on the first Tuesday of each month after the 9:00am Mass. To learn more about our ministry, please phone Jim Malloy (302) 422-7661.



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH, Pete Anderson, Angela Baglinoe, Michael Baglione, Keith Bandura, Meredith Benoit, Brienna Bidenback, Frank Bilger, Dave Boffa, Tom Born, Margaret Carman, Tom Casey, Steve Clagett, Joanne Coombe, Ben Dehn, Helen Dominguez, George Ehrmann, Victor Elbaz, Carol Farley, Kimberly Ferrante, Joan Fierro, Mario & Dorothy Fitzgerald, Carolyn Fogerty, Cathy Gegaris, Nadine Gleason, Karen Hall, Katherine Harris, Debbie Heinsch, Jim Higgins, Doris Koons, Luke Landon Labajo, Patricia Maher, Bob McGuire, Barbara Neske, James Nicholson, Dorothy Pazarecki, Joan Perry, Joe Plummer, Judith Pordan, Susan Portz, Emilio Raffio, Claire Renk, Dottie Renk, Rachel Renk, Sarah Roche, Stephen

Ruczynski, John & Nadene Shearstone, Julie Stymacks, Sharon Thomas, Joan Walther, Jennifer Webrman and Jim Woofter. *Please remember to call when someone needs to be removed from the Sick List.*

DEPLOYED TROOPS Please pray for our deployed troops and their families. Airman Alex Dudley (FL), A-1C James W. Gagnon (Langley AFB), Majors Kyle & Alicia Waite (Nevada), Joshua Meenan (New York), Ariel Tricoche (Army), James Zollo (Army).

WE REMEMBER THOSE WHO HAVE DIED Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

PRAYER LINE St. John's Prayer Line is a group of prayer warriors, contacted online, who pray daily for those in our parish family and any others with special prayer requests. Prayer is our way of communing with God and deepens our relationship with him. If you need prayers or know someone who does please call Jane Brown at 302-233-2181 or Bonnie De Mar at 302-236-5296 or by email at ltalianpr@aol.com.

WE WELCOME ALL VISITORS AND NEWCOMERS TO OUR COMMUNITY if you wish to register please contact either parish office or see one of our ushers.

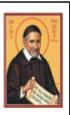
Anuncios de la comunidad Hispana

Debido a Navidad, la Oficina Parroquial estará cerrada el 23 de diciembre y el 24 de diciembre. Deseamos a todos nuestros feligreses una Feliz y Bendecida Navidad.



Las Posadas – Comenzarán el 15 de diciembre a las 7:00 pm en el Salón Parroquial hasta el 23 de diciembre, todos están invitados a asistir.

Sociedad de San Vicente de Paul-Jesús nació durante la noche del año cuando la oscuridad es más larga. El Salvador del mundo viene por las personas en lugares oscuros. La alegría real, duradera y profunda es que la Luz brilla allí. A través de su donación a San Vicente de Paúl, "Luz" ha demostrado, trayendo alegría real, duradera y profunda a los corazones de los pobres que viven en lugares oscuros de nuestra comunidad.



Diocesan / Community News

Bishop William Koenig to visit four Delaware parishes this Christmas - Christmas Day, Saturday, December 25th, Bishop Koenig will celebrate the Nativity of the Lord at the 8:30 a.m. Mass at **St. Jude the Apostle Church**, 152 Tulip Drive in Lewes; then join parishioners for the 11:00 a.m. Mass at **St. John the Apostle** Church, 506 Seabury Avenue, Milford, Delaware

2021 Annual Catholic Appeal - As the close of 2021 fast approaches – you may wish to take this final opportunity to improve lives and make a 2021 tax-deductible donation to the Annual Catholic Appeal. Visit cdow.org/development-o...

RETROUVAILLE: REDISCOVE THE LOVE IN YOUR MARRIAGE: Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vy). If you know anyone who could benefit from this program, please pass this on. Couples learn to build communication skills. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next program begins the weekend of February 11-13, 2022 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information, or to register, visit **HelpOurMarriage.org...** or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

Parenting Pointers - **Sunday December 19:** In the midst of your family's excitement about what Christmas will bring, pause for 5 minutes tonight to be quiet together. Look at each other. Ponder the miracle of the human beings in front of you.

Marriage Moments - Sunday December 19: Warm the longer nights with candlelight. For some couples, however, dark nights bring depression. If you are among those who are currently struggling in your marriage, turn to the power of prayer as one resource.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 18

4:00 PM †Madeline Herzog St. Bernadette 5:00 PM †Gloria Rodriguez St. John

Sunday, December 19

9:00 AM †Eleanor Appleton St. John 10:00AM †Donald Minner St. Bernadette 11:00 AM †Gabriele Maddalena St. John 6:00 PM Priest Intention St. John

Monday, December 20

12:00 PM †Patricia McGonigle St. John

Tuesday, December 21

9:00 AM †Mary Caulfield St. John

Wednesday, December 22

St. Bernadette 9:00 AM †Edward Kassick

Thursday, December 23

9:00 AM †Francis J. Bombara St. John

Friday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

4:00 PM Christmas Novena St. John 4:00 PM Christmas Novena St. Bernadette 6:00 PM Christmas Novena St. John 10:00 PM Christmas Novena St. John

Saturday, December 25 - Christmas Day

12:00 AM Christmas Novena (Midnight Spanish) St. John St. John 9:00 AM Christmas Novena 10:00 AM Christmas Novena St. Bernadette 11:00 AM Christmas Novena St. John

Sunday, December 26 - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

9:00 AM Christmas Novena St. John 10:00AM Christmas Novena St. Bernadette St. John 11:00 AM Christmas Novena 6:00 PM Christmas Novena St. John

†Indicates Person is deceased ▼ Indicates living intention



PARISH EVENTS

Saturday, December 18

7:00pm Las Posadas STJ Hall

Sunday, December 19

NO RE Classes STJ/STB STI K of C Breakfast after 9am & 11am Mass STJ Hall 7:00pm Las Posadas STI Hall 7:00pm K of C Coat Drive STJ Hall

Monday, December 20

1:00pm STB K of C Auxiliary Meeting STB Hall 7:00pm Boy Scout Meeting LK/JN

Tuesday, December 21

2:00pm STB Choir Practice STB Church 6:00pm Rosary Altar Society Meeting STJ Church/ Hall 7:00pm Emmaus Meeting LK/JN

Wednesday, December 22

7:00pm Las Posadas STI Hall

Thursday, December 23

7:00pm Las Posadas STJ Hall

Friday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

Parish Offices Closed

Saturday, December 25 **Parish Offices Closed**

Sunday, December 26

NO RE Classes STJ/STB

ST. JOHN'S ROOM IDENTIFICATION: MT - Matthew (Mateo) MK - Mark (Marco) LK/JN Luke/John (Lucas/Juan) TR -Teen Room - CR Conference Room

ST. BERNADETTE'S ROOM IDENTIFCATION: BR - Brigid JO - Joan

Gratitude & Generosity

SECOND COLLECTION: For December 26th is for Capital Maintenance Fund. Thank you for your generosity.



"I Have Hope Again."

Local resident, Carl P. had been experiencing the painful effects of Peripheral Neuropathy, "my feet and legs were extremely painful and my doctor told me there was nothing they could do. That I would have to take Gabapentin for the rest of my life." Then he went to see acupuncturist, Ashley Adams.

Peripheral Neuropathy is the pain, discomfort and numbness caused by nerve damage of the peripheral nervous system. Carl explained that daily tasks like opening doors and using the bathroom were overwhelmingly painful. "How can you live for the next 20 years when you don't even want to get out of bed to do simple things?"

He was experiencing the burning, numbness, tingling and sharp pains that those suffering with neuropathy often describe. "The way that I would describe it, it's equivalent to walking on glass." Carl hadn't worn socks in five years and was wearing shoes two sizes too big so that nothing would 'touch' his feet.

Unfortunately Carl's story is all too familiar for the over 3 million people in the U.S. suffering from Peripheral Neuropathy.

If you are unfortunate enough to be facing the same disheartening prognosis, you're not sleeping at night because of the burning in your feet, you have difficulty walking, shopping or doing any activity for more than 30 minutes because of the pain.

You're struggling with balance and living in fear that you might fall. Your doctor told you to "just live with the pain" and you're taking medications that aren't working or have uncomfortable side effects. Know that there are options.

Fortunately, three months ago, Carl read an article about DelMarVa Acupuncture and the work being done to treat those suffering from Peripheral Neuropathy without invasive surgeries or medications. He can now share how significantly his life has been changed!

'Now when I go to bed at night I don't have those shooting pains. I don't have that burning sensation. I don't have pain coming up my legs," Carl enthusiastically describes life after receiving treatments. "I can comfortably wear socks and shoes and I can enjoy golfing again!"

Ashley Adams, founder of DelMarVa Acupuncture & Wellness Center, is using the time tested science of Acupuncture combined with technology originally developed by NASA that assists in increasing blood flow and expediting recovery and healing to treat this debilitating disease.

> 550 S. DuPont Blvd Suite A Milford, DE 19963 www.dmvacu.com

DelMarVa Acupuncture uses the most cutting edge and innovative integrative medicine. Specializing in chronic pain cases, specifically those that have been deemed 'hopeless' or 'untreatable', she consistently generates unparalleled results. What was once a missing link in senior healthcare is now easily accessible to the residents of Milford.

If you've missed too many tee times because of pain or you've passed on dancing along to songs of your youth because you're afraid of falling, it's time to give yourself a new opportunity.

It's time you let your golden years, BE GOLDEN!





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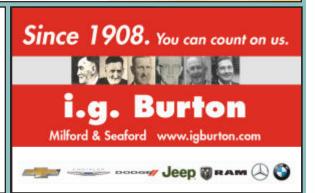
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