



St. Joan of Arc

Christmas 2024



*And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us,
and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son,
full of grace and truth.*

Parish Directory

In-Solidum Priest Team:

Msgr. G. Michael Bugarin
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Lead for SJA

Fr. Robert Voiland
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Non-Resident Sacramental Minister
Fr. Rich Bartoszek

Permanent Deacons

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Deacon Dom Pastore
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Donate to St. Joan of Arc at give.stjoan.church

Connect with us online at stjoan.church and via Flocknote at flocknote.com

Sign up for our weekly news at sjascs.org/join-our-mailing-list and find us on Facebook and Instagram @sjascs.



Parish Staff

Business Manager
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School Principal
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Kristine Stewart Hass
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OCIA
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Center for Exceptional Children
Michelle Russo
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Parish Center Office Hours

Mon-Thurs 8:30 am-5 pm
Fri 8:30 am-4 pm
Closed Sat and Sun

Masses and Requests

Prayer requests can be made by calling the Parish Center 586-777-3670 or by filling out a form online at sjascs.org/prayer-request

Arrangements for masses for the deceased and for special intentions can be made in person, online, by email at info@sjascs.org or by calling 586-777-3670.

Join us for Mass in the church and by livestream at stjoan.church or on Facebook @sjascs

Daily Mass at 7 am and Wednesdays at 6 pm

Saturday Vigil Masses at 4 pm and 6 pm
Sundays at 8 am, 10 am and 12 pm

Weekly Confession Saturday at 11 am, Wednesday at 5 pm and by appointment

Weekly Holy Hour with Music 7 pm Thursdays in the Church

Dear Friends in Christ,

In my own name and on behalf of our entire staff, I wish to extend to you and your family my prayers and best wishes for a most blessed, joyous, and safe Christmas.

To our visitors and guests, whether you are here in Church or joining us online, welcome to St. Joan of Arc! We are delighted you are praying with us and want you to know that you always have a place here in our parish family.

It's so easy to get swept up in the hustle and bustle of this season and lose sight of the true reason for Christmas—the moment that changed everything: the Incarnation, when God entered the world as a tiny, humble, and helpless child.

Planning, parties, and presents can distract us, but let us take time to refocus on Christ, the source of lasting and true happiness. He alone offers the hope and joy our hearts long for.

If you've been away from the Church, please accept this heartfelt invitation to return. As Scripture reminds us:

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, [then] I will enter his house and dine with him, and he with me." (Revelation 3:20)

The Lord is born for us this day, and a light has shone upon us! May we treasure this precious gift of God in every moment and allow His light to shine through us, guiding others to experience the love and peace of the Prince of Peace.

Be assured of my prayers and best wishes for you and your family this Christmas season and throughout the coming New Year. May you find joy and life in Christ Jesus Our Lord.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Monsignor G. Michael Bugarin
Lead In-Solidum
St. Joan of Arc Parish



A helpless baby with simple parents leads us to the fullness of life

One way to appreciate our Lord Jesus' coming in the flesh is to imagine that he didn't. Think about how your life would be different if there was no Jesus. You will have plenty of company. Scores of people deny that Jesus really existed. And many people who acknowledge that Jesus was indeed a truly historical person don't think much about him beyond that. For many folks, if Jesus actually did walk the earth a couple thousand years ago, he was just 'a guy'. "Whoever . . . whatever . . . who cares?" Kind of a different way of looking at things, if you're a true believer, wouldn't you say?

For one thing, if Jesus was just a figment of our imaginations, you wouldn't be reading this article right now. You wouldn't have dragged yourself to church to pick up a bulletin full of words, all having some kind of connection to Christ. Or you wouldn't be clicking your way through the St. Joan of Arc website, or Msgr. Mike's parish emails, to find out what he, or I, or anyone else on the parish staff has to say about living a life of Catholic faith. You wouldn't be doing any of this "faith" stuff because there wouldn't be any St. Joan Parish, or website, or Catholic Church, for that matter. You'd just be stuck with the world – nothing more, nothing less. Blah.

An increasingly large proportion of the human population has bought into "Blah." This group of humans who have dispensed with Jesus, and supposedly with any serious religious or spiritual aspect of their human existence, have been labeled "the Nones." In the space on any form that asks

about religious affiliation, the answer is "None." How much do you pray? "None." How valuable is the practice of religion in our society? "None."

If what we know about Jesus is true, then he is Truth itself. And the Way. And the Life. Without him, nothing has enduring meaning.

The mental upheaval that accompanies the rejection of Jesus Christ is dramatic. If Jesus is either a fairy tale, or a legend that way outgrew the reality of who he was, the fallout is incalculable. For someone who has always lived a life of Christian faith, to think that Jesus was not real is unsettling, to say the

least. The foundation of life would crumble beneath us. We would be rocked because the life of a practicing Catholic is touched by Christ in every daily detail. Our motivation for getting up every day, acting as we do throughout our day, making the ethical decisions we make, and often sacrificing to care for ourselves and others, would all come into question. Why do this?

This is not to say that we could not glom onto some other religious experience. In fact, that would be our only alternative, if we believe there is something beyond material humanism. We could become Jewish and start waiting again for the Messiah to come. We could embrace Islam and pledge allegiance to the Prophet. We could become "one with the universe" and unite ourselves with an Eastern mystical religion. We could imagine there is something to be gained from crystals, cards, 'energy centers', the stars, or hallucinogenic substances. Then again, there is always the option of going completely off the deep end and fooling

with the occult. But why?

Jesus Christ is as real as real gets. He is as real as anything else is in the past. (Can you definitively prove yesterday did or did not exist? Think about it.) In fact, he is more real. If what we know about Jesus is true, then he is Truth itself. And the Way. And the Life. Without him, nothing has enduring meaning.

For those of us who embrace Jesus as our Savior, our Brother, and our God, imagining a world without him sucks all the air out of the room. Life gets dark fast.



We get shaky, disturbed, depressed, and filled with despair. Yet, consider this: an untold number of people in our world live in this darkness without knowing it. Because they have either rejected Christ, or never known him, they live a greatly diminished version of life. They seem "happy," but people born and raised in the ghetto can be happy, too.

In this gift of Jesus, having come as a helpless baby to simple parents, we have the fullness of life. Christ's story, as we know it from both secular historians and Church history, makes sense. Beyond that, the story of Jesus Christ makes sense of everything else in our world. Given the way that human history has unfolded, life would be quite absurd without Jesus. He is the key that unlocks life's meaning, while at the same time, he is the Sacrificial Lamb who gives us eternal life. Pretty cool gift! Thank you, Jesus, for coming!

Merry Christmas!
Fr. Bob

Fr. Bob Voiland, who joined us in July of this year, is a priest in-solidum in our family of parishes, assigned to St. Joan of Arc Parish.

Interested in becoming a parishioner?

If you would like to become a parishioner of St. Joan of Arc, please register at:

stjoan.church

We will contact you by phone. Or give a call to the parish center at 586-777-3670 during office hours.

Livestreaming

Livestream broadcasts are a standard part of our celebrations at St. Joan of Arc, increasing Mass participation for those unable to attend church. This service has also allowed many of our parishioners to stay connected with their faith community remotely, whether they are away or homebound.

Visit livestream.stjoan.church or follow us on Facebook (@sjascs) to watch all livestreams and view archived celebrations, including funerals and other special Masses.

Weekday Masses

Monday through Friday: 7 am
Wednesday: 6 pm

Weekend Masses

Saturday: 4 pm and 6 pm
Sunday: 8 and 10 am and 12 pm

Holy Hours

Thursdays at 7pm



Receiving the Sacraments at St. Joan of Arc

We are blessed as a parish to provide numerous opportunities for individuals and families to grow in their faith and deepen their relationship with Christ. Through vibrant liturgies, faith formation programs, and the reception of the sacraments, we work to nurture the spiritual life of our members.

Whether celebrating the Eucharist, receiving the sacraments of initiation and healing, or preparing for marriage, St. Joan of Arc joyfully accompanies parishioners on their journey of faith.

The sacraments help us nourish, strengthen, and express our faith. Through the sacraments, Jesus remains with His people, strengthening, healing, feeding, and forgiving us as we face life's challenges.

Baptism



Holy Baptism is the foundation of the Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit, and the door that provides access to the other sacraments. It cleanses a person of original sin, unites them with Christ and His Church, and marks the beginning of a lifelong journey of faith. Learn more about baptism for infants and children at St. Joan of Arc by visiting sjascs.org/baptism, and for adults, visit sjascs.org/OCIA

Eucharist

Through the Eucharist, we are drawn into the Paschal Mystery—Christ's sacrifice on the cross and His glorious resurrection. It is the perpetual sign of God's love and a tangible reminder that Christ is always with us, inviting us to grow in holiness and bring His presence into the world. As the source and summit of our faith, the Eucharist sustains us, deepens our relationship with God, and empowers us to live as His disciples.

Masses at St. Joan of Arc are

- **Daily** Monday-Friday at 7 am, Wednesdays at 6 pm
- **Weekends** Saturday at 4 and 6 pm, Sundays 8 am, 10 am and 12 pm

Daily Mass times for the parishes in our family are:

- *Our Lady Star of the Sea: Mon-Thur 7:30 am and Fri 8:30 am*
- *St. Basil the Great: Mon, Wed, Fri and Sat at 8:30 am and Tues at 7 pm*
- *St. Lucy: Mon and Fri at 9 am, Wed at 12 pm*
- *St. Veronica: Tues and Thurs 7:45 am in the Convent Chapel*

Reconciliation

We warmly invite you to experience the peace and mercy of God through the sacrament of reconciliation. At St. Joan of Arc, confessions are regularly available on Saturdays at 11 am and Wednesdays at 5 pm, providing a sacred opportunity to encounter God's love and forgiveness. Additionally, parishioners are welcome to receive this beautiful sacrament at any of the churches in our family of parishes. Come and renew your heart through the gift of God's mercy!

Regular Reconciliation times for the parishes in our family are:

- *Our Lady Star of the Sea: Sat. at 3 pm*
- *St. Basil the Great: Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat and Sun at 8 am and Tues at 6:30 pm*
- *St. Lucy: Sat 3-4 pm*

Marriage

The Catholic sacrament of marriage is a sacred covenant in which a man and a woman are united as husband and wife in the presence of God and the Church. It signifies the couple's mutual commitment to love and support each other throughout their lives, mirroring Christ's love for the Church. Through this sacrament, the couple receives grace to live out their vocation faithfully and fruitfully in service to each other and their family. For those interested in celebrating their wedding at St. Joan of Arc, detailed information and guidance on the planning process are available. The parish offers resources to help couples prepare spiritually and practically for their special day, ensuring it reflects the beauty and sanctity of the sacrament. Visit sjascs.org/weddings

Anointing of the Sick

In the Church's Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, through the ministry of the priest, it is Jesus who touches the sick to heal them from sin—and sometimes even from physical ailments.

The Rite of Anointing reminds us that there is no need to wait until a person is near death to receive this Sacrament.

When the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is given, the hoped-for effect is that, if it is God's will, the person is physically healed of illness. However, even if there is no physical healing, the primary effect of the Sacrament is spiritual healing. The sick person receives the Holy Spirit's gift of peace and courage to face the difficulties of serious illness or the frailty of old age.

To arrange for an anointing, call the Parish Center or speak to one of our priests after Mass.

Pause, reflect, and reconnect with Marriage Encounter

The experience allows you to create a dialogue with each other and with God, to create a higher and broader understanding of what it means to be married. While faith is a powerful part of this process, the focus of the **Marriage Encounter** experience is on the ups and downs of married life. Married couples of any denomination, mixed-faith, or without religious affiliation are welcome!

Faithful to the Roman Catholic Church's definition that marriage is a covenant that exists between one man and one woman, any reference to "marriage" or "couple" made by **Worldwide Marriage Encounter** is in this context. Learn more at wwme.org

Get a troubled marriage back on track

Retrouvaille helps couples heal and renew their hurting marriages. The Retrouvaille Program is

- for married couples facing difficult challenges in their relationship
- a marriage program that helps couples restore their marriage and rebuild a loving relationship
- a Christian marriage program, Catholic in origin, where couples of all faiths or no faith background are encouraged to attend
- a practical program to improve communication, build stronger marriages, and help couples reconnect

Presenters are not trained marriage counselors, but rather couples sharing their personal stories of marital struggles and the tools they used to rediscover their love.

Check out the schedule for 2025 by calling 800-470-2230 or visiting helpourmarriage.com.

St. Joan of Arc School is anchored in prayer

This year, our Catholic school community is embracing the theme *Anchored in Prayer*, fostering a deeper connection to the importance of prayer in the lives of our students, families and staff. The start of the school year was anew beginning for many as we warmly welcomed many wonderful families from St. Germaine School, which recently closed.



At the start of the All Saints Day Mass, eighth-grade students presented information about saints known for their strong foundation in prayer, including Augustine, Monica, Jude, Joseph, Teresa of Calcutta and the parish's patroness, Joan of Arc.



(Above) Msgr. Mike and Fr. Bob bless 71 boxes filled with items SJA students collected, including toys, school supplies, accessories and personal-care items. These "shoe box" gifts are collected each year from locations throughout the world as part of Operation Christmas Child. They are sent to more than 170 countries and territories to those in need and share the Good News of Jesus Christ.



(Left) St. Joan of Arc welcomed many new students this year, including 110 from preschool to 8th grade who came from St. Germaine School, which closed in June.



Our Parent Teacher Guild treated students to two interactive Super U assemblies that focused on being kind, respectful and responsible.



SJA School continued

The new students' presence has enriched our school family, adding to the spirit of community and shared faith that makes our school so special.

Students at SJA school enjoy a dynamic blend of academic excellence, faith formation and a wide array of extracurricular activities. Alongside core subjects and special classes like gym, art, Spanish, library and music, students can participate in programs such as TechKnowKids, Chess Club, Band, Children's Choir, Altar Serving, Quiz Bowl, Forensics and VISA Club. These opportunities help students discover and nurture their talents outside the classroom.

The school year is also filled with exciting field trips and guest presentations, thanks to the generous support of our Parent-Teacher Guild (PTG). These experiences bring learning to life, sparking curiosity and fostering a love of exploration among students.

To ensure the well-being of our students, we are proud to have an on-staff counselor who provides

essential guidance and support. This commitment to the whole child—mind, body, and spirit—reflects the core values of our Catholic education.

As we continue to grow and thrive as a community, we look forward to a year filled with faith, learning, and joy, truly anchored in prayer.



Service is an integral part of life at SJA school. Here, students pack toiletry bags for Crossroad Soup Kitchen. Other recipients of SJA School's outreach include St. Vincent dePaul, Macomb County Community Mental Health Children's Department (Toys), Fr. Solanus Casey Center (Blessing Bags), Pregnancy Aid and Operation Christmas Child.

(Above) We closed out September in style with our all-school fall field day—a day brimming with smiles, laughter and joy. The students had a blast participating in fun-filled games, showing teamwork and forming new friendships, all while building camaraderie and a strong sense of community. They soaked up the warm September sun, indulged in delicious treats and embraced the Charger spirit of friendly competition. Glitter tattoos added the perfect touch of sparkle to make this a memorable day.

Join us January 30th for an Open House and Winterfest

5:30-6:30 pm - New visitor tours

6:30-8 pm - Learning Fair and fun for all

Learn more about St. Joan of Arc School at stjoan.net

Faith Formation is all in the family

St. Joan of Arc Parish embraces the church's teaching that parents are the primary educators of their children in the faith. This principle forms the foundation of the parish's Family Formation model, now in its fourth year. The program empowers families to grow in faith together, fostering deeper relationships and a stronger parish community.

Each month, families with students in grades kindergarten through six gather for a shared experience that begins with the celebration of Mass, where students are readers and our children's choir provides music. Following Mass, the group moves to the gym for a snack, lively family lesson designed to engage parents and children alike. Afterward, children head to grade-specific classrooms, where catechists lead lessons tailored to their age and understanding. During this time, parents remain for a talk and discussion led by Fr. Bob Voiland, offering them spiritual enrichment, practical guidance, and opportunities for connection with other parents.

In the fourth year of this model, the results are evident. Families are more involved in the life of the Church, children are growing in their understanding and love of the faith, and parents are embracing their role as the first teachers of the faith to their children. SJA's Family Formation shows how faith

formation can strengthen both families and the wider parish community.

Families seeking to deepen their faith journey are invited to take part in this transformative program. Together, we are building a vibrant community where faith begins at home and extends into the world. Contact Kristine Hass to learn more about Faith Formation for students in grades K-8, including sacrament preparation for First Eucharist, Reconciliation and Confirmation. Call 586-772-1282 or email khass@sjascs.org



Our Sunday Family Formation students pose in front of a replica of Christ's tomb as we celebrated the Resurrection.



Pictured above are many of our 2024 First Communicants from the parish and SJA school in May. With support from our Faith Formation Office, catechists and school teachers, parents and guardians worked at home with their children to prepare for their first reception of the sacraments of reconciliation and Eucharist. (Right) This month, fourth graders in Family Formation presented "Salvation History Live." Walking us through to the Incarnation from the Garden of Eden.



Students preparing for Confirmation earned service hours in October by helping install and remove a display of white crosses on the church lawn calling attention to the sanctity of life for Respect Life Sunday.

St. Joan^{of} Arc OCIA



ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Are you or anyone you know interested in learning more about the Catholic Church?

A new group is starting soon.

What is OCIA?

OCIA is the process through which a person becomes a fully initiated member of the Catholic Faith. It's for

- Adults and children of catechetical age (over 7 years) who have not been baptized
- Those who have been baptized in another Christian denomination who want to become Catholic
- Those who were baptized as infants in the Catholic Church but have not completed the Sacraments of Initiation (First Eucharist and/or Confirmation) and who have had no faith formation

How long does it take?

Each person is on a personal journey in his/her relationship with God. Time varies depending on the individual. We walk with you in this process.

Do I have to commit to becoming Catholic if I enter the OCIA process?

No, the OCIA process is marked by opportunities for discernment along the way, and ultimately it is about one's readiness and desire to be received into the Church.

Fill out the contact form for our OCIA coordinator, Patty Chase, at sjascs.org/ocia or call the Parish Center at 586-777-3670

A prayer for conversions

O blessed apostle, St. Paul, greatest of all converts, who labored unceasingly for the conversion of other souls, inspire me with the ardor of your zeal that I may pray and work for the conversion of my brethren, redeemed in the blood of Christ but not as yet blessed with the full light of his truth.

Mindful of the loving concern of the Divine Shepherd for the salvation of the "other sheep that are not of this fold," I now beg your intercession to obtain the grace of conversion for those who do not know you and your church.

May God, the Holy Spirit from whom alone this gift can come, hear my humble prayer and thus enable me to share with others the riches of my heritage of faith through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

Be a part of Operation REACH OUT and help bring an end to loneliness—one call at a time!



Bring Light to a Senior's Day with "Operation REACH OUT"

Loneliness impacts millions of elderly people every day. But WE have the power to change that. Loneliness fades when love comes calling. Be the reason someone smiles today.



Operation REACH OUT is your chance to build a bond with your grandparent, a grandfriend or senior.

Sign up today to receive semi-monthly texts to remind you to connect with your grandparent or grandfriend. The text will remind you to connect with them and offer suggested conversation starters. It's a simple plan to brighten someone's day!

To sign up or learn more go to:
<https://sjascs.org/reach-out> or scan this QR Code



Readings for December 25

The Nativity of the Lord

Reading One – Is 9:1-6

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone. You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing, as they rejoice before you as at the harvest, as people make merry when dividing spoils. For the yoke that burdened them, the pole on their shoulder, and the rod of their taskmaster you have smashed, as on the day of Midian. For every boot that tramped in battle, every cloak rolled in blood, will be burned as fuel for flames. For a child is born to us, a son is given us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace. His dominion is vast and forever peaceful, from David's throne, and over his kingdom, which he confirms and sustains by judgment and justice, both now and forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this!

Responsorial – Ps 96:1-2,2-3,11-12,13

R. Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord.

Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all you lands. Sing to the LORD; bless his name.

R. Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord.

Announce his salvation, day after day. Tell his glory among the nations; among all peoples, his wondrous deeds.

R. Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord.

Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice; let the sea and what fills it resound; let the plains be joyful and all that is in them! Then shall all the trees of the forest exult.

R. Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord.

They shall exult before the LORD, for he comes; for he comes to rule the earth. He shall rule the world with justice and the peoples with his constancy.

R. Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord.

Reading Two – Ti 2:11-14

Beloved: The grace of God has appeared, saving all and training us to reject godless ways and worldly desires and to live temperately, justly, and devoutly in this age, as we await the blessed hope, the appearance of the glory of our great God and savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to deliver us from all lawlessness

and to cleanse for himself a people as his own, eager to do what is good.

Gospel – Lk: 2:1-14

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that the whole world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. So all went to be enrolled, each to his own town. And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Now there were shepherds in that region living in the fields and keeping the night watch over their flock. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were struck with great fear. 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." And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying: "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."



Readings for Sunday, December 29

The Feast of the Holy Family

Reading One - Sir 3:2-6, 12-14

God sets a father in honor over his children; a mother's authority he confirms over her sons.

Whoever honors his father atones for sins, and preserves himself from them. When he prays, he is heard; he stores up riches who reveres his mother.

Whoever honors his father is gladdened by children, and, when he prays, is heard. Whoever reveres his father will live a long life; he who obeys his father brings comfort to his mother.

My son, take care of your father when he is old; grieve him not as long as he lives. Even if his mind fails, be considerate of him; revile him not all the days of his life; kindness to a father will not be forgotten, firmly planted against the debt of your sins—a house raised in justice to you.

Responsorial - Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5.

R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

Blessed is everyone who fears the LORD, who walks in his ways! For you shall eat the fruit of your handiwork; blessed shall you be, and favored.

R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine in the recesses of your home; your children like olive plants around your table.

R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

Behold, thus is the man blessed who fears the LORD. The LORD bless you from Zion: may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life.

R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

Reading Two - Col 3:12-17

Brothers and sisters: Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another, if one has a grievance against another; as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do. And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection. And let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in

one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Alleluia - Col 3:15a, 16a

Alleluia, alleluia.

Let the peace of Christ control your hearts; let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel - Lk 2:41-52

Each year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover, and when he was twelve years old, they went up according to festival custom. After they had completed its days, as they were returning, the boy Jesus remained behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Thinking that he was in the caravan, they journeyed for a day and looked for him among their relatives and acquaintances, but not finding him, they returned to Jerusalem to look for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions, and all who heard him were astounded at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him, they were astonished, and his mother said to him, "Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been looking for you with great anxiety." And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man.

Mass Intentions

December 23 - 29

Monday, December 23, 2024

Advent Weekday (Purple)

7:00 am Raquel Kosebutzki

Tuesday, December 24, 2024

Advent Weekday (Purple)

7:00 am Frank Shuder

The Nativity of the Lord (White)

4:00 pm Mary and Frank Fleming, Suzanne and Victor Markowski, Dennis Fleming, Joe Komaroff, Mary Hobig, Marie Champine, George and Sophie Rupinski, George J. Bugarin, Frank Shuder, Dorothy Shuder, the deceased members of the Bugarin, Shuder, Scheuer, Lemanski, Finn, Hunsucker, Wiegand, Labut, and Dichtel families, Aggie Butki, Roseann Coules, Virginia Prill, Mary Lou Orsini, Alan DePorter, Jill Miller, Alison Reslow, Michael Timmreck, David Damm, Sam and Grace Valenti, Mitzi Phillips, Deceased members of the McQuillan, Zaranek, Gaidis and Walters Families and Special Intention for David and Donna Lawrence, Lori Becker, Peggy McCarron, Joan Kowalewski, Natividad Mallare
6:00 pm Living and deceased members of the Rogier and Detloff Families
10:00 pm Dennis Venuto

Wednesday, December 25, 2024

The Nativity of the Lord (White)

8:00 am Cornelius B. Thelen

10:00 am Stancel Mecha

12:00 pm Joseph and Florence Semany, Charles Semany, Ron Lagodna, Cecelia Pearson, Marissa DiStefano, David Curcuru, Jerome Walczak, Nicholas G. Nehro and Special Intentions for the Mallare Family

Ways to Give



give.stjoan.church

Thursday, December 26, 2024

Saint Stephen, The First Martyr (Red)

7:00 am Clara M. Champine

Friday, December 27, 2024

Saint John, Apostle, and Evangelist (White)

7:00 am Jesse F. Champine

Saturday, December 28, 2024

The Holy Innocents, Martyrs (Red)

4:00 pm Karen Jones, Robert P. Gatliff, Bonnie Batche, Blair Zernick, Mary Steele, David Sperry, Thomas Benoit, Paula Nagel the Deceased members of the Swalec Family and Special Intentions for Tina Calisi, Germaine Bryan, Rachel Allmon, Sam Manalo, the J. Champine Family, Ray Dinser, Charlotte Power, the Thomas Family, Frank Poeschel, Pat Maher, Jeff Trudell, for the Andary and Jacob Families

6:00 pm Hugo and Tina Calisi

Sunday, December 29, 2024

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (White)

8:00 am For the Intentions of St. Joan of Arc Parishioners

10:00 am Nick DiCresce

12:00 pm Paula Nagel, and special intentions for Germaine Bryan, Tina Calisi, Jeff Trudell, Frank Poeschel, Sammy Manalo, Charlotte Power, Rachel Allemon and Pat Maher

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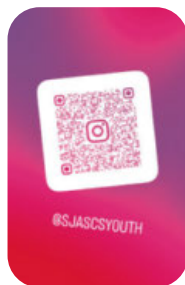
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Youth connect and serve

High schoolers, listen up: St. Joan of Arc has a new youth group, and it's the place to be if you're looking to build real friendships, do good in the community and grow in your faith—while fun.

Meeting every Wednesday from 7 to 8:15 p.m., the group is already buzzing with energy. Since its kick-off Pickleball workshops the small growing group has packed the calendar with activities, from blanket and scarf-making for those in need to creative craft nights and even a "Friendsgiving" fast-food chicken showdown.

Whether you're into crafts, games, or just looking for a space where you can be yourself, this group is ready to welcome you. Sign up to receive



Flocknotes and follow along on Instagram at @sjascsyouth for updates, photos and Catholic inspiration.

Ready to join the fun? Bring a friend (or come solo!) and check out the next meeting, January 8th.



Opportunities to grow in faith



Mondays 7-9 pm in the Solanus Casey Room

Walking with Purpose

This small, intimate evening group of WWP is a great option for women who can't make the daytime meetings. More info at sjascs.org/walking-with-purpose

Jan
6
2024



2nd and 4th Mondays 7-9 pm in the St. Mary Room

Men's Fellowship

Join men from our parish in prayer and study. The group always welcomes newcomers. Join them in their study of St. Francis de Sales's Introduction to the Devout Life.

Jan
13
2024



Mondays 7-9 pm in the St. Mary Room

Light of the Spirit

Worship the Lord in song and praise hear His Word, listen to His teaching, share our faith and receive personal prayer.

Jan
6
2024



Thursdays 2-3:30 in Emmaus Hall

Hearts Afire

Join this learning and prayer ministry in February as they begin 33 Days of Morning Glory. A journey to Marian consecration with four giants of Marian spirituality

Feb
6
2024



Mondays 10-12 am in Emmaus Hall

Walking with Purpose

Our morning group of this dynamic women's Bible study is always open to new members. Join them as they start a new 13-week study. More info at sjascs.org/walking-with-purpose

Jan
13
2024



There's a lot going on at SJA



Last month, Walking With Purpose members traveled to Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament for a self-guided tour of the newly installed Apostles statuary and relics in the beautiful church.



During the OCIA Rite of Acceptance and Rite of Welcome on Nov. 17, Fr. Bob Voiland addressed those preparing to enter the church through baptism or become fully initiated into the faith.



This fall, Fr. Bob and members of our garden and grounds ministry accepted a 2024 Beautification Award on behalf of St. Joan of Arc for our parish's contributions to the beauty of our city.



Families from our parish and school had a wonderful evening at our annual Fall Family Fun Fest in October, enjoying games, food and joyful fellowship.



Fr. Bob blesses pets in honor of the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals.



Students and families from our Center for Exceptional Children enjoy a festive morning reenacting the nativity and visiting with Santa during their annual Christmas party. Call 586-772-1282 to learn more about this adaptive faith formation program.



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