Our Vision
Through our Baptism and Eucharist, we are called to love as Christ loves and serve as Christ serves.

Our Mission
In Jesus Christ, we will grow and flourish through
• Engaging, welcoming and building community
• Lifelong faith formation
• Social justice and service to others in need
  • Engaging and understanding the energy and interests of our youth
• Prayer and worship that deepens our spiritual life
• Accountability in using our resources wisely
SO THAT WE MAY LIVE LIFE ABUNDANTLY!
“Good but challenging,” was my response to a friend who asked about my retreat. To best describe my six days of silence and prayer, I draw your attention to the Madonna and Child painting in our church. Its vibrant colors enhance our worship space, but I’ve always been intrigued by the Madonna’s stance. To fully appreciate the rich symbolism of a 15th century masterpiece, some assistance helps. Her leftward gaze away from the child Jesus and the viewer is a deeply spiritual disposition. It belies her embrace of the Kingdom in her heart throughout her life from the Annunciation to the Crucifixion, from the Resurrection to her Assumption. The artist uses the disposition to convey her choice to put Jesus and all he lived for, the Kingdom, at the center of her life. John the Baptist assumes this same disposition as he proclaims, “He must grow greater, I must grow less” [John 3:30]. During my retreat, I was invited to journey into this mystery. While my journey may never reach the depth of Mary’s, or John’s or that of many others, this invitation gives my life direction and focus. As I said, good but challenging.

God is present in all creation, especially in the hearts of his disciples regardless of how conscious we are of this sacred presence at any given moment. We can discern it through the sacraments, especially the Eucharist, the “source and summit of the Christian life.” [1324] Prayerful reflection on Scripture (Lectio Divina) or the practices of the Examen, given to us by St. Ignatius, also help us grow in awareness. As the Catechism notes, “Contemplation is a gaze of faith, fixed on Jesus… Contemplation also turns its gaze on the mysteries of the life of Christ. Thus it learns the ‘interior knowledge of our Lord,’ the more to love him and follow him” (cf. St. Ignatius of Loyola, Spiritual Exercises, 104) [Catechism, 2715].

We also discern God’s presence in the faithful witness of Jesus’ disciples as we see in St. Joseph’s staff and parishioners who foster hope, healing and empowerment locally, nationally and internationally:

- Religious formation for 1,300 children per year in our school and Religious Education program
- Celebrating the Eucharist with 167,000 people throughout the year
- Visiting the sick and homebound with the Eucharist 500 times per week
- Affecting 12,515 people per year through our Social Justice Programs
- Overall impact for good: 250,000 people per year.

This powerful, positive presence is worth strengthening and growing in our deeply wounded and divided world. As the late Spiritual Writer, John O'Donohue, observed: “We seldom notice how each day is a holy place, where the Eucharist of the ordinary happens.”

Unfortunately, these efforts may be impeded by decreasing donations to our parish. This is not unique to us; the abuse crisis has taken a severe toll. However, it is important to clarify that ninety percent of our collections supports our ministries and efforts, and St. Joseph’s gives only ten percent to the Archdiocese. This is to help fund critical Archdiocesan agencies and ministries, parishes and schools.

I thank all whose gifts of time, talent and treasure sustain and enhance our ministries, service and outreach and appeal to those not as involved or supportive to reconsider. Advent’s contemplative nature invites us to be attentive to God’s presence, mercy and grace in our lives. In turn, we may be ever more conscientious in sharing the gifts we have been given and, like Mary, always keep Christ and his Kingdom in the equation—in our spirituality, service and stewardship. Challenging perhaps, but a good goal for Advent and for life.
WHAT WE ARE DOING

* Cutting parish expenses where possible
* Streamlining processes to reduce cost
* Renegotiating contracts where possible
* Adding alternative giving options
* Working to provide you with more information on our parish finances and where your donations go

WHAT YOU CAN DO

* Be a consistent giver. Consider using Electronic Giving through our website or Text-To-Give.
* Increase the amount you give.
* Be connected by attending Mass and parish events.
* Reflect on the gifts God has given you and how you can use them to support our parish.
* And pray.

2017-2019 PARISH FINANCIAL SUMMARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Sunday &amp; Holy Day Collections</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July '17 - June '18</td>
<td>$2,421,302</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July '18 - June '19</td>
<td>$2,364,907</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July '19 - June '20</td>
<td>$2,187,650</td>
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</tbody>
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* Sunday & Holy Day Collections include Sunday, Christmas, Easter and flower donations.


Our Sunday & Holy Day Collections declined last fiscal year as compared to the previous fiscal year. This fiscal year collections are projected to be down 7% based on the current giving July 2019 through October 2019.

There are more than 1,300 children enrolled in Religious Education and in our school.

Parish supports over 100 ministries which comprise over 3,300 members.

Our operating costs such as heat, electric, insurance, etc. are increasing.

Funds are needed to provide ongoing and preventative maintenance.

“What shall I return to the Lord for all that He has given me?”

Psalm 116:12
Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

During the weekend of December 7-8, 2019, our parishes will hold the Retirement Fund for Religious collection, an annual appeal that benefits some 30,000 senior sisters, brothers and religious order priests.

As Christians, we are called to "serve the Lord with gladness" (Ps 100:2). Our elderly religious offer a shining example of what it means to answer this call. During their days of active ministry, they worked tirelessly to build Catholic schools and hospitals, promote social justice, and embrace the neediest among us. In retirement, many continue in volunteer ministry, and all pray for the needs of our Church and world. Inspired by love, their service—past and present—is marked by joy and a deep desire to do the will of God.

As you may know, many religious communities find it increasingly difficult to provide for aging members. Most older religious worked for little or no pay. Today, their communities do not have enough retirement savings. At the same time, health-care costs continue to rise, and fewer members are able to serve in compensated ministry. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious provides vital funding for medications, nursing care, and more. It also helps religious congregations plan for future retirement needs, even as they continue to serve the People of God.

For the almost forty years during which this collection has been taken, the Archdiocese of Chicago has been one of the most generous donors for this cause. I understand you are asked to support many worthy causes. I invite you only to give what you can. Most importantly, please pray for God's continued blessing on all our women and men religious. Rest assured, they are praying for you.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

[Signature]

Archbishop of Chicago
Friday, November 29 to December 21
Knights of Columbus Christmas Tree Sales at Marytown:
Saturday & Sunday from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.,
Weekdays, 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.
Saturdays, November 30 to December 14
Saturday Morning Live, 7:00 to 8:25 a.m., Koenig Center, hosted by Men's Ministry

Sunday, December 1 - 1st Sunday of Advent
Children's Liturgy of the Word at 9:00 a.m. Mass
Giving Tree Tags available in the Church

Wednesday, December 4 - Women's Guild House Walk
(10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.), Boutique (9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Koenig Center)
Wednesday, December 4 - Advent by Candlelight
An evening for women at St. Joseph and St. Mary of Vernon Parishes, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., St. Mary of Vernon Parish Center, 236 U.S. Highway 45, Indian Creek

Thursday, December 5 - Holy Hour for Vocations,
3:00 to 4:00 p.m., Church

Saturday, December 7 - Reconciliation 11:00 a.m. to Noon, Church
Christmas Giving Tree Distribution weekend in the school gym. Please return gifts to the Gym Foyer on Saturday between 3:00 and 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 8 – 2nd Sunday of Advent
Children's Liturgy of the Word at 9:00 a.m. Mass
RCIA Dismissal at 9:00 a.m. Mass
Teen Mass at 5:00 p.m. Mass
Christmas Giving Tree Distribution Weekend in the school gym. Please return gifts to the Gym Foyer on Sunday before 12:00 Noon.

Thursday, December 12 - Holy Hour for Vocations, 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Church
Saturday, December 14 - Children's Faith Formation Advent Bake Sale, after the 5:00 p.m. Mass in the Gym Foyer

Sunday, December 15 - 3rd Sunday of Advent
Children's Faith Formation Advent Bake Sale, after all Masses (except 5:00 p.m.) in the Gym Foyer
Children's Liturgy of the Word at 9:00 a.m. Mass
RCIA Dismissal at 9:00 a.m. Mass
Santas on Bikes, 10:45 a.m. Mass
Friday, December 20 – School Christmas Mass at the regular 8:30 a.m. Mass
Saturday, December 21 – Extended Advent Reconciliation, 11:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. in Church

Sunday, December 22 - 4th Sunday of Advent
Children's Liturgy of the Word at 9:00 a.m. Mass
Tuesday, December 24 Christmas Eve Liturgies 4:00 p.m. in Church, 4:00 p.m. in Koenig Center, 4:15 p.m. in Gym, 6:30 p.m. in Church, 10:30 p.m. in Church. Caroling begins 1/2 hour before each Mass.

Wednesday, December 25 Solemnity of Christmas
Caroling begins 15 minutes before the start of each Mass. Mass times: 7:15 a.m. (Traditional), 9:00 a.m. (Contemporary), 10:45 a.m. (Traditional), 10:45 a.m. Koenig (overflow) 12:30 p.m. (Traditional). No 5:00 p.m. Mass on Christmas Day

Thursday, December 26 - 8:30 a.m. Mass only; no 6:30 a.m. Mass
Saturday, December 28 – Reconciliation 11:00 a.m. to Noon, Church
Sunday, December 28 & Sunday, December 29 -
The Feast of the Holy Family Jesus, Mary and Joseph
Regular Weekend Mass schedule

Tuesday, December 31 Mass in Anticipation for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God - 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday, January 1 Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, a Holy Day of Obligation – 8:30 a.m. Mass only; no 6:30 a.m.
Saturday, January 4 & Sunday, January 5 - Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord – Regular Weekend Mass schedule
Saturday, January 11 & Sunday, January 12 - Feast of the Baptism of the Lord - Regular Weekend Mass schedule.

Upcoming Events at St. Joseph Catholic Church
More information at www.stjoseph-libertyville.org

December 1 and 3 Community for the Kingdom Advent groups begin
December 4 Guild Housewalk & Boutique, see page 7. Tickets on sale now.
December 5 Eucharistic Adoration for Vocations, 3:00 p.m. in Church
December 7, 14 Men's Saturday Morning Live, 7:00 a.m., Koenig Center

A Change in the Worship Aids
Today, the First Sunday of Advent, we return to using an 8-page Worship Aid that contains the weekly scripture readings and the Mass music. We will no longer have the Sunday's Word books in the pews. We hope it will help you to fully, actively and consciously participate in the Liturgy.

Early Carpenter Deadlines
There are upcoming early deadlines for the Carpenter due to Christmas and New Year's scheduling at the printing company. Please have your submissions in by Noon on the following dates. Thank you.

Issue Date: Deadline:
December 22 Wednesday, December 11
December 29 Tuesday, December 17
January 5 Tuesday, December 24

Pray the Rosary
Please join other parishioners in church at 7:55 a.m. Monday through Saturday to pray Our Lady’s Rosary.
Awaken  The prophet Isaiah chose to live close to God. That relationship afforded Isaiah a prophetic vision. He could see beyond all the daily distractions. He lived with profound expectation, walking purposefully through life with his eyes set on the day the Lord would come.

St. Paul reminds us “You know the time; it is the hour now for you to wake up from your sleep.” So awaken to Christ Jesus present in the world!

Living with expectation, with alertness, with heightened awareness of the One who lives will change your life to the point of utter amazement. Can you envision it? To live closer to Christ is to live less at a distance from others, to live more openly welcoming, loving, finding ways to forgive each and every person who passes throughout your day not living up to your ego driven expectations of them.

So wake up from that self-created dream you’re living! Get to know Christ by getting to know the people you too often refuse to see, refuse to get to know. Choose to live expecting to encounter Jesus Christ each and every day in the people around you.

YOUTH

Appalachian Mission Trip (AMT) applications and information are now available on St. Joseph's website.  
www.stjoseph-libertyville.org/appalachian-mission-trip
Application deadline is December 6.
Contact Tom and Brigid at bdutton@stjoseph-libertyville.org with any questions.

COMMUNITY BUILDING

EUCHRE NIGHT ON DECEMBER 7

The next Euchre Night will be on Saturday, December 7. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., cards begin at 7:00 p.m. Please note our location: 200 North Milwaukee, Lower Level (enter through Milwaukee Avenue doors). December Euchre is a little different than the rest of the season. Instead of playing for nominal, donated prizes, we invite Euchre players to make a freewill donation towards a scholarship for a graduating student at our Sharing Ministry School in Moshi, Tanzania so they can continue their education. St. Joseph’s Euchre Night is for anyone who plays Euchre, is interested in casual play, meeting fellow parishioners, munching on snacks, and having some laughs. Players are adults who are singles or couples of all ages. These are stand-alone events and you’re not making any commitment about attending future nights. If you’re interested in joining us, or you just have questions, please send an email to Stuart and Fran Skinner at fskinner@aumpartnersllc.com.

GUILD CIRCLE NEWS

St. Rose Quilt Circle: Do you have an interest in sewing and quilting? Are you interested in sharing ideas and techniques? Are you looking for fellowship? If so, St. Rose Quilt Circle is for you! Join us on Monday, December 2, from 11:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. in the Formation Center Room D. Whatever your skill level, come and create, learn and laugh with us! For further information, contact Diane: dmvsew@gmail.com.

St. Lucy Book Club Circle: Our Circle gathers on the second Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the St. Joseph Room to discuss a book and enjoy refreshments and conversation. On Monday, December 9, we will discuss Love and Other Consolation Prizes by Jamie Ford. For more information, please contact Joy Levering at mjlevering1@yahoo.com.

Please join us in welcoming the following new parish members:
Jared & Alison Forsythe.
Welcome to our community of faith!
Women’s Guild of St. Joseph Catholic Church Proudly Presents the 33rd Annual “Doorways to Christmas Housewalk and Holiday Boutique” on Wednesday, December 4 — Tickets on sale now!

Christmas Housewalk
Tour Libertyville’s loveliest homes fully decorated for the holidays. Homes are open 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Tickets are on sale and can be purchased at the St. Joseph Parish Office and How Impressive! (326 North Milwaukee). Tickets are $30 in advance and $35 the day of the Housewalk and are available at each house and at the Boutique. For questions about the Housewalk, please contact Joan at joanwegrzyn@sbcglobal.net.

Christmas Boutique
Stop by the Koenig Center for a little holiday shopping. Handmade gifts, children & baby accessories, glass art, custom woodworking, jewelry, and much more will be featured at this year’s Boutique. The Boutique will be open from 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. and admission is free. For any questions about the Boutique, contact Carolyn at husnick_carolyn@yahoo.com.

Proceeds from the Housewalk will benefit the following 501(c)(3) charities: Aid for Women of Northern Lake County, ACCW Scholarship Fund In Memory of Pat Smuck, Community Social Services (House of Peace), Franciscan House of Mary and Joseph, Infant, Inc., Kindred Life Ministries, Inc., SisterHouse in Memory of Pat Smuck, St. Joseph Bed Ministry, St. Joseph School and Children’s Faith Formation, USO (No Dough Dinner) and Women’s Prison Retreat.

Mothers with Young Children
Drop-in Morning Playgroup on Thursday, December 5 from 10 a.m. at 1401 North Midlothian Road, Mundelein Parent/Tot Open Gym is the opportunity for your little ones to run around and play in the gym at the community center. Toys and equipment will be provided for frolic and fun. RSVP on Meetup.

MYC Christmas Party! Thursday, December 12 from 7:30 p.m. at Meg Likus’ Home Jingle, Jingle, Mix & Mingle, Ladies! One of the best MYC events of the year is right around the corner! Please join us for the MYC Christmas Party. Enjoy the night filled with festive laughter and fun. Refer to Meetup for more details and to RSVP. Don’t miss!

MYC Book Club - Little Women by Louisa May Alcott on Saturday, January 11 from 11 a.m. at AMC Hawthorn 12, 675 Hawthorn Center, Vernon Hills We’ll be reading Little Women by Louisa May Alcott. Come join us for lunch at Mellody Farms (actual location TBD), and then head over to AMC to see the new Little Women movie. Reserve your spot on Meetup soon!

Retirees & Wannabes
ST. JOSEPH SPONSORED • See Guild Circles on previous page • December 1 or 3–Advent Community for the Kingdom groups begin • December 4–Guild Housewalk & Boutique • December 4–Women’s Evening of Reflection, 6:30 at St. Mary of Vernon • December 7–Euchre Night, 6:30 • Bake for the Faith Formation Bake Sale on December 14-15, see drop-off details on page 8.

LIBERTYVILLE SENIOR COUNCIL & SENIOR CENTER
• December 5–Shopping Trip to Fashion Outlets in Rosemont, $5. • December 9–Birthday Bash, 1:00 p.m. • December 12–Lantern Festival Racine Zoo, 5:00–9:00 p.m., $15.

Trivia Night
is on Saturday, February 1! Save the Date!

Interested in attending St. Joseph’s annual Trivia Night? Then you’ll want to mark two key dates on your calendar:

Saturday, February 1 – Doors open at 6:00 p.m., Trivia begins at 7:00 p.m.

Monday, December 16 – online registration opens for Trivia Night. Please note that due to space constraints, we have a maximum number of registrations we can accept. To guarantee your spot, please register early. More information about registration will be provided in the Carpenter later in December. If you have any questions about this year’s Trivia Night, please contact the Trivia Night Team via email at: stjosephtrivia@gmail.com.
St. Joseph Parishioners

Looking to get into the Advent spirit?

Help the Faith Formation Team with Its Bake Sale!

**Where:** School Gym foyer  
**When:** After all Masses and during Sunday Faith Building sessions, Saturday, December 14 and Sunday, December 15, 2019  
**What to bring:** Make your best baked goods recipe (cookies, candies, pies, rolls, etc.) Drop them off with the Faith Formation Team between Thursday, December 12 through Saturday, December 14

Sales benefit the Guardian Angel Scholarship Fund  
Want to help? Visit the iVolunteer link to sign up:  
[https://stjoseph.ivolunteer.com/guardian_angel_bake_sale_003](https://stjoseph.ivolunteer.com/guardian_angel_bake_sale_003)  
Information: 847-990-1282

**SPRED (Special Religious Development)**  
**Adult Group Needs a Catechist**

SPRED is a ministry that offers those with special needs an enriching experience in faith formation in relationship with a catechist and friend. Respectful and designed to preserve the dignity of those with special needs, SPRED is a carefully developed small faith community. We invite you to join our catechists, to join our faith community, to open your heart and to serve special children of the Lord. Anyone 21 or older willing to share friendship and faith with others from the community can participate as a catechist. No prior experience with persons with special needs is needed. Training and observation is offered throughout the year to help volunteers become comfortable with the SPRED method of catechesis. If you feel called to this or have questions, please contact John Brodarick, St. Joseph SPRED chairperson, at 847-362-6787 or email at brodarick727@comcast.net.

**Chicago Scripture School Winter Registration**

If you did not get the chance to participate in the fall term of Loyola University’s Chicago Scripture School program, there is time to sign up for their winter term, which begins Tuesday, January 7. Sessions are 10:00 a.m. to Noon in Room C of the St. Joseph Formation Center. The winter session will delve into the books of Deuteronomy and Genesis. Cost is $195 per term. Seniors may audit the sessions for $95 per term. To register, visit [www.bit.ly/loyolawinter](http://www.bit.ly/loyolawinter)  
Students will select the “St. Joseph Parish – Libertyville, IL” option. For information, contact Director Kevin Pease at kpease@luc.edu and/or 312-915-7485.

**Eucharistic Adoration for Vocations**

Please join the Vocations Ministers in praying for all members of the clergy and for all those leading consecrated lives during Eucharistic Adoration on Thursdays from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. in our church.

**Prayer for Vocations:** Almighty Father, we beg you for an increase in religious vocations and holy marriages in our parish. Help us to be generous in our response to your call. Choose from our homes those who are needed for your work and strengthen us with the courage to say “yes” and to follow you. Help us as a parish and as families to recognize and foster vocations to the priesthood, religious life, lay ministry or whatever path you are calling us to follow. We ask this in Jesus’ name. Amen.
Saturday Morning Live Continues!
Please join us!
The Men’s Ministry invites all guys to join us this Advent for “Mysteries and Miracles” during this year’s Saturday Morning Live.

Sessions will be 7:00 to 8:25 a.m. on Saturdays, November 30 through December 14 in the Koenig Center. Doors open at 6:45 a.m. Take some time out on Saturday mornings to get your heart back in shape for the season of Christmas.

The cost is $10 (just pay at the door) for all three sessions. Walk-ins are welcome.

Coffee and doughnuts included.

Register at www.stjoseph-libertyville.org/saturday-morning-live-2019 or call 847-322-6013.

Faith Formation

Need a Low Gluten Host?
If you are in need of receiving a low gluten Host, we will be consecrating a number of low gluten Hosts to be kept in a special ciborium in the Tabernacle. This ciborium will be available at the serving station of the presider for each Mass. Please come to Communion at the presider’s station and indicate that you receive a low gluten Host.

IN MEMORY
Please pray for the souls of:
Julia Jakubow
Sam Liberti

BANNS OF MARRIAGE
Maria Sapienza and Joseph Schwendler

The Memory of Loved Ones

Central to the Christmas Season is the giving and receiving of gifts. Gifts speak to the love that we have for one another. This Christmas Season, as a way to remember those who have been a gift to us, you are invited to contribute towards the flowers that will grace our worship space during the Christmas Season. This might be in memory of a deceased loved one, someone who encouraged you in faith, or a friend or relative who gifted you with their guidance or their encouragement. Through these memorials the Christmas flowers will be a true garden of gifts representing those who have blessed our lives.

Envelopes for this can be found on the tables in the back of church and are in your envelope packets. Fill one out with your contribution and drop it in the collection basket or send it to the parish office. After Christmas, the names of those remembered in our Gift Garden will be published in the Carpenter.

The Memory of Loved Ones
To Create Our Christmas Garden

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Children in grades 1-5 are invited to take part in Children’s Liturgy of the Word each week of Advent at the 9:00 Sunday Mass.

**SCHEDULES**

Sunday Masses: 5:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday 7:15, 9:00, 10:45 a.m. (10:45 in Church and in Koenig Center), 12:30, 5:00 p.m. Prearranged Baptisms at 1:45 p.m. Saturday Masses: 8:30 a.m. (Second Saturdays, Sacrament of Healing at Mass) Weekday Masses: 6:30 and 8:30 a.m. or as scheduled. Holy Day Masses: 6:30, 8:30 a.m., Noon, 7:00 p.m. Reconciliation Saturday, 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon or by appointment.

**Mass Intentions**

- **Monday December 2**
  - 6:30 Elizabeth Kurian
  - and Wesley Fout

- **Tuesday December 3**
  - 6:30 Mary Joan Beitzel
  - and Eric Schafer

- **Wednesday December 4**
  - 6:30 Martin McGreal
  - and Ed Lobus

- **Thursday December 5**
  - 6:30 Erik Volkers
  - and Ernest Fournier

- **Friday December 6**
  - 6:30 Lillian Ann McGreal
  - and Ken & Marion Grenier

- **Saturday December 7**
  - 8:30 Joe & Janet Higgins
  - and Maniscalli & Krol Families

- **Sunday Masses**
  - 5:00 p.m. Saturday
  - 7:15, 9:00, 10:45 a.m. (10:45 in Church and in Koenig Center)
  - 12:30, 5:00 p.m.
  - Prearranged Baptisms at 1:45 p.m.
  - Saturday Masses 8:30 a.m. (Second Saturdays: Sacrament of Healing at Mass)

- **Weekday Masses**
  - 6:30 and 8:30 a.m.

- **Holy Day Masses**
  - 6:30, 8:30 a.m., Noon, 7:00 p.m.

**Presiders/Deacons**

- **Saturday, December 7**
  - 5:00 p.m. Fr. Trout

- **Sunday, December 8**
  - 7:15 Fr. Luboyera
  - Deacon Mudd
  - 9:00 Fr. Ortiz
  - Deacon Mudd
  - 10:45 Fr. Trout
  - Deacon Coughlin
  - 10:45 KC Fr. Luboyera
  - 12:30 Fr. Ortiz
  - 5:00 p.m. Fr. Trout
  - Deacon Coughlin

**Social Justice & Service**

**Help with Giving Tree Distribution on December 7 and 8**

On the weekend of December 7–8 the gifts with the tags attached are returned to the Gym. Volunteers are needed to sort the gifts and help distribute them when the families and agencies come on Sunday at 2:00 p.m. Please sign up for a two-hour shift on ivolunteer using the link below. Thanks so much for all of your help! The individuals and families so appreciate your efforts. Any questions, please contact Mary Causey at 847-990-1213. www.stjoseph.ivolunteer.com/givingtree_2019

**St. Joseph Employment Ministry to Meet December 4**

Success Story Panel—How I Got the Job: there’s a lot of information out there on conducting your job search, but how do you learn what really works? Find out on December 4, as we wrap up 2019 with a Panel of Employment Ministry “Graduates” who landed jobs this year, and who will share learnings from their own job search experiences: specific strategies that helped land their new jobs. What approaches worked, what didn’t; keys to success, traps to avoid, and more. Come with your own questions—we’ll include a Q&A session. We meet from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Formation Center (112 N. Milwaukee, Libertyville, IL, 60048), Room C. Please enter from the rear of the building. The session is free, and all are welcome.

The St. Joseph Employment Ministry assists the unemployed and under-employed in the pursuit of personally and professionally fulfilling work. Anyone with a job to fill or an interest in assisting job-seekers is also invited to attend. Meetings are usually held on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month and typically feature topical presentations followed by group networking. If you have questions, please contact John Jennings at jfjennings@comcast.net. Employers are invited to post open positions with us by sending an email to John.
Christmas Trees for Sale by Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus will be selling Christmas Trees again this year at Marytown (west edge of Libertyville on north side of Route 176) from November 29 through December 21 on Saturdays and Sundays from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and on weekdays from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The Knights use the proceeds to fund their food basket program which include turkey, stuffing, apples, oranges, potatoes, canned goods, breakfast food and cake mix. Last year they supplied 100 food baskets for those in need for Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter. When you buy a Christmas tree from the Knights, you receive a beautiful tree and the hungry receive food. Thank you and God Bless! - The Knights of Columbus Council 3674.

Simple Acts of Kindness and Justice
www.stjoseph-libertyville.org/urgent-needs
Listed below are some immediate opportunities to help someone in our community! Simple acts of kindness and compassion can comfort someone in their journey and also warm our hearts!

Catholic Charities of Lake County’s Lake County Youth Mentorship Program
pairs youth ages 9-12 from Waukegan with volunteer mentors, who can serve as positive role models, encourage good decision-making and be a friend during times of need. For more information, call: 847-782-4224.

Make Lunches for PADS Sign up for dates to make lunches at home to deliver to PADS. Go to www.tinyurl.com/uqd792v
Call 847-689-0541 for further details before beginning. A lunch should have:
1 Sandwich Lunch meat – made with at least 2 slices of lunch meat (about 2 ounces). Please don’t use mustard or mayonnaise on the sandwiches, but feel free to include individual packets of condiments in the bag. Processed cheese tends to become gooey when in the bag and is discouraged from being put on the sandwiches. Sliced cheese is welcomed.
1 Bottled Water Please, no juice, pop or milk.
1 Bag of Baked Potato Chips or Sun Chips/Pretzels/etc.
1 Fruit or Applesauce Cup
Please also pack a disposable spoon and 1 napkin.

Reflections on Giving and Gratitude
Excerpts from Bishop Robert Barron’s The Mass, Word on Fire Catholic Ministries, © 2018

The Preparation of the Gifts During the Liturgy of the Eucharist
The bread and wine taken up the aisle are presented in all our names, and in the name of all creation as well. The bread and the wine, “the work of human hands” represent our—and all those involved in getting these elements there—co-creative, co-operation with the Creator and with the fullness of all he has made.

Likewise, we present our monetary gifts during the Mass. “Money is our work…the hours of our lives…And now we sacrifice it for the work of the Church, which in the end is its work of charity and evangelization.” (Abbot Jeremy Driscoll) Collectively, our contributions declare our consent and commitment: “Let this work of the Church continue, this announcement of salvation through the death and resurrection of Christ continue; let our outreach to our neighbors near and far continue; let our church pay its workers, pay its bills, maintain its buildings, so that we have a suitable place and culture for worship, fellowship and communion.” Our donations say, “God has given to us; we are making a sacrifice to God in return.”

Sacrifice: A Matter of Trust
Our monetary donation is both an act of gratitude in returning part of God’s gifts and an act of trust. We first trust that our gifts, large and small, will become a part of something much bigger than ourselves and do a greater good than we could individually do. We also trust in God’s word, that our generosity will always redound to us in the fullest possible measure. St. Bernadette advised, “God is never outdone in generosity.” Pope St. John Paul II called it The Law of the Gift: “Your being will we could individually do. We also trust in God’s word, that our generosity will always redound to us in the fullest possible measure.

Reflection by Larry Johnson, Accountability Commission Vice Lead
The Parish Office and Ministry Center at 121 E. Maple Avenue is open 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. obtained it from, NOT in the slot to the left of the door.

For the vestibule, where the key will be kept. You must return the key immediately after your event by putting it in the same box you obtained it from, NOT in the slot to the left of the door.

Saturday, please call the office, 847-362-2073, before 4:30 (M-F) or Noon Saturday to reserve your key and to get the access code.

People who have had health issues or near-death experiences generally have a greater appreciation for each day being a gift from God. The rest of us usually take for granted that we will be around tomorrow. But when you start to look at each day as a gift, you realize all the little miracles that happen daily and grow in gratitude for all that we have been given. You begin to see God’s active presence in your life.

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Thank You! St. Joseph Parish is grateful to those who give generously on the weekends and monthly through our automatic contribution program. Thank you to those who regularly and generously give of their treasure as well as those who give of their time and talent to support the work our parish does in the name of Jesus Christ. Learn more at www.stjoseph-libertyville.org.

**Thoughts on Giving** “Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come.” (Matthew 24:42) People who have had health issues or near-death experiences generally have a greater appreciation for each day being a gift from God. The rest of us usually take for granted that we will be around tomorrow. But when you start to look at each day as a gift, you realize all the little miracles that happen daily and grow in gratitude for all that we have been given. You begin to see God’s active presence in your life.

### STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weekly Offering</th>
<th>Current Year</th>
<th>Last Year</th>
<th>Over (Under) Last Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weekend Offering</td>
<td>$21,253</td>
<td>$462,121</td>
<td>$4,194</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electronic Giving</td>
<td>$6,151</td>
<td>$273,159</td>
<td>$30,384</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Collection** $27,403 $735,280 $(34,578) 
**Budget for Collection** $42,230 $844,600 $(62,613)

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**MINISTRY OF CARE, SACRAMENT OF THE SICK**

The Sacrament of the Sick is celebrated at 8:30 a.m. Mass on the 2nd Saturday of each month, or by arrangement. Contact the parish office if seriously ill, hospitalized, or homebound.

A Minister of Care is available to bring Communion.

**GUIDE TO FUNERAL PLANNING**

Please call the parish office for assistance from a Bereavement Minister and a funeral planning guide.

**STAY CONNECTED**

Website: www.stjoseph-libertyville.org.
Facebook: www.facebook.com/SJLibertyville
Twitter: www.twitter.com/SJLibertyville
Instagram: www.instagram.com/SJLibertyville

Our YouTube address is: www.youtube.com/sjlibertyville

**MATRIMONY**

Congratulations! Please contact the parish office as soon as you are engaged. 6 months is usually required for marriage preparation.

**INFANT BAPTISM**

As an expectant parent, you are invited to the Pre-Baptismal Session 3 months prior to birth; 6:00 p.m. the 2nd Monday of every odd-numbered month at 6:00 p.m. in church.

**BAPTISM FOR SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN**

Preparation classes for parents and children begin in September. Call 847-362-5797 for information and registration.

**SACRAMENT OF PENANCE**

Celebrated at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday mornings or by arrangement.

Office Hours & Evening Access The Parish Office and Ministry Center at 121 E. Maple Avenue is open 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8:00 a.m.-Noon on Saturday. The front door of the P.O.M. Center has a keypad for entry into its vestibule area. Anyone hosting a scheduled meeting in the evening or on a weekend is asked to pick up the key for the space they need for the evening or weekend meetings.

Worship Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities • Accessible Washrooms, west side of narthex • Hearing Loop for persons with hearing aids • Assisted Hearing Devices in sacristy for persons with difficulty hearing • Accessible, powered door at east end of narthex • Ramped north entrances to narthex • Accessible Ramp on east side of sanctuary • Pew Accessibility on east front side and center sections • Padded Pew last row, far southeast corner of church • Accessible parking spaces north of church along Maple Avenue. • A “read-aloud” PDF version of The Carpenter for those with visual impairments. Please email request to info@stjoseph-libertyville.org.
Rev. John Trout, PASTOR
jtrout@stjoseph-libertyville.org
Rev. Martin Luboyera, ASSOCIATE PASTOR
mluboyera@stjoseph-libertyville.org
Mrs. Mary Causey, Director of Social Justice and Service
847-990-1213, mcausey@stjoseph-libertyville.org
Mr. & Mrs. Tom and Brigid Dutton, Youth Ministers,
847-275-2597, bdutton@stjoseph-libertyville.org
Mrs. Ann Harmon, Parish Office Manager
847-362-2073, aharmon@stjoseph-libertyville.org
Mr. Dan Harris, Facilities Manager
847-722-5345, dharris@stjoseph-libertyville.org
Deacon George Kashmar, Pastoral Director of Ministries
847-990-1224, gkashmar@stjoseph-libertyville.org
Mrs. Kelly McMahon, Director of Technology
847-990-1277, kmcmahon@stjoseph-libertyville.org
Deacon George Kashmar, Pastoral Director of Ministries
847-990-1224, gkashmar@stjoseph-libertyville.org
Rev. Robinson Ortiz, ASSOCIATE PASTOR
rortiz@stjoseph-libertyville.org
Rev. John Hennessey, PASTOR EMERITUS
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Parish Pastoral Council
E-mail the PPC at info@stjoseph-libertyville.org. Your questions and suggestions are welcome.
Members of the Parish Pastoral Council: Fr. John Trout, Marjorie Gaitan (Social Justice & Service), Michelle Hobson (Chair), Jon Monroe (Faith Formation), Megan Pavalos (Youth), Gerry Salzman (Community Building), Brian Savage (Accountability), Dennis Valentini (Prayer & Worship)
PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL Fr. John Trout, Bob Killackey, Joseph Loumeau, Kevin Rule (Chair), Joanie Sauers, Brian Savage, Tom Sear, Craig Sondalle
A Journey to Discipleship—Jesus Companions Us Through Scripture

1. Proclaim God’s Word. Choose someone to read the Scripture. After reading, there is silence from the group in reverence.
2. Invite Response. Invite individuals to respond to a word, phrase or passage that strikes them in some way.
3. Praise God. After a period of response, close by leading the group in praise of God by praying together the Glory Be.

Next Sunday’s Gospel — Matthew 3:1-12

Leader: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

Response: Glory to You, O Lord

John the Baptist appeared, preaching in the desert of Judea and saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!” It was of him that the prophet Isaiah had spoken when he said: “A voice of one crying out in the desert, ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.’”

John wore clothing made of camel’s hair and had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. At that time Jerusalem, all Judea, and the whole region around the Jordan were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins.

When he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath?

Reflection

John the Baptist is one of the central figures in the Advent season because he came before Christ to help draw our attention to Jesus’ coming. In his time, many Jews saw John as a prophet (and even the Messiah) because he preached that “the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.” Unlike the Jews of John’s day, we no longer need his prophetic voice to inform us that Jesus is the Messiah. We look to John today to be reminded about what we should do to prepare to invite Jesus into our lives in a bigger way. During this preparation season, John tells us that the first step is repentance. We are called to identify those things which keep us from making our path straight to God or what might be sending us in the wrong direction. However, true repentance calls us to do more than turn away from our sin and face God. It calls us to develop a strong desire for the new order that was foreshadowed by the prophet Isaiah (11:1-10), predicted John and was ushered in with the birth of Jesus. We are called to move away from our old ways and to actively seek a better world where all are called to live in union with Christ. As we prepare for Christmas we are encouraged to aim higher in order to make Christ more present in the world around us. We are called to overcome our fears and break down divisions that separate us from others and fail to advance the peace of Christ from being realized in our homes, communities and the world. So let us confess our sins to be more fully united to Christ and recommit to sharing the peace of Christ more boldly and more broadly.

For further reflection on John the Baptist’s role, see The Catechism of the Catholic Church, paragraphs 717-720; and on interior repentance, 1430-1433.

Reflection Questions

1. When we confess our sins, our unity with Christ is restored and we are prepared to live a more holy life. How strong is my desire for holiness? How much am I willing to do to bring more of the peace of Christ into my life and into the world? What steps can I take to move closer to God during this Advent season?
2. What new habits might I develop to help me to break the bonds of sin which have worked their way into my life? What can I do to develop a stronger desire for holiness?
3. During Lent many of us make a resolution to make some sacrifice to prepare for Easter. What specific resolutions to spread joy and peace might I make during this Advent to prepare for Christmas?

Readings for the Week

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Author</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Is 4:2-6; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11</td>
<td>St. Francis Xavier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24</td>
<td>St. John Damascene</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37</td>
<td>St. Nicholas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27</td>
<td>St. Ambrose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31</td>
<td>St. Ambrose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6; Mt 9:35 — 10:1</td>
<td>St. Ambrose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12</td>
<td>St. Ambrose</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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