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!

St. Joseph Catholic Church—Libertyville, Illinois
www.stjoseph-libertyville.org

January 1, 2017
Mary, the Holy Mother of God
Building lasting friendships across borders
A priest in South Sudan writes of his gratitude to our parish in Libertyville

At Christmas liturgical ceremonies, especially at the vigil Mass of the Nativity of the Lord, we often read from the book of the prophet Isaiah about the promise of a Messiah, a child, born of the lineage of David, whose name and mission was to be a Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father and Prince of Peace. Formerly when preaching on these words I have used them simply as referring to Christ as the promised Messiah foretold long ago.

However, this year my mind’s eye has been opened to a new wealth of meaning in these words. It has become clear to me that in the birth of Jesus Christ, born as a weak and defenceless baby, God has shown his confidence in the ability of young people to bring peace, justice and transformation to a world where these realities seem to have been lost.

I have come to see this in my work with the youth of our parishes in Narus, South Sudan and Lokichoggio, Kenya, in our joint programme of a cross-border youth peace initiative. The inventiveness, energy and creativity that these young people bring to their activities could not have come solely from them, but can be seen as a gift from God.

Toposa herdsmen in South Sudan and their counterparts in Turkana, with whom they share a border, have always been involved in perennial and bloody clashes, even though they claim common ancestry. Livestock rustling and an insatiable quest for grazing grounds lead to clashes which claim numerous lives every year and bring insecurity to the border towns and villages shared by both communities. Although there have been countless peace accords signed by both parties, and numerous conferences organized and attended by leaders and elders on both sides, the results are minimal. Raids are often recorded even while such conferences are going on. There is doubt among the people if the community and political leaders and herdsmen on both sides have the will to uphold the peace accords they have signed. It is this atmosphere of mistrust, violence and insecurity that has led the young people from the border parishes of Lokichoggio in Kenya and Narus in South Sudan to devise their own means to tackle the problem. As young people, they are using cultural, social, sporting and religious activities as a way of striving for lasting peaceful co-existence in the area.

Since November 2015, the youth in both parishes have been organizing mutual visits. In April this year, the youth from Lokichoggio, led by St. Patrick’s Father Stanley Duru, visited our parish in Narus for two days. The town of Narus came to a standstill, as everyone flocked to the playground of St. Joseph’s Church to watch the naleyo – the Turkana and Toposa traditional dance performed by the visiting and host communities. Like the visit of Mary to Elizabeth which caused the baby in Elizabeth’s womb to leap for joy, young girls and women, boys and men alike, who came to witness the occasion, literally leapt for joy, as they danced to the rhythm of the drums and the songs. Even the torrential rain which poured down that Saturday morning could not dampen the enthusiasm of the participants. The dance was an expression of boundless joy. In the evening of that day, the community was entertained by the youth of both parishes with friendly games of football and volleyball and other athletic competitions amidst cheers and chants that enlivened Narus, a hitherto quiet neighbourhood.
At the Sunday Mass the following day, youth from both parishes made up the choir and led the assembly in a colourful liturgy with songs in Turkana and Toposa languages, showing the richness of the cultural exchanges taking place. At the end of the Mass, two white pigeons were released to fly out through the open doors of the church as a sign of the commitment of the youth from both parishes towards building peaceful co-existence between the Toposa and Turkana communities. Finally, the visiting youth joined by their hosts in Narus marked the visit with planting hedges in the church compound before they departed for Lokichoggio.

Members of both youth groups continue to nurture their friendship through a group Facebook page called the Loki-Narus Catholic Youth Forum, and a Whatsapp chat group called Toposa Peace Ambassadors. The use of social media helps to bridge the gap created by space and contributes strongly to their aim of building lasting friendship and peaceful co-existence in an environment plagued by violence and insecurity.

At this time of Christmas, as I look back at the commitment of these young people, and their resolve to explore new ways of attaining peaceful co-existence, the message of Isaiah about the name and mission of the promised Messiah as a Prince of Peace takes on a new dimension for me. By focusing on activities that build up friendship rather than following traditional 'talk-packed' conferences and signing of peace accords which are hardly ever kept, they have taken on some aspects of the character of Jesus the Prince of Peace. He departed from the established and traditional ways in order to reconcile suffering humanity to God.

The story of Christmas tells us about God who was confident to entrust the mission of reconciling a world plagued by violence, sin and brokenness, to a defenceless tiny baby, a king of the lineage of David. My work with the youth has taught me that, in our days, God still recognises the ability of young people, who are using all means at their disposal, like sport, cultural exchanges, religious activities and social media, to bring lasting peace and reconciliation in their own ways to a world that stands in such dire need.

As I celebrate Christmas this year I will also give thanks for the work of these youth entrusted with a mission for peace, which young people all over the world can share. Like Jesus, the newborn king, these youth are princes and princesses of peace!

It is said that when a butterfly flaps its wings in a certain place, its effect can be felt in another part of the world. The youths in the parishes of Lokichoggio and Narus are able to engage in this cross-border peace initiative as a result of a generous donation from the pastor, Fr. John Trout, and members of St. Joseph’s Parish, Libertyville, Illinois, in the United States of America. We remain ever grateful for their help, which has also enabled me to gain a new insight into the message of Christmas.

Fr. Emmanuel Obi from Warri Delta State, Nigeria, was ordained in 2013. He ministers in St. Joseph’s Parish, Narus, Republic of South Sudan.
Jumpstart your spiritual life in the New Year by exploring Ignatian Spirituality—

The Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola have been a treasure for Catholics for over 500 years. To quote St. Ignatius himself, they “have as their purpose the conquest of self and the regulation of one’s life in such a way that no decision is made under the influence of any inordinate attachment.” The goal is to bring one closer to God so that every decision we make in life will be in line with God’s plan for us.

The Ignatian Spirituality Committee will be continuing a series of talks to help people interested in exploring the Exercises. **Our next talk will be Thursday, January 5 at 7:00 p.m. in the Loughry Room.** Our speakers will be Michael and Cathy Dante from Marquette University. Michael is the Director of the Faber Center for Ignatian Spirituality and Cathy is a spiritual director in private practice who serves as a hall minister for Marquette. The Dantes will be speaking on “Acknowledging our Sin and Accepting God’s Forgiveness.”

If you have an interest in this treasure of our church, please join us. If you have any questions, please contact Steve Kymes at smkymes@gmail.com.

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We invite and encourage each of you to gather with other members of the parish **EVERY FRIDAY IN CHURCH AFTER THE 8:30 A.M. MASS TO PRAY FOR PEACE IN OUR COUNTRY, OUR WORLD.**

Cannot be in church? Join us in spirit and pray with us, simple prayers from your heart—for peace.

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**Upcoming Events at St. Joseph Catholic Church**

- **January 5** Eucharistic Adoration for Vocations, 3-4 p.m. in Church
- **January 5** Ignatian Spirituality series begins, 7:00 p.m., Loughry Room
- **February 4** Trivia Night. Register now, see page 5

More info at [www.stjoseph-libertyville.org](http://www.stjoseph-libertyville.org)

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The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, January 2. Enjoy the holidays!

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**Communit Building**

**Mothers with Young Children**

Happy New Year to all from Mothers with Young Children!

**Bi-monthly meeting:** The next bi-monthly meeting will be held on **Thursday, January 5 from 9:15-11:00 a.m.** at the St. Joseph Formation Center (112 N. Milwaukee Avenue, Libertyville). Meeting details will be posted on BigTent soon! Babysitting is available. $6/one child, $8 two or more.

**January Book Club:** Save the date for **Thursday, January 26**! Book and location will be determined soon!

**MYC Retreat 2017:** Please **save the date** for our annual MYC Retreat! The retreat will be held the morning of **Saturday, January 28**. Be on the lookout for additional details on BigTent soon! In addition, if you are interested in helping plan the retreat, please see BigTent for contact details.

If you or someone you know would like to join MYC, please contact us at stjoesmyc@gmail.com. Membership is free and you can be as involved as you like. We’d love to have you!

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Please join us in welcoming the following new parish members: **Ronald & Mary Smith.**

Welcome to our community of faith!
**St. Joe’s Trivia Night**

is February 4, 2017

Registration is now open!

**Steps for online registration:**

*Step 1:* Go to our parish website (www.stjoseph-libertyville.org) and click on the heading “News/Events”. **NOTE:** simply click on the heading itself — do not try to access any of the drop-down menu options.

*Step 2:* Once on the News/Events page, click on the link “Trivia Night 2017”. Then choose either “Team Registration” or “Individual Registration” and follow the instructions listed on the page.

Please note: due to space constraints, capacity is limited. To reserve your spot, please register early.

**Trivia Night details:**
- St. Joseph Gym doors open at 6:00 p.m. for set-up and social hour—play begins at 7:00 p.m.
- We play in teams of up to 10 players. Cost is $100 per team. There will be cash prizes!
- If you don’t have 10 players, we can try to match you up with others to complete your team of 10.
- Must be 21 years or older to attend

**Other fun facts:**
- Each team picks a theme
- Decorate your table and yourselves (costumes) as much or as little as you want
- Bring Your Own Party — you bring your own food and beverages to enjoy throughout the evening.

Questions? Contact the Trivia Night Team via email at stjosephtrivia@gmail.com.

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**Irish Set Dancing Every Wednesday**

Irish Set Dancing, similar to American Square Dancing, involves eight people dancing in a square or circle. It originated in Irish homes years back where Irish folk gathered to play music, tell stories and sing folk songs. It is great fun and a super aerobic workout. Our group at St. Joseph’s that meets every Wednesday evening in St. Joseph School at 8:00 p.m. It is open to everyone and if you’d like to join us call Nuala at 847-280-0006 or email nualakav@sbcglobal.net. Slainte!

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**Senior Corner**

in memory of Helene Killackey

**St. Joseph Parish Sponsored**

- St. Joe’s Trivia Night-February 4—See the Carpenter and/or website for registration information
- 1st & 3rd Mondays of each month-Formation Center-11 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.-St. Rose Quilting Circle
- 3rd Tuesday of each month-Formation Center-St. Anne de Beaupré Card Making Circle-For information, call Terrie Coconate 847-682-1652 or email terrieococonate@yahoo.com.

**Community Activities**

- 2017 Countryside Senior Men’s Golf League: this Golf League is an 18-hole league for men 55 years or older. League play is scheduled on Monday mornings (tee-offs between 7:00-9:30 a.m.) beginning Monday, May 1 and ending September 25. Play alternates between the Traditional & Prairie courses at Countryside. Both full-time (80 players) and substitute players are welcome. The 2017 season will soon be here and a few new members are needed. Membership cost is only $30. Please call Bob Killackey at 847-367-6211 for more information (or e-mail: RKillackey@yahoo.com).
- Men’s Senior Bowling: enjoy senior men’s bowling at Fairhaven Lanes in Mundelein on Hawley Street. The league meets every Monday and Thursday morning at 9:00 a.m. Teams are made up from the bowlers who show up that day. Each game costs $1.50. There is no commitment to play on any regular schedule. Please call Bob Killackey at 847-367-6211 for more information (or e-mail: RKillackey@yahoo.com).

**Libertyville Senior Council and Senior Center**

- See the Senior Update on tables in the Narthex
Pray for Vocations

The Archdiocese recommends that parishes provide for a holy hour to pray for priestly vocations. In support of this, the St. Joseph Vocation Committee and our Spiritual Formation Committee has scheduled a holy hour, with Eucharistic Adoration, to be held every Thursday from 3:00-4:00 p.m. in the church to offer prayers for priestly vocations. Thursdays have been chosen as an ideal day for having the prayer hour as it coincides with Holy Thursday and the institution of the priesthood at the Last Supper. If you are looking for a special action this year, what better way than a short visit on Thursday to pray for an increase in priestly vocations? If you are unable to join us, please keep vocations in your prayers.

Young Adult Trip to the Philippines

The Young Adult Ministry of Lake County is excited to announce a retreat/mission trip to the Philippines on June 16-27. We will work with San Agustin Parish in the Calamian Islands to examine Pope Francis’ teachings in The Joy of Love through cultural experiences, service and prayer. The trip will also include a brief stay in Japan to explore its amazing food, culture and technology. Visit https://goo.gl/yNQfjb or email bn5v@virginia.edu. Registration Deadline: January 14, 2017.
St. Joseph Catholic School Introduces “Littlest Knights”

A parent/child program for 2 and 3 year olds that fosters social skills and language development through nursery rhymes, songs, interactive books, crafts and much more! Mrs. Kris Beyer will be teaching this class.

Tuesdays from 8:30-9:45 a.m.
Session 1 - January 10– February 28
Session 2 - March 7– May 2
Cost: $80 for 8 week session
Space is limited! To register, call Tracy Lombardo at 847-362-0730 or email tlombardo@sjslibertyville.org.

***Children may be accompanied by a parent, grandparent, and/or caregiver.

St. Joseph Catholic School is grateful for the continued support of St. Joseph Parish. As an expression of our gratitude for their generous support, the children created angel ornaments with a scripture verse from Luke as a gift for parishioners. In the days leading up to Christmas, children handed out these ornaments after 8:30 a.m. mass. The enthusiasm and excitement they felt as they handed out the ornaments conveyed the true meaning of Christmas. St. Joseph Catholic School is truly grateful for St. Joseph Parish and wishes all parishioners a blessed Christmas.
Next Children’s Liturgy of the Word on January 8

Children in grades 1-5 are invited to join us for Children’s Liturgy of the Word on January 8 at the 9:00 Mass. CLW is an opportunity to experience the Gospel using age-appropriate readings, songs, skits, and activities. Father dismisses the children during the 9:00 mass, and we proceed to the Koenig Center for our session. Parents are welcome and invited to come along with their child(ren). Thank you to all who have joined us during Advent. Please contact Janet Ritter at 847-362-5372 for more information.

Bringing Communion to Loved Ones at Home

With the days getting colder and the streets getting icy, there may be a time your loved one is unable to maneuver the inclement weather. Our trained Ministers of Care would love to make a home visit to bring them Holy Communion. Please contact the Parish Office (847-362-2073) or Arlyss Lasecki (847-778-8023) or Judy Salzman (847-393-7689) to arrange for a Home Visit with Communion.
**Prayer & Worship**

**Mass Intentions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>January 2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Parishioners</td>
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<td>6:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>Liosingas A. Spokas</td>
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<tr>
<td>and</td>
<td>Wayne &amp; Jeannie Hinky, well-being</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>January 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30</td>
<td>Eileen McKinney</td>
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<tr>
<td>and</td>
<td>Miriam Bernhardt</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>Helene Killacky</td>
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<tr>
<td>and</td>
<td>Kathy Nemmers</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>January 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30</td>
<td>Parishioners</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>Cathy Moriarty</td>
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<tr>
<td>and</td>
<td>Pat Kokum</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>January 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30</td>
<td>Chuck Jans</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>Judy Moriarty</td>
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<tr>
<td>and</td>
<td>Pat Kokum</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>January 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30</td>
<td>John Thumel</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>Mary R. Lockowitz</td>
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<tr>
<td>and</td>
<td>Charles Walgreen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>January 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>Dolores Krol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and</td>
<td>Mary Kusz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>All parishioners</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**In Memory**

Please pray for the souls of:

Walter Kozeniewski
Tom Hanson

**Please Pray for the Sick**

- Mary Foresta
- Bill Cochran
- Pat Saviano
- William Cook
- Denise Chovanec
- Charles Lorenz
- Bill Sparer
- Alvaro Cuellar
- Roz Camardella
- Mary T. Jordan
- Maria E. Coton
- Brett Becker
- Kevin Scanlan
- Cliff Young
- Peter Sylvester
- Aidan Kirkpatrick
- Diane LaCrosse
- Bridget Shiel
- Micah Peckels Quirk

After 4 weeks, please notify the parish office if your loved one is still in need of our prayers.

**Presiders/Deacons**

- **Saturday, January 7**
  - 5:00 Fr. Luboyera
  - Deacon Mudd
- **Sunday, January 8**
  - 7:15 Fr. Luboyera
  - Deacon Tiemeier
  - 9:00 Fr. Trout
  - Deacon Tiemeier
  - 10:45 Fr. Trout
  - Deacon Kashmar
  - 10:45 KC Fr. Hennessy
  - 12:30 Fr. Le
  - Deacon Kashmar
  - 5:00 Fr. Kartje

**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.

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**Get Your Application in for the Appalachian Mission Trip**

AMT (Appalachian Mission Trip) reminder: all teens, young adults and adults interested in going on the 2017 summer mission trip must submit their applications to the parish office soon. Get yours in now! Any questions, please contact Megan Pavelske (mpavelske@sbcglobal.net, 847-650-6630) or Ron Nickel (nickelr4@gmail.com, 847-404-3900). **Note**: the parish office is closed on Monday, January 2.

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**Social Justice & Service**

5th ANNUAL KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FREE-THROW CONTEST

The Knights of Columbus (Cardinal Stritch Council # 3674) and the St. Joseph School Athletic Committee are hosting a free-throw contest for all **Boys and Girls ages 9-14 on Sunday, January 15 at the St. Joseph School Gymnasium**. Registration and contest begin at 1:30 p.m. and is expected to conclude at 4:30 p.m.

For further information, please call Bob Bachochin at 224-688-2219 or email John Shute, Athletic Director, at jshute@stjoseph-libertyville.org.

**Note**: Age eligibility is determined by the age of the child as of January 1, 2017. Please bring your child’s birth certificate or some form of ID with your child’s birthday on it to verify that they are between the ages of 9 and 14 years old on January 1, 2017.
**Green Tip of the Week**

**WHEN MAKING A PURCHASE, CONSIDER THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

If you are deciding to buy something you don’t really need, consider the environmental impact of the production of the item. What about the disposal? The packaging? Consider whether you could make a more sustainable purchase. “Every dollar I spend is a statement about the kind of world I want and the quality of life I value.” (from the Center for a New American Dream)

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**5 SIMPLE THINGS YOU CAN DO TO MAKE THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE FOR PEOPLE WITH MENTAL ILLNESS AND THEIR FAMILIES**

- **BE A FRIEND** Provide companionship and compassion on the road toward recovery. Offer a ride to church or to a local support group. Listen without judgment. Pray for those you know with mental illnesses and their family members.
- **BE AN INSPIRATION** Share your story. Has mental illness impacted you or your family in some way? Your story may empower others to seek treatment or to have hope.
- **WATCH YOUR LANGUAGE** Pay attention to the words you use and avoid stigmatizing labels. Do not refer to people as “crazy,” “psycho,” “lunatic” or “mental.”
- **BE A STIGMA-BUSTER** Challenge negative attitudes toward mental illness among your friends and acquaintances and in the media.
- **LEARN THE FACTS** Educate yourself about the various mental illnesses. Know the signs: [http://www.changedirection.org/know-the-fivesigns/](http://www.changedirection.org/know-the-fivesigns/). Resources include:
  - National Alliance on Mental Illness, [www.nami.org](http://www.nami.org)
  - the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, [http://www.samhsa.gov/topics](http://www.samhsa.gov/topics)

If you or someone you know needs help, call:

- Catholic Charities: 312-655-7700
- NAMI Chicago Helpline: 312-563-0445
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-TALK (8255)

We offer prayers for all who currently serve our country
Please keep the following military in your prayers. We salute them, one and all! If you wish to have someone on this list, please e-mail info@stjoseph-libertyville.org or call 847-362-2073. Also, please let us know if one of the listed is no longer on active duty.

PFC Maksim K. Jankowski, U.S. Marine Corps, nephew of Larry & Donna Connolly
Capt. Patrick J. Walsh, nephew of Carol Walsh
ENS Brian D. Shannon, grandson of Rita & Jim Gorman and Pat & Bill Shannon
Capt. Tierney A. Shannon, granddaughter of Pat & Bill Shannon
Cadet Eamon P. Shannon, U.S. Air Force, grandson of Rita & Jim Gorman and Pat & Bill Shannon
Capt. Robert E. Stone, grandson of Pat & Bill Shannon
EM3 Joe Criel, U.S. Navy, grandson of Rick & Kelly Hobbs
Lt. Col. Brian Stehle, U.S. Army, nephew of Penny & Mike Klestinski
Major Richard F. Kehoe, U.S. Army, son of Kathy Kehoe
Captain Kevin P. Boyle, son of James and Gerri Boyle
1 Lt. Troy Howell, U.S. Army, grandson of Rita DePrima
1 Lt. Conor P. Dooley, U.S. Army, nephew of Susan and Ed Speth
MAJ Erik Archer, U.S. Army, son of Ann Harmon
Captain Jessica Larson, U.S. Army, niece of Carol Suvanich
Lt. Thomas McGee, U.S. Navy, son-in-law of John and Rita Tschanz
LT Michael A. Pirih, U.S. Navy, son of Tony & Maria Pirih
Captain Brandon Mokris, U.S. Marine Corps, nephew of Maura & Kedric Chamberlin
Private Steven Omiatko, U.S. Army, grandson of Mary Ann Constantine
Lt. Colonel Scott Davis, U.S. Army, brother of Lisa & Michael Godfrey
PFC Brendan Reilly, U.S. Army, son of Patrick & Cathleen Reilly
Army Specialist Cassandra Weiss, U.S. Army, granddaughter of Linda Finch
Corporal Timothy Gunter, U.S. Marine Corps, son of Kurt & Carrie-Ann
Lance Corporal James Taylor, U.S. Marine Corps, great-grandson of Beryl Rouse
Lance Corporal Jacklyn Thomas, U.S. Marine Corps, great-granddaughter of Beryl Rouse
CPT Dominique Ramos, U.S. Army, granddaughter of Beryl Rouse
LCDR Mark Tschanz, U.S. Navy, son of John & Rita Tschanz
LCDR Steven Tschanz, U.S. Navy, son of John & Rita Tschanz
CPT John F. Meyers, U.S. Army, son of Dave & Liz Meyers
CDR Keith Schroeder, U.S. Navy, nephew of Dolores & Wilbur Schultz
CPT James A. Nardelli, U.S. Army, son of Jim & Christy Nardelli
CPT Andrew Jarosz, U.S. Marine Corps, son of Johnny & Carol Jarosz
Lance Corporal Kevin G. Cronin, U.S. Marine Corps, son of Kevin & Cheryl Cronin
CPT Carrie Cieslak, U.S. Army, niece of John Lewis
CPT Thomas Cieslak, U.S. Army, nephew of John Lewis
1 Lt. Adam I. Coates, U.S. Army, son of Matt & Lydia Coates
PFC Sebastian A. Coates, U.S. Army, son of Matt & Lydia Coates
CPT Gerard Sapienza, U.S. Army, son of Anne & Gerry Sapienza
HM3 Ryan L’Heureux, U.S. Navy, son of Linda & Rich L’Heureux
SSGT Jonathan M. Bray, U.S. Marine Corps, son of Sue Bray
LT. COL. Gregory W. Schultz, U.S. Air Force, son of Dolores and Wilbur Schultz
Lance Corporal Andrew Szuba, U.S. Marine Corps, grandson of Eileen Szuba.

Operation Support Our Troops America
Operation Support Our Troops America supports the morale and well-being of American forces by providing comfort, resources, and education to them and their families both while they are deployed in harm’s way and after their return. Thanks to the generous support of St. Joseph Catholic Church and so many donors and volunteers, we have been able to impact change on both the local and national level. Please visit our website at www.osotamerica.org to learn more about our programs, or to submit a deployed military person’s address to receive our care packages. For more information, contact parishioner Nancy Baier at 847-367-0281.
Weekly Offering for December 11, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Current Year</th>
<th>Last Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weekend Offering</td>
<td>$26,516</td>
<td>$569,860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electronic Giving</td>
<td>$5,905</td>
<td>$338,339</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Collection</strong></td>
<td><strong>$32,421</strong></td>
<td><strong>$908,199</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

“And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart.” (Luke 2:19) Mary is the perfect role model for living a stewardship lifestyle. She listened to God and said “yes” to His invitation to be the Holy Mother of His son. She also trusted in the God’s providence on a daily basis. As we start a new year, take time every day to listen to how God is calling you; trust that He has a better plan for you than you could ever imagine.

Beyond Hearing Aids: Sound Advice Class

**ON JANUARY 5**

Sound Advice Classes will be offered at no charge at St. Joseph’s Formation Center on the first Thursday of every month. The next class is January 5 from 6:00-7:30 p.m. Julie Kneip, Doctor of Audiology, of Hearing Associates, Inc., will be conducting the complimentary classes. It is a series of two classes. If you or a loved one has a hearing loss, these classes are not to be missed! When there’s hearing loss in the family, all family members are encouraged to be involved in the implementation of a hearing loss strategy. The primary goal of the classes is to educate about hearing loss beyond the use of hearing aids. Previous attendees have experienced improved social relationships, decreased isolation, improved self-confidence, and increased understanding of communication strategies. Recommendations provided regarding public gatherings, structuring the home environment for maximum audibility, the rights of people with hearing impairments (as mandated by the Americans with Disabilities Act), and ways to preserve and protect your hearing. To register, please call Hearing Associates, Inc. at 888-510-8428 for a reservation. Space is limited. Enter Formation Center at back entrance.

A Ministry for the Widowed

A death in the family is a heart-wrenching experience that we must face eventually. How can we help the people in our family as they cope with the normal feelings of grief experienced at the death of a spouse—feelings of confusion, loneliness, loss of identity and self esteem? Joyful Again!, a program open to people of all faiths, is designed to help widowed persons move through bereavement and toward a state of psychological, spiritual and emotional wholeness. Joyful Again! is based on the belief that with God’s help all things are possible; that through Him we can help ourselves and each other. Having other widowed people with whom to share your feelings can help you find the strength to work through your grief and achieve personal growth in the acceptance of your loss. There will be a retreat/workshop on January 21-22 at Our Lady of the Angels House of Prayer in south suburban Lemont. You can visit www.joyfulagain.org or phone 708-354-7211 to learn more.
ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH
121 E. MAPLE AVENUE, LIBERTYVILLE, ILLINOIS 60048
PHONE 847-362-2073        FAX 847-362-6821
Parish Office hours:  Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
                        Saturday - 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
E-mail info@stjoseph-libertyville.org Website www.stjoseph-libertyville.org

Rev. John Trout, PASTOR
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Rev. Joseph Nhat Le, ASSOCIATE PASTOR
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Rev. Martin Luboer, RESIDENT
Rev. John Hennessey, PASTOR EMERITUS
jhennessy@stjoseph-libertyville.org
DEACONS George Kashmar, Dennis Mudd, David Tiemeier

PASTORAL STAFF
Mrs. Mary Causey - Director of Social Justice and Service
  847-990-1213, mcausey@stjoseph-libertyville.org
Mrs. Ann Harmon - Parish Office Manager
  847-362-2073, aharmon@stjoseph-libertyville.org
Mr. Dan Harris, Facilities Manager
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Mrs. Kelly McMahon - Principal, St. Joseph School
  847-362-0730, aphoenix@stjoseph-libertyville.org
Mrs. Lynne Strutzelt, Interim Director of Faith Formation
  847-990-1226, lstrutzelt@stjoseph-libertyville.org
Mr. Ron Vanasdlen, MAM, Director of Music
  847-990-1276, rvanasdlen@stjoseph-libertyville.org

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  Michael Knight  Jon Monroe
Mike Mulligan  Kathleen O’Connor (Chair)  Megan Pavelske
Gerry Salzman  Janine Wilson

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL
Fr. John Trout
Jim Groth  Sheila Johnson  Ryan Kasten
Bob Killackey  Brian Savage  Tom Sear (Chair)

Bulletin Submissions
Submit Carpenter articles to Marie Tuohy
(marietuohy@sbcglobal.net) after approval
by your Pastoral Staff Lead. Articles must
be received by Noon on the Monday before
issue date.

New Parishioners
Welcome! Please stop or call the parish office
weekdays from 9:00 to 4:00 p.m. or download
registration form on-line at www.stjoseph-
libertyville.org.

Announcements at Mass
Due to Sandra Jimenez by Noon on Mondays,
sjimenez@stjoseph-libertyville.org. Guide-
line: brief 2-3 sentences.

Accessibility
If you have a disability and require special
accommodations at a parish event, please
call the parish office.

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 Min-
ister 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: facebook.com/StJosephLibertyville
Twitter: @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 other month.
Next session: January 9 in church narthex (5:30
p.m. this month only.)

Baptism for School-Aged Children
Preparation classes for parents and children
begin in September. Call 362-5797 for infor-
mation and registration.

Sacrament of Penance
Celebrated at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday mornings
or by arrangement.
BREAKING OPEN THE WORD
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 2:1-12

Leader: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, “Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.”

When King Herod heard this, he was greatly troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. Assembling all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it has been written through the prophet: ‘And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; since from you shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people Israel.’” Then Herod called the magi secretly and ascertained from them the time of the star’s appearance. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search diligently for the child. When you have found him, bring me word, that I too may go and do him homage.”

After their audience with the king they set out. And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way. The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

REFLECTION

One of the most conspicuous habits of the Christmas season is gift giving. We spend a great deal of time thinking about and shopping for the perfect gifts for those we love and appreciate. During Advent, which was our spiritual preparation for Christmas, we reflected on God’s greatest gift to mankind, the human incarnation of Jesus, the Divine Son. The story of the Magi, celebrated on the Feast of the Epiphany, focuses on how we might appropriately respond to the Christmas miracle and the gift of Christ in our lives. While the all major parties to the story, Herod and the Chief Priests and Scribes and the Magi all comprehended the significance of the newborn king of the Jews, only the Magi were not threatened by His arrival. Unlike the others, the Magi sought Him out to pay Him homage and to give gifts in return. The gospel reminds us that while Jesus was the Messiah foretold in the Old Testament, He was sent for all people, whether Gentile or Jew. The Magi’s response to Emanuel (God with us) should become our own. We should seek Him out at all costs and lay down our most precious gifts, even our very lives, at His feet out of gratitude for the love shown us throughout His life, death and resurrection.

For further reflection on the Epiphany see the Catechism of the Catholic Church, paragraph 528, and paragraphs 2258-2265 on Developing an Intimate and Loving Relationship with God.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. The Magi were wise men who studied the prophets and the heavens and came to believe that the Christ Child was to be born under the star. In faith they journeyed to seek Him out. What might I do in the year ahead to better know Jesus, seek Him out and pay Him homage?
2. The journey to the fullness of our Catholic faith has its beginnings in the life of Christ. It is a lifelong journey with Scripture and the teaching of the Church as our guiding star. Do I spend enough time with Sacred Scripture or pay enough attention to the teachings of the Church? What might I do to better appreciate these gifts?
3. The Magi highlight that one of the appropriate ways to show appreciation for gifts received is to respond with gifts of our own. What gifts from my faith are most meaningful for me? How might I better share them? With whom?

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

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<th>Day</th>
<th>Reading 1</th>
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<th>Reading 3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28</td>
<td>Ss. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34</td>
<td>The Most Holy Name of Jesus</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42</td>
<td>St. Elizabeth Ann Seton</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1b-5; Lk 4:14-22a</td>
<td>St. John Neumann</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-28 [23, 31-34, 36, 38]</td>
<td>St. André Bessette</td>
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<td>Saturday</td>
<td>1 Jn 5:14-21; Sal 149:1-6a, 9b; Jn 2:1-11</td>
<td>St. Raymond of Penyafort</td>
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<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12</td>
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