

St. Joseph's Church

THE CRADLE OF AFRICAN AMERICAN CATHOLICISM IN DELAWARE



1012 French Street,
Wilmington, DE
19801
302-658-4535 (Tel)
302-658-2006 (Fax)



PASTOR
Rev. Paul M. Williams, OFM
pw4ofm@aol.com

DEACON
Deacon Robert J. Cousar

Office Hours: Tuesday - Thursday, 10 am - 3 pm
Friday, 10 am - 1 pm
Parish Secretary: parishsecretary@stjosephfrenchst.org
Bulletin News: stjosephsbulletin@yahoo.com
Website: www.stjosephfrenchst.org

SUMMER MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil — 5:00 pm Sunday — 10:00 am

Holy Day — August 15th The Feast of the Assumption Mass @ 12:10pm

The Church is open for Prayer & Meditation Tuesday—Friday from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM.

Confessions are heard on Saturday at 4:30 pm and by appointment.

Notary Services
Available
Upon Request.
See Loretta Young

MARRIAGE:

All couples contemplating marriage are asked to give the Pastor at least one year prior notice in order to satisfy all diocesan requirements for marriage.

All couples must attend either Pre-Cana Classes or make an Engaged Encounter.

BAPTISM:

Before a child is Baptized, the parents and Godparents must participate in a Pre-Baptismal program. Please call the Pastoral Center to make arrangements.

NEW PARISHIONERS:

Welcome! We encourage new families moving into the area to stop in or call the Pastoral Center and complete a parish registration form.

CARE OF THE SICK AND

HOMEBOUND: The Pastor, Deacon, and special ministers of Holy Communion will gladly bring Communion to anyone who is ill or otherwise unable to get to Mass. The Pastor and Deacon make regular visits to local hospitals. **Please notify the Parish Office if any parishioner is ill or hospitalized.**

CHANGE OF ADDRESS, EMAIL, TELEPHONE NUMBER: Contact the Parish Office if your personal contact information changes.

December 23, 2018 4th Sunday of Advent

- ▶ CCD will resume on January 6, 2019
- ▶ Christmas Eve
 - ~ 4:30 pm Nativity Presentation
 - ~ 5:00 pm Mass
- ▶ Christmas Day
 - ~ 9:45 am Christmas Concert
 - ~ 10:00 am Mass
- ▶ New Year's Day ~ Mass 10:00 am
- ▶ January 6 ~ Ladies Sodality Meeting, 8:45 am
- ▶ January 12 ~ Knights of Peter Claver Meeting, 10:00 am
- ▶ January 27 ~ KPC Ladies Auxiliary Meeting, 12:30 am



Weekly Collections

The parish requires a weekly collection of \$4.901 to cover expenses.

Amounts below represent last week's collection and the collection for the same week in 2017. As we prepare for 2019, please consider increasing your weekly contribution.

December 16, 2018 — \$2,750

December 17, 2017 — \$2,200

Mass Intentions
December 22, 2018– December 30, 2018

Saturday, 12/22	5:00 PM	People of the Parish
Sunday, 12/23	10:00 AM	† Vivian and Joe Young, Sr. Requested by Leonard & Loretta Young
Monday, 12/24	5:00 PM	† Clarice Rice Requested by Fr. Paul Williams, ofm
Tuesday, 12/25	10:00 AM	For the People of the Parish
Wednesday, 12/26	—	
Thursday, 12/27	—	
Friday, 12/28	—	
Saturday, 12/29	5:00 PM	People of the Parish
Sunday, 12/30	10:00 AM	† Barbara Willis Requested by William Willis

PARISH STAFF	
Pastor:	Rev. Paul M. Williams, OFM
Deacon:	Robert J. Cousar
Parish Secretary:	Loretta L. Young
St. Vincent dePaul Society:	Fayetta Jackson
Director Religious Education:	Mary Polk

Introduction to the Liturgy of the Word

As we enter the homestretch of this season of preparation, we hear of **Mary's visit to her cousin Elizabeth.**

Their visit is filled with joy, **expressed wonderfully by Elizabeth's baby (John the Baptist) leaping in her womb at the sound of Mary's voice.** May these last days before Christmas fill us with you as we prepare to welcome Christ into our hearts once again.

Fr. Paul

End of Year Giving
Parish Goal — \$10,000

A very special thank you to each individual and family that have sacrificed and made a significant Christmas gift to the parish. I am eternally grateful for your generosity and support in our time of financial need.

As of December 23rd we have received \$7,350 in gifts toward our goal.

Since we are still in the Christmas season, if you have not yet contributed, There is still time to make your end of year Christmas Gift to the parish. Please join me in daily prayer that our parish will far exceed this goal and that we will be in a position to pay all end of year bills. The Lord will bless you abundantly for your generosity to the church.

May your Christmas season be one of pure joy and peace!

Fr. Paul



Question of the Week

Do I, like Elizabeth and her baby, realize that I am in the presence of the Lord here today? Do I react with joy?

Christmas Nativity

All children of the parish are asked to assemble on in the conference room to prepare for the Christmas Eve Nativity presentation. Parents, please escort your children to and from the conference room.

The Nativity presentation is *in memory of Mrs. Frances Reed* who spent many years serving our parish as the CCD Coordinator.

We are grateful to Gail Rando and her team of CCD teachers and committed parents for organizing this reenactment of the Nativity for Christmas Eve.



Parish Gift End-of-Year Giving



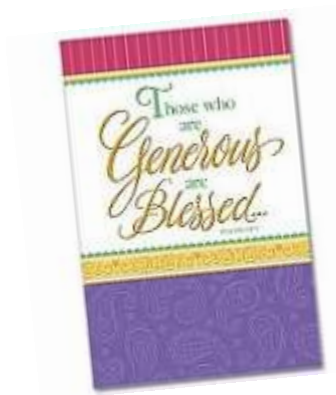
> \$1,000

- ◆ Knights of Peter Claver, Inc. — Council 383 ◆
- ◆ Michelle Porter ◆
- ◆ Jenny & John Traynor, III ◆



\$501 – \$999

- ◆ Jed & Sandra Donahue ◆



\$101 – \$500

- ◆ Anthea Bedminster ◆
- ◆ Vincent & Erika Caesar ◆
- ◆ Geraldine Cochran ◆
- ◆ Jeffrey Flynn ◆
- ◆ Judy & Tom Gallagher ◆
- ◆ Mary Kegelman ◆
- ◆ **Kevin & Marilyn O'Connell** ◆
- ◆ Pat Rafter ◆
- ◆ Denise Scales ◆



≤ \$100

- ◆ Anonymous ◆
- ◆ Laura Altman ◆
- ◆ Desiree Blackwell ◆
- ◆ DeAnna Cardenas ◆
- ◆ Gwen Cavin ◆
- ◆ Marie Corbitt ◆
- ◆ Joan Drake ◆
- ◆ Rose Henderson ◆

≤ \$100

- ◆ John W. Hunt ◆
- ◆ Iona Johnson ◆
- ◆ Mary Mirabeau ◆
- ◆ John & Mary Polk ◆
- ◆ Gail & John Rando ◆
- ◆ Vincent & Deborah Robinson ◆
- ◆ Delores Spencer ◆
- ◆ Bertley Wharton ◆

Happy Birthday!

December

Michelle Granger	01
Ryan Small	02
Paris Carr	02
Vanel Fleury	03
Josephine Griffin	03
August Hazeur	03
William Cavin	04
Percy Ponder	04
Marie Corbitt	05
Rosetta Henderson	08
Iona Johnson	08
Irmina Hudson	10
Paula Dugas	12
Yvonne Flagg	12
Willa Seth	12
Blythe Shine	12
Dana Jackson	13
Tristan Thompson	14
Xavier Wycliffe	14
Kenneth Cunningham	15
Donald Cory Towles	15
Olivia Frances Clark	16
Michala Dash	17
Gwendolyn Sanders	17
Alan Walter Lloyd	18
Calvin Mintz	19
Carlvin Joseph	21
Patrick Abili	22
Fred Johnson	24
Corriam Jolly	24
Lisa Mims	25
Mary Pearce	25
Gabriel Elijah Towles	28
Leatitia Bedminster	29
Desiree Blackwell	29
Christopher Sterling	29
Marquis Baynard	30
Tracy Purnell	30
James Forrest	31
Janice Jolly	31
Tyrone Steele, Sr.	31
Paula Willis	31



Note: Apologies if your name does not appear on the birthday list. If this is the case, please call the parish office at 302.658.4535 or email the parish secretary at parishsecretary@stjosephfrenchst.org Please include your name, birth month, day and year.

Liturgy Schedule — December 2018

Saturday, December 1, 5:00 p.m.

Herb Sterling ~ Lector

Debbie Sterling ~ Eucharistic Minister

Sunday, December 2, 10:00 am

Ramaj Gray ~ Altar Server

Janice Jolly ~ Greeter

Geraldine Cochran ~ 1st Lector

Gail Rando ~ 2nd Lector

John Rando ~ 1st Eucharistic Minister

Delores Spencer ~ 2nd Eucharistic Minister

Saturday, , December 8, 5:00 p.m.

Stephen Thorpe ~ Lector

DeAnna Cardenas ~ Eucharistic Minister



Sunday, December 9, 10:00 a.m.

Roberto Rivera ~ Altar Server

Fayette Jackson ~ Greeter

Andrea Queen ~ 1st Lector

J. Barcon Hilton ~ 2nd Lector

Marie Cousar ~ 1st Eucharistic Minister

Gwen Cavin ~ 2nd Eucharistic Minister

Saturday, December 15, 5:00 pm

Judy Gallagher ~ Lector

DeAnna Cardenas ~ Eucharistic Minister

Sunday, December 16, 10:00 am

Jamyrah Walker ~ Altar Server

Sheris Owens ~ Greeter

Lisa Mims ~ 1st Lector

Kevin O'Connell ~ 2nd Lector

Pat Rafter ~ 1st Eucharistic Minister

Denise McIntyre ~ 2nd Eucharistic Minister

Saturday, December 22, 5:00 p.m.

Stephen Thorpe ~ Lector

DeAnna Cardenas ~ Eucharistic Minister

Sunday, December 23, 10:00 a.m.

Jayla Walker ~ Altar Server

Fayette Jackson ~ Greeter

Herb Sterling ~ Lector 1

William Ray ~ Lector 2

Debbie Sterling ~ 1st Eucharistic Minister

Barbara Pulliam ~ 2nd Eucharistic Minister

Monday, December 24, 5:00 pm

Roberto Rivera ~ Altar Server

Fayette Jackson ~ Greeter

Andrea Queen ~ Lector 1

Jed Donahue ~ Lector 2

Marie Coursar ~ Eucharistic Minister 1

Stacey Lowery ~ 2nd Eucharistic Minister 2

Tuesday, December 25, 10:00 am

J. Barcon Hilton ~ Lector 1

Stacey Lowery ~ Eucharistic Minister



Parish Leadership

Parish Council is advisory to the pastor on matters of the church such as the mass schedule, improvements to the building, parish social life, etc. The Council meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm and all parishioners are invited. **Parish Council does not meet in June, July, August or December. The next meeting is January 16, 2019.**

- Fr. Paul Williams, President
- Deacon Cousar, Ex Officio
- Linda Abili Stephanie T. Bolden
- Vincent Caesar Thomas E. Gallagher
- J. Barcon Hilton Chantal Jackson
- Deirdre Robinson Doris Matthews
- John Rando Cheryl Riviere Loretta Young

The **Finance Committee** is responsible for helping the pastor with creating and managing the budget and to ensure the parish is fiscally sound. Members are appointed by the pastor and meet quarterly. Current committee members are:

- Deacon Bob Cousar, Chair
- Dana Crumety
- Judy Gallagher
- Herb Sterling
- Bertley Wharton

TRIP TO THE BATHROOM

Little people sometimes find it necessary to make a bathroom visit during mass to relieve boredom if nothing else. Fellowship hall and the bathrooms are unsupervised and accessible to outsiders. For the safety of our little ones, their grown-up should accompany them when they take a break. Nothing has happened and we want to be sure it doesn't.

Parking Lot

During the weekdays, the parking spaces are not available. In addition, please do not park in the pastors' or volunteer parking slots. These slots are available on Sunday, but never during the weekday. If you have a special request, please call the office. Thank you.

THANKS FOR BEING HERE!

If you would like to become an ACTIVE member of Saint Joseph's Parish we invite you to complete the Parish Registration form below and place the completed form in the Offertory basket or send to the Parish Office. Someone from the Parish Office will contact you.

Saint Joseph Catholic Church Parish Registration Form

Last Name: _____

Full Name: _____

Birthdate: (month, date, year) _____

Church of Baptism: _____

Date of Baptism: _____

List all resident family members you wish to register at Saint Joseph's and the relationship of all.

Email Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Cellular Phone: _____

Home Telephone: _____

Sunday Morning Fellowship

We've been blessed to have the coffee and pastries donated on most Sundays of the month as indicated below.

- ◆ 1st Sunday - Ladies Sodality
- ◆ 2nd Sunday - Knights of Peter Claver and Ladies Auxiliary
- ◆ 3rd Sunday - Rose Henderson
- ◆ 4th Sunday - Krispy Kreme donuts hosted by Kathy Hodges
- ◆ 5th Sunday - St. Joseph's Parish



Thank You!
Thank You!



ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH LIFE AND NEWS



The Sodality honors the Blessed Mother

through prayer. These ladies faithfully pray the rosary each Sunday before mass and they pray continuously for the parish, the city and for individuals in need of the intercession of the Blessed Mother. If you would like to join this ministry, please contact Denise

Scales on 302.368.9881.

JUNIOR SODALITY

The Jr. Sodality mission statement includes:

having a deeper appreciation and understanding of others by enriching values of respect, responsibility and sharing with the guidance and example of St. Joseph Senior Sodality. Making a difference by bringing joy, love and refreshments to brighten the lives of others including St. Joseph community and the shut-in, hosting a luncheon for those less fortunate, sharing in the ministries of the church and participating in the Angel Tree Adopt A Child Program. ALL YOUNG LADIES, 6 TO 14, IN THE DIOCESE ARE INVITED TO ATTEND. PLEASE CONTACT

Jean Toy, 302.658.2218,

Margaret Levesque, 302-656-0813, or Lorenza Hinds, 302-574-0057. FOR INFORMATION. THANK YOU.

Buy gift/ pre-paid cards for a good cause.

Please consider buying gift/ pre-paid cards for everyday items & gifts. Proceeds are used to support the mission of the Knights of Peter Claver, such as service to the Church, assistance to the needy and youth scholarship. Order forms are in the back of the church or online. For information, phone 302 598 0448; Email:

kpc.scrip@stjosephfrenchst.org

Web: http://kpc.stjosephfrenchst.org.KPC_ScripFundRaisingInfo.pdf

BAYLOR PRISON MINISTRY: Every Friday morning, parishioners and friends brighten the lives of women who are incarcerated. On the first and third Friday, Fr. Paul celebrates mass. For additional information, please contact Rose Henderson, 302-762-9044.

Stock the Pantry - Catholic Charities Non-Perishable Food Donations

A barrel for non-perishable foods is located in the vestibule of the church. Please help to replenish their food closets by contributing non-perishable food items as well as personal hygiene items such as soap, toothpaste, tooth brushes, etc. To make a cash donation online, visit <https://www.cdw.org/ccdonation.html>.

Knights of Peter Claver and Ladies' Auxiliary is comprised of over 18,000 Catholic family members. We continue our expansion efforts welcoming all Catholics to join. Our purpose is to render service to God and His Holy Church. If you would like to join our organization please see Grand Knight Vincent Robinson or Grand Lady Brenda Burns.

FOR THE SAKE OF GOD'S CHILDREN

Reporting Allegations of Child Abuse to Authorities

1. Division of Family Services at 1-800-292-9582
2. State Attorney General's Office 302-577-8310
3. Report to Fr. Paul, Deacon Cousar or Loretta Young
4. Report to Diocese: Vicar General 302-573-3118



St. Joseph's

Meets in the Parish Center. The book for January is **The Couple Next Door by Shari Lapena**. Bring your book, a friend, snack, and your insights to this lively discussion. The group will meet on January 28, 2019. Mark your calendars. Please see Geraldine Cochran for additional information.



ST. JOSEPH CHOIR

If you would like to help us celebrate the Mass and get extra credit, (because you know when you sing you are praying twice), please come and join the St. Joseph Choir. We rehearse and sing every Sunday, except 4th Sunday, in the Parish Center Conference Room at 9:15 AM. If you are interested, please see DeAnna Cardenas after Mass

WILMINGTON DIOCESE GOSPEL CHOIR

WDGC sings at St. Joseph on the fourth Sunday and throughout the Diocese during the year. All voices are invited to join us for rehearsal on Thursday's at 6:30pm in the church. For information, call Brenda Burns at 302-322-6899.

In addition, to become a member of the Saint Joseph Choir or the Gospel Choir, you can simply call the parish office.

Emergency contact == To contact the pastor after hours, call the parish number. The messages are checked every few hours, the first thing in the morning and the last thing at night. When the pastor is away, the parish secretary checks the phone frequently and will notify the pastor if there is a grave situation.

THROUGHOUT THE DIOCESE

Office of Priestly and Religious
Vocations

Fourth Sunday of Advent

In today's first reading, the Lord promises to send One "who will shepherd his flock." God has kept that promise throughout the centuries and continues to call shepherds for His people. Is He calling you to serve as a shepherd – to minister to His people as a priest? Call or write Fr. Norm Carroll, Diocesan Director of Priestly and Religious Vocations (302-573-3113; vocations@cdow.org). And check out our website: www.cdow.org/vocations!



Daily Mass offerings around us...

6:30am	St. Ann, IHM
6:45am	St. Anthony (M-S)
7:00am	St. Elizabeth
7:30am	St. Joseph on the Brandywine
8:00am	St. Ann, St. Anthony, St. Patrick(M, W, F), St. Thomas (TWT) St. Hedwig (F) St. Joseph on the Brandywine (S)
8:30am	Corpus Christi (MWF) St. Elizabeth (S) St. Matthew (TTS) St. Mary Magdalen
9:00am	IHM St. Patrick's (First Saturday — Latin)
12:05	St. Joseph on the Brandywine
12:10	Cathedral of St Peter (T, W, T, F)
5:30 PM	St. Patrick (TT) – with confession at 5:00
6:00pm	St Thomas (M) St. Patrick's (First Friday — Latin)
6:30pm	St. Hedwig (M-Th) St. Paul (T-F) Spanish



Merry Christmas! Listen to Catholic Forum every Sunday morning at its new time - 6:05 a.m. on WDEL 101.7 FM, 1150 AM and www.wdel.com. After it airs, listen online anytime at www.cdow.org/Catholic-Forum, or search "Catholic Forum" on Apple, Spotify, or iHeartRadio podcasts. Next Sunday, December 30th, Mr. Gary Scholl will discuss the upcoming Morning Star Pow Wow that benefits the St. Labre Indian School. For photos, information regarding upcoming guests, links and more, "Like" Catholic Forum on Facebook at www.facebook.com/catholicforum.

Marriage Moments (by Susan Vogt, www.SusanVogt.net)

MARRIAGE MOMENTS

It's almost here. Perhaps your tradition is to decorate the tree or open presents on Christmas Eve. Keep the focus on your love for each other, not on whether everything will go right. Sometimes the best Christmas stories are about fiascos.

PARENTING POINTERS

December 30 is the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. Often this feast gets lost amidst the hustle of Christmas. Take 5 minutes today to share with your family at least one thing that makes your family holy. Hint: It need not be about saying prayers; it could be examples of selflessness.



IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS



PLEASE REMEMBER AND PRAY FOR OUR SICK AND SHUT-IN, AND THOSE WHO SERVE IN THE MILITARY


Adia Bracy	Donald Evans	Christian Coleman	Nellie Lawrence	Rose Henderson
Ronald Toy	Joanna Warren	Adele & Fred Reed	Kendra Denhardt	Jessica Fullman
Leta Johnson	Delores Tuller	Leonard J. Young, Jr.	James Thomas	Donna Scott May
Tanya Wilson	Mark Gallagher	John Thompson	Giuseppina Fazzino	Arlene Watson
Jeffrey Britton	Tony Dash	Mary Joan Thompson	Jemison Asante	Sister of S. T. Bolden
James Henderson	Doris Gallagher	London Louise Simmonds	Vivian Priest	Stephanie T. Bolden
Ethel Barrett	Gerry Reybold	Charlie Anderson	John J. Madison, PhD.	
Sean Willis	Jean Toy	Jolene Tyson		

The Little Sisters of the Poor, a nursing home which serves low-income seniors located at 185 Salem Church Road in Newark, is seeking volunteers. Flexible schedule available: Volunteer once a month, once a week, or more. Help is needed with breakfast, lunch or dinner, driving to medical appointments, kitchen prep work, folding laundry, cleaning the chapel, photography, and more. For information, please contact Sandra Cloutier, director of volunteers, volnewark@littlesistersofthepoor.org or (302) 368-5886, ext. 137.

Jan. 7, 14, 21, 1:30-3 p.m.: Winter Grief Support Series, Nazareth House, Jesus House Prayer and Renewal Center, 2501 Milltown Rd., Wilmington. For those at any stage of struggling with the grieving process. Options to share, address emotional issues, and practical considerations for issues such as holiday. More information and to register, <http://www.jesushousecenter.org/grief-counseling/> or (484) 732-8026.



- May there be harmony in all your relationships.
- May sharp words envious thoughts, and hostile feelings be dissolved. -
- May you give and receive love generously.
- May this love echo in your heart like the joy of church bells on a clear December day. -
- May each person who comes into your life be greeted as another Christ.
- May the honor given the Babe of Bethlehem be that which you extend to every guest who enters your presence. -
- May the hope of this sacred season settle in your soul.
- May it be a foundation of courage for you when times of distress occupy your inner land. -
- May the wonder and awe that fills the eyes of children be awakened within you.
- May it lead you to renewed awareness and appreciation of whatever you too easily take for granted. - May the bonds of love for one another be strengthened as you gather with your family and friends around the table of festivity and nourishment. -
- May you daily open the gift of your life and be grateful for the hidden treasures it contains. -
- May the coming year be one of good health for you. May you have energy and vitality.
- May your care well for your body, mind, and spirit. -
- May you keep your eye on the Star within you and trust this Luminescent Presence to guide and direct you each day. -
- May you go often to the Bethlehem of your heart and visit the One who offers you peace.
- May you bring this peace into our world.

Parish Bus - December Schedule		
	DATE	DRIVER
	Sunday, December 2	Yolanda Mohammed
	Sunday, December 9	Daniel Mims
	Sunday, December 16	Clifton Rashad
	Sunday, December 23	Clifton Rashad
	Sunday, December 30	Vanel Fleury