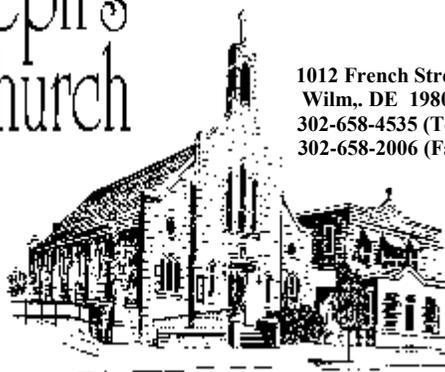


St. Joseph's Church

THE CRADLE OF AFRICAN AMERICAN CATHOLICISM IN DELAWARE



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

ADMINISTRATOR
Rev. John C. McVoy
frmac@stjosephfrenchst.org

DEACON
Deacon Robert J. Cousar

Office Hours During Pandemic: Wednesday 10am - 2 pm

Parish Secretary: parishsecretary@stjosephfrenchst.org

Website: www.stjosephfrenchst.org

YouTube Channel: St Josephs Downtown Wilmington
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9-ljIa9-IU0OS9jPbe2ddQ>

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil — 5:00 pm Sunday — 10:00 am
Weekday Mass — Wednesday and Friday 12:10 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 Parish Office and complete a registration form.

CARE OF THE SICK AND

HOMEBOUND: This ministry is restricted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. 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 6, 2020



- ▶ CCD Registration is Now Open
- ▶ Monday Rosary Prayer ~ @ 12:15 pm via Conference Call
 - ▶ 1-515-603-4906, access code 178602
- ▶ Friday Bible Study 1:00 pm via ZOOM & Conf. Call, Led by Fr. Mac
- ▶ December 6 ~ Sodality Meeting, 1:00 pm Conference Call
 - ▶ 1-515-603-4906, access code 178602
- ▶ December 8 ~ Feast of the Immaculate Conception
 - ▶ Holy Day of Obligation
- ▶ December 24 ~ Christmas Eve — 5:00 pm Mass
- ▶ December 25 ~ Christmas Day — 10:00 am Mass
- ▶ January 1, 2021 ~ New Years Day — 10:00 am Mass
- ▶ January 25, 2021 ~ St. Joseph's Book Club, 7:00 PM via ZOOM
 - ▶ *Down the River Into the Sea* by Walter Mosley

More detail on inside pages

Weekly Collections

The parish requires a weekly collection of \$4,901 to cover expenses. The numbers below compares 2020 with the same week in 2019. Thank you for being consistent with your donations. Please be prayerful about your contributions to the parish.

Nov 29, 2020 - \$2,183 Dec 3, 2019 — \$3,105

Pandemic & Flu Season: Please take precautionary measures such as wearing a face mask, washing hands often and thoroughly. If you are under the weather please stay at home and take care not to share your misery with others. We all will bless you for it.

**Mass Intentions
December 5 — December 13**

Saturday, 12/05	5:00 pm	People of the Parish
Sunday, 12/06	10:00 am	
Tuesday, 12/08	12:10 pm	The Immaculate Conception
Wednesday, 12/09	12:10 pm	
Friday, 12/11	10:00 am	
Saturday, 12/12	5:00 pm	People of the Parish
Sunday, 12/13	10:00 am	

PARISH STAFF

Administrator: Rev. John C. McVoy
 Deacon: Robert J. Cousar
 Parish Secretary: Loretta L. Young
 St. Vincent dePaul Society: Fayette Jackson
 Director Religious Education: Mary Polk
 Bookkeeper: Jane Putscher



Introduction to the Liturgy

Twice today we hear Isaiah’s directive: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths. “ How are we preparing for the Lord to make inroads into our lives, into our hearts? What obstacles has our self-centeredness placed in the way and how can we remove them? For what do we need forgiveness and what repentance can we make? As we prepare to receive the Lord today in the Eucharist, let us also prepare to truly receive him in our hearts.

To Mac



Listen to Catholic Forum every Saturday afternoon at 1:30 on Relevant Radio 640. Next Saturday, December 12th, we celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe when Ms. Arlene Dosman, Director of Hispanic Ministry for the Church of the Holy Cross in Dover, Delaware is the guest. Listen to Catholic Forum online anytime at www.cdow.org/CatholicForum, or search “Catholic Forum” on Apple, Spotify, or iHeartRadio podcasts. For photos, information regarding upcoming guests, links and more, “Like” Catholic Forum on Facebook at www.facebook.com/

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

MARRIAGE MOMENTS

Dec. 7 is the commemoration of the bombing of Pearl Harbor. Life is often a mixture of comfort, pain, and waiting. Comfort each other when necessary.

PARENTING POINTERS

This has been a year of the coronavirus pandemic. What’s there to be thankful for? Sometimes disruptions like these can push us into facing our common humanity and what’s really important. Think of one unintended positive consequence that’s come out of a hard year.

Question of the Week

What concrete action can I take this week to prepare myself for Jesus’ coming?

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

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

<i>Charlie Anderson</i>	<i>Mary Bossack</i>	<i>Marie Reed</i>	<i>Gerry Reybold</i>
<i>Gwen Sanders</i>	<i>Guissepina Fazzone</i>	<i>Earl White</i>	<i>Beverly White</i>
<i>Tina Holmes</i>			

If you would like to be added to our sick and shut-in list, please send email to parishsecretary@stjosephfrenchst.org or call the parish office 302-658-4535. Names of parishioners in hospitals or facilities will remain on the list indefinitely. All others will remain for one month, unless there are extenuating circumstances.

ADVENT WREATH PRAYERS

Opening Prayer:

O GOD, BLESS THIS ADVENT WREATH.
MAY IT HELP US PREPARE TO WELCOME JESUS, YOUR SON,
INTO OUR LIVES.
MAY THE LIGHT OF HIS LOVE SHINE THROUGH US. AMEN.



Advent Wreath

1st CANDLE – (purple) **THE PROPHECY CANDLE** or **CANDLE OF HOPE** – We can have hope because God is faithful and will keep the promises made to us. Our hope comes from God. (Romans 15:12-13)

2nd CANDLE – (purple) **THE BETHLEHEM CANDLE** or **THE CANDLE OF PREPARATION** – God kept his promise of a Savior who would be born in Bethlehem. Preparation means to “get ready”. Help us to be ready to welcome YOU, O GOD! (Luke 3:4-6)

3rd CANDLE – (pink) **THE SHEPHERD CANDLE** or **THE CANDLE OF JOY** – The angels sang a message of JOY! (Luke 2:7-15)

4th CANDLE – (purple) **THE ANGEL CANDLE** or **THE CANDLE OF LOVE** – The angels announced the good news of a Savior. God sent his only Son to earth to save us, because he loves us! (John 3:16-17)

5th CANDLE – (white) **“CHRIST CANDLE”** – The white candle reminds us that Jesus is the spotless lamb of God, sent to wash away our sins! His birth was for his death, his death was for our birth! (John 1:29)

WEEK 1- First Sunday of Advent (Light candle # 1) – **HOPE**

**WE BELIEVE IN YOU, LORD.
WE KNOW THAT YOU CAN HELP US
TO LOVE AND RESPECT EACH OTHER MORE.
YOU ARE OUR LIGHT,
THE LIGHT THAT OVERCOMES DARKNESS.
COME, LORD JESUS!**

(Pause for silent prayer. Share your good deeds)

WEEK 2 – Second Sunday of Advent (Light candles #1 & #2) – **LOVE**

**COME, LORD JESUS.
WARM OUR HEARTS WITH YOUR LOVE.
HELP US TO PREPARE FOR YOUR COMING.
HELP US TO SEE THE GOOD THINGS WE CAN DO.
HELP US TO SEE THE GOOD THINGS OTHERS DO.
COME, LORD JESUS!**

(Pause for silent prayer. Share your good deeds)

WEEK 3 – Gaudete Sunday (Light candles #1, #2, #3) – **JOY**

**JESUS, WE WANT YOUR COMING TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE
IN HOW WE LIVE AND LOVE.
OPEN OUR HEARTS TO HEAR YOUR TELLING US
HOW WE CAN BRING PEACE AND JOY TO OTHERS.
COME, LORD JESUS!**

(Pause for silent prayer. Share your good deeds)

WEEK 4- Fourth Sunday of Advent (Light candles #1, #2, #3, #4) – **PEACE**

**LORD JESUS,
QUIET THE WORRIES AND FEARS IN OUR HEARTS.
GIVE US YOUR PEACE.
THANK YOU FOR THE LIFE YOU SHARE WITH US.
HELP US TO SHARE YOUR LIFE WITH OTHERS.
COME, LORD JESUS!**

(Pause for silent prayer. Share your good deeds)

SAINT VINCENT DEPAUL SOCIETY

St. Vincent DePaul Society continues to operate and serve those residing in zip code 19801. Anyone needing assistance should go to www.svdpwilm.org and submit an online assistance form located at the top of the home page. A Saint Vincent DePaul volunteer will respond to the requester as quickly as possible. If you are a parishioner and in need of assistance, just call the parish office at 302-658-4535.

ADDITIONAL NEWS

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

It's that time of year when we consider gift giving and gift cards are a safe and easy way to give to others, especially this year.

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 contact Grand Knight Vincent Robinson at 302 4945699; Email: kpc.scrip@stjosephfrenchst.org
 Web: http://kpc.stjosephfrenchst.org.KPC_ScripFundRaisingInfo.pdf

PUT PREVENTION INTO PRACTICE

NATIONAL DRUGGED DRUNK DRIVING PREVENTION MONTH

Despite the world-wide pandemic of coronavirus infection, people are letting their guard down and gathering to celebrate for the holidays.

December is National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month and since the holiday season has a higher accident rate than others on average, it is important to echo the message of consciousness of being in a proper state behind the wheel. According to the National Safety Council, over 40,000 people died in alcohol-related traffic accidents last year. So this year, stay safe during the holidays. Become the designated driver if you are in a social gathering. You'll make a great impression for being the one friend others can trust to drive back home. It is an overall small sacrifice for a night that won't affect your chances to have a great time, so offer yourself up and give your friends a helping hand! (Source: <https://nationaltoday.com/national-drunk-and-drugged-driving-prevention-month/>)

OLDER DRIVER SAFETY AWARENESS WEEK DECEMBER 7-11

American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) aims to promote understanding of the importance of mobility and transportation to ensuring older adults remain active in the community—shopping, working or volunteering—with the confidence that transportation will not be the barrier to strand them at home. Throughout the week, AOTA will partner with stakeholders to bring attention to a different aspect of older driver safety. Monday will focus on anticipating changes that can affect driving; Tuesday will encourage family conversations; Wednesday's topic will highlight screening and evaluations; Thursday's topic will cover interventions that can empower drivers and families, and Friday will conclude with staying engaged in the community with or without a car. Visit the AOTA website to learn more, for example, drivers who find it painful to rotate their body to reach the seatbelt can benefit from a cloth loop attached to it so they can pull the seatbelt on with only slight turning. (Source: <https://www.aota.org/Conference-Events/Older-Driver-Safety-Awareness-Week.aspx>)

HEALTH MINISTRIES IMPORTANT NOW MORE THAN EVER!

Heavenly Father, please continue to be with those who are affected by COVID, particularly those awaiting test results and contact tracing, diagnosed and/or recovering from COVID and their loved ones. Let those who are hospitalized and their family/friends feel your presence through their caregivers. Bless our first responders, healthcare professionals, hospitals/ health care systems, essential workers, and our country. Guide the scientists and public health experts striving to slow or stop the spread of this virus, and those who are developing therapeutics and vaccines and planning for their distribution. In your name we pray. Amen. (Source: Pittsburgh Mercy Parish Nurse Newsletter, November/December 2020).



December

Ryan Small	02
Vanel Fleury	03
Josephine Griffin	03
August Hazeur	03
Marie Corbitt	05
Rosetta Henderson	08
Iona Johnson	08
Irmina Hudson	10
Yvonne Flagg	12
Willa Seth	12
Blythe Shine	12
Dana Jackson	13
Tristan Thompson	14
Xavier Wycliffe	14
Donald Cory Towles	15
Michala Dash	17
Gwendolyn Sanders	17
Carlvin Joseph	21
Patrick Abili	22
Corriam Jolly	24
Father John McVoy	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
Janice Jolly	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.*