

# *Saint Joseph Catholic Church*

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Father Andrew Royals, Pastor

## Second Sunday of Advent

December 9, 2018

CCD Information – Please contact the Rectory Office

St. Joseph Parish Outreach – 301-373-2692

Parish Secretary – Mrs. Nancy M. Russell

Office Assistant – Mrs. Pam McCutchen

Saturday Evening Mass: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday Masses: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Weekday Masses: 8:00 a.m. Monday through Saturday

Confessions: 4:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. Saturday and Sunday following the 6 p.m. Mass.

Baptisms: Please call the Rectory to make arrangements. Parents must be practicing Catholics in this Parish or able to provide a letter of permission from the proper parish for Baptism here. Godparents, if not St. Joseph parishioners, must provide a letter that they meet the requirements: a practicing Catholic, at least 16 years old, have received Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion and, if married, in a marriage recognized by the Catholic Church.

Marriages: Please contact the Pastor prior to making wedding arrangements.

Sacrament of the Sick: Those hospitalized or home-bound to receive the Sacraments, call the Rectory.

Rectory Office Hours 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday

# *Father's Thoughts*

My Dear Parish,

This December 8th we celebrated Our Lady under her title of “The Immaculate Conception.” This feast recalled for us that God preserved the Blessed Virgin Mary from the very first moment of her earthly existence—that is from her conception in the womb of her mother, Saint Ann—from the stain of original sin. Original Sin is the sinful state into which the human race entered the moment Adam lost the original justice and holiness through disobeying God’s command.

Our Lady’s Immaculate Conception was a special privilege which God obtained for her in preparation for the essential role she was to play in letting God’s will be done as the angel had announced it to her: namely, that she would become the Mother of God.

The freedom which God gave Mary by preserving her immaculately conceived is the same freedom which God gives to all of us by the salvation we obtain through her Son. The difference is only in the manner in which we receive it: Our Lady’s by preservation and we by redemption. Both were accomplished by the merits of her Son’s Passion: for Our Lady by anticipation and for us by baptism.

The Church presents John the Baptist to us to remind us that we require salvation. God’s plan has been to rescue us from sin and the power of the evil one and to bring us into the Kingdom of Heaven. These days of preparation for Christmas are perfect for us to reset our fundamental Christian disposition towards the gift which God has obtained for us: our salvation.

May these days continue to find us contemplating what God has done for us.

With paternal affection,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Fr. Drew".

**Mass Intentions for Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> through Dec.16<sup>th</sup>**

Monday	8 a.m.	Rev. Paul J. Barry
Tuesday	8 a.m.	Michael E. Adams
Wednesday	8 a.m.	Jimmy Gray
Thursday	8 a.m.	Rev. Hilarius Tran-Khac-Hy
Friday	8 a.m.	Mary Agnes Bailey
Saturday	8 a.m.	Barbara Yetter
	5 p.m.	Thomas & Queen Family
Sunday	8 a.m.	Judy Lee Earp
	10 a.m.	Kristen Boecher
	6 p.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>

**Mass Schedule for December 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>**

	<i>Lectors</i>	<i>Altar Servers</i>
Saturday, 5:00 p.m.	Valerie Young	
Sunday, 8:00 a.m.	Sarah Richardson	Liam Haley
Sunday, 10:00 a.m.	Brian Fenwick	James & John R., Sam A., William W.

***Please pray for those who are sick in our parish especially,*** Agnes Baker, Alan Burch, John Keaton, Baby Reagan & Baby Cayden Lyle, Sister Alice Theresa Wood, Max Long, Francis Nelson (Mole), Virginia Raulerson, Frances L. Herbert (Tintsie), James Holt, Antoinette Nelson, Sandy Branson, Winnie Merson, Ann Young, Sara Custer, Thelma Russell, Gary Lewis, Yvonne Lennon, Elizabeth Adams, Bernadette Herbert and Thomas Lionel Herbert.

***December 2<sup>nd</sup> – Offertory \$5,441.00***

***Building & Repair – \$1,543.00***

***Christmas Flowers - \$1,560.00***

***Other Donations (Including Online) \$3,278.00***

***Online Giving*** – St. Joseph’s Church accepts one-time and recurring donations conveniently from our website. You can make secure donations via electronic check or debit/credit card by simply visiting [www.stjosephmorganza.org](http://www.stjosephmorganza.org).

***Now on Mondays! Mother’s Rosary Group*** – Join us for a weekly Mother’s Rosary group. We will pray the Rosary with meditations focused on Mothers. Babies in arms & toddlers are welcome. We will meet each Monday at 10 a.m. in the Hall.

***Father Drew will lead the Rosary*** each evening at 8:15 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday in the Church. All are welcome to join in prayer for our Parish, Pope Francis, all our Bishops and the entire Church, and our own special intentions.

***St. Joseph's is part of Amazon Smile.*** Amazon Smile is exactly the same as your regular Amazon, but will give St. Joseph's a portion of the price of your purchases. All you need to do is login to <https://smile.amazon.com> and enter 0591517 into the "pick your own charitable organization." Or bookmark <https://smiles.amazon.com/ch/52-0592517>. Then shop, that's it!

***Mother Catherine Academy News:***

- Bingo every Saturday. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and early bird games start at 6 p.m. \$5000 jackpot!

***The Choir will practice*** on the following Mondays at 5:00 p.m. in the Church - December 10 and December 17. New members are always welcome!

## Upcoming Events & Reminders

**Eucharistic Holy Hour** – Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday in the Church from 4-5 p.m.

**Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday** – Father Drew will lead the Rosary in the Church at 8:15 p.m.

**Tuesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>** – Catechism with Father Drew at 11 a.m. CCD at MCA at 6:45 p.m.

**Monday, December 24<sup>th</sup>** – **Christmas Eve Masses** – 5:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, December 25<sup>th</sup>** – **Christmas Day Masses** – 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

**Tuesday, January 1, 2019** – **Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God** (a Holy Day of Obligation) Mass will be at 10:00 a.m. and 12 Noon.



**Saint Joseph Catholic Church – Morganza**  
**@stjoemorganza**



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Click "Register" and Enter your name, email, and desired password

You're all set to enjoy the engaging and inspiring content on FORMED!

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**Study:** Lectio: Prayer- Session 1 Prayer is one of the most basic elements of a life of faith, but it isn't always easy to do. Though we're taught that prayer is a "conversation," we often feel as if the conversation is completely one-sided. In this first session, Dr. Gray shows how the solution to the problem of prayer can be found in the Scriptures. Go to BIBLE STUDIES

**Watch:** Guadalupe: The Miracle and the Message. The most important event in the evangelization of the New World occurred in December, 1531. Over the course of four days, the Virgin Mary, under the title of Our Lady of Guadalupe, appeared to an indigenous convert named Juan Diego. As a result of this encounter, and the image miraculously imprinted on Juan Diegos tilma (cloak), nine million Native Americans embraced the Catholic faith, and the Americas began its transformation into the Catholic hemisphere. Our Lady of Guadalupe's message of love had replaced the institutionalized violence of the Aztec culture and built a bridge between two worlds. Go to KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

**Listen:** Prepare the Way of the King. Dr. Scott Hahn, one of the most eminent Catholic theologians in our country today, reveals what scholars now know about the shepherds, the mysterious Magi, and King Herod. Your Advent journey will take on new meaning as you prepare your heart for the birth of our Lord. This illuminating presentation is sure to help you grow in appreciation of the greatest gift ever given to mankind—Jesus Christ. Go to TALKS- Seasonal

**Read:** Fire of Love. Stories of saints do not often begin with their parents' courtship. But in this historical novel, love is at the very center of the drama, for Saint John of the Cross became one of the Church's foremost experts on intimacy with God. His mystical poems on divine love are considered some of the greatest verses ever written in the Spanish language. Richly drawn against the backdrop of Spain's Golden Age, this novel follows the joys and hardships experienced by the family of young Juan de Yepes Alvarez. His attraction to helping others, his call to the priesthood, and his entrance into the Carmelites all unfold with captivating style. Go to FICTION- Special Topics (available for iBooks, Nook, Android and Kindle)