

Saint Joseph Catholic Church

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Father Andrew Royals, Pastor

First Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2019

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

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

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

Weekday Masses: 8:00 a.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday (Latin) and Friday

Saturday Evening Mass: 5:00 p.m. (Fulfills Sunday Obligation)

Confessions:

Sunday:

7:25 a.m. to 7:50 a.m.—Before and after 8 a.m. Mass

9:35 a.m. to 9:50 a.m.—Before 10 a.m. Mass

5:35 p.m. to 5:50 p.m.—Before 6 p.m. Mass

6:50 p.m.—Immediately following 6:00 p.m. Mass

Mon., Tues., Wed., Fri. (non-school days):

7:25 a.m. to 7:50 a.m.—Before 8 a.m. Mass

8:35 a.m. to 8:50 a.m. — After 8 a.m. Mass

4:15 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sat.:

4:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.—Immediately prior to Mass

The Church is Open for prayer and adoration

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from

6 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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.

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

From Father's Desk

My Dear Parish,

Isn't Advent about Christmas? Why, then, do the readings at Mass this Sunday have nothing to do with the birth of Jesus? And, come to think of it, neither do the readings for the Sunday after that, or the Sunday after that. Why is it not until the Fourth and final Sunday of Advent that the Readings finally begin to point directly at the birth of our Lord?

This is because we may have it wrong about Advent. Advent is not primarily about Christmas. Christmas is about Christmas. Advent is primarily about a vital Christian truth: Jesus is coming and we need to be ready for him.

Still, this time of year, when we say Jesus is coming, it's easy for us to think instead that Christmas is coming, which it is—but that's not the main point. The main point, again, is: we need to be ready for the coming of Jesus at all times. It is an essential Christian disposition to be on the lookout, constantly, for our rendezvous with the Lord. Since none of us knows when Jesus will come, our job instead is always to be ready for him to come.

It would be a shame for him to come and find us completely unprepared. If we're not careful, we may even miss his coming entirely.

Instead, just as Jesus compares his coming to a thief in the night, we too need to be on the lookout like thieves. Yes, we are to be innocent as doves. But we are also to be cunning. The serpent used his cunning to steal Adam and Eve away from paradise. But Jesus, on the Cross, outdid the serpent in cunning, robbing the devil of his victory and stealing the souls of the just away from the clutches of the evil one, winning for them the promise of everlasting life.

A Christian must be on the alert at all times. We must learn how best to position ourselves within each moment for our final encounter with the Lord. We don't know which moment will be our last, so we treat every moment as if it were our one chance to be ready to meet him. We'll then discover every day, no matter what time of year, to be a miniature Advent all to itself.

With paternal affection,

Fr. Drew

Mass Intentions for December 2nd through December 8th

Monday	8 a.m.	Sarah C. Thompson
Tuesday	8 a.m.	Thelma Russell
Wednesday	8 a.m.	Dorothy Briner
Friday	8 a.m.	Matthew Brinkmann (Living)
Saturday	5 p.m.	Matthew Brinkmann (Living)
Sunday	8 a.m.	Joe, Dennis and Christine Russell
	10 a.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>
	6 p.m.	Leonard Johnson

Please pray for those who are sick in our parish, especially Steve Morgan, Joseph Tippett, Yvonne Lennon, John Hunt, Kathy Norris, Larry Miller, Joseph Lee Somerville, John Campbell, Agnes Baker, Max Long, Francis Nelson (Mole), Virginia Raulerson, Frances L. Herbert (Tintsie), Elizabeth Adams, Winnie Merson.

Mass Schedule for December 7th and 8th

Altar Servers

Lectors

Saturday, 5:00 p.m.	Braylon & Bryson	Brian Fenwick
Sunday, 8:00 a.m.		Valerie Young
Sunday, 10:00 a.m.	Sam, Liam & Nigel, Francis, Owen	Christine Komar

November 24, 2019 – Offertory – \$5,587.00

Other donations (including online) – \$3,015.00

Thank you for your generosity.

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.

Transportation for Homebound Parishioners – We are in need of volunteers to transport homebound parishioners to and from Mass. Please call the Rectory for more information.

Talk: Current Trends in Diet and Nutrition: By popular demand, Fr. Drew will speak again about his research into recent positive health reports involving weight-loss, Type 2 Diabetes reversal, depression and more. Saturday December 14 at 10:00 AM in the Hall. Join us and bring a friend. Please call the Rectory for more information.

All are invited to join St. George parish, Valley Lee, MD, on Friday, December 20 at 7:00 pm for a liturgy of prayer, scripture and music. This special liturgy will feature parish lectors, musicians and some special guest musicians. A reception will follow in the church vestibule. Call 301-994-0607 for more information.

Upcoming Events & Reminders

Sunday, December 1st – Donuts & Coffee after 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Masses.

Tuesday, December 3rd – Catechism with Father Drew at 11 a.m. CCD at 6:45 p.m. at MCA.

Sunday, December 8th – Return all Christmas Caring Program Gifts

Monday, December 9th – Feast of the Immaculate Conception (not a Holy Day of Obligation this year). Mass at 8 a.m.

Wednesday, December 11th – Inventory of Christmas Caring Gifts at 3 p.m. in Hall

Saturday, December 14th – Wrapping of Christmas Caring Gifts at 9 a.m. in Hall. Diet & Nutrition Discussion in the Hall at 10 a.m.

Tuesday, December 24th – Christmas Eve. Mass at 5:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 25th – Christmas. Mass at 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.