



404 W Lawrence St Appleton WI 54911-5817  
Main Office: 920-734-7195  
Faith Formation: 920-738-7413  
[www.saintjosephparish.org](http://www.saintjosephparish.org)  
A MINISTRY OF THE CAPUCHIN FRANCISCANS SINCE 1877

December 10, 2023

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday OF ADVENT



## PASTORAL STAFF

**Capuchin Pastor**, Br. Ray Stadmeier, O.F.M. Cap.,  
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**Coordinator of C.A.R.E. Ministry**, Joseph Martin;  
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**ST FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC SCHOOLS:**  
920-735-9380

## CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENTS:

**Marriage:** Active parish membership of 6 months is required before a wedding date may be set.

**Reconciliation:** Saturdays from 9 until approximately 9:30 am or call for an appointment.

**Baptism:** Please call the Parish Office 2 months in advance.

**Anointing of the Sick:** Please call the Parish Office anytime.

## MASS TIMES:

**Saturday - 4:00 pm**

**Sunday - 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 6:30 pm**

*Weekend Mass may be viewed online:*

[www.saintjosephparish.org](http://www.saintjosephparish.org)

**Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday - 12:05 pm**

## OFFICE HOURS:

**Monday-Thursday: 9:00 am-3:00 pm**

**Friday: 9:00 am-12:00 pm**

## REACHING IN, REACHING OUT, REACHING GOD

### Br. Ray's Reflections

First of all, thanks to all those who were part of the Christmas Bazaar last weekend. It was a grand success with delicious treats, homemade Christmas gifts and great opportunities in the silent auction. It was also a time to be together and celebrate this wonderful season. I was able to get an insight into all the work that had to be done for this event as I witnessed the preparations and the clean-up. It was a tremendous amount of work but thank you to all who made this Bazaar possible at St Joe's! You make us all so proud and grateful. (We will report on the amount raised in the next weeks.)

On this Second Sunday of Advent, we will raise the banner of peace. In this world of Gaza and Israel, Ukraine and Russia, and all the areas of the world that experience tremendous violence but don't make the news, we cry out for Peace. In this week's first reading, we hear Isaiah's words: "Comfort, give comfort to my people." Although we are not able to go to war torn areas of our world, we can still bring comfort to God's people. Certainly, we can continue to pray for peace. Our prayer, though, should push us to be peacemakers in our world. We are called to be the ones in our family who reconcile those who are at odds with each other. The cause of so many splits in families is often from petty arguments that continue to take on a life of their own and grow over the years. If we are to take seriously our call to comfort and bring peace to people in our lives, we also have to make peace with ourselves. I suspect none of our lives are quite what we thought they would be. For some, they are better than we could ever have dreamed of and for others, they have been filled with many disappointments and suffering. There are many things we don't have control over and we can either spend our lives in regret or decide to find the peace in the day to day moments of grace.

I think of the AA Serenity prayer in those moments when life becomes tough:

"God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can and the wisdom to know the difference."

May we all find a deeper peace this season and bring that peace to our world!

### Reconciliation and Taizé Advent Service



We are offering an Advent Taizé Service on **Friday, December 15th at 6:30 PM**. A Taizé service is made up of music, readings, and time for silence and contemplation. Join us as we prepare for the final weeks of Advent in prayer and song.

Prior to our Taizé Service on December 15th, reconciliation will be available from 5:30-6:30 pm in church.



### **Fourth Sunday of Advent and Christmas Mass Times**

#### **Fourth Sunday of Advent:**

**Saturday, December 23: 4:00 PM**

**Sunday, December 24: 9:00 AM**

**Please Note: The normal 8 & 10 AM Sunday morning Masses (12/24) are combined in the 9 AM Mass.**

#### **Christmas Masses:**

**Sunday, December 24: 4:00 PM (Children's Liturgy) & Livestreamed, 6:30 PM, & 10:00 PM**

**Monday, December 25: 9:00 AM**

### **Welcome...**



We welcome into the St. Joseph Community through Baptism...

**Anthony Jonathan Brown**

**Oliver Anthony Van Der Wegen**

### **Congratulations Calendar Raffle Winners**

November 26—David Faltynski—\$25

November 27—Patti Stephenson—\$25

November 28—Edward Dold—\$25

November 29—Jeff & Mary Jirschele—\$25

November 30—Marge Stammer—\$25

December 1—Jean Thiel—\$25

December 2—William & Diane Stevens—\$25

### **Decorators Needed**



Volunteers needed to help decorate the church for Christmas. We will be decorating the church on Thursday, December 21st at 1:00 pm. If you are interested in helping, please contact the Parish Office at: 920-734-7195.

### **Please Pray For...**

Please pray for all our parishioners who are ill: **Carolee Borntreger, Dave Hendricks, Mercedes Hartkopf, Ellen Lutz, Tim Lutz, Sharon Verhoeven**

Remember also our nursing home residents and shut-ins, and pray for the intentions recorded in our Prayer Book of Intentions.

Please pray for our parishioners or family members of parishioners who have died.



## DECEMBER 10, 2023 / SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### St. Joe's Family Christmas Tree



We would like to invite new parishioners who have joined our parish in the last year to help us decorate our Christmas trees with an ornament with your name on it. Using a Sharpie, write your family name in large letters, and drop the ornament in the collection box in the Great Hall by December 17. We'll make sure it gets on the tree.

### Giving Tree

Thank you to everyone who took a tag from our giving tree. Please return all tags **by December 13th**. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

### "Keep Christ in Christmas" Poster Contest



The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a poster contest for ages 5 to 14 to promote the true meaning of Christmas. Posters should be the original work of a single person and reflect the theme of "Keep Christ in Christmas". Suggested poster size is 11 x 17 inches, but other sizes will also be accepted. Please include the entrant's name, age, grade, and phone number on the back of the poster. Completed posters can either be dropped off at the parish office or mailed to "KofC Council 607, PO Box 1492, Appleton, WI 54912". Entry deadline is Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you for your consideration and we wish you and your family a blessed Advent Season!

### Financial News

Tithing Needed .....	\$16,777.00
Last Week's Tithing.....	\$8,715.50
Auto Withdrawal .....	\$645.00
Children's Collection.....	\$26.00
IRA's/Donations .....	\$1,000.00

*Thank you for your financial support!*

### Readings for the Week of December 10

**Sunday:** Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 (8)/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8

**Monday:** Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Lk 5:17-26

**Tuesday:** Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

**Wednesday:** Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30

**Thursday:** Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab/Mt 11:11-15

**Friday:** Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Mt 11:16-19

**Saturday:** Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13 ©LPi

### St. Joe's Float - Appleton Christmas Parade

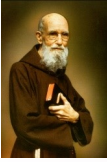
We would like to thank Miron Construction, who provided the trailer and driver for our 2023 St. Joe's Float, which took part in the Appleton Christmas Parade on November 21. A special thank you to everyone who helped with building and decorating our float. Thanks also to Br. Ray, Snoop, our singers, the children and adults who took part in being on our float, and to Bob Comerford for monitoring our parking lot. Your generosity and volunteer support helped make our float beautiful!





**DECEMBER 10, 2023**

**SCHEDULED MASS INTENTIONS**



***Blessed Solanus Casey  
Pray for Us***

**Tuesday, December 12**

12:05 pm Dec. Patrick Rohrer  
12:30 pm St. Anthony Devotions

**Wednesday, December 13**

12:05 pm Dec. Orvil & Myra Mueller

**Friday, December 15**

12:05 pm Dec. Paul Sherman

**Saturday, December 16**

4:00 pm Dec. Tom Novak

**Sunday, December 17**

8:00 am Dec. Mary Kay DeGroot  
10:00 am Dec. Dick Schuldes  
6:30 pm Living & Deceased Members of the  
Ralph Dorn Family & Members of  
St. Joseph Parish

**THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH**

**Tuesday, December 12**

6:30 pm Musicians Dinner, Holly Hall

**Wednesday, December 13**

4:45 pm Grades K-5 Faith Formation Classes  
6:30 pm Grades 6-11 Faith Formation Classes  
6:30 pm Long Dark Nights Book Club, St.  
Joseph Room

**Friday, December 15**

5:30 pm Private Reconciliation in Church  
6:30 pm Advent Taizé Service in Church

**Saturday, December 16**

9:00 am Private Reconciliation

**Blood Pressure Screening after 4 pm Mass**

**Sunday, December 17**

1:00 pm OFS Gathering, Holly Hall

**Blood Pressure Screenings after 8 & 10 am Masses**

**Join us for the Nativity Play on Christmas Eve!**



We are looking for students ages 4 and up who are interested in acting out the Christmas story live at the 4:00 pm Mass on Christmas Eve! Rehearsals will be in church

immediately following the 10:00 am Masses on December 10 and 17.

For more information, please contact the Parish Office at: 920-734-7195 or email Kristin Lanari at: kristin.lanari@gmail.com.

**ST JOSEPH PARISH**

**Rite of Welcome & Rite of Acceptance**

Last weekend we welcomed three candidates preparing to receive the sacraments at the Easter Vigil in March. Please keep Emiliano, Tina, and Matthew in your prayers.



**Retirement Collection**

Today, through the Retirement Collection, we are able to Share in the Care of our retired sisters, brothers and religious order priests through the National Retirement Fund for Religious, as well as of the senior priests of our own diocese. Envelopes are available in the back of church to make your contribution. Please be generous in helping those who have given so much over the years.

**Raffle Calendars**

Thanks, everyone, for your help in making our Raffle Calendar a success. Many of you picked up your three calendars and have already returned them. We have from now until the end of the year to buy/sell these calendars. Thanks again for your support!

**Thanks Brettschneider Trettin-Nickel Funeral Home**

The Parish has been offered the gift of a liturgical calendar from our supporters at **Brettschneider Trettin-Nickel Funeral Home**. They have picked up the cost of these calendars again this year. The calendar will remind us of Saints' Feast Days, as well as the Holy Days of our Church Year.

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