



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

December 3, 2023

1st Sunday OF ADVENT

PASTORAL STAFF

Capuchin Pastor, Br. Ray Stadmeyer, O.F.M. Cap.,
RStadmeyer@StJoesParish.org...920-734-7195

Deacon, Mark Farrell

Parish Administrative Assistant, Dana Schmidt;
DSchmidt@StJoesParish.org....920-734-7195

Music Director, Marisa Landsverk;
MLandsverk@StJoesParish.org

Finance Director, Roger Simon;
RSimon@StJoesParish.org

Bookkeeper, Maria Biesterveld;
MBiesterveld@StJoesParish.org

Facilities & Maintenance Manager, Mike Pusnik

Faith Formation Coordinator, Ben Wolf;
BWolf@StJoesParish.org

Coordinator of Volunteers, Jane Wilz;
JWilz@StJoesParish.org

Coordinator of C.A.R.E. Ministry, Joseph Martin;
JMartin@StJoesParish.org

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

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

I think it was one of the previous pastors at St. Joe's (I won't mention any names) who, when preaching an Advent homily, switched the statement, "Don't just sit there, do something," to an Advent themed, "Don't just do something, sit there!" (I suspect he probably stole it from someone else, but I still like it.) As we begin this season of Advent, and our days become shorter and we witness creation appearing dormant, it's our call to quiet our selves and just sit, waiting on the grace of God. This is a quieter, more thoughtful time to ponder how deeply we are loved by God and to realize that God truly desired to be one of us. Although the culture goes into overdrive these days with the frenzy of Christmas sales, Christmas parties, gifts for everyone, etc., we are asked to step back from the madness and just breathe. We are asked to see the beauty of creation as we awaken to a new blanket of snow on a crisp December morning or an orange sky as the sun sets at night. This is our time to take moments of solitude to remember what is most important in our lives. As we sit in the quiet, we remember the dreams of God as we hear the readings from Isaiah during this holy season. We take time to dream of a world where the Lion lays down with the Lamb and all are reconciled with each other. We pray for a world where children will be safe from war, mass shootings, and abuse of all kinds. We dream of a world where there are no unhoused brothers and sisters wandering our streets. We hope for a world where mental illness is treated, and all have access to good medical care. We long for a world where no one is hungry, and all have access to good drinking water. We dream of a world where cures are available and all live til old age. We pray for a world where all life is sacred and respected. In this season of Advent, we quiet ourselves to hear the still small voice of God pleading with all of us to create the world of God's dreams. Let's prepare the way of the Lord this season by continuing to create a world of kindness and compassion.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, and inspire us to live your dream!

St. Joseph Parish Blood Drive
Sunday, December 10, 2023
7:00 AM - 11:30 AM



To schedule your life-saving appointment, please sign up in the back of church. You may also register by calling (800) 280-4102, or visiting: communityblood.org/donor. Log in, click "Donate Now" and enter sponsor code N149. We appreciate your generosity and support!



Immaculate Conception Mass Schedule:

Friday, December 8th
12:05 PM & 6:00 PM

Giving Tree

Thank you to everyone who took a tag from our giving tree. Please return the tags to the Parish Office **by the date listed on the tag**. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Congratulations Calendar Raffle Winners

November 19—Pat Christensen—\$25
November 20—Angela Riedy—\$25
November 21—Pat Riedl—\$25
November 22—Feeding America Eastern WI—\$25
November 23—Dale Schaber—\$25
November 24—Mike May—\$25
November 25—Steve Schmidt—\$25

December Birthdays



We have 224 parishioners celebrating a Birthday in December! Have a Happy and Blessed day!

We wish to acknowledge all those who are 80 and over: Joan C, Mary Ann T, Lois G, John W, Thomas W, Richard S, Erwin H, Thomas C, Norbert W, Judy P, Rosemary G, Thomas R, James L, Dennis K, and Marion D.

Please Pray For...

Please pray for all our parishioners who are ill:
Lynn Bayness, Carolee Borntreger, Tim Lutz, Dave Hendricks, Jackie Groth, Ellen Lutz, Mercedes Hartkopf

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:
Donna Koeller

DECEMBER 3, 2023 / FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Join us for the Annual St. Joe's 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 3, 10, and 17. For more information, please contact the Parish Office at: 920-734-7195 or Kristin Lanari at: kristin.lanari@gmail.com.



Advent Evening of Reflection - December 7th

Plan to join us for an Advent Evening of Reflection with Fr. Tim Shillcox, O. Praem in Holly Hall — **"Finding Inner Peace in Our World Today"**

6:00-6:30 PM - Coffee, tea, punch, fruit, cheese, nuts and special fall desserts

6:30-7:30 PM - **"Finding Inner Peace in a Violent World"** - with Fr. Tim

Praying for Peace: If you would like to pray for peace in our world during the Advent season, we will have a **Bethlehem Peace Light** at our Advent Evening of Reflection to share. This light is a continuous flame originating in the grotto of Jesus' birth in Bethlehem. Passed on to us by the Jesuit Retreat House in Oshkosh, we invite you to bring a candle in a metal or glass container that can be held or placed in the cup holder in your car to transport safely to your home.

Please **pre-register** for our Evening together by calling the Parish Office at 920-734-7195 before **Noon on December 5th** or return the registration form that was in last week's bulletin. A free will offering will be taken.

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.

St. Joe's Family Christmas Tree



This week we begin Advent and our preparation for the celebration of Christmas. 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.

Financial News

Tithing Needed\$16,777.00
Last Week's Tithing..... \$11,581.71
Auto Withdrawal\$470.00
Children's Collection..... \$8.00
IRA's/Donations\$175.00

Parish Support Through Collections

(7/01/23—10/31/23)

Budgeted

\$295,966.68

Actual

\$267,784.97

October Outreach Programs

Milk Money..... \$1,114.04
St. Joseph Food Program \$180.00
LEAVEN.....\$60.00
Pillars..... \$118.00

Green contribution envelopes for our Outreach Programs are on the radiator in back of Church.

Thank you for your financial support!

Readings for the Week of December 3

Sunday: Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/
Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 (4)/1 Cor 1:3-9/
Mk 13:33-37

Monday: Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b,
4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8,
12-13, 17/Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a,
3b-4, 5, 6/Mt 15:29-37

Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9,
19-21, 25-27a/Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab,
3cd-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2,
3-4, 5-6/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

Next 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

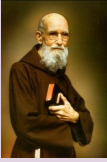
©LPI

Raffle Calendars

Raffle Calendars are available in the back of church. There should be an envelope for each parishioner in the boxes. We are asking every parishioner to try to buy/sell three raffle calendars that are in each envelope. We have until the end of 2023 to do this. This has been our most successful fundraiser each year. Thank you for your support!

DECEMBER 3, 2023

SCHEDULED MASS INTENTIONS



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

Tuesday, December 5

12:05 pm Intentions of the Art, Phyllis, and
Gary Malchow Families
12:30 pm St. Anthony Devotions

Wednesday, December 6

12:05 pm Dec. Raymond Wuerger

Friday, December 8— Immaculate Conception

12:05 pm Dec. Mary Langman & Doris Filz
6:00 pm Members of St. Joseph Parish

Saturday, December 9

4:00 pm Deceased Members of the Kohlbeck
Family

Sunday, December 10

8:00 am Dec. Barb Meyer
10:00 am Dec. Christine Gregorius
6:30 pm Dec. Ruth Gehl

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Monday, December 4

6:30 pm Social Concerns Meeting, Holly Hall

Tuesday, December 5

12:45 pm Christmas Luncheon, Holly Hall
1:00 pm Prayer Shawl, LL12

Wednesday, December 6

5:30 pm Faith Formation Family Night-Holly Hall

Thursday, December 7

6:00 pm Advent Evening of Reflection-Holly Hall

Saturday, December 9

9:00 am Private Reconciliation

Sunday, December 10

7:00-11:30 am St. Joe's Blood Drive
1:00 pm Journey to Bethlehem Movie

St. Joe's Christmas Bazaar This Weekend!

Join us this weekend in the Great Hall for our Christmas Bazaar featuring Craft Sale, Bake Sale with Candy Shoppe, and Silent Auction.

Saturday, December 2nd from 9:00 am - 5 pm

Sunday, December 3rd from 8:00 am - Noon

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.

ST JOSEPH PARISH

Musician Mass

Our choir members Len, Joan, and An attended a musician's blessing mass at the cathedral. Thank you for representing our parish!



"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 18th. Thank you for your consideration and we wish you and your family a blessed Advent Season!

Spectacular holiday fun for the whole family!



7:00 pm Nov. 30 - Dec. 2, Dec. 7-9

1:00 pm December 2*, 3, 9, 10

*An American Sign Language Interpreter will be provided for the matinee performance on December 2nd.

www.christmasstars.org • (920) 733-8840



**Please Support This
Week's Sponsor**

*They help support the
printing of this bulletin.
Thank You!*