

St. Joseph Congregation

A family devoted to experience Jesus through prayer, formation and service.



RECEIVE GOD'S LOVE — *The Eucharist*

WEEK 4 | LOVE

December 24, 2023

St. Joseph Congregation
12130 W. Center Street
Wauwatosa, WI 53222
Parish Office 414-771-4626

Pastor

Rev. Adam F. Hirudayasamy, SMA
Email: fernandeza@stjoetosa.com
Phone Extension 105

Deacon José Gonzales
Email: joseuugon@yahoo.com

Deacon Kurt Peot
Email: peotk@stjoetosa.com

Catholic Formation Staff

Adult Minister: Dennis Sylva
Email: dennissylva@hotmail.com
Phone Extension 106

Child/Youth Minister: Colleen Rooney
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Phone Extension 108

Admin. Assistant: Lisa Marynik
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Phone Extension 111

Parish Staff

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Phone Extension 103

Parish Admin. Assistant: Deb Bialozynski
Email: bialozynskid@stjoetosa.com
Phone Extension 101

Admin. Assistant: Suzzanne Silman
Email: silmans@stjoetosa.com
Phone Extension 104

Maintenance Director: Matt Adams
Email: adamsm@stjoetosa.com
Phone Extension 115

Interim Music Director: Dan O'Connor
Email: music@stjoetosa.com
414-444-2244

Pastoral Council Chair: Joe Herro
Email: joeherro@yahoo.com
414-469-7261

St. Joseph School
2750 N. 122nd Street
Wauwatosa, WI 53222
School Office 414-771-5577

Principal: Christopher Multhauf
Email: multhaufc@stjosephschooltosa.com
Phone Extension 120

Admin. Assistant: Lisa Taubner
Email: taubnerl@stjosephschooltosa.com
Phone Extension 119

Parish Information

Parish Office Hours:

Monday –Friday 8:00am to 3:30pm

Parish Registration:

Registration for the parish can be done at the Parish Office during normal business hours or after Mass on Sunday in the Welcome Center at the Center St. entrance of church.

Young people out of college school are requested to register as adult members.

Hearing Impaired:

St. Joseph's Church has an "Audio Loop" for use by people who have a hearing aid equipped with a "T switch". We also have an FM radio system.

St. Joseph Chapel:

Hours: Monday– Friday 7:00am to 8:00pm.

**Severe Winter Weather Guidelines
In the event of severe winter weather**

- ♦ If Elmbrook and/or Wauwatosa public schools close, St. Joseph School will close.
- ♦ If St. Joseph School is closed, all daytime activities and all evening activities will be cancelled, **including Mass.**
- ♦ If a weekday snow event falls on a Holy Day of Obligation, there will be Mass, even if school is closed.
- ♦ If a snowstorm falls on a Saturday or Sunday, there will be Mass; other events might be cancelled at the director's discretion.
- ♦ Closings will be posted on WTMJ-TV 4, WTMJ-AM 620 radio, WKTI-FM 94.5, and online at www.tmj4.com.

Readings of the Week	Monday: Christmas Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18
	Tuesday: Acts 6:8-10;7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc-17; Mt 10:17-22
	Wednesday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8
	Thursday: 1 Jn 1:5-2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt 2:13-18
	Friday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35
	Saturday: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40
	Sunday: Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3; Ps 105:1-6,8-9; Heb 11:8,11-12, 17-19; Lk 2:22-40

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday December 25th.

It will be open from 8-12 on Tuesday December 26th.

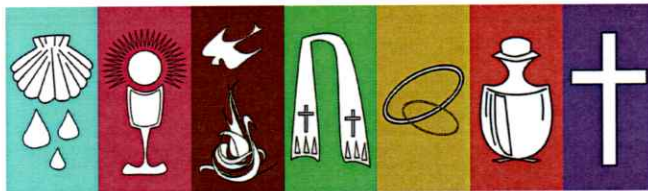


Mass Schedule

Tuesday Thru Friday: 8:15am Saturday (Vigil): 4:00pm Sunday: 8:00am & 10:30am

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, December 25	8:00am Our Parish Family 10:00am † Eleanore & John Chudada † Mike Nunemaker
Tuesday, December 26	7:35am Patriotic Rosary 8:00am Perpetual Help 8:15am † Jack & Gloria Miller
Wednesday, December 27	7:35am Rosary 8:15am † Josephine & Thomas Soglia
Thursday, December 28	7:35am Rosary 8:15am † Tedd Keller; † Marge Horne
Friday, December 29	7:35am Rosary 8:15am In Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturday, December 30	3:00pm Reconciliation 4:00pm Our Parish Family
Sunday, December 31	8:00am All family members who are no longer with us 10:30am † John Christman † Robert & Arlene Janowski



Sacraments

Baptism: Parents who wish to have their child baptized must be registered members of St. Joseph Parish and practicing their Catholic Faith. A pre-baptism class must be attended prior to the date of the baptism. Baptisms are celebrated at one of the weekend Masses or at another arranged time. For more information contact the Parish Office.

Funerals: Please call the Parish Office in the event of the death of a loved one. Arrangements will be made for planning of the service including the musicians. Advanced planning may be done by making an appointment with Father.

Reconciliation: 3:00 pm-3:45 pm Saturday or by appointment. Please call the Parish Office.

Weddings: Couples must contact the pastor to make arrangements for marriage. No date should be set until this is done as the church may not be available. The Catholic party must be a registered and practicing member of the parish for at least six months prior to setting a date. In addition, a six month period of preparation is required for marriage.

St Joseph's Stewardship

Sacrificial Giving: "First Fruits"

Year to Date: \$425,861.97

Budget: \$496,153.75

Budget Difference YTD: \$ -70,291.78

(Fiscal year budget \$1,012,000 July 2023 thru June 2024)

During the week ending Sunday, December 17

142 out of 959 households contributed
\$26,131.50 plus \$686.68 in loose collections.

This is an average of per contributor: \$184.02

Ministry of the Sick

Please take a moment to pray...

Lord Jesus, who went about doing good and healing all, we ask you to bless your friends who are sick. Give them strength in body, courage in spirit, and patience with pain. Let them recover their health, so that, restored to the Christian community, they may joyfully praise your name, for you live and reign for ever and ever. Amen

Loretta Bannach, Josef Bitzl, Bill Burkhart,
Connie Borden, Christine Brady,
Alvin Bucheger, Chris Burk,
Phil Cashill, David Cheever, Dennis Cimpl,
Claudia Ciurlik, Marian Cochrane, Katy Connors,
Donna Drake, Carol Evenson, Marge Fandre,
Jane Foxgrover, Jeanne Fuchs, Josefina Gallegos,
Elisabeth Gean, Cameron Gonring, Amy Grahovac,
Terry Hansen, Bruce Henning,
Patricia Jablonowski, Charles Jacoby, Jim Janette,
Janice Kampschroer, Don Kresse, Diana Krueger,
Doug Kruse, Mark Lutterbach, Mark Mayer,
Sue McCauley,
Margaret Mehigan, Pat Nemitz, Lois Popp,
Carol & Lee Smaglick, Tim Taff,
Gail Tawil, Betty Weinzierl, Ann Marie Wick

- ♦ If you know anyone who is sick or in the hospital, please let us know. The hospitals do not always contact us.
- ♦ If you or someone you know is homebound or ill and would like to receive communion, please call the Parish Office at 414-771-4626.

Adoration of the

Most Blessed Sacrament:

Adoration will take place EVERY
Thursday, immediately after the
8:15am Mass until 9:30am.

AND

Adoration will take place
the first Thursday of the month in the
evening from 6:30-7:30pm in the church.

Anointing of the Sick:

Anointing will take place on the
first Friday of each month,
during the 8:15am Mass.

Anointing may also be done by appointment.
Please call the Parish Office.

Make Your Life a Gift to God

There is just one day left until the celebration of Christmas begins. Let's live this last day of Advent well.

We read in today's Gospel passage from Luke the wonderful words of the Blessed Mother's "fiat," her "yes" to God's plan. "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." These are among the most beloved words in the Gospel. But the next sentence is also important for the Christian steward.

After Mary's fiat, we read, "Then the angel departed from her." Our Blessed Mother was left with a lot of unexplained details about God's plan for her! Yet, she followed God's will perfectly. She gave herself and her life fully to God as a gift. She was the first disciple. We are called to follow her example today.

This Christmas let us resolve to make our whole life a gift to the One Who has given us everything. He will give us all the help and strength we need.

- copyright: Catholic Stewardship Consultants, www.CatholicSteward.com

ADVENT, DECEMBER 24, 2023 "TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS"

All of us know how the poem continues: the great sense of expectation that fills it, the coming that stirs the wonder of the child who experiences it, the gifts that are delivered in such an amazing manner. The poem stirs in all of us the specialness of this night.

Here we are on the brink of something very special, and it is infinitely more special than the poem suggests. Tonight we await the celebration of the birthday of the Christ child. Tonight we await the coming of Christ into the world.

Yes, Christ came into the world over two thousand years ago. But Christ came at that time in order to remain with us always. So the Gospel of Matthew ends with Jesus telling his disciples, "I am with you always until the close of the age" (Matt 28:20). Well, you might ask, if Christ is with us always, then why celebrate at Christmas his coming into the world?

Well, isn't this a bit like asking, if Johnnie is here with us, why celebrate his birthday every year? Don't we do so to show that Johnnie is someone special to all of us and to show him how glad we are for him? Don't we give him presents in order to demonstrate this?

The celebration of Christmas is a way of showing how joyful we are that God has come to remain with us and to always share his sustaining and life-giving love with us. This is the love that enables, nourishes, and infinitely expands for us all the love that we experience in our lives, coming from the God who is love (1 John 4:16).

So perhaps on this last night of expectation we should ask ourselves the question, "what gift are we giving to Jesus this year to celebrate his birth?" As noted in last week's Advent article, the evangelist Luke shows us how Jesus came with a special concern for anyone who is in need.

So what about, "Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house"
All the family were planning, gifts for *another* house . . .

Dennis Sylva
Adult Minister

Weekly Calendar of Activities:

Monday, December 25 MERRY CHRISTMAS

Parish office closed

NO SCHOOL

Tuesday, December 26

NO SCHOOL

8:00am-12:00am: Parish Office open

5:00pm-9:00pm: Basketball Practice in Gym

Wednesday, December 27

NO SCHOOL

8:45am-10:45am: St. Faustina Group in St. Matthew Room

3:00pm-8:00pm: Basketball Practice in Gym

8:00pm-9:30pm: Spike Milwaukee Volleyball in Gym

Thursday, December 28

NO SCHOOL

9:30am-10:30am: Well Time in St. Joseph Room

6:00pm-9:00pm: Basketball Practice in Gym

Friday, December 29

NO SCHOOL

3:00pm-5:00pm: Basketball Practice in Gym

5:30pm-6:30pm: Michael Sykes in Gym

Saturday, December 30

7:00am-4:00pm: Basketball games in Gym

7:00pm-9:30pm: Tim Curtain in Gym

Sunday, December 31

Please consider WeShare, our online giving service, to support to our parish.

We are providing this option in addition to cash or check donations. You can still give through traditional methods, but now you can make recurring or one-time gifts online with a credit/debit card or electronic check.

No more writing checks or searching for envelopes on the way out the door and the consistent giving helps the parish budget and plan more efficiently, while cutting down on the printing and mailing out of envelopes.

To give online through our new platform, please visit our giving page on our website. You can also give through text message by texting the word "Give" to 414-877-7511 or scanning the QR code.



2023 Contributions

All contributions must be received by Noon on December 29th to be considered as donations for this calendar year.

Contributions received at December 30th & 31st Masses will be included in 2023.

Our tradition continues in having a

Children's Choir on Christmas Eve

At the 4:00pm Mass!!

Please have your child meet in the choir room at 3:00pm to rehearse on December 24th.

We are excited to see all our young singers participate in this wonderful Gift.

Christmas Masses

Dec. 24 4:00pm Children's Mass
& 10:00pm

Dec. 25 8:00am & 10:00am

Prelude music 30 min. before each Mass

Our Advent Collection with Fr. Adam

As we prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus this Advent we also pray in thanksgiving for the education of all our children.

Father Adam's charism is for the education of the children in India. He holds these children close to his heart and always in prayer.

Families in India must pay for their children to attend school and it is very difficult for many families especially at this time.

Our Advent collection will go directly to these families in India to help pay for the school fees to educate their children

Name _____

Amount shared \$_____

Please make checks payable to St. Joseph Congregation

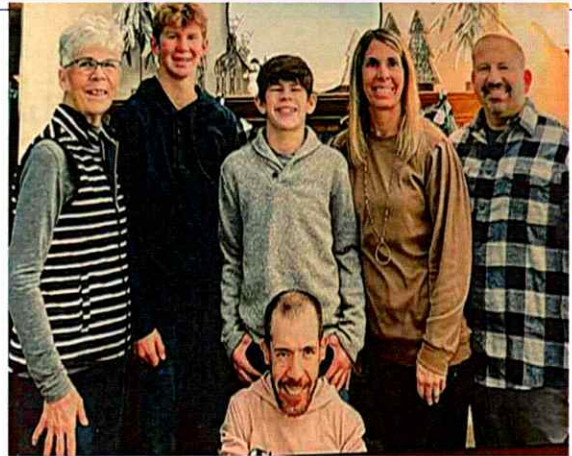
The Gifts of St. Josephs Highlights Profiles of Your Parish Members: Cathie Papen

Occupation: Mother and proud Grandma

Family: My children, Charlie and Carmen and son-in-law, Don, and Grandsons Landon (15) and Braden (14)

Parish Member Since: Since fall of 1989

Parish Activities: Art & Environment, Prayer & Worship, Bereavement Ministry, Sacristan and Eucharistic Minister.
All of these truly feed my soul.

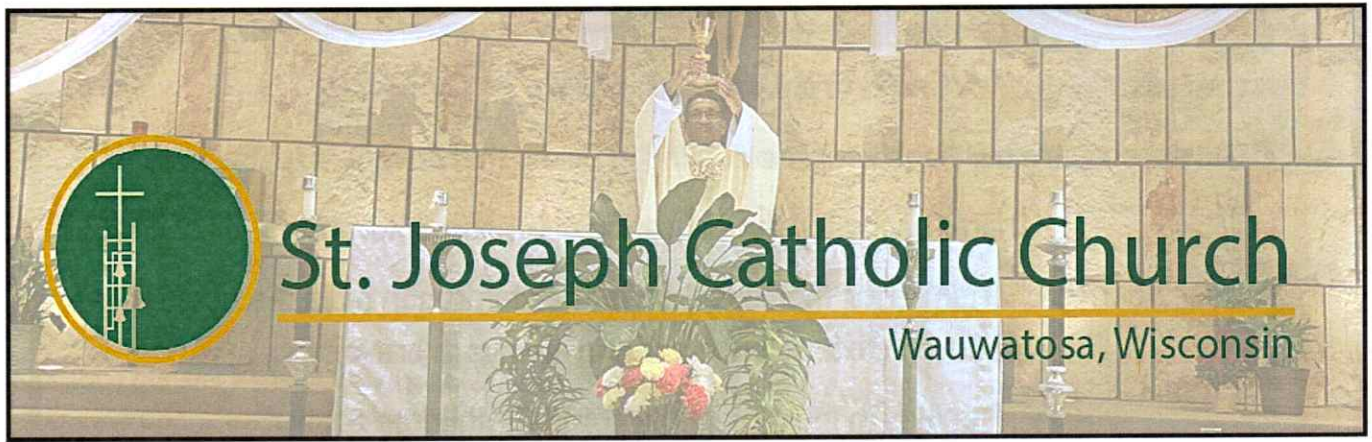


Why St. Joseph?: My husband, Dick, and I attended Mass when we moved back here from Connecticut. We worshipped at Mass a few Sundays and felt the presence of faith, hope and love in the strength of the community. We knew this was where we needed to be.

Favorite Parish/School Event: The Rummage Sale

Why do you give your time to serve St. Joe's?: I give my time because I feel the need to share the gifts I've been given as a member of St. Joe's.

Bible Verse/Quote: The 23rd Psalm has become very comforting and strengthening for me in recent times. There is no doubt God loves and cares for us. I'm never alone.



St. Joseph Catholic Church

Wauwatosa, Wisconsin

12130 West Center Street Wauwatosa, WI 53222-4096

Office Phone: 414-771-4626

Website www.stjoetosa.com

Welcome ...

... to all visitors,
and those who don't
regularly join us each Sunday!

We pray that our Mass Celebration spiritually fed you
and that you feel welcome among us.

Have questions about St. Joseph Congregation or the Catholic Church?

We're happy to answer! Just contact Fr. Adam or the parish office at 414-771-4626,
or speak with Fr. Adam, Deacon Jose, Deacon Kurt or an usher after any Mass.

Not ready to talk with someone in person? Learn more about us at www.stjoetosa.com

Suzuki Violin Instruction

Registered Suzuki Instructors



Colleen Fitzgerald
Celestine Fitzgerald
Parish members

Email: barcel.suzuki@gmail.com

Should you wish to advertise
your business here, please
contact Julie McKendry at
mckendryj@stjoetosa.com

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Banquet Facilities Available

