

SAINT JOSEPH CHURCH

December 4, 2016

“Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king's son.” Psalm 72:1

Second Sunday of Advent

Celebrating 165 years of living faith since the foundation of our parish in 1851.

Saint Joseph the guardian

As the birth of Jesus approaches, it's important to remember the crucial role of his foster father, Saint Joseph, in salvation history. Consider this excerpt from the apostolic exhortation *Redemptoris Custos* (Guardian of the Redeemer): On the Person and Mission of Saint Joseph in the Life of Christ and of the Church, which Pope John Paul II delivered on August 15, 1989:

Besides fatherly authority over Jesus, God also gave Joseph a share in the corresponding love, the love that has its origin in the Father “from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named” (Eph 3:15).



The Gospels clearly describe the fatherly responsibility of Joseph toward Jesus. For salvation—which comes through the humanity of Jesus—is realized in actions which are an everyday part of family life, in keeping with that “condescension” which is inherent in the economy of the Incarnation. The gospel writers carefully show how in the life of

Jesus nothing was left to chance, but how everything took place according to God's predetermined plan. The oft-repeated formula, “This happened, so that there might be fulfilled ...,” in reference to a particular event in the Old Testament, serves to emphasize the unity and continuity of the plan which is fulfilled in Christ.

With the Incarnation, the “promises” and “figures” of the Old Testament become “reality”: places, persons, events and rites interrelate according to precise divine commands communicated by angels and received by creatures who are particularly sensitive to the voice of God. Mary is the Lord's humble servant, prepared from eternity for the task of being the Mother of God. Joseph is the one whom God chose to be the “overseer of the Lord's birth,” the one who has the responsibility to look after the Son of God's “ordained” entry into the world, in accordance with divine dispositions and human laws. All of the so-called “private” or “hidden” life of Jesus is entrusted to Joseph's guardianship.

Thursday December 8th: Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary on **Thursday December 8, a Holy Day of Obligation**, Pope Francis recently spoke about the importance of the Blessed Mother in our lives:



The Immaculate Conception, by Giovanni Battista Tiepolo (1768)

When we are weary, downcast, beset with cares, let us look to Mary, let us feel her gaze, which speaks to our heart and says: “Courage, my child, I am here to help you!” Our Lady knows us well, she is a Mother, she is familiar with our joys and difficulties, our hopes and disappointments.

When we feel the burden of our failings and our sins, let us look to Mary, who speaks to our hearts, saying: “Arise, go to my Son Jesus; in him you will find acceptance, mercy and new strength for the journey.” ... Mary points to Jesus, she asks us to bear witness to Jesus, she constantly guides us to her Son Jesus, because in him alone do we find salvation. He alone can change the water of our loneliness, difficulties, and sin into the wine of encounter, joy, and forgiveness. He alone. ... O Mary, let us feel your maternal gaze. Guide us to your Son. May we not be Christians “on display,” but Christians

ready to “get our hands dirty” in building, with your Son Jesus, his Kingdom of love, joy, and peace.

‡ ANNOUNCED MASSES ‡

Saturday, December 3

5:00 p.m. Memorial, Eugenia Delgado, requested Domingas Alves

Sunday, December 4

Second Sunday of Advent

9:00 a.m. Available

11:15 a.m. Christmas remembrance, Alfred and Helen Martin, requested, family

Monday, December 5

8:00 a.m. Available

Tuesday, December 6

St. Nicholas, Bishop

8:00 a.m. Intentions for the Parishioners of St. Joseph Church

Thursday, December 8 The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:00 a.m. Available

6:30 p.m. Memorial, Frank and Rita DiMasi, requested, family

Friday, December 9

8:00 a.m. Available

Saturday, December 10

5:00 p.m. 3rd anniversary, Carlos Camacho, requested, family

Sunday, December 11 Third Sunday of Advent

9:00 a.m. Memorial, Catherine Quinn, requested, Virginia DiMasi

11:15 a.m. Memorial, Mary Ann Deary, requested, Daniel S. Harrop III

ALTAR SERVERS

Thursday, December 8 *Feast of the Immaculate Conception*
6:30 p.m. Catherine, Joseph, Volunteers
Saturday, December 10
5:00 p.m. Olivia, Grace, Max, Kirsten
Sunday, December 11
9:00 a.m. Joseph, Lily, Jessica. Volunteer
11:15 a.m. Sam, Abby, Ben, Will

LECTORS

Thursday December 8 *Feast of the Immaculate Conception*
6:30 p.m. Jim Vandermillen
Saturday, December 10
5:00 p.m. Jonathan Samit
Sunday, December 11
9:00 a.m. Esther Marion
11:15 a.m. Ed Bozzi

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

Thursday December 8 *Feast of the Immaculate Conception*
6:30 p.m. **Saturday, December 10**
5:00 p.m. Jan Jaquinto, Jan Carrara, Pat O'Hara
Sunday, December 11
9:00 a.m. Bob Anthony, Mike Reilly, Lorraine Beaudoin
11:15 a.m. Judy Gillis, David Gillis, Dan Harrop



PARISH ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

Monday, December 12th 7:00 p.m.
All Religious Education students are required to attend.

PIE A THON WEEKEND!!!



St. Joseph Church will hold its **Fifth Annual Pie-a-thon** at all Masses this weekend. Slices of pie will sell for \$2.00 a slice, with whole pies selling for \$12.00. Proceeds will be used to purchase commercially baked pies so that more than 400 hungry and homeless people can enjoy dessert with their holiday dinner. Last year we raised enough money that we could do the same for **Christmas and Easter!**

Christmas Mass Schedule
Christmas Eve Vigil — 5:00 p.m.
No Midnight Mass
Christmas Day — 10:00 a.m.

New Year's Mass Schedule
Mary, the Mother of God — Holy Day of Obligation
New Year's Eve - December 31
5:00 p.m.
New Year's Day - January 1
11:15 a.m.

Retired Religious Fund

Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious provides vital funding for prescriptions, medications, nursing care, and more. Please share in the care and give to those who have given a lifetime.

CONGRATULATIONS!

to the following students who will begin serving St. Joseph Church in their new roles as **Altar Servers**

Daniel Reilly
Sophia Mocco



Thursday December 8th we celebrate the **Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.** This is a Holy Day of Obligation and Masses will be celebrated at 8:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Mass Book

The Mass Book for 2017 is now available. Please call the Rectory at 421-9137 to reserve anniversary or memorial Mass dates.

Annual Financial Report

A report on the state of the parish's finances will be delivered at all Masses this weekend, **December 3rd and 4th**. A copy of this report will be in this weekend's Bulletin for your review



Christmas Flower Donations

Envelopes are provided in your budgets if you would like to make a donation in memory of a loved one. Thank you.

ST. JOSEPH CHRISTMAS

GIVING TREE



Gifts to benefit: FOX POINT BOYS' AND GIRLS' CLUB

Gift cards can come from Stop & Shop, Walmart, Target or CVS. These stores are accessible to the people receiving the cards and will allow parents time to buy the clothing, toys, or games that their children have requested. Remember: Buy a gift or card, wrap it, and use the ornament from the Giving Tree as a tag.

All gifts must be under the tree by December 11th.

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>
Envelopes:	\$ 1,800.00	\$2,183.00
Loose:	\$ 85.00	\$ 100.00
Electronic giving:	\$ 632.00	\$ 788.00
Children:	\$ 12.50	\$ 7.50
TOTALS:	\$2,529.50	\$3,078.50

Campaign for Human Development: \$597.00

Thanksgiving: \$1,761.00

First Sunday of Advent

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>
Envelopes:	\$ 2,999.00	\$2,015.00
Loose:	\$ 70.00	\$ 245.00
Electronic giving:	\$ 738.00	\$ 788.00
Children:	\$ 17.50	\$ 2.00
TOTALS:	\$3,824.50	\$3,050.00