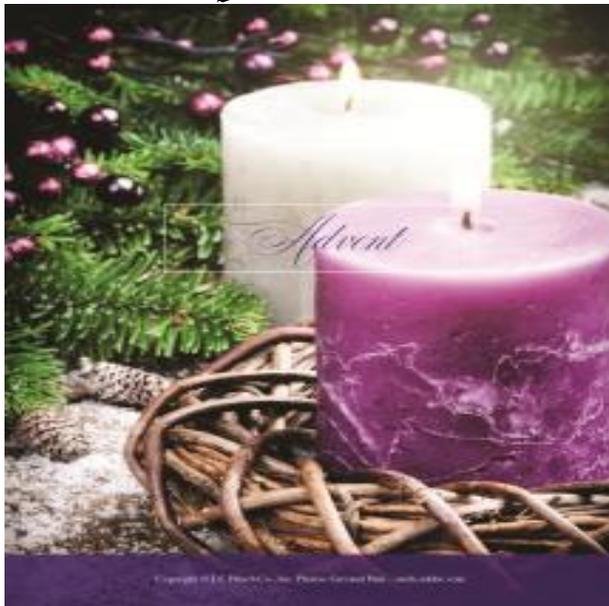


# Saint Joseph on the Brandywine

Founded 1841



## Rectory

10 Old Church Road, Greenville, DE 19807  
Office (302) 658-7017 Fax (302) 428-0639  
www.stjosephonthebrandywine.org

**Rev. Msgr. Joseph F. Rebman, V.G., PASTOR**

**Rev. John E. Olson, Associate Pastor**

**Deacon F. Edmund Lynch**

**Deacon Michael Stankewicz; 302-235-1203;**

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## COMMUNION MINISTER COORDINATOR

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## FINANCE COUNCIL EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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rspittleofsjob@comcast.net

**ST. JOSEPH CEMETERIES (302) 658-7017**

## Family Center

**Director of Religious Education: Eva Marie**

**Lyons (302) 656-7185;**

**diredstjosephbrandywine1@verizon.net**

**Religious Education Secretary: Linda T. Mondzelewski**

**(302) 656-7185; assistreled@verizon.net**

## Schedule of Liturgies

SATURDAY VIGIL: 5:00 PM

SUNDAY EUCHARISTS:

7:30 AM; 9:00 AM; 10:30 AM

DAILY EUCHARISTS:

7 AM; 12:05 (Mon. - Fri.) 8:00 AM (Saturday)

HOLY DAY EUCHARIST: As announced

SICK CALLS: Anytime

## RECONCILIATION SERVICES:

Saturdays: 4 to 4:45 PM; Anytime by appointment

**BAPTISMS:** By appointment with at least one preparation session for new parents.

**WEDDINGS:** Engaged couples wishing to marry in the church should contact a Parish Priest at least one year prior to the planned wedding date to begin the marriage preparation process. The year-long process includes diocesan pre-marriage classes and meetings with clergy.



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #15436:** Council meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m., Family Center Conference Room. Membership in the Knights of Columbus is open to men 18 years of age or older who are practicing Catholics. Contact Paul Thorson, **302-229-5644**, LTCThorson@gmail.com or John Strusowski, **302-753-2928**, johnstru@comcast.net.

**FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS:** All are welcome to join the *Knights of Columbus Council #15436* at the First Saturday of the month devotions to Our Lady of Fatima at 8 a.m. in the church.

*Like a Child*

One who aspires to the grace of God must be pure, with a heart as innocent as a child's.

—St. Nicholas

# First Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2017

Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come.

— Mark 13:33

## Religious Education

Advent begins today! As we patiently wait with Mary for the birth of Jesus, we consciously work to prepare a place for Him in our hearts. Our tree in the Family Center this year will be decorated with Advent Acts of Kindness (our pledges for specific acts of kindness), and we will be collecting toiletries for the Advent Angels program. Toiletries should be brought to the Family Center by **December 10<sup>th</sup>**: **Kindergarten: Toothpaste, toothbrushes - children or adults; Grade 1: Lip balm and dental floss; Grade 2: Hair brush; Grade 3: Bars of soap; Grade 4 & 5: Body wash; Grade 6 & 7: Shampoo or conditioner; Grade 7 & 8: Hand or body lotion; Grade 9: Deodorant.** Many free resources are available to help us celebrate this peaceful season. Here are two: a free printable Advent poster for families at [www.goodgroundpress.com](http://www.goodgroundpress.com) under Advent Resources; and Xt3 Catholic media ministry has a free phone app with a calendar and reflection for every day of Advent (search for Xt3 Advent Calendar 2017). *A Blessed Advent to you and your families! Eva*



## Advent Angel Tree

The Advent Angel Tree is an annual ministry of St. Joseph on the Brandywine. It is an opportunity to bring the love of Christ to our neighbors in need during the Christmas season.

The mission of the Advent Angel Ministry is to assist the needy by offering gifts and essentials of daily living such as food and shelter. This program has been very successful in the past due to the generosity of St. Joseph on the Brandywine parishioners who donate gifts and time to this ministry. We work closely with the St. Vincent DePaul Society of St. Catherine of Siena and the staff at Martha's House. Both organizations provide us gift suggestions for the individuals and families they work with -- a difficult task since the people do not ask for anything for themselves, yet their needs are many. Parishioners are invited to take ornaments from the tree and to purchase the suggested gift. Please wrap the gift, attach the tag to the outside of the gift and return it to church no later than Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>. Kindly return the gifts by December 10<sup>th</sup> to allow the committee ample time to sort and deliver the gifts. Any questions please call Mrs. Barbara Vieira 302-516-7938. *Monetary donations may be made by check payable to St Joseph on the Brandywine with "Advent Angel" on the memo line. Please place the check in an envelope and place it in the offertory collection or mail it to the Rectory. Please do not wrap any cash or checks.*

## Advent Angel Gift Collection Volunteers

This year the Advent Angel Ministry is requesting families to volunteer to be responsible to collect donated Advent Angel gifts from under the Christmas tree and move them to the rectory after weekend Masses. We are looking for one or two families per Mass for the weekends December 3<sup>rd</sup> and December 10<sup>th</sup>. This is a great opportunity to volunteer together as a family or to earn service hours for any student. Interested families should contact Mrs. Barbara Vieira 302-516-7938 for details and to select a Mass. Thank you!

## Pastor's Notes

### *God has a Different Plan*

We begin the season of Advent with a heartfelt call for our own repentance. We remember God's faithful love for us, and call upon God to help us to turn back. For "behold, you are angry, and we are sinful" (Isaiah 64:4). In the first reading and in the psalm, we recall God's promises and lament our unfaithfulness and our guilt. We call upon God's might and power in order to save us. With Isaiah, we ask God to "rend the heavens and come down, / with the mountains quaking before you" (Isaiah 63:19).

Yes, God is faithful to us, because we are the work of God's hands. God is the potter, we are the clay. And yet, our concept of how God will come to save us is rooted in our own expectations of a warrior God who crushes mountains and thunders into our lives with great noise and glory. But God has a different plan: the Incarnation.

**A**dvent (from, "ad-venire" in Latin or "to come to") is the season encompassing the four Sundays (and weekdays) leading up to the celebration of Christmas. Advent is a preparation for rather than a celebration of Christmas, so Advent hymns should be sung instead of Christmas carols. The first Sunday of Advent is not the beginning of the Christmas season. The Christmas celebration begins on Christmas Eve and continues for the next "twelve days of Christmas." Purple is normally Advent's liturgical color, associated both with the sovereignty of Christ and with penitence. Deep Blue is also sometimes used to distinguish the season from Lent. As the color of the night sky, Blue symbolizes Christ who in one ancient Advent song is called the "Dayspring" or source of day. As the color associated with Mary, Blue also reminds us that during Advent the church waits with Mary for the birth of Jesus.

Traditionally, Advent wreaths are constructed of a circle of evergreen branches into which four candles are inserted, representing the four weeks of Advent. Ideally, three candles are purple and one is rose, but white candles can also be used. The progressive lighting of the candles symbolizes the expectation and hope surrounding our Lord's first coming into the world and the anticipation of his second coming to judge the living and the dead. – (usccb). The USCCB has many Advent resources.



Adoration of the Shepherds, Gerard van Honthorst, 1622

# *A Christmas Concert*

*Presented by the Music Ministry of  
Saint Joseph on the Brandywine Church  
Greenville, Delaware*

*Sunday, December 10, 2017*

*3:00 PM*

*The afternoon program includes  
“Nativity Suites, A Cantata for Christmas”  
by Benjamin Harlan  
and a Carol Sing-a-Long  
with Choir and Organ*



Do you have gifts and talents to share?

Do you need service learning hours for school? Volunteer opportunities including serving meals, kitchen assistance, office work, preparing for retreats and light gardening. If unable to go to the Jesus House, become a prayer partner by praying for all of those that God is leading to him. Please contact 302-995-6859 to learn more about sharing your talents.

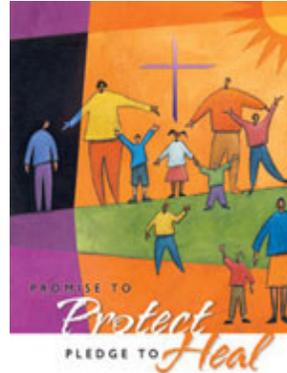
*Of course, many opportunities exist within our own faith community at St. Joseph on the Brandywine, so please call 658-7017 and we'll point you in the right direction.*

### *Support Retired Religious*

Catholics in the Diocese of Wilmington will have the opportunity to “give to those who have given a lifetime” as part of the collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious, to be held in parishes Dec. 2-3. Coordinated by the National Religious Retirement Office (NRRO) in Washington, D.C., the annual appeal benefits 32,000 elderly Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests whose religious congregations lack adequate retirement funding. The second collection will be for this purpose.



*Listen to Catholic Forum every Sunday morning at 10:05 a.m. on WDEL 101.7 FM, 1150 AM and [www.wdel.com](http://www.wdel.com). Next Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, author, Christopher Sparks will discuss his book, “How Can You Be Catholic?”*



The Catholic community in Delaware and Maryland’s Eastern Shore – our diocese – and the Church as a whole, have worked hard to protect our precious children. We must all remain vigilant until child sexual abuse is no longer a part of society. What has the Diocese of Wilmington and the Catholic Church in the United States done to

respond to sexual abuse by church personnel and protect our children? Here in the Diocese of Wilmington, over 21,000 volunteers, coaches, priests, deacons, youth leaders, teachers and candidates for ordination have had their backgrounds checked and have taken the *For the Sake of God’s Children* safe environment training.

*An Independent audit has shown that the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People is being followed in Delaware and Maryland’s Eastern Shore.*

## **A Glorious Light is Coming**

### *Emmanuel Dining Room*

*Monday, December 11*

St. Joseph’s continues to provide a chicken meal to Emmanuel Dining Room once a month. Volunteers purchase and cook 24 chicken thighs and/or bring various desserts (stuffing is made the morning of delivery). Our next date to deliver our meal for Emmanuel Dining Room is Monday, December 11. Please have your cooked chicken and desserts at the Family Center by 9 A.M. on that day. If you would like to assist in making the stuffing, we meet at the Family Center at 8 A.M. to do that. We can always use more chicken cookers. Peg Janes (302) 656-3635.

### *Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WWME)*

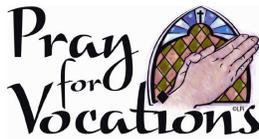
As we begin the waiting of advent, let us strive to become the work of his hands by enjoying a Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WWME) weekend with our spouse. The next weekends are March 2-4 and November 2-4, 2018, in Rehoboth. For more information and to apply online visit [www-delmar.org](http://www-delmar.org), or call Tony & Linda Massino at 302-220-9833.

## *Silent Prayer Community*

This powerful Ministry of Prayer intercedes to Jesus and Mary for your particular intentions; prays at all hours of the day and night; does not have formal meetings; is in addition to the "Book of Prayer" in the back of the Church; is honored to be of service; is confidential and welcomes additional prayer partners.

**Contact: Cindi Clare 654-6344**

Jesus said: "Ask and you shall receive..."



on the first Sunday of the month for vocations.

Pray for our priests, seminarians, and religious. Obtain for us the grace of many more. Please offer your reception of Holy Communion

## *You're Generosity*

### *Did Not Go Unnoticed*

St. Joseph on the Brandywine Knights of Columbus and Stockings for Soldiers wish to thank you for all the generous outpouring of donations including cards, comfort items and financial assistance. We also would like to recognize those Parishioners who volunteered their time these past weeks at the Stocking Store. We will be able to bring much happiness and holiday cheer to so many of our deployed troops. You have helped us to let them know that we are thinking of them while they are in harms way!

## *Time to Pay Tribute*

All Saints and Cathedral Cemeteries are offering families the option of purchasing winter grave decorations directly from the cemetery. Visit [cdow.org/cemeteries](http://cdow.org/cemeteries). The brochure and order forms are available. You can also visit any of the cemetery offices. Office hours at Cathedral and All Saints are 8:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Thank you for your support.

*Each day, try to notice one act of helpfulness or kindness that your beloved does. Don't take each other for granted.*

## *Holiday Bread Cards*

Make a small donation and let your loved ones know you are helping to feed the hungry in their name. Holiday Bread cards are available through the Ministry of Caring in memoriam or for a special occasion.

## *Visiting the Gravesite*

While our cemetery is a place of remembrance, a place to mourn those we loved and a place to celebrate the lives of those who have passed on, the meaningful custom of visiting the graves of our loved ones during the period surrounding Advent and Christmas Season is very busy. *When visiting the cemetery, be sure that you are aware of your surroundings. Always hide any valuables out of sight and be sure to lock your car and take your keys.*

A gentle reminder that making arrangements in advance is the best way to give you and your family peace of mind both now and in the future. By pre-planning, you can protect your loved ones from the emotional and financial burden of making arrangements for you. If you have any questions, please call (302) 658.7017 we will connect you with our Sales Consultants.

## *Mass Intentions*

Saturday, Dec. 2

5:00 p.m. James & Helen Grant & James & Diane Grant requested by his family

Sunday, Dec. 3

7:30 a.m. Martha Verge DuPont by Dr. & Mrs. Garry Lyons & family

9:00 a.m. Mia Shorteno Fraser by St. Joseph on the Brandywine Catechists

10:30 a.m. Hugh Christian by Mark A. Christian

Monday, Dec. 4

7:00 a.m. Alfred E. Sosienski by Susie Merrill

12:05 p.m. Charles Fedutes by M/M Edward Fleetwood

Tuesday, Dec. 5

7:00 a.m. Charles Francis Linberg by Arlene & Bernard J. Daney

12:05 p.m. Rosita Aniceto by family

Wednesday, Dec. 6

7:00 a.m. Bernard C. Armstrong by Marie Armstrong

12:05 p.m. Midge Pettinaro by John Matlusky

Thursday, Dec. 7

9:00 a.m. Mary Ellen Farnan by Margaret T. Speicher

12:05 p.m. Kristina Smith Longyear by Arlene & Bernard Daney

7:00 p.m. Parishioners

Friday, Dec. 8 (Holyday)

7:00 a.m. Francis Dolan by Gene Dolan

9:00 a.m. Francis A. Brady by Patricia D'Amico

12:05 p.m. Sal DePaulo by family

Saturday, Dec. 9

8:00 a.m. Matthew B. Speicher by Margaret T. Speicher

5:00 p.m. Midge Pettinaro by Jean & Steve Potter