

Saint Joseph on the Brandywine

Founded 1841



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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.



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.

TIME

Do not squander time, for that is the stuff life is made of.

—Benjamin Franklin

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

December 31, 2017

My eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples.

—Luke 2:30-31

Religious Education

Happy Feast of the Holy Family! At dinner tonight, pray together this prayer from the Missionaries of the Holy Family: “**JESUS**, Son of God and Son of Mary, bless our family. Graciously inspire in us the unity, peace, and mutual love that you found in your own family in the little town of Nazareth. **MARY**, Mother of Jesus and Our Mother, nourish our family with your faith and your love. Keep us close to your Son, Jesus, in all our sorrows and joys. **JOSEPH**, Foster-father to Jesus, guardian and spouse of Mary, keep our family safe from harm. Help us in all times of discouragement or anxiety. **HOLY FAMILY OF NAZARETH** make our family one with you. Help us to be instruments of peace. Grant that love, strengthened by grace, may prove mightier than all the weaknesses and trials through which our families sometimes pass. May we always have God at the center of our hearts and homes until we are all one family, happy and at peace in our true home with you. Amen.” Enjoy today off from class – see you again on Sunday the 7th! Eva

Adult Formation

The next meeting of the St. Joseph on the Brandywine Book Club is scheduled for Monday, January 15, at 12:45. We will be discussing Maria of Agreda: Mystical Lady in Blue by Marilyn H. Fedewa. Maria is considered one of Spain's most important mystics of the Counter Reformation. Without leaving her village, the cloistered abbess impacted Spain, the Church, and the American Southwest.

March for Life

St. Thomas the Apostle Knights of Columbus has chartered a bus for people of all ages, weather permitting, for the *March for Life* held on Friday, January 19th. There will be a stop at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception for those unable to make the March. Seats will be available on a first come basis. The only cost to the individual passenger is a tip for the bus driver. Please contact Theresa Collurafici at 12374Columbiettes@gmail.com or 302 322-2929 to sign up.

Emmanuel Dining Room - Tuesday, January 9

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 Tuesday, January 9. 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.

Pastor's Notes

Bearers of the Word

The Church has placed a number of notable feast days immediately after Christmas. The feasts of Stephen, John the Evangelist, and the Holy Innocents form a summary of the life lived in Christ, the Word made flesh. What do these have to do with the feast of the Holy Family, which crowns the Octave of Christmas? These feasts remind us that suffering will occur in fulfilling the mission of Christ, and that we are all called to be bearers of this Word whose birth we celebrate.

We also see this manifested in the lives of Joseph and Mary, both of whom took social and religious risks in obedience to the will of God, and both of whom were open to the word of God sent to them from on high. In these ways they prefigured the life of Jesus himself.

Most likely, few of us found ourselves at Mass this past Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday, but the essence of these feasts and the essence of the holiness of Joseph, Mary, and Jesus remain central, a holiness we celebrate today.

Welcome Little Sisters

The Little Sisters of the Poor will visit with us on January 6 & 7th to tell us of their work with the elderly at the Jeanne Jugan Residence on Salem Church Road in Newark. Let's welcome and acknowledge the Sisters and their good works. The second collection will be taken up for the Little Sisters of the Poor.

March for Life Bus Trip: Friday, January 19th, there will be a bus leaving from Church of the Holy Child at 7:30am. Cost: \$25. Contact Pat Radell for reservations at 302-723-9254.

Many Thanks!

The ADVENT ANGELS would like to thank you for your generous support of the Advent Angel Program. You have made such a difference in the lives of others. Thank you again for all your support.

Season of Giving - Can I make a pledge with a stock gift? Yes, gifts of stock not only benefit the church, but can have significant tax advantages to the donor. In addition to receiving a tax deduction for the current value of the stock, a donor avoids paying capital gains on stock that may have increased in value over the years.



During this
Most Joyous
Time of the year,
We extend our
prayer for
His Love and our
Hope for
His Peace
To all of your family

Gazing at stars can be a wondrous experience. Look up at the sky with your child tonight. Hopefully you will see stars. Ponder the universe together.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

There's no more unusual setting to celebrate today's Feast of the Holy Family than Barcelona, Spain and the towering unfinished sandcastle known officially as the Temple Expiatori de la Sagrada Familia. In 1882, the plan was hatched to build a vast place of worship in reparation for the revolutionary and liberal leanings of the city. The modern artist Antoni Gaudi dedicated his life to the project, living in the building, attending Mass daily, and giving up his personal wealth. When people pressed him to pick up the pace, he responded, "My client is not in a hurry." (Gaudi's cause for beatification is moving along, and he could be the first professional artist and architect to be beatified.) The Spanish Civil War, a disaster for the Catholic Church in which thousands of priests, brothers, and nuns were murdered, halted work in 1935. In the 1950s work began anew, speeded up by computers in the 1980s. Still, the final stage of construction is not due to end until 2026. If the original methods had stayed in place, it would take several hundred more years to complete the plan. So far there are eight towers, with four to go. The highest steeple is three feet shorter than the nearest hill, since the architect didn't want his work to surpass God's artistry. The three faces of the basilica each have three doors, with the faces named Passion, Nativity, and Grace. The interior is crammed with geometric figures that almost seem to spin, crazy-quilt windows, spiral staircases, and jumbles of statues and figures. Although inspired by ancient Gothic cathedrals, the style is called Expressionist, and very little is left unexpressed by the masonry. If you can't afford a visit, Sagrada Familia maintains a web site, and virtual visits are free.

—Rev. James Field

The offices will be closed January 1st. In case of an emergency, please call 658-7017.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, Dec. 30

5:00 p.m. Edmond S. Ianni by Lauren, Christine, Katherine, Ann Marie & Edmond Ianni

Sunday, Dec. 31

7:30 a.m. Parishioners

9:00 a.m. Joseph R. Swarter by Carol Dehorty

10:30 a.m. Michael T. Lipcan, Sr. by Barbara & Patrick Bagley

Monday, Jan. 1 (not a holyday of obligation)

9:00 a.m. Brian P. Doherty by Ann Marie & Joe Finch

Tuesday, Jan. 2

7:00 a.m. Cpt. H. Hickman Rowland, Jr. by Dr. & Mrs. Garry Lyons & family

12:05 p.m. Mr. & Mrs. Joseph C. Janes & Margaret T. Janes by Joseph Janes

Wednesday, Jan. 3

7:00 a.m. Isabel MacDermott by 7 a.m. mass group

12:05 p.m. Edmund K.. Daley, Jr. by Anne Wattman

Thursday, Jan. 4

7:00 a.m. Lambert R. (Bob) Walker by Claire Hanavan

12:05 p.m. Private intentions of St. Joseph on the Brandywine Catechists

Friday, Jan. 5

7:00 a.m. Timothy Joseph Quill by Dr. & Mrs. Garry Lyons & family

12:05 p.m. Kathleen E. (Kae) Aikens by Arlene & Bernard Daney

Saturday, Jan. 6

8:00 a.m. Anthony James Penna by St. Joseph on the Brandywine Knights of Columbus, Council #15436

5:00 p.m. Anthony James Penna by the Campanella family

- *The Ministry of Caring* is looking for furniture donations for people moving from their shelters to permanent housing. Beds, dressers, sofas, chairs and dinette tables are needed. More information on how to donate, contact Priscilla Rakestraw, prakestraw@ministryofcaring.org.
- *Catholic Charities Thrift Center*, 1320 E. 23rd St., Wilmington, is always seeking donations of gently-used household goods, including furniture, mattresses and working appliances. (302) 764-2717.
- *Jan. 27: One-day retreat for women, "Forgiveness: Freedom to Live and Love in a Wounded World,"* St. Mary of the Assumption Church. Featuring Sr. Sheila Galligan, Professor Emeritus at Immaculata University.

<https://smarefreshevents.wixsite.com/retreat4women>