

St. Joseph Catholic Church

1300 N. Main, Bluffton 46714 (260)-824-1380 stjosephchurch@adamswells.com stjosephchurchbluffton.org

A PRAYER FOR THE Third Sunday of Advent

Joy-filled Giver of Life,
let the anticipation of your birth
fill us with overflowing joy.
May our excitement and anticipation
be a sign to the world
that you are always near.
Amen.



ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE - THURSDAY, DEC. 19TH - 6:30-7:30 PM

CONFESSION

Tuesday - 8:30-9 AM
Wednesday - 6-6:45 PM
Saturday - 4-4:45 PM

DAILY MASS

Monday-Tuesday - 8 AM
Wednesday - 7 PM
Thursday-Saturday - 8 AM

ADORATION

Tuesday - 7-8 AM
Wednesday - 6-7 PM
First Friday - 8:30 AM - 6 PM

Pastor: Fr. David Violi

Fr. David's direct email: frdavidvioli@gmail.com / Sacramental Emergency Number: 260-296-0511

Director of Liturgical Music: Sr. Rose Clare Ehrlich, CSA / Administrative Assistant/DRE: Michelle Paxton

Welcome! We extend our hearts and hands to all who celebrate with us at St. Josephs. We would like to invite any guest to fill out the form below, if interested in becoming a registered member of this Parish.

------(cut here)-----

Name: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
e-mail address: _____

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 14

8:00 a.m. No Mass Intention
8:30 a.m. Rosary
4:00 p.m. Confessions
4:35 p.m. Rosary
5:00 p.m. Gonzalo Riveros +

Sunday, December 15

- Third Sunday of Advent -

7:10 a.m. Rosary
7:30 a.m. Parish Family
9:40 a.m. Rosary
10:00 a.m. Nick Wyss +

Monday, December 16

8:00 a.m. Charlotte Selby +
8:30 a.m. Rosary

Tuesday, December 17

Adoration 7:00-8:00 a.m.
8:00 a.m. Fathers of Tom & Becky Jackson
8:30 a.m. Rosary

Wednesday, December 18

Adoration- 6:00-7:00 p.m.
Confession- 6:00-6:45 p.m.
7:00 p.m. Betty & Jim Kistler +

Thursday, December 19

8:00 a.m. Dan Rickord +
8:30 a.m. Rosary
10:30 a.m. Mass at Christian Care

Friday, December 20

8:00 a.m. Valeria Talerico +
8:30 a.m. Rosary

Saturday, December 21

8:00 a.m. No Mass Intention
8:30 a.m. Rosary
4:00 p.m. Confessions
4:35 p.m. Rosary
5:00 p.m. Living & Deceased members of Dennis Heyne Family

Sunday, December 22

- Fourth Sunday of Advent -

7:10 a.m. Rosary
7:30 a.m. Parish Family
9:40 a.m. Rosary
10:00 a.m. Rose Marie & Robert Bates +

At this Christmas when Christ comes, will He find a warm heart? Mark the season of Advent by loving and serving the others with God's own love and concern.

— Mother Teresa —

MASS READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon., Dec. 16 - Third Sunday of Advent - Nm

24:2-7,15-17a/ Mt 21:23-27

Tues., Dec. 17 - Gn 49:2, 8-10/ Mt 1:1-17

Wed., Dec. 18 - Jer 23:5-8/ Mt 1:18-25

Thurs., Dec. 19 - Jgs 13:2-7,24-25a/ Lk 1:5-25

Fri., Dec. 20 - Is 7:10-14/ Lk 1:26-38

Sat., Dec. 21 - St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church - Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/ Lk 1:39-45

Sun., Dec. 22 - Fourth Sunday of Advent - Is

7:10-14/ Rom 1:1-7/ Mt 1:18-24

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - December 15, 2019

A special "Welcome Home!" to all of our university students who are back during their semester break. May we rejoice together as one parish family in the Nativity of our Lord on Christmas Day!

This weekend, the Church celebrates the **Third Sunday of Advent, or Gaudete Sunday**. The word *gaudete* comes from the Latin verb *gaudere* and means: **"Rejoice!"** It is the first word of the Introit, or Entrance Antiphon, for our Mass today, which comes from St. Paul Letter to the Philipians: *"Rejoice in the Lord always; Again, I say, rejoice! Indeed, the Lord is near"* (Phil. 4:4-5). We are to **rejoice** as we acknowledge that this penitential season will soon give way to one of great joy!

Advent prepares us to truly welcome the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ. For this reason, the priest wears rose today, which mixes the violet of Advent, a penitential color, with the gold of Christmas, a color of joy. Likewise, we light the third candle on our Advent wreath, which is also rose. This candle signifies that Jesus Christ, the light of the world, is, like the rose-colored dawn, set to appear over the horizon and overcome the darkness of the world.

As we rejoice looking ahead for what is to come, we will return to the violet of Advent this next weekend even as Christmas draws nearer. We rejoice for what is to come, but we must still walk along the path to get there. As a part of this preparation, we will have our parish-wide **Penance Service this Thursday, Dec. 19th, from 6:30-7:30 PM**. This week's bulletin insert offers a suggested examination of conscience, one for adults and one for children, that can be used to help prepare for Confession.

As I preached last weekend, I would encourage each and every one of us to make a good Confession during the Advent season. Sacramental Confession helps us to respond to St. John the Baptist's call to prepare the way of the Lord as we acknowledge our sins and receive the Lord's absolution. As St. Alphonsus Liguori, the 18th Century founder of the Redemptorists, beautifully writes: *"You will feel more happy at having confessed your sins than if you had been made king of the whole world."*

Our readings over the past weekends have emphasized the second coming of Christ. This will change, however, starting on Tuesday, Dec. 17th, as our attention is directed towards preparing for the celebration of the Nativity of our Lord. If you are able, as Christmas quickly approaches, I would encourage and invite you to attend and experience a daily Mass during this time. Focusing on our Lord in this way will help prepare our hearts for Christmas Day.

Faithfully in Christ, Fr. David

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

December 24th - Vigil Mass - 5:00 PM

December 24th - Mass at Night - 10:00 PM

Please Note: Incense will be used at this Mass.

Join our Choir singing Carols prior to Mass, starting at 9:30 PM

December 25th - Mass During the Day - 9:00 AM



Sharon Miller, Genevieve Lohmuller, Becky Biberstein, Evelyn Morrissey, Betty Meyer, David Carr, Ronnie & Bonnie Burns, Michael Green, Rick Cotterman, Frances Carr, Tom Richhart, Priscilla Rhodes, Carol Leitner, Pat Pfeifer, Troy Cook, Cheryl Jackson, Mary Ann Flowers, Sandy Arnold, Lynn Rickord, Jimmy Robbins, Jean Steele, Cindy Monticue, and Carol Campbell.



2019 St. Joseph Christmas and New Years Schedule

Advent Penance Service
Thursday, December 19th
6:30 pm



Christmas Masses
Christmas Eve Family Mass
Tuesday, December 24th- 5:00 pm
St. Joseph Choir- 9:30 pm
Christmas Eve Vigil Mass- 10:00 pm

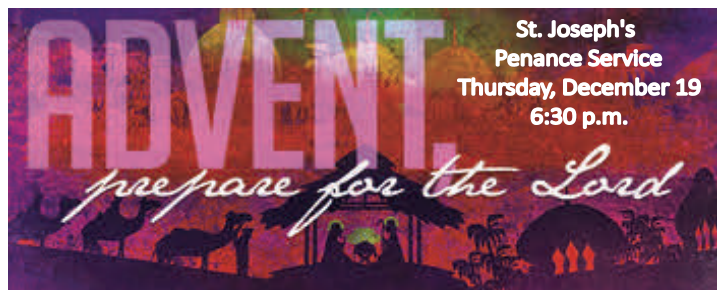
Christmas Day Mass
Wednesday, December 25th- 9:00 am

New Year's Masses
Solemnity of Mary
(A Holy Day of
Obligation)
Vigil Mass
Tuesday, December 31st
5:00 pm

New Year's Day,
Wednesday, January 1st
7:30 & 10:00 am

The St. Joseph's Choir will begin singing
at 9:30 p.m. (before the Christmas Eve
Vigil Mass at 10:00 p.m.)

Come and hear the beautiful music by
these devoted men and women who
have given their time and God giving
singing talents for us to enjoy!



Area Advent Penance Services

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Fort Wayne
Monday, December 15 - 6:30 p.m.

St. Mary Parish, Huntington
Tuesday, December 17 - 6:30 p.m.

PARISH CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sun., Dec. 15 - Young Adult Gathering - 5:00-6:00 p.m. in the social hall.
- Wed., Dec. 18 - Adoration - 6-7:00 p.m./ Confession 6-6:45 p.m./Benediction 6:50 p.m./ Mass at 7:00 p.m.
- Thurs., Dec. 19 - Mass at Christian Care - 10:30 a.m.
- Thurs., Dec. 19 - RCIA- 5:30-6:30 p.m.
- Thurs., Dec. 19 - Advent Penance Service - 6:30 p.m.
- Mon., Dec. 23 - Mass at River Terrace - 10:30 a.m.
- Tues., Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve, Family Mass - 5:00 p.m.
- Tues., Dec. 24 - St. Joseph Choir Christmas Concert - 9:30 p.m.
- Tues., Dec. 24 - Christmas Vigil Mass - 10:00 p.m.
- Wed., Dec. 25 - Christmas Mass - 9:00 a.m.
- Thurs., & Fr., Dec. 26/27 & Dec., 31 & Jan. 1 - Office Closed
- Sun., Dec. 29 - No Religious Ed. Classes; Christmas Break
- Tues., Dec. 31 - Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Vigil Mass- A Holy Day of Obligation - 5:00 p.m.
- Wed., Jan. 1, 2020 - Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary - A Holy Day of Obligation Mass - 7:30 & 10:00 a.m.
- Sun., Jan. 5, 2020 - No Religious Ed. Classes; Christmas Break

WEEKEND OF DECEMBER 21/22, 2019

CANTORS:

5:00 Leeann Kennerck
7:30 Donna Geisel
10:00 Larry Leitz

LECTORS:

5:00 Glenn Ryan
7:30 Carol Butler
10:00 Patti-Clark Johnson

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

5:00 Dan/Beth Gordon, Linda Huseman
7:30 Dale/Sarah McCorkle, Barb Ault
10:00 Jeff Miller, Rick Singer, Monica Harris, Tammi Helm, Ann Reifsteck

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY:

5:00 Volunteers
7:30 Dale/Sarah McCorkle
10:00 Dan/Larisa Sudhoff, Mike/Brenden Kobryn

SERVERS:

5:00 Corey/Brooklynn Huss, Alex Mechling
7:30 Mark/Geisel, Abby Wagner
10:00 Eve/Gabe McElhaney, Volunteer

Collection for Weekend of December 7/8, 2019

Adult Envelopes- \$3,488.00
Child Envelopes- \$31.31
Loose- \$238.00
Religious Ed. Fund- \$130.00
Repair/Rainy Day Fund- \$152.00
Christmas Flowers- \$616.00
Immaculate Conception- \$792.00
Christmas Offering- \$520.00
Hall Rent Income- \$80.00
Total- \$6,047.31

*Thank you for your gifts
to St. Joseph's!*

The amount needed each week to make budget is \$5,116.40.

We are \$2,684.32 ahead of our
monthly budget.

Other Collections within our Parish-

St. Vincent de Paul Fund- \$66.00
Bolivian Mission- \$1,145.00

Diocesan Special Collections-

Campaign for Human
Development- \$5.00
Military Services- \$5.00
Religious Retirement- \$1,071.00

osvonlinegiving.com/4741

**Reminder: We will not have Religious Education class on Sunday,
December 29, 2019 and January 5, 2020 for Christmas Break.**

The Parish office will be closed Thursday & Friday, December 26 & 27 and
Tuesday, December 31 & Wednesday, January 1 for Christmas holidays.
Please call 260-296-0511 for Sacramental emergencies.

Christmas is a Holy Day of Obligation. For those homebound and
unable to attend Mass in person, Christmas Day Mass will be
televised: WNDU in South Bend will be airing at 4:30 a.m. and 12
p.m., and WFFT 55 Fort Wayne will be airing at 7:30 a.m.

Come watch diocesan priests and seminarians battle
over basketball in the annual Cupertino Classic on
Friday, Dec. 27 from 6:30-9 p.m. This event will be
held at Marian High School, 1311 S. Logan St.,
Mishawaka. The seminarians look to continue build-
ing on their two-year win streak, while the priests have been reloading
their roster via ordination. Who will capture this year's Cupertino Clas-
sic? Come out and support our priests and seminarians.



"Our hands are full, but our hearts are empty; we
suffer from hunger of the spirit while much of the
world is suffering from hunger of the body."

Ven. Fulton Sheen

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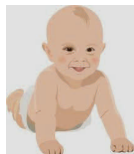
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Don't cry because
it's over
smile
because it happened.
-Dr. Seuss

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Spread *love*
everywhere you go.
Let no one ever
come to you
without leaving
happier.

-Mother Teresa

To our men and women
in uniform...
past, present and future,



Thank you and
God Bless You!

Before you speak...

THINK!

T - is it true?
h - is it helpful?
i - is it inspiring?
n - is it necessary?
k - is it kind?