

St. Joseph



Office #: (260) 824-1380 | Emergency #: (260) 296-0511 | www.StJosephChurchBluffton.org
Pastor: Fr. David Violi | Administrative Assistant/DRE: Michelle Paxton | Director of Sacred Music: Teresa Smith
-----(cut here)-----

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

e-mail address: _____

☐ New Parishioners, please send a Parish Registration Form ☐ We've Moved, here is our new information

MASS INTENTIONS
Saturday, December 24
Christmas Eve

8:00 a.m. Special Intention
 4:00 p.m. Robert & Mary Haecker + &
 Trent Patterson +
 5:30 p.m. Christmas Carols with the
 St. Joseph Church Choir
 6:00 p.m. Parish Family
 Midnight Ed Bushee +

Sunday, December 25
Christmas

9:00 a.m. Leo Volk + & Vernon Geisel +

Monday, December 26

No Public Mass

Tuesday, December 27

7:00-8:00 a.m. Adoration
 8:00 a.m. Helen Guggenbiller +
 8:30 a.m. Confession

Wednesday, December 28

6:00-7:00 p.m. Adoration
 6:00-6:45 p.m. Confession
 7:00 p.m. Virgil Burns +

Thursday, December 29

8:00 a.m. Frances Braun +

Friday, December 30

8:30 a.m. Louise Grant

Saturday, December 31

8:00 a.m. Special Intention
 4:00-4:45 p.m. Confession
 4:35 p.m. Rosary
 5:00 p.m. Greg Mayer +

Sunday, January 1

**Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God,
 the Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord**

7:10 a.m. Rosary
 7:30 a.m. Dale & Alice Pearson
 62nd Wedding Anniversary
 9:40 a.m. Rosary
 10:00 a.m. Parish Family



MASS READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Monday, December 26 - St. Stephen, The First
 Martyr** - Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/ Mt 10:17-22

**Tuesday, December 27 - St. John, Apostle and
 Evangelist** - 1 Jn 1:1-4/ Jn 20:1a,2-8

**Wednesday, December 28 - The Holy Innocents,
 Martyrs** - 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/ Mt 2:13-18

**Thursday, December 29 - Fifth Day within the
 Octave of the Nativity of the Lord - St. Thomas
 Becket, Bishop and Martyr** - 1 Jn 2:3-11/ Lk 2:22
 -35

**Friday, December 30 - The Holy Family of Je-
 sus, Mary and Joseph** - Sir 3:2-6,12-14 or Col
 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/ Mt 2:13-15,19-23

**Saturday, December 31 - Seventh Day within
 the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord - St. Syl-
 vester I, Pope** - 1 Jn 2:18-21/ Jn 1:1-18

**Sunday, January 1 - Solemnity of Mary, The
 Holy Mother of God, the Octave Day of the Na-
 tivity of the Lord - New Years Day - World Day
 of Prayer for Peace** - Nm 6:22-27/ Gal 4:4-7/ Lk
 2:16-21



Becky Biberstein, Michael Green, Frances Carr, Tom Richhart, Carol Leitner, Pat Pfeifer, Troy Cook, Bobbie and Cheryl Jackson, Bonnie Burns, John Houlihan, Kimberly Abney, Sydnee Bradburn, Leanne Lee, Dr. Doug Phillips, Jeff Tillman, and Marj Pogue.

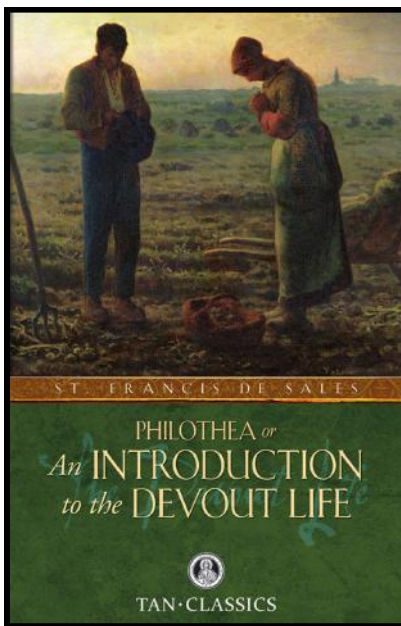
THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD * CHRISTMAS - DECEMBER 25, 2022

Merry Christmas! Whether you are a longtime parishioner or a visiting guest, we are so happy that you have joined us this weekend to celebrate the **Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ**. May the Lord fill your hearts with the joy of His peace and love as we continue celebrating the birth of the Christ-child!

There are always so many people to thank for helping make our celebration of the Nativity of the Lord so beautiful: Our choirs who practiced for months to help us lift our hearts to the Lord, our church decorators, our altar servers who inspire us with their reverence, our parish staff (*Michelle, Teresa, and Stacey*), and all those who helped in anyway over these past many days.

We are also particularly grateful to you for choosing to celebrate with us! It is always great to welcome so many guests and to see old friends back home for the holidays. If it's your first time here at St. Joseph's with us, we would love to welcome you back soon, throughout the Christmas season and beyond!

Continuing with our liturgical year's focus on prayer as summarized by the passage from St. Luke's Gospel of "*Lord, Teach Us to Pray*," our parish Christmas gift for all families this year is St. Francis de Sales' spiritual classic: *An Introduction to the Devout Life*. This gift is available for all of our parish households (*and visiting guests*) in the Narthex this weekend.



Born in 1567 to an old aristocrat family, St. Francis de Sales was the eldest of his twelve siblings. Though his father desired that he take on a career within the political life of the day, St. Francis instead felt the call to the priesthood. After a number of years, he eventually gained his father's approval and began formation for priesthood.

After his ordination, St. Francis would eventually become known for his missionary activity, his spiritual writings, and would be named as the Bishop of Geneva (in modern-day France). He served faithfully in this role for over two decades. Following his death in 1622, he was canonized (*or recognized as a Saint*) in 1665. His writings, including *An Introduction to the Devout Life*, have been seen as such timeless spiritual works that St. Francis was named as a Doctor of the Church in 1877.

An Introduction to the Devout Life is a book to be read with pencil in hand. It is a book to be read again and again. Its aim is to help rid the reader of sin and even the inclinations to sin. No one will come away from this work without being profoundly impressed and without being motivated to enter upon the devout life, which leads ultimately to God and Heaven. May this classic serve to deepen our relationship with the Lord and bring us closer to Heaven.

~Faithfully in Christ, Fr. David

With humble gratitude to everyone who sent a card or a gift this Christmas Season; *Thank you!*

May God bless you and your family abundantly in the coming new year.

Michelle Paxton, *Administrative Assistant/DRE*

I would like to give a heart felt thank you to all the choir members, cantors and instrumentalists who participated in providing music for all the Masses this weekend. May the peace of Christ remain in you throughout the entire year.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Teresa Smith, *Director of Sacred Music*

Praise and Worship Holy Hour

He Waits for You

Wednesday, January 4 - 6:00-7:00 p.m.

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION, January 6, 2023
(Following 8:30 a.m. Mass) 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Confessions 5:00-5:45 p.m. / Mass at 6:00 p.m.
"Couldn't you watch with me even one hour?" - Jesus

Please sign up on the sheet in the narthex.



PRO-LIFE
ROSARY

PRO-LIFE ROSARY

Join the Knights of Columbus on the **first Saturday of each month** for the recitation of the Pro-Life Rosary, **beginning at 4:35 p.m.** Everyone in the Parish is invited to participate. Join us in praying for all unborn children and for the care and well-being of all mothers.

RELIGIOUS
EDUCATION

Classes will resume
Sunday, January 8th
from 8:30-9:45 a.m.

PARISH CALENDAR

- **Mon., Dec. 26** - Parish Office Closed
- **Tues., Dec. 27** - Adoration 7-8:00 a.m. / Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confessions 8:30 a.m.
- **Wed., Dec. 28** - Adoration 6-7 p.m. / Confession 6-6:45 p.m. / Mass 7:00 p.m.
- **Thurs., Dec. 29** - Catholicism Explained (RCIA Program) at 5:30 p.m. in the Parish Social Hall.
- **Sat., Dec. 31** - Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confessions 8:30-9:00 a.m.
- **Sat., Dec. 31** - Confession 4-4:45 p.m. / Mass 5:00 p.m.
- **Sun., Jan. 1, 2023** - Mass 7:30 a.m. / Mass 10:00 a.m.
- **Sun., Jan. 1** - No Religious Ed. Classes (*Christmas Break*)
- **Tues., Jan. 3** - Adoration 7-8:00 a.m. / Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confessions 8:30 a.m.
- **Wed., Jan. 4** - Praise & Worship Holy Hour - 6-7 p.m. / Confession 6-6:45 p.m. / Mass 7:00 p.m.
- **Thurs., Jan. 5** - Catholicism Explained (RCIA Program) at 5:30 p.m. in the Parish Social Hall.
- **Fri., Jan. 6** - **FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION** (Following 8:30 a.m. Mass) 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. / Confessions 5:00-5:45 p.m. / Mass at 6:00 p.m. (*Ad orientem*)
- **Sat., Jan. 7** - Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confessions 8:30-9:00 a.m.
- **Sat., Jan. 7** - Confession 4-4:45 p.m. / Mass 5:00 p.m.
- **Sun., Jan. 8** - Mass 7:30 a.m. / Mass 10:00 a.m.
- **Sun., Jan. 8** - Religious Ed. Classes resume 8:30-9:45 a.m.
- **Tues., Jan. 10** - Adoration 7-8:00 a.m. / Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confessions 8:30 a.m.

Christmas Weekend December 31/January 1



5:00 Marita Crawfis
7:30 Mike Morrissey
10:00 Teresa and David Smith



5:00 Glenn Ryan
7:30 Steve Wagner
10:00 John Vanderkolk



5:00 Volunteers
7:30 Volunteers
10:00 Volunteers



5:00 Alex/Audrey Mechling, Isaiah Bedwell
7:30 Abby/Adrienne Wagner, Charlene Felger
10:00 Grant Reifsteck, Gabby/Olivia Hoffacker

St. Joseph Parish Finance Report for the Weekend of December 17/18

Adult Envelopes- \$6,786.00
Loose- \$638.00

Repair/Rainy Day Fund- \$1,746.76
Immaculate Conception Collection- \$2.00

Christmas Flower Fund- \$135.00
Votive Candles- \$89.00
Hall Rent- \$100.00
Total- \$9,496.76

Our weekly budget is \$5,116.40

We are \$6,123.39 ahead of our budget for the month of December.

St. Vincent de Paul Fund- \$1,422.00

*Your gifts to St. Joseph Parish
are greatly appreciated.
Thank you!*

osvonlinegiving.com/4741

WELCOME, CHILD OF GOD

Through water and the word, Atlas Suhrer, son of James and Acacia Suhrer, became a child of God and was sealed as Christ's own forever through Baptism on December 18, 2022, by Fr. David Violi.



Knights of Columbus hosted Blood Drive

GIVE BLOOD



American Red Cross

You can make a difference.

Sunday, January 22, 2023 - 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Register to donate at redcrossblood.org

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**Our Free
Parish Code:
7N68MY**

What Christmas Means To Me

What Christmas Means To Me by Danny Decker, Grade 1

Friends and family. And turkey and presents and today getting to see Santa's helper.

Love, Danny



What Christmas Means To Me by Ainsley Wagner, Grade 3

Christmas means to me about Jesus having his birth in the manger. And I love my elf on the shelf named Buddy. Also I love to see friends and family on Christmas morning. I also like the hot cocoa my mom and dad make, I also put a candy cane in.

But my favorite thing about Christmas is Jesus' birth. I like to learn about the Christmas story. And fun to talk about. And it's cool that Mary had to ride a donkey all the way to Bethlehem.

What Christmas Means To Me by Eli Seago, Grade 6

What Christmas means to me that you celebrate Jesus' birthday and to give presents to people to make them feel happier. It is a time to have fun with family and friends.



What Christmas Means To Me by Zoe Soto, Grade 7

Christmas means celebrating with my family the birth of our savior, Jesus Christ. Also proclaiming the Good News of Jesus' coming to save us from our sins.

PS. I also like the presents too!

What Christmas Means To Me by Anthony Hartman, Grade 10

Christmas is a day we look forward to every year. It is a day in which children all over the world wake up bright and early in order to see what Santa Claus has left them under their trees. It is the peak of the Advent season. The time of preparation for our hearts and minds for the movies, looking at Christmas lights, and everyone's collective generosity, to name a few. I especially like going to Church on Christmas Eve. Not only do I like the songs and the decorations, but it reminds me of the true meaning of Christmas. That is what Christmas means to me.



Getting Involved in the New Year

MEET NEW PEOPLE! JOIN A MINISTRY AT ST. JOSEPH!

There are many ways to get acquainted and meet a variety of members of our Parish family, such as joining the Knights of Columbus, G.I.R.L.'s Night Out, and many more ministries!



Father Aloysius Phillips Council 7555

Becoming a Knight can transform your life!

If you're interested in helping others, serving your parish, growing in your faith, and having access to top-rated insurance protection, then the **Knights of Columbus** is for you.

Our Council meets the **first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.** in the Parish Social Hall, with the recitation of the Rosary at 6:45 p.m. in the Church.

Our next meeting is **Tuesday, January 3, 2023.**
Come and join us!

G.I.R.L.'s night out (Growing, Inspiring, Rejoicing, Loving)

St. Joseph's **G.I.R.L.'s NIGHT OUT** acts through its membership to support, empower, and educate all women of St. Joseph Parish in their spiritual lives, leadership skills, and service opportunities.

Programs respond to support the ability to know, love, and serve God; to share the good news of Jesus Christ; to be of support to our St. Joseph, Bluffton parish; and to serve all in need in our parish, our community and throughout our world.

Our meetings are on the second **Tuesday of each month**, September through May, at 7:00P.M. in the Parish Conference Room.

Our next meeting is **Tuesday, January 10, 2023.**
Come and join us!

ST. JOSEPH SOCIAL COMMITTEE

To help plan and run parish functions, such as the Annual Parish Picnic, our All Saint's Day Party, the yearly Divine Mercy Easter Egg Hunt and more!

Please contact the Parish Office (824-1380)
For meeting times and more information.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

To become a Minister of Hospitality or a Lector, please call the Parish office at **(260) 824-1380.**

LECTORS

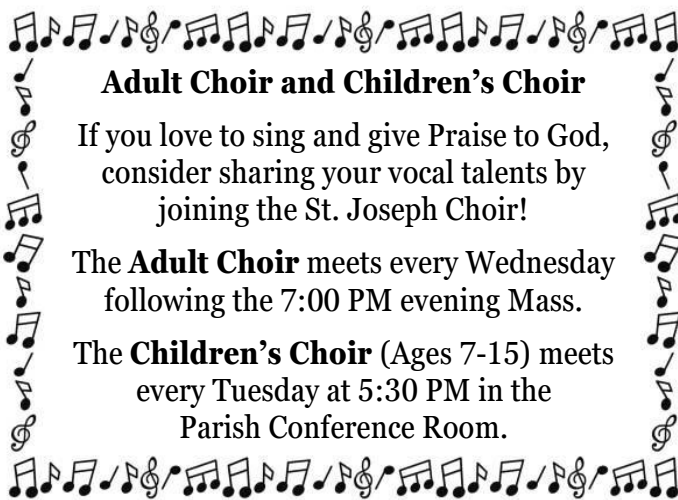
Lectors proclaim the word of God at Sunday Mass. Training is scheduled as is requested by interested parishioners. *Lector Workbooks* are provided to assist lectors in their preparation for this ministry.

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY/USHERS

Ministers of Hospitality/Ushers greet people and assist with seating before Mass, help take up the collection at the Offertory, and handout the bulletin after Mass. Consider joining this needed ministry.

ADDITIONAL MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

Funeral Dinner Ministry
Homebound Ministry
Evangelization Group
St. Joseph Cares!
Religious Education Program/Catechist



Adult Choir and Children's Choir

If you love to sing and give Praise to God, consider sharing your vocal talents by joining the St. Joseph Choir!

The **Adult Choir** meets every Wednesday following the 7:00 PM evening Mass.

The **Children's Choir** (Ages 7-15) meets every Tuesday at 5:30 PM in the Parish Conference Room.

To learn more about our various ministries, please contact the **St. Joseph Parish Office** during office hours (**Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM**) at **260-824-1380** or by email at **stjosephchurch@adamswells.com**.

Upcoming Events



RIGHT TO LIFE
OF NORTHEAST INDIANA

LIFE DEFENDERS WORKSHOP

Join Right to Life of Northeast Indiana on Saturday, January 14, 2023, from 9 a.m. to Noon,
hosted at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 1300 N Main St, Bluffton, Indiana

Many people today reject or are indifferent to the pro-life view, often because they've never heard the pro-life position presented in a compelling manner. Life Defenders will prepare you to confidently communicate the pro-life position to others. Using science & philosophy, you will learn to simplify the debate. Come learn to how to speak intelligently and graciously to the most pressing moral issue of our time: abortion. You'll leave prepared to confidently persuade others by exposing the logical fallacies of abortion-choice rhetoric without the need for vitriol and angry dialogue.

This workshop is \$5 per person and is open to ages 7th Grade and older. Please register online at www.ichoselife.org/LDBluffton or by calling 260-471-1849. Coffee and doughnuts provided.

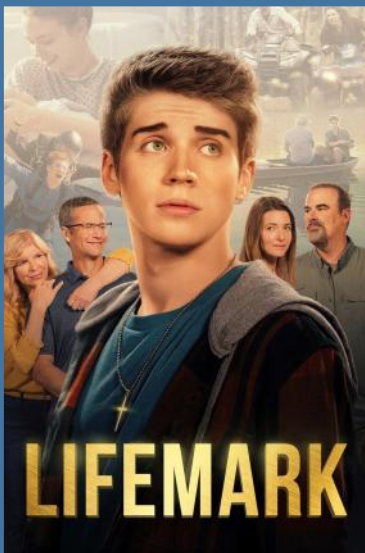
LIFEMARK

A TRUE STORY OF LIFE, ADOPTION, FORGIVENESS, AND JOY

Join us on **Saturday, January 21st, at 7 p.m.** for a free showing of the new film, **LIFEMARK** (PG-13) at St. Joseph Catholic Church.

David's comfortable world is turned upside down when his birthmother unexpectedly reaches out to him, longing to meet the 18-year-old son she's only held once. With the encouragement of his adoptive parents, David embarks on a journey of discovery that leads to a staggering truth from his past.

From executive producers Kirk Cameron and the Kendrick Brothers (creators of *War Room* and *Fireproof*) comes **LIFEMARK**, inspired by an incredible true story that celebrates the gift of life.



Save the Date—JANUARY 28, 2023—Fort Wayne March for Life

Join thousands of pro-life advocates from our region to show support for life from conception to natural death. The **Fort Wayne March for Life** is a yearly pro-life rally held near the anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*, the 1973 Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion. The Rally will take place at University of St. Francis Performing Arts Center (431 W Berry St, Fort Wayne) at 12pm. The March will start after the Rally.

This year's keynote speaker is pro-life advocate and Hoosier, Katie Shaw! Katie serves on the board of *Down Syndrome Indiana*, and has lobbied at the Statehouse for pro-life legislation. As person with Down Syndrome, Katie's work demonstrates that our abilities are not limited by the perception of others. Katie's courage, tenacity, and faith are sure to encourage the pro-life community of Northeast Indiana.

THE CATECHISM IN A YEAR with Fr. Mike Schmitz

Starting January 1, 2023—Visit AscensionPress.com/CIY for more Information

Similar to *The Bible in a Year*, this free podcast will go through the entire *Catechism of the Catholic Faith* and Fr. Mike will act as our insightful guide throughout the journey.



Upcoming Events

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH PRESENTS:

THE SECOND ANNUAL
MARDI
Gras
CELEBRATION

SATURDAY, FEB. 18TH
FROM 6—9:30 PM
AT ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH IN BLUFFTON



\$25 PER ENTRANCE TICKET
ATTENDEES MUST BE 21 OR OLDER

Wine and Cheese Tasting | Heavy Hors d'Oeuvres | Euchre Tournament | Silent Auction
HOSTED BY G.I.R.L.'S NIGHT OUT

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FAX: 260-827-0625

Francisco Sanchez, Parishioner



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Dan Gordon, Parishioner
Matt Hayes, Parishioner at
St. Vincent de Paul

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Bekkee Thompson- 260-273-6354
Kris Thompson, Parishioner



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you "un-pregnant", it
makes you the mother
of a dead child.



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Dr. Jennifer L. Wagner, Au.D.
Parishioner

Before you speak...
THINK!
T - is it true?
h - is it helpful?
I - is it inspiring?
n - is it necessary?
k - is it kind?

DASH 90 WINES


dash90wines.com

Thursday's: 3pm-8pm
Friday's: 3pm-8pm
Saturday's: Noon-8pm

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come to you
without leaving
happier.

-St. Mother Teresa

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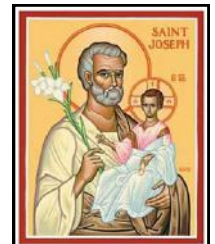
Gimmy 260-402-1834
Michelle 260-307-6191
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Colin Z. Andrews
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Fort Wayne: 7617 W Jefferson Blvd., Suite F
Fort Wayne, IN 46804



Pray for Us!