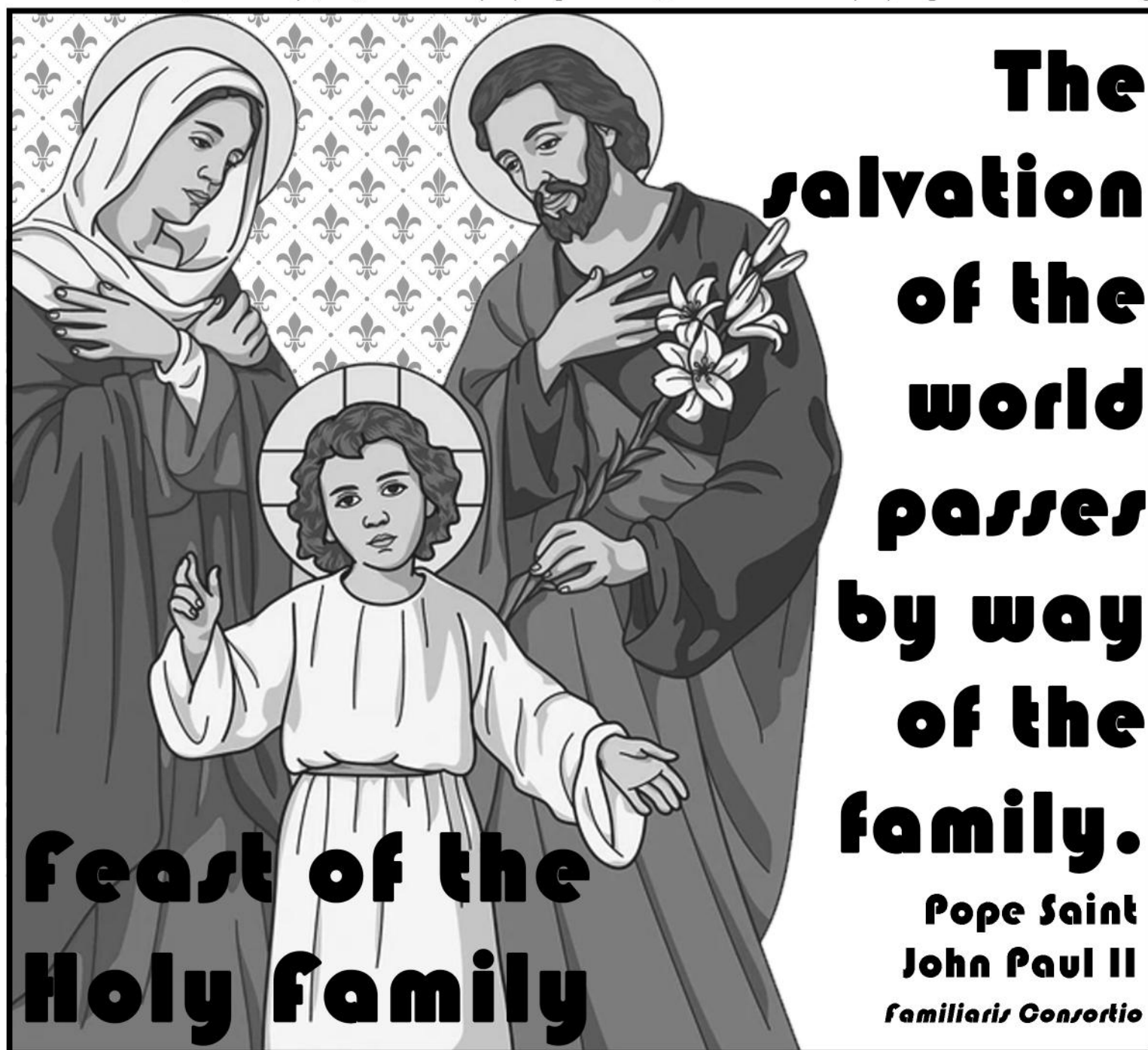


# St. Joseph Catholic Church

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



**Pastor:** Fr. David Violi

**Fr. David's Email:** frdavidvioli@gmail.com | **Sacramental Emergency Number:** (260) 296-0511

**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

## Saturday, December 30

8:00 a.m. Special Intention  
8:30-9:00 a.m. *Confession*  
4:00-4:45 p.m. *Confession*  
4:35 p.m. *Rosary*  
5:00 p.m. Lawrence Edward Robinson

## Sunday, December 31

### The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

7:10 a.m. *Rosary*  
7:30 a.m. Parish Family  
9:40 a.m. *Rosary*  
10:00 a.m. Bill & Elizabeth Dunn

## Monday, January 1

### Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

7:00 p.m. Poor Souls in Purgatory  
Tuesday, January 2

7:00-8:00 a.m. *Adoration*

8:00 a.m. Tom Spencer +

8:30 a.m. *Confession*

## Wednesday, January 3

6:00-7:00 p.m. *Adoration*

6:00-6:45 p.m. *Confession*

7:00 p.m. Living & Deceased members  
of the Nick & Cindy Hogan Family

## Thursday, January 4

8:00 a.m. Greg Mayer +

## Friday, January 5

8:30 a.m. Ryder Jackson

## Saturday, January 6

8:00 a.m. Special Intention

8:30-9:00 a.m. *Confession*

4:00-4:45 p.m. *Confession*

4:35 p.m. *Rosary*

5:00 p.m. Tom Courtney +

## Sunday, January 7

### The Epiphany of the Lord

7:10 a.m. *Rosary*

7:30 a.m. Parish Family

9:40 a.m. *Rosary*

10:00 a.m. Emily Butler +



## MASS READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon., January 1 - Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God - Nm 6:22-27 / Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8 / Gal 4:4-7 / Lk 2:16-21

Tues., January 2 - St. Basil the Great and St. Gregory of Nazianzen, Bishops & Doctors of the Church - 1 Jn 2:22-28 / Ps 98:1-4 / Jn 1:19-28

Wed., January 3 - The Most Holy Name of Jesus - 1 Jn 2:29-3:6 / Ps 98:1-3, 6 / Jn 1:29-34

Thurs., January 4 - St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious - 1 Jn 3:7-10 / Ps 98:1, 7-9 / Jn 1:35-42

Fri., January 5 - St. John Neumann, Bishop - 1 Jn 3:11-21 / Ps 100:1-5 / Jn 1:43-51

Sat., January 6 - St. André Bessette, Religious - 1 Jn 5:5-13 / Ps 147:12-15, 19-20 / Mk 1:7-11

Sun., January 7 - The Epiphany of the Lord - Is 60:1-6 / Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13 / Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6 / Mt 2:1-12

## THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH - DECEMBER 31, 2023

This weekend, the Church continues her celebrations within the **Christmas Octave with the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph**. This feast finds its roots with the founding of the *Confraternity of the Holy Family* in Montreal in 1663. By 1684, this devotion to the Holy Family led to the creation of a liturgical feast day for the Holy Family that was celebrated throughout the Archdiocese of Montreal. Initially celebrated the Sunday after the Epiphany, this feast was moved into the Easter season to allow for great celebration outside of Montreal's harsh winters.

In the 19th Century, this devotion to the Holy Father was heavily promoted by Pope Leo XIII. The Holy Father saw this devotion as an antidote to the troubles plaguing the family in a newly industrialized world. In an 1891 papal encyclical, Leo XIII referred to the family as "*the cradle of civil society*" and, by 1893, instituted the Feast of the Holy Family as a liturgical celebration to be celebrated in any diocese that requested it.

Sharing the same concerns as his predecessor, Pope Benedict XV placed this feast day on the liturgical calendar of the universal Church in 1921. It was his hope that, following the First World War, devotion to the Holy Family would lead to a renewal of both familial and societal life. This feast seeks to portray the Holy Family of Nazareth as the true model of life from which our own families can draw inspiration and find help and comfort.

This New Year's Eve (December 31st), we will once count down the seconds to say farewell to this past year and welcome a new year in the Lord. Continuing with our New Year's tradition these past few years, you are invited to "choose" a Saint to get to know throughout the new year. As we know, however, in the wise and loving plan of Jesus Christ, it is not we who choose the Saint but the Saints who chooses us!

You can find a basket in the narthex with little strips of paper, each with a Saint's name and a little biographical information, for you to take with you. This practice, first started by Saint Faustina Kowalska (of the Divine Mercy apparition), invites us to spend the year learning about our Saint, both historically and spiritually. In inviting these Saints into our lives, they become intercessors on our behalf before the Lord (James 5:17) amid the coming graces and challenges of the New Year.

As is the custom, our New Year's celebrations are often marked by making resolutions for the New Year. This year, one of my resolutions is to spend a greater amount of time studying the early Church Fathers. These titans of our Faith, though often overlooked, are a true source of a treasury of spiritual insights into the life of the Lord and the early days of the Church. I hope to be able to share some of what I learn with you in the coming New Year.

## MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

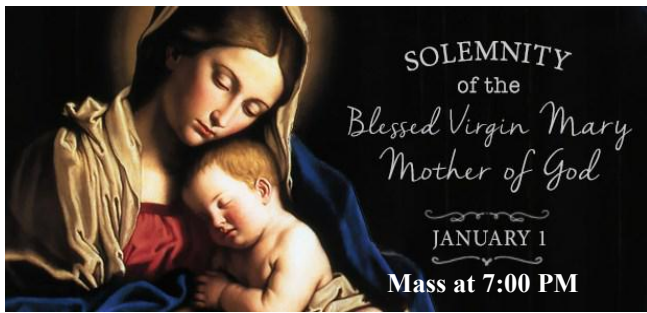
On Monday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, the Church celebrates the **Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**. This ancient celebration is traced back to at least the 5<sup>th</sup> Century and the Council of Ephesus. This ecumenical council recognized Mary as *Theotokos*, or "*God-bearer*." As this celebration falls on Monday this year, though a holy day, it is **not** a holy day of obligation this year. Though not a holy day of obligation, it can be seen as a ***holy day of opportunity***. To celebrate this solemnity and mark the end of the Christmas Octave, join us for a special Mass for this solemnity on **Monday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, at 7 PM.**

~Faithfully in Christ, Fr. David

A special "**Thank You!**" to all those who have helped make this Christmas season so beautiful. Our Choir, Children's Choir, cantors, and musicians put much effort and practice into ensuring that our Masses were accompanied with beautiful music. Our Decorating Committee, with only a short window to work, transformed the Church beautifully for the Christmas season. Our Parish Office and Staff were, as always, an invaluable assistance throughout Advent and into the Christmas season. "**Thank You!**" again to the many hands that helped lead us into this beautiful season.



Becky Biberstein, Michael Green, Frances Carr, Tom Richhart, Troy Cook, Bobbie Jackson, Bonnie Burns, John Houlihan, Kimberly Abney, Sydnee Bradburn, Leanne Lee, Dr. Doug Phillips, Jeff Tillman, Margaret Pogue, Richard Payne and Ron Dresser.



### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

**Monthly Meeting - Tuesday, January 2, 2024**  
Recitation of the Holy Rosary at 6:40 p.m. in the Church,  
and meeting in the Parish Social Hall at 7:00 p.m.

**FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION, January 5, 2024**  
(Following 8:30 a.m. Mass) 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
Confession 5:00-5:45 p.m. / 6:00 p.m. Mass  
"Spend an Hour with me." - Jesus  
*Please sign up on the sheet in the narthex.*



Join the Knights of Columbus on Saturday, January 6,  
2024 at 4:35 p.m. for the recitation of the Pro-Life Rosary  
for unborn children and their mothers.

### PARISH CALENDAR

- **Sat., Dec. 30** - Confession 4-4:45 p.m. / Mass 5:00 p.m.
- **Sun., Dec. 31** - Mass 7:30 a.m. / Mass 10:00 a.m.
- **Sun., Dec. 31** - NO Religious Education Classes - Christmas Break.
- **Mon., Jan. 1, 2024** - *The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord & Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God* - Mass at 7:00 p.m.
- **Tues., Jan. 2** - Adoration 7-8:00 a.m. / Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confessions 8:30 a.m.
- **Wed., Jan. 3** - Adoration 6-7:00 p.m. / Confession 6-6:45 p.m. / Mass 7:00 p.m.
- **Wed., Jan. 3** - Choir Practice - 7:30 p.m.
- **Wed., Jan. 3** - Parish Council Meeting - 7:45 p.m. in the Parish Conference Room.
- **Thurs., Jan. 4** - Mass 8:00 a.m.
- **Fri., Jan. 5** - *FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION*, (Following 8:30 a.m. Mass) 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. / Confession 5:00-5:45 p.m. / 6:00 p.m. Mass
- **Sat., Jan. 6** - Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confession 8:30 a.m.
- **Sat., Jan. 6** - Confession 4-4:45 p.m. / Mass 5:00 p.m.
- **Sun., Jan. 7** - Mass 7:30 a.m. / Mass 10:00 a.m.
- **Sun., Jan. 7** - Religious Education Classes - 8:30-9:45 a.m.
- **Tues., Jan. 9** - Adoration 7-8:00 a.m. / Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confessions 8:30 a.m.
- **Wed., Jan. 10** - Adoration 6-7:00 p.m. / Confession 6-6:45 p.m. / Mass 7:00 p.m.
- **Wed., Jan. 10** - Choir Practice - 7:30 p.m.
- **Thurs., Jan. 11** - Mass 8:00 a.m.
- **Thurs. Jan. 11** - Teaching Mass - 6:30 PM (*Not an actual Mass*)
- **Fri., Jan. 12** - Mass 8:30 a.m.
- **Sat., Jan. 13** - Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confession 8:30 a.m.
- **Sat., Jan. 13** - Confession 4-4:45 p.m. / Mass 5:00 p.m.
- **Sun., Jan. 14** - Mass 7:30 a.m. / Mass 10:00 a.m.

### Weekend of January 6 and 7, 2024



**5:00** Dan Lautzenheiser  
**7:30** Mike Morrissey  
**10:00** Jay Crisp/Adult Choir



**5:00** Bruce Holland  
**7:30** Sarah McCorkle  
**10:00** Monica Harris



**10:00** Jeff Miller, Tammi Helm, Rick Singer



**5:00** Knights of Columbus  
**7:30** Spencer McCorkle, Phillip Mayer, Angela or James Mayer  
**10:00** Sam Smith, Charlie Andrews, Luke Miller

**St. Joseph Parish Finance Report for the Weekend of Dec. 23/24**  
Adult Envelopes- \$2,528.00  
Loose- \$185.00

**Our weekly budget is \$5,116.40**  
We are \$4,759.76 ahead of our budget for the month of December.

**Christmas Offering (Dec. 25)**  
Adult Envelopes- \$4536.00  
Loose- \$382.00

St. Vincent de Paul Fund- \$530.00

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

Repair/Rainy Day Fund-\$225.00

To set up Online Giving through Our Sunday Visitor, please visit:  
<https://www.osvhub.com/stjosephchurchbluffton/giving/funds>

### WELCOME, CHILD OF GOD

Through water and the word, Jude Ricky Coyne became a child of God and was sealed as Christ's own forever through Baptism on Saturday, December 23, 2023 by Fr. David Violi.



### From Death To New Life

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of Oscar L. Heyne, who passed away Sunday, December 24, 2023 and was laid to rest on Friday, December 29, 2023



May God welcome him home,  
fill him with peace and bless those who will miss him.

Eternal Rest Grant unto him O Lord, and let Perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in Peace. Amen.



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Michelle Adler, Matt Hayes, and  
Brigitte Washburn  
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Before you speak...  
**THINK!**  
T - is it true?  
h - is it helpful?  
i - is it inspiring?  
n - is it necessary?  
k - is it kind?



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

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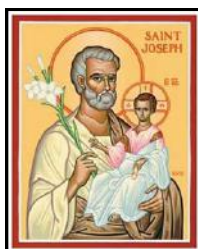


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Call us for your next event!

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