

St. Joseph Church

December 24, 2023

Fourth Sunday of Advent

440 Joliet St., Dyer, IN 46311

(219) 865-2271

www.stjosephdyer.org



Vision

Enthusiasm and Love of God and Neighbor to inspire and encourage interpersonal relationships in the St. Joseph Faith Community in order that an atmosphere of sharing our faith, time, talent, treasure and hospitality will expand the Kingdom of God.

Prayer

God of all peoples, how blessed we are to gather in faith at Eucharist, for it is in Your Word and Sacrament that we discover that we are the Community called the Body of Christ.

Our St. Joseph Parish Vision is filled with enthusiasm for loving God and neighbor because Your Kingdom expands, Creator Father, in an atmosphere of interpersonal relationships.

May we the members of St. Joseph Parish continue to grow in faith during our Pastoral Planning Process, so that our Parish Vision will be fulfilled as we discover that as parish we are Community in Christ.
Amen.

Welcome, New Parishioners

Please register by calling or stopping in the parish office.

Office Hours

Monday-Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Parish Telephones

Parish Office:..... 219-865-2271

Religious Education Office:

(At St. Maria Goretti)..... 219-322-6124

Staff Directory

Pastor: Rev. Peter Muha

Email: pastor@stjosephdyer.org

Pastoral Associate & Building & Grounds

Coordinator: Deacon Gary Blue

Email: buildings@stjosephdyer.org

Office Manager: Patty Jarzembowski

Email: office@stjosephdyer.org

Director of Religious Education: Kathy Hansen

St. Maria Goretti

Email: kathyh@smgdyer.org

Director of Music & Liturgy: William Coble

Email: music@stjosephdyer.org

Mass Schedule

Weekend Masses

Saturday: 4:30 PM

Sunday: 8:00AM, 10:00AM, 6:00PM

Weekday Masses

Mon, Tues, Wed., Thurs, Fri: 9:00 AM

Holy Day Masses

Please see schedule inside bulletin.

Sacramental Life

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

Saturday 3:00 to 4:00 PM

Sacrament of Baptism

12:00 Noon.

Arrangements must be made previously.

Instruction class for parents required.

Sacrament of Marriage

Arrangements must be made at least six months in advance.

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

Call the office any time.

Knights of Columbus

Grand Knight: Ed Hebda

Bulletin Deadline

Monday 12:00 Noon, *in writing.*

PLEASE LIKE ST. JOSEPH PARISH ON FACEBOOK



Monday, December 25, The Nativity of the Lord

8:00 AM The People of the Parish
Celebrant: Fr. Krolczyk

10:00 AM The People of the Parish
Celebrant: Fr. Peter

Tuesday, December 26, St. Stephen

9:00 AM Matthew Vojvodich
Celebrant: Fr. Peter

Wednesday, December 27, St. John

9:00 AM Mass John Kuhar
Celebrant: Fr. Peter

Thursday, March 28, The Holy Innocents

9:00 AM Bart Lipowski
Celebrant: Fr. Peter

Friday, March 29, Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

9:00 AM Will O'Donnell & the Seminarians of the Diocese of Gary
Celebrant: Fr. Peter

Weekend Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 30, Vigil: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

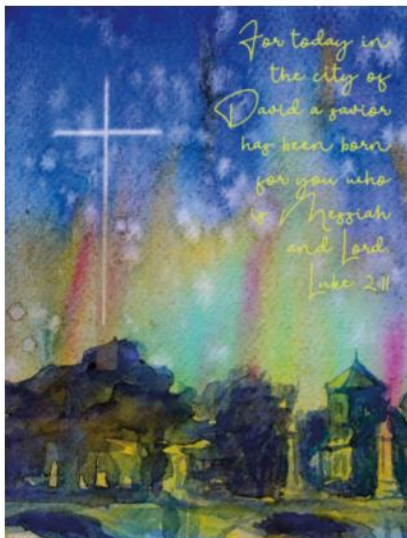
4:30 PM For the Repose of the Souls of Julia & Leon Pritchett
Celebrant: Fr. Krolczyk

Sunday, December 31, The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

8:00 AM Dennis & PJ Rohe
Celebrant: Fr. Peter

10:00 AM Robert Trembacki
Celebrant: Fr. Peter

No 6:00 PM Mass



Our Departed Loved Ones

Please keep the following parishioners who have passed away this past year as well as their family in your prayers:

- Karen A. Rybicki
- Donna L. Thompson
- Joan Marie Zerebny
- Michael S. Philbin
- Robert Rudofski
- Edward C. Grimler
- Elaine Birlson
- Michael Slawinski
- Charlene A. Marlow
- Kristopher T. Mikula
- John R. Quinn
- Leona L. Klausman
- John Patrick Brennan
- Rita F. Spindler
- Franklin R. Truesdale
- Regina J. Lewis
- Matthew P. Vojvodich
- Carol Dumbisky
- Rosemary Szymkowski

THANK YOU!

Thank you to all of our parishioners in the Ministries of St. Joseph Parish. Thank you for saying "YES" to your call to serve Our Lord and your fellow parishioners.

- Pastoral Council
- Finance Council
- Building Committee
- Synod & Renewal Committee
- Food Pantry Ministry
- Women's "HALO" Ministry
- Men's Ministry
- Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
- Lectors
- Ushers
- Choir
- Environment & Art Ministry
- Money Counters
- Ministers of Care to Homebound
- Nursing Home Ministry
- Lawn Cutting Ministry
- Office Staff Helpers

Please Note!

The parish office will be closed Monday, December 25th, Tuesday, December 26th and Friday, December 29th.

**Scripture Readings
For the Week of December 24, 2023**

Sunday	<p>Fourth Sunday of Advent 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38</p>
Monday	<p>The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) <i>Vigil Mass:</i> Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 or Mt 1:18-25 <i>Mass During the night:</i> Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14 <i>Mass at Dawn:</i> Is 62: 11-12; Ps 97: 1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3: 4-7; Lk 2: 15-20 <i>Mass during the Day:</i> Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14</p>
Tuesday	<p>Feast of Saint Stephen, First Martyr Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 & 8ab, 16bc & 17; Mt 10:17-22</p>
Wednesday	<p>Feast of Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a & 2-8</p>
Thursday	<p>Feast of Holy Innocents, Martyrs 1 Jn 1:5-----2:2; Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8; Mt 2:13-18</p>
Friday and Martyr	<p>Memorial of Saint Thomas Becket, Bishop 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35</p>
Saturday	<p>1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10; Lk 2:36-40</p>
Sunday Joseph	<p>Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6, 21:1-3; Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9; Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk 2:22-40</p>



**Stewardship of
Treasure Report**
December 16th & 17th

The Stewardship of
Treasure Report for
December 16th & 17th will in
next week's bulletin
due to the Holiday printing
Schedule.

Parish Life Ministry Meeting

St. Joseph Parish Life Ministry will have a meeting on Monday, January 15th at 6:00pm. Please come to help plan all or some of the great events for our parish in the new year.

- ▶ **Family Outdoor Movie Night**
- ▶ **Family Potluck Dinner**
- ▶ **White Elephant Sale in Church Parking Lot**
- ▶ **Daytime Bingo (seniors)**
- ▶ **Monday night/weeknight trivia.**
- ▶ **St. Joseph's Day Dinner**
- ▶ **Mother Group**
- ▶ **Open Gym Night – Family Men's or Women's**
- ▶ **Food Truck Festival – with Ministry Fair**
- ▶ **New Members – Welcome Wagon**
- ▶ **Meals Ministry – baby; illness; temporary**
- ▶ **Ride Share Ministry – to & from events or mass**
- ▶ **St Joseph Kids Night in the Gym**
- ▶ **Family Holiday Movie Night**

We need you to become involved. Please come to lend your time and talents to help plan these fun events.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Monday, December 25
Office closed
8:00am Christmas mass
10:00am Christmas mass

Tuesday, December 26
Office closed
9:45am—Gospel reflections in Gathering Room immediately after mass.

Wednesday, December 27
9:45am 50/50 Raffle Drawing

Thursday, December 28
6:00pm—Evening Prayer & Holy Hour

Friday, December 29
Office closed

Sunday, December 31
8am & 10am—Masses

Christmas Un-Decorating

The Environment & Art Committee needs your help removing the Christmas decorations again this year. We are very thankful for the generous parishioners who helped install the beautiful decorations. If you could not attend before Christmas maybe you can lend a hand now? Please say you will invest God’s gifts of your time and talents by coming to the church on **Saturday, January 13th at 10:00am**. We especially need some strong young adults to help with the heavier lifting. There are jobs for the young and for our seniors too!



Weekly 50/50 Raffle

**The Number Drawn on
December 12th was #670**

The Winner Would Have Won \$442.50

(This amount will be added to next week)

Drawings will be held every
Tuesday at 9:45am
in the Gathering Room

All registered members of St. Joseph Parish are eligible for the 50/50 raffle. **YOU MUST USE 2 SEPARATE ENVELOPES FOR THE CURRENT WEEK EVEN IF YOU ARE A MONTHLY, ELECTRONIC, HOMEBOUND OR WEEKLY CONTRIBUTOR. ALL CONTRIBUTORS MENTIONED PREVIOUSLY MUST MAKE THEIR SACRIFICIAL CONTRIBUTION BY THE FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH AND INDICATING ON EACH SUBSEQUENT WEEKLY ENVELOPE THAT IS PLACED IN THE COLLECTION BASKET THAT YOU ARE EITHER A MONTHLY, ELECTRONIC OR HOMEBOUND CONTRIBUTOR.**

You must use your current weekly treasure envelope with your sacrificial amount and the preprinted 50/50 envelope found in the pews with EXACTLY \$5.00. If you are paying by check, you must use **2 checks**, one for the weekly treasure made out to St. Joseph Church and the other check for \$5.00 for the 50/50 raffle made out to St. Joseph Church—50/50 Raffle.

The 50/50 raffle envelope is to be put in the collection along with your sacrificial weekly treasure envelope

Ministry Schedule December 30th & 31st

Lectors

4:30pm— **Please see MSP schedule for**

8:00am— **schedule for all masses**

10:00am—

Extraordinary Ministers

4:30pm— Mark Gabrione, Bonnie Gruver, Judy Nowacki

8:00am—

10:00am—Jim Paolino, RayVoyles, Allan Burgos



The Glory of Christmas

“And the Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us, and we saw His glory.”

Today, as we hear in my favorite Christmas song, *O Holy Night*, “the weary world rejoices.” Today, God gave us a Savior. We did not deserve this gift. We sinned. We betrayed God. We knew His laws, but we did what we wanted anyway and pushed Him away. But, in His immense love, He looked at this world of human beings He created in His image and likeness and His heart was filled with love. And in this immense love, He sent His Son.

The night that Christ was born truly changed the world. All of God’s promises in the Old Testament were fulfilled, and in His death we can live. Eternity with God can be ours. Our choices determine whether or not we accept His offer. But He came today as a tiny baby to give us that chance, and in coming “the soul felt its worth.”

What are we worth? We are worth mocking and beatings. We are worth the nails. We are worth an agonizing death. Why? Because we matter to God, and we are His.

Today, as we celebrate the greatest gift ever given to us, let us think about the gifts we can give to Baby Jesus. Take time to reflect and to find a way to improve some aspect of your life that will please Christ and help you grow closer to Him. Maybe you have held a grudge too long. Maybe you often let your anger get the best of you. Maybe you struggle with being kind to someone at the office or in your extended family. Maybe you have held on to hurt and bitterness so long that it’s eating you up inside. Maybe you struggle with an addiction. Or maybe you have felt yourself drift away from God. We all have something that has created a barrier between us and Our Lord. Our gift to Baby Jesus could be to begin to tear that barrier down.

Remember, our lives are not our own. They belong to Christ. This Christmas, let us not forget that we are His. Let us find joy in this fact and give Him the greatest gift we possibly can—ourselves. And this Christmas, and always, let us praise and thank Him for taking on our sins and for dying so that we could have eternal life.

Indeed, the weary world rejoices when it gazes upon Baby Jesus, on Christmas day and every day. Merry Christmas!

By Susan Ciancio



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