

St. Joseph Catholic Church 412 West 6th Avenue/PO Box 7434 Pine Bluff, AR 71611-7434 Phone - (870) 534-4701 or (870) 534-5703 Fax - (870) 534-4703

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DECEMBER 11, 2022 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

HELLO AND WELCOME TO ST. JOSEPH PARISH!

Thank you for joining us today. Blessings! May you have a beautiful day. The St. Joseph Parish family extends a warm welcome to our visitors and new families. We are delighted to have you! If you are a new parishioner, ask one of the ushers for a parish census/registration form. Please complete and drop in the collections basket or bring by the church office during business hours. If we can be of any assistance to you, please let us know. We hope you will find a true home at St. Joseph Church!

RECORD OF OUR STEWARDSHIP	December 4, 2022	RECORD OF OUR FAITHFULNESS
Offertory—\$5,231.00		6:00PM—39
Poor Box—\$24.58	Through daily prayer, may	11:00AM—89
Nat'l Retirement	we gain patience and align	Total—128
Fund for Religious—\$720.00	ourselves with God and	
Building Fund—\$330.00	His plan for us.	
Cemetery Fund—\$930.00	Posterior Contract	
I.C. Collection—\$381.00		I.C. Total—76
Placed Thanks!		

Blessed Thanks!



Please pray for our sick, shut-ins, those listed in our book of intentions, parishioners residing in nursing homes, and others who have asked for prayers: Gino Aureli, Eileen Badovick, James Belvedresi, Breckin Birge, Gia Blanchard, Tim Boutwell, Irene Christian, Anna Crawford, Janie Culpepper, Judy Ellison, Theresa Failla, Mary Shannon Fikes, John Golden, Julie Dial Habelmann, Denise Haber, Carol Hastings, Anna Marie Jacks, David

Jackson, Mary Ann Kizer, Scott McGeorge, Mary Ellen Miskell, Franklin Murray, Thomas Oster, Betty Petrus, Claudia Rainey, Laurie Stanfield, Claude Wilbern, and Judy Wilbert. Please keep them in your prayers in their time of need... And all others in need of our healing prayers. Also, remember the caregivers of the ill.

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In your prayers, also remember the deceased. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord...

<u>EUCHARISTIC ADORATION</u> – Adoration Chapel is now open. Please contact Mark or Mary Ives (870-489-4404) if you would like to spend a quiet hour with our Lord on a Tuesday or Wednesday.

<u>Please</u> notify the parish office when you or relatives are admitted to Jefferson Regional Medical Center. WE CARE!

The beautiful flowers in front of the Altar of Sacrifice this weekend were placed there in memory of Deacon Robert Johnson and in honor of Deacon Bud Bryant on the 20th anniversary, December 14, 2002, of their Permanent Diaconate Ordination.

The collection at all masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day will be for the Clergy Welfare Fund. This fund provides retirement and health care benefits to retired and infirm priests around our diocese. Our priests spend every day of their adult lives as humble and devoted servants, doing God's work and serving us until age or infirmity calls them to retirement. Your contributions to the Clergy Welfare Fund make our priests' retirement possible. Please share with them the generosity that they continue to share with us.

NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR is requesting St. Joseph parishioners donate at least 120 cans of SWEET POTATOES and any cake mixes you like for their Christmas baskets. Also, they are asking for \$60.00 to sponsor a child for Christmas. Christmas baskets start going out December 1. Monetary donations are also accepted. Make checks payable to Neighbor to Neighbor. Please give what you are able.

The Diocese of Little Rock is seeking an Executive Director for Catholic Charities of Arkansas. Qualifications include: Catholic, bachelor's degree, working knowledge of Catholic moral and social teaching, strong communication and supervisory skills, and at least five years of management, finance and fundraising experience. To inquire, contact Dennis Lee, Chancellor for Administrative Affairs, at dlee@dolr.org or call (501) 664-0340, extension 308.

R. C. I. A. Classes meet on Mondays at 6:00PM in the kitchen by the parish offices. Anyone interested in becoming Catholic or learning more about the Catholic faith is welcome to attend.

Please prayerfully consider making a donation or memorial for the upkeep and maintenance of our three cemeteries, St. Joseph - Pine Bluff, St. Peter -New Gascony, and St. Patrick - Sulphur Springs. With your help we can keep them looking as beautiful as possible.

Father Joe will say Mass at St. Mary Catholic Church, Plum Bayou Thursday, December 29 at 6:00PM. Please make plans to attend.

This week in our parish

Sun Dec 11 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT 9:30-10:40AM P.R.E. (K thru 12th Grades) 11:00AM #St Joseph Parishioners (Church) Mon Dec 12 OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

8:00AM #Hazel Turchi (Church)
6:00PM R.C.I.A. (Office Kitchen)

Tue Dec 13 ST LUCY, VIRGIN AND MARTYR 8:00AM No Daily Mass 9:00AM Scripture Study (Ed Bldg)

Wed Dec 14 ST JOHN OF THE CROSS, PRIEST AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

5:30PM #Irene (Renie) Enger (Church)

Thu Dec 15 8:00AM #Roy Franco (Church)

Fri Dec 16 8:00AM #Mary Hale (Church)

Sat Dec 17

11AM-12PM Confessions Heard (Church) 6:00PM #St Joseph Parishioners (Church)

Sun Dec 18 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT 9:30AM No P.R.E. (Christmas Break) 11:00AM #Mike Lambert(Church)



"You too must be patient.

Make you hearts firm,
because the coming of
the Lord is at hand."

~James 5:8

Patience is another one of those things many of us struggle with. We want things to go according to our plan and our schedule; we like things to be convenient. Any change brings anxiety and fear. Through daily prayer God reveals to us what He wants us to do with the gifts He has given us. We are able to better align ourselves with God's will and His plan, which is far better than anything we can come up with on our own.

A "Giving Tree" has been placed in the back of church for any parishioners wanting to give a love offering and/or card to Father Joe for Christmas. Cards are available under the tree or you may bring your own card to place on the tree.

Congratulations to Deacon Noel F. "Bud" Bryant on his 20th Diaconate Ordination Anniversary December 14th. Thank you for your many years of service to St. Joseph Parish! May God continue to bless you and your ministry!

The third Sunday of Advent is Gaudete Sunday and is meant to remind us of the joy that the world experienced at the birth of Jesus, as well as the joy that the faithful have reached the midpoint of Advent. As we light the third candle on our Advent wreath, let us prepare for the Messiah through acts of repentance. Advent is a time of waiting, it is not a time to sit and wait while doing nothing. It is a busy time of preparation. Are we making room for Christ to be born in our lives?