

*Nurtured by Word and Sacrament we are called to share our faith and reach out to others in need. -Mission Statement*

## OUR PARISH



## OUR FAMILY

### Services

#### Weekend Liturgy

Saturday Vigil 4:00 pm  
Sunday 8:30 am & 11:00 am

#### Daily Services

Monday 7:00 am Communion Service  
Tuesday-Thursday 7:00 am Mass  
Friday & Saturday 8:30 am Mass

#### Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesday 1:00 pm-6:00 pm  
First Friday after 8:30am Mass

#### Rosary

Tuesday 6:30-7:30 pm

### Sacramental Life

#### Reconciliation

After 8:30 a.m. Mass Saturday &  
3 p.m. on Saturday; First Friday or  
by appointment with the parish office

#### Baptism

The first and third Sundays of the  
month at 12:30 pm or during the  
Liturgy. Parents must reserve and  
attend a baptism class.

#### Weddings

Arrangements must be made at least six  
months in advance. At least one of the  
engaged persons (or their parents)  
must be a registered parishioner.

#### Communion to Homebound

Call Deacon Leon Fritz 815-932-6909.

#### Registration

Newcomers are welcome to register  
online or stop by the parish office.

### Pastoral Staff

#### Pastor

Rev. Marcin Michalak

#### Deacon

Leon Fritz

#### Music Director

Brad Benoit

#### Pastoral Associate

Deacon Greg Clodi

#### Business Manager

Kevin Delabre

#### Director of Communications

Paul Storer

#### Religious Education

Anita Lovell  
Coordinator  
Phone: 815-937-9340

#### Youth Ministers

Ken & Michelle Barrie  
barrieacres@yahoo.com

#### Prayer Line

Sharon Monty: 815-954-4922  
parishadmin@stjosphbradley.org

#### Parish Office

Monday-Thursday 9am-4pm  
Friday 9am-1 pm  
Office Phone: (815) 939-3573

#### Parish Website

www.stjosphbradley.org

#### Social Media

"Like" us on Facebook &  
"Follow" us on Instagram

**Parish Nurse**-Call the Parish  
Office; enter #307

## 4th Sunday of Easter



Jesus said, "I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture." (Jn 10:9)

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pstorer@stjosphbradley.org

## April 30, 2023



All are invited to participate and our First Communicants are certainly encouraged to wear their outfits from their special day. And, regardless of when you attend Mass next weekend, everyone is asked to bring flowers and put them by the statue of the Blessed Mother on Perry Street. Thanks so much!

## Holy Hour is Next Friday



*We offer this opportunity on the First Friday of the month for reflection in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament with an opportunity for individual Reconciliation. You can pray the rosary or other prayers or read Scripture or other texts. What you do is not important. Being with Jesus in this very personal way is what really matters. Join us after 8:30am Mass next Friday, May 5.*



Through the waters of Baptism, Jayden Grabow and MyaAnn Grabow recently became children of God. Congratulations to their father, Joshua, and the entire family! What a very joyful event at our church!

# Congrats

Ladies of St. Joseph's chapter of the Council of Catholic Women have selected Julie Gindy as their Woman of the Year for 2023. This award recognizes a woman who gives generously of her time and talents to her parish visibly or behind-the-scenes. Of course, Julie does both! The CCW will be presenting the Woman of the Year to Fr. Marcin and the parish community during the 11am Mass this Sunday, April 30. Congrats!

## CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS

Thank you to those who utilized the envelope this weekend for the Catholic Home Missions Appeal!

Nearly 40 percent of dioceses in the United States and its territories are considered mission regions because they are unable to fund essential pastoral activities needed in their communities. Your support will help fund religious education, seminary formation, lay ministry training, and other programs that build vibrant faith communities right here in the United States. If you have yet to give to this appeal, please feel free to drop your envelope in the collection basket next weekend. More information can be found at [www.usccb.org/home-missions](http://www.usccb.org/home-missions).



## Make your appointment for our Blood Drive happening on May 21st

Go to the parish website or call the parish office. Help us reach our goal of 22 units collected!



## SERVICE INFORMATION & MASS INTENTIONS

<b>Monday May 1</b> <i>St. Joseph the Worker</i> <b>7:00 a.m.</b> <b>Communion Service</b>	<b>Tuesday May 2</b> <i>St. Athanasius, Bishop</i> <b>7:00 a.m.</b> <b>Mass</b> *The People of St. Joseph Parish (living & deceased)	<b>Wednesday May 3</b> <i>St. Philip &amp; St. James</i> <b>7:00 a.m.</b> <b>Mass</b> † Cheryl Geraci by Barb Brosseau	<b>Thursday May 4</b> <i>National Day of Prayer</i> <b>7:00 a.m.</b> <b>Mass</b> † Janice Mae Sims (Birthday Memorial) by Ralph, Husband	<b>Friday May 5</b> <i>Easter Weekday</i> <b>8:30 a.m.</b> <b>Mass</b> † Marcia (Sullivan) Gustafson by Local Relatives	<b>Saturday May 6</b> <i>Easter Weekday</i> <b>8:30 a.m.</b> <b>Mass</b> *The People of St. Joseph Parish (living & deceased)
<b>Saturday, May 6</b> <b>4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass</b> † Deceased of the Omer Rivard Family by Rose Rivard † Michael McClain by A. Chinski			<b>Sunday, May 7</b> <b>8:30 a.m. Mass</b> † Deceased Members of the Brosseau Family by Jim & Family <b>11:00 a.m. Mass</b> † Helena Stekala by Family		

### PRACTICING STEWARDSHIP

You're in the midst of a disagreement with someone.

You've really dug in your heels. And then you suddenly realize that you are wrong! So where do you go from here? The only way forward is to fess up. It makes me cringe just to write about it, because it's the worst feeling. Everyone knows how badly it feels to realize that you're wrong. You're human. You messed up. It's hard to recognize that the Christian

life is one of ongoing repentance. It is painful to acknowledge the ways in which we are falling short, even as we strive to follow in Christ's example. It can, in the words of today's reading, "cut to the heart."

But that feeling of despair is what propels forward motion. We have to allow ourselves to feel bad, that's the fertile ground of penitence. We are meant to have not just life, but life "more abundantly." Stasis isn't the goal. Baptism isn't the finish line. Examining our conscience is hard. It cuts to the heart. It cuts to the truth.-Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

**Offerings on the weekend of April 22/23, 2023**  
**\$8,109.17**

**4:00 pm: \$3,344.22**

**8:30 am: \$1,847.00**

**11:00 am: \$1,897.95**

**Offerings Mailed to St. Joseph Parish: \$1,020.00**  
**Food Donations: 61 Pounds**



### Readings for the Week of April 30, 2023

**Sunday:** Acts 2:14a, 36-41/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 (1)/1 Pt 2:20b-25/Jn 10:1-10

**Monday:** Acts 11:1-18/Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4/Jn 10:11-18

**Tuesday:** Acts 11:19-26/Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7/Jn 10:22-30

**Wednesday:** 1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Jn 14:6-14

**Thursday:** Acts 13:13-25/Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25 and 27/Jn 13:16-20

**Friday:** Acts 13:26-33/Ps 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab/Jn 14:1-6

**Saturday:** Acts 13:44-52/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 14:7-14

**Next Sunday:** Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19 (22)/1 Pt 2:4-9/Jn 14:1-12

**Mass Readings:** [www.stjosephbradley.org](http://www.stjosephbradley.org)



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Many thanks to all who have signed up for electronic giving. These two options are the most convenient ways for giving and staying consistent with your offerings. You can make automated ACH Offerings from your savings or checking accounts. Download the authorization form at the parish website; print; complete; follow the directions and put in collection basket or mail or to the parish. Or stop by the parish office to sign-up for Auto Deduct. Or look for the PayPal option at our website to set-up contributions through this online payment method. Thanks for your support!

# *Celebrating Confirmation at St. Joseph Parish*

On April 20, we were blessed to witness 40-plus young Catholics receive the sacrament of Confirmation with Bishop Ronald Hicks. These teens from St. Joseph in Manteno, St. Rose in Wilmington, St. Patrick in Wilton Center and from our parish, St. Joseph in Bradley, and their families heard a great message from the bishop about passing the faith through the generations. Afterward, all were invited to the Parish Hall for a celebratory reception hosted by the gracious and generous women of our CCW. Congratulations to our Confirmandi, their sponsors and families on this amazing faith milestone. May they carry the joy and strength of the Holy Spirit and God's love with them all the days of their lives.



**Harrison Adams  
Jace Cousins  
Aiden Fitzgerald  
Isabella Galloway  
Collin Gonzalez  
Cameron Gross  
Isabelle Jackson  
Aidan Jamros  
Ryane Jefferson  
Samuel LaMore  
Thayne Lergner  
Delani Patrick  
Luke Phillips  
Edward Schoiber  
Jasmine Wood**

"Thank you" does not seem adequate to express our gratitude to everyone who made Confirmation such a wonderful event! We are grateful to Bishop Hicks, Fr.

Marcin, the other priests, the deacons, the servers and hospitality ministers, the parish A&E group, the CCW, the Honor Guard of the Knights of Columbus, Brad Benoit, Deacon Greg and Anita Lovell. Whether it was helping the candidates prepare, planning the liturgy, ministering at the Mass or helping move tables and clean the Parish Hall after the social gathering, the true spirit of Our Parish, Our Family was alive and evident to our students, families and guests. What a blessing each of you are to the parish!

*Church Photos Courtesy of Tom Killoran Photography  
[killoranphotography.com](http://killoranphotography.com)*



*Special thanks to Rod Jefferson for filming the evening Confirmation Mass. You're invited to view the recording at our parish website.*





WEEKEND LITURGICAL ROLES	May 6 4:00 PM Mass	May 7 8:30 AM Mass	May 7 11:00 AM Mass	Interested in any of these ministries? Contact the parish office for training. Ministers can go online to see when they are scheduled, request subs and input when not to be scheduled at Mass.
Hospitality Ministers	Becky Graf Jim Lustig Janet Gregoire Jim Graf	Aliess Bedford Barb Fortin Jasmine Elumbaugh Nick Shervino	Katelyn Storer Paul Storer Emily Sue Storer Sandra Jefferson	
Lectors	Gisel Waide (both readings)	Jan St. John (both readings)	Veritas Babiaka (1) Walter Babiaka (2)	
Eucharistic Ministers	Becky & Jim Graf Michael Yurkowski	Nick Shervino Teresa Fritz	Paul Storer Sean Storer	
Altar Servers	Vicki Burgener	Marian Worby	Ryane Jefferson Gemma Babiaka Jesse Babiaka	
Deacons	Deacon Greg Clodi	Deacon Leon Fritz	Deacon Greg Clodi	
Presiders	Fr. Charles Wheeler	Fr. Marcin Michalak	Fr. Marcin Michalak	

## What's happening in the parish RE program?

**At the April session of our parish Religious Education program, the students participated in many activities focusing on the events that took place after Jesus rose from the dead. These young people are pictured creating a sunrise craft to remember at home that He is Risen! Alleluia! Thank so much to our RE volunteers for your ongoing commitment to sharing your faith!**



## The Week at a glance at St. Joseph Parish

<b>Saturday, April 29</b> <b>Mass</b> 8:30 a.m. Church <b>Vigil Mass</b> 4:00 p.m. Church <b>Sunday, April 30</b> <b>Mass</b> 8:30 a.m. Church <b>Mass</b> 11:00 a.m. Church <i>CCW presenting Woman of the Year to the parish. Congratulations, Julie Gindy!</i>	<b>Monday, May 1</b> <b>Communion Service</b> 7:00 a.m. <b>Tuesday, May 2</b> <b>Mass</b> 7:00 a.m. <b>Nursing Home Ministry Adoration</b> 1:00-6:00 p.m. <b>Rosary Group</b> 6:30-7:00 p.m. Church <b>Parish Council Meeting</b> 7:00 p.m. Ministry Center	<b>Weds, May 3</b> <b>Mass</b> 7:00 a.m. Church <b>Adult Choir Practice</b> 5:30 p.m. Church <b>Thursday, May 4</b> <b>Mass</b> 7:00 a.m. Church <b>First Communion Practice</b> 6:30 p.m. Church <b>Men's AA Group</b> 7:00-9:00 p.m. Ministry Center	<b>Friday, May 5</b> <b>Mass</b> 8:30 a.m. <b>First Friday Holy Hour</b> after 8:30 a.m. Mass Church <b>Saturday, May 6</b> <b>Mass</b> 8:30 a.m. <b>First Communion Mass</b> 11:00 a.m. <b>Vigil Mass</b> 4:00 p.m. Church	<b>Sunday, May 7</b> <b>Mass</b> 8:30 a.m. Church <b>Holy Name Meeting</b> 9:30 a.m. Ministry Center <b>Mass</b> 11:00 a.m. <b>Parish Baptisms</b> 12:00 p.m. <b>May Crowning</b> 12:00 p.m. Outside
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*See page 1 for the weekly schedule for Reconciliation. Appointments can also be made by calling the parish office.*

# Recently initiated into the faith at St. Joseph's

Taylor (McThenia) Martin is one of our newly initiated members. Taylor and James got married in 2021 and have one child, Ellie, who is 11 months old. They became parishioners about a year ago.

Baptized Lutheran, Taylor, however, was no stranger to the Catholic Church. She had attended Catholic high school. In fact, she met James at Bishop McNamara. Praying and attending Mass together was always important to the couple. Taylor was certainly drawn to the faith by the example of the Martin family as well. When Taylor's daughter was baptized at St. Joseph's, she started to seriously consider taking steps to become Catholic herself.

The RCIA process was a positive, thought-provoking experience. "I've found myself missing those Sunday morning meetings since they have been over," said Taylor.

Discussing the content of the weekly sessions, Taylor mentioned, "I was surprised about how much I didn't know about the Catholic faith."

Parishioners Tom LaRocque and Annie Kidd conducted the classes at St. Joseph's. "They were very welcoming and supportive," added Taylor.

As the symbols unfolded during the Easter Vigil, Taylor was confirmed and received first Communion.

She described the experience as "so special." She felt "many emotions" during the liturgy and was so happy to receive sacraments at St. Joseph's. "This church is perfect. It's close to our house and it's a gorgeous, welcoming place to attend Mass."



*Taylor Martin was sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit as part of being fully initiated into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday, April 8.*



*Taylor received the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist and publicly professed the faith as family and friends prayed with and for her. She is pictured here with her mother, Patti McThenia.*

## Here's the RCIA Team with the newly initiated and their sponsors



*(Left to right) Tom LaRocque, facilitator, Sarah Martin, Meredith Scafiezzo, sponsor, Danielle Shervino, sponsor, Taylor Martin, and Annie Kidd, facilitator, started meeting together for RCIA at the parish in November 2022. Classes included topics and discussions about the Scriptures and the Sacraments as well as Catholic teachings and rituals.*

Tom and Annie agreed they both learned something new about their faith every week at RCIA too. "Our faith naturally grows when we make a conscious effort to look for ways to trust God," said Annie. "It allowed me time to reflect on my own journey and how I can work on becoming a better Christian and having a stronger relationship with God."



# Mobile Food Pantry *Great job, Knights!*



**April is National Volunteer Month and we have some amazing ones at St. Joseph Parish! They spend countless hours going out of their way to help out at church and with the many initiatives of the parish.**

**Friday morning, April 21, was no exception as 36 people helped out at the Mobile Food Pantry. In the end, the truck was emptied with all the food going to those in need.**

**As Volunteer Month ends, we would just like to thank all our parish volunteers. We couldn't fulfill our mission without you!**

St. Joseph's Knights of Columbus have been assisting Catholic Charities with its Rapid Rehousing outreach. Most of these clients are single mothers with children transitioning out of homelessness. Often large pieces of furniture become available through community members, Catholic Charities or other charitable organizations. But, the clients have no way of retrieving them. That's where the Knights have come in! What a great service! If you're interested in helping out, contact Justin Sommer at [jasommer85@yahoo.com](mailto:jasommer85@yahoo.com) or 815-216-0314.

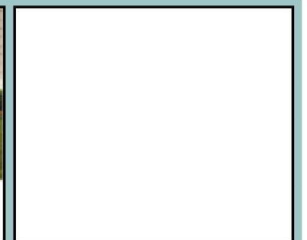
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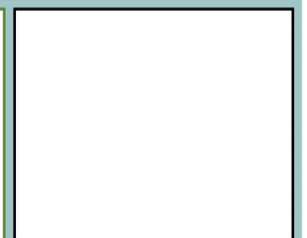
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