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The Nativity of the Lord

For today in the city of David a
savior has been born for you who
is Christ and Lord (Lk 2:11)

OUR PARISH



OUR FAMILY



Bulletin Deadline: 2 p.m. Tuesdays
pstorner@stjosephbradley.org

December 25, 2023

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR



WISHING YOU A MOST BLESSED AND MERRIEST CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR

My dear friends and St. Joseph family, on behalf of Fr. Charles Wheeler, the parish staff, and our deacons, I would like to express warm and heartfelt wishes and blessings this Christmas Season.

Not, only are we invited to Rejoice, but to remain steadfast in hope, faith and love. We Rejoice that we have a God, who loves us so very much, that he sent his son to become like us to save us.

Your service, ministry and faithfulness in so many different ways throughout the year are great examples of selfless love for one another making Christ present in our midst. May God continue to bless all that you do for the parish and one another and again may you have a very happy, merry and Blessed Christmas and New Year.-Fr. Marcin Michalak



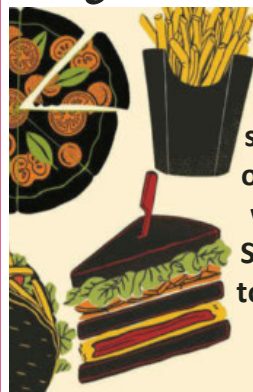
Sharing words of gratitude as we celebrate Christmas

Many thanks to all the volunteers making our Christmas Celebration so great at St. Joseph's and everyone who helped decorate and those who made donations for the flowers. Thanks again to all who had a hand in helping! We'll have pictures from Christmas in next weekend's bulletin.



Regular Mass Schedule Next Weekend at St. Joseph Parish

For the upcoming Feast of the Holy Family, we will have the usual 4pm Mass on Saturday, Dec. 30, and the regular 8:30 a.m. & 11 a.m. Masses on Sunday, Dec. 31.



Parish Dinner Nights Are Back!!

Starting in the new year, St. Joseph Parish will be sponsoring Dinner Nights at local restaurants benefitting our Religious Education and Youth Ministry. The first one will take place at Panera in Bourbonnais from 4-8pm on Saturday, Jan. 6, with 25% of the cost of your order going to St. Joseph's. Get a flyer at the parish website, brochure rack at church or the parish office and present it when ordering. Thanks for participating in this fundraiser!

Because of when it falls during the week, the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God is not a holy day of obligation in 2024. We will, however, have two special Masses to celebrate our Blessed Mother and her example of holiness. On New Year's Eve (Sunday, Dec. 31), Mass will be celebrated at 4pm, and on New Year's Day (Monday, Jan. 1) Mass will be celebrated at 11am. (We will not have the regular Monday Communion Service).

SERVICE INFORMATION & MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday December 26 <i>St. Stephen,</i> <i>First Martyr</i> 7 a.m. Mass † Madeleine “Madge” Power by Eleanor Small	Wednesday December 27 <i>St. John, Apostle</i> <i>& Evangelist</i> 7 a.m. Mass † Deceased Members of St. Joseph School’s Class of 1978	Thursday December 28 <i>The Holy</i> <i>Innocents, Martyrs</i> 7 a.m. Mass † Fr. John Antczak (Anniversary Memorial) by Vicki Burgener	Friday December 29 <i>St. Thomas</i> <i>Becket,</i> <i>Bishop & Martyr</i> 8:30 a.m. Mass † Ronald Hart by Kathy King & Sheri	Saturday December 30 <i>Christmas Octave</i> <i>Weekday</i> 8:30 a.m. Mass † Ted & Theresa (Sadowski) Tusinski by Family & Friends
Saturday, December 30 4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass † Stephen T. Wroblewski (Birthday Memorial) by Children			Sunday, December 31 8:30 a.m. Mass *The People of St. Joseph Parish 11:00 a.m. Mass *The People of St. Joseph Parish	

PRACTICING STEWARDSHIP

I am not going to wish you a Merry Christmas.

I have no problem with merriness, and I certainly hope you have your share of it today. May the frosting on your cookies be extra thick. May the lights of your tree be particularly twinkly. May the crackling of your fire be especially pleasant, and the places around your table filled by smiling loved ones. No, there is nothing wrong with being merry, especially on such a day.

But the angels did not bring news of great merriment. They brought news of great joy, and though our world often confuses these, they are not the same.

Joy is harder to achieve than merriness, but it’s easier to keep because it is far, far more durable. Joy can withstand the roughness of this earthly life in a way that merriness never could. Merriness cannot live in the hearts of people whose plans have been upended, whose futures have been rearranged and whose very lives are in danger. But joy certainly can. Merriness doesn’t follow from a long and uncertain journey, with no reassurances except the steadfast belief that you are doing the God’s will. But joy does. Merriness does not shiver in a stable or hang on a cross. But joy can, and it has! May you have a truly joyful Christmas

-Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

*Offertory Numbers will be printed in next
weekend’s Parish Bulletin*

Readings for the Week of December 24, 2023

Monday: *Vigil:* Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25 *Night:* Is 9:1-6/Ps 96: 1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14 *Dawn:* Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20

Tuesday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17/Mt 10:17-22

Wednesday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Thursday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8/Mt 2:13-18

Friday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6/Lk 2:22-35

Saturday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Lk 2:36-40

Next Sunday: 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 or 2:22, 39-40

Mass Readings: www.stjosephbradley.org



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Bradley on
Facebook
& “Follow”
us on
Instagram**

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 offerings. You can make automated ACH Offerings from your savings or checking accounts. **Clip the ACH Authorization Form on page 6 or download and print one at the parish website, complete it and put it in collection basket or mail it to the parish.** Or stop by the parish office to sign-up for Auto Deduct. Or look for the **PayPal** option at our parish website to set-up online contributions with your credit card. Thanks for your kindness and faithful stewardship.



Our Mobile Food Pantry Team wishes you a Merry Christmas and Blessed New Year and thanks parishioners for your continued support. The Mobile Food Pantry arrives monthly and provides for families who come needing assistance. Monetary donations assist in defraying the cost of bringing the truck to St. Joseph's.



We're getting new carpet in the parish office and our Maintenance Staff needs help moving furniture out this coming Wednesday, Dec. 27, starting at 8 a.m. Volunteers will also be needed to help move things back on Friday, Dec. 29, starting at 3 p.m. Please give some time to help with this project while the parish office is closed for Christmas.

The Week at a glance at St. Joseph Parish

Sunday, Dec. 24 Christmas Prelude Concert 2:00 p.m. Church Christmas Eve Mass 3:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass 10:00 p.m. Church	Monday, Dec. 25 Christmas Day Mass 8:30 a.m. Christmas Day Mass 11:00 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 26 Mass 7:00 a.m. Church Adoration 1:00-6:00 p.m. Rosary 6:30 p.m.	Weds, Dec. 27 Mass 7:00 a.m. Thurs, Dec. 28 Mass 7:00 a.m. Church Men's AA Group 7:00-9:00 p.m. Ministry Center	Friday, Dec. 29 Mass 8:30 a.m. Natural Family Planning Class 5:30 p.m. Ministry Center Registration Required Saturday, Dec. 30 Mass 8:30 a.m. Vigil Mass 4:00 p.m. Church	Sunday, Dec. 31 Mass 8:30 a.m. Church Mass 11:00 a.m. Church Holy Day Vigil Mass 4:00 p.m. Church Monday, Jan. 1 Holy Day Mass 11:00 a.m. Church
The Parish Office is closed this week. It will re-open on Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2024				

WEEKEND LITURGICAL ROLES	December 30 4:00 PM Mass	December 31 8:30 AM Mass	December 31 11:00 AM Mass	Interested in any of these liturgical ministries? Contact the parish office for information and training. Ministers can go online to see when they are scheduled, request subs and input when not to be scheduled.
Hospitality Ministers	Jay Karr Donna Karr Diane Gonczy	Aliess Bedford Sherry Johnson Volunteer Needed	Sorich Family	
Lectors	Gisel Waide (both readings)	Jonathon Storer (both readings)	Jan St. John (1) Lisa Robbins (2)	
Eucharistic Ministers	Michael Yurkowski Pat Yurkowski Patricia Burr Marian Worby Lori Gadbois	Mira Brosseau John Chinski Daniel Trivino Teresa Fritz	Lupita Sorich Alan Knittel Stephanie Quigley Pat Knittel Becky Graf	
Altar Servers	Vicki Burgener	Adelaide Bedford	Joshua Sorich Shane Martin	
Deacons	Deacon Greg Clodi	Deacon Leon Fritz		
Presiders	Fr. Charles Wheeler	Fr. Marcin Michalak	Fr. Marcin Michalak	



We still have many liturgical positions available for the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God on New Year's Eve (4pm Mass) and New Year's Day (11am Mass). You're invited to minister on this special occasion in honor of Our Blessed Mother. What a great way to start the new year! Please check for openings in the web terminal and sign-up online or leave a message for Paul in the parish office or send him an email.



Merry Christmas!

From Council #14251

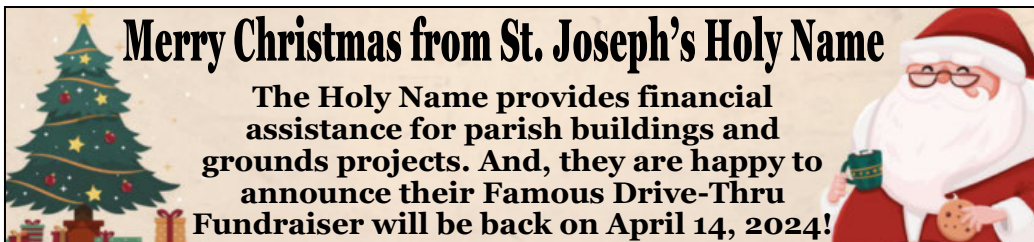
Merry Christmas from
The RE & Youth Ministry Offices



We are grateful to be on this journey with you, growing in our faith and passing it on! We look forward to more lessons and fun activities to grow closer to God and one another in the new year!

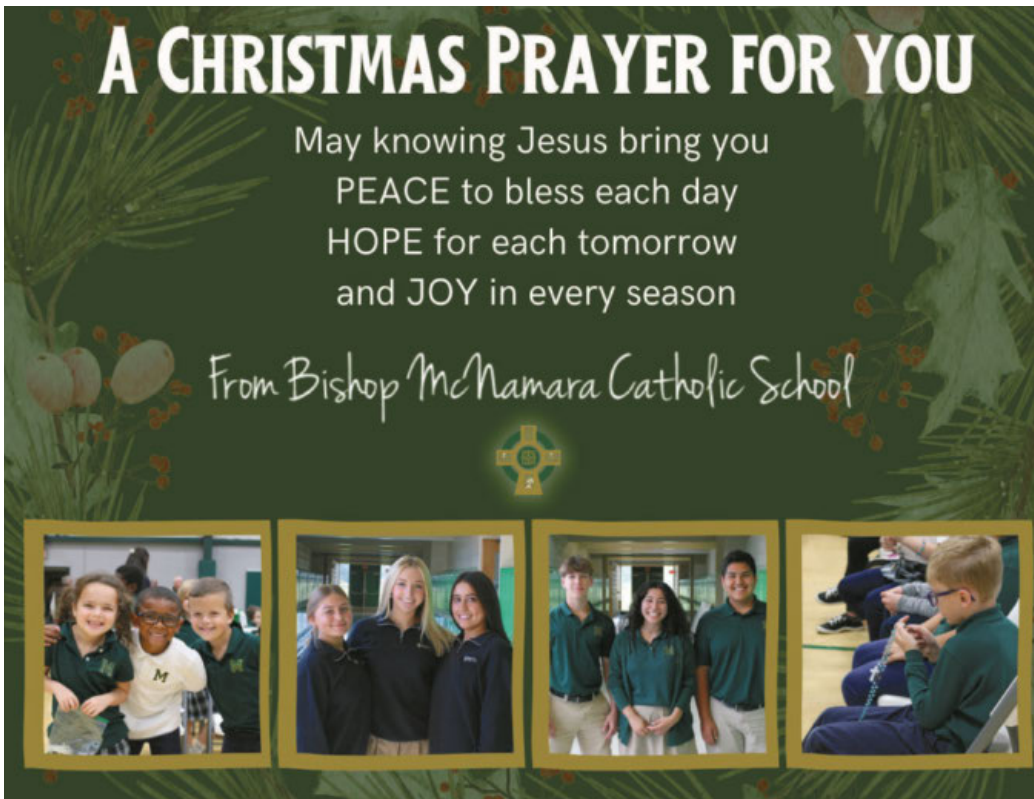
God's blessings, Anita Lovell & Sandra Jefferson

We would just like to share a quick message to the people of St. Joseph Parish, thanking you for your support of our projects and fundraisers. May you enjoy the Christmas spirit during this festive time and keep it with you throughout the year!-Knights Council #14251



Merry Christmas from St. Joseph's Holy Name


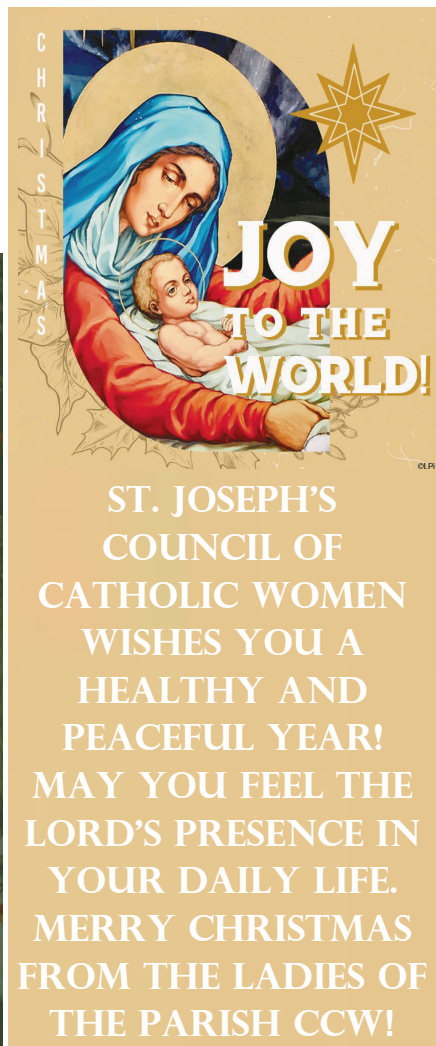
The Holy Name provides financial assistance for parish buildings and grounds projects. And, they are happy to announce their Famous Drive-Thru Fundraiser will be back on April 14, 2024!



A CHRISTMAS PRAYER FOR YOU

May knowing Jesus bring you
PEACE to bless each day
HOPE for each tomorrow
and JOY in every season

From Bishop McNamara Catholic School

JOY TO THE WORLD!

ST. JOSEPH'S COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN WISHES YOU A HEALTHY AND PEACEFUL YEAR! MAY YOU FEEL THE LORD'S PRESENCE IN YOUR DAILY LIFE. MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE LADIES OF THE PARISH CCW!

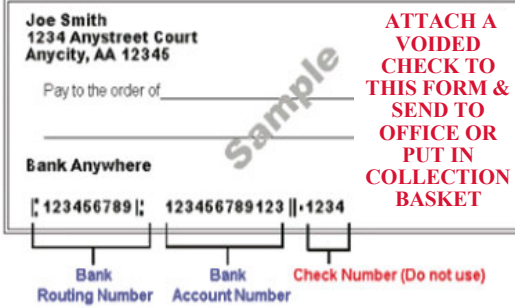
ST. JOSEPH PARISH AUTOMATIC WITHDRAWAL AUTHORIZATION FORM (ACH DEBITS)

I hereby authorize Midland States Bank on behalf of St. Joseph Church, to initiate debit entries from my banking account as indicated below.

(Financial Institution Name) _____		(Branch) _____
(Address) _____	(City/State) _____	(Zip) _____
Type of Acct: Checking _____ Savings _____		
(Routing/Transit Number) _____	(Account Number) _____	

Date of Transaction: 5th and/or 20th Amount of Transaction \$ _____
(Circle One or Both)

This authority is to remain in full force and effect until St. Joseph Church has received written notification from me of its termination in such time and manner as to afford St. Joseph Church and Financial Institution a reasonable opportunity to act on it.

_____ (Print Individual Name)		 <p>ATTACH A VOIDED CHECK TO THIS FORM & SEND TO OFFICE OR PUT IN COLLECTION BASKET</p>
_____ (Street Address)		
_____ (City, State and Zip)		
_____ (Signature)	_____ (Date)	_____ (Email Address)

***OR YOU CAN DONATE AT THE PARISH WEBSITE
THROUGH ST. JOSEPH'S PAYPAL OPTION**



St. Joseph Parish Information

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

Reconciliation

After 8:30 a.m. Mass Saturday; 3 p.m.

Saturday; First Friday Holy Hour or

call the office for an appointment

Adoration

Tuesdays 1pm-6pm; Rosary 6:30 pm

Baptism

1st & 3rd Sundays. Class required.

Weddings

Call the parish office for guidelines

at least 6 months in advance

Pastor

Rev. Marcin Michalak

Deacon

Leon Fritz

Music Director

Brad Benoit

Pastoral Associate

Deacon Greg Clodi

Business Manager

Kevin Delabre

Communications Director

Paul Storer

Religious Education

Coordinators

Anita Lovell &

Sandra Jefferson

RE Office: 815-937-9340

Prayer Line

Sharon Monty 815-954-4922

parishadmin@stjosphbradley.org

Parish Office

815-939-3573

Mon-Thurs: 9:00am-4:00pm

Friday: 9am-1:00pm

Website

www.stjosephbradley.org

Social Media

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