

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



The Feast of The Holy Family

When they had fulfilled all the prescriptions of the law of the Lord, (the Holy Family) returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.-Lk 2:22, 39-40

OUR PARISH



OUR FAMILY



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

December 31, 2023

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God



Because it falls very close to the weekend, the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God, is not a holy day of obligation in 2024. We will, however, have two special parish Masses to celebrate our Blessed Mother and her beautiful 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 morning Communion Service).



Our monthly Holy Hour is coming up next Friday, Jan. 5, after the 8:30 a.m. Mass with Eucharistic Adoration and opportunity for Reconciliation.

The devotion concludes with Benediction. What a wonderful chance to spend some quiet time with Jesus during the Christmas Season.



Home Blessing Kits Available Next Weekend



We will once again offer Home Blessing Kits on the feast of the Epiphany for parishioners to bless their homes, remembering the hospitality that the Holy Family showed the Magi and asking for protection and blessing on their home and upon all who enter it. The kits will contain chalk, tiny container of Holy Water, and small amounts of incense from church. The home blessing is done by writing on your door frame: 20+C+M+B+24. The 20 & 24 represent the year. The + signifies the cross and the C, M, B stand for the traditional names of the

Wise Men: Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar. (The letters also denote the Latin phrase "Christus mansionem benedicat," meaning Christ bless this house). A prayer and directions will be included as well. Look for these kits next weekend.

Dinner Night!! Panera Next Saturday

We're "Raising Some Dough" at Panera from 4-6pm next Saturday, Jan. 6. Download the flyer at the parish website or grab one in the brochure rack at church. Bring the flyer with you or show it to the

cashier from your phone and 25% of the cost of your order will be donated to our RE/Youth Ministry.

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SERVICE INFORMATION & MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday December 31 <i>Holy Day Anticipation</i> 4 p.m. Vigil Mass *The People of St. Joseph Parish in Bradley	Monday January 1 <i>The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God</i> 11 a.m. Mass *The People of St. Joseph Parish	Tuesday January 2 <i>St. Basil & St. Gregory</i> 7 a.m. Mass † Betty Clodi (Birthday Memorial) by The Clodi Family	Wednesday January 3 <i>The Most Holy Name of Jesus</i> 7:00 a.m. Mass *The People of St. Joseph Parish	Thursday January 4 <i>St. Elizabeth Ann Seton</i> 8:30 a.m. Mass † Madge Power by Karen Raymore	Friday January 5 <i>St. John Neumann</i> 8:30 a.m. Mass † Jim Burch & Chester Gifford (Birthday Memorial) by Families
Saturday January 6 <i>St. André</i> 8:30 a.m. Mass *The People of St. Joseph's	Saturday, January 6 4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass † Duane F. Denault by Nancy Shelley † Bryce Denoyer (Birthday Memorial) by Judy Denoyer		Sunday, January 7 8:30 a.m. Mass † Clifford DeMarah (Anniversary Memorial) by Connie Messier 11:00 a.m. Mass † Harry Bukowski (Anniversary Memorial) by Family		

PRACTICING STEWARDSHIP

In the first weeks of parenthood, the tears flowed fast and freely. Sometimes I wept because the days were so long. Sometimes because they were so short, taking away inaugural moments of my daughter's life—moments I knew I would long for someday. So, the inclusion of the Presentation of Jesus in the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary has always struck me. Mary, just weeks after giving birth, standing at the temple: Is she tired? Is she emotional? She just stands there, offering her baby to the Lord, and is told, "A sword shall pierce your heart." Joyful? I don't think so! But Mary knows that Simeon speaks truth, and she cannot receive God's will with anything less than joy, even if it means sadness one day. Family means love, but love means—what, exactly? Pleasure, fulfillment, contentment? Yes, but more, too. It means you have much to lose. How full is family life with these beautiful moments which, on the surface, look and feel painful—but hold within them the opportunity to be like Mary, to bow our heads and once again say "Yes, Lord."—Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Offerings for the weekend of December 16/17, 2023

\$9,788.00

4:00 pm: \$2,441.00

8:30 am: \$3,737.00

11:00 am: \$1,935.00

Offerings Mailed to St. Joseph Parish: \$1,675.00

Offerings for Christmas Flowers: \$980.00

Food Donations: 60 Pounds

**The Christmas Collection Numbers will be printed
in next weekend's Parish Bulletin**

Readings for the Week of December 31, 2023

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

Monday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 (2a)/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 1:19-28

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:29—3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6/Jn 1:29-34

Thursday: 1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Jn 1:35-42

Friday: 1 Jn 3:11-21/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Jn 1:43-51

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38 or 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38

Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 (see 11)/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

Mass Readings: 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 offerings. You can make automated **ACH Offerings** from your savings or checking accounts. **Download the ACH Authorization Form 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 PayPal account or credit card. Thanks for your kindness and faithful stewardship.



Many thanks to the clergy, liturgical ministers, and musicians who made our celebration of the Nativity such a powerful and welcoming experience of prayer and community. With Christmas starting mere hours following the Saturday and Sunday liturgies, Fr. Marcin, Deacon Greg, Deacon Leon, Brad Benoit and many of our musicians and liturgical ministers had to do double duty in the mornings and evenings to make the Masses come alive as usual with all the services needed for the Christmas Celebration. What an awesome and inspiring feat of love, faith and service! We also very much appreciate the volunteers behind-the-scenes and everyone who had a hand in helping create such a festive and prayerful atmosphere! We have a video of Christmas Mass at St. Joseph Church to view at our parish website with clips from the Youth Ensemble's Christmas Prelude available to watch as well. Merry Christmas Season!

WEEKEND LITURGICAL ROLES	January 6 4:00 PM Mass	January 7 8:30 AM Mass	January 7 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	Jim Graf Becky Graf Michael Ely	Shervino Family	Candi Brenneisen Greg Brenneisen Sandra Jefferson	
Lectors	Beth Bisaillon (both readings)	Gary Gross (1) Cameron Gross (2)	Lupita Sorich (1) Jan St. John (2)	
Eucharistic Ministers	Lori Gadbois Michael Ely Diane Ely Patricia Croix	John Chinski Nick Shervino Sharyn Gross Mary Kay Pittman Lindsay Adams	Sr. Susan Ninyikiriza Sr. Max Nanyanzi Julie Gindy Paul Storer	
Altar Servers	Vicki Burgener	Harrison Adams Hudson Adams	Ryane Jefferson Eleanor Jamros Aiden Jamros	
Deacons	Deacon Leon Fritz	Deacon Greg Clodi	Deacon Leon Fritz	
Presiders	Fr. Marcin Michalak	Fr. Charles Wheeler	Fr. Marcin Michalak	



The Parish Office will re-open this Tuesday, January 2, 2024. In the meantime, online messages will be checked. If you have a death or sickness in the family, needing immediate attention, please call the parish and leave your message on the church's emergency line.

Deadline
Contributions for the year 2023 and
JANUARY 5, 2024

Christmas 2023 will be accepted until Jan 5, 2024, for tax purposes. Mark the year if it is a donation for 2023 and make sure the date on the check is no later than Dec. 31, 2023. Post mark the envelope by that date as well. Thanks for your ongoing support of St. Joseph Parish!

The Week at a glance at St. Joseph Parish

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	Tuesday, Jan. 2 Mass 7:00 a.m. Church Nursing Home Ministry 10:00 p.m. Adoration 1:00-6:00 p.m. Rosary 6:30 p.m. Weds, Jan. 3 Mass 7:00 a.m. Church	Thurs, Jan. 4 Mass 7:00 a.m. Church Men's AA Group 7:00-9:00 p.m. Ministry Center Friday, Jan. 5 Mass 8:30 a.m. First Friday Holy Hour after 8:30 a.m. Mass Church	Saturday, Jan. 6 Mass 8:30 a.m. Church Vigil Mass 4:00 p.m. Church Panera Dinner Night 4:00-8:00 p.m. <i>Get the flyer at the parish website, from the brochure rack at church or at the parish office</i>	Sunday, Jan. 7 Mass 8:30 a.m. OCIA Class 9:30 a.m. Parish Conference Room Mass 11:00 a.m. Church Holy Name Meeting 9:30 a.m. St. Joseph's Ministry Center
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Lighting the Way to Christ!



Thanks so much to our families and members of St. Joseph Parish's organizations and groups for participating in the Candle Lighting ritual during Mass as part of our celebration of the Season of Advent. You (and our young Lantern Carriers on Sunday mornings) truly enhanced our Advent by your willingness to light the way to Christ!



We'd also like to share some special words of gratitude to Julie Gindy for purchasing the new lanterns, so this Advent tradition with our young people can continue for years to come at St. Joseph Church.

A Message of Season's Greetings & Gratitude from Versiti Blood Center

*Happy
New
Year!*

Dear St. Joseph Parish, We want to express our deepest appreciation for your unwavering support in hosting community blood drives. In 2023, while there were drives that you did not meet your goal, we're thrilled to share with you that overall there was a 3% increase over the previous year, with the collection of 133 units! Fantastic!

This accomplishment holds the promise of saving approximately 400 lives. On behalf of Versiti, our esteemed hospital partners, and the patients who benefit from your generosity, we extend heartfelt thanks. Your pivotal role as donors and St. Joseph Parish in Bradley as a hosting venue continues to make a significant impact. Looking ahead, we eagerly anticipate your continued support and wish your families a Happy and Healthy 2023! Thank you for your ongoing partnership! *Best regards, Versiti Blood Center of Illinois*

Call the parish office or make your appointment at St. Joseph's website for our Blood Drive happening on Sunday, January 28, 2024. What an amazing way to start the New Year by giving someone the gift of life!

Happy New Year from the Servants of the Holy Heart of Mary

The Sisters have many programs planned as we begin 2024, including a special four-part series, called "Reviving Our Love of the Eucharist." This will be an online program offered via Zoom platform on Wednesdays, Jan. 17 & 31 and Feb. 14 & 28. For complete information about all SSCM programs, visit <https://www.sscm-usa.org/Workshops-Retreats.html> or call 708-790-8141.

Happy New Year from the Human Resources Department of the Joliet Diocese

There are several career opportunities in the offices of the diocese. Many jobs are also available at parishes and institutions within the diocese. You can find out about all the positions available at: www.diojoliet.org/offices/careers.

January Vocation Prayer Calendar



The Diocese of Joliet Vocation Prayer Calendar was designed for people to pray each day for those who have committed their lives to the church. It lists names of diocesan priests, seminarians, religious priests, brothers, sisters, deacons, and men and women in formation. You can access January at St. Joseph's website. Please pray for those listed for the given day, asking our Lord to continue to sustain them, and that others will respond similarly to ministry in the Catholic Church.

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

Facebook & Instagram

Parish Registration

You are most welcome to become a parishioner! Register online at the parish website or call or stop by the parish office. Welcome to St. Joseph Parish in Bradley!

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