

St. Joseph Congregation

A family devoted to experience Jesus through prayer, formation and service



“O
WOMAN,
GREAT IS
YOUR
FAITH!”

MATTHEW 15:28

August 16, 2026

Twentieth Sunday
in Ordinary Time

Mass Schedule:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, & Friday 8:15am | Saturday (Vigil) 4:00pm | Sunday 8:00am, 10:30am

12130 W. Center Street, Wauwatosa, WI 53222

Parish Office: 414-771-4626 | Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:00am-3:30pm, Friday 8:00am-12:00pm

St. Joseph Congregation
12130 W. Center Street
Wauwatosa, WI 53222
Parish Office 414-771-4626

Pastoral Team

Rev. Justin Lopina, Pastor
lopinaj@archmil.org
Phone Extension 105

Deacon José Gonzales
joseuugon@yahoo.com

Deacon Kurt Peot
kurtap@yahoo.com

Catholic Formation Staff

Director of Religious Formation: Alex Burks
DRE@stjoetosa.com
Phone Extension 108

Admin. Assistant: Lisa Marynik
marynikl@stjoetosa.com
Phone Extension 111

Parish Staff

Parish Admin. Assistant: Nikki Claas
parishadmin@stjoetosa.com
Phone Extension 101

Director of Liturgy &
Business Admin. Assistant:
Suzanne Silman
silmans@stjoetosa.com
Phone Extension 104

Maintenance Director: Matt Adams
adamsm@stjoetosa.com
Phone Extension 115

Music Director: Dan O'Connor
music@stjoetosa.com
414-444-2244

Trustees

Arleen Lemmon, Secretary
arleen.bakula@gmail.com

Tom Zimmerman, Treasurer
tom.zimmerman@fiserv.com

Parish Information

Parish Registration: Registration for the parish can be done at the Parish Office during normal business hours or after Mass on Sunday in the Welcome Center at the Center St. entrance of church. Young people out of college school are requested to register as adult members.

Hearing Impaired: St. Joseph's Church has an "Audio Loop" for use by people who have a hearing aid equipped with a "T switch".

St. Joseph Chapel Hours:
Monday-Friday 7:00am to 8:00pm

St. Joseph Catholic School
2750 N. 122nd Street
Wauwatosa, WI 53222
School Office 414-771-5577

Principal: Bryanna VanVreede
vanvreedeb@stjosephschooltosa.com
Phone Extension 120

Admin. Assistant: Margaret Shea
sjsoffice@stjosephschooltosa.com
Phone Extension 114

Pastoral Council

Chair: Alanna Wilgus
awilgus@att.net

Pastoral Council Members:

Mark Fredericks
Megan Harney
Joe McCool
Jennifer Mendoza
Sarah Navis
Jill Pitterle
Kevin Scott
Mike Smrz

Finance Council

Chair: Peter Diotte
peter.diotte@gmail.com

Finance Council Members:

Dave Beaumier
Carol Polivka
Tom Powers
Ed Reuter
Jim Schwai
Art Wigchers

Buildings & Grounds

Chair: Carol Polivka
carol_polivka@polivka.org

School Committee

Chair: Jeremy Blackwood
jblackwoodmu@gmail.com

Christian Formation

Chair: Larry Barbian
frodolb@yahoo.com

Home & School

Association
Chair: Rachel Blackwood
rachel.blackwood1@gmail.com



**Adoration of the
Most Blessed Sacrament:**

Adoration will take place every Monday immediately following the 8:15am Mass until 9:30am.
Confession offered as well.

Holy Hour/Adoration will take place on the first Thursday of the month 6:30pm-7:30pm in the Chapel.

Anointing of the Sick:

Anointing of the Sick will take place on the first Friday and first Saturday of the month at the 8:15am Mass.

*Anointing may also be done by appointment.
Please call the Parish Office.*

Mass Intentions		Persevere in Faith
Monday, August 17th 7:35am Rosary 8:15am † Ray & Della Rakers		Today's Gospel from Matthew reminds us to trust the Lord even when it seems He is not answering our prayers. God desires to lead us to the joy of heaven and eternal life with Him. To prepare us for that day, He calls us to grow in faith and to live each day as a grateful response to His goodness. In other words, He is forming us into saints. This is what the stewardship way of life is meant to accomplish. At times that process is difficult. Often, it stretches us beyond our comfort. Jesus certainly challenged the Canaanite woman in today's Gospel. She cried out to Him on behalf of her daughter, who was tormented by a demon. How did Jesus respond to this desperate mother's plea? At first, He "did not say a word in answer to her." Undeterred, she continued to seek Him, and He continued to test her faith. She responded with such remarkable trust that Jesus proclaimed, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." Imagine hearing those words spoken to us by our Lord. There could be no greater affirmation of a life lived in faithful discipleship. The stewardship way of life will test our trust in God at times. But those are often the moments when He is doing His greatest work within us. Let us persevere in faith, trusting that His plan is always leading us toward the joy He has prepared for us. -copyright: Catholic Stewardship Consultants, www.CatholicSteward.com
Tuesday, August 18th 7:30am The Patriotic Rosary 8:00am Perpetual Help 8:15am Holy Souls in Purgatory		
Wednesday, August 19th 7:35am Rosary 8:15am † Christine Philipp		
Thursday, August 20th No Mass		
Friday, August 21st 7:35am Rosary 8:15am † Joseph Anthony Iannelli		
Saturday, August 22nd 3:00pm Reconciliation 4:00pm † Robert Speck The Don Borden Family		
Sunday, August 23rd 7:00am Reconciliation 8:00am † John Chudada Jr. † Tom & Julie Novotny 10:30am Our Parish Family		
Readings of the Week	Monday: Ez 24:15-23; (Ps) Dt 32:18-21; Mt 19:16-22	<i>Congratulations on your Baptism!</i> <i>Gabriella Rose</i> daughter of Michael & Ashley W. 
	Tuesday: Ez 28:1-10; (Ps) Dt 32:26-28, 30, 35c-36b; Mt 19:23-30	
	Wednesday: Ez 34:1-11; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 20:1-16	
	Thursday Ez 36:23-28; Ps 51:12-15, 18-19; Mt 22:1-14	
	Friday: Ez 37:1-14; Ps 107:2-9; Mt 22:34-40	
	Saturday: Ez 43:1-7ab; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Mt 23:1-12	
	Sunday: Is 22:19-23; Ps 138:1-3, 6, 8; Rom 11:33-36; Mt 16:13-20	
		<u>Attention Liturgical Ministers!</u> Work will soon begin on the fall schedule. Please take a moment and login into Ministry Scheduler Pro and update your online information with any vacations or changes to your ministry. This schedule will begin with the weekend of September 19/20 and will run though the beginning of December. All updates need to be completed by Friday, August 28th to be included in this schedule. Thank you for your continued time and help.



Sacraments

Baptism: Parents who wish to have their child baptized must be registered members of St. Joseph Parish and practicing their Catholic Faith. A pre-baptism class must be attended prior to the date of the baptism. Baptisms are celebrated at one of the weekend Masses or at another arranged time. For more information contact the Parish Office.

Funerals: Please call the Parish Office in the event of the death of a loved one. Arrangements will be made for planning of the service including the musicians. Advanced planning may be done by making an appointment with Father.

Reconciliation: Monday 9:00am-9:30am, during adoration, Saturday 3:00 pm-3:50 pm, Sunday 7:00am-7:50am, or by appointment. Please call the Parish Office.

Weddings: Couples must contact the pastor to make arrangements for marriage. No date should be set until this is done as the church may not be available. The Catholic party must be a registered and practicing member of the parish for at least six months prior to setting a date. In addition, a six month period of preparation is required for marriage.

Ministry of the Sick

Please take a moment to pray...

Heavenly Father, Lay Your healing hands on those who are sick...

AnneLiese Bitzl, Connie Borden, Christine Brady, Chris Burk, Phil Cashill, Margaret Christman, Dennis Cimpl, Marian Cochrane, Katy Connors, Donna Drake, Marge Fandre, Jane Foxgrover, Jeanne Fuchs, Josefina Gallegos, Christine Gilpatrick, Cameron Gonring, Amy Grahovac, Aggie Green, Betty Groshek, Jenny Grosschadl, Diane Haase, Bruce Henning, Barb Hesselbein, Alex Holmes, Charles Jacoby, Jim Janette, Joy Kasun, Joyce Keller, Janet Klein, Don Kresse, Richard Kroscher, Doug Kruse, Chris Kurth, Julian Lombard, Mark Mayer, Sue McCauley, Tom McElwee, Margaret Mehigan, Theresa Motto, Shawn Munch, Lee Neustedter, Loren Norstrem, Honey Pat Scot, Sandra Payst, Karen Peltier, Dale Peterson, Luis Rodriguez, Dan Rooney, Paul Siverling, Carol & Lee Smaglick, Tim Taff, Betty Weinzierl, Peter Wenzel, Ann Marie Wick & Karin Yeatman



We also include any of our loved ones who are dealing with cancer or mental illness.

If you know anyone who is sick or in the hospital, please let us know. The hospitals do not always contact us.

If you or someone you know is homebound or ill and would like to receive communion, please call the Parish Office.



WE HAVE RECEIVED A LOT OF INTEREST IN SPECIAL RELIGIOUS ED. CATECHESIS HERE AT ST. JOSEPH'S AND WE ARE PROUD TO ANNOUNCE THAT WE ARE OFFICIALLY MOVING FORWARD WITH SPRED!

SPRED REPRESENTATIVES WILL BE AT BOTH SUNDAY MASSES ON SUNDAY AUGUST 23RD TO ANSWER QUESTIONS AND FORMALLY BEGIN THE PROCESS OF BEGINNING SPRED AT ST. JOSEPH'S

IF YOU INTERESTED IN SPRED AS A PERSPECTIVE STUDENT OR CATECHIST, PLEASE FILL OUT THE GOOGLE FORM BELOW



Sign Up for
**RELIGIOUS
EDUCATION!**



*Registration
Form*



Deadline:
on or before
September 4th



First Class:
September 13th



Or visit our website for more information

<https://www.stjoetosa.com/child-youth-ministry>



From the Desk of Father Justin

I've been thinking a lot, in these past weeks, about how much the order of things matters. Some see morality, Scripture, and faith as a kind of "chicken or the egg" scenario. Which one comes first? Are they interchangeable? How is religion meant to "work", in a certain sense of the word? How can we reveal to the world that ours is a "faith seeking understanding"? What can we show to the world to indicate that Christian discipleship is not a flight-of-fancy or just one more myth in the vast collection of myths within human history?

Those are lofty questions; let me back up a bit. Christopher Nolan's "The Odessey" came out a few weeks ago, and I've listened to my fair share of YouTube commentaries on it. This is my most preferred way to stay in tune with pop culture. Well, there's one odd thing about this version of the Odessey: Nolan removed the gods from the story. Sure, he kept the cyclops and other monsters, and a young woman spoke to him as if she was Athena, but that's peanuts compared to how the gods were major characters in the original story. Nolan went a different direction for his telling, and apparently his reason for this was his understanding that ancient Greeks knew the gods through thunder and lightning, or through the wind and the waves. Clearly, the ancients didn't actually believe that Zeus or Apollo walked the earth while interacting with mortals like playthings. The YouTuber I happened to be listening to was arguing for the position that the gods *had* to be a part of the story. That was a reasonable stance, in my eyes. He went on to defend that position and he said that belief is always an ever-present part of the human condition. People today believe that Mohummad really did ride a flaming horse. That Jesus literally walked on water. That Jacob actually wrestled with an angel. Are we really in a position to dismiss the ancient Greeks' beliefs as utterly unthinkable, by contrast?

That was the moment that made me pause the video and think a bit. My priest-brain activated its "hey, wait a minute, something's off about that" alarm. It didn't take me long to identify my almost subconscious objection. If we take them as nothing more than children's stories, then there is indeed no meaningful difference between Jesus' miracles and all the things Neptune does to Odysseus in the story. It's all just entertaining fairytales, taken at face value. The critical piece of the puzzle, which my YouTuber missed, is that there is an order – a sequence – to things. Do we begin with the miracle at face value, or do we start with knowing Jesus? That question can be reframed to a declaration of our faith in Christ: Jesus walking on water doesn't make him God. Rather, Jesus is God, and therefore he can walk on water. When people scramble that sequence, they think of miracles first and divinity second. "Why should I believe in Jesus? Because he could walk on water and he fed 5000 people!" That argument is fragile at best: by the same logic, you might as well believe in Zeus because he could turn into a swan.

Instead of that train of thought, consider this instead. You start with the idea of God. For the sake of brevity, I'll gloss over this part – I have many arguments for why you should take God seriously, and they all deserve a full-length bulletin article at a bare minimum. But if you can get your head around the concept that life isn't random or meaningless, and that there is some sort of divine presence beyond the world (and interacting with the world), then you can start to see the miracles in a different light. Who is Jesus, this man who claims to be the Son of God? He's no military leader; he's not any sort of hero archetype at all. But evil spirits have no mastery over him. He can restore sick or injured people to health. He can walk on water – the worldly manifestation of chaos and danger. He can even bring the dead back to life.

When you take Jesus seriously first, and then analyze his miracles second, those events teach you about who Jesus is and what he seeks to accomplish. If you read about miracles *without* taking Jesus seriously on a more personal and intimate level, you're much more likely to conclude that the Bible is little more than a collection of tall tales and/or some fanciful literature of ancient history.

I recently preached about the feeding of the 5000 and him walking on water. This overall theme was secretly at work in my head for both of those weekends: we should not disregard these Gospel passages as superstition but as educational moments when Jesus gets our attention and reveals something new about his divine nature as the only Son of God.

This was a long article, thank you for making it to the end! May God bless you always, and may the Holy Spirit guide you along the right path... all the days of your life.

Peace,
Father Justin

Meet the Teacher

MRS. O'NEIL

ABOUT ME:

My name is Patty O'Neil and I am the new 1st Grade teacher here at St. Joseph School. I am thrilled to be here! I have been a teacher for 20+ years in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, working with students of many grade levels in both urban and suburban settings.

PHILOSOPHY:

I believe ALL children can learn and that it is my responsibility to meet them where they are and deliver a strong educational program for them. I will work hard to get to know your 1st grader's learning styles, areas of strength and weakness and provide a safe place to grow, be supported, be challenged and have fun learning.

FAMILY:

My husband John and I will celebrate our 36th wedding anniversary this December. We have five wonderful children who attended Catholic schools from K4 through college and currently live all around the country. We enjoy watching WI sports, cool fall weather, walking our sweet dog, Frannie, and being at home.



FUN FACTS:

- I can name all fifty US state capitals.
- I love Wordle.
- I enjoy calligraphy and used to hand letter wedding invitations for brides when my kids were little for some extra cash!

CONTACT INFORMATION:

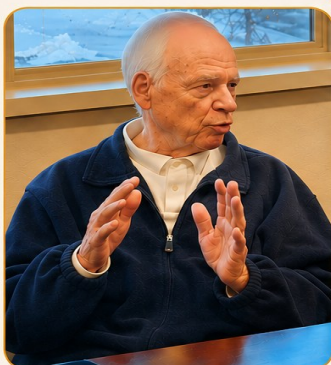
✉ oneilp@stjosephschooltosa.com

We invite all
St. Joe's
School Families
to our
Welcome Back
Picnic
on Thursday,
August 27th at
5:30pm
in the Lower
Parking Lot.

Welcome
Back
to
School

Men's Group

★ NEW DAY AND TIME(s) ★



To serve both working and retired men, the new and convenient weekly meetings for the *Men of Saint Joseph-Tosa* group-- starting September 10th-- will be
THURSDAYS,
from 6:30-8:00am
and 6:30-8:00pm,
in the Saint Joseph Room.
Enter at the parish office door and take either the stairs or the elevator to the 2nd floor.



All men of Confirmation age and up are welcome!

Each meeting includes a featured Saint (*there are thousands*), a professional explanation of the upcoming weekend's Gospel "context and meaning" provided by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops <*new this year*>, and discussion we'll present two series about male integrity at work, and about how vital men are in God's plan for families .. not to be missed.



NOTE: The same content is provided at both the morning and evening meetings. Free will offering to cover coffee, light refreshments and supplies. Our group enjoys a lot of fun, camaraderie, friendship and community. Now in our 12th year, it's a valuable, worthwhile group. Join us by just showing up!
Bring a father, son, brother, nephew, buddy.



Questions:
Duane Filtz
at 262-993-4858.

Upcoming Activities at St. Joseph's:

Monday, August 17

6:30pm-8:00pm: First Fruits—Summer Book Club
in St. Joseph Rm

Tuesday, August 18

5:00pm-7:00pm: Play Pen Sports in Field

6:30pm-8:00pm: Art & Environment
in Church & Sacristy

Wednesday, August 19

9:00am-10:30am: St. Faustina Small Group
in St. Matthew Rm

6:30pm-8:00pm: Pastoral Council in St. Joseph Rm

Thursday, August 20

1:00pm-2:00pm: Catholic Financial Life Chapter 216
in St. Mary Rm

5:00pm-9:00pm: Adult Choir Event in Hall

Friday, August 21

No Events

Saturday, August 22

9:00am-Noon: Play Pen Sports in Field

Sunday, August 23

4:00pm-5:30pm: Adult Confirmation OCIA
in St. Joseph Rm

Around the Archdiocese of Milwaukee:



CAPUCHIN
SPIRITUAL
CENTER
AT ST. FRANCIS



"THE DEADLY SIN OF AVARICE"

JOIN US ON **SATURDAY AUGUST 22**
FROM 10 AM - 12 PM
FOR SPECIAL TALK
WITH FR. BOB COOK OFM CONV.



Fr. Bob Cook, is a
Conventual Franciscan
friar and rector of the
Basilica of St. Josaphat
in Milwaukee, WI. He has
served as a pastor in
Chicago, seminary vice
president, shrine
director, and attorney
with Catholic Charities,
and is a chaplain to
several Catholic legal
organizations.

Use QR above for registration

For more information or to register directly, please contact us at:
773-343-0649 or at cscinfo@thecapuchins.org
Visit our website: www.capuchinspiritualcenter.org

1937 N Vel R. Phillips Ave, Milwaukee, WI 53212

BIERGARTEN

St. Joseph Catholic Church

Join Us for a Fun-Filled
Biergarten Event!

DATE: **Saturday, September 19th**

TIME: **5:00 PM (After Evening Mass)**

LOCATION: **Lower East Parking Lot**

WHAT TO EXPECT:

- Beer, Wine, Brats, and Burgers
- Music By Brew City DJs
- Meat Raffle
- Bouncy House & Games



Cash & Credit Card Payments Accepted
1 Ticket - \$1.00



ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH



St. Joe's Biergarten MEAT RAFFLE

SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 19

8:00 PM DRAWING



TICKET PRICES:

\$10 SINGLE TICKET
\$25 FOR 3 TICKETS

**9 Chances
to Win!**

PURCHASE TICKETS
in the parish office
in the school office
after Masses in Sept
at the Biergarten



Welcome to St. Joseph Congregation

We are blessed to have you
worship with us today!

*We pray that our celebration of the Mass
spiritually feeds you and that you feel
welcome among us.*

Have questions about St. Joseph
Congregation or the Catholic Church?
We're happy to answer! Just contact
Father Justin, Alex Burks—Director of Faith
Formation, or the Parish Office
(414) 771-4626.

Learn more about us at stjoetosa.com



At St. Joseph Catholic School we
offer a faith filled academic
experience for children
3K—8th grade.

If you would like to schedule a
tour and see what our school offers
please contact our principal,
Bryanna VanVreede, at
414-771-5577 or
vanvreedeb@stjosephschooltosa.com

Learn more about our day school
at stjosephschooltosa.com

Should you wish to advertise your
business here, please contact the
Parish Office at 414-771-4626 or
parishadmin@stjoetosa.com

Join the St. Joseph community on the
Hallow app: <https://hallow.app.link/KsEw6tzWf4b>

where you can connect with fellow
parishioners, share prayers, and
find reflections.



St. Joseph
Wauwatosa, WI

Restaurant And Lounge Open For Lunch And Dinner

Stop by our Lounge for Sandwich Or
Enjoy a Steak In Our Dining Room!

3041 North Mayfair Rd
414-476-6900



Banquet Facilities Available

FOTI Chiropractic

11717 W. North Avenue
Wauwatosa WI
414-259-9008



Dr. David J. Foti

www.fotichiropractic.com



Dr. Felicia Toy

Suzuki Violin Instruction

Registered Suzuki Instructors



Colleen Fitzgerald
Celestine Fitzgerald
Parish members

Email: barcel.suzuki@gmail.com

BUNZEL'S

Old Fashioned Meat Market

Fresh Custom Cut Choice Meats
Party Trays • Catering

Thank You For Shopping A Family Tradition

9015 W. Burleigh St. • 873-7960

www.bunzels.com