



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, Dennis Sylva, our Adult  
Minister, or the parish office (414) 771-4626.

Learn more about us at [stjoetosa.com](http://stjoetosa.com)

Items are collected for the Rummage Sale year-round, please see below for  
where items can be left:

- ♦ Please leave children's clothing, toys, adults & children's books in the Welcome Center.
- ♦ Bikes can be left between the west parking lot garages with a note attached: "Rummage".
- ♦ To donate furniture contact Fran, [dntolly@aol.com](mailto:dntolly@aol.com) Subject: Rummage
- ♦ Help us recycle & make money for St. Joe's—Currently collecting crushed aluminum cans and Christmas Lights. Leave outside the 2 single car garages in west parking lot.
- ♦ Join the great jewelry collection! Thousands of pieces of jewelry are needed! Ask every one you know if they can donate! Please leave the jewelry in the Welcome Center or Parish Office.

*Thank you for your continued support of our annual Rummage Sale!!*

*2026 Dates: June 18th, 19th & 20th*



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

**Suzuki Violin Instruction**  
Registered Suzuki Instructors  
Colleen Fitzgerald  
Celestine Fitzgerald  
Parish members  
Email: [barcel.suzuki@gmail.com](mailto:barcel.suzuki@gmail.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  
[vanvreede@stjosephschooltosa.com](mailto:vanvreede@stjosephschooltosa.com)

Learn more about our day school  
at [stjosephschooltosa.com](http://stjosephschooltosa.com)

Collecting items now  
for the 2026 sale!



## St. Joseph Congregation

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

# Jesus

is the Light of our Christmas

the joy of our hearts,

and the hope of our world.



# Merry Christmas

*December 25, 2025*

**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](http://www.bunzels.com)

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

Adult Minister: Dennis Sylva  
dennissylva@hotmail.com  
Phone Extension 106

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

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

Trustees

Sandy Schmitt, Secretary  
taschmitt@sbcglobal.net

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:**  
sjsoffice@stjosephschooltosa.com  
Phone Extension 114

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 Thursday, January 1st from 6:30pm-7:30pm in the Chapel.

Anointing of the Sick:

Anointing will take place on Friday, January 2nd and Saturday, January 3rd during the 8:15am Mass.

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

Mass Schedule

Monday-Wednesday, Friday: 8:15am

Saturday (Vigil): 4:00pm

Sunday: 8:00am & 10:30am

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Vigil—Wednesday, December 31st 5:00pm

Mass—Thursday, January 1st: 9:00am



**SAVE THE DATE**

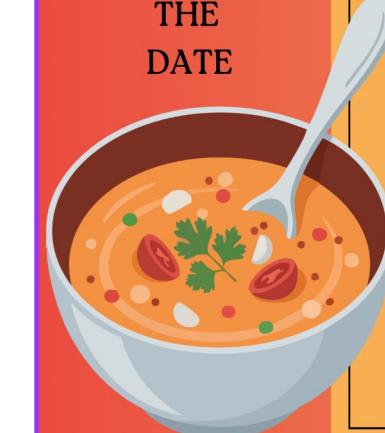
**SANTO INGRILLI MEMORIAL**



**SATURDAY, JANUARY 17<sup>TH</sup>**

Join us for Trivia Night to help support our  
8<sup>th</sup> graders' trip to Washington, D.C.!

**SAVE  
THE  
DATE**



**SOUP  
&  
CHILI  
COOK-OFF**

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 24<sup>TH</sup>  
5PM  
PARISH HALL**

St. Joseph Christian Women  
Invite you to attend "Ladies Night Out"



Join us for an evening of Good Friends, Good Food and Fun Opportunities!

**DATE: Wednesday, January 7th, 2026  
PLACE: Alioto's Restaurant – 3401 Mayfair Road  
TIME: 5:30 - Wine & Cheese Social  
6:30 - Dinner**

If interested in attending, RSVP forms can be found in the Parish Office!

**ST. JOSEPH  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
OPEN HOUSE**



**SUNDAY, JANUARY 25TH  
FOLLOWING 10:30 MASS**

**ENROLLMENT FOR THE 2026-2027  
SCHOOL YEAR OPENS MONDAY,  
FEBRUARY 2ND**

**EMAIL  
VANVREEDEB@STJOSEPHSCHOOLTOSA.COM  
TO SCHEDULE A PERSONALIZED TOUR!**



**Unmask The Magic**

**ST. JOSEPH PARISH AUCTION**

**03.07.26**

*Our church is decorated with poinsettias that were gifted in honor or memoriam for the following people:*

**In Memory:**

Deacon Art & Brian McManus

Puls & Birschbach Families

Betty & Owen McCrudden

Genevieve & Herb Scholz

John & Ann Van Gilder

Janet & Bill Keller

Bob & Lois Stevenson

William, Marjorie & Jeffrey Bakula

Dick Papen

Jim Schrader

Gladys Coyne

Patin & Malson Family Members

Delores McCarthy & Family

Louie & Betty Rebernick

Max & Gabby Weyer

Michael Gryniewicz

Mike Mantey

Rhea Navis

Vivian & Matt Bukowski

Merel & James Green

Eleanore & John Chudada Jr.

Mike Nunemaker

Franz Strigenz

Johann Lotz

Maria Lotz

Otto & Jean Wendler

Gerald & Judith Walsh

Mom & Dad

Marian Wendler

Bertie & Philomena O'Hanlon

Robert Willson

Margo & Ken Banicki

Jack & Jodie Bryson

Gordonna Komassa

Joseph Fitzgerald

Mr. & Mrs. Alberto Rodriguez

Gilbert & Anna Reindl

Sandra Senn

Danielle Arre

Mel Dreikosen

Mary Jane & Jerry Kohlmann Sr.

John Christman

Barbara Lancton Allbright

Msgr. James Jamail

Frank & Irene Gentile

Debra Stephens

Betty Hooyman

**In Honor Of:**

Arlo Randal Vosters

Donald Filtz

Dale Schueller



*From the Desk of Father Justin*

Merry Christmas to you all!

As we come together to celebrate the birth of our Lord, as one community of faith, I wish you a wonderful conclusion of the year and glad tidings for the start of 2026. The fact that we celebrate Christmas in late December does indeed have a number of perks to it, and there is one I'd like to specifically mention. With Christmas falling in the very last week of the calendar year, we're in a good position to think about and appreciate the importance of new beginnings.

New beginnings matter. As people, we have a need for a fresh start from time to time. A new friend to share your interests with. A new job that demands fresh skills from you. A new way to live your life and shake off old bad habits keeping you down. The birth of a child is a new member of the family. The list obviously goes on, but all of us need something from this list of "new things" every so often, in order to pump fresh zeal into our lives once more.

People tap into this basic psychological need when they celebrate New Year's Eve, complete with New Year's Resolutions. I won't go into why I strongly prefer Lent to New Year's Eve, or why I've never personally cared about staying up till midnight on December 31<sup>st</sup>. Plenty of people love those annual traditions, and that's a perfectly fair thing for folks to enjoy and care about. They're expressing their enthusiasm for the new beginning that comes with January 1<sup>st</sup>.

Christmas is a new beginning as well, and to use a classic Catholic phrase, it is "ever ancient and ever new." Normally, we use that phrase to describe Sacred Scripture, but it also applies to Christmas just fine. In line with our faith, the true original beginning was God. See the Gospel of John: chapter one, verse one. And God subsequently brings forth all of creation: that too, obviously, is a beginning. However, by the time of Jesus' Incarnation, humanity was collectively ready for a new beginning. We were scarred and beaten down by sin, and escape from that sin was impossible. In short, conditions were perfect for the coming of Jesus Christ. His incarnation (that is to say, his birth) was a new beginning in the history of humankind and the history of salvation... which are practically the same thing. Christ began something mighty and beautiful by his very being. And while he was only able to directly share himself with people within a radius of a few dozen miles, his new beginning would be shared with people within a radius of a thousand miles... in less than 30 years of his death. In time, that offering of a new spiritual beginning would literally be offered in every nation around the globe.

Christmas literally happened once, quite some time ago. However, every Christmas that we celebrate in our parish and in our home taps into Christ's promise of salvation and the newness of life that comes with it. I mean that, not only for ourselves as individuals, but as members of a Catholic Church that spans all of space and all of time. The Catholic Church needs newness and fresh starts as much as it needs continuity with the past and universality with peoples of all nations and languages. And as families and individuals, we need that newness in much the same way. We need fresh beginnings in life: not to erase or contract who we were in the past, but to allow our past to shape and guide our present and propel us into the future along the right path. As Disciples of Christ, we know that when we act wisely and truly do go down the right path in life, we are merely following in the footsteps of Christ. He intercedes for us, he loves us, and he is indeed waiting for all of us in our heavenly homeland when our earthly pilgrimage has come to an end.

From the bottom of my heart, Merry Christmas to you all. May your spirits always be renewed by the Holy Spirit, for our faith is truly ever ancient, and (especially at Christmas) ever new.

Peace,  
Father Justin



CHRISTMAS 2025

Hello Everyone —

After a season of watching and waiting, at the Christmas Midnight Mass we hear the wonderful words:

*"The people who have walked in darkness have seen a great light."*

*Isaiah 9:1*

Can you imagine for a moment being a part of the nativity scene? Forget the sanitized view born from nativity plays — beautiful though they are — the stable is a dark and muddy place. It is quaint and almost forgotten. In this humble place a cry pierces the night: an infant is born and swaddled in rags. For all intents and purposes, this could be any baby in any place in the world. But what unfolds in this scene is a miraculous birth that forever changed the world. The Savior of the world is not a king born in a grand palace with finery, but an infant born of poor parents in a modest stable.

It's hard for us to imagine who would take offense at a baby born in a manger — a defenseless infant in such a lowly place. Yet even then, some did. And still today, many turn away. But God holds nothing back. He enters our darkness, our "stables," our forgotten places. Jesus comes to us not as a princely dignitary who rules with power and decree, but as one meek and humble of heart, bringing light to our darkness and inviting us into a life of humility, gentleness and grace.

Through his miracles and mercy, Jesus shows us that everyone — especially those pushed to the margins — is worthy of dignity and love. He continues to invite us to see his presence: in the beauty of creation, in the love of family and friends, and most profoundly, in the presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

My hope and prayer for you this Christmas is that your heart will be filled with the light of God's inbreaking love — that the eternal Son may shine into your life, your heart and your family. May his light, which no darkness can overshadow, fill you with peace, joy and freedom that the world cannot give.

May God bless you, and Merry Christmas!

Most Reverend Jeffrey S. Grob  
Archbishop of Milwaukee

The Parish Staff of St. Joseph Congregation pray you have a joyous Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

*St. Joseph Pray for us!*



*Glory to God*

IN THE HIGHEST, AND ON EARTH PEACE,  
GOOD WILL TOWARD MEN.

LUKE 2:14

Fr. Justin Lopina  
Bryanna VanVreede  
Deacon Jose Gonzales  
Deacon Kurt Peot  
Dan O'Connor  
Dennis Sylva  
Lisa Marynik  
Suzanne Silman  
Nikki Claas  
Matt Adams  
Jesse Segura

