Ss. Mary & Joseph Catholic Church

2010 East 1st South Street, PO Box 138, Carlinville, IL 62626

First Sunday of Advent
November 29, 2026

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, November 30, 2026
through
Sunday, December 06, 2026

Changes to the schedule will be announced on Facebook

Monday	8:00am	Communion Service
Tuesday	8:00am	Communion Service
Wednesday	8:00am	Communion Service
Thursday	8:00am	Daily Mass
Friday	8:00am	Communion Service
Saturday	6:00pm	Weekend Mass
Sunday	10:00am	Weekend Mass

PRAYER & DEVOTIONS

Scriptural Rosary & Chaplet of Divine Mercy
Mondays 8:30am



Eucharistic Adoration
Thursdays 8:30am-Noon

Reconciliation
Thursdays 8:30-915am
Sundays 9:30-9:50am
By Appointment

Rosary
Sundays 9:30

Welcome to Ss. Mary & Joseph!

Whether you are an existing member, visiting family or new to the Parish we are happy you are here. If you are new to our parish, please call the office to register or to know more about our Parish Family. We look forward to meeting you!

Parish Office

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 8:30am-2:30pm
Wednesday 8:30am-2:30pm, 3:30pm-5:30pm

Pastor
Fr. Joe Koyickal, SAC
jkoyickal@dio.org
217-839-3456

Parish Administrative Assistant
Amy Killam
amy.killam@ssmaryjosephcarlinville.com
Office Phone: 217-854-7151

Director of Religious Education
Jodi Rowe
jodi.rowe@ssmaryjosephcarlinville.com

Bulletin Notices due by 9am on Wednesdays

website: www.ssmaryjosephcarlinville.com
Facebook @ Ss.Mary&JosephCatholicChurch
St. Vincent de Paul Society: 217-250-9657

Diocesan Website: www.dio.org
Diocese Victim Assistance Coordinator &liaison between the Diocese & anyone with an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor– (217) 321-1155.

FROM THE PASTOR

Fr. Joe Koyickal, SAC jkoyickal@dio.org

A GIFT FOR JESUS: Prepare Your Personal Gift for Jesus This Christmas!

The Holy season of Advent is here! This is one of the busiest times of the year. We decorate our homes, shop for Christmas gifts, prepare special meals, greet and exchange gifts, attend parties, and make all kinds of arrangements to celebrate Christmas. These are beautiful traditions, and they bring joy to our families.

But amid all our preparations, there is one danger: **we can become so busy preparing for Christmas that we forget the One whose birthday we are celebrating!**

We prepare our homes, but do we prepare our hearts? We buy gifts for one another, but what special gift are we preparing for Jesus? This Advent, let us make a special effort not to miss Christ in our Christmas preparations! Can you spare 5-6 minutes each day for Jesus?

Here is a simple Family Advent Challenge

I invite every family in our parishes to take part in a simple but meaningful Advent activity: **Prepare a special Christmas gift for Jesus as a family!** Here is what it is all about. Simple and plain! All can join. No age bar!!

1. **Prepare an Advent wreath.** Make one together as a family or purchase one. Place it in a special location in your home where the family can gather for a few minutes of prayer every day.
2. **Gather around the Advent wreath every day.** Set aside just five or six minutes at a convenient time. It could be before or after dinner, before bedtime, or whenever the family can come together. You can do as an individual too, if not available for a common time. Each week, we will reflect on one of the four Advent themes: Hope, Peace, Joy and Love. A short reflection, a Scripture passage, a question for reflection or sharing, and a family prayer. You will also be given some suggestions for act of love, kindness or charity to choose from. Do one of those things each day as explained below. This will help us prepare our hearts for Jesus. You will be provided with a flyer each week with prayers and the suggestions for good deeds.
3. **Make every day an opportunity to give Jesus a gift.** Each day, choose at least one simple act of kindness, love, charity, forgiveness, or sacrifice. Every member of the family is encouraged to do at least one good deed each day. It need not be anything extraordinary. Helping someone at home, sharing with a person in need, forgiving someone, visiting someone who is lonely, offering a prayer for someone, or making a small personal sacrifice can become a beautiful gift to Jesus.
4. **Collect your gifts for Jesus!** After your daily act of kindness, write it on a small slip of paper and place it in a special family box. You may call it your "Family Gift to Jesus Box." As the days go by, your box will fill up with little gifts: not toys, money, or material things, but acts of love offered to Jesus.
5. **Bring your gifts to Jesus on Christmas!** On Christmas Day, bring your family's collected slips of paper to church. We will have a special collection box in the church where all families can drop their gifts of good deeds. These gifts will be brought forward along with the gifts of bread and wine during the Offertory procession at Mass, symbolizing the love, prayers, kindness, and sacrifices that our families have offered to Jesus throughout Advent. Let this Advent be different. Let us not simply count the days until Christmas. Let us fill each day with love, goodness, and kindness.

Thus this Christmas, when we come to the manger, let us not come empty-handed. Let us bring Jesus a heart full of love and a box full of good deeds!

May every family make room for Jesus, and may every home become a little Bethlehem!

Blessings of Peace and Joy Always! 

PARISH NEWS

Our local Knights of Columbus have provided a kiosk in the dining hall that contains a series of 15 pamphlets from the Catholic Information Service on the topic of Building the Domestic Church While Strengthening Our Parish. Each pamphlet contains prayers, meditations, and activities to enrich your family life. Everyone is welcome to take a pamphlet home to either keep or read and return it to share with others. The booklets do not need to be read in any particular order, you may select any title that appeals to you.

Sun, Dec 13: Christmas Caroling Mark your calendars! Benld & Gillespie parishes plan to go Christmas caroling the afternoon of Sun, Dec 13 and all from the Tri-Parish Family are welcome to join in the fun! We will meet at Ss. Simon & Jude parking lot at 1pm. If any Benld or Gillespie residents are interested in having carolers visit their home, contact Roger at 217-839-4036. Please provide your name, physical address and phone number. Time constraints limit us to visiting just a few homes in Benld and Gillespie, as well as the nursing home.

December 5/6 weekend until Sun, Dec 20: Angel Tree Mission The Angel Tree will be up in the Narthex the weekend of December 5/6. This year we will be sponsoring 9 families. Like last year, some tags will be for gifts for an individual child & some tags will be for household & personal care items for the family marked with the family number. If you choose a tag for an individual, the gift needs to be wrapped with the angel tree tag attached & placed under the tree. If you choose a "family "gift tag, you may place the household/ personal care items unwrapped with the tag attached under the tree. SVDP members will deliver gifts after the 10am Mass on Sun, Dec 20, so please have your gifts back to the church by that day & time. For questions, contact Denise Boente (217-710-2878). Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Salvation Army Bell ringers needed! I am looking for volunteers who would ring bells on Monday, December 21 at Walmart. The schedule starts at 9:00 AM and ends at 5:30 PM. I would like 2 people per shift, if possible. The shifts are 30 minutes. Reminder that kids are on Christmas break! Last year, $14,541 was collected through bell ringing and 57 different Carlinville families were helped with utility bills through this campaign. Thanks for your help! Contact Kathy O'Brien 314-873-7399 (call or text).

The PSR Tree "Glory to God in the Highest" was bought by Susan Millard and she donated it back to the church! Thank you, Susan! The kids will enjoy seeing their artwork on display this Christmas Season!

The Week Ahead

Please note that calendar events are based on requests for reservations, and we are not always informed when events are cancelled. If you have any quetions if an event is happening, please contact the head of that committee/group.

Mon 30	Tue 01	Wed 02	Thu 03	Fri 04	Sat 05	Sun 06
		PSR 4-5pm **Mandatory Parent Mtg w/ Fr. Joe at 5pm** **Building Com Mtg 6pm**	**Parish Council Mtg 6:30pm**		**Angel Tree in the Narthex**	Rosary at 9:30am **Angel Tree in the Narthex** **Sunday Social** **Nativity Prog. Practice 11am-Noon**



PSR CORNER

Jodi Rowe, DRE jodi.rowe@ssmaryjosephcarlinville.com

Growing in Faith • Growing Together

A New Year Begins… Today?

Happy New Year! No, we haven't skipped December! Today, the First Sunday of Advent, marks the beginning of a new liturgical year in the Catholic Church! While the world rushes toward Christmas with decorations, shopping lists, and holiday parties, the Church invites us into something different: a season of preparation, prayer, and joyful expectation. The word Advent comes from the Latin adventus, meaning "coming" or "arrival." During Advent, we prepare to celebrate Christ's birth in Bethlehem, welcome Him more fully into our lives today, and look forward to His coming again in glory. This season isn't simply a countdown to Christmas morning. It is an opportunity to prepare our hearts to receive Jesus.

Our Family Advent Challenge: As you light the first candle on your Advent wreath, take a moment to pray together. Ask Jesus to help your family grow in patience, generosity, and love throughout the coming weeks. The greatest gift we can prepare for Christmas isn't something wrapped beneath the tree. **It's a heart ready to welcome Christ.**

✦ Catholic Fun Fact ✦

Did you know there's a hidden message in the Church's ancient Advent prayers? Beginning December 17, the Church prays seven beautiful prayers known as the O Antiphons, each addressing Jesus by a different biblical title, including O Wisdom, O Key of David, and O Emmanuel. But here's the fascinating part! Take the first letter of each traditional Latin title and read them backward, beginning with the final antiphon. They spell ERO CRAS, Latin for "Tomorrow, I will come!" For centuries, these prayers have helped Catholics prepare for Christmas—and tucked within them is a beautiful promise of Christ's coming!

Coming Up at PSR

December 2 — Regular PSR & ***Mandatory Parent Meeting with Fr. Joe at 5:00pm***
December 9 — Regular PSR & Confession for 4th - 8th grade, 1st Reconciliation for 3rd grade @ 5:15
December 16 — Regular PSR, required Family Mass @ 5:15, PSR Christmas Potluck

Sacramental Formation Reminder

Children in 2nd and 3rd grades must regularly attend PSR and Sunday Mass as part of their preparation and eligibility to receive their sacraments.

A Journey in Faith
OCIA
Order of Christian Initiation
(formerly known as RCIA)

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults) is a welcoming journey of faith for adults who want to learn more about Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church. It is a time to ask questions, explore Scripture, discover the beauty of the Catholic faith, and grow in a deeper relationship with God.

If you would like more information please contact the parish office or Don Reid.

Classes will be held in the Conference Room at 7pm
We will be taking a break in December. Next class will be in January.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, November 28
6:00pm Vigil Suzy Rhodes +
Audry Kates +

Sunday, November 29
10:00am Susan Mihalek +

Thursday, December 03
8:00am Bob Huyear +

Saturday, December 05
6:00pm Vigil Bob Kates +
Kim Boente +

Sunday, December 06
10:00am Bob Huyear +

STEWARDSHIP
MANAGING GOD'S GIFTS TO US

Weekend Envelopes, Checks & Cash
$4,352.30

Building Fund & PSR
$20.00

Holy Day: Christmas Flowers
$67.00

Special: Formea Funeral, V. Candles
$473.50

Total: $4,912.80

Thank you for your continued generosity!

Mass Counts
Sat, 11/21/26: 97
Sun, 11/22/26: 128
Total: 225

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THE SICK AND THOSE IN NEED:

Josh Carter, Deacon Denny & Kathy Baker, Tonya Koller, Grey Smith, Peggy Geurin, Jessica Williams, Jackie Malt, Karen Joiner, Sherry Huff, Peggy Tieman, Ron Paul, Mary Ann Pollitt, Betty Wehking, Brad Reid, Brian Iben, Jake Boehm, Veronica Payne-Morse, Jodi Wiggins, Margie Oftedahl, Mike Chandler, Hadley Vaughn, Seth Flure

WE PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY PERSONNEL, ESPECIALLY:

Matthew Gazda, Stefan Gazda, Broc Horn, Bryan Murphy Jr., Gary Wilson

SS. MARY & JOSEPH HAS A TEAM OF PRAYER WARRIORS THAT ARE COMMITTED TO PRAYING FOR YOUR INTENTIONS. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE AN INTENTION INCLUDED, PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE.

PARISH LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 05, 2026 at 6:00pm Vigil

Ushers:	**Volunteer Needed**
Lector:	Kris Rosentreter
Euch. Ministers:	Susan Dunn*, John Kelly*, Kris Rosentreter, Theresa Rosentreter, Elaine Flowers, Joe Direso
Gift Bearers:	**LeVora Family and you will light the Advent Candles with Fr. Joe**
Altar Servers:	**3 Volunteers Needed**

Sunday, December 06, 2026 at 10:00am

Ushers:	Women's Group
Lector:	Val Knight
Euch. Ministers:	Stevie Siepka*, Ann Woods*, Janice Bellm, Robert Bellm, Tom Broaddus, Audrey Costello
Gift Bearers:	**Etter Family and you will light the Advent Candles with Fr. Joe**
Altar Servers:	Kane Siepka, Ella Rosentreter, Boen Suits
Children's Lit:	Melissa Suits, Avery Suits, Tanner Suits

UPCOMING MASS SCHEDULE

Tues, December 8 (Immaculate Conception - Holy Day of Obligation)
8:00am: Ss. Simon & Jude
6:00pm: Ss. Mary & Joseph

Confession & Adoration During Advent
Wed, Dec 9: Ss. Mary & Joseph - PSR Confessions 4-5pm. First Reconciliation for our 3rd Graders at 5:15pm
Tue, Dec 15: Ss. Simon & Jude - Confessions for the PSR kids and adults from 6:00pm-7:30pm
Wed, Dec 16: St. Joseph - Confessions for the adults from 8:30am-9:30am
Wed, Dec 16: Ss. Mary & Joseph - PSR Mass at 5:15pm (all are welcome to attend)
Ss. Mary & Joseph - Confessions for the adults from 6-7:30pm

Sat, December 19: Gillespie/Benld Children's Christmas Program after 4pm Mass

Sun, December 20: Carlinville PSR Nativity Program after 10am Mass



Thurs, December 24 (Christmas Eve)
4:00pm: Ss. Mary & Joseph
4:00pm: Ss. Simon & Jude with Fr. Don Goergen
6:00pm: St. Joseph (5:30pm Christmas Carol Singing)

Fri, December 25 (Christmas Day)
8:00am: Ss. Simon & Jude
10:00am: Ss. Mary & Joseph

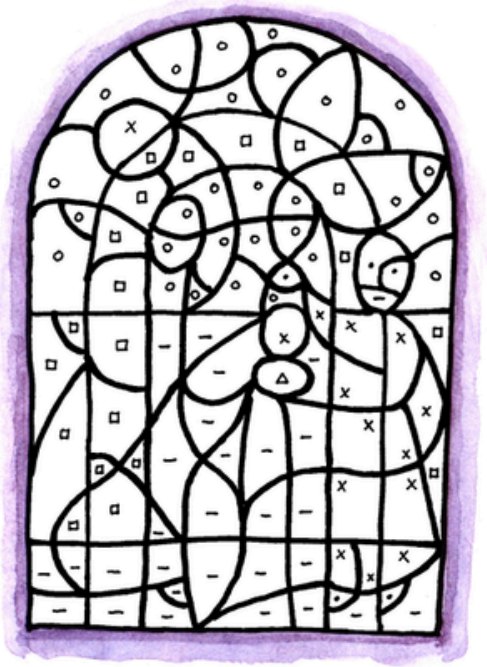
December 26 / December 27: Normal Weekend Schedule

Thurs, December 31 (Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God – Holy Day of Obligation)
4:00pm: Ss. Mary & Joseph
6:00pm: Ss. Simon & Jude

Fri, January 1, 2027 (Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God – Holy Day of Obligation)
8:00am: St. Joseph

The Kids' Bulletin

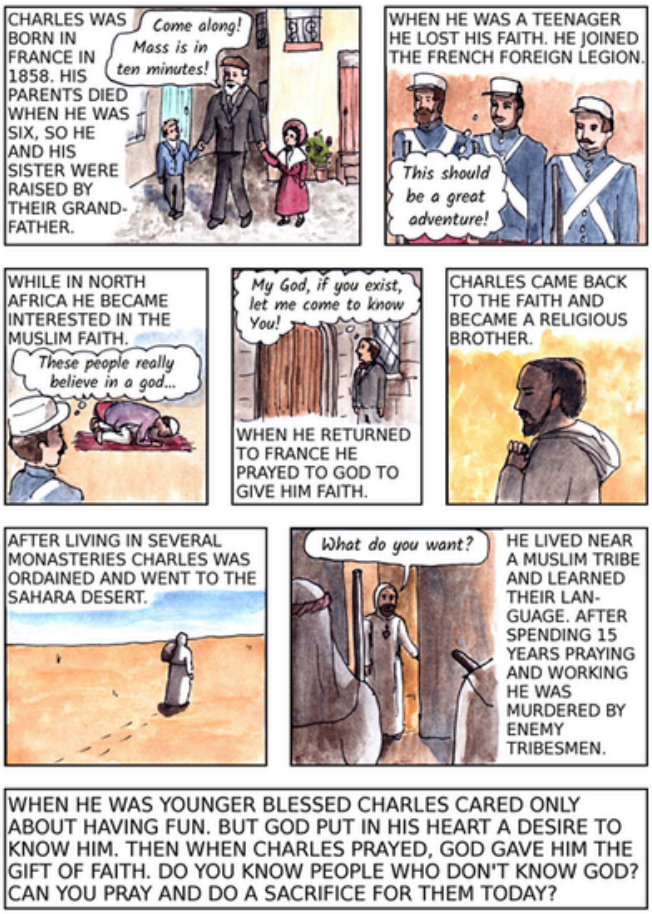
First Sunday of Advent
November 29th, 2026



In the Gospel, Jesus tells us to always be ready.
Here's someone waiting
for his master to return...
Use this code to colour the picture in:

◦ DARK BLUE	▫ GREY	- BROWN
• SKIN COLOUR	× WHITE	▵ RED

Blessed Charles de Foucauld
December 1



WHEN HE WAS YOUNGER BLESSED CHARLES CARED ONLY ABOUT HAVING FUN. BUT GOD PUT IN HIS HEART A DESIRE TO KNOW HIM. THEN WHEN CHARLES PRAYED, GOD GAVE HIM THE GIFT OF FAITH. DO YOU KNOW PEOPLE WHO DON'T KNOW GOD? CAN YOU PRAY AND DO A SACRIFICE FOR THEM TODAY?

Advent is Here!
Jesus is coming!



Advent is here! It's time to begin preparing for the coming of Jesus at Christmas.

Jesus came the first time long ago in Bethlehem. Now He comes to us every time we go to Mass, in Holy Communion. But we celebrate Jesus' coming in a special way at Christmas time.



Advent is the time to get ready for Christmas. We get our houses ready by cleaning and decorating. We get our souls ready by cleaning out our sins when we go to confession, and by learning and thinking about Jesus.

Here are some things that will help you get ready for Christmas:

~ Light a candle on an advent wreath when you say your prayers every day.

~ Read a book about Advent or Christmas.

~ Go to Confession before Christmas.



~ Do nice things for people. Remember that anything you do for some-one else you do for Jesus!

Answers to Fill in the Blanks: know, man, servants, each, watch, therefore, you, lord
WATCHFUL!

www.thekidsbulletin.com

Fill in the Blanks

In today's Gospel reading Jesus tells the people to be ready for His next coming.
Fill in the blanks with the words at the end and use the letters in sqares to fill in the blanks at the end, in the order they come.

You do not __ __ __ [_] when
the time will come.
It is like a __ [_] __ traveling abroad.
He leaves home and places
his __ __ __ __ __ __ [_] __ in charge,
__ __ [_] __ with his own work,
and orders the gatekeeper
to be on the __ __ __ __ [_]
Watch, __ __ __ __ __ [_] __ __ __;
__ __ [_] do not know
when the [_] __ __ __ of the house is coming.
Be __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ !

THEREFORE		KNOW	MAN
	EACH		
SERVANTS		LORD	YOU



MISSION STATEMENT

We, the people of Ss. Mary & Joseph Parish, are united by our Catholic faith, traditions, & sacramental life. We strive to be a welcoming & participatory community, sharing our time, talents, & treasure. Nourished by the Eucharist & guided by the Gospel, we are sent forth to bring Christ's love into our families, our community, & the world, serving especially those who are poor & in need. Rooted in faith, united in love & sent forth in service.

BAPTISMS

In order for a child to be baptized, the Church requires that the minister performing the baptism have a reasonable hope that the child will be raised in the practice of the faith. Attending Mass regularly & being a registered member of the parish provides this reasonable hope. Please contact the parish office for further details.

SACRAMENT OF FIRST RECONCILIATION, FIRST COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION

The sacraments is a two-year preparation process starting in 2nd Grade. 2nd & 3rd Grade students must attend PSR & Mass in order to be eligible for these sacraments. Contact the DRE, Jodi Rowe, for more informaiton.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

A couple wishing to be married in Ss. Mary & Joseph Catholic church must contact the parish office six months prior to the intended date. The couple must be registered in the parish & attend Mass regularly.

COMMUNION & ANOINTING OF THE SICK

If you are sick or homebound & would like to receive communion or be anointed, please contact the parish office.

PARISH COMMITTEES & GROUPS

Parish Council: Monica Sottoriva, Dan Kallal, Brad Barkley, Scott Harris, John Kelly, Tracy Koster, Ken Reid, Tori Denby, Kelly Behme, Fr. Joe Koyickal

Finance Council: Heather DeNeve, Dana Boente, Becky Salske, Jackie Dunn, Chris Behme, Kyle Frericks, Susan Millard, Fr. Joe Koyickal

Building Committee: Larry Rhodes, Scootie Janssen, Peg Barkley, Kathy Stankoven, Ed Kalaher, Gary Ogden, John & Susan LeVora, Fr. Joe Koyickal

Grounds Committee: Steve Boente, Larry & Marsha Rhodes, Scootie Janssen, David Boente, Fr. Joe Koyickal

Emergency Management Team: Gary Odgen, Fran Rosentreter, Steve Stone, Dave & Julie Carter, Chris Behme, Jake Hanbning, Mark Gillock, Scott Harris, Zach Etter, Eric Pingolt, Eric Ogden, Jim Bellm, Sandy Lane, Vaughn Whiteman, Phil Hampton, Fr. Joe Koyickal

Hospitality Committee Contact: Mary Reid

Women's Group Contact: Julie Boente

Ladies KC Auxiliary Contact: Beth Young

Knights of Columbus Contact: Eric Ogden

Funeral Luncheon Committee Contacts:
Kay Kalaher & Kristy Rosentreter

Music Ministry Contact: Mary Jo Reichmann



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2010 East 1st South Street, PO Box 138, Carlinville, IL 62626
Office Phone: 217-854-7151

