





A Roman Catholic Parish in the Archdiocese of St. Louis, Missouri 6020 Old Antonia Road, Imperial, MO 63052 sjiparish.org | 636-464-1013

St. Joseph Parish Parish Office Hours: M-F: 7:30 am—3:30 pm 636-464-1013					
Parish Office Hours: M-F: 7:50 am— CLERGY	-5:50 pm 656-464-1015				
Rev. Daniel G. Shaughnessy, <i>Pastor</i>	frs@sjiparish.org x104				
Rev. Jonathan R. Ruzicka, Associate Pastor	jruzicka@sjiparish.org x116				
Msgr. Gregory Mikesch, <i>In Residence</i>	Juzieka a sipurisino ig XII o				
Rev. Mr. Roland Kaiser, Permanent Deacon	Retired				
Rev. Mr. Brian Selsor, Permanent Deacon	636-464-6901				
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Rev. Mr. John Wolffer, <i>Permanent Deacon</i> PARISH ADMINISTRA					
Carol DuBuque, Child Safety Coordinator	cdubuque@sjiparish.org x105				
Julie Hepp, Parish Accountant	jhepp@sjiparish.org x119				
Kathy Larson, Communications Director	klarson@sjiparish.org x112				
Keith Newbury, Facilities Manager	knewbury@sjiparish.org x110				
Karla Owensby, Business Manager	kowensby@sjiparish.org x103				
Rachel Schoenberger, Administrative Asst.	rschoenberger@sjiparish.org x102				
Heather Selsor, Corpus Christi Center Manager	hselsor@sjiparish.org x111				
PARISH MINISTERI	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,				
Sr. Rosemary Buttice, ASCJ, Pastoral Associate	rbuttice@sjiparish.org x106				
Sean Feltz, Director of Apostolic Mission	sfeltz@sjiparish.org x114				
Torri Halbert, PSR Coordinator	thalbert@sjiparish.org x107				
Emily Kopff, Director of Religious Education	ekopff@sjiparish.org x108				
Saint Joseph School					
Sr. Carol Sansone, ASCJ, Principal	csansone@stjosephimperial.org 636-464-9027 x401				
Sr. Ellen Cronan, ASCJ, Admin. Assistant	ecronan@stjosephimperial.org 636-464-9027 x403				
Tara Gaudreault, RN, School Nurse	tgaudreault@stjosephimperial.org 636-464-9027 x500				
Rose Preston, Office Manager	rpreston@stjosephimperial.org 636-464-9027 x402				
OTHER MINISTRIES					
Knights of Columbus, Jake Dugal	314-707-0212				
Natural Family Planning, Sean/Amanda Dailey	thedaileys16@gmail.com; 314-540-1739				
Parish Cemetery, Bill Regelsperger	314-808-2522				
Sr. Christine's Food Pantry	636-464-7580				
St. Vincent de Paul Society Helpline	636-274-6520				

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Mass Times

Sat.: 8:00 am & 4:30 pm

Sun.: 7, 8:30, 10, 11:30 am; 4:30 pm

Mon.: 6:30 am

Tues. - Fri. 6:30 & 8:00 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Tuesday & Friday: 7:00 am Thursday: 5:30 pm—7:00 pm Saturday: 3:30 pm—4:30 pm

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

T/W/Th 9:00 am—9:00 pm

SACRAMENT of BAPTISM

Attendance at a Baptismal preparation class is required. Classes are held the 2nd Thursday of the month; call to schedule.

SACRAMENTS of EUCHARIST AND CONFIRMATION

For those who have been baptized Catholic or wish to enter the Catholic Church, RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) classes are required. For more information contact Sr. Rosemary.

SACRAMENT of ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Anyone who is seriously sick and would like a visit from one of the priests may call the parish office to request one. Hospitals no longer call parishes with this information.

SACRAMENT of MARRIAGE

Contact one of the priests to begin your preparation at least nine months before the anticipated wedding date.

SACRAMENT of HOLY ORDERS AND VOWED RELIGIOUS LIFE

If you are interested in learning about a religious vocation, please contact one of the priests or the Archdiocesan Vocations Office at stlvocations.org or 314-792-6460.

HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE HOMEBOUND

Parishioners who are homebound and wish to receive Holy Communion may call the office to make arrangements.

2 December 24, 2023

Ministry Schedule	Dec. 30 4:30 pm	Dec. 31 7:00 am	Dec. 31 8:30 am	Dec. 31 10:00 am	Dec. 31 11:30 am	Dec. 31 4:30 pm
Lectors	Hirschman Schiavi	Chapman Chapman	Curry Hummel	Halfman Halfman	Riggs Ziblionis	Volunteer
Servers	A. Fanetti A. Rakers S. Rakers	Volunteers	W. Nesselhauf D. Oppelz G. Oppelz	S. Blomstrom L. Byassee B. Colp	P. Arington J. Bates C. Padgitt	J. Vonder Haar J. Vonder Haar P. Vonder Haar

Mass Intentions				
Monday	December 25, 2023			
8:00 am	John G. Price			
10:00 am	Parishioners of SJBD/SJP			
Tuesday	December 26, 2023			
6:30 am	Most Forgotten Soul in Purgatory			
8:00 am	Dust Family & Friends			
Wednesday	December 27, 2023			
6:30 am	Jim Moss			
8:00 am	Susan Curran Special Intention			
Thursday	December 28, 2023			
6:30 am	John Conley			
8:00 am	Gerald Buechting			
Friday	December 29, 2023			
6:30 am	Most Forgotten Soul in Purgatory			
8:00 am	Timothy Rudge			
Saturday	December 30, 2023			
8:00 am	Mallory Kummer Special Intention			
4:30 pm	Warren & Bernice Dierks			
Sunday	December 31, 2023			
7:00 am	Robert Kristof			
8:30 am	James Thompson III			
10:00 am	Parishioners of SJBD/SJP			
11:30 am	John & Vi Hatagan			
4:30 pm	Stephen W. Meadows			

Please stop by, call, or email the parish office to schedule Mass Intentions. Mass cards for *special intentions* or *in memory* are available; they may be picked up in the parish office. The stipend per Mass is \$10.

Saint Joseph School

Enrollment Timeline 2024-2025

January 8, 2024: Re-enrollment begins for current students and application process begins for siblings of current students

January 22, 2024: Application process begins for new students

Please see the school website for complete details.



Parish Stewardship 12/4/2023 - 12/10/2023					
	Current	Fiscal YTD			
Offertory					
Total collected	\$23,066.85	\$518,350.29			
Amount needed	\$21,568.77	\$517,650.48			
Surplus or shortage	\$1,498.08	\$699.81			
Special collections					
Tuition assistance	\$530.00				
St. Vincent de Paul	\$607.00				
Sr. Christine's Food Pantry	\$1,239.00				





From the Desk *of* Fr. Dan Shaughnessy, Pastor

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

How on earth is it already Christmas? With that said, part of what I want to stress to you is that it has not been Christmas, until today; up until today, we have been prayerfully celebrating Advent, as we await the birth of our Infant King. Even though the retail industry, in general, and all of the bricks and mortar stores started setting up for Christmas right after Halloween, Christmas begins today, as we begin the Octave of Christmas, the eight days of Christmas.

How should we celebrate? What should we do? I did a little praying and thinking and research and I share some fun ideas below so that you and yours can celebrate Christmas more fully maybe, than in years past. Who knows? Maybe some of these ideas will become an annual tradition for your family.

Pray before the baby Jesus.

"No one, whether shepherd or wise man, can approach God here below except by kneeling before the manger at Bethlehem and adoring him hidden in the weakness of a newborn child." So says the Catechism of the Catholic Church (#563). Encourage your kids to imitate the shepherds and wise men by kneeling before the baby Jesus in the nativity scene at your church or at your home, either after Christmas Mass or right away on Christmas morning, before opening gifts. You can encourage your kids to make up their own prayer.

Do more works of mercy!

The message of the Gospel and the call of the Church is unambiguous: fully celebrating Christmas means reaching out to the poor, the oppressed, and all those in need of our help. Model the true spirit of Christmas for your kids by seeking out opportunities to help others throughout the whole Christmas season.

• Pray for Christians being persecuted around the world.

- Give away things you do not need (and maybe some things that others might need more than you), and renew your commitment to Christian stewardship and simple living.
- Consider year-end gifts to charitable organizations that help those in need; let your kids help choose a recipient. Better yet, pool your money as a family and decide to give it to a family or organization in your community.
- Donate goods to your local food shelf, St. Vincent de Paul Society or other charity. Make it a family field trip.

Celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family.

The Feast of the Holy Family follows quickly on the heels of Christmas, this year on December 31, 2023. You can use the occasion to celebrate your own family by making a very simple "family tree" with photos of each person. Talk with younger children about what it means to be a family. Include the date of your wedding anniversary as the "birthday" of your family.

Bless your home and household on Epiphany.

It is traditional to bless your home and household on the Feast of the Epiphany, perhaps because of the Biblical reference to the three kings entering the home where the Holy Family was staying in order to worship the Christ child there. You can find an Epiphany blessing of the home at the USCCB website (https://www.usccb. org/prayers/blessing-home-and-household-epiphany).

A more traditional form of the Epiphany blessing involves using blessed chalk to write the letters C, M, and B, plus the year, above the main entrance to the home (or above the door to each room in the house), like so: 20 + C + M + B + 24. The letters are the initials of the traditional names of the three magi: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar. They also represent the Latin words Christus mansionem benedicat, which means: "May Christ bless the house." Of course, the + represents the cross.

Hold a procession of the Magi.

On the Feast of the Epiphany, read the Gospel account of the visit of the three wise men (see Matthew 2:1-12), then have your children march through the house holding the figures of the three kings and singing "We Three Kings."

Celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord.

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord falls on January 7, 2024 this year and officially marks the end of the Christmas season and the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. It's also the perfect time to remember your kids' baptisms, and to talk about what that means: "Did you know you were baptized, too, just like Jesus?" Tell the story of your child's baptism. What was the most memorable moment? Why did you ask to have your child baptized? What promises did you have to make?

May Almighty God bless you all. Praying that you really take the time to enjoy the many graces of the Christmas season!

(From https://www.teachingcatholickids.com/celebrate-christmas/#:~:-text=Encourage%20your%20kids%20to%20imitate,Christmas%20morning%2C%20before%20opening%20gifts.)

Yours in Christ,











Raise Right Gift Cards For Sale

Buy RaiseRight gift cards in the back of church after the 7 am, 8:30 am, and 10 am Sunday Masses. RaiseRight gift cards are still available for purchase in the *School Office* during the school day (8 am-3 pm). Also, you can buy eGift cards or reload your gift cards using the RaiseRight app. Need help going digital? Reach out to our RaiseRight coordinator Lynn Quinlan at: lynn.quinlan@ymail.com.

Buy gift cards for gifts, teachers, gas, groceries, restaurants, supplies, and home improvements. Support our school with no additional out of pocket expense to you. Our school earns a percent rebate for

every gift card sold through the RaiseRight program.

Thanks for your continued support!





YEAR END CONTRIBUTIONS

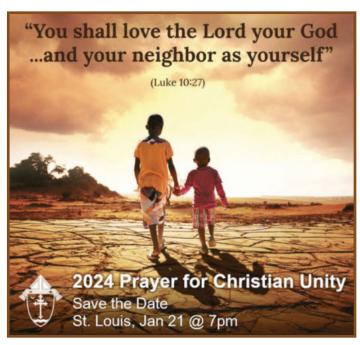
When a donation is mailed to the parish, the IRS determines that it has been received when it has been postmarked by the United States Postal Service. Thus, checks postmarked on or before December 31, 2023, will be included in the donor's 2023 contribution statement. Items postmarked January 2024 will be included in the donor's 2024 contribution statement. Contributions received in the offertory on Sunday, December 31, 2023, will be included in the 2023 statements if dated in 2023. If they are dated 2024, they will be recorded as such. Contributions received in the offertory on Monday, January 1, 2024, will be included in the donor's 2024 contribution statement regardless of check date.



Registering in St. Joseph Parish

If you are new to the parish, welcome!
If you would like to register, there are several ways to do so:

You may fill out the form located at https://www.sjiparish.org/register; you may download a paper form, also located at https://www.sjiparish.org/register, or you may visit the parish office to pick up a form.



December 24th, 2023 Fourth Sunday of Advent

Imagine how Mary felt at the birth of Jesus: excited, awed, frightened. Deep



faith was her light in the darkness, for Jesus was born during the night at a point of the year when darkness is the longest. Your gifts to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul brought light into the darkness for those living in poverty, bringing them the real, lasting, and everlasting joy of Christmas.

For more information, email Dbalsman@ymail.com

No meetings during the month of December Prayer Meeting: January 10th 6:30 p.m. Business Meeting: January 22nd 6:30 p.m.

All Meetings in the Corpus Christi Center.



Knights of Columbus Council 2333 American Red Cross Blood Drive Tuesday, January 9, 2:30-6:45 pm Corpus Christi Center at St. Joseph Parish

Appointments: redcrossblood.org - search for our drive or Call Bob (314-704-8068) or Janet Hermann (314-304-4238)

Walk-ins are welcome!

Make a resolution to donate and help the many, many patients, young and old, who will need blood products this year.

To save time when you come in to donate, complete the RapidPass on the day of the drive to complete the pre-donation reading and health history:

redcrossblood.org/rapidpass



NO SESSION UNTIL THURSDAY, JANUARY 11TH

EXPLORING THE RELEVANCY OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH TODAY







Covenant Network Catholic radio fills the airways with inspirational and educational programming that will help prepare your heart and mind to welcome the Christ Child at Christmas. Listen to Catholic radio on KHOJ 1460 AM or 96.7 FM. You can also listen anytime on our Covenant Network App or at OurCatholicRadio.org.











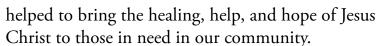
Worldwide Marriage Encounter presents weekend experiences for married couples to rekindle romance, enhance meaningful communication, and deepen and renew commitment. Make a New Years resolution to keep your marriage a priority. Sign-up now as space is limited! For more information or to apply, go to: www.eorg, or call Terry & Eric Engholm at 314-649-7317.

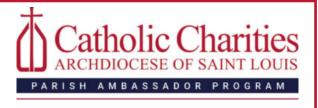
2/2/2024 - 2/4/2024, St. Peters, MO 3/15/2024 - 3/17/2024, Cape Girardeau, MO 4/5/2024 - 4/7/2024, St. Peters, MO





Catholic Charities is grateful for the support from St. Joseph Parish this past year. You have





Your generosity has helped impact many lives through the work of our family of ministries which are Cardinal Ritter Senior Services, Good Shepherd Children & Family Services, LAMP, Marygrove, Queen of Peace Center, Saint Louis Counseling, Saint Martha's, St. Francis Community Services, and St. Patrick Center.

> If you are interested, please contact Parish Ambassador Rachel Schoenberger at rschoenberger@sjiparish.org





















Eucharistic Adorers needed:

Tuesdays: 3 pm

Wednesdays:

9 am

Thursdays:

3, 4, and 7 pm

Call Mr. Patrick Smith (573) 310-3472

The Holy Eucharist reposes each night at 9 pm.



Saturday, January 20, 2024, 9:00 am – 7:00 pm Marianist Retreat and Conference Center

Losing a loved one to suicide or any tragic death is a pain that no one can prepare for. The roller coaster of emotions is enough to make one doubt God's presence in the situation. This day of reflection is designed to help in the journey through these emotions and come out renewed with confidence in God's love and care for each one of us. Members of our ministry team for this day will include Father Tom Miller (pastor of Our Lady Queen of Peace and St. Anthony Parishes), Deacon Rob Lawson (Incarnate Word Parish), Adam Bitter (Incarnate Word Parish), and the Jonah Prayer Teams from Incarnate Word, St. Alban Roe, and St. Anthony of Padua Parishes. There will be time for healing prayer, discussions, sharing, techniques for healthy outlet of emotions, and testimony from those who have healed from the same pain you may be feeling.

Attendance will be limited to 100 participants total for Saturday, 9 am - 7 pm and include two meals for \$65. We are also offering the option for up to 45 participants to spend the night through 10 am on Sunday which includes a private room and breakfast

for \$155. For more information, Barb @ 314.910.3942,

Mary @ 314.210.5098 or Shelby @ 636.288.9841

Scan to register:



Our Parish Praying Together

May those who are ill be blessed by Jesus' healing presence:

Melanie Ahrens
Matthew Anderson
Jeanine Brown
Mike Boyd
Thomas Condon
Will Fischer
Marti Greenhalgh
Scott Hasse
David Herrell
Kate Hershberger
Eileen Kaiser
Jim Kaiser
Roland Kaiser

Jim Lehn
Ronald Meredith
Glen Newkirk
Christine Perry
Tom Price
Will Roberts
Jim Schaefer
Nina Schaefer
Erin Silva
Noella Torgerson
Doreen Watts
George Winters
Francesca de Zenteno

We pray for those in the Military:

Meaghan Angus Collin Fitzsimmons Jack Jeffers Isaac Longtin Jacob Sarfraz

Jared Sheets Austin McHaffie-Sharp Grant Staggenborg Lucas Weiland Jack Vilchis



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Using over 1.5 million beautiful lights, the Way of Lights Display depicts the journey of Mary and Joseph as they travel to Bethlehem. This year, we have added colored lights to celebrate the birth of Jesus and continue to offer activities for young and old alike! Open through Dec. 31, 2023, 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Indoor activities closed on Christmas Eve & Christmas Day. Cost: No charge for display, donations accepted and additional charges for some activities.

For more information, call 618-397-6700 or visit our website at https://snows.org/wayoflights

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John S. Appelbaum

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First Seminar at 1pm or Second Seminar at 2:30pm Call or Text:

314-650-2714 if special accommodations are needed.

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