



St. Joseph Parish



2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*"Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make straight his paths."*

- Lk 3:4

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI



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

## St. Joseph Parish

Parish Office Hours: M-F: 7:30 am—3:30 pm | 636-464-1013

### CLERGY

Rev. Anthony Yates, <i>Pastor</i>	anthonyyates@archstl.org   x104
Rev. Jonathan R. Ruzicka, <i>Associate Pastor</i>	jruzicka@sjparish.org   x116
Msgr. Gregory Mikesch, <i>In Residence</i>	
Deacon Brian Selsor, <i>Permanent Deacon</i>	636-464-6901

### PARISH ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Jeff Darr, <i>Facilities Staff</i>	jdarr@sjparish.org
Julie Hepp, <i>Business Manager</i>	jhepp@sjparish.org   x119
Kimberly Johnson, <i>Administrative Asst.</i>	kjohnson@sjparish.org   x102
Kathy Larson, <i>Communications Director</i>	klarson@sjparish.org   x112
Bobbie Matosich, <i>CCC Assistant Manager</i>	bmatosich@sjparish.org   x122
Keith Newbury, <i>Facilities Manager</i>	knewbury@sjparish.org   x110
Heather Selsor, <i>Corpus Christi Center Manager</i>	hselsor@sjparish.org   x111

### PARISH MINISTERIAL STAFF

Cyndi Burkard, <i>Pastoral Associate</i>	cburkard@sjparish.org   x117
Sr. Rosemary Buttice, ASCJ, <i>Pastoral Associate</i>	rbuttice@sjparish.org   x106
Alex Cammarata, <i>Seminarian Pastoral Intern</i>	acammarata@sjparish.org   x105
Sean Feltz, <i>Director of Apostolic Mission</i>	sfeltz@sjparish.org   x114
Torri Halbert, <i>PSR Coordinator</i>	thalbert@sjparish.org
Emily Kopff, <i>Director of Religious Education</i>	ekopff@sjparish.org   x108

### SAINT JOSEPH SCHOOL

Sr. Carol Sansone, ASCJ, <i>Principal</i>	csansone@stjosephimperial.org 636-464-9027 x401
Sr. Ellen Cronan, ASCJ, <i>Admin. Assistant</i>	ecronan@stjosephimperial.org 636-464-9027 x403
Tara Gaudreault, RN, <i>School Nurse</i>	tgaudreault@stjosephimperial.org 636-464-9027 x500
Sr. Bridget Smith, ASCJ, <i>Admissions &amp; Mktg</i>	bsmith@stjosephimperial.org 636-464-9027 x408
Kay Fritz, <i>Administrative Assistant</i>	kfritz@stjosephimperial.org 636-464-9027 x402

### OTHER MINISTRIES

Parish Cemetery, Bill Regelsperger	314-808-2522
Sr. Christine's Food Pantry	pantry@sjparish.org 636-464-7580
St. Vincent de Paul Society Helpline	636-274-6520

### 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

Thursday: 5:30 pm—7:00 pm  
 Saturday: 3:30 pm—4:30 pm

### EUCCHARISTIC 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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, OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for 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.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE	December 14 4:30 pm	December 15 7:00 am	December 15 8:30 am	December 15 10:00 am	December 15 11:30 am	December 15 4:30 pm
Lectors	Schiavi Hirschmann	Dixon Telthorst	Hostetter Szewcyck	Miloscia Munsell	Moloney Smedra	Jelavich
Servers	S. Rakers A. Rakers	Volunteer	H. Preston L. Preston	M. Govero S. Blomstrom L. Selsor	Ja. Vonder Haar Jo. Vonder Haar P. Vonder Haar	J. Becker J. Bates

MASS INTENTIONS	
Monday	December 9, 2024 <i>Holy Day</i>
6:30 am	Ruth Moffet
8:00 am	Tim Johnson <i>Special Intention</i>
10:00 am	Priest's Intention
7:00 pm	For the People of SJBD/SJ Parishes
Tuesday	December 10, 2024
6:30 am	Lenora Kueber
8:00 am	Ron Merideth
Wednesday	December 11, 2024
6:30 am	Kevin Jackson <i>Special Intention</i>
8:00 am	Gary Prudot
Thursday	December 12, 2024
6:30 am	Luciano Celori
8:00 am	Liliana Grace Weiss
Friday	December 13, 2024
6:30 am	Doug Sheldon <i>Special Intention</i>
8:00 am	Werner Family Intentions
Saturday	December 14, 2024
8:00 am	Timothy D. Bourisaw
4:30 pm	Parker Schaefer
Sunday	December 15, 2024
7:00 am	Fabian "Sonny" Schilly
8:30 am	Tom & Kathy Simon
10:00 am	Nick Weiland
11:30 am	For the People of SJBD/SJ Parishes
4:30 pm	Mike & Sandy Moonier <i>Special Intention</i>

PARISH STEWARDSHIP 11/11/2024 - 11/17/2024		
	Current	Fiscal YTD
OFFERTORY		
<i>Total collected</i>	\$26,269.67	\$451,369.16
<i>Amount needed</i>	\$23,292.23	\$465,844.62
<i>Surplus or shortage</i>	\$2,977.44	\$14,475.46
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS		
Tuition assistance	\$205.00	
St. Vincent de Paul	\$3,415.00	
Sr. Christine's Food Pantry	\$3,106.62	

**Important: Bulletin Deadlines**

Starting the week of November 10<sup>th</sup> and running all the way until January 5<sup>th</sup>, the deadlines for bulletin submissions are adapted to longer publication lead times due to both holiday/holy day closings and the additional volume shippers face this time of year. ***Please take careful note of these deadlines.*** As always, submissions should be sent to [bulletin@sjparish.org](mailto:bulletin@sjparish.org)

***Please check each week for updates as the deadlines are subject to revision.***

Bulletin Date	Submission Deadline
November 24	November 13
December 1	November 18
December 8	November 26
December 15	December 4
December 22	December 10
December 29	December 18
January 5	December 19






## *From the Desk of Fr. Anthony Yates, Pastor*

### **Immaculate Conception**

**WHAT IS THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION ?**

The Immaculate Conception refers to the condition that the Blessed Virgin Mary was preserved **free from Original Sin from the very moment of her conception** in the womb of her mother, by a singular grace and privilege of Almighty God and by virtue of the merits of Jesus Christ, Savior of the human race.



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Please remember that Monday, December 9 is a Holy Day of Obligation. How do you view these days? Do you focus on the obligation part or the celebration part? Sadly, many tend to fixate on the “obligation” part. But I propose, as the Church does, that these days are much more. At their core, they are celebrations, not obligations. The Church is not merely demanding that we “go to Mass.” The Church is demanding that we celebrate! We go to Mass on these days to rejoice. Seen from this perspective, holy days of obligation become a gift. We must take a step back from all our worries and preoccupations to remember what is good, joyous, and true. We must celebrate, not so that we can “get away from it all,” but so that we can get back to it all, back to everything that really matters. The Church badly wants us to hear this message every holy day, and too often we lose sight of that message. So, plan on making time to honor our Blessed Mother and celebrate her Immaculate Conception!

### **Advent Confessions**

The Gospel reading from Luke for this Second Sunday of Advent shows us how personal and detailed God’s love for humanity is as He prepared the way for Christ’s coming among us. We are told the precise time, place, and person, He appointed to announce the arrival of our Savior. John tells us how to celebrate to the fullest this first “coming” on the feast of Christmas and how to prepare for the second coming — through repentance.

Let’s turn away from any bad habits or sin that may have crept into our lives and turn our hearts and minds back to Christ this Advent.

As you continue to prepare for Christmas, consider making a good confession. We will have additional confessors available on Thursday, December 19 for our Advent Penance Service starting at 5:30 pm. All are invited to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation to prepare their heart for Jesus.

### **Employee Change**

This past Friday, December 6 was Rachel Schoenberger’s last day of work at our Parish. She served in the Parish Office as the Accounting Assistant and the Prevent and Protect Coordinator. Rachel has decided to move on to a new role serving the church in St Louis. We thank her for her years of service. We will begin looking for a replacement to fill this important role and will keep you updated on the progress.

**PREPARING THE WAY:  
RECONCILIATION IN ADVENT**

*Do not fear.* Is 41:10

”

*“There are people who are afraid to go to confession, forgetting that they will not encounter a severe judge there, but the immensely merciful Father”*

POPE FRANCIS



Parishioners are invited to contribute, in memory of a loved one, toward our Christmas poinsettias and decorations.

The suggested donation is \$10.

Please put your donation, along with the name of your loved one, in the collection basket or drop it off at the parish office.

We will have a special acknowledgment for each memorial in the bulletin the second weekend in January.

All submissions are due by December 15<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you!



## SAINT JOSEPH SCHOOL

### Open House

December 8, 2024

10:30 am - 12 noon

**Grades Pre-K3 through 8**

### *Questions?*

Sr. Bridget Smith, ASCJ  
*Admissions & Marketing Coordinator*

636-464-9027 x408

[bsmith@stjosephimperial.org](mailto:bsmith@stjosephimperial.org)

6024 Old Antonia Road, Imperial, MO 63052  
[www.stjosephimperial.org](http://www.stjosephimperial.org) | Phone: 636-464-9027

## IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Because December 8<sup>th</sup> this year falls on the Second Sunday of Advent, the Holy Day of Obligation is transferred to Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup>. Masses will be celebrated at 6:30, 8, and 10 am (school Mass), and 7 pm.



### Encounter

St. Joseph Parish  
December 11, 2024  
7:00-8:30 pm

Adoration  
Confession  
Praise and Worship  
Reflection



Donut Sunday  
Dec. 1st  
in the Cafeteria

Advent by Candlelight  
Dec. 7th 5:30pm  
in the CCC  
*Registration needed*

Advent by Taillight  
Dec 13th  
6pm: Confession & Adoration  
7pm: Talk & Fellowship on  
Lower Lot

Advent Kick Off  
Dec. 4th 6:30-8 pm  
in the CCC

Encounter  
Dec. 11th 7-8:30pm  
in Church

Breakfast with Santa  
Dec. 14th In the CCC  
*Three seatings  
Registration needed*

Daily Mass:  
MF 6:30 am  
T-Sat 8 am

Reconciliation:  
Thursday 5:30-7 pm and  
Saturday 3:30-4:15 pm

Pauline Sisters Books  
and Media Sale  
at Breakfast with Santa and  
following Masses on Dec 14 & 15th

Adoration in Chapel: T-Th 9 am-9 pm

Penance Service  
Dec. 19th 5:30pm in Church  
*Outside confessors available*

# Advent *a journey towards* Hope. Joy. Peace. Love.

**PLEASE SOLVE to HELP OUT !!!**



AS \_\_\_\_ ED                      C \_\_\_\_ BER

GRA \_\_\_\_ CRACKER            \_\_\_\_ STER

S \_\_\_\_ POO                      ABRA \_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ MOCK                      W \_\_\_\_ MY

WHATC \_\_\_\_ ACALLIT?

YOU'RE THE C \_\_\_\_ PI! Please take a bow and donate

a ham to the food pantry so our neighbors in need can

have a joyful Christmas. Hams can be dropped off most

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday mornings.

Thank you for being a CHAMPion for our neighbors!



# RISE!

JANUARY 16, 2025

5:00 PM TO 6:30 PM

ST. JOSEPH  
YOUTH MINISTRY ROOM

PIZZA

PRAYER

TALK

EMAIL [CBURKARD@SJIPARISH.ORG](mailto:CBURKARD@SJIPARISH.ORG)  
WITH QUESTIONS

*See you there!*

MEN OF ST. JOSEPH  
JOIN US FOR



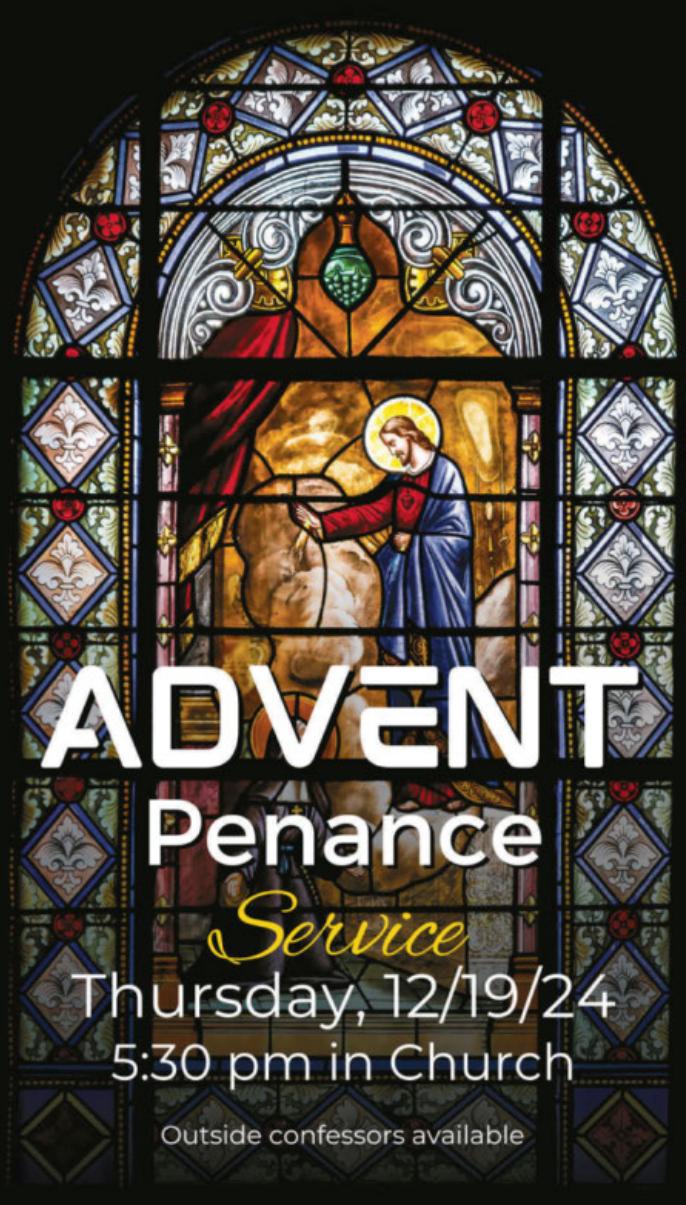
**ADVENT**  
**BY TAILLIGHT**

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13TH  
• OPTIONAL ADORATION AND CONFESSION AT 6 PM •  
TAILGATE AT 7PM IN THE LOWER LOT

**TALK | FELLOWSHIP | PRAYER**  
FOOD PROVIDED | BYOB

FOR MORE  
INFORMATION  
CONTACT

FR. RUZICKA - JRUZICKA@SJIPARISH.ORG  
SEM. ALEX - ACAMMARATA@SJIPARISH.ORG



**ADVENT**  
**Penance**  
*Service*  
Thursday, 12/19/24  
5:30 pm in Church

Outside confessors available



*“Peace I leave you, My peace I give you; not as the world gives, do I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled, nor fearful.”*  
*John 14:27*

SEEK JESUS. FIND PEACE.

What a perfect opportunity to spend some time at the Eucharistic Adoration Chapel during the Advent season! Welcome Jesus, the Prince of Peace, deeper into your life by sitting in his Presence. Talk to Him and share what is in your heart, and take time to listen as He speaks to your soul.

Why not start spending a weekly hour with our Lord?

Adorers NEEDED on .....

Tuesday 6:00 pm

Wednesday 1:00 pm

Thursday 2:00 pm, 3:00 pm, and 4:00 pm.

Please contact Barb at 314-732-2256



*Congratulations to our recently baptized:*

*John Hixson, son of  
John Hixson & Brittany Hawkins*

*Lola Gaterman, daughter of  
Joe & Angie Gaterman*

*Roman Helfin, son of  
Ben & Alison Helfin*

*Baptized in Christ in November of 2024*

*May the blessing of the Lord be upon them and may God watch over and cherish these children whom He has blessed with the grace of Baptism.*





# Breakfast with Santa

IN THE LAND OF THE SWEETS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2024  
IN THE CORPUS CHRISTI CENTER



## Tickets

Adults \$15 and Children \$10 (8 and under)  
Seating One: 8:00 am - 9:30 am  
Seating Two: 10:00 am - 11:30 am  
Seating Three: 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm



## Menu

Biscuits & Gravy, Sausage, Scrambled Eggs,  
Assortment of Breads & Pastries  
Coffee, Milk and Juice

Photo packages available through  
Amie Lynn Photo & Design

For complete details and to order tickets  
and photo packages, scan the QR code



## Christmas Country Church Tour Announcement

The National Shrine of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal (Saint Mary's of the Barrens Church) in Perryville, Missouri, will once again be participating in the Christmas Country Church Tour along with 38 other churches and chapels.

The tour will take place on December 19 and 20, from 2:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. All of the participating churches welcome visitors to view their Christmas decorations and to spend a few moments in silent prayer during the Advent season. Here at the Shrine, a tree will be decorated with prayer petitions from local students. There will be live music both nights from 4:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Light refreshments will be served in the Visitor Center, where unique Christmas items, including nativity sets, will be on display.

If you have any questions, please call the Association of the Miraculous Medal at 1-800-264-6279 or visit our website at [www.amm.org](http://www.amm.org). We look forward to your visit.



**Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of St. Louis** is dedicated to bringing the healing, help, and hope of Jesus Christ to those in need with a compassionate, caring presence. We provide services through all stages of life, from the beginning of life to senior care.

Catholic Charities provides a variety of housing and emergency shelter services including affordable apartments for seniors, residential care for children and adolescents, shelter and support services for women and their children, and both short- and long-term shelter and transitional housing for low-income families and individuals experiencing homelessness.

To learn more about Catholic Charities housing or to get involved, please contact your Parish Ambassador Carroll Lee Schilly by email at [carrolleeschilly@yahoo.com](mailto:carrolleeschilly@yahoo.com) or by phone at 314-973-4042.





## RaiseRight Gift Cards For Sale

Gift cards are available for purchase in the school, or you can buy eGift cards or reload your gift cards using the RaiseRight app. Our school earns a



percent rebate for every gift card sold through the RaiseRight program.

**Thanks for your continued support!**

## School Board Elections

The Saint Joseph School Board will be holding an election for 3 new members and we are looking for nominees. Candidates should be 18 years or older and sincerely interested in Catholic Education. The board meets once a month at 7:00 pm and attendance is mandatory. The purpose of the School Board is to advise the pastor and principal in making policy for the school. The elected member shall serve a three-year term and will take his/her seat at the January 15 meeting.

Those candidates who are interested are asked to submit a short paragraph about themselves to the school board at [schoolboard@stjosephimperial.org](mailto:schoolboard@stjosephimperial.org) By Sunday December 8th. The bios will be presented in the bulletin for four weeks prior to voting. If you have any questions, please contact the school board at the e-mail address above.

## December 8<sup>th</sup> Second Sunday of Advent



In today's Gospel, John the Baptist urges us to "Prepare the way of the Lord," and this is what Advent is all about. We are called to help prepare the way of the Lord by making the real meaning of Christmas come alive in our own hearts, in our family and to reach out to those in need. Is there a family you know who needs assistance?

For more information,  
email [Dbalsman@gmail.com](mailto:Dbalsman@gmail.com)

Prayer Meeting: 12/11, 6:30 pm  
Business Meeting: 12/23, 6:30 pm

All meetings in the Corpus Christi Center.



You do not need to grieve alone. Join others on the journey! The grief support group will hold their monthly meeting Thursday, Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> from 6-7 pm in the Corpus Christi Center.

Amy Neu, a therapist with West County Psychological Associates will facilitate the meeting.

For more information contact Amy at 314-275-8599 x178 or [amy.neu1@gmail.com](mailto:amy.neu1@gmail.com)



# LANCER

*for a day*

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**SCHEDULE YOUR VISIT TODAY!**

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EXT. 117 OR [BBANNES@STPIUS.COM](mailto:BBANNES@STPIUS.COM)

## Do you receive email from the parish?

We use "Constant Contact" to email parishioners. If you do NOT get the emails and wish to receive them, please notify Kim Johnson in the parish office at [kjohnson@sjiparish.org](mailto:kjohnson@sjiparish.org) or 636-464-1013.

## Fifty Plus Club

Fifty Plus Club at St. John the Beloved Disciple parish will have their Christmas party on Dec. 12 at Detours at noon. We will have a buffet; cost is \$17.99 not including a drink. Please bring an \$8 or so gift if you want to participate in the gift exchange. Also we will have a 50/50 drawing. All are welcome for prayer, dinner, fellowship and fun. Inquiries, call Gary at (636) 948-2354.



## OUR PARISH

### PRAYING TOGETHER

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

Virginia Boxdorfer	Roland Kaiser
Mike Boyd	Diana Schwalbert
Verna Haun	Noella Torgerson
Eileen Kaiser	George Winters
Jim Kaiser	

*Reminder: names are published for 60 days.  
Please contact the office to add/remove names.*

*We pray for those in the Military:*

Meaghan Angus	Jacob Sarfraz
John Costigan	Jared Sheets
Collin Fitzsimmons	Grant Staggenborg
Kamryn Heredia	Jack Vilchis
Jack Jeffers	Lucas Weiland
Isaac Longtin	Megan Weiland
Austin McHaffie-Sharp	



The Daughters of St. Paul from Pauline Books & Media will be visiting St. Joseph the weekend of Dec. 14-15. The Daughters of St. Paul are religious Sisters whose mission is to communicate the Gospel with the media. Their publications of Catholic books -- for children and adults--will be available for perusal and purchase on Saturday morning at our "Breakfast with Santa" event as well as after the weekend masses. Take advantage of this opportunity to find some good reading, especially as Christmas fast approaches!

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.



### National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows – Shrine Grounds and Visitors Center

#### Way of Lights Display

From November 22 through December 31, 2024, 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Indoor activities closed on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. The Way of Lights Display using over 1.5 million beautiful lights, depicts the journey of Mary and Joseph as they travel to Bethlehem. With new and beautiful colored lights, we celebrate the birth of Jesus and Continue to offer activities for all to enjoy!

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>



# John S. Appelbaum

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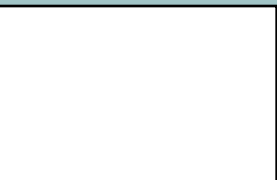
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### Turning 65? ON MEDICARE AND HAVE A QUESTION?

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314.650.2714  
St. John Parishioner

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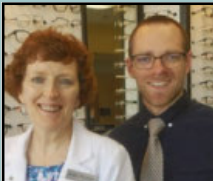
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