Parochial Administrator
Rev. Manuel P. Cuizon, C.R.S.
mcuizon@dio.org

Deacon
Lawrence H. Day, lday@dio.org

Pastoral Associates
Sr. Mary Ellen Backes, OSU Evangelization
mebackes@stjoseph.dio.org

Paul Johnson, tbmusic35@aol.com Music Ministry

Bereavement Minister
Mary-Jo Gardiner, maryjogard@aol.com

Secretary/Bookkeeper
Pamela L. Johnson, pljohnson@stjoseph.dio.org

Facilities/Maintenance
Devin Dudas, ddudas@stjoseph.dio.org

Parish Office
Web: http://stjoseph.dio.org
Email: parish@stjoseph.dio.org
Telephone: (217) 544-7426
Hours:
Monday - Thursday
8:30 am - Noon & 1:00 - 4:30 pm
Friday 8:30 am - Noon

Mass Schedule
SATURDAY at 4:30 p.m.
SUNDAY at 9:30 a.m.
MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY at 7:00 am*
WEDNESDAY at 5:30 p.m.*
(*If there is a Funeral, Daily Mass is Cancelled.)
RECONCILIATION - SATURDAY from 3:15-4:00 p.m.
HOLY DAYS will be announced in the bulletin and on the website.
**SACRAMENTS**

**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults:** Contact Sr. Mary Ellen Backes, O.S.U., for information on Inquiry Sessions and RCIA process.

**Baptism of Children under eight years old:** Contact Deacon Larry to attend a pre-baptismal class. Baptisms are usually celebrated during the weekend Masses, except for Advent and Lent.

**Reconciliation:** Saturday 3:15-4:00 pm or by appointment.

**Marriage:** Arrangements are to be made six months in advance. Call the Parish Office to schedule an appointment.

**Sacrament of the Sick:** Call the Parish Office for Fr. Manny.

**Communion for the Homebound:** Notify the parish office to arrange for Communion to the sick and elderly.

**New Parishioners**
St. Joseph welcomes all visitors to our Church. If you would like to register, please request a Parish Registration Form from the Parish Office.

**Assisted Listening System**
Personal listening instruments are available to complement our audio system. These are located in the Vesting Sacristy.

**Bulletin Announcements**
Announcements are due, by email, at the Parish Office by 9:00 am on Tuesdays. The bulletin is published weekly on our parish website: [http://stjoseph.dio.org](http://stjoseph.dio.org).

**Catholic Faith Formation**
The Catholic Faith Formation program provides religious instruction for St. Joseph Parishioners who do not attend Catholic schools for grades K-8. Classes meet Monday evenings from 6:30 pm-7:30 pm September - May.

**Hospitalized Parishioners**
Families and friends are asked to please keep the parish staff informed regarding parishioners who are hospitalized.

**Prayer Requests**
St. Joseph Prayer Chain is composed of members of the parish who pray for the needs of fellow parishioners and their families and friends. Please call or email Linda at 481-4320, linda.medlock@comcast.net or the Parish Office. All requests are confidential.

**MISSION STATEMENT**
The Mission of St. Joseph Church is to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ by word and deed, to build a Christian community of faith within and beyond the parish, to serve the people of God both near and far, and to celebrate the presence of the Risen Lord among us.

**Pastoral Council**
The St. Joseph Parish Pastoral Council is called by the parish to serve as consultant to the Pastor in assuring that all aspects of parish life reflect the mission and ministry of Jesus in accordance with norms determined by the diocesan Bishop.

**Members**
Joe Rolens (Chair), Gary Schmidt (Vice Chair), Tim Kennedy (Secretary), Linda Medlock, David Cooper

**Standing Committees**
Community Builders
Faith Formation/Evangelization
Health and Wellness
Liturgy
Social Concerns
Stewardship

**Finance Council**
The Parish Finance Council is an advisory body to assist the Pastor in the administration and management of the temporal goods of the parish.

**Members**
Tom Hyde (Chair), Deacon Larry Day, Rita Havrilka, Tom Niedzielski

**Choir**
Director: Deanna Kettelkamp

**P.E.P. (People Enjoying People) Club**
The PEP Club is a social for “seniors” that meets monthly for lunch and fellowship.

**Chair:** Gary Schmidt

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**Diocesan Child Abuse Reporting and Investigation Number:** 217-321-1155.
Worship Schedule & Mass Intentions

Mass Intentions
Jan. 23 - Jan. 24, 2021
Sat. 4:30 pm †Gene Szerletich
Sun. 9:30 am †J. Mike Geist
†Richard Towner
†Eleanora Yuskavich
†Justine Claunch

Masses for this Week
Jan. 25 - Jan. 31, 2021
Mon. 7:00 am People of St. Joseph
Tue. 7:00 am People of St. Joseph
Wed. 5:30 pm People of St. Joseph
Thu. 7:00 am People of St. Joseph
Sat. 4:30 pm †Francesco Porrovecchio
Sun. 9:30 am †John Power

From the Administrator’s Desk....!

“Follow me, and I will make you
Fishers of men.”

Our Scripture readings for this Sunday are good for our Christian spiritual practice of meditating about our own life and eventual of our death. They are reminders of the ultimate goal of our faith - that is to live with God after our life here on earth. Awareness of our own mortality should spur us to act righteously each day.

In the first reading, Jonah prophesies, Ninevites repent, God forgives. St. Paul in our second reading, reminds the Corinthians and us about time which is running out and the need for us to focus on our priorities right. And in the Gospel, the Lord Jesus speaks of the coming of the Kingdom and the need for us to wake up to its hour. While St. Paul encourages us of living as if there is not much time left.

All three readings speak of discerning the signs of the time and how we could respond redemptively. The Ninevites people were reminded of the limited time they had before tragedy would strike; and they were able to repent in time. Thus, the Lord Jesus speaks of the coming of the Kingdom and the need for us to wake up to its hour. While St. Paul encourages us of living as if there is not much time left.

Brothers and sisters, we are all made for eternity, all right; but the kind of eternity awaiting us depends on the manner we make use of the limited time given within the limited space down here on earth. Let us look for the signs of the Kingdom and respond to its invitation so that we may not be found wanting at the time it all matters most.

God bless us all.

Fr. Manny
Issues with U.S. Postal Service – Catholic Times is aware of several locations in our diocese that have not received their Catholic Times recently or have been getting the magazine late. Unfortunately, it is out of our control as the U.S. Postal Service is responsible for mailing our magazine. You can always read the latest edition of Catholic Times for free by visiting ct.dio.org. The online version flips just like a magazine. You can also subscribe to receive the online edition of Catholic Times to your inbox for free by going to: ct.dio.org/subscribe.

By now, you probably have packed up all your Christmas decorations and stored them for next year. We hope you haven’t put your Faith on the shelf. Faith is part of your daily life and, in this secular world, it is vital to have encouragement for the journey. Let Covenant Network help you with your daily dose of Truth with our inspiring programming. Tune into WIHM 88.1 FM, listen on our free app or at OurCatholicRadio.org.

Holy Hour of Adoration Prayer Request

Please pray for:


Please return this form in the collection basket. We are honored to pray for your specific needs.
We are taking orders for the St. Joseph Catholic Church Memorial Bricks. Forms are available on the website or in the parish office.

BABY BOTTLE BOOMERANG

In conjunction with Sanctity of Human Life Month, our parish has partnered with First Step Women’s Center on their Baby Bottle Boomerang campaign during the month of January. If you have not picked one up yet, we still have bottles and envelopes available at the back of the church. For those interested in participating, take a bottle or envelope home and fill it with cash, coins, or checks for the remainder of the month. Then return the bottle or envelope next week at one of the Masses on Saturday, January 30th or Sunday, January 31st.

For further details about First Step Women’s Center and this campaign, visit www.CultureOfLifeSpringfield.org. Thank you for helping to make a direct impact on the number of lives saved from abortion.

While at Prayer, please remember the people who are in the hospitals and nursing homes. Also the people who are shut-ins and those who live alone.

There are two opportunities in our diocese to participate in a 40 Days for Life Prayer Vigil. Your presence on the side walk matters. The "no show" rate goes as low as 90% when people are praying outside of an abortion facility. Now more than ever your prayers are needed.

Granite City: Sign ups are open to adopt a day for your parish to pray in Granite City for 40 Days for Life! Go to 40daysgc.com to find out more about how to lead and sign up. Contact us at 618-206-6220 and . An informational meeting is coming soon! Kick Off Rally on Sunday, February 14 at 1pm at Hope facility in Granite City featuring Pastor Roy Rhodes and Pastor Aaron Turner.

Springfield: For more information and to sign up, contact Springfield Right to Life: 217-523-2700, . Kick Off Rally, Thursday, February 18, 9:00 am, at Springfield Right to Life, 519 N. Bruns Lane. Bishop Paprocki will be blessing Springfield Right to Life’s ultrasound machine.
Good News Reflection
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 31, 2021

The authority of Jesus

Next Sunday's Gospel reading illustrates the authority of Jesus. If we truly accept and understand his authority over our lives, we can rejoice in the Lord even when life hands us hardships.

Why? Because we know that Christ's authority is supreme, which means that everything we've placed under his authority will produce good fruits. Even bad situations will be transformed into blessings. Tragedies will be changed into triumphs. Sorrows will be transfigured into joy. Frustrations will lay the groundwork for new growth, new knowledge, and a greater ability to minister to others.

However, if we reject Christ's authority by acting as if we're the ones in charge, deciding for ourselves how to end a problem or how and when to escape from a hardship, our problems will only get worse. Pope Francis wrote in his Apostolic Exhortation on the Gospel of Joy (Evangelii Gaudium, paragraph 64) that this leads to a feeling of disorientation instead of joy. He noted: "We are living in an information-driven society which bombards us indiscriminately with data -- all treated as being of equal importance -- and which leads to remarkable superficiality in the area of moral discernment. In response, we need to provide an education which teaches critical thinking and encourages the development of mature moral values."

The path to joy has been forged by the footsteps of Jesus. To benefit from his authority over evil and over human sufferings, we have to follow his example and obey his teachings. This means choosing to trust him, realizing that his ways are the best ways even when they're unpleasant ways. It means that we're willing to reach resurrection glory by going through the cross with Jesus.

There are no successful shortcuts to the triumphant victory that awaits us. There is no easy way to overcome evil. If this were not true, Jesus wouldn't have needed to die on a cross.

The good news -- the reason why we can rejoice -- is that the most loving, most powerful, most wise One in the universe is using his supreme authority on our behalf. The question is: Will we submit to it?

Questions for Personal Reflection:
In what ways are you still rejecting Christ's authority by trying to do things your own way? Which Church teachings have you been rejecting because you've decided to live by your own rules? Are you willing to ask the Holy Spirit to change your mind on these matters and teach you the value of Christ's ways?

Questions for Community Faith Sharing:
In what ways do Christians often reject Christ's authority in favor of defining their own rules? Why? What are the apparent risks to living completely under Christ's strict authority? How can we replace these risks with a sense of safety?


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<tr>
<th>Reading Date</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Mk 16:15-18</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5; Ps 96:1-3, 7-8a, 10; Mk 3:31-35</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Heb 10:11-18; Ps 110:1-4; Mk 4:1-20</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Heb 10:19-25; Ps 24:1-6; Mk 4:21-25</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>Heb 10:32-39; Ps 37:3-6, 23-24, 39-40; Mk 4:26-34</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Heb 11:1-2, 8-19; Lk 1:69-75; Mk 4:35-41</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Dt 18:15-20; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; 1 Cor 7:32-35; Mk 1:21-28</td>
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Respect Life Rally
Springfield Right to Life’s annual Respect Life Rally will be held at 2pm on Sunday, January 24th at Calvary Church at 1730 West Jefferson in the parking lot. Stay in your vehicle and tune in on your radio to hear our pro-life speakers inspire our community to “let the walls fall” as they did in Jericho!

Hey, Father! LIVE! - Understanding Catholic teachings can be tough. Hey, Father! LIVE! will help. Join Father Daren Zehnle and Father Jeremy Paulin as they answer your questions about Catholicism LIVE on Feb. 10 at noon. Watch LIVE or on replay by going to facebook.com/diospringfield or youtube.com/diospringfield or dio.org/live. Send your question early or during the broadcast to text it to 217-203-5100.

Dive Deep - From fear to feminine genius. Join Dive Deep, the official podcast of the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois, as we plunge into our fears. This four-part series in January dives deep into the pillars of fear: pain, regret, failure, and comparison. Subscribe to listen at dio.org/podcast.

DCJH Grant Opportunity - The Diocesan Campaign for Justice and Hope (DCJH) is accepting applications for the 2020-2021 funding cycle. Organizations and projects that focus on changing and improving the conditions of low-income people within the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois are eligible to apply for a DCJH grant. The deadline for submitting a grant application is February 22, 2021. Early submission is encouraged so any deficiencies on the application can be corrected prior to this deadline. Details about the grant are located at: www.dio.org/dcjh/home.html. Or interested applicants can call the Office for Pro-Life, Missions, and Special Ministries 217-321-1161.

The pain and sorrow of a past abortion need not endure for a lifetime. Call Project Rachel for a confidential, non-judgmental referral to those who can help: 1-877-RACHEL-5.

Annual MCA National Christmas Artwork Contest - Announcing the 2020-2021 Missionary Childhood Association (MCA) National Christmas Artwork Contest! Twenty-two winners will be selected in this national competition; their artwork will be displayed at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. during Advent and Christmas 2021. Two grand-prize winners will also be selected, and their artwork will appear as the official Christmas card of the National Director of the Pontifical Mission Societies, Father Andrew Small, OMI. Artwork must be received by January 31, 2021. National contest winners will be notified in late spring 2021 and announced to Catholic media in fall 2021. To enter, please see go to https://info.missio.org/2020entryform. Past winners may not enter this year’s contest.

Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation - Registration for the next cycle for online courses through the University of Dayton’s VLCFF program is now open. Certificate programs are available for catechesis, leadership in ministry, youth ministry and more! As a diocesan partner, you can register for courses at a discounted cost of $50 for 5-week sessions and $40 for 3-week seminars. All courses in the VLCFF can be used to help with the Catechist Formation Process. Visit www.dio.org/catechesis/vlcff.html for more information. Or contact Kyle Holtgrave at (217) 698-8500, ext. 154.

We want to share your great photos! – Got a great photo? Whether it’s of school life, parish life, or home life, the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois is wanting to promote Catholic life in action. Through Catholic Times, social media, videos, or marketing materials, the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois wants to share your great photo to spread the joy diocesan-wide. Submit your photo or photos by going to www.dio.org/submitphoto.

March for Life - Due to Covid-19, the March for Life pilgrimage will look a little different this year. Tony Cerveny (Director of Youth and Sports Ministry) and Sister M. Veritas Wilks, FSGM (Director of Youth and Women's Ministry) from the Office of Ministry and Evangelization will be heading to Washington, D.C. for the March for Life. Teens accompanied by parents/guardians and other family members are invited to join us. We will be there to greet you, feed you, organize prayer and programming, and provide a place for the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois to gather. Sister M. Karolyn, FSGM (Vocations Director for the Sisters of St. Francis of the Martyr St. George, in Alton, IL) will be there to speak and lead us in games, prayer, and music. Father Michael Berndt from Christ the King in Springfield will be there to march, and to celebrate Mass with us. Please visit benotafraid.dio.org/experience to learn more and to register.

ATTENTION BUSINESS OWNERS and GENEROUS PARISHIONERS! Mary Ottenberg from J. S. Paluch works on setting up the advertising sponsorships for our bulletin. Advertisements can be purchased for a business, family or a sponsor ad. Please support our sponsors! Their generosity helps us to enjoy our FREE bulletin publication every week throughout the year! If you would like to have your business card handed out on a weekly basis and can help this effort, please call Mary Ottenberg at 314-757-7598, or email ottenbergm@jspaluch.com.

Teach me your ways, O Lord

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