

# ST. JOSEPH PARISH

NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2023 VOLUME 9

**CHURCH**  
7 Locust Street



**SCHOOL**  
865 Roosevelt Avenue

## ST JOSEPH PARISH

### MISSION

### STATEMENT

"IN SINCERE GRATITUDE AND WITH GRACE IN OUR HEARTS, ST. JOSEPH PARISH CALLS GOD OUR ONE FATHER. HIS LIFE IS SHOWN TO US THROUGH JESUS AS HIS SON AND OUR SAVIOR. IN THE SPIRIT OF THAT SAME DIVINE LIFE WE REMEMBER, PROFESS AND PRACTICE AS A FAMILY OF BELIEVERS SO THAT THE GOSPEL MAY BE LIGHT AND LEAVEN TO OUR WORLD."

**VISION STATEMENT**  
"ST. JOSEPH PARISH AND SCHOOL SEEK TO PRESERVE A RICH LEGACY OF COMMUNITY LIFE AND LOVE FROM ITS CENTURY OF SHARING AND IS COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE IN FORMATION AND EDUCATION, DEDICATION IN CHARITY AND SERVICE, AND CELEBRATION IN BONDS OF FAMILY AND THE BLESSINGS OF OUR FAITH."

Contact Us At:

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Religious Education:  
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St. Joseph School:  
(732) 541-7111

St. Vincent de Paul Society:  
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### MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parish Family,  
Dear Parish Family, Greetings as we journey through this blessed time of Advent! Our parish Quarterly Newsletter profiles our active senior members and in gratitude recognizes their contribution with prayer, charity and family faith. We celebrate this Holy Season and the arrival of our Savior's birth with great happiness for our loved ones. Our senior parishioners show us how sharing their daily call to be parent/grandparent/disciple makes all the difference and promises a youthful joy as God's blessing. There are many more who represent the great gift of seniors living their faith. We thank each of you and we congratulate Irene, Mary, Ramon and Marcelina for their inspiration. My prayers and thoughts for a wonderful Christmas 2023!

Msgr. John

### MENSAJE DEL PÁRROCO

Querida familia parroquial:  
¡Saludos mientras caminamos a través de este bendito tiempo de Adviento! El boletín trimestral de nuestra parroquia presenta a nuestros miembros mayores activos y, en agradecimiento, reconoce su contribución con oración, caridad y fe familiar. Celebramos esta temporada santa y la llegada del nacimiento de nuestro Salvador con gran felicidad para nuestros seres queridos y nuestros feligreses mayores nos muestran cómo compartir su llamado diario a ser padre/abuelo/discípulo hace toda la diferencia y promete un gozo juvenil como bendición de Dios.

¡Mis oraciones y pensamientos para una maravillosa Navidad 2023!  
Mons. John

### Dates to Remember 2024

- January 1 New Year's Day with 10:30am mass & blessing of New Year
- January 6 Three King's Day with visit of Magi at January 7, 12:30pm mass
- January 20 St. Joseph School Bingo Night
- January 28 Catholic School Week 2024 parish mass celebrating our School, 10:30am
- February 2 Candlemas Day with 7pm mass blessing Baby Jesus and candles for home
- February 9 First Confessions for Parish Children, 7pm
- February 14 Ash Wednesday (Day of Fast and Abstinence- beginning of Lent)
- February 17 St. Joseph School Bingo Night
- March 17 St. Joseph Raffle in honor of St. Joseph Day celebration with parish evening
- March 24 St. Joseph School Bingo Night
- March 25 Palm Sunday (*beginning of Holy Week*)
- March 29 Good Friday
- March 31 Easter 2024
- April Trip to Sight and Sound Theater for show "Daniel" (TBA)
- April 21 St. Joseph School Bingo/Tricky Tray evening
- May 11 First Communion celebration for our parish children
- May 12 Mother's Day
- May 17-19 National Pilgrimage of Eucharist arrives at diocese en route to National Congress
- May 22 Confirmation celebration for our parish youth
- June 7 St. Joseph School 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation, 5:30pm
- June 16 Father's Day
- June 17-20 National Congress for the Holy Eucharist Revival, Indianapolis, IN
- July 4 Independence Day
- August 15 Assumption of Blessed Mother Feast Day (Holy day of Obligation)
- August 30 Labor Raffle Drawing for parish fundraiser
- September 3 St. Joseph School, first day of school year
- September St. Joseph School Bingo Night (TBA)
- October Parish Dinner Dance @ St. Joseph School Gym (TBA)
- October 12 Family Mass and Blessing of Catechists (Catechetical Sunday celebration)
- October St. Joseph School Bingo Night (TBA)
- October 31 Trunk or Treat @ St. Joseph School for all students
- November 1 All Saints Day Feast (*Holy Day of Obligation*)
- November 10 Veteran's Day blessing at all Sunday Masses
- November 28 Thanksgiving Day
- December 1 First Sunday in Advent
- December 9 Feast of Immaculate Conception (transferred to Monday, not a holyday)
- December 25 Christmas Day (*Holyday of Obligation*)

# Volunteer Spotlight

Irene Lenahan



Irene Lenahan, Mary Roche, Ramon and Marcelina Rodriguez represent a steadfastness in displaying what it means to live each and every day ready to care and respond to the life inspired by God's Church and Spirit. Irene arrives 30 minutes prior to each weekday Mass in the Chapel to faithfully recite the decades of the Holy Rosary. She prays for the Intentions of our parish and our families and remembers all who are sick and struggling. She happily invites anyone present to join her in the devotion, gladly sharing the recitation leading into the gift of the Mass.

### Ramon & Marcelina Rodriguez



Ramon and Marcelina serve as Sacristans and church cleaners each week as they join their family for Mass on Thursday evenings. They always donate extra linens and items for the sacristy need. They teach their grandchildren how to serve at the altar and are great role models for the faith and are joyfully ready to help with whatever is needed in the parish.

### Mary Roche



Mary is a very devoted parishioner who welcomes outreach to the shut-ins and the less fortunate. She always visits the homes of those in need of a visit. During her visits, she drops off the latest church bulletin and invites those she visits to local gatherings. She has singlehandedly led the parish in the collection of 'flip-tops' from cans! These 'flip-tops' are taken to the Ronald McDonald House and due to her dedication, we are close to the goal of 1 million!!

# Foco voluntario

Irene Lenahan



Irene Lenahan, Mary Roche, Ramón y Marcelina Rodríguez representan una firmeza de lo que significa vivir todos y cada uno de los días listos para cuidar y responder a la vida inspirada por la Iglesia y el Espíritu de Dios. Irene llega todos los días de la semana 30 minutos antes de la misa diaria para recitar fielmente las decenas del Santo Rosario en la capilla por las intenciones de nuestra parroquia y nuestras familias. Ella recuerda a todos los que están enfermos y luchando e invita felizmente a cualquiera que se une a ella a ayudar a dirigir la devoción, compartiendo con gusto la recitación que conduce al regalo de la misa.

### Ramon & Marcelina Rodriguez



Ramón y Marcelina sirven como sacristanes y limpiadores de iglesias cada semana mientras se unen a su familia los jueves por la noche y siempre donan ropa de cama y artículos adicionales para la necesidad de la sacristía. Enseñan a sus nietos cómo servir en el altar y son grandes modelos a seguir para la fe, ya que están dispuestos a ayudar con alegría cuando se les pide.

Hay muchos más que representan el gran regalo de las personas mayores que viven su fe. Agradecemos a cada uno de ustedes y felicitamos a Irene, Mary, Ramon y Marcelina por su inspiración.

### Mary Roche



Mary es una miembro muy devota que da la bienvenida a los que están encerrados y a los menos afortunados. Siempre se detiene en las casas de aquellos que necesitan una visita para dejar el último boletín de la iglesia e invitar a las reuniones locales. Ella sola ha liderado la entrega parroquial de 'flip-tops' de latas que se llevan a la Casa Ronald McDonald y está cerca de la meta de 1 millón.



## BLESSING OF HOME AT CHRISTMAS SEASON

(may be done by priest/deacon or member of the family)

Enter your home and read the Magnificat, the hymn of praise sung by the Blessed Virgin Mary in Luke's Gospel after being greeted by Elizabeth.

### **Magnificat**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.  
From this day all generations will call me blessed:  
the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him  
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm,  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,  
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things,  
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel  
for he remembered his promise of mercy,  
the promise he made to our fathers,  
to Abraham and his children forever.

During this, sprinkle the area you are in with holy water. After that is complete:

All: From the east came the Magi to Bethlehem to adore the Lord; and opening their treasures they offered precious gifts: gold for the great King, incense for the true God, and myrrh in symbol of His burial.  
Leader: Our Father Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead and lead us not into temptation,

All: But deliver us from evil.

Leader: All they from Saba shall come

All: Bringing gold and frankincense.

Leader: O Lord, hear my prayer.

All: And let my cry come unto Thee.

Leader: Let us pray. O God, who by the guidance of a star didst on this day manifest Thine only-begotten Son to the Gentiles, mercifully grant that we who know Thee by faith may also attain the vision of Thy glorious majesty.

Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Leader: Be enlightened, be enlightened, O Jerusalem, for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee—Jesus Christ born of the Virgin Mary.

All: And the Gentiles shall walk in thy light and kings in the splendor of thy rising, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon thee.

Leader: Let us pray. Bless, O Lord God almighty, this home, that in it there may be health, purity, the strength of victory, humility, goodness and mercy, the fulfillment of Thy law, the thanksgiving to God the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. And may this blessing remain upon this home and upon all who dwell herein. Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

After the prayers are recited, walk throughout your home sprinkling each room with holy water. Then write the initials of the Magi connected with crosses at the top of your front door. Then the numbers of the year. The numbers will be split so that they are on each side of the initials.

Here's an example:

**20 + C + M + B + 24**

This tradition is done at the beginning of each year so that you can invite God into your homes and place your family under his protection.



## BENDICIÓN DEL HOGAR EN LA TEMPORADA NAVIDEÑA

(puede ser hecho por el sacerdote/diácono o un miembro de la familia)

Entra en tu casa y lee el Magnificat, el himno de alabanza que se canta por la Santísima Virgen María en el Evangelio de Lucas después de ser saludado por Isabel.

### **Magnificat**



Mi alma proclama la grandeza del Señor,  
mi espíritu se regocija en Dios mi Salvador,

porque ha mirado con beneplácito a su humilde siervo.

A partir de este día, todas las generaciones me llamarán bienaventurada:  
el Todopoderoso ha hecho grandes cosas por mí,  
y santo es su Nombre.

Él tiene misericordia de los que le temen en cada generación.

Ha mostrado la fuerza de su brazo, ha dispersado a los soberbios en su vanidad.  
Derribó de sus tronos a los poderosos, y enalteció a los humildes.

Ha colmado de bienes a los hambrientos,  
y ha despedido a los ricos con las manos vacías.

Ha venido en ayuda de su siervo Israel,  
porque se acordó de su promesa de misericordia,  
de la promesa que hizo a nuestros padres,  
a Abraham y a sus hijos para siempre.

Durante esto, rocíe el área en la que se encuentra con agua bendita. Una vez completado:

Todos: Del oriente vinieron los Magos a Belén para adorar al Señor; y abriendo sus tesoros ofrecieron regalos preciosos: oro para el gran Rey, incienso para el Dios verdadero, y mirra como símbolo de Su sepultura.

Líder: Padre nuestro que estás en los cielos, santificado sea tu nombre. Venga tu Reino, hágase tu voluntad en la tierra como en el cielo. Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día, y perdónanos nuestras ofensas, como también nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden. Y guíanos y no nos dejes caer en tentación,

Todos: Pero libranos del mal.

Líder: Todos los de Saba vendrán

Todos: Traer oro e incienso.

Líder: Oh Señor, escucha mi oración.

Todos: Y que mi clamor llegue a Ti.

Líder: Oremos. Oh Dios, que por la guía de una estrella manifestaste en este día a tu Hijo unigénito a los gentiles, concédenos misericordiosamente que los que te conocemos por la fe también podamos alcanzar la visión de tu gloriosa majestad. Por Cristo nuestro Señor.

Todos: Amén.

Líder: Sé iluminada, sé iluminada, oh Jerusalén, porque tu luz ha llegado, y la gloria del Señor ha resucitado sobre ti, Jesucristo nacido de la Virgen María.

Y los gentiles andarán en tu luz, y los reyes en el esplendor de tu resurrección, y la gloria del Señor se ha levantado sobre ti.

Líder: Oremos. Bendice, oh Señor Dios todopoderoso, este hogar, para que en él haya salud, pureza, la fuerza de la victoria, la humildad, la bondad y la misericordia, el cumplimiento de tu ley, la acción de gracias a Dios Padre y al Hijo y al Espíritu Santo. Y que esta bendición permanezca sobre este hogar y sobre todos los que moran en él. Por Cristo nuestro Señor.

Todos: Amén.

Después de recitar las oraciones, camine por toda su casa rociando cada habitación con agua bendita. Luego escribe las iniciales de los Reyes Magos conectadas con cruces en la parte superior de la puerta de tu casa. A continuación, los números del año. Los números se dividirán de manera que estén a cada lado de las iniciales.

He aquí un ejemplo:

**20 + C + M + B + 24**

Esta tradición se realiza al comienzo de cada año para que puedan invitar a Dios a sus hogares y poner a su familia bajo su protección.