

St. Joseph's Catholic Church



Risen Lord Catholic Church



All Saints Catholic Church



ADVENT CHRISTMAS 2023

St. Joseph's Catholic Church

78 St. Josephs Lane
Woodlawn VA 24381-1101
Sunday English Mass 11:30am
Spanish Mass: 2:30 PM
Daily Mass: Wednesday & Friday
9:00am
Spanish Weekday Mass : Thurs. 6:00 pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation
Before Mass 11:00-11:15 am

Risen Lord Catholic Church

59 Mountain View Park
Stuart, VA 24133
Sunday Mass: 8:30 AM
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sun. 7:45-8:15am

All Saints Catholic Church

598 Needmore Lane, NE
Floyd, VA 24091 (540)763-6000
Mass: English
Saturday Vigil at 5:00 PM
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sat. 4:15-4:45pm
First Saturday of the month: Mass 10am, followed by Holy Hour and Benediction.

Father Herman Katongole, Pastor

Pastor's E-mail:

pastor@stjosephswoodlawn.org

Ken Miller - Admin. Assistant/
Bookkeeper / VA Notary Public

email office@stjosephswoodlawn.org

Jennifer Esquivel Escobar

Hispanic Coordinator

email- Hispanics@stjosephswoodlawn.org.

Office Hours : Tue-Thu 8:00 AM- 3:00PM

Website for all parishes: <http://stjosephswoodlawn.org>

Mailing Address for All Parishes

78 St. Josephs Lane

Woodlawn, Virginia 24381-1101

(276)236-7814

MASS SCHEDULE

IMMACULATYE CONCEPTION

December 7- 5:00PM All Saints Floyd
December 8- 9:00AM St. Joseph (English)
December 8- Noon Risen Lord
December 8- 6:00PM St Joseph (Spanish)

VIRGEN DE GUADALUPE

Las Mañanitas de la virgen de Guadalupe serán de las 5:00AM el 12 de Diciembre

Sunday December 24

8:30AM Risen Lord
11:30AM St Joseph English
2:30PM St. Joseph Spanish
8:00PM St Joseph (Bilingual- Christmas Vigil)

Monday December 25 CHRISTMAS DAY

8:30AM Risen Lord
11:30AM St Joseph (English)
2:30PM St Joseph (Spanish)
5:00PM All Saints

Saturday/Sunday December 30/ 31

Regular Weekend Mass Schedule

January 1 NEW YEARS DAY 2024

9:00AM St Joseph English

DECEMBER 2023

<u>St. Joseph Pastoral Council:</u>		<u>Risen Lord Pastoral Council:</u>		<u>All Saints Pastoral Council :</u>	
Regenia Ashburn	336-368-9899	John Abadie	276-930-2298	Dan Bowen	804-405-3739
Mike Encarnacao	757-630-6316	Marcus Brinks		JJ Mammi	540-763-2253
Fabian Hernandez	276-237-8946	Julia Hennessy	276-694-3883	Dana Postiglione	919-201-6449
Ken Miller	276-779-4068	Nichols Hughes	276-694-5471	Amy Provencher	540-385-1664
Krista Nowalk	276-730-0054	Trevor Foltz	276-957-1503	Vicki Borin	704-534-9108
Jessica Sierra	276-233-6853				
Mary Catherine Swiney	434-250-0203				
John Wells	276-733-8649				
<u>St. Joseph Finance Council:</u>		<u>Risen Lord Finance Council:</u>		<u>All Saints Finance Council:</u>	
Barbara Dwyer	276-728-2045	John Coffey	276-694-4360	Lorna Wanner	540-929-8006
Mary Encarnacao	757-474-5409	Helen Barnard	276-694-3504	Nanette Showalter	540-789-4123
Jeff McGee	858-229-8871	Sue Ann Ehmann	276-957-4479	Chris Borin	704-534-9108
Olga Carranza Torres	276-238-4635	Steve Jones	276-591-7013	Al Avila	215-740-4434
Michael Ricciello	276-728-0130	Ron Riquelmy	540-428-9224	Jenny Moonen	
Amy Theuer	276-744-2613				

Father Herman's Christmas Message –The birth of the Messiah on Christmas.

To Christians, Christmas is a joyous celebration of Jesus' birth, the Son of God. It is a time to remember and rejoice in the miraculous event, when the Savior of the world, took on human flesh, and entered into the world to bring hope, love, and salvation to all people.

The birth of Jesus in Bethlehem fulfills the prophecy foretold in Isaiah 7:14 that "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel." During this season, Christians around the world gather with family and friends to commemorate Jesus' humble, yet profound entry into humanity. It's a time for worshiping together, singing songs of praise, sharing acts of kindness and generosity with others as a reflection of His love for all humanity. As we approach this special holiday on December 25th, I encourage you to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas. It is not just an occasion for gift-giving and making merry but is a celebration of God's greatest gift to mankind: His coming as Emmanuel - "God with us" Matthew 1:23.

Christmas is preceded by four weeks of intense spiritual preparation for the coming of the Messiah.

During this season of Advent, which marks the period leading up to Christmas, we often engage in special practices and reflections to prepare our hearts for this great spiritual celebration.

Advent is also a time of expectant waiting and preparation, where we focus on Jesus' coming as a baby in Bethlehem and look forward to His promised return.

At the beginning of advent, the advent-wreath with four candles is blessed and on the first Sunday of advent, one Candle on the advent wreath is lit, then an additional candle for each successive Sunday, until all the four candles are lit by the fourth Sunday of advent.

This ceremony is done at the church, however Christians are also encouraged to have an advent wreath in their homes.

Lighting candles on an Advent wreath each Sunday leading up to Christmas, symbolizes hope, love, joy, and peace. Others may use

this time for personal or communal prayer, Scripture reading, acts of charity and goodwill toward others.

Consider how you can live out the values He taught during this special time such as love for one another, acts of kindness, forgiveness, and sharing with those in need. This approach will help to keep your focus on what truly matters during this holiday season: preparing your heart for Jesus as we celebrate together.

During the season of Advent, you don't necessarily need to make or create anything specific, but it's a time for spiritual preparation and reflection. You might want to consider setting aside some quiet time each day for prayer, meditation, or reading from the Bible as a way to focus on the meaning of Jesus' coming into the world.

Ultimately, what's most important is cultivating a spirit of expectation and readiness in your heart for celebrating Jesus' arrival on Christmas.

I appreciate your generous contribution towards the success of pastoral ministry in our parishes since the beginning of this year.

My prayer is that Jesus be reborn in your hearts and life during Christmas and every day of the New Year 2024. May He radiate His presence from within you to others through unconditional forgiveness and humble service.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Mensaje de Navidad del Padre Herman – El nacimiento del Mesías en Navidad.

Para los cristianos, la Navidad es una celebración gozosa del nacimiento de Jesús, el Hijo de Dios. Es un momento para recordar y regocijarnos por el evento milagroso cuando el Salvador del mundo tomó carne humana y entró en el mundo para traer esperanza, amor y salvación a todas las personas.

El nacimiento de Jesús en Belén cumple la profecía predicha en Isaías 7:14 de que "La virgen concebirá y dará a luz un hijo,

y lo llamará Emanuel". Durante esta temporada, los cristianos de todo el mundo se reúnen con familiares y amigos para conmemorar La entrada humilde pero profunda de Jesús en la humanidad. Es un momento para adorar juntos, cantar canciones de alabanza, compartir actos de bondad y generosidad con los demás como reflejo de Su amor por toda la humanidad. A medida que nos acercamos a esta festividad especial el 25 de diciembre, los invito a reflexionar sobre el verdadero significado de la Navidad. No es sólo una ocasión para hacer regalos y divertirse, sino que es una celebración del regalo más grande de Dios a la humanidad: Su venida como Emmanuel - "Dios con nosotros" Mateo 1:23.

La Navidad está precedida por cuatro semanas de intensa preparación espiritual para la venida del Mesías.

Durante esta temporada de Adviento, que marca el período previo a la Navidad, a menudo participamos en prácticas y reflexiones especiales para preparar nuestros corazones para esta gran celebración espiritual.

El Adviento es también un tiempo de expectativa y preparación, donde nos enfocamos en la venida de Jesús como un bebé a Belén y esperamos con ansias su prometido regreso.

Al comienzo del Adviento, se bendice la corona de Adviento con cuatro velas y el primer domingo de Adviento se enciende una vela en la corona de Adviento, luego una vela adicional para cada domingo sucesivo, hasta que las cuatro velas estén encendidas por el cuarto domingo de adviento.

Esta ceremonia se realiza en la iglesia, sin embargo también se anima a los cristianos a tener una corona de adviento en sus hogares.

Encender velas en una corona de Adviento cada domingo antes de la Navidad simboliza la esperanza, el amor, la alegría y la paz. Otros pueden usar este tiempo para oración personal o comunitaria, lectura de las Escrituras, actos de caridad y buena voluntad hacia los demás. Consideré cómo pueden vivir los valores que Él enseñó durante este tiempo especial, como el amor mutuo, los actos de bondad, el perdón y el compartir con los necesitados. Este enfoque le ayudará a mantener su atención en lo que realmente importa durante esta temporada navideña: preparar su corazón para Jesús mientras celebramos juntos.

Durante la temporada de Adviento, no necesariamente es necesario hacer o crear algo específico, pero es un momento de preparación y reflexión espiritual. Quizás quieras considerar reservar un tiempo de tranquilidad cada día para orar, meditar o leer la Biblia como una forma de concentrarte en el significado de la venida de Jesús al mundo. En definitiva, lo más importante es cultivar un espíritu de expectativa y disposición en el corazón para celebrar la llegada de Jesús en Navidad. Aprecio su generosa contribución al éxito del ministerio pastoral en nuestras parroquias desde principios de este año.

Mi oración es que Jesús renazca en sus corazones y en sus vidas durante la Navidad y todos los días del Año Nuevo 2024. Que Él irradiie Su presencia desde su interior a los demás a través del perdón incondicional y el servicio humilde.

Feliz navidad y próspero año nuevo.



PLENTY FOOD BANK NEEDS OUR HELP

Parishioners visiting the Plenty Food Bank in Floyd reported the following donation needs:

- Individual soft fruit in juice
- Applesauce with no/low sugar
- Items with a decent shelf life that are low sugar/carb/sodium
- Soft, chewable items
- As always:
- Canned tuna and chicken

All Saints will host Mass on the first Saturday of each month at 10:00AM followed by a Holy Hour and Benediction



ALL SAINTS COVERED DISH

Fellowship Meal

Parishioners of All Saints will have covered dish fellowship meal on the third Saturday of each month following the 5:00 Mass. The meal will be held Lutheran Church Hall across the street from All Saints.

ALL SAINTS REQUESTS YOUR PRAYERS

Cards and visits are encouraged for Catholic residents Barry Wells and Gladys Genova. No appointments or COVID screening necessary

Skyline Nursing and Rehabilitation Center
237 Franklin Pike Rd. S.E.
Floyd, VA 24091



Seminarian William Yearout has just begun his Pastoral Year assignment at Holy Trinity parish in Norfolk. Please remember him in your prayers for his continual growth in holiness as he discerns and prepares for the priesthood. Cards to Seminarian William are always well-received. Please send to the following address:

Seminarian William Yearout
154 West Government Ave
Norfolk, VA 23503



December 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																										
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New Year's Eve (United
8:30am RL Sunday Mass
11:30am SJ Sunday
2:30pm Misa en Español)

1 December 2023 – Friday		First Reading: Daniel 7: 2-14 Responsorial Psalm: Daniel 3: 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81 Alleluia: Luke 21: 28 Gospel: Luke 21: 29-33	15 December 2023 – Friday		First Reading: Isaiah 48: 17-19 Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 1: 1-2, 3, 4 and 6 Gospel: Matthew 11: 16-19	4-5, 6-7, 8abcd	First Reading: Isaiah 52: 7-10 Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 98: 1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6			
2 December 2023 – Saturday		First Reading: Daniel 7: 15-27 Responsorial Psalm: Daniel 3: 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87 Alleluia: Luke 21: 36 Gospel: Luke 21: 34-36	9 December 2023 – Saturday		First Reading: Ephesians 1: 3-6, 11-12 Second Reading: Ephesians 1: 3-6, 11-12 Alleluia: Luke 1: 28 Gospel: Luke 1: 26-38	16 December 2023 – Saturday		First Reading: Sirach 48: 1-4, 9-11 Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 80: 2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19 Alleluia: Luke 3: 4, 6 Gospel: Matthew 17: 9a, 10-13	8-9, 10 and 14	First Reading: Acts 6: 8-10; 7: 54-59 Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 31: 3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17
3 December 2023 – Sunday		First Sunday of Advent	10 December 2023 – Sunday		First Reading: Isaiah 30: 19-21, 23-26 Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 147: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6 Alleluia: Isaiah 33: 22 Gospel: Matthew 9: 35 – 10: 1, 5a, 6-8	17 December 2023 – Sunday		First Reading: Sirach 48: 1-4, 9-11 Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 80: 2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19 Alleluia: Luke 3: 4, 6 Gospel: Matthew 17: 9a, 10-13	8b-12, 14a, 16	First Reading: First John 1: 1-4 Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 97: 1-2, 6, 11-12 Gospel: John 20: 1a and 2-8
4 December 2023 – Monday		First Reading: Isaiah 63: 16b-17, 19b; 64: 2-7	11 December 2023 – Monday		First Reading: Isaiah 40: 1-5, 9-11 Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 85: 9-10, 11-12, 13-14 Second Reading: Second Peter 3: 8-14 Alleluia: Luke 3: 4, 6 Gospel: Mark 1: 1-8	18 December 2023 – Monday		First Reading: Jeremiah 23: 5-8 Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 72: 1-2, 12- 13, 18-19 Alleluia: Luke 5: 17-26	17, 27, 29	First Reading: First John 1: 5 – 2: 2 Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 124: 2-3, 4- 5, 7b-8 Gospel: Luke 1: 26-38
5 December 2023 – Tuesday		First Reading: Isaiah 2: 1-5 Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 122: 1-2, 3- 4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9 Alleluia: Psalms 80: 4 Gospel: Matthew 8: 5-11	12 December 2023 – Tuesday		First Reading: Our Lady of Guadalupe Feast Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 72: 1-2, 7- 8, 12-13, 17 Gospel: Luke 10: 21-24	19 December 2023 – Tuesday		First Reading: Judges 13: 2-7, 24-25a Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 71: 3-4a, 5- 6ab, 16-17 Alleluia: Luke 1: 5-25	17, 27, 29	First Reading: First John 1: 1-17, 22-25 Responsorial Psalm: Matthew 1: 1-25 Gospel: Luke 2: 22-35
6 December 2023 – Wednesday		First Reading: Isaiah 25: 6-10 Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 23: 1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 Gospel: Matthew 15: 29-37	13 December 2023 – Wednesday		First Reading: Zechariah 2: 14-17 or Revelation 11: 19a; 12: 1-6a, 10ab Responsorial Psalm: Judith 13: 18bcd, 19 Gospel: Luke 1: 26-38 or Luke 1: 39-47	20 December 2023 – Wednesday		First Reading: Isaiah 7: 10-14 Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 24: 1-2, 3- 4ab, 5-6 Gospel: Luke 1: 26-38	17, 27, 29	First Reading: First John 2: 11-14 Responsorial Psalm: Titus 2: 11-14 Alleluia: Luke 2: 10-11 Gospel: Luke 2: 1-14
7 December 2023 – Thursday		First Reading: Isaiah 26: 1-6 Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 118: 1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a Alleluia: Isaiah 55: 6 Gospel: Matthew 7: 21, 24-27	14 December 2023 – Thursday		First Reading: Isaiah 41: 13-20 Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 145: 1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab Alleluia: Isaiah 45: 8 Gospel: Matthew 11: 11-15	22 December 2023 – Friday		First Reading: First Samuel 1: 24-28 Responsorial Psalm: First Samuel 2: 1, 3: 15a, 16a Gospel: Luke 2: 15-20	17-19 or Colossians 3: 12-21 Alleluia: Hebrews 1: 1-2 or Colossians 3: 15a, 16a Gospel: Luke 2: 22-40 or Luke 2: 22, 39-	First Reading: First Samuel 1: 24-28 Responsorial Psalm: First Samuel 2: 1, 3: 15a, 16a Gospel: Luke 2: 22-40 or Luke 2: 22, 39-
8 December 2023 – Friday		Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Solemnity	15 December 2023 – Friday		First Reading: Isaiah 48: 17-19 Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 1: 1-2, 3, 4 and 6 Gospel: Matthew 11: 16-19	23 December 2023 – Saturday		First Reading: Malachi 3: 1-4, 23-24 Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 25: 4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14 Gospel: Luke 1: 57-66	26 December 2023 – Tuesday	First Reading: Acts 6: 8-10; 7: 54-59 Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 31: 3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17 Alleluia: Psalms 118: 26a, 27a Gospel: Matthew 10: 17-22
9 December 2023 – Saturday		First Reading: Isaiah 30: 19-21, 23-26 Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 147: 1-2, 3- 4, 5-6 Alleluia: Isaiah 33: 22 Gospel: Matthew 9: 35 – 10: 1, 5a, 6-8	16 December 2023 – Saturday		First Reading: Sirach 48: 1-4, 9-11 Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 80: 2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19 Alleluia: Luke 3: 4, 6 Gospel: Matthew 17: 9a, 10-13	24 December 2023 – Sunday		First Reading: Second Samuel 7: 15, 8b-12, 14a, 16	27 December 2023 – Wednesday	First Reading: First John 1: 1-4 Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 97: 1-2, 6, 11-12 Gospel: John 20: 1a and 2-8
10 December 2023 – Sunday		Second Sunday of advent	17 December 2023 – Sunday		First Reading: Third Sunday of Advent	25 December 2023 – Monday – Vigil		The Nativity of the Lord Solemnity, Holy Day of Obligation/Vigil	28 December 2023 – Thursday	First Reading: First John 1: 5 – 2: 2 Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 124: 2-3, 4- 5, 7b-8 Gospel: Luke 1: 26-38
11 December 2023 – Monday		First Reading: First Corinthians 1: 3- 9 Alleluia: Psalms 85: 8 Gospel: Mark 13: 33-37	18 December 2023 – Monday		First Reading: Jeremiah 23: 5-8 Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 72: 1-2, 12- 13, 18-19 Alleluia: Luke 5: 17-26	25 December 2023 – Monday – Mid- night		First Reading: First John 1: 1-17, 22-25 Responsorial Psalm: Matthew 1: 1-25 Gospel: Luke 2: 22-35	29 December 2023 – Friday	First Reading: First John 2: 3-11 Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 96: 1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 Alleluia: Luke 2: 32 Gospel: Luke 2: 22-35
12 December 2023 – Tuesday		First Reading: Isaiah 25: 6-10 Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 72: 1-2, 7- 8, 12-13, 17 Gospel: Luke 10: 21-24	19 December 2023 – Tuesday		First Reading: Judges 13: 2-7, 24-25a Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 71: 3-4a, 5- 6ab, 16-17 Alleluia: Luke 1: 5-25	25 December 2023 – Monday – Mid- night		First Reading: First John 1: 1-16 Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 96: 1-2, 2- 3, 11-12, 13 Second Reading: Titus 2: 11-14 Alleluia: Luke 2: 10-11 Gospel: Luke 2: 1-14	30 December 2023 – Saturday	First Reading: First John 2: 11-17 Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 96: 1-2, 2- 3, 11-12, 13 Second Reading: Titus 2: 11-14 Alleluia: Luke 2: 10-11 Gospel: Luke 2: 1-14
13 December 2023 – Wednesday		First Reading: Our Lady of Guadalupe Feast Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 23: 1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 Gospel: Matthew 15: 29-37	20 December 2023 – Wednesday		First Reading: First John 2: 14-17 or Revelation 11: 19a; 12: 1-6a, 10ab Responsorial Psalm: Judith 13: 18bcd, 19 Gospel: Luke 1: 26-38 or Luke 1: 39-47	25 December 2023 – Monday – Dawn		The Nativity of the Lord Solemnity, Holy Day of Obligation/ Dawn	31 December 2023 – Sunday	Holy Family Feast First Reading: Genesis 15: 1-6; 21: 1-3 or Sirach 3: 2-6, 12-14 Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 105: 1-2, 3- 4, 5-6, 8-9 or Psalms 128: 1-2, 3, 4-5 Second Reading: Hebrews 5: 11; 8, 11-12, 17-19 or Colossians 3: 12-21 Alleluia: Hebrews 1: 1-2 or Colossians 3: 15a, 16a Gospel: Luke 2: 22-40 or Luke 2: 22, 39-
14 December 2023 – Thursday		First Reading: Isaiah 26: 1-6 Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 118: 1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a Alleluia: Isaiah 55: 6 Gospel: Matthew 7: 21, 24-27	21 December 2023 – Thursday		First Reading: Songs 2: 8-14 or Zephaniah 3: 14-18a Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 33: 2-3, 11- 12, 20-21 Gospel: Luke 1: 39-45	25 December 2023 – Monday – Dawn		The Nativity of the Lord Solemnity, Holy Day of Obligation/ Dawn	31 December 2023 – Sunday	Holy Family Feast First Reading: Genesis 15: 1-6; 21: 1-3 or Sirach 3: 2-6, 12-14 Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 105: 1-2, 3- 4, 5-6, 8-9 or Psalms 128: 1-2, 3, 4-5 Second Reading: Hebrews 5: 11; 8, 11-12, 17-19 or Colossians 3: 12-21 Alleluia: Hebrews 1: 1-2 or Colossians 3: 15a, 16a Gospel: Luke 2: 22-40 or Luke 2: 22, 39-

25 December 2023 – Monday – Day
The Nativity of the Lord Solemnity,
Holy Day of Obligation/ Day

The Season of Advent

The liturgy of Advent focuses on remembering Christ's first coming at Bethlehem which then directs our mind to Christ's Second Coming at the end of time. The readings focus on the people of the Old Testament awaiting the Messiah, John the Baptist, heralding the way for Christ and the Blessed Virgin Mary and her maternal preparations.

The main Feasts of Advent are St. Francis Xavier (December 3), St. John Damascene, (December 4), St. Ambrose (December 7), Immaculate Conception (December 8), St. Juan Diego (December 9), St. Damascus (December 11), Our Lady of Guadalupe (December 12), St. John of the Cross (December 14), St. Peter Canisius (December 21) and St. John of Kenty (December 23).

Christmastide begins with the First Vespers (Evening Prayer) of Christmas on December 24th and ends on the Sunday after Epiphany. Christmas and Easter are the only solemnities with octaves attached in the revised calendar. The Christmas octave differs from Easter in that it includes some major feasts: St. Stephen (December 26), the Holy Innocents (December 28), St. Thomas Becket (December 29) and St. Sylvester I (December 31). The octave closes on January 1, the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God.

The feasts of St. Nicholas (December 6), St. Lucy (December 13) and St. John the Evangelist (December 27) are superseded by the Sunday liturgy.

The Reason for the Season

The month of December is filled with expectation and celebration. Preparation is the key word for the first 24 days of December. Everyone is getting ready for Christmas — shopping and decorating, baking and cleaning. Too often, however, we are so busy with the material preparations that we lose sight of the real reason for our activity.

Christmas is a Christian feast — and we must reclaim it as such! In the same way that a family eagerly prepares for a baby, so in Advent should we prepare for the coming of the Christ Child. We should keep Advent as a season of waiting and longing, of conversion and of hope and keep our thoughts on the incredible love and humility of our God in taking on the flesh of the Virgin Mary. Let us not forget to prepare a peaceful place in our hearts wherein our Savior may come to dwell.

The best person we can turn to for help during Advent is Mary, Christ's and our Mother. She awaited the day of His birth with more eagerness than any other human being. Her preparation was complete in every respect. Let's crown our preparation and borrow something of Mary's prayerfulness, her purity and whole-hearted submission to God's will.



Members of the SS. Martha and Mary Altar Guild at All Saints in Floyd gather together to embroider Christmas ornaments for the parish's Christmas tree.



Pictured above are Joan, Dana and Kathy

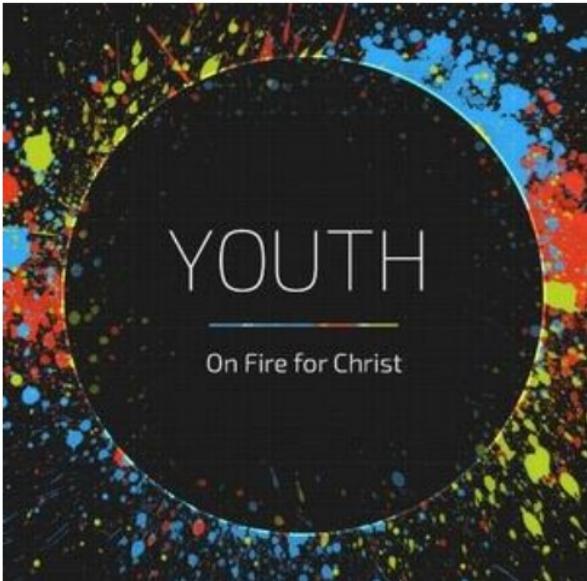
At the Right is the Cooper family



Pictured left are members of the Mammi and Spottiswood families



SAINT JOSEPH FINANCIALS LAST MONTH AND YTD NOVEMBERER 2023		ALL SAINTS FINANCIALS LAST MONTH AND YTD NOVEMBER 2023		RISEN LORD FINANCIALS LAST MONTH AND YTD NOVEMBER 2023	
INCOME	\$14,298.38	INCOME	\$3,363.00	INCOME	\$3,313.00
EXPENSES	\$8,717.81	EXPENSES	\$6,751.16	EXPENSES	\$4,666.82
NET +(-)	\$5,580.57	NET +(-)	\$(3,388.16)	NET +(-)	\$(1,353.82)
YEAR TO DATE		YEAR TO DATE		YEAR TO DATE	
INCOME	\$65,527.15	INCOME	\$37,785.41	INCOME	\$18,508.61
EXPENSES	\$51,207.44	EXPENSES	\$26,749.60	EXPENSES	\$17,900.51
NET +(-)	\$14,319.71	NET +(-)	\$11,035.81	NET +(-)	\$608.10
Source: ParishSOFT® Accounting Statement of Activity FYTD through NOVEMBER 30, 2023.		Source: ParishSOFT® Accounting Statement of Activity FYTD through NOVEMBER 30, 2023.		Source: ParishSOFT® Accounting Statement of Activity FYTD through NOVEMBER 30, 2023.	

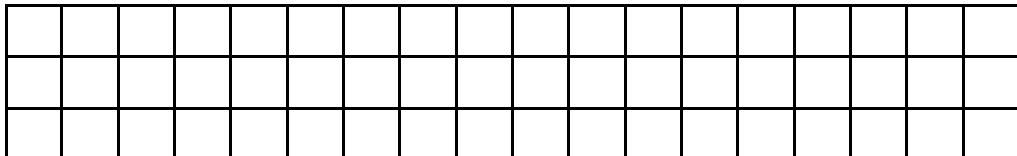
 <p>RISEN LORD FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST</p> <p>Breakfast will be served after Mass on December 17. All are welcome to attend this fun fellowship event</p>	<h2>CALLING YOUTH OF ALL AGES!</h2> 
 <p>ST JOSEPH THANKS-GIVNG LUNCHEON</p> <p>DECEMBER 17 will be next St. Joseph pot luck and fellowship luncheon. Bring your favorite dish, side, drink and dessert to share at this fun filled fellowship event.</p>	

<p>MATTHEW 25 PILL BOTTLE MINISTRY</p> <p>In developing countries, medicines—when actually obtainable—are often dispensed into hands, pockets, leaves or any other available container. Matthew 25 Ministries accepts donations of empty pill bottles to help improve health care quality in developing nations. Donations of clean, unlabeled pill bottles help the poorest of the poor in many ways: Medicine can be distributed in sterile containers. Pill bottles that are not appropriate for shipping are recycled for cash that goes towards Matthew 25:Ministries' programs.</p> <p>This plastic recycling program keeps thousands of bottles out of landfills each year.</p> <p>Matthew 25: Ministries accepts the following types of empty pill bottles: Prescription pill bottles, all sizes Pill bottles with and without child resistant caps Over-the-counter pill bottles. Bring your bottles to any Parish and they will be delivered to Risen Lord.</p>	<p>We want to cordially invite all families and youth to our fantastic youth group hosted by All Saints Catholic Church in Floyd on the first Monday of every month! Our events start at 630 and end at 830. We understand this can be a haul for some, but every child and parent alike who make the drive look forward to it every month. We focus on Catechesis through fun! We have Catholic Jeopardy, Evangelization, Apologetics and many more in lessons. Which of course are all integrated into fun activities to keep our oldest kid (20) to our youngest (5) engaged and learning!</p> <p>Please reach out to Amy Provencher DRE of All Saints for more information Email Amy @ a.s.provencher26@gmail.com or call/text Amy @ 540-385-1664</p> <p>All Saints parish will participate in the Angels Giving Tree at Skyline Nursing Home this year. Please see the sign-up sheet in the narthex for details on what items we may purchase for the nursing home residents this Christmas.</p>
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If you are a Parishioner of St. Joseph's Woodlawn or knew someone who was, consider honoring them with a memorial brick installed in the St. Joseph Memorial Garden. Families, Individuals, anyone who made a Sacrament (First Eucharist, Confirmation, Marriage) are encouraged to honor them with a memorial brick. Permanently honor deceased family members (even if they were not parishioners here) with a memorial brick. Proceeds from the sale of Memorial Bricks will be used to beautify the church exterior (statuary, plantings informational signs etc.)

MEMORIAL BRICK ORDER FORM

54 total characters (including spaces and punctuation). 18 characters per line. Place this form and a check (or cash) totaling \$50 made payable St. Joseph Catholic Church into an envelope. Mark the outside of the envelope with "Memorial Brick". You can place the envelope into the collection basket or bring it by the office. You can also mail it to **St. Joseph Catholic Church 78 St Joseph's Lane Woodlawn VA 24381**



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8098 Carrollton Pike
GALAX VA 24333

CONTEMPORARY STYLE LINE DANCE
Instructor: Sue Ann Ehmann
Pre-registration is required by calling 276-634-4644.
Social distancing guidelines will apply and masks are required for indoor classes, except while exercising.
**** No one with a fever, symptoms of Covid-19, or known exposure to a Covid-19 case in the prior 14 days, is permitted to attend programs. ****

FOUR CLASS LEVELS:

- Beginner Level (Basics)**
Thursdays 5:30 - 6:30 pm
Learn basic Line Dance steps
- Beginner Plus Level**
Thursdays 6:45 - 7:45 pm
Add Syncopated steps & rhythms to the Basics
- Intermediate Level**
Mondays 5:30 - 6:30 pm
Take it up a notch. More complicated steps/patterns.
- Improver Level**
Mondays 6:45 - 7:45 pm
This class is for the dancer who is comfortable with different rhythms, steps, and syncopations.

Henry County Recreation Center Activity Room #1
395 W. John Redd Blvd
Collinsville, VA 24078

All classes are on-going/drop-in
\$5 per person, per class

Ron's Reel Repair
Ron Brammer
276-340-2882
reelman123.rb@gmail.com

JB
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