



St. Joseph Weier

Fr. Donald Henke, Pastor
December 15 - 16, 2018

636.583.2806

Saturday: 5:00 p.m.
Sunday: 8:00 & 10:00 am
Confessions:
Saturday: 4:00 to 4:40 pm

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Chris: cbstjoe@yhti.net
Rich's Cell: 636.283.8332

From your Pastor

This past Wednesday, December 12th, the Church celebrated the Feast day of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the memorial which commemorates one of the most famous Marian apparitions in the world. Earlier this fall, through a generous donation by several parishioners, St. Joseph's received a framed oil-reproduction of the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe for our church. I decided that I would leave it in the sanctuary through this weekend's Masses so that everyone could have the chance to view it, and perhaps, to pray for their families through Her intercession.

According to tradition, in 1531, the Mother of God appeared to a poor Indian peasant named Juan Diego on Tepeyac hill near present-day Mexico City. She called to him using his Christian name, but added the suffix "tzin" to it e.g., *Juantzin, Juan Diegotzin*. The suffix was an honorific reserved for Aztec nobility, and Mary's use of it was meant to convey Her maternal love and respect for him as well as to acknowledge the dignity of someone even as poor and lowly as he was. Requesting that a shrine be built on the hill where the apparition took place, Juan Diego relayed Her instructions to his local bishop, who asked for proof. On the morning of December 12, 1531, Our Lady appeared again to Juan Diego, and directed him to gather the Castilian roses in full bloom on that cold December day. He followed Her instructions and She helped him arrange them in his *tilma* (cloak). He returned to the bishop, and when he opened his cloak, the roses tumbled out and on the inside of the cloak shone an image of the Virgin Mary.

Juan Diego's garment can still be seen today. Miraculously, a garment made to last only a few years still exists in its original condition even after the passage of nearly five centuries. The colors of Our Lady's image have likewise not faded despite the passage of those hundreds of years. Most importantly though, while Franciscan monks had labored for over twenty years to convert the Aztec peoples with no success, after Her appearance, more than 9 million people had converted to Christianity after just a decade. Our Lady of Guadalupe is the patroness of all the Americas.¹

Have a blessed Advent week!

➤ ***Congratulations to Dallas Walter Benton, son of Patsy Jean Coxie, Baptized December 15th!***

¹ Adapted and expanded from: Raul A. Reyes, "Why Our Lady of Guadalupe is Celebrated Across the U.S.," nbcnews.com, December 12, 2017.

Collection for	12/9/18
Regular Offering Envelopes:	\$4314.00
Regular Offering Loose:	\$ 60.00
Total:	\$4374.00
PSR Textbooks & Technology	Donations to date: \$4,878.00 (Goal \$6000)

Victims of the Wildfires in Northern California \$516.00 Thank you for your generosity!

➤ **Sunday, Dec. 23rd** Come join us for decorating the Church / Grounds for Christmas after the 10 am Mass. All are welcome & help is needed...Questions call Amie Kohlbusch at 314.960.5093

Mass Intentions: 12/17 – 12/23/18

Monday	6:30 am	Frank Fank
Tuesday	6:30 am	Leo Schroeder (P.H. Devotions after Mass)
Wednesday	6:30 am	Neil & Paul Straatmann
Thursday	6:30 am	John & Sophie Ryterski
Advent Mass	7:00 pm	Tom Adams Jr
Friday	6:30 am	Virgil Maune
Saturday	5:00 pm	Ronald Salvino
Sunday	8:00 am	Arthur, Virginia & Karen Voss
	10:00 am	<i>The Parish Family of St. Joseph</i>

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION this Thursday, December 20th, beginning at 7 am and ending with Benediction at 6:50 pm followed by Mass at 7 pm. Sign-up sheet is in back of church. Also, Father Henke will be available for Confessions from 6 pm to 6:40 pm and after the 7 pm Mass.

Commentators and Lectors:	This Week	Next Week
Saturday	5:00 pm Theresa Straatmann	Jim Noelker
Sunday	8:00 am K Gerlemann L Swoboda	Michelle Young
	10:00 am Marilyn Rau	Lisa Bocklage
Thursday 12/20	7:00 pm Jim Noelker	

Servers:		
Saturday	5:00 pm Alyson Fennessey Payton Goddard	Maddy Eckstein Mark Straatmann
Sunday	8:00 am Andrew Flagg & Josh Straatmann	Lillian Wiskur Emma Roberts
	10:00 am Izzy & Joe Zagarrri	Connor Briggs Troy Simmons
Thursday 12/20	7:00 pm Maddy Eckstein Volunteer	

Eucharistic Ministers:		
Saturday	5:00 pm Theresa Brueggemann Joan Kloepfel Tina Brueggemann	Theresa Straatmann Anna Donner Kathy Feth
Sunday	8:00 am Jim & Jo Noelker Ann Straatmann	Jen Kissinger Vi Schroeder Diane Schmidt
	10:00 am Joann & Dennis Bower Patti Greife	Karen Wright Denise & Tim Feth
Thursday 12/20	7:00 pm Jo Noelker	

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE:
Christmas Eve 5pm ---- Midnight 12am ---- Christmas Day 10am
New Year's Day (Solemnity of Mary) Holyday of Obligation 8am & 10am

PSR News

- Practice for Midnight Mass after 8 am Mass. NOTE: No Classes on December 30th.

Neighboring Activities

- Sunday, Dec. 16th – Breakfast at SFB, serving 7:30 – 11 am. Benefits ProLife Trip

St. Joseph Events

- Shop for everyone on your gift list this holiday at: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/43-0053500> and Amazon donates to St. Joseph
- Christmas Caroling will be this Thursday, December 20th at 5 pm. We will start at Willow Brook, followed by Sunset, then Victorian Place. Come join us to spread some Christmas cheer!!!
- Our new website is up and running...check it out at st.josephneier.com
Matt Collins with 2911 Prosperity did an excellent job. Thank you!
- We continue to say the Holy Rosary, starting at 4:40 before the Saturday evening 5:00 Mass. We could use a few more volunteers to lead the rosary and also could use more subs. Anyone interested in helping with this beautiful devotion, please contact Jim or Jo Noelker @ 636-583-4996. Thank you!

Eucharistic Minister Scheduling

After many years of service coordinating the Eucharistic Ministers of our parish for their weekly ministry, **Jerry Kloepfel** has gracefully determined that it's time to step down. The entire parish of St. Joseph's is grateful to Jerry for all his work over the many years. Thank you!

Cathie Grus has graciously accepted the responsibility of Coordinator of Ministers for our parish. She may be reached at (636) 262-2783 or cathie_grus@hotmail.com.

**Please take the time to thank them both for their service!

"Faith Study Group forming: "CATHOLICISM–A Journey to the Heart of the Faith"

We are excited to continue our adult education opportunities with a new study being offered this January. We started with our first study on building a personal relationship with Christ, we continued with a study on The Mass and now we are digging into a study on our Faith. We invite you to join us after the New Year with a ten-session study on Catholicism and a deeper look at our faith.

Bishop Robert Barron created this groundbreaking program as a thematic presentation of what Catholics believe and why, so all adults can come to a deeper understanding of the Catholic Faith. Not a video lecture, Church history or scripture study, this engaging and interesting formational program uses the art, architecture, literature, music and all the treasures of the Catholic tradition to illuminate the timeless teachings of the Church. The CATHOLICISM Study Program presents the strong, ecclesial dimension of the Catholic Faith – God's revelation through Jesus Christ and His Church. It is comprehensive and faithful.

Starting January 17th, 2019

Thursday Evenings, Time TBD (Approximately 6:30pm-8pm)

Cost is \$20 per person (if registered prior to Dec 12th or \$25 per person after Dec 12th)

Please register BEFORE December 31st at the latest so that we can ensure the study materials will be obtained in time. Please contact Jen Kissinger at 636-584-5055 to register. "

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

When you approach the confessional, know this, that I Myself am waiting there for you. I am only hidden by the priest, but I Myself act in your soul.

-Jesus speaking to St. Faustina

(Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska, 1602)

In Memoriam

- Pray for the repose soul of Evelyn (Dolly) Loretta McCarty who passed away December 12th. Mother of Karen & Kevin Wright and their family.