# St Joseph
ROSEMOUNT

*We say Yes to God through Prayer, Worship & Service*

**DECEMBER 20, 2020**
**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**13900 BISCAYNE AVE. W**
**ROSEMOUNT, MN 55068**
**PHONE: 651-423-4402**
**www.stjosephcommunity.org**

**Weekend Mass times:**
**Saturday: 5:00 pm**
**Sunday: 7 am, 8:30 am, & 10:30 am**

# PADRE PAUL'S PONDERINGS

## Christmas: Proof of God's Love for us, and Believing in humanity

At the dawn of the 20th century, many had reason for optimism for the future. There had been no major wars in Europe for nearly a century. And even were a war to break out, it was thought that this might not be such a bad thing as it would only last a matter of months.

Unfortunately, the optimism at the dawn of the century did not last long. In 1914, World War I broke out. Fighting stalled, and trenches were dug all along the Western Front. Eventually these trenches were some 600 miles long. They prevented the Germans from advancing further, but also as the troops dug in, the Allies could not advance. And so in 1914, you had a long stalemate ensue. On top of this, as the weather grew cold and wet, you had troops living in miserable conditions with more dying of disease than being killed by the enemy. Needless to say, morale was quite low. The troops had been promised this would be quick war, and that they would be home by Christmas. However that was clearly not going to happen.

The high command of both sides were posed with the challenge of keeping a fighting spirit going by helping the soldiers to understand just how awful the other side was. And so in World War I, governments engaged in propaganda the likes of which had never before been seen. Germans for instance were alleged to have bayoneted small children and attacked women, and this was why they had to be stopped. In the words of one historian, you needed a deep moral hatred of your enemy to stop him, and you could not think of him as just an opponent. You had to hate and to want to kill him.

The strategy seemed to be working as despite the stalemate, fighting was constant with each side firing over the trenches at one another. And in an effort to boost morale, the Allied High Command ordered an offensive on December 19th. However, it has the opposite effect. No ground was gained, and both sides were slaughtered in the largest numbers of the war to date. Retreating back to the trenches, morale was as low as it has ever been. Christmas was just 6 days away, and everyone knew they will not be home for Christmas.

Both sides do try to cheer up the troops, as letters and warm clothes and gifts are sent to the front lines from the public. But as it turns out, something very unexpected would do much to boost morale and it's certainly something the High Command would not approve of.

On Christmas Eve in 1914, in the fifth month of the Great War, Allied soldiers are astonished by what they see and hear. At first, they think it's some kind of trick. There are lights from the German trenches and songs being sung. "*Silent Night*" is heard in German, and British Private Frank Sumter recognizes this hymn and so encourages his side to sing as well, in English. And in some spots along the front, you have the same song being sung at the same time in different languages.

It was an astonishing sight, but what happened the next day was even more amazing. Emerging in No Man's Land was a German soldier. He had a tree with candles on it. Now at this point, the Christmas Tree was not known in Europe; only Germans had the tree, and so to the Allied soldiers this tree with candles was rather strange. But it was a gesture and one by one, the British began to pop their heads out of the trench. Private Leslie Walkington who was there that day said at first they were quite scared, as you were told to kill these other people, but then really you realize that these young boys were not made to kill one another and were really just afraid of one another.

And so others that morning said "*if he can do it we can do it*" and on both sides, men began to emerge from the trenches. They walked into No Man's Land, and shook hands. Initially they were afraid, but after they shook hands, they realized that the other side was not what the Propaganda Machine from the government had made them out to be. A mutual consent emerged that there would be no fighting that day, and now they were shaking hands, laughing and talking.

As they spent the day over the trenches, a spirit of friendship emerged. They talked and conversed; they played soccer together. They found the hate they had been taught was unfounded, as they really were not all that different from one another. One British soldier found that his uncle and the uncle of the German worked close by one another. Another actually borrowed a German helmet and returned it to the German soldier later in the day – an incredible act of trust.

Sadly, the worse was still to come. Millions more would die before the fighting ending in 1918. And the terms of the Armistice would leave many Germans embittered and set the stage for WWII within 20 years.

We can look back on this war and see so much evil; total war for the first time; the destruction of so much life senselessly, and the dehumanization of people. This is true. But we can also look at this and see the power of hope; of the goodness in the hearts of us all.

As this year winds down and we come to Christmas this week, it perhaps feels a bit like a trench war; fighting an enemy and just waiting and waiting for progress. That is on the horizon, but it has been hard on us all. We also live in a time of such intense polarization; the passing of the election certainly has not put an end to that. We vilify the other side; we become entrenched in anger over politics, over differences. Other times our sins can be overwhelming & we can't find a way out. Or life just beats us up.

But as we hear in our Christmas readings, we are to not be afraid. The people who have walked in darkness have seen a great light. Our God is not a distant God, but is in there, in the trenches with us. Born a frail infant on a cold night; a child who would grow up and time and time again be with the sick, the poor, the sinner. A God who would forgive time and time again, and lay down His life for us all. A God who wants to have room in our hearts to bring us the peace we long for.

But He is also a God who wants us to be like that German soldier with the Christmas tree in No Man's Land. Inside humanity is the power for such good as seen on that Christmas Eve all those year's ago. So let us also be inspired to remember what a difference we can make when we refrain from fighting fire with fire; when we show patience and love; when we practice tolerance; when we reach out to those who have wronged us; when we pray for our enemies; when we see a person for their humanity first before we look at their status or their political affiliation; when we talk about our faith to people both in our home and in the larger community; when we set an example for our kids about why God and faith matter more than anything else we do; when we do acts of kindness; when we volunteer; when we love. The choice is ours. *(Pondering continued on page 4)*

# STEWARDSHIP

**Sacrificial Giving: December 12-13, 2020**

Envelope Offering……...$15,395.00
Plate……..….....$161.00
Total…….....$15,555.00

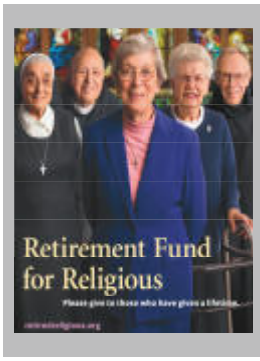
Capital Campaign…...…….....$3,736.00

## Convenient & Consistent ways to help St. Joe's grow…

***QRC** (Quick Response Code) **to St. Joseph Giving Site:** With your smart phone use your camera app to scan the QRC. Then follow the instructions.

***Or TEXT** the amount to: 651-419-5719 which will respond with a text message from Vanco eservicepayments (our credit card provider), click on the link and follow the instructions.

***AUTOMATIC ONLINE GIVING :**
Consider scheduling a recurring electronic contribution today. Go to the Parish Website ***www.stjosephcommunity.org*** & click on the ***"GIVE"*** Button, or call the Parish Office at 651-423-4402.




**Thanks for giving!** *"We are conscious of the great generosity of the many benefactors who support the Retirement Fund for Religious each year,"* says a Catholic sister. *"Support from the fund has been a tremendous blessing to our retired sisters."* Thank you for donating to last week's second collection.

# ST. JOSEPH'S STAFF & INFO

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Sacramental Care** | | |
| Pastor | **Fr. Paul Kammen** | 651-313-8466 |
| Deacon | **Steve Boatwright** | 651-313-8493 |
| Deacon | **Gordon Bird** | 651-423-4402 |
| **Administrative** | | |
| Director | **Randy Haney** | 651-313-8468 |
| Admin Asst: Reception | **Ann Brown** | 651-313-8460 |
| Admin Asst: Database | **Melissa Tousignant** | 651-313-8461 |
| Admin: Communications | **Bobbi Neuens** | 651-313-8470 |
| Bookkeeper/HR | **Jane Schmitz** | 651-313-8467 |
| Facilities Maintenance | **Pat Archer** | 651-313-8488 |
| **Lifelong Faith Formation** | | |
| Director | **Kayla Rooney** | 651-313-8464 |
| Youth Coordinator | **Scott Kieffer** | 651-313-8591 |
| Catechesis Coordinator | **Kathy Neary** | 651-313-8465 |
| **School** | | |
| Principal | **Kelly Roche** | 651-313-8471 |
| Secretary | **Cris Meaden** | 651-313-8486 |
| **Worship** | | |
| Director | **Bill Bradley** | 651-313-8469 |
| **Parish Council** | | |
| Parish Council Chair | **Ann Volkert** | 651-341-5230 |

**Additional Info**

**Parish Office:** Hrs. (M–F) 8:00 am - 4:30 pm 651-423-4402
**School Office** 651-423-1658

To send an email to a St Joseph staff member, use the following format: ***first name.last name@stjosephcommunity.org***

**Parish Website** www.stjosephcommunity.org
**Facebook:** St. Joseph Catholic Church & School Rosemount Minnesota
**Twitter:** @stjoesrosemount

## Four Ways to Maximize Your End of Year Giving Continued…

*Through the next few weeks we will share information from a CPA on Four Tips you can use to maximize your investment with a donor advised fund.*

**#2 Deduct against a single, large income event.**
Several events can lead to a one-time high-income year, such as the sale of a business, exercising stock options, or receiving a large commission or year-end bonus. If you know you want to use a portion of the proceeds for charitable purposes but don't want to do it all immediately, a donor advised fund is a great tool. It allows you to take an immediate tax deduction during your high-income year and direct your donations to specific organizations in future years.

(Watch for #3 & #4 in next week's bulletin)

# LITURGY & WORSHIP

## MASS INTENTIONS

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Mon** | 21 | 8:30 | † Floyd Sellner |
| **Thurs** | 24 | 2pm | † Betty & Don Tousignant |
| **Thurs** | 24 | 4pm | † Cap George |
| **Thurs** | 24 | 6pm | † Francis & Loretta Weinandt |
| **Thurs** | 24 | 10pm | St. Joseph Parish Community |
| **Fri** | 25 | 8:30 | † Bob Rydeen |
| **Fri** | 25 | 10:30 | † Bronwyn Schroeder |
| **Sat** | 26 | 5pm | † Fr. Philip Hamilton |
| **Sun** | 27 | 7am | St. Joseph Parish Community |
| **Sun** | 27 | 8:30 | † Pat, Alice & Dave McMenomy |
| **Sun** | 27 | 10:30 | † Matt Wallace |

## READINGS

**For the Week of December 20**

Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 [2a]/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

Monday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 [1a; 3a]/Lk 1:39-45

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd]/ Lk 1:46-56

Wednesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14 [cf. Lk 21:28]/Lk 1:57-66

Thursday: Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/ Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 [2]/Lk 1:67-79

Friday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 [2a]/ Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25.

Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 [Lk 2:11]/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14.

Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/ Lk 2:15-20. Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3c]/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14

Saturday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17 [6]/Mt 10:17-22

Next Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/ Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1] or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [7a, 8a]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

## VOCATION VIEW

Every person who has ever born a child,
and every person who has freely vowed away this honor,
helps to bring Jesus Christ into this world again.
Can you say: "Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord."

*Pondering Continued from page 2*

As I've said many times by now, God does not will Covid, a World War, or any evil. It is allowed. But it is something He enters into with us, as seen every time we look at a Cross because He loves us, and wants to show us how far He goes for us all. May that love bring you peace this Christmas, and may you never forget that in a simple act of mercy, you can do so much to bring that love into the world, truly filing it with the light of Jesus.
God's blessings to you and your families and
Merry Christmas,

Fr. Paul

## IN LOVING MEMORY

~In Loving Memory of those who have recently passed ~

***Patricia Brandl***

*We pray for all our departed Brothers & Sisters and those who mourn their loss.*

## CHRISTMAS MASS INFO

*Dear Parishioners:*

*As we continue to prepare this Advent for Christ's birth, it is with gratitude and hopeful hearts that we look toward Christmas Mass celebrations. We welcome you to join us for Mass this Christmas in whatever way is best for your situation.*

*In accordance with the Minnesota Department of Health standards, we have an in-person maximum of 250 people for each Mass. Archbishop Hebda has given his permission to begin the Mass schedule earlier on Christmas Eve than we usually do, and so we are adding an additional Mass at 2:00 p.m., Christmas Eve. This Mass will be live-streamed to the Social Hall to help accommodate a limited number of additional guests as well. For those of you worshiping from home, this Mass will also be live-streamed to our website,* ***www.stjosephcommunity.org,*** *, and available with an online program so that you may join us in prayer at your convenience.*

*If you do attend a Mass that has reached capacity, we invite you to return to one of our later scheduled Masses. We anticipate Christmas Eve, 2:00pm and 4:00pm to be full. Each Mass will be broadcast on the radio as well and be available to those in our parking lot. Tune to 1620AM in your ehicle. Unfortunately, those listening by way of radio are not able to receive communion.*

*We will not be taking advanced reservations and, because of the difficulty in planning for the number of guests at each Mass, we ask that you not reserve pews early for friends and family.*

*We thank you in advance for your patience and we wish you a blessed and peace-filled Christmas.*

# FAITH FORMATION & PARISH INFORMATION

**Next Faith Formation Family Night ~**

**Wednesday, January 13, 2021**
**at 6:30 pm**

Join us for Dcn. Thomas Winninger
***"Discover What God Wants You to Do Your True DNA!"***
Check out his website as well at
***https://www.winninger.com/***
***Unable to join in person?***
***Tune in LIVE at:***
***https://vimeo.com/stjoesmn***

Through generous donations from parishioners and the Knights of Columbus, we are offering families a free book to enrich your Advent experience & to give you a jump start to your spiritual journey in 2021

**You may choose from two titles & will be available starting Dec 12th**

***I Heard God Laugh: A Practical Guide to Life's Essential Daily Habit by Matthew Kelly.*** *Is Your life Working? Most of us are trying to put together the jigsaw puzzle we call life without a very important piece. Over time this becomes incredibly frustrating. In this extraordinary book, Matthew Kelly powerfully demonstrates that we cannot live the life we have imagined, or experience the joy we yearn for, unless we learn to tend the soul. From there, with his classic style of practical wisdom, he teaches us how to remedy this problem.*

***Do Something Beautiful for God. -The Essential Teachings of Mother Teresa***
*On these pages, you will find the essential teachings of Mother Teresa. They provide remarkable insight into the depths of her heart, mind, soul and life. They will comfort you in your affliction and afflict you in your comfort. But most of all, in the midst of all this activity and noise of your life, you will hear Mother Teresa encourage you by gently saying: "Do something beautiful for God with your life!" It offers a short meditation for every day.*

**PASTORAL CARE**
Would you or someone you know like a home visit, communion or an anointing? If so, please contact the Parish Office at 651-423-4402.

**BAPTISMS**
Baptisms are celebrated on the 1st and 3rd weekend of each month after the 10:30am mass. (please note that there can be fluctuations in this schedule depending on other liturgical needs). Parents are required to have completed the Baptism Preparation class which is offered the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm. For more information please call the parish office at 651-423-4402.

**RECONCILIATION**
Individual reconciliation ~ Saturdays at 3:30 pm or by appointment. Communal celebrations and Individual celebrations are held during Advent and Lent.

**MARRIAGE**
All couples anticipating Christian marriage should contact the Parish Office at (651) 423-4402 at least 6 months prior to a wedding date being set.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK** This Sacrament may be received by any Catholic who is seriously ill, about to undergo major surgery, or in poor health. Please call the Parish Office, (651) 423-4402 if this sacrament is needed.

**PRAYER CHAIN** To place a prayer request call Pat at 651-452-7689 or email *plawler321@gmail.com*

**FAITH FORMATION and SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION**
Sunday School for ages 3, 4, and 5 is held during the 8:30 & 10:30 Masses.
Faith Formation for Grades 1-12 along with Sacramental Preparation.
Call (651) 423-4402 for more information.

**ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL & PRESCHOOL**
St. Joseph School provides a God-centered, supportive academic environment for students, Grades PreK-8. Contact Kelly Roche, Principal at (651) 423-1658 for more information.

**DAILY ROSARY**
The rosary is prayed before each weekday Mass (Mon.-Fri.) starting 35 minutes before the scheduled Mass time–except on First Friday when the rosary is prayed at the start of Eucharistic Adoration. All are invited to join us as we pray for the needs of the Church and community.

**BULLETIN DEADLINE:** Noon on Mondays. All bulletin announcements should be sent to ***bulletin@stjosephcommunity.org*** and **appropriate staff personnel** for approval before they will be included in the bulletin.

# CALENDAR

****Please note ALL Parish Meetings are cancelled until further notice****

**Monday, December 21**
8:30 am Mass, Church

**Tuesday, December 22**
3:00 pm Youth Ministry, GA

**Wednesday, December 23**

**Thursday, December 24 ~ Christmas Eve**
2:00 pm Mass, Church (Live Stream)
4:00 pm Mass, Church
6:00 pm Mass, Church
10:00 pm Mass, Church

**Friday, December 25 ~ Christmas Day**
8:30 am Mass, Church
10:30 am Mass, Church

**Saturday, December 26**
3:30 pm Reconciliation, Church
5:00 pm Mass, Church

**Sunday, December 27**
7:00 am Mass, Church
8:30 am Mass, Church
10:30 am Mass, Church

## *Mass Information for...*
## *The weekend of December 19/20*

**Worship Aid -**
***https://www.stjosephcommunity.org/media/***

- **There will be no Word & Communion Services until further notice.**
- **SANITIZE & MASK: We are encouraged to follow the guidelines from the CDC which include the use of hand-sanitizing stations, masks, and limiting your points of contact.**

**For additional information please visit -**
***https://www.stjosephcommunity.org/2020/03/16/coronavirus/***

**Advent 2020 Video Message from Archbishop Hebda**
**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4JnAvc4Axl4&feature=youtu.be**

# PARISH LIFE EVENTS

***Thank you, St. Joseph Community Video Ministry!***
*Many thanks to the video ministry for helping us navigate through many challenges to bring Mass LIVE into our parishioners' homes! If you are interested in being a part of the St. Joseph Community Video Ministry, please contact us at* ***info@stjosephcommunity.org.***

# CHRISTMAS/HOLY DAY SCHEDULE

## CHRISTMAS/HOLY DAY SCHEDULE:

**Christmas Masses -**
Thursday- Dec 24th - 2:00 pm (Live streamed)
Thursday- Dec 24th - 4:00 pm
Thursday- Dec 24th - 6:00 pm
Thursday- Dec 24th - 10:00 pm
Friday - Dec 25th - 8:30 am
Friday - Dec 25th - 10:30 am

**Holy Day - Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**
Thursday- Dec 31st - 6:00 pm
Friday- Jan 1st - 8:30 am

## Parish Office Will Be Closed

**December 24th & 25th and January 1, 2021**

# INFORMATION

## DID YOU KNOW?

The Church of St. Joseph is on **FACEBOOK** !
**St. Joseph Catholic Church Rosemount Minnesota**
***https://www.facebook.com/stjosephrosemount***
*You can also visit our website & click on the icons at the top of the home page…* ***www.stjosephcommunity.org***

# ST JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL

***MERRY CHRISTMAS***

***From St. Joseph School***

# ST JOSEPH JOB OPPORTUNITIES

## Director of Parish Life

Church of St. Joseph has an opening for a Director of Parish Life. This is a full time position that would oversee all parish life event planning and hospitality operations.

**Use the link below for the Position Description.**

***https://www.stjosephcommunity.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Dir-Parish-Life-2020-11-10-updated.pdf***

All interested parties should submit a letter of introduction and a resume to Randy Haney, Parish Director at ***Randy.Haney@stjosephcommunity.org***

## 3rd Grade Long Term Substitute Teacher

St. Joseph School is seeking an energetic, caring, and faith-filled long-term substitute third grade teacher. This teacher will teach all assigned curriculum areas including Religion, Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies. The teacher will follow all health and safety protocols required for 5 days a week, in-person teaching and learning. Valid Minnesota teaching license and up to date Essential 3 required. Approximate dates are January 19 through April 9th, 2020 (12 weeks).

**Arch Careers Job Posting Link:**

***https://careers.archspm.org/jobs/3rd-grade-long-term-substitute-teacher/***

## Part-Time Building Monitor & Custodian

St. Joseph Church has an opening for a Part-Time Building Monitor & Custodian.

**Building Monitor Responsibilities include:** setting up and taking down tables, light janitorial work and monitoring the building security. This position will also be available to fill in with a few hours to days' notice. The shifts being covered are weeknights and weekends.

If interested, please pick up an application at the Parish Office.

For more details & information on the Custodian position, please contact Pat Archer at 651-423-4402 x5125.

***We would like to thank everyone who contributed to the Giving Tree this year. Because of your generosity, we were able to make Christmas brighter for more than 25 families. We were also able to provide help to Alliance Education Center, Pregnancy Choices, Lewis House & Angel Tree (a program of the Prison Ministry)! Merry Christmas and God Bless!***

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Tara Truax-Newhouse
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