Mass Times:
Sat.  4:30 pm
Sun. 7:45 am, 9:30 am, 12:10 pm, 5:00 pm
Last Sunday of Month  12:10 pm  Latin Mass

Daily Mass: Mon.– Fri. 8:00 am, Sat 9:00 am.

Office Hours:  Mon-Fri 9:30 am to 4:30 pm
Dear Parishioners,

I am sometimes asked around the holidays about whether or not divorced Catholics can receive Communion. First of all, we know that we should not receive the Eucharist when we are in a state of grave sin or if we are not in Communion with the Catholic Church. The Catholic Church teaches that marriage is intended to last until death, and that divorce does injury to the covenant sign of salvation of Christ being wed to His Church. Divorce is also an offense against the natural law and goes against the teachings in the Bible. The Church also acknowledges that divorce is not necessarily sinful in certain cases, a few of which might include being divorced against one’s wishes or having been abused by one’s spouse. In some cases, it is advisable for a Catholic to seek a separation and civil divorce. The Church does not forbid divorced Catholics to receive Holy Communion. Rather, it teaches that a Catholic who has been **divorced and remarried**, without having first obtained an annulment of the first marriage, is not permitted to receive Communion. A Christian marriage, according to scripture, lasts until the death of one of the spouses. Unless a Catholic marriage tribunal has ruled that the marriage was null or non-existent for the reason of an impediment that was present from the beginning of the marriage, the Church assumes that the marriage is valid in the eyes of God and therefore one could not marry an additional time in the eyes of the Church. If a divorced Catholic has been granted an annulment, then that person is able to enter into a subsequent marriage. If a Catholic has been divorced, but not remarried they can still receive Communion and are encouraged to do so. It is only when one divorces and remarries without an annulment that excludes them from receiving Communion. In either case, all are welcome to come to church every Sunday, participate in the fellowship and life of the church, and continue to grow in one’s spiritual life and faith journey, even though one may not be able to receive Communion at this time. Each person in our congregation is at a different place on their journey in the spiritual life, which we pray will continue to move closer to Jesus Christ. Sometimes that takes time in order to put our lives on track, but we are hopeful that each day brings us closer to the Lord. If you have questions about your state in life or your particular journey feel free to contact us at: **church@st-joseph.cc**

In celebrating the Birth of Christ, we pray that our dear Lord Jesus Christ will also be born in our hearts. Then we can share Him with the world around us as Mary and Joseph did. I pray that each and every one of us may have a blessed Christmas and that Jesus will be a very special part of our day and of our year to come. Jesus Christ is truly the reason for the season!

God bless you always,
Fr. Winchel

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**Sanctuary Candle**

In Memory of:

**Jason McGoldrick**

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**Important Information and Resources**

**Sacrament of Baptism:**

Baptisms are celebrated once a month. Please contact our office to register.

**Confessions:**

Mon thru Fri: 7:30 am to 7:50 am
Sat: 3:15 pm to 4:15 pm

**Anointing of the Sick:**

After Saturday morning Mass and by request

**Sacrament of Matrimony:**

Arrangements should be made at least six months in advance. Participation in a marriage preparation program is required. Please call parish office for more information. Do not set a date prior to speaking to the priest or deacon.

**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA):**

Interested in becoming Catholic, contact Deacon Don Coates at deacondon@st-joseph.cc.

**Religious Education:**

Sunday 11:00 am - 12 Noon, Mid-August - May.

**Bookstore/Gift Shop:** 478-743-9224

**Music Director/Organist:** Nelda Chapman

**Director Youth Ministry:** Lauren Miller

**Pastoral Council President:** Kathryn McCannon

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**Pastor:** Very Rev. J. Scott Winchel

**Parochial Vicar:** Rev. John Wright

**Permanent Deacon:** Donald Coates

**Permanent Deacon:** Thomas Eden

**School Principal:** Alex Porto

**Director Religious Education:** Candia Michela

**Music Director/Organist:** Nelda Chapman

**Director Youth Ministry:** Lauren Miller

**Finance:** Patti Stinson

**Receptionist/Secretary:** Cindy Zilaro

**Nursery Coordinator:** Dianne Carter

**Bulletin:** Jim Zilaro

**Maintenance Supervisor:** David Rubbo

**Phone Numbers:**

Saint Joseph School - 478-742-0636
Mount de Sales Academy - 478-751-3240
Family Advancement Ministries - 478-745-7165
Maximillian Kolbe Center For Life - 478-257-4425
Daybreak - 478-216-9119
## Weekly Schedule:

### SUNDAY, December 24, 2017  Fourth Sunday Of Advent

2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:45AM</td>
<td>Jason McGoldrick †</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30AM</td>
<td>For the People No PREP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30AM</td>
<td>Canticum Novum Rehearsal (LOFT)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:10PM</td>
<td>Ronald Clemens †</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:30PM</td>
<td>Christmas Eve Mass - Raymond S. Hobbs, Jr. †</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00PM</td>
<td>Christmas Eve Mass - Peggy Schaveland †</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No Youth</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MONDAY, December 25, 2017  Nativity of the Lord**

Isaiah 52:7-10; Hebrews 1:1-6; John 1:1-18

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12:00AM</td>
<td>Midnight Mass - Benjamin and Johonna Barfield †</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Office Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00AM</td>
<td>Christmas Day Mass - Julie Meyer †</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00PM</td>
<td>Miraculous Medal Novena (CH)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TUESDAY, December 26, 2017  Feast of St. Stephen, The First Martyr**

Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Matthew 10:17-22

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00AM</td>
<td>Communion Service</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**WEDNESDAY, December 27, 2017  Feast of St. John, Apostle**

1 John 1:1-4; John 20:1a, 2-8

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00AM</td>
<td>Communion Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00AM</td>
<td>Adult Bible Study (KOLBE)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:45PM</td>
<td>Dinner and Doctrine (SH)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No RCIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:15PM</td>
<td>St. Joseph Choir Rehearsal (LOFT)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**THURSDAY, December 28, 2017  Feast of the Holy Innocents, Martyrs**

1 John 1:5—2:2; Matthew 2:13-18

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00AM</td>
<td>Father Godfred Boachie-Yiadom No SJS Mass</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FRIDAY, December 29, 2017  Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord**

1 John 2:3-11; Luke 2:22-35

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00AM</td>
<td>Louis King</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Office Closes at Noon</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SATURDAY, December 30, 2017  Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord**

1 John 2:12-17; Luke 2:36-40

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00AM</td>
<td>Mildred Hejl †</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:30PM</td>
<td>Edmund Kosater †</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SUNDAY, December 31, 2017  Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph**

Sirach 3:2-6, 12,14; Colossians 3:12-21; Luke 2:22-40

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:45AM</td>
<td>For the People No Youth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30AM</td>
<td>Miran, Rosella and Johnny Sayler †</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No PREP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30AM</td>
<td>Canticum Novum Rehearsal (LOFT)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:10PM</td>
<td>Cathy Bender †</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00PM</td>
<td>Louis Scarci †</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**CAFÉ:** School Cafeteria  **FAM-O:** FAM Orange St.  **LOFT:** Choir Loft  **SJS:** St. Joseph School  **CH:** Church  **GYM:** School Gym  **MDS:** Mount de Sales  **UR:** Upper Room  **CTR:** Center  **KCH:** Knights of Columbus Hall  **RR:** Resource Room  **FAM-H:** FAM High St.  **KOLBE:** Kolbe Center  **REC:** Rectory  **FAM-O:** FAM Orange St.  **KOLBE:** Kolbe Center  **REC:** Rectory  * Nursery Available
Plan Ahead

**Christmas Masses:**
This is a Holy Day of Obligation.
Sunday, December 24th: 4:30PM and 6PM Vigil Masses
Monday, December 25th: 12AM (Midnight Mass), 10AM

**New Years Day Masses:**
Monday, January 1st: 9:00 AM and 11:00AM

**Marriage Enrichment Ministry**
Marriage Enrichment Ministry will begin meeting
**Wednesday, January 10th.** This will be a six-week session and will continue each Wednesday on January 17th, 24th, 31st, and February 7th, and 21st. We will be meeting at The Kolbe Center (1157 Forsyth St. # 201) at 6:00 p.m. and unfortunately, childcare will not be available. Please contact khatcher@mountdesales.net or hatcher.ashley@gmail.com 912-531-3799.

Please Come Back Home
St. Joseph Catholic Parish Catholics Come Home program will be beginning on April 11th, 2018. Don’t miss this exciting program and the opportunity to learn about our Catholic beliefs. There is no charge. Contact the parish at 478-745-1631 or cindy@st-joseph.cc for details and to sign up.

Saint Joseph’s Catholic School
**From our St. Joseph’s Catholic School Family to Your Family**

We wish you a Christmas filled with the wonder of the birth of Christ, the warmth of the Holiday spirit and the love of family and friends.”

**OUR PRIESTS AND STAFF AT SAINT JOSEPH WISH YOU ALL A MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

**Activities Here and Around St. Joseph’s**
Summer Camp Director Needed
St. Joseph’s School is seeking a summer camp director. The position will require a commitment of approximately 9 weeks in June and July. Previous experience in a similar position is preferred. Contact the principal, Mr. Porto, at 478-742-0636 for more information.

Office Closing
The Church office will be closed starting on December 22nd at noon and will reopen on December 26th at 9:30AM.

Shop Our Bookstore
Don’t run around town for those last minute gifts and fight the crowds! Stop by our bookstore to shop in a stress free environment. We have beautiful rosaries, medals, Bibles, crucifixes, photographs by Father Winchel and a book by Father Wright. We have the new CD, by Gail Archer for your Christmas giving, titled *A Russian Journey*. It was recorded last year in our church and has a beautiful photo of our Rose Window on the cover. Copies are available in our bookstore for $15 each.

Question of the Week
How can I take the gift of Jesus that I have been given and share this gift with others?

To all our advertisers who make this bulletin possible throughout the year. We could not do it without you.

Ministry Opportunities

Cantors
Cantors lead the congregation in the singing of the responses of the Mass. Training sessions for new cantors are held 1-2 times per year as needed. Basic music reading skills, a basic knowledge of liturgy/structure of the Mass, and participation in one of the St. Joseph Church choirs or ensembles are required. For more information, contact Nelda Chapman, at 478-745-1631 or nelda@st-joseph.cc.

Respect Life Ministry
This ministry seeks to provide parishioners with education and raise awareness regarding current social, ethical and moral issues as they relate to the Catholic Faith and organizes and encourages participation in activities that develop and promote respect and protection for all human life. For more information, contact Kathryn McCannon at kathrynmccannon@hotmail.com.

The bulletin deadline is 10 days prior to the date you need your article to appear. All items received after the deadline will go into the next bulletin. Submissions should be emailed to: jim@st-joseph.cc.
Please say a prayer for the following:

Expectant Mothers & their babies
Amy Bates, Baby Boy Devin
Brittany Elizabeth Bennett

US Navy
LCDR. Burnes Brown
PO2. David Bushey
MMFN/SS. Brandon Fowler
PC2 T. Michael LeMaster
SN. Mills Misinco
PO2. James A. Palmer, III
SGT. Scott Johnson
LT. Christine Russell Petty
LT. Thomas Petty
LT. Nicholas D. Maskell
LT. Jason M. Conner
ENS. Zackary W. Putman
LCDR. Wrenn Landers
SA. James E Carter
SN/FN. Nathan Treiber

US Air Force
Maj. Amy Bates
MSgt. Gregory Currey
SSgt. Irene Hewins
Maj. Richard Ray
Capt. Kyle Stramblad
Capt. Robert Johnson
T Sgt. Kaitlyn Salvatore
SSgt. Daniel Letchworth
Capt. Paul Elsbernd
Capt. Reed Elsbernd

US Marine Corps
SSgt. Josh Howe
SSgt. C. William Stanford
Cpl. Dakota L. Lawson

Please say a prayer for the following:

Recent Baptisms

US Army
SPC. Christopher J. Barry
SGM. Marlon Fauleps
SPC. Charles Faulds
Sgt. Brian Godwin
PFC. Ian Hayward
Maj. Sean Michelson
Sgt. Josh Scroggins
SPEC Forces Derek King
SFC. Enrique A. Cayado
LTC. Mark R. McClellan
2 LT. Grace McClellan
Sgt. Anthony Trujillo

US Army Reserves
Sgt. Alonza Richardson
SSG. Kenneth Aguiar

Welcome to our New Members

Register/Address Change
If you are new to our parish and would like to register with us or have had a change in address, please complete the form below and drop it in the offering basket at Mass or mail to the address on the form. Upon receipt, a parish registration form will be mailed to you.

Name______________________
Address_____________________
City____________ Zip________
Phone______________
Email___________________

New Parishioner
Change of Address

Return completed form to:
St. Joseph Catholic Church
830 Poplar St.
Macon, GA 31201

Our Catechumens and Candidates
Catechumens
(those to be baptized)
Todd Mitchell, Allie Patrick, Lorrie Shackelford, Brianna Tyler, Joshua Tyler

Candidates
(those baptized in other Christian faiths)
Julia Callahan, Lindsey Keene, Jean LeBeuf, Chrissy Mays, Becky Mays, Amber Merschat, Betsy Mills, Cody Moran, Nick Shackelford, William Stilley, Chris Woiwode, Johna Wright

Catholic Quiz

1. _____________ had his name changed to Israel.
2. _____________ was the father of Jesse.
3. _____________ was the father of King David.
4. _____________ was the first King of Israel.
5. _____________ was the father of Ham, Japheth, and Shem.

Offertory for 12/17/17

12/10
Collected: $23,356
Same time last year: $22,404
Weekly average budgeted: $23,165
Financials for 12/17 were not available.
We will update next week.

Debt Reduction/Vision 2020
As of November 21st, 2017
Debt reduction figures shown monthly.
Original debt: $3,223,645
Current debt: $2,073,533

Online Giving
Online Giving allows us to make contributions to our church without writing checks or worrying about cash donations. If you would like to give online go to our St. Joseph online giving website https://www.osvonlinegiving.com/697 to sign up or give us a call at our parish office: 478-745-1631

Interested in how you can leave a donation to St. Joseph’s in your will?
Contact us at the parish office.

Thank you for your generosity and continued support of St. Joseph Catholic Church!