

St. Joseph Catholic Church Newsletter

“St. Joseph Catholic Church brings Christ to our community and our community to Christ.”

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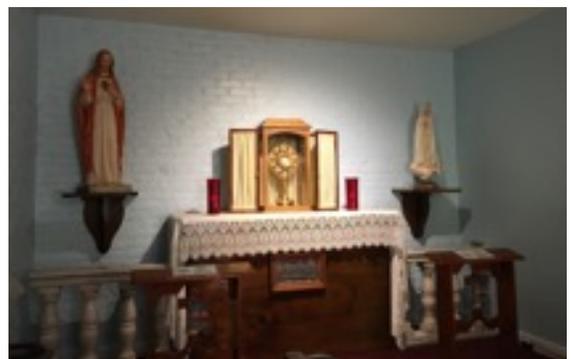


There was a tradition in medieval times for a warrior to spend the night in prayer in the church before our Blessed Lord in the Eucharist before being knighted and sent on his mission. The same held true for kings about to receive their throne and their new kingdom. The night was spent asking our Blessed Lord for the graces and the virtues needed for their upcoming mission and calling in life. One can only imagine the prayers and intercessions that were poured out before our Lord as they readied themselves for a calling that required great strength and responsibility.

In the Garden of Gethsemane, before Jesus died, He asked His Apostles, “Could you not pray with me for one hour?” Eucharistic Adoration is an opportunity for each one of us to enter into the presence of Jesus Christ and to encounter Him, to spend time with Him, to love Him, and to let Him love us. In the foyer to the Adoration Chapel, one can put their name on an hour that they would like to commit to each week at the same time. During that time we are able to intercede for others and to prepare ourselves for the mission that God has called us to, and the blessings will flow.

Our Adoration Chapel is located next door to the St. Joseph Bookstore and is accessible 24 hours each day, seven days a week. The code for the door is 0245.

“Could you not pray with me for one hour?” Mt. 26:40



Our Lady's Magnificence

by Bob Fenimore

I recently attended the Eucharistic Congress for the Diocese of Atlanta at which there were many amazing speakers and the atmosphere in the room was electric. The Holy Spirit was very alive in the room. One of the speakers, Sister Olga from Boston, gave an inspiring talk that really touched me as if the Holy Spirit was telling me, "Bob, this is for you." At the end of the talk, she said that she used no notes, but the Holy Spirit was guiding all of her words for each and every person in the room. She said that her walk with Jesus began in Iraq many years ago and that she leans on four pillars of faith that has helped her in her daily relationship with Jesus. The first of the four pillars is daily prayer, the second is the Blessed Mother, the third is the Holy Spirit, and the fourth is her daily encounters with Jesus Christ. The praying of the Rosary encompasses all four of the pillars, by putting us into relationship with the Blessed Trinity and Mary.

I would like to start an additional daily Rosary group here at St. Joseph's. When we pray the Rosary, the Blessed Mother comes instantly to our side to pray with us and she does not come alone; she brings angels with her and not just one or two, for she is the Queen of Angels, so choirs of angels come with her. She and Jesus are joined at the heart and cannot be separated, so she brings Jesus with her; and Jesus cannot be separated from the Trinity, so He brings the Father and the Holy Spirit with Him. How wonderful is that! I am proposing a daily group that prays the Rosary wherever they are: in one's car, sitting in one's house, relaxing or even mowing the lawn. There will soon be sign up sheets in the church for brothers and sisters in Christ to sign up to pray the Rosary every day.

A colleague of Fr. Gabriel Amorth, the Chief Exorcist of the Vatican, once heard the devil say during an exorcism, "Every Hail Mary is like a blow to my head. If Catholics knew how powerful the Rosary was, it would be my end."



Mary giving the Rosary to St. Dominic

Calling all St. Joseph's Youth!!:

NET Ministries to Come to St. Joseph's

A (NET) National Evangelization Team will be coming to St. Joseph's Church on Sunday, October 28th after the 5:00pm Mass. NET teams travel across the U.S. to share the Gospel with young people and their families, and since 1981, NET teams have led over 32,000 retreats and ministered to more than 2 million young Catholics. Their mission includes inviting young people to live for Christ, forming young people in Christian character through the study and practice of their faith, and equipping youth workers and young adults with the ministry skills needed for evangelization. Mark your calendars for this great event!

Decorated Candles and Cigar Boxes

For those who know Shirley Walsh, they are aware that she has loads of energy and lots of ideas, and many of her ideas have helped St. Joseph Church and the parishioners in some way or another. One of her recent endeavors has gone to help raise money to help with the Vision 20/20 parish debt campaign. Shirley got the idea to recycle the used sanctuary candle containers and the candle containers from the Adoration Chapel and to have them painted or decorated for reuse. Sanctuary candles and the candles in the Adoration Chapel are lit and burn in the presence of our Blessed Lord for seven days in honor of a parishioner or a loved one and when the candles are finished, the glass containers are usually either recycled or thrown away. Shirley enlisted the help of some of our artistic parishioners to make use of the beautiful containers by decorating and painting them and has given people the opportunity to own the beautiful vessels that once burned in the presence of Christ.

In addition, Shirley began recycling empty cigar boxes, had them painted by the artistic parishioners, and has been selling them as well. If you would like to see some of the products, candles and cigar boxes are regularly on display in the Social Hall and the Bookstore. The products make great gifts for birthdays and Christmas and other occasions. The plain glass candle containers are \$5, the painted glass containers are \$10, and the painted cigar boxes vary from \$15 to \$35, and all proceeds go to the Vision 20/20 debt reduction.

A great thank you to Shirley and the artists, who include: Marie Ball, Michelle Cassidy, Katherine Emerick, Patricia Layson, Lori Mitchell and Tony Ryles! If you are artistic and would like to help out with this project, please contact Shirley Walsh or Cindy Zilaro at the Parish Office (478) 745-1631.



FR. WRIGHT TO PRESENT AT MERCER

Mercer Catholic Campus Ministry (CCM) is excited to announce that our Chaplain, Father John D. Wright, will be delivering a major on-campus presentation! The presentation, hosted by the Mercer University Department of Religion, will be based on Father Wright's book "The Smallest Spark: A World Set Ablaze by a Little Life and a Little Way," about St. Thérèse of Lisieux. All are invited.

The event will take place in Willingham Auditorium (on Adams Street) on October 1st (St. Thérèse's feast day) at 7:00 PM. We hope that all can attend.

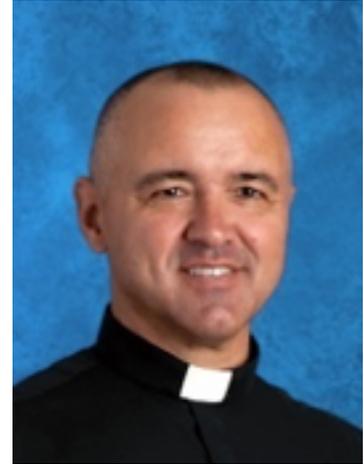
Fr. Jacek Szuster, former priest of St. Joseph, passes away

Fr. Jacek, pastor of Most Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Augusta, died on September 4, 2018, after a one year-long battle with colon cancer. He was 47 years old.

Born in the city of Niemodlin, Poland, on January 30, 1971, Father Jacek attended the Major Seminary of the Diocese of Opole in Nysa and earned a bachelor's degree. After arriving in the U.S. in 1995 he studied the English language at St. Cyril and Methodius Seminary in Orchard Lake, Michigan. From 1997 to 2001 he attended theology courses at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Philadelphia where he pursued a master's degree. Fr. Jacek was ordained as a deacon on May 20, 2000, at *St. Joseph Catholic Church in Macon*. He was ordained to the priesthood on June 9, 2001, at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Savannah, Georgia.

After ordination he served as parochial vicar at *St. Joseph Catholic Church* as an assistant to Fr. Cuddy. After serving at St. Joseph's for two years, he served at St. Teresa Parish in Albany, and was later assigned as pastor of St.

Augustine in Thomasville and then Most Holy Trinity in Augusta, from 2011 to the present. His seminary classmates and fellow priests remember him as an exemplary priest who worked hard spiritually and physically in seminary years and in his parishes. His deep love of the Lord was evident in all he did.



His death represents a great loss to the Diocese of Savannah presbyterate where he served on the Priests Council, the Personnel Committee and as dean of the Albany and Augusta deaneries. He was named a 2014 Distinguished Pastor by the National Catholic Education Association based on his spiritual leadership and support to the parish school, Immaculate Conception. Father Szuster is survived by his mother, Helena and three brothers, their spouses and children, all in Poland. A Funeral Mass was celebrated at 10 a.m. on Saturday, September 8 at Most Holy Trinity Church. In lieu of flowers please send memorials to Immaculate Conception School Special Education Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 2446, Augusta, Ga.

I am utterly heart-broken at the loss of our beloved Father Jacek. He was a wonderful pastor; he guarded and guided our beautiful church and ministered to the children at Immaculate Conception School. I am so grateful to GOD for allowing Father Jacek to be our shepherd and our good friend. His Spirit will always be with us.
Carol Creamer

Fr. Jacek, Thank you for reminding us to always pray, "Jesus, I trust in You." Thank you for your service to the church and to our Lord. Thank you for your commitment to the teachings and traditions of our faith. We look forward to seeing you in Heaven one day.

Peace and blessings to your family,

With love,

Grace and Victoria Yrizarry