

St. Joseph's Church of Coatesville

404 Charles Street – Coatesville, PA 19320 Rectory 384-0360, 384-1172
www.chesco.com/~stjosephrcc, Email: Father John V. Oulds, Pastor

How to register at St. Joe's

If you would like to register as a parishioner of St. Joseph's or have questions about the registration process, please contact our Parish secretary Stella Grubb. Stella is available at the rectory after the 10:30 Mass on Sundays, or you can call the rectory to schedule a convenient time to register. We look forward to meeting you and welcoming you into our Parish family.

Baptism & Marriage

Arrangements for Baptism and Marriage may be made by contacting the rectory. The preparation for these special sacramental events takes time, so wherever possible please call at least one month prior to the christening date and at least six months prior to the wedding date.

Sacraments for the Sick

The Anointing of the Sick and Holy Communion are administered at home to our ill and house bound parishioners upon notification. Please inform Father Oulds when anyone is hospitalized. The sick always have a place in our community prayer.

Music Ministry

Anyone interested in participating in the music ministry at St. Joseph's should contact Stella, our parish secretary or Craig Cigas. We have choirs for both young and not so young and we are always on the lookout for new cantors, organists and helpers.

Masses for the Week

Masses for the week of January 28th, 2001, will be offered at St. Stanislaus Kostka Church except as follows:

First Friday, February 2nd, 2001 9:30 AM

Bertha Miezkoski (Andrew & Mary Benkovich)

Saturday, February 3rd, 2001, 6:30 PM

Carolyn Pechin (St. Joseph Women's Club)

Euch. Minister *Seymen*
Lector *Albert Ponto*

Sunday, February 4th, 2001, 10:30 AM

Sophie Zelina (St. Joseph Women's Club)

Euch. Ministers *Swinty/Nesbitt*
Lector *Kathy*

Your Prayers Are Requested

In the charity of your prayers, please remember the Sick: Father William Cox, Jessica Ryan, Julia Esposito, Jan Cisarik, Verna Seymen, Cy Reali, Ann Ponisciak, Olivia Monko, Jacob Monko, Cecilia Shesko, Jessie Brooks, Robert Hracho, Kate Ohar, Spencer Gautney, Janet Yost, Barbara Pawlowski, Betty Bogus, Dorothy Bodnar, Sean Colvin, Augusta Saska, Natalie Umile, and Anna Bortnyck, and the Dead: Jimmy Culligan and Carol Girafalco.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

This weekend, Confessions will be heard on Sunday, January 28th, from 9:45 to 10:15 a.m., prior to the Morning Mass. Next weekend, Confessions will be heard on Saturday, February 3rd, from 5:45 to 6:15 p.m., prior to the Evening Mass. As always, the Sacrament of Reconciliation is available at anytime upon request.

Special Collection This Weekend

The Catholic Bishops' Relief Services, operating in over eighty countries worldwide, has been for more than fifty years the American Bishops' overseas relief agency during times of disaster. In addition, this organization promotes development programs to teach the poor how to help themselves. It is able to carry on its mission because of the financial support provided by the nationwide Annual Appeal conducted in Catholic Parishes. This weekend's Second Collection will benefit the work of the Catholic Bishops' Relief Services; your generous response to this Annual Appeal is deeply appreciated, especially by the recipients of your charity.

Blessing of Throats

Saturday, February 3rd, marks the Feast of St. Blasé, the day for the customary blessing of throats. St. Blasé was the Bishop of Sebaste, Armenia during the 4th Century, whose life ended in martyrdom. Before his death, St. Blasé is said to have miraculously cured a child who nearly died because of a fishbone lodged in his throat. From that incident, there evolved the practice of invoking the intercession of the Saint on behalf of the sick, especially those afflicted with any throat-related illnesses. Popular since the 8th Century until the present, the blessing of St. Blasé serves as a sign of faith in God's watchful protection and love for the sick and for us all. Throats will be blessed at all Masses next weekend: at the 9:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Masses on Saturday, and at the 10:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday. All are welcome to receive this annual blessing.

Back by Popular Request

Last spring, St. Stanislaus Kostka Church hosted the appearance of Gina McKenna-Smith, whose exceptional blending of drama and faith brought forth a truly moving performance focused on the life of Mary Magdalene. Many have often inquired about her return to the area with another spiritually enriching presentation. Happily, we have been able to arrange for her Lenten return, so as to give life and breath to an unnamed character from St. John's Gospel: the woman at the well with whom Jesus had a lengthy conversation. Be aware that Miss McKenna-Smith and her musician-companion will be working their wonders among us on Sunday afternoon, March 11th, at 3 o'clock, in St. Stanislaus Kostka Church. Circle the date on your calendar and plan to attend!

Devon Prep's Open House

"Devon Prep's Open House is Sunday, February 4th, 1:00 – 4:00 pm. Devon's Scholarship & Entrance Test is offered Saturday, February 10th, or Sunday, February 11th, promptly at 8:30 am either day. Please call the Director of Admissions at (610) 688-7337 for more information."

Inclement Weather

Due to the inclement weather we had last weekend, we are pleased to repeat the following announcements for those who did not have a chance to see them.

Welcome to New Members

A warm welcome is extended to our new parishioners.

*Jean & David Wimble and their children, Brianna & Branden.
Robert & Michaela Unitis
Daniel & Marie McBride*

Recent Collections

Thank you and God bless all of our parishioners who contributed to the following collections:

<i>Christmas (which total includes \$5,000 from St. Joseph's Women's Club and \$100 from the Knights of Columbus amounted to</i>	\$24,842.00
<i>Tree of Love and Christmas Flowers</i>	1,360.00
<i>Retirement Fund for Religious</i>	937.00

Contributions to the Church, 2000 Tax Year

If you are in need of a statement verifying your contributions to the Church over the 2000 Tax Year, please do not hesitate to call the rectory at 610/384-0360. We will be very happy to provide the necessary statement.

Annual Volunteers' Appreciation Dinner

As an expression of gratitude for those who render volunteer service to our parish Family, we are pleased to sponsor a gala Appreciation Dinner annually. Our Volunteer's Appreciation Dinner this year will be held at the historic Revere Tavern, Route 30, Paradise on Sunday afternoon, February 18th, beginning at 3 o'clock. Letters of invitation will soon be in the mail to our loyal volunteers; for now please circle the date of the event on your calendar and plan to be in attendance.

Progress on the New School

You may be wondering how things are progressing with regard to the proposal for a new parochial school. To date, our recent formal feasibility study was submitted to Monsignor James McDonough, Regional Vicar for Chester County, with the hope that it would be placed on the agenda of the February Meeting of the Board of Archdiocesan Consulters. We need to gain their approval for a Capital Campaign to be initiated, allowing us to solicit funds for the project. Please keep this most important undertaking in your good prayers.

Vocation Discernment

The Vocation Office for Diocesan Priesthood is sponsoring the St. John Neumann Discernment Group for Young Adults. Meetings will be held at St. Charles Seminary, Overbrook, on the second Tuesday of the month, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., beginning February 13th, 2001. This group is designed for college age and young adult men (18-40) who are seriously discerning the call to priesthood. The format followed by the group will include communal prayer, topics of interest, group discussion and refreshments. Call Father Joseph Devlin for details and to register: 610/667-5778.

Similarly, the St. Katharine Drexel Discernment Group for High School Students will hold meetings at St. Charles Seminary, Overbrook, on the third Tuesday of the month, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., beginning February 20th, 2001. This group is designed for 11th and 12th grade young men who are discerning the call to priesthood. For details and to register, call Father Joseph Devlin at the above Vocation Office.

God's Challenge



The Lord stiffens the courage of Jeremiah by calling him to prophesy; to be a wall of bronze and a pillar of iron. Jesus challenged his hometown folk to respond to his work, but they chased him away. God's overwhelming love is a strong challenge for people. They are called to overcome obstacles, put away childish things and seek perfection in things that last: faith, hope and -- the greatest--love. Today the Lord challenges us to respond by following him.

