

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 March 25th, 2001, will be offered at St. Stanislaus Kostka Church.

Tuesday, March 27th, 2001, 7:00 PM

Sophie Zelina (Elaine Irwin & Helen Pacana)

Saturday, March 31st, 2001, 6:30 PM

Joseph Cigas (His Sister Betty Hracho & Family)

Altar Servers Zelina/Bednar/England

Sunday, April 1st, 2001, 10:30 AM

Doris Toth (Her Husband John Toth & Family)

Altar Servers Florian/E & T Gushanas

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, Betty Bogus, Dorothy Bodnar, Sean Colvin, Natalie Umile, Anna Bortnyck, Lanita Giuseppe and the Dead: Father Richard Griffin, William Romanoski, and Charles Lewis.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

This weekend, Confessions will be heard on Sunday, March 25th from 9:45 to 10:15 a.m., prior to the Morning Mass. Next weekend, Confessions will be heard on Saturday, March 31st, 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.

Lenten Evening Masses

The opportunity will be available to attend a mid-week Evening Mass during Lent. In St. Joseph Church, at 7:00 p.m. Mass will be offered on Tuesdays. In St. Stanislaus Kostka Church, a 5:30 p.m. Mass will be offered on Wednesdays. We trust that a number of parishioners may wish to include Mass during the week as a part of their Lenten practices.

Lenten Stations of the Cross

Throughout the Lenten Season, the traditional Stations of the Cross Devotion will be conducted at 1:15 p.m. on Thursdays in St. Stanislaus Kostka Church and on Fridays in St. Joseph Church with the school children participating on both days. Also, on Saturday mornings in Lent, following the 9 o'clock Mass, the Stations of the Cross Devotion will be conducted. The beauty and meaningfulness of this Passion-related devotion has held up over the centuries; perhaps you would wish to make it a part of your special practices this Lent.

Operation Rice Bowl

Since 1976, the year of its introduction, Operation Rice Bowl has been an additional source of financial support to the world's destitute people, often their darkest hour, through the agency of the Catholic Bishops' Relief Services. Throughout Lent, Operation Rice Bowl provides a means to pray, fast, learn and share in solidarity with our brothers and sisters in need. We are grateful for your households' participation in Operation Rice Bowl. Your gift may be placed in the specially marked containers in the rear of Church.

Palm Sunday Concert at the Seminary

The eighty voice Archdiocesan Boy Choir will hold a Palm Sunday Concert of Sacred Song on April 8th, at 4:00 p.m., in the Lower Side Chapel of St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, Overbrook. Admission is free, although a free-will donation would be gratefully accepted in support of the boys' summer musical tour in England and Wales. Fellowship over light refreshments will follow the approximately ninety minute program. To enhance the opening to Holy Week, we are planning to provide chartered bus transportation for this special event of remarkable beauty and sung prayer. Our bus will be leaving from the West End Churches at 2:15 p.m.; we should be arriving back in Coatesville shortly after 7:00 p.m. To reserve your place(s), please call Paula at St. Stanislaus Kostka Rectory, 610/384-1172.

Special Palm Sunday Scheduling

Please take note that our Morning Mass on Palm Sunday, April 8th, will begin 15 minutes later than usual; that is, at **10:45 a.m.**, rather than 10:30 a.m., to allow Father John to make his way from Mass at St. Stanislaus Kostka Church to Mass at St. Joseph Church. You might remember that, because of its special features, the Liturgy for that day runs a little longer than the typical Sunday. Also, we invite our school age children to take a special part in the Solemn Procession with Palms that morning. The youngsters participating should report to Mr. Frank Lasak, Jr. at 10:25 a.m. in the rear of the Church, to receive their instructions.

Lenten Penance Service (Confessions)

Making use of the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Penance), in preparation for Easter, is highly encouraged during the Season of Lent. Therefore, we invite your participation in our Lenten Communal Penance Service at 7:15 p.m., in St. Joseph Church, on

Monday, April 2nd. An abbreviated, yet conscience provoking format of the Way of the Cross will be employed before the actual individual hearing of confessions by at least three priests. Seize this as the God given opportunity to put your spiritual self aright before Holy Week and Easter.

A Little Thoughtfulness, Please

It has come to our attention from numerous sources over the past few Sundays that so many off-street parking places by the front of the school building on Charles Street are lost to our good folks by drivers failing to park in the spaces closer to the building. Perhaps they fear being blocked in after the Mass dismisses and thereby overlook what hardship their bad practice causes. What little inconvenience may come their way is far less than the problems they create for people in need of a parking space near at hand to the Church, especially our elderly and physically impaired parishioners to whom consideration and courtesy should be shown. Please let's not waste valuable off-street parking; we have precious few places as it is. A bit of patience and the virtue of thoughtfulness would go a long way in helping us to eliminate this escalating problem. Thank you!

The Living Stations Drama

The Life Teen Group of Our Lady of the Rosary Church, South 17th Avenue, will present the Living Stations at 7:30 p.m., on Friday, March 30th, in the Parish Church. It is a touching dramatization of the Passion and Death of Jesus Christ, based on the Way of the Cross Devotion. All, old and young, are welcome to attend.

In Appreciation

Our sincere thank you is publicly expressed to our parish hostesses, Susan Sandoski and Andrea Levenite, together with their kind helpers, for the delightful Lenten supper, which followed last Sunday's Eucharistic Holy Hour. Having several types of delicious soups available in bowls of bread was a very unique touch. Yummy desserts from the Saint Joseph Table were a treat for all, especially the Saint Joseph Feast Day cakes so generously prepared by Marie Realì in accord with an authentic Italian tradition.

Free will offering that day amounted to \$277.00, given to benefit the good works of the Comboni Missionary Sisters. Sister Angela, the local C.M.S. Coordinator, gratefully acknowledges our generosity in support of their ministry and promises that our Parish Family will hold a special place in the Sisters' prayers. God love you for your charity to the needy!

Looking for Furniture

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Philadelphia, serving the underprivileged of our five county area since 1851, accepts donations of gently used and new furniture. Your donated furniture is made available to individuals in need, for free, through a volunteer-initiated voucher referral program. Additionally, all proceeds for furniture, sold at low cost in their six thrift stores, benefit the charitable programs of the Society. Kindly call 215/288-8160 to schedule a convenient pick-up at your home in the near future.

Sunday TV Mass Now Closed Captioned

Beginning April 15th, with the Easter Sunday Mass celebrated by Cardinal Anthony Bevilacqua, the weekly-televised Sunday Mass on Channel 6 (ABC) at 6:30 a.m. will be closed captioned to benefit people who are deaf and hearing impaired. Funding for the closed captioning is provided by the Knights of Columbus, Philadelphia Chapter, and the Archdiocesan Apostolate to the Deaf (215/587-3913).

Daffodil Days Donation

Over the last few years, our Parish Family has responded to the annual appeal for financial support made by the Chester County

Chapter of the American Cancer Society. Our contribution during "Daffodil Days" advances further research to stamp out this disease and provides important programs for cancer patients coping with their illness. As a token of appreciation, A.C.S. provides us with several bunches of daffodils, the heralds of spring, which we are pleased to distribute to parishioners for their presentation to housebound relatives and friends.

Spaghetti Dinner

Boy Scout Troop 16, chartered by our parochial school will be hosting their Annual Spaghetti Dinner on Sunday, April 1st, in the LGM Hall, Coatesville, from 2:00 until 7:00 p.m. The price is \$5.50 for a small dinner and \$7.00 for a large dinner. Take out orders are available, please bring your own containers. For tickets, call 610/383-1206 or ask any member of Troop 16.

A Special Lenten Presentation

Sanctuary, a Sacred Music Ensemble at Villanova, will present Passion: The Story of Holy Week in St. Thomas of Villanova Church, at Villanova University, on Wednesday, April 11th, at 8:00 p.m. All are most welcome to attend. For information contact Sanctuary at 1-800-834-6250 or visit the web page at "sanctuary.villanova.edu."

News From Coatesville Catholic School

The time approaches for the C.A.C.E.S. Annual Beef 'N Beer Night, benefiting the Athletic Association, on Saturday, April 21st, 7:30 to 11:30 p.m., in the Union Hall, 750 Charles Street, Coatesville. Tickets cost \$20.00 per person. Come and join the fun! Music, hot roast beef, beer and soda are provided. BYOB. For more information and tickets, contact Ellen Doyle at 610/384-6248.

C.A.C.E.S. Eighth Annual Golf Outing will be held at the Honey Brook Golf Club on Friday, May 18th, with a 1:00 p.m. Tee Off (shot gun start – scramble format). Your entry fee of \$95.00 includes: green fees, cart, lunch, dinner and refreshments on the course. For reservations, contact Al Ponto at 610/380-9947.

Please save your Charlie's Thriftway register tapes! For every \$2,500.00 in register tapes, Charlie's Thriftway will issue 1% of the face value to Coatesville Area Catholic Elementary School. Simply place them in the appropriately marked box at the back of Church. It's that easy! Thank you!

Come Home

We each hear this appeal differently, but we all recognize the call to reconciliation. We need to put things in proper order. When Joshua and God's people arrive in the Promised Land, when the prodigal finally returns to the father's house, there is homecoming joy – and a feast. This millennial Lent we are called home, called to reconciliation with God, with the community of faith, with our own families and with one another. Come home! Come home!