

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD **01/11/2026** **St. Joseph Catholic Church**
Pastor: *Father Nalazala Raj* **Phone:** 479-963-2131 **Cell:** 501-522-9482 **Email:** *frrajnalazala@gmail.com*
Deacon: *Tom Pohlmeier* **Phone:** 479-963-3355 **Cell:** 438-0217 **Email:** *pohlmeiers@hotmail.com*
Principal: *Shirley Kiefer* **Phone:** 479-963-2119 **Email:** *principal@saintjosephschoolar.org*
Church website: *www.stjosephparisar.org* **School Website:** *www.saintjosephschoolar.org*
Church email: *stjosephchurch2131@gmail.com*
Reconciliation: Sundays 8:15-8:45am/Thursdays 7:00-7:45pm
****Exposition/Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** –Tuesdays and Thursdays – noon until 8:00pm

<u>Mass Intentions</u>				
1/12	Monday		NO MASS	
1/13	Tuesday	7:30pm	+Susie Stovall	Betty Humphrey
1/14	Wednesday	8:00am	+Mary Ann Gronwald	Tom & Paulette Spivey
1/15	Thursday		NO MASS	
1/16	Friday	8:00am	+Glendell Berry	Celeste Fox
1/17	Saturday	6:00pm	+Deceased&Living Gack Family	Linda Dunston
1/18	Sunday	9:00am	Living & Deceased Parishioners	Father Raj

Feast Days this Week: 11/13 – St. Hilary; 1/17 – St. Anthony
+++++

SATURDAY, January 17: 6:00pm
Eucharistic Ministers: Deacon Tom, Marcus & Debbie Rainwater **Lector:** Randy Koch
Servers: L Rainwater, E&E Komp **Gifts:** Tom & Paulette Spivey
Ushers: N&K Neumeier, J&H Komp **Music:** Randy & Leslie

SUNDAY, January 18: 9:00am
Eucharistic Ministers: Deacon Tom & Sharon Pohlmeier, R Cope **Lector:** Susan Cope
Servers: Chloe Cope, Ivan Bradley, Emmarae White **Gifts:** Perreault Family
Ushers: M Freeman, J Harrison, J&C Koenigseder **Music:** Shana & Sydney White

DONUTS: Lisa Vines
+++++

- Jan. 11:** Christmas decoration will be taken down after 9:00 Mass
Mother’s Society meeting after 9:00 Mass
Knights of Columbus meeting at Scranton. Rosary at 4:00 followed by meeting
- Jan. 12:** OCIA at 6pm
- Jan. 13:** Adoration noon-7:10pm. Benediction@7:10 followed by Novena prayers. Mass at 7:30
Parish Council meeting at 6pm
- Jan. 14:** Confirmation classes & Religious Ed classes resume at 6pm in the Sister’s house
- Jan. 15:** Adoration noon – 8:00pm. *Reconciliation 7:00-7:45pm*
- Jan. 23:** **Bunco Night!** 6:30pm. \$5 buy in. Call Mary for details (438-0777).
- Jan 24/25:** Collection for Black and Indian Missions

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD
Today the Church celebrates the **Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord**, which brings Christmas Season to an end. Many of the incidents which accompanied Christ's baptism are symbolic of what happened at our own Baptism. At Christ's baptism the Holy Spirit descended upon Him; at our Baptism the Trinity took its abode in our soul. At His baptism Christ was proclaimed the "Beloved Son" of the Father; at our Baptism we become the adopted sons of God. At Christ's baptism the heavens were opened; at our Baptism heaven was opened to us. At His baptism Jesus prayed; after our Baptism we must pray to avoid actual sin.
+++++

PARENTS OF TEENS! The deadline to sign up for the summer **Steubenville Conference** is February 1. Those currently in 9th grade, up to and including those who will be 12th grade graduates in May, are invited to attend. The event is July 10-12 and is held in Springfield, Missouri. The fee for each person is \$150, with the CYM covering the remainder of the expenses. A non-refundable \$50 fee is due Feb. 26. The Steubenville Conference is a wonderful opportunity to meet other teens who are seeking to live out their Catholic Faith. Parents, encourage your kids to go!!

LADIES, MARK YOUR CALENDAR!! *The Mother’s Society will host their annual Lenten Day Retreat on Saturday, March 7. Father Cassian Elkins will be the speaker again this year. Details to follow soon.*

Submitted to Prayer Chain: Emmett Vines/in NICU; Kay Neumeier/triple bypass surgery; Will Nehus/ER; Randy Koehler/in hospital/reaction to chemo; Jenifer Koehler/in hospital/possible sepsis; Bentley Robinson/seizure.

We welcome new parishioners Peter and Sandra Viktora! They have been attending St. Joseph for a while, and we hope you feel at home with us. We're happy to have you!!

COMING UP SOON! “Women of Hope” A Day of Retreat for women, will be held at CTK in Little Rock, **Sat, Jan 31**, 8am-3pm. Fill your soul with Jesus, the Author of Hope, as we journey through the Gospels. An evening of preparation is provided Fri, Jan 30, 5:15-8pm: Reconciliation, Eucharistic Adoration/talk by Fr. Patrick Friend, end with Benediction, Praise and Worship. \$75 fee. Info & Register: *womenofhopear.org*

We welcome all visitors and invite newcomers to register at the church office where we would enjoy meeting you. If you regularly attend Mass at St. Joseph’s and are not yet a registered parishioner but would like to be, please contact the church office at 963-2131.

+++++
+++++

St. Joseph School

Our mission is to empower students through our Catholic Faith, Academic Excellence, and Community Service to become leaders of integrity and compassion.

Casino Night is coming up soon!!

Saturday, February 7, 6:30-11:30pm. Call 963-2119 for tickets!

A REMINDER: Our school cafeteria accepts donations year round. Some of the most needed items include all types of meat: hot dogs, ground beef, pork or beef roasts, turkeys, ham or turkey that can be shaved for sandwiches. Flour and sugar, ketchup, gallons of fruit and vegetables, pastas, are always welcomed. Monetary donations are accepted, if that is more convenient for you. May God bless our many donors!!

A Best Choice UPC box is in the cry room for your convenience. You may leave empty ink cartridges as well.

+++++
+++++

HAPPY BIRTHDAY this week to Debbie Lowe, Jerry Freeman, Jane Koehler, and Ella Komp.
HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to John Paul & Judy Koch.

Several people have donated **rosaries** to be given away. If you are interested in having one, please contact the office.

There are several nice dishes left in the hall from the last funeral dinner that have not been claimed.

Are you 20-40 years old?? St. Anthony Church in Ratcliff is hosting a **Lenten Book Study**, using Fr. Jacques Philippe’s book “Finding and Maintaining Peace.” The plan is to meet 7 times, concluding before Holy Week, and they invite all in the area to attend. **Please respond to Preston Stengel by Sunday, Jan. 18, at 438-3701.**

The **Arkansas Catholic Men’s Conference** will be held Sat, Feb. 7, at CTK in LR, featuring guest speakers Dr. Karlo Broussard and Mary Bielski. Posters are on display in church. Info & registration at arcatholicmen.com

Br. Joseph Heath, OSB, will offer a **LENENT DAY OF REFLECTION** on Tues, Feb 24, with the theme “ASK: Ask, Seek, Knock” based on the Gospel of Matthew 7:7-8. The day begins with check-in and refreshments at 9:00am, followed by conferences, reflection time, reconciliation, adoration, Midday Prayer with the monks, lunch and 2:00 Mass. Questions? 934-1290. You can register directly for the retreat at <https://subi.secure.retreat.guru/.../tentative-lenten.../>

JANUARY BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE

Patty Adams, Regina Ahrns, Leigh Ann Askins, Evelyn Bauer, Kay Benz, Mary Beshoner, Barbara Beshoner, Karen Binz, Tracy Bradley, Beverly Bradley, Laura Bujarski, Mary Cauthron, Paula Cooper, Susan Cope, Mary Cope, Audrey Curtis, Jordan Devine, Patty Dunn

INTENTION OF THE HOLY FATHER FOR JANUARY

Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

Small hurts can happen in any marriage. It may not be anything major, but something small, like a pinch. What is it that I need to forgive today? **What have you done for your marriage today? www.foryourmarriage.org**

“John tried to prevent him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, yet you are coming to me?” (Matthew 3:14)

The Catholic Catechism states that “*Jesus’ immersion in the water is a sign for all human beings of the need to die to themselves to do God’s will.*” In other words, as baptized Catholics, there is only one gift that we need to give to Jesus – **the gift of ourselves.**

Jesus, help me to surrender myself to God’s will, place my trust in Him, and allow the Holy Spirit to work through me for the greater glory of God.

As the Catholic Christmas Season comes to an end today, we again thank those who had a part in helping our parish be renewed during this holy time. In addition to those listed in last week’s Stewardship Corner, we acknowledge this week the donors of the books which were given to each family in December: “*The Forgotten Way*” by Matthew Kelly. Everyone is encouraged to read at chapter a day, or if that is too much, read a chapter a week. As the author says on page 1: “*The promise of this book is very simple: You can transform your life by changing the way you speak.*” We have already completed the first 10 days of 2026. Let us all resolve to make the remainder of this year a holier time in our hearts and in our troubled world. Cut out the prayer at the end of today’s meditation. We can clip it on our refrigerator or tape it to our bathroom mirror. Think what a transformation

St. Joseph Parish would undergo if each of us offered this prayer every day!!
