

# SAINT JOSEPH

CATHOLIC CHURCH

## ~WELCOME~

Welcome to our community! Together we share a deep love and reverence for God, which we express through liturgy, prayer, and service. We invite you to join us in experiencing the joy and fulfillment that come from being part of something greater than ourselves.

Grounded in our  
**FAITH,**  
Rooted in the  
**EUCCHARIST.**

## Mass Schedule

**SATURDAY**.....5PM  
**SUNDAY**.....7AM & 9AM  
**MONDAY**.....8AM  
**TUES.-FRI**..... 6:45AM  
**FIRST FRIDAY ANOINTING MASS**.....2PM  
**FIRST SATURDAY MASS**.....8AM

**Holy Day: Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**  
**Dec. 31**.....5PM  
**Jan. 1**.....8AM

**CONFESSIONS:**  
30 minutes before daily Masses and 45 minutes before weekend Masses



## Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man.

-Luke 2:51-52

Excerpts from the lectionary for Mass copyright 2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

**From the Pastor's Desk**

Dear St. Joseph Parishioners,

Please note that, given the holiday, we will not have all-day exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on the 1st. Instead, we will follow our usual schedule for first Saturdays that morning.

As we come to the end of this calendar year, it is one more time to be grateful for the many blessings that we have in our lives. Please know of my gratitude for you and our parish!

Happy New Year,  
Fr. Scott

**First Friday Anointing Mass**

This coming Friday, join us at St. Joseph for our **Anointing Mass** at 2 PM. All are welcome to receive the healing grace of this special sacrament!

**Eucharistic Adorations**

Move forward in your faith and respond to Jesus' invitation to a closer relationship with Him through Eucharistic Adoration. Every first Wednesday of the month from 7 AM to 9 PM at St. Joseph, spend quiet, prayerful time with the Blessed Sacrament, opening your heart to His love and guidance. Join us and grow in faith and love!

If you would like to sign up for a timeslot or are available to be a substitute when needed, please contact Sharon VanTassell in the parish office by phone at 402-253-2949 or by email at [sharon@stjosephspringfield.org](mailto:sharon@stjosephspringfield.org).

**Mass Intentions**

<b>SUN 12/29</b>	7:00 a.m.	+	Pam Ostransky
	9:00 a.m.		People of St. Joseph
<b>MON 12/30</b>	8:00 a.m.	+	Nate Scalise
	<b>TUE 12/31</b>	6:45 a.m.	
5:00 p.m.			Marlene Molacek
<b>WED 1/1</b>	8:00 a.m.	+	Rev. Gary Koyler
<b>TH 1/2</b>	6:45 a.m.	+	Pam Ostransky
<b>FRI 1/3</b>	6:45 a.m.	+	Brenda Jones
	2:00 p.m.		Priest's Intentions
<b>SAT 1/4</b>	8:00 a.m.		Priest's Intentions
	5:00 p.m.	+	Rich VanTassell
<b>SUN 1/5</b>	7:00 a.m.	+	Rev. John Lynch
	9:00 a.m.		People of St. Joseph

To request a Mass intention for a loved one, please contact the parish office; a \$10 donation is recommended.

**Remember in our Prayers**

Let us pray for Margaret Wilson and Eileen Stock. Pray also for all our parishioners who are homebound, hospitalized, and in nursing homes.



**Weekly Collections**

Weekend of December 22nd

- Offertory.....\$4,452.00
- Building Fund.....\$5.00
- Christmas.....\$275.00
- Religious Retirement.....\$25.00

**The Seminary Collection will be held on the weekend of Jan. 4-5, 2025.** The Archdiocese of Omaha currently has nineteen men studying for the Priesthood. We humbly ask for your continued prayers, sacrifices and generous financial support.

As you know, the cost of room, board, and tuition for our seminarians continues to climb. The seminary bill for our nineteen seminarians during this academic year will be \$1,633,954.00. A successful seminary collection is critical to our effort to form future priest of our Archdiocese.

Prayerfully consider what you can do to ensure the success of the seminary collection.

**Liturgy Ministers**

**Saturday, 1/4 @ 5:00 p.m.**

- Greeters:** Sharon VanTassell/Teresa Starks
- Lectors:** Marla Kildow/Ken Patry
- EMHC:** Kathleen Pratt
- Singers:** Amy Krance-Wendt
- Altar Server:**

**Sunday, 1/5 @ 7:00 a.m.**

- Bob Green
- Mike Kalen
- JoAnn Swanson
- No music

**Sunday, 1/5 @ 9:00 a.m.**

- The Staroscik Family
- Jeff Needels/Corey Osborn
- Tim Johnson
- Ralph & Co
- Peter Sciba/Dominic Cacka

If you are interested in serving St. Joseph parish as a greeter, EMHC, or lector, please contact Sharon VanTassell in the parish office at 402-253-2949 or [secretary68059@gmail.com](mailto:secretary68059@gmail.com).



## Parish Events & Formation

- **Monday, Dec. 30th** | Baselight Women's Group @ 7:30pm
- **Tuesday, Dec. 31st** | Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God Mass @ 5pm
- **Wednesday, Jan. 1st** | Solemnity of the Blessing Virgin Mary, Mother of God | Mass @ 8am  
(Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament @ 7:15am)
- **Friday, Jan. 3rd** | First Friday Anointing Mass @ 2pm
- **Saturday, Jan. 4th** | First Saturday Exposition @ 7:15am and Mass @ 8am
- **Sunday, Jan. 5th** | *Bible in a Year* small group Meeting @ 10am in the parish hall  
| Parish Council Monthly meeting

## Works of Mercy Ministry: Service Opportunity

### Walthill/Macy Day Trip with Catholic Charities

The first Tuesday of every month, Catholic Charities organizes a group of volunteers to help package and distribute food boxes to the residents of Walthill and Macy in northeastern Nebraska. **Our next day of service will be January 7th.** Kindly contact Sue Knott at 402-810-2033 if you would like to come along for this full day of service and community.

## Stephen Center Meals: VOLUNTEERS Needed

We are looking for a group of people to prepare and serve the meal at Stephen Center on Monday, January 20th. The parish will reimburse up to \$300 for food expenses. It's a very rewarding experience! If you are interested, please contact Angie Iverson 402-203-0723 or Ann Kavanaugh 402-679-0659.

A big thank you to Jerry and Kathy Watson and their family for preparing and serving the meal at the Stephen Center on December 16th!

## Ascension Press Sunday Resources

Our parish is excited to share weekly resources from Ascension Press, including *Bible in a Year*, *Encountering the Word*, and *Catechism in a Year*. These resources are designed to help deepen your faith journey and grow in understanding of Scripture and Church teachings. Stay tuned for regular updates and opportunities to engage!



## Baselight Small Groups

Join Baselight, welcoming small groups dedicated to deepening our faith through the weekly readings of the Gospel. Each week, we gather to read the upcoming Sunday Gospel passage, share our insights, and reflect on its relevance in our lives. Whether you're new to scripture study or a seasoned participant, all are welcome. There are three Baselight Group to join:

- **Women's Group** | Mondays at 7:30p.m.
- **Men's Group** | Saturdays at 7a.m.
- **Co-ed Group** | Wednesdays at 6:15p.m. in the chapel at St. Joseph's.

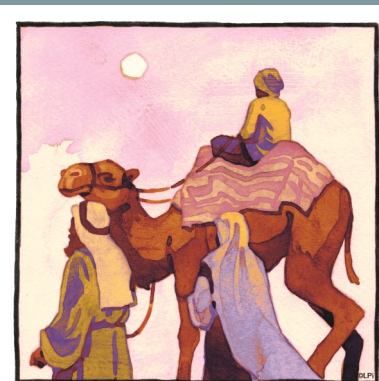
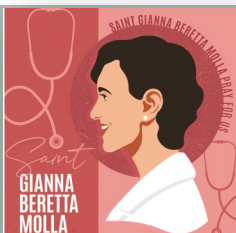
If you would like to join one of the groups, contact Amanda Staroscik at amanda@stjosephspringfield.org or Corey Osborn at (402)660-8356.

Together, we will grow in faith, strengthen our community, and inspire one another as we strive to live out the teachings of Christ.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who participated in the **Giving Tree**, and especially the last minute shoppers and gift wrappers. Together, we brought joy to 84 children and 21 adults this Christmas—your generosity truly made a difference!

## Saint of the Week

St. Gianna Beretta Molla (1922-1962) is the first woman doctor and working mom to be canonized. During her last pregnancy a uterine tumor was surgically removed so she could bring her daughter into the world, even at the expense of her own life.



## Questions of the Week

Reflect and Respond to Scripture

### First Reading

(1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28)

In gratitude to the Lord, Hannah returned the gift of her son, Samuel. Is there a gift from the Lord for which you are particularly grateful?

### Second Reading

(Jn 3:1-2, 21-24)

As children of God, John teaches us that believers should love one another and believe in the name of Jesus. In addition to faith and love, what else do you think unites us as children of God?

### Gospel Reading

(Luke 2:41-52)

Luke presents an anxious experience that Mary and Joseph has as parents raising the young boy, Jesus. Do you recall a time when your parents were worried or anxious about you?

## BIBLE IN A YEAR Podcast and Small Group

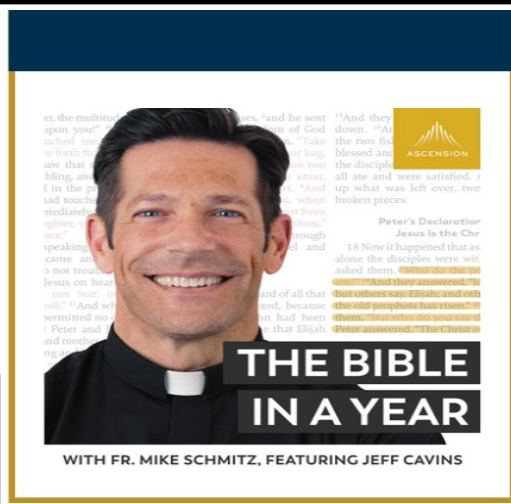
The Bible in a Year is a daily podcast, produced by Ascension and hosted by Fr. Mike Schmitz, where we read the whole Bible, following The Great Adventure Bible-study program created by Jeff Cavins.

Each 20-25 minute episode includes:

- two to three scripture readings
- a reflection from Fr. Mike Schmitz
- and guided prayer to help you hear God's voice in his Word.

St. Joseph is here to support you on your "Bible in a Year" journey! Tim and Kelly Johnson will lead a monthly gathering where we can come together to check in, share reflections, and encourage one another as we journey through the Bible in a Year. We will meet in the

parish hall from **7:45am to 8:30am** on the first Sundays of every month. Our first gathering will be on **January 5th**. No need to sign up, just show up! Email Tim and Kelly if you have any questions at [tkjohnson2223@gmail.com](mailto:tkjohnson2223@gmail.com).

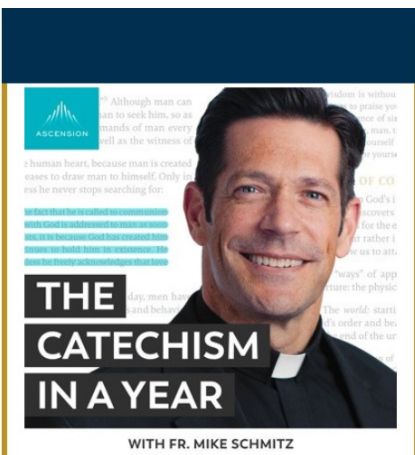


Listen free on the Ascension App! Scan this QR code with your phone to download the Ascension App — the best place to listen to *The Bible in a Year*.



Join us in a great New Year's resolution that will change your life — let's read the entire Bible in a year! To learn more and join us on this journey through the Bible scan the QR code or go to the website: [www.ascensionpress.com/pages/biy-registration-parish](http://www.ascensionpress.com/pages/biy-registration-parish)

Discover the beauty and depth of your faith by joining us in opportunities to learn and grow together as a parish community. Through study, reflection, and conversation, we can deepen our understanding of God's Word and His call in our lives. Let this be the year to reignite your faith and draw closer to Christ through learning and fellowship!



## CATECHISM IN A YEAR

The Catechism of the Catholic Church is a profound and essential guide that explains the fundamental teachings of our faith. We warmly invite you to join Fr. Mike Schmitz on a transformative journey through the Catechism in 365 days with his Catholic podcast, *The Catechism in a Year*. Whether you choose to participate individually or in a small group, this journey offers a unique opportunity to deepen your understanding of our faith and grow closer to God.

By listening to this podcast, we will:

- Read the entire Catechism in 365 days
- Understand the essentials of the Catholic Faith and why they matter
- Transform our relationship with the Church that Christ founded

You can find it on any podcast app, on YouTube. To learn more and join us on this journey through the Catechism, scan the QR code or go to the website: [www.ascensionpress.com/pages/ciy-registration-parish](http://www.ascensionpress.com/pages/ciy-registration-parish)

*Don't miss these opportunities to discover how the pieces of the Bible come together to tell an incredible story that continues in your life today and to deepen your understanding of what it means to be Catholic, letting those truths guide and shape your life!*

Listen free on the Ascension App! Scan this QR code with your phone to download the Ascension App — the best place to listen to *The Catechism in a Year*.



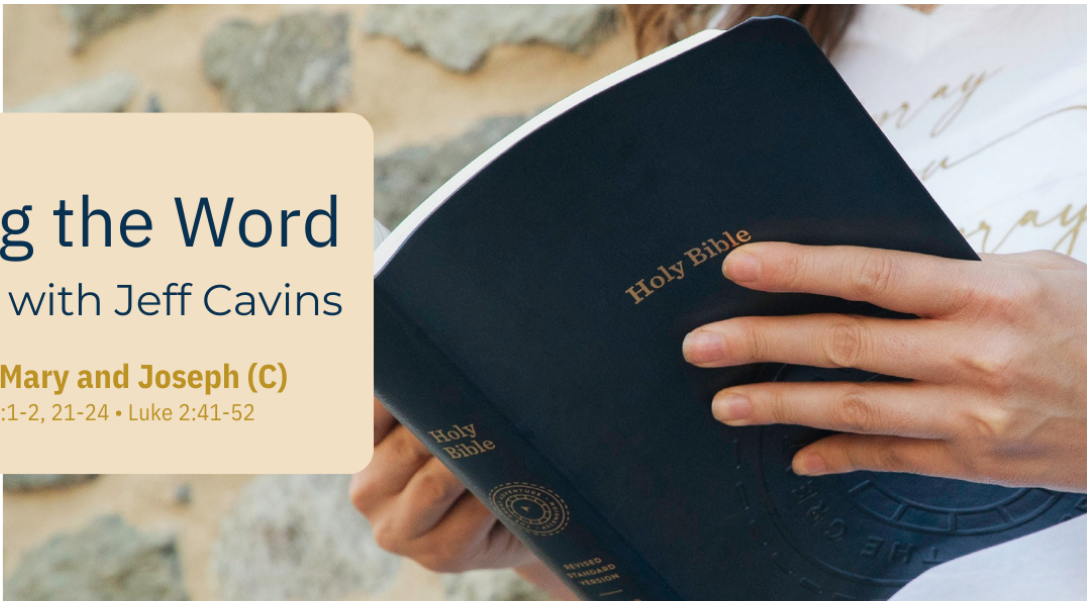


# Encountering the Word

with Jeff Cavins

## The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (C)

1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28 • 1 John 3:1-2, 21-24 • Luke 2:41-52



## Growing into a Holy Family



The Finding of the Saviour in the Temple  
by William Holman Hunt

Today we focus on Luke 2, where we find the holy family in Jerusalem for Passover. When Mary and Joseph leave Jerusalem, it isn't until three days later that they suddenly realize Jesus is not with them. They go to find their twelve-year-old in the Temple, teaching and asking questions. I want to focus on three things.

The first point comes from the first statement in the reading. The Gospel says that Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem every year for the Feast of Passover. That speaks to me about faithfulness. One thing (among many) we can learn from the Holy Family is that they were faithful. If we want to emulate them, we need to become

faithful ourselves. Just as people during Our Lord's time went to great measures to return to Jerusalem for the great feasts, as parents, we should make sure to attend church every single Sunday and make the journey to the holy place of the Mass in a beautiful way. I recommend that people turn the car radio off, talk about the Gospel reading, and prepare their hearts to celebrate the Eucharist.

Second, Jesus' parents found him teaching and asking questions, the customary way boys his age learned at that time. Mary and Joseph at first were confused by Jesus' actions, but I love what the Blessed Virgin Mary did. Scripture says she "kept all these things in her heart."

The third thing that speaks to me in Luke centers on growth. Luke says Jesus increased in wisdom and stature. We can, too. But growing into the likeness of God is a process. It's not something that happens overnight.

## Live the Gospel

Jeff Cavins says, "If you leave Mass a little confused as to what you just heard in the readings or what it all means, I encourage you to meditate on the passages throughout the week and look for opportunities where it may make sense to ask God to open up the meaning of that Scripture that had confused you. Then, you will be able to apply the Word of God in your life."

## Dive Deeper

Scan this code to watch:



Or go to:

<https://media.ascensionpress.com/video/feast-of-the-holy-family-c/>

PASTOR.....**Father Scott Hastings**  
 sahastings@archomaha.org  
 402.827.3854 - Office

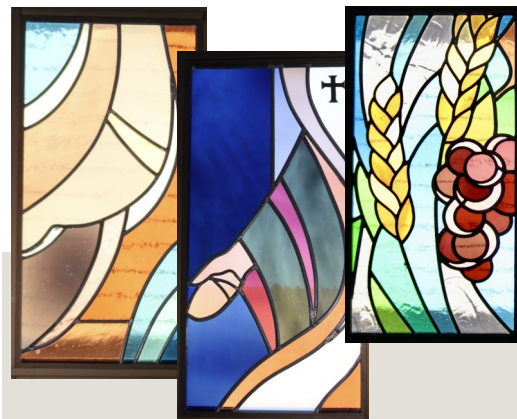
PARISH SECRETARY.....**Sharon VanTassell**  
 sharon@stjosephspringfield.org  
 402.203.4708 - Home

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION DIRECTOR & SAFE ENVIRONMENT COORDINATOR.....**Sherry Huntwork**  
 sherry@stjosephspringfield.org  
 402.253.2949 ext. 4 - Office

COMMUNICATIONS, EVENTS & EVANGALIZATION COORDINATOR.....**Amanda Staroscik**  
 amanda@stjosephspringfield.org  
 402.659.3138

PRAYER CHAIN & CARE CHAIN CONTACT.....**Julie Richards**  
 402.881. 2407

DEACONS.....**Deacon David (retired) & Linda Christensen**  
**Deacon Terry & Karen Ficene**  
**Deacon David & VanNessa Krueger**



**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

Father will hear confessions 30 minutes before daily masses and 45 minutes before weekend masses.

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

Registered parishioners will need to contact the parish office to schedule a meeting for their baptism class. After the class is complete, you can schedule a date. Baptisms can take place during a weekend mass or after.

**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE**

Six months of marriage preparation prior to your wedding is required by the Archdiocese. Contact the parish office to schedule your wedding date and marriage instruction.

**MINISTRY TO THE SICK**

If you, a relative or friend are hospitalized or shut in, and would like a visit from the Pastor or Deacon, please call the parish office.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**

The Blessed Sacrament is exposed every first Wednesday of the month from 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. To sign up for an hour, contact the parish office.

**Parish Groups & Ministry Leaders**

PARISH COUNCIL PRESIDENT.....**Jim Amerine**  
 FINANCE COMMITTEE PRESIDENT.....**Mike Fowler**  
 KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 10894  
 GRAND KNIGHT.....**Kevin Schuster**  
 LADIES GUILD PRESIDENT .....**Deb Hoskins**  
 MUSIC MINISTRY & YOUTH CHOIR  
 COORDINATOR.....**Candy Connery**  
 YOUTH GROUP LEADERS.....**Kelly Johnson & Julie Nieveen**

**Parish Office**

OFFICE HOURS.....M,W,TH 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.  
 PHONE.....402.253.2949  
 EMAIL.....info@stjosephspringfield.org  
 FLOCKNOTE TEXT-TO-JOIN.....SPRINGFIELD to 84576  
 FACEBOOK.....facebook.com/stjosf

**Bulletin Submissions**

If you would like to submit an announcement for the weekly bulletin, please send it to bulletin@stjosephspringfield.org by Monday at 8:00 a.m. Weekly bulletins can be found on our website [www.stjosephspringfield.org](http://www.stjosephspringfield.org) or by joining our weekly Parish Notes group on Flocknote. Text **SPRINGFIELD to 84576** and sign up to receive Flocknote messages from St. Joseph Catholic Church in Springfield, NE.

**Parish Directory**

The parish directory is now available to download. Kindly contact Sharon VanTassell in the parish office at secretary68059@gmail.com or 402-253-2949. If there are updates or corrections, please let us know.

**Monthly Charity Drive**

~Sponsored by St. Joseph Ladies' Guild~

Guiding Grace Motherhood Support Network is a life affirming program that serves mothers and families experiencing an unexpected pregnancy. This January, we invite our St. Joseph family to lift up this nonprofit through donations of needed material items for the families of Guiding Grace. Please drop off all donations in the narthex. Thank you for your generous support!

**Items of greatest need:** laundry supplies, toiletries (deodorants, toothpaste, soaps, etc), trash bags, paper towels and gift cards for fuel (\$25 increments are great!).

