

December 25, 2025

Christmas



SAINT JOSEPH

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Merry
Christmas

MASS TIMES

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

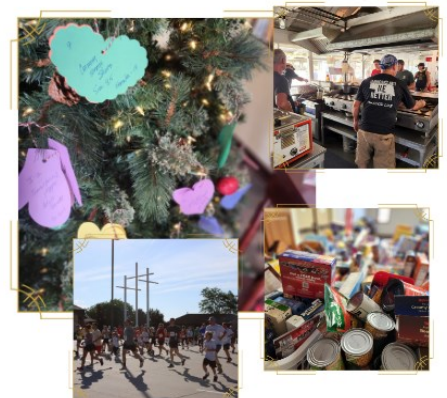


MANY MINISTRIES, ONE HEART



While our parish ministries vary in their roles, they are united in the love of Christ, who calls us to give of ourselves for the good of others. This unity is especially reflected in the generous work of our Ladies Guild and Knights of Columbus, whose efforts make possible numerous donations to food pantries, nonprofit organizations, and charities throughout our community. Beyond these efforts, many ministries bring Christ's love through hands-on care: making prayer shawls and baptismal blankets, preparing meals, providing rides to appointments, and offering prayerful support through the Care Chain. Through events and volunteer opportunities such as the annual chicken dinner, fish fries, the food booth, Steeplechase, Walthill service trips with Catholic Charities, we see that it is not just a few parishioners giving of themselves, but many coming together to serve everyone.

In the coming year, may we continue to serve together in Christ, sharing our time and talents for the good of others. United in His love, may our parish ministries inspire all to experience the joy of giving and the blessing of being Christ's hands and heart in our community.



FROM FR. SCOTT HASTINGS

There's an old saying that the Church is bigger on the inside than on the outside. To people outside of relationship with Jesus, Christians are easy to categorize, to put into a tidy group. But, in reality, the Church is just made up of us. We've all got our struggles, our hopes and dreams, and all those concerns and thanksgivings that make up our lives. You follow Christ. He follows Christ. She follows Christ. That person over there follows Christ. I follow Christ. Some people are so close to Him that their lives reflect His peace and joy easily and readily. Others are still on the outskirts, and everywhere in between.

The beautiful part of this is that there is a path for everyone, even if it isn't the same map. Thanks be to God, we don't have to worry about how we compare to others, because we each walk our own path. What we have in common is that Christ walks next to each of us. Up this hill, down that valley, across that ravine over there. When we walk with Him and try to be attentive to Him, speaking with Him, receiving His word, receiving

His Body and Blood, spending time with others with the same awareness, something special begins to happen. We realize that we are not just walking, but following.

Why did Jesus come into the world? So that we could hear His voice. When we listen, we begin to see that the destination isn't a place. The destination of the path is growing into the people that He wants us to be. Some of that is our effort, for sure, but most of it is listening to what He wants and to seeing what He does in His time.

This year, as we start over again this story of the life and ministry of Jesus--born into a manger just for you and me--what does He want for you? Where will the path take you? Where will His voice lead you? We don't know the answer to those questions, but we do know that if we listen to the voice of the Good Shepherd, He will not let us down. In other words, God has something for you. Let yourself be led by Him.

LOOKING AHEAD



As we celebrate the birth of Christ, the Light who enters the world, we are reminded that faith does not remove every darkness we encounter, but gently guides us forward, step by step. As Pope Francis reminds us, "Faith is not a light which scatters all our darkness, but a lamp which guides our steps in the night." In the coming year, St. Joseph offers many opportunities for both adults and youth to grow in faith and deepen their relationship with Christ, through gatherings such as Upper Room, youth formation through Traditional Religious Education, Youth Group, and Family Formation, as well as the many men's and women's small groups and book studies that meet throughout the year. Through Eucharistic Adoration, OCIA, and sacramental preparation, we are invited to listen more closely to the voice of Jesus. This Christmas, as we rejoice in the gift of Christ, may we continue to walk together in faith, open our hearts to God's call, and carry His light forward in service and love as one parish family.

"Faith is not a light which scatters all our darkness, but a lamp which guides our steps in the night."

—Pope Francis

