



# ST • JOHN THE EVANGELIST

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## ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

*“What we have seen and heard we proclaim to you, so that you may share life with us.” 1 John 1:3*

**DECEMBER 1, 2024**

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

### **PARISH CLERGY**

Reverend William J. Monahan  
*Pastor*  
fatherwill@stjohnpa.org

Reverend Patrick Brady  
*Weekend Assistance*

Reverend Alexander Gibbs  
*Weekend Assistance*

Deacon Thomas Cusick

Deacon James E. Hartmann (Retired)

### **PARISH STAFF**

Cathleen M. Lynskey  
*Office Manager*  
clynskey@stjohnpa.org

Matthew Smith  
*Business Manager*  
businessmanager@stjohnpa.org

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*Parish Religious Education Program*  
prepdirector@stjohnpa.org

Maureen Traynor  
*Parish Office Support*  
bulletineditor@stjohnpa.org

David Tapp  
*Parish Music Ministry*  
musicdirector@stjohnpa.org

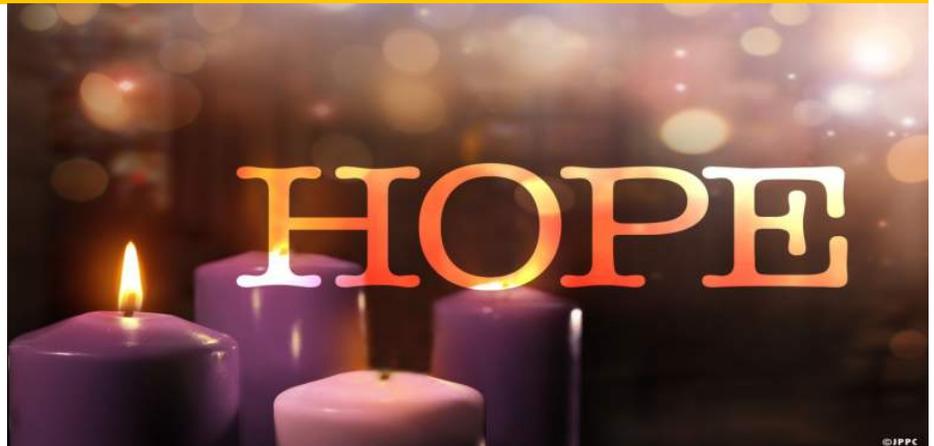
Meghan Horn  
*Parish Communications*  
*and Social Media*  
web@stjohnpa.org

Maria Shadle  
*Youth Ministry*  
youthministries@stjohnpa.org

### **PLEASE NOTE:**

If any parishioner, a family member, or a loved one are in need of a priest, please call the **EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBER** at 215-375-0460 and leave a detailed message.

**WWW.STJOHNPA.ORG**



### **OUR MASS SCHEDULE**

Sunday Vigil Mass: Saturday 4:00 PM  
Sunday: 7:30, 9:30 and 11:30 AM  
Weekdays Monday - Saturday 8:00 AM

### **THE SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION**

Saturdays: 2:45 PM - 3:45 PM  
Tuesdays: 8:30 AM - 9:00 AM  
Other times by appointment

### **THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY**

Arrangements should be made with the priest at least 6 months before the wedding. Attendance at Pre-Marital Classes required.

### **ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

Sunday through Friday—after daily Mass, until 8:00 PM. Saturday -until Vigil Mass.

### **LECTIO DIVINA**

Wednesdays: 8:30 AM in the Chapel

### **MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA**

Saturdays, following 8:00 AM Mass

### **VISITING THE SICK**

If a family member is sick in the hospital, at home, or in a nursing home and they would like to have a short visit by a member of our Pastoral staff, please call the Parish Office at 215-295-4102.

### **PASTORAL LIFE CENTER**

752 Big Oak Road, Morrisville, PA 19067  
215.295.4102, 4103  
sjeoffices@stjohnpa.org

### **OFFICE HOURS**

Monday to Friday  
9 AM - 5 PM  
No office hours on Saturday or Sunday, except by appointment

### **P.R.E.P. OFFICE**

728 Big Oak Road  
215.295.9239

### **THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

Preparations for Baptism should begin before your child is born. All expectant parents or parents of newborn children are asked to enroll themselves in our Parish Baptism Preparation class. Information will be shared when parents call to register for Baptism. Our small classes are held in our Pastoral Life Center. Baptisms are ordinarily celebrated on the first and third Sundays of each month at 1PM.

### **ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS**

The OCIA is a process of welcoming new members into our Catholic faith. It also welcomes baptized Catholics who have not yet received the Sacraments of Confession, First Communion or Confirmation. Please contact Lori Miller at 856-905-2624 for more information.



**Sunday, December 1**  
**First Sunday of Advent**

- 7:30 AM All the Members of our Parish
- 9:30 AM John Rooney, requested by Marie Murphy and Family
- 11:30 AM Josephine Elizabeth June, requested by the Ritchie Family

**Monday, December 2: Monday in Advent**

- 8:00 AM John Hartmann, requested by Saint John's Office Staff

**Tuesday, December 3: Saint Francis Xavier**

- 8:00 AM John H. Warren, requested by Sue and Bob Malone

**Wednesday, December 4: Saint John Damascene**

- 8:00 AM Clark R. Martin, requested by Jim and Kathy Hartmann

**Thursday, December 5: Thursday in Advent**

- 8:00 AM Warner Carman, requested by Tom and Larry Newman

**Friday, December 6: Saint Nicholas**

- 8:00 AM Grace and Bill Morris, requested by the Morris Family

**Saturday, December 7: Saint Ambrose**

- 8:00 AM All Priests, requested by the Blue Army
- 4:00 PM All deceased members of the Korosec and Cottrell Family, requested by Carolyn

**Sunday, December 8**  
**Second Sunday of Advent**

- 7:30 AM Healing Mass for Father Timothy O'Sullivan, requested by Joe and Pat Mursch
- 9:30 AM All the members of our Parish
- 11:30 AM Mary Spader, requested by Vickie Fuller



**LITTLE BLUE BOOKS FOR  
ADVENT/CHRISTMAS SEASON**

Will be available in the vestibule of Church this weekend. Reflections for the season run from December 1st, 2024 to January 12th, 2025.



**Volunteers  
Needed!**

Please join us on Friday, December 20th at 9:00 AM to help decorate our Church for Christmas. We are in need of volunteers of all ages for as much time as you can possibly spare. Thank you!



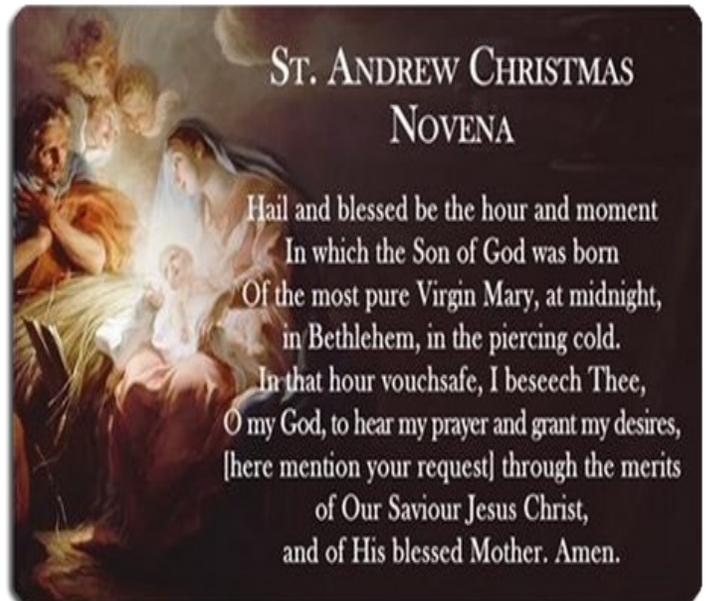
**A Note of Thanks**

We have recently concluded our two week Eucharistic Exhibit in honor of Blessed Carlo Acutis, who will be canonized, or declared a saint, on April 27<sup>th</sup> 2025. We had 440 individuals who came and experienced the inspiring and transformative power of the many Eucharistic miracles that have occurred over the centuries. These past two weeks were a time for these individuals, including our PREP students, to learn more about the way God has accompanied His people throughout the course of history through the many Eucharistic miracles and how He continues to be present to us in the gift of the sacrament of the Eucharist. His continual Presence offers us His grace, His consolation and His peace.

I wish to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of the individuals who gave of their time to serve as monitors of the exhibit and who assisted visitors in many ways. A very special and sincere thank you to Janice McVan, whose passion and love for the Eucharist has been evident these past two weeks. Janice was an integral part in Saint John's hosting the exhibit and was a faithful presence throughout these past two weeks. Once again, Janice, many thanks!

As we approach the upcoming Season of Advent -- a season of reflection and preparation, as well as a season of eager anticipation for the coming of the Lord anew into our lives and hearts -- we continue to gather together as a family of believers around the altar of the Lord where He shares Himself to strengthen us, nourish us, and send us forth to bear witness to His Good News -- and the miracles of the Eucharist continue in our hearts and in our lives!

*Fr. Will*



**ST. ANDREW CHRISTMAS  
NOVENA**

Hail and blessed be the hour and moment  
In which the Son of God was born  
Of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight,  
in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold.  
In that hour vouchsafe, I beseech Thee,  
O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires,  
[here mention your request] through the merits  
of Our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
and of His blessed Mother. Amen.

*It is piously believed that whoever recites the St. Andrew Christmas novena prayer FIFTEEN times each day from the feast of St. Andrew (November 30th) until Christmas Eve will obtain the favor requested.*



OCIA: Adult Catholic Initiation  
Rite of Welcoming the Candidates  
December 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 Mass  
You are invited.

Although the name has changed from R.C.I.A. to O.C.I.A. (from “Rite” to “Order” of Christian Initiation of Adults), the purpose of the process remains the same: accompanying adults on their spiritual journey towards a deepening relationship with Christ and *full initiation into the Catholic Church*. Nor has the role of the faith community changed: our parish family provides the model and instruction for *living a vibrant life in Christ* that leads others to Him.

At the Rite of Welcoming the Candidates our community has the privilege of *joyfully receiving and sincerely affirming our support* for Rachel, Raeanne, Shane and William as they publicly express their desire to continue their Preparation for initiation. We rejoice in the Holy Spirit who nourishes their spiritual growth and who renews within us our commitment to faith and witness as a community.

The candidates are signed during the ceremony with the Cross as a reminder of their Baptism and its hope of life eternal. May all of us too bring to mind and heart at the same moment our own reception into the family of God and our desire to share the Good News with others. *Come, Holy Spirit!*



**Prepare your hearts for Christmas by attending our Music Ministry Christmas Concert next Sunday, December 8, 2024 at 1:00 PM. Light refreshments will be served immediately following the concert in the vestibule of Church.**

*All are welcome!*



Please return Jesse Tree gifts with *Angel/Ornament Tag Attached* in a **gift bag** by this **Sunday, December 1, by 1:00 PM.**

Volunteers will be needed to transport the gifts after the 11:30 a.m. Mass to the school cafeteria. If you have a little extra time, you are welcomed to stay and help sort the gifts for the children.

The Knights of Columbus thank you for your generous support of our Jesse Tree Program.



**CALLING ALL BAKERS:** If you would like to bake for the Christmas Bazaar, please email Liz Schenck - [eas7413@gmail.com](mailto:eas7413@gmail.com)

**Social Concerns Meeting**—Wednesday, December 4th, 6:30—8:00 PM in the Social Concerns Meeting Room.

**Shared Meal**—Friday, December 27, 2024, from 4:30-8:00 PM in the Religious Education Center. See Sign-up Genius for ways that you can help.

Social Concerns will continue to collect new sweat pants sizes Large and X Large in black, navy, or grey, until December 1st.

These sweat pants will be going to Operation Code Blue, a Bucks County effort to offer temporary shelter to the homeless when the temperature falls below 26 degrees. Many homeless layer their clothing in an effort to stay warm.



The Knights of Columbus are selling their Saint John the Evangelist Christmas ornament in the vestibule of our Church this weekend. The cost is \$10.00 and all funds collected will go to the many charities supported by our Knights of Columbus #7515. Thank you for always supporting our Knights!



### REMINDER

On Saturday, November 23rd, the Knights shared Thanksgiving meals with over 100 families in need, thanks to the generosity of our parish donors. We are grateful for your help! Christmas is around the corner, and the Knights will start collecting Christmas meals before and after Mass on the weekends of December 7/8 and 14/15.

*Mark Your Calendars for the Very Best Ever Christmas Bazaar*

**Sat., December 7, 2024 - 10 am to 3 pm**

**Saint John the Evangelist Catholic Church**

**752 Big Oak Road, Morrisville, PA**

Vendors welcome, tables are still available! The event will include many crafters and vendors, raffles, Santa (from 11:30 to 1:30), and much more. Food/lunch items will be available for purchase. Proceeds will benefit the Saint John the Evangelist's Social Concerns Committee which supports the Interfaith Food Alliance of Morrisville, Meals for the Homeless, and other area nonprofits. If you have any questions regarding this event, please send an email to [sjchristmasbazaar2024@gmail.com](mailto:sjchristmasbazaar2024@gmail.com).



### Knights of Columbus Chuck Meyrick-Dick Wilson Memorial Men's Coat Drive

Saint John's Parish will be collecting gently used MEN'S warm coats, hats, gloves, sweaters, hoodies, blankets/comforters, and new white socks for homeless men at all Masses on December 7 and 8. Boxes will be placed in the vestibule of the Church. Your generosity in offering up good wearable clothing for the men will be most appreciated by those who are homeless on the streets of Philadelphia.

Call Lou Penge at 215.913.8155 if you have any questions. Thank you.



# CHRISTMAS IS COMING!

St. John the Evangelist Youth Ministry  
would love to have you at

**Cookies and milk with Santa**  
**Sunday, December 15, 2024**  
Doors open at 1:00, Santa arrives  
around 1:30.



Pre-registration is **HIGHLY** requested to be sure we have  
enough cookies and milk.  
We are asking for a donation of a canned good for entrance.

Register here



## **Saint John/Holy Trinity CYO**

### **Intramural Basketball Sign Ups**

Basketball Sign-ups for the 2024-2025 Intramural Basketball season are now open for Grades PreK-4 to 2<sup>ND</sup> Grade. Practices start December 16<sup>th</sup>. Registration fee is \$65.00.

Please sign up via <https://holytrinity.sportngin.com/register/form/202384596>

Any questions regarding Intramural Basketball please contact Doug Bartlett at [TrintyTrack@comcast.net](mailto:TrintyTrack@comcast.net).

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Saint John the Evangelist  
Parish Religious Education Program (PREP)

*December is the  
Month of  
the Immaculate  
Conception*



*“O Mary,  
Conceived Without  
Sin, Pray for Us  
Who Have  
Recourse to Thee.”*

Virtue of the Month

Purity: Keeping your soul free of sin

Family Faith Activity of the Month

Go to Confession as a family

**This Week’s Facts of our Faith**

**Q. When does the Liturgical Year begin?**

A. The Liturgical year begins with Advent.

**Q. On what day of the week does Advent begin?**

A. Advent begins on a Sunday.

**To God be the Glory**

*“Keep Christ in Christmas”*



**PREP Poster Contest**

Due Monday, December 16th



**Attention Children  
of the Parish**

Blessed First  
Week of Advent!

Today color the first  
Advent candle purple. Be  
sure to color the flame as  
well. It should look like it’s  
shining brightly. Write  
down one thing you will do  
this week to get ready for  
Jesus’ Birthday and do it.

Remember Advent is a  
time of preparing our  
hearts for Jesus’ Birthday!

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**Friendly Reminder**

There are no PREP classes on  
Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup> and  
Monday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Director of Religious Education  
Christa Stefanchik  
prepdirector@stjohnpa.org

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