

# *Saint Joseph Catholic Church*

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Father Andrew Royals, Pastor

First Sunday of Lent

February 18, 2018

CCD Information – Please contact the Rectory Office

St. Joseph Parish Outreach – 301-475-6533

Parish Secretary – Mrs. Nancy M. Russell

Office Assistant – Mrs. Pam McCutchen

Saturday Evening Mass: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday Masses: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Weekday Masses: 8:00 a.m. Monday through Saturday

Confessions: 4:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. Saturday and Sunday following the 6 p.m. Mass.

Baptisms: Please call the Rectory to make arrangements. Parents must be practicing Catholics in this Parish or able to provide a letter of permission from the the proper parish for Baptism here. Godparents, if not St. Joseph parishioners, must provide a letter that they meet the requirements: a practicing Catholic, at least 16 years old, have received Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion and, if married, in a marriage recognized by the Catholic Church.

Marriages: Please contact the Pastor prior to making wedding arrangements.

Sacrament of the Sick: Those hospitalized or home-bound to receive the Sacraments, call the Rectory.

Rectory Office Hours 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday



# Father's Thoughts

My Dear Parish,

Jesus resisted a forty-day-long attack of the devil. This should inspire us to invoke the Holy Spirit to give us strength to resist. It also teaches us about the devil. If the evil one isn't afraid to attack Jesus, let's not think he won't attack us. The question, then, isn't "will the devil attack?" The question is: "will we be ready when he does?"

This is where a good Lent comes in. A good Lent will get us ready for those attacks. A bad Lent will leave us vulnerable. A good Lent is interior, fervent and compassionate. A bad Lent is superficial, lukewarm and materialistic.

A Lent that is interior, fervent and compassionate is when we don't care what others may think of us. Our only care is what God thinks. In this kind of a Lent we learn the careful but necessary art of how to stoke a healthy hatred for our sins. This healthy hatred is a positive spiritual revulsion to the thought of our sins and their consequences. It's fueled by a deep appreciation for the love with which Jesus loves us. It drives out our sinful attachments from our hearts as Jesus drove the money changers from the temple. This zeal is a form of the love we have for God. True zeal renews our appreciation for Christ's compassion for us and prompts us to show that same compassion to our loved ones and all those close to us.

A superficial Lent, on the other hand is washed away like our ashes after Ash Wednesday. This is a Lent which exists only as an outward show for others. A lukewarm Lent is when we hesitate or neglect to prepare ourselves for spiritual battle. It raises no defense against the attack of the evil one leaving ourselves and many others needlessly vulnerable. A materialistic Lent considers our efforts alone sufficient to defend ourselves, rendering God's assistance useless. It hardly considers God at all and instead makes Lent all about us and what we do. The devil licks his chops when he sees us falling for superficiality, lukewarmness and materialism.

Saint Peter puts it this way:

Be sober and vigilant. Your opponent the devil is prowling around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in faith, knowing that your fellow believers throughout the world undergo the same sufferings. (1Peter 5:8-9)

With paternal affection,

*Fr. Drew*

**Mass Intentions**  
**for February 19<sup>th</sup> through February 25<sup>th</sup>**

Monday	8:00 a.m.	Fr. Arnold DePorter, Richard DePorter and Mary DePorter LaMontique (all Living)
Tuesday	8:00 a.m.	Mary L. Tennyson
Wednesday	8:00 a.m.	Special Intention
Thursday	8:00 a.m.	Miles Mattingly
Friday	8:00 a.m.	Leonard Thomas Dixon
Saturday	8:00 a.m.	John F. Thomas, Sr.
	5:00 p.m.	George Queen/Family
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Bruce Pelczar
	10:00 a.m.	Joyce Proctor
	6:00 p.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>

**Mass Schedule for February 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>**

	<b><u>Lectors</u></b>	<b><u>Altar Servers</u></b>
Saturday, 5:00 p.m.	Carolyn Chase	
Sunday, 8:00 a.m.	Sarah Richardson	
Sunday, 10:00 a.m.	Billy Johnson	Liam Haley

***Please pray for those who are sick in our parish especially James Holt, Cody Guy, Antoinette Nelson, Sandy Branson, Winnie Merson, Ann Young, Sara Custer, Thelma Russell, Gary Lewis, Yvonne Lennon, James Nelson, Elizabeth Adams, Alan Burch, Bernadette Herbert and Thomas Lionel Herbert.***

***Offertory, February 11<sup>th</sup>***                      Envelopes \$3,038.00                      Loose \$2,403.00  
***School Support***                                      Envelopes \$579.00                      Loose \$297.00  
***Online Donations*** \$650.00. Thank you for your generosity.

**\*\* Confession & Adoration During Lent \*\***

There are increased opportunities to come to the Church to go to confession and to adore the Lord in prayer. The Church will be open weekday afternoons (excluding Thursdays) from 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM for a time of silent adoration in front of the Blessed Sacrament exposed. Father Drew will conclude the hour with the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Father will also be in the confessional Wednesdays throughout lent from 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM.

***Lenten Coin Envelopes*** are available in the back of the Church. All donations collected will be given to our Outreach group to help the needy in our community.

***Join us to pray the Rosary*** – The Blessed Mother said at Fatima that anyone who prayed the Rosary for 5 first Saturdays, she would be with you and you will die a happy death. The Rosary will be recited again after the 8 a.m. Mass on Saturday Mar 3, Apr 7, and May 5.

***Mother’s Rosary Group*** – Join us for a weekly Mother’s Rosary group. We will pray the Rosary with meditations focused on Mothers. Babies in arms & toddlers are welcome to join in honoring Our Lady. We will meet each Wednesday at 10 a.m. in the Hall. For further information please contact Megan Monahan at mega\_mo@yahoo.com.

**Upcoming Events & Reminders**

- Monday, February 19<sup>th</sup>*** – Preparation class for anyone in need of the Sacraments of Christian Initiation at 6:30 p.m. in the Church. The Rectory Office will be closed in observance of President’s Day.
- Tuesday, February 20<sup>th</sup>*** – Catechism with Father Drew in the Church at 11 a.m. CCD at 6:45 at MCA.
- Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>*** – Mother’s Rosary Group will meet at 10 a.m. in the Parish Hall.
- Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>*** – Stations of the Cross in the Church at 6:30 p.m.
- Sat/Sun, March 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>*** – Distribution of Lenten Food Drive bags.
- Monday, March 5<sup>th</sup>*** – Choir practice in the Church at 5:30 p.m.
- Sat/Sun, March 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>*** – Return Lenten Food Drive donations to the Church.

***Mother Catherine Academy News:***

- MCA Spirit Night: Wednesday, Feb. 21st at Kevin's Corner Kafe in Leonardtown. From 3-9pm, order the chicken basket dinner for either dine-in or carry-out and MCA will receive a portion of each sale.

***Lenten Seafood Dinner*** – Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Lexington Park will have its Seafood Dinner on Fridays from 4:30 to 7 pm in the Parish Hall from February 16th until March 23rd. Come eat fish dinners, fried oysters, boiled shrimp, Po'Boy subs, and various sides. Kid's meals are available.

***The Ladies Auxiliary of the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.*** is sponsoring their 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Dinner on Saturday, March 4<sup>th</sup> from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Fire Department Social Hall located at 24801 Three Notch Road, Hollywood, MD. Cost is: \$25 adults; \$7 kids 4-12 years of age; children 3 and under are free. The buffet style meal consists of stuffed ham, fried oysters, chicken salad, parsley potatoes, candied yams, cole slaw, green beans, beets, rolls, coffee and iced tea.

***Fried Fish Dinner, Dine-in or Carry Out*** – The Mechanicsville Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary will sponsor a fried fish dinner on Friday, March 9<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. at the MVFD Social Hall, 28165 Hills Club Road, Mechanicsville. Dinners are \$10 and include fish fillets, french fries, coleslaw, applesauce and rolls. Baked goods will be available also.



[www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org)

**First Sunday of Lent**

Study Opening the Word - Use this weekly video and prayer devotion to enhance your Lenten journey this year. Focusing on the Sunday readings, the prayer companion is downloadable on the FORMED site.

Watch - The 13th Day In a world torn apart by persecution, war, and oppression, three children in Fatima, Portugal, were chosen by God to offer an urgent message of hope to the world. The 13th Day dramatizes the true story of three young shepherds who experienced six apparitions of Our Lady which culminated in the final prophesied Miracle of the Sun on October 13. Abducted from their homes, thrown into prison, and interrogated under the threat of death in the government's attempt to silence them, the children remained true to their story. Our Lady gave a secret to the children told in three parts, from a harrowing vision of hell, to prophetic warnings of future events including the advent and timing of the Second World War, the spread of Communism, and the attempted assassination of the Pope.

Go to THE LIFE AND WITNESS OF MARY

Listen - Religionless Spirituality Renowned Scripture scholar and author, Dr. Tim Gray, provides a fascinating explanation of the importance of the visible Church and the centrality of God on Earth. He offers incredible insights that make clear the role of the Church as an essential part of God's plan for salvation, which are sure to help those who have left her, or who mistakenly claim to be "spiritual, but not religious."

Go to DISCOVER THE CATHOLIC FAITH

Read - The Little Oratory Keeping a faithful prayer life with your family isn't easy. From herding distracted children to managing the seemingly endless litany of prayers and devotions, our spiritual life all too often feels frantic and burdensome. This isn't the way it should be. Our prayer life, our family life, and our work life should--and can!--be in harmony. When they are, our family is a powerhouse of grace, and Our Lord transforms our home into a little Eden--a little bit of heaven on earth.

**It's EASY and FREE to Register!**

Go to [www.stjosephmorganza.formed.org](http://www.stjosephmorganza.formed.org)

Click "Register" and Enter your name, email, and desired password  
You're all set to enjoy the engaging and inspiring content on FORMED!