

Saint Joseph Catholic Church

29119 Point Lookout Road

P.O. Box 175 Morganza, Maryland 20660

Phone: 301-475-3293 Fax: 301-475-0491

E-Mail: sjcmorganza@gmail.com

Website: www.stjosephmorganza.org

Father Andrew Royals, Pastor

Second Sunday of Lent

February 25, 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,

Lent is hard, especially at the beginning. We have to give up things we like. We have to go out of our way to be helpful for others. We have to take more time to pray. It can start to seem like Lent is going to take forever. We may get a bit disheartened and prefer to ignore this first part of Lent until we get closer to the end of it. This is understandable. It's how we feel—some of us, at least.

But Jesus knows how we feel and he wants to strengthen us for the road ahead. This is why the Church has us hear, at this early stage in Lent the story of Jesus' Transfiguration on the Mountain. It's one of the great miracles Jesus performed to encourage his followers for the coming hardship. A little context is important.

Just before this Sunday's episode of Jesus' Transfiguration is the scene where Jesus tells his disciples for the first time what's about to happen to him at Jerusalem, that he will be rejected and killed and on the third day will rise from the dead. Peter, naturally distressed by this, decides publicly to protest and to rebuke Jesus. Jesus in response, also publicly, reprimands Peter saying, "Get behind me, Satan." He corrects him for "thinking not as God does, but as human beings do." Jesus concludes his public chastisement by turning to the crowd and teaching them that in order to be his follower one must be ready "to deny himself and take up his cross." He then allows six days to pass in order for them to think about this important lesson he has just taught them. Only then, after six days, does Jesus then take Peter, James and John up the mountain and reveal to them his glory as he is transfigured before them. The scene concludes with the three disciples still wondering to themselves what Jesus meant by "rising from the dead."

The Church gives us this story to consider at this early stage of Lent to strengthen us. Because Lent is long and hard it's easy for us to get discouraged just as Peter did when Jesus predicted his passion. But the glory of Jesus' transfiguration strengthened Peter. So, too, remembering the reality of Our Lord's resurrection from the dead as well as our own resurrection will strengthen us for any hardships we may endure.

As we journey through these Forty Days and as we begin to feel the pains of fasting and the other works we should ponder the glory that awaits us. Just as Jesus rose from the dead, we too, by the power of God will rise from the dead gloriously transfigured. May pondering the glory of the resurrection help us to grow in faith and to help others by our works of charity.

With paternal affection,

Fr. Drew

Mass Intentions
for February 26th through March 4th

Monday	8:00 a.m.	Elsie & Patsy D'Aurora
Tuesday	8:00 a.m.	Barbara Mohler
Wednesday	8:00 a.m.	Joseph Thompson
Thursday	8:00 a.m.	Mary L. Tennyson
Friday	8:00 a.m.	Andrew "Johnson" Quade, Sr.
Saturday	8:00 a.m.	Special Intention
	5:00 p.m.	James W. Knight
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Kay Fletcher (Living)
	10:00 a.m.	Danette & Gerry Schumacher (Living)
	6:00 p.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>

The family of Cody Guy would like to thank you for all your kindness and prayers! Cody has been released from the hospital & continues to recover at home. Thank you!

Mass Schedule for March 3rd and 4th

	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>
Saturday, 5:00 p.m.	Billy Benjamin	Sam Adams
Sunday, 8:00 a.m.	Gladys Long	
Sunday, 10:00 a.m.	Kathleen D'Aurora	Owen D'Aurora

Please pray for those who are sick in our parish especially James Holt, 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 18th Envelopes \$2,396.00 Loose \$2,249.00
Second collection next week is for Building & Repair. 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.

Pastoral Advisory Committee: Two weeks ago I called the first meeting of the Pastoral Advisory Committee. I'm grateful to Jeff Guy, Valerie Young and Paul Sohl for agreeing to help me with their advice. I'm grateful to the great number of parishioners who also offered to help with this committee. With all those who volunteered I could have formed quite a sizable committee. I thought it best, however, to start small. An excellent recommendation that came from our first meeting was a simple one. It was to seek from you, the parishioners of Saint Joseph your thoughts concerning our parish, especially concerning our mission of saving souls: What do you find we're doing well at Saint Joseph's? What do you find we're doing badly? What do you find we need to start doing? This simple recommendation reminded me of my responsibility as a spiritual father. And what father would not want his children to feel they can approach him with any concern whatsoever they may have? I'm happy to hear from you anytime about your needs and desires. Indeed, I count on your insight, because there are things you see which I do not see. All are welcome to contact me anytime, whether it's after mass, or at the rectory, or by phone or email. I'll do my best to respond as promptly as possible.

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 26th – Preparation class for anyone in need of the Sacraments of Christian Initiation at 6:30 p.m. in the Church.

Tuesday, February 27th – Catechism with Father Drew in the Church at 11 a.m. No CCD tonight.

Wednesday, February 28th – Mother's Rosary Group will meet at 10 a.m. in the Parish Hall.

Friday, March 2nd – Stations of the Cross in the Church at 6:30 p.m.

Sat/Sun, March 3rd & 4th – Distribution of Lenten Food Drive bags.

Monday, March 5th – Choir practice in the Church at 5:30 p.m.

Sat/Sun, March 10th & 11th – Return Lenten Food Drive donations to the Church.

Have you thought of becoming a deacon? Are you a man of faith and with a service-oriented heart?

The Office of the Permanent Diaconate Formation will soon begin a series of events in various parts of the Archdiocese to select aspirants for the next formation program class. A series of "Come and See" events will be offered that will afford interested men and their wives the opportunity to learn more about deacons and their ministry, the impact of formation and ministry on wives and families, and to ask and receive answers to questions. The remaining 2018 "Come and See" schedule is as follows: Wed., Mar. 7 - St. Aloysius, Leonardtown, MD 7-9pm and Wed., Mar. 14 - Archdiocesan Pastoral Center, Hyattsville, MD 7-9pm. If you are interested in attending one of the scheduled sessions RSVP to Ms. Diane Biggs in the Diaconate Office at (301) 853-5345 or at biggsd@adw.org.

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.



www.formed.org

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Click "Register" and Enter your name, email, and desired password

You're all set to enjoy the engaging and inspiring content on FORMED!

Study Forgiven: Session 1- Where Are You? Have you ever felt lost and alone, isolated in guilt? Like the Prodigal Son among the pigs, we know that we have sinned. But God won't leave us there—he searches for us and runs to welcome us home in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Go to SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Watch: How to Win an Argument Without Losing a Soul. Faith and conversion are ultimately God's work, of course. But he commands us to cooperate with him in that work. Watch How to Win an Argument Without Losing a Soul and become a more effective instrument for communicating God's saving truth.

Go to CATHOLIC ANSWERS

Listen: Swimming Upstream. In this empowering talk, Steve Ray shares what it means to be a Christian in today's world. By examining the lives and martyrdoms of the early Christians and understanding how they transformed the pagan Greco-Roman culture, Steve gives us a blueprint for the New Evangelization. Learn from early Christians how to swim upstream against the current culture and become a witness for Christ.

Go to CATHOLIC LIFE

Read: Mary in the Redemption. Adrienne Von Speyr was a convert to Catholicism, a medical doctor, wife, mystic and author of some 70 books on spirituality. In this profound work on Our Lady, Von Speyr explores Mary's participation with Christ in our redemption, and the unique relationship that each of us should have with our spiritual mother.