

St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Church

842 US Highway 158 W Business
P.O. Box 934
Warrenton, NC 27589
252-257-5605
Fax Number: 252-257-5588
Email Address: stjoseph@embarqmail.com
Web Site: www.st-joseph-church.com

May 20, 2018

Pentecost Sunday

Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.



Mission Statement of Saint Joseph the Worker Parish

We seek to provide opportunities for personal and communal worship and prayer; encourage spiritual growth and faith development; build our Catholic faith community through evangelization; reach out to the materially and spiritually poor and needy in our parish and community.

A Welcoming Faith Community

We are led in our faith by Bishop Luis Rafael Zarama

Saint Joseph the Worker Catholic Church

Pastor: Rev. John Gillespie
St. James Parish: 252-438-3124
Web Site: www.st-joseph-church.com

Organist: Sallye Duncan
Cantor: Bridget Marlin

MASS INTENTION

May 20: Michael Thacker
Offered By: Connie Thacker

CHURCH PEWS

As part of a fund raising effort at St. Joseph the Worker, we are selling the pews from the old church. The cost of each pew is \$250. **We only have THREE pews remaining. The pew measurement is 84 1/2 inches long, 16 inches wide 37 inches tall.** If you are interested in purchasing a pew, please contact Alicia Whiting at 804-221-5073 Thank you.

RETIREMENT

On Sunday, May 13, Fr. John announced his retirement effective the end of June. We will all miss Fr. John and appreciate all he has done for us. Effective July 1, Fr. Rafael Leon-Valencia will be our new pastor.

BAPTISMS

Today we celebrate the baptism of Tristan David McWhinney and Owen Alexander McWhinney. Congratulations!

BAPTISM

On Sunday, May 27, James Robert Joshua Jones, grandson of Tom and Marianne Lenfestey, will be baptized. James is the son of Robert and Bridget Jones. Congratulations James!

FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR

We will need flowers for the altar beginning June 3 and June 24. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Also, as we get into the summer season, a bouquet of fresh flowers from your garden would add a nice touch to the Narthex.

SCRIP PROGRAM

Don't forget to purchase your Scrip Cards from Ron or Holly Whitt after Mass. St. Joseph the Worker receives a rebate of the cost of the card.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

05/23 - Ken Jomo
05/26 - Jason Riggan

LITURGICAL MINISTER SCHEDULE

HOSPITALITY

05/20 R. WHITT, D. VANDEGRIFT
05/27 J. SABO, P. SABO
06/03 W. ALLEN, C. DEAN

GIFT PRESENTERS

05/20 MCWHINNEY FAMILY
05/27 LENFESTEY FAMILY
06/03 J. RIGGAN & N. RIGGAN

LECTOR

05/20 J. HOGAN
05/27 B. MCWHINNEY
06/03 R. WHITT

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

05/20 A. VANDEGRIFT, H. HOGAN
S. PETERSON
05/27 M. KLINE, P. MCWHINNEY,
J. RIGGAN
06/03 D. VANDEGRIFT, H. HOGAN,
S. PETERSON

COLLECTION

05/20 D. VANDEGRIFT
05/27 W. ALLEN
06/03 N, RIGGAN

ALTAR SERVERS

05/20 M. ENSOR
05/27 J. RIGGAN
06/03 B. MASON

MAY LINENS: H. WHITT
JUNE LINENS: P. MCWHINNEY

MAY CLEANING: KLINE, ARIETA,
FLORES

JUNE CLEANING: R. HOPKINS,
S. MOFFETT,
M. WILKERSON

MAY SACRISTAN: M. GAGLIARDI
JUNE SACRISTAN: R. HOPKINS

OFFERTORY: 5/13/18	\$	903
OFFERTORY YTD:	\$	48,748
YTD AVERAGE:		974
SHARE YTD:	\$	1,616

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY

20 Baptism of:
 Tristan David McWhinney
 Owen Alexander McWhinney

27 Baptism of:
 James Robert Joshua Jones

PEOPLE TO KNOW

Pastor: Rev. John Gillespie 438-3124

Pastoral Council Chair: Bruce McWhinney 257-1151

Finance Council Co-Chair: Pete Moore 257-4059
 Co-Chair: Jim Sabo 434-689-2552

Liturgy Committee Chair: Bruce McWhinney 257-1151

Morning Star Ministry Co-Chair: Peg McWhinney 257-1151
 Co-Chair: Sue Peterson 257-3209

Grounds & Maintenance: Rob Love 257-4446

Faith Development: Heidi Hogan 586-6828

Parish Office Manager Linda Dean 257-5605
 (Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9:00AM to Noon,
 unless otherwise stated in the bulletin)

Spiritual Resources for Homilies

The following are excellent resources to preview each Sunday gospel. These Catholic websites often provide the homily on the Wednesday prior to coming to Church on Sunday. By previewing the gospel and different approaches to homilies, you can deepen your understanding of the Word of God. Saint Vincent Arch Abbey is a Benedictine Monastery in Pennsylvania - www.saintvincentarchabbey.org. Father Robert Barron is a seminary professor - www.wordonfire.org. Creighton University (also has daily reflections) Creighton University Daily Reflections - OnlineMinistries St. Louis University Center for Liturgy - to link for Sunday

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Sue Appel, Donna Apple, Jordan Butler, Casey Carrick, Steven Cayton, Tommy Costello, Dale Crotty, Sarah Daniel, Margie Farley, Lisa Fitchett, N. Joseph Foit, Jr., Bill Frenzel, Mary Ann Gasko, Ethan Glass, Kim Harris, Will Hawkins, Richard Hopkins, Lexi Jarman, Francis Kelley, Kurt Kreider, Kathleen La-Monica, Doris Landgraf, Steve Maliszewski, Tammy Mannon, Vinnie Martinez, Donna Melson, William Melson, Ashley Miller, Michele Miller, Joan Moffett, Brianna Moore, Sue Moret, Margie Mukavitz, John Pitchford, Greg Pullen, Danny Ransford, Tony Reekie, Mary Rowlands, Lynne Scharf, William Scott, Charles & Judy Siter, George Snediker Martha Squier, Bernadette Standowsky, Mary Lib Taylor, Chris Thomas, Savanna Tortorella, Russell VanRoy, and Christopher Young.

NOTE: If you have additions or deletions to this list, please contact Linda, the parish secretary, at 252-257-5605 or send an email to stjoseph@embarqmail.com.

BAPTISM: Parents or guardians should contact the Parish House at least one month in advance to schedule preparation classes.

RECONCILIATION: Communal reconciliation is scheduled during Advent and Lent. For other times, please contact Father John at St. James 252-438-3124.

MARRIAGE: Registered parishioners should make an appointment with the Pastor 6 months prior to the scheduled date.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Anyone seriously ill, anticipating surgery or weakened due to illness or age is encouraged to receive the Anointing of the Sick. Please call the Parish House or St. James 252-438-3124.

I live in a community of Dominican Friars. Like you and your families, we have our rituals. Each night after evening prayer and before dinner, we sit down to watch the 5:30 world news. I don't know why we do, because the news these days is terrible! So much suffering for so many millions – we often groan after some of the reports we see and hear. Don't you?

The commercials, which are many, don't give us a break. We frequently comment about all those medicines that are advertised for sick, or elderly people – they seem to be addressed to us to remind us that we are getting older! (Who needs to be reminded!) Sometimes I think I need a degree in pharmacy to understand those commercials. The listing of their-side effects takes longer than the description of the medicines and their hoped-for benefits. After watching those ads, I think we should get credits from a medical school.

Some of those commercials are also quite eye-catching; like the one of the woman lying on the sofa with an elephant sitting on her. We learned that she has COPD, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. I never knew what that was.

More than one commercial is about people who have trouble breathing – asthma, emphysema, or COPD. The ads show (and people report) that these lung diseases can affect a person's quality of life; they have less energy and are limited in what they can do. They are forced to live confined lives. Well, we don't need TV commercials to tell us about the importance of breathing clearly, do we? Even if we just have a cold, or bronchitis, we know that difficulty breathing can restrict our daily activities and make them hard to perform them.

Breath is a symbol in the Bible for the Holy Spirit. The Bible begins with the story of God breathing into clay to form the first human. We humans began through the "life-giving" breath of God and each breath we take is an ongoing gift. We breathe in, we breathe out – alive because of God's breath in us. Which suggests another name for the Holy Spirit – the "Holy Breath of God."

When Jesus was killed the community was shattered. Even though there was word he had risen, we find his disciples, on the very day of the resurrection, breathless in fear and locked behind closed doors. That is not what Jesus had in mind when he called them to follow him. They are not going to spread the news of him if they are all locked up, short of breath.

When the risen Christ appears before them he calms their fears by offering them peace: "Peace be with you." It was an act of forgiveness for their failure to stand with him when he needed them. It is the first gift he gives us as we begin each Eucharist – the gift of peace. Then he says, "Peace be with you" again. Why does he say it a second time? Because he has something in mind for them. He is about to send them out into an unfriendly, hostile, world to share his mercy. Imagine – they will even have to forgive enemies, and to announce the news through their words and actions of God's love for all people. All people: even drug dealers? Even inmates at our nearby federal prison? Even the people who have wronged us? Yes, and many more.

I suspect, when they heard that challenging mission, they gasped and fell short of breath. A shortness of breath no prescription medicine could cure. What they needed was a new start in life. They needed an invigorating breath from God. They needed was their Creator God to breathe again into lifeless clay and create faithful disciples of Jesus – new human beings – and a community of people with enthusiasm, energy and direction for the mission Jesus was giving them.

Hiding behind closed doors is not the mission of the church. Playing it safe might work these days for the ups and downs of the stock market; for crossing a busy street; installing a security system in our homes. But, not for being a disciple of Jesus. Playing it safe is not the game plan for Christians. When Jesus breathed upon his disciples God was breathing into clay again, forming renewed human beings and an energized, faithful community of believers.

Patricia Sanchez once told this story in her commentary on today's feast. A teacher at a Catholic University asked her students if they thought their faith was worth sharing. One student's response struck the teacher, "If you love someone, or something, enough you want to share it. If you are in love you can't wait to tell others. So, if you love what it means to be a Christian, it makes all the difference in the world that you give this gift to someone you love."

People who breathe with the breath of the Spirit are not bystanders in life. They don't live behind locked doors in fear. When an opportunity to share their faith arises, they speak up. When an injustice has been done, they act on it. When someone is grieving, they sit with them in consolation. When a classmate is bullied, they stand alongside them. When a new worker shows up on the job, they help them get oriented. When a wrong is done them they forgive, even before being asked. When they have important choices to make, they choose the most loving one.

No one image can capture the Holy Spirit. Today it is described as a life-giving breath. If we are facing an issue these days that is testing our faith, draining our energy, and leaving us short of breath, then here is a prayer we can say, not in words, but with a gesture: Breathe in, and with each breath, pray this ancient prayer – "Come Holy Spirit come."