

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

'Where Faith and Family Are One'

Main and Poplar Sts. Ambler, PA 19002

23rd SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME

"WHOEVER DOES NOT CARRY HIS
OWN *cross* AND COME AFTER ME
CANNOT BE *my disciple*."
LK 14:27



©Diocesan

September 7, 2025

GENERAL

Contact: 215-646-0494
 email: info@Stjosephambler.org
 Rectory Address: 16 S. Spring Garden St.
 Ambler PA 19002 fax 215-643-6389

Pastor: Father James T. Mc Guinn
 Deacon Michael Cuff
 Deacon Kevin Gentilcore

Deacon Mark J. Kuhn
 Director of Adult and Hispanic Ministry
 (Spanish) contact - 484-746-3414

Director of Family & Youth Ministry
 Suzanne Kuhn (DRE)

Office Manager: Lisa Gallagher

Facilities Manager: Oleg Berezovski

Parish Office Hours

Monday through Thursday 9:00AM - 4:00 PM
 Closed for lunch from 12:00 PM -1:00 PM
 Friday 9:00 AM -12:00 PM
 The Rectory office is closed on all holidays.

New Parishioners

We are always happy to welcome new parishioners!
 If you are interested in joining our wonderful
 Parish family, contact the rectory office at 215-646-0494.



Prayer Requests for:

Jimmy Cowman	Anthony D'Acunto
Clare Di Donato	Emily Gudas
Kathleen/Franicis Hart	Joan Sontag
Jessica Hummel	Rita Malozzi
Maryann Osowski	Jeanne Stabilito

Please continue to pray all who are ill or in need of prayers. Names are removed monthly unless notified.

We continue to remember and pray for Father William Atkinson's 'call to Sainthood'.

Welcome Father Andrew "Drew" Heiman

We extend a warm welcome to Father Drew from St. Charles Borromeo Seminary where he serves as Director of Spiritual Formation for the College Seminary and College Propaedeutic Program. Father Drew will be assisting in the celebration of Masses at both St. Anthony and St. Joseph Parishes.



Mass Intentions

Saturday Vigil

4:00 PM Rena Palermo

Requested by
 Maria/Fred Voss

Sunday

7:30 AM Natalie Zbytniewska

Swillo Family

1:00 PM N/A

Monday

6:30 Communion Service

Tuesday

6:30 AM Lou Fisher

Roseanne/Charles Hofmann

Wednesday

6:30 AM Communion Service

Thursday September 11th Patriot Day

6:30AM Fr.Charles J. Mc Elroy

SJ staff

Friday

6:30 AM Communion Service

Candle Memorials



Mary
 Isabella Zaccone



Tabernacle
 St. Francis di Paola Nonno Antonio



St. Joseph
 Nonno Antonio

St. Joseph Church

Saturday Confessions :Saturday 2:45 PM-3:45 PM

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 PM

Sunday: 7:30AM

Monday, Wednesday & Friday: 6:30 AM

Tuesday & Thursday: 6:30 AM Communion Service

Holydays of Obligation 12:05 PM

St. Anthony of Padua Church

Sunday: 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM & 5:00 PM

Spanish: 1:00 PM Second Sunday of the month

Monday, Wednesday & Friday 8:15 AM

Tuesday & Thursday: 8:15 AM Communion Service

Holydays of Obligation: 8:15 AM

Applying this week's Gospel

In today's Gospel Jesus is brutally honest about how difficult it is to be his disciple. It is so difficult that he wants every follower of his to do a "cost-benefit analysis," and he is absolutely convinced that what it will cost a disciple will be far outweighed by the benefits. Challenging and difficult undertakings in life are best achieved by putting a plan in place and sticking to it, and the same is true for discipleship. Growing as a disciple of Jesus Christ will require a spiritual growth plan or what has been called in spirituality "a rule of life." A spiritual growth plan is indispensable to being a disciple of Christ and remember the saying: "If you fail to plan, you plan to fail." Every Christian who fails to have a spiritual growth plan plans to fail. This week, design your own spiritual growth plan and follow it.

Yours in Christ,
Father Jim

OUR LADY OF CHARITY OF EL COBRE September 8

About the year 1600, three men from Santiago del Prado (now known as El Cobre), Cuba, were out in their small boat on the Bay of Nipe when they saw a white bundle floating slowly toward them. It was a statue of the Virgin Mary holding the child on her left arm and with a gold cross in her right hand. The statue was fastened to a board with the inscription, "I am the Virgin of Charity."

SAINT PETER CLAVER (1581-1654) September 9

Nearly two hundred years before the Declaration of Independence proclaimed "that all men are created equal," two hundred fifty years before the Emancipation Proclamation mandated an end to slavery, three hundred fifty years before Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream", and four hundred years before the election of an American president boasting African heritage, Peter Claver left his native Spain behind to volunteer for the Jesuit missions in Colombia. There, he was horrified both by slavery as an institution and by the inhuman brutality inflicted upon the slaves. He solemnly vowed to become "the slave of the slaves," and lived that vow heroically for close to forty years. Not knowing their language, Peter began his ministry among the slaves by using the universal language of practical charity, providing medical care and a tangible though wordless assertion of their human dignity: "We spoke to them not with words but with our hands, kneeling beside them, bathing their faces and bodies, encouraging them with friendly gestures" (see *Liturgy of the Hours, Volume 4*, p. 2018). Then came evangelization and baptism. Holiness as human wholeness: Peter Claver's enduring witness. —Peter Scagnelli

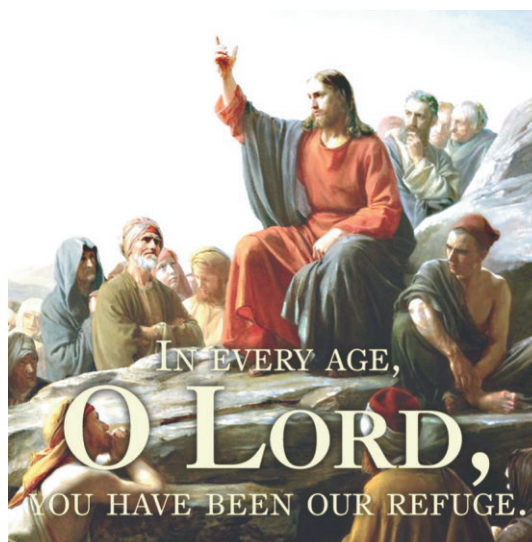
Pray for our Nation



Our country, our military, police and first responders all need our prayers now! Please continue to pray for all in harms way who help protect us and our country. God bless and protect them all. Many have returned home and need both physical and emotional care. They cannot be forgotten. Pray for all those who have unselfishly given up their lives for our freedom. Jesus has said, "There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for a friend". May God give them strength and courage to continue to fight the battles they struggle with abroad and here at home!

SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM (c. 344-407) September 13

"Speaking truth to power" may have become just another cliché, but doing precisely that cost John "the Golden Mouth" (*Chrysostom*) his diocese and, after exile and a forced march, his health and life. "Renowned for eloquence, heroic in suffering" (*Sacramentary*), John's scriptural insights still comfort and challenge. Mystical theologian, he bids Eastern Christians, whose principal Divine Liturgy bears his name, to lift up their hearts to "God ineffable, beyond comprehension, invisible, beyond understanding, existing forever, always the same." Model pastor, he warns Roman Catholics in the *Liturgy of the Hours* not to neglect God-in-the-flesh: "Would you honor Christ's body? Do not scorn his nakedness, honoring him here in church with silken robes, while neglecting him cold and naked outside. What use to burden Christ's altar with golden chalices, while Christ himself starves to death? What use dressing the altar with gold-woven cloths, while denying the shivering Christ the clothes he needs? Do not adorn the church while ignoring your needy brother: he is the most precious temple of all!" (Saturday, Twenty-first Week in Ordinary Time). —Peter Scagnelli



THE SACRAMENTS



Sacrament of Baptism and Confirmation Role of Sponsors

A baptismal preparation class is for all parents who are requesting Baptism. Baptisms are scheduled with the Deacon. Please contact the rectory office for more information.

Godparent or Sponsor Eligibility- You must be a practicing Catholic, in good standing, and attend mass regularly, (married validly if married), at least 16 years of age, and have received the sacraments of initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist).

Requested eligibility certificates for another Parish- We cannot issue certificates of eligibility to any parish if a person is not regularly attending Sunday mass and/or isn't properly registered in St. Joseph Parish.

Sacrament of the Sick In case of serious illness, please contact the Rectory.

Sacrament of Marriage

Parishioners planning a wedding, contact the office to book an available date at least six months or more prior to that date. Marriage Preparation Class can be made online at www.philamarriageprep.com or call 610-873-2017.



Sacrament of the Anointing

This sacrament takes place after the 4:00 PM Vigil Mass on the Second Saturday of the month. After the mass is ended, those who wish will be invited to gather around the baptismal font. Please write your name on the sign up sheet after receiving the sacrament. so it will be recorded.



Donut Sunday will resume on Sunday, September 28th after the 11:00 AM Prep Mass at St. Anthony of Padua's Friendship Hall.

All are Welcome!

ADULT

St. Joseph Annual Pasta Night Dinner

St. Joseph Church's Heritage Room

Sunday, September 28, 2025

Seating begins at 4:00 PM Reservation required limited number of seating

Cost: \$20 per adult

Children: (ages 6-12) \$5

Children 5 and under: Free

(Salad, dinner, dessert and beverage included) along with a great time!

All Are Welcome!

All RSVP's must in by Monday, September 22, 2025

All RSVP's must be in by Monday, September 22, 2025

Name _____

Number of Adults _____ Children _____

Total number in your party _____ (for table seating purposes)

**Phone _____



Enclosed _____ check
(payable to St. Joseph Church)

_____ cash

Please enclose money with form.
All proceeds benefit St. Joseph's Church.

There are also flyers on all of the tables.

Sunday,
September 7, 2025 is
National Grandparents'
Day!

We would like to wish all of our Grandparents a very Happy and Blessed Grandparents' Day. May you always be blessed with the love and joy of your grandchildren and have many years to watch them grow in faith and love.



FAMILY & YOUTH

Calling all Confirmation Candidates...

The sacrament of Confirmation will be conferred at St. Joseph's on Thursday, November 13, 2025. Does your child/ren match this description?

- ◆ Your family is registered at St. Joseph's Parish
- ◆ Your child attends a local Catholic school or is being home-schooled in a Catholic curriculum.
- ◆ Your child will be in seventh or eighth grade next fall.
- ◆ Your child has been baptized and has received First Holy Communion.
- ◆ Your child has received religious instruction continuously for at least the past two years and can document this.
- ◆ Your child has received some Confirmation instruction as part of his/her day school curriculum.

If so, please contact Director of Religious Education Suzanne Kuhn at 215-646-0494 or stjosephamblerdre@gmail.com for your child to be included in the November celebration of Confirmation.

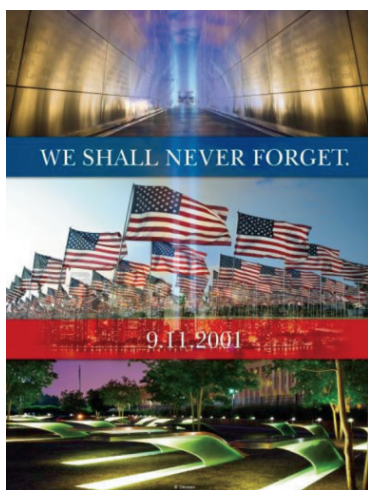
Registration is about to begin for PREP 2025-2026. Live, in-person religious instruction will be offered for grades K to 8 on Sundays from September 14, 2025 through May 3, 2026 from 10:15 AM to 11:30 AM in **St. Anthony's Education Center, 260 Forest Ave., Ambler 19002.**



Back to School Prayer

Almighty God We give you our school. We give you all the teachers and staff who work here, We give you all the children who study here. We pray our school would be place of great discovery, adventure and creativity. May it be a place where we love to learn and where we learn to love, A place where every one is respected and all are deeply valued. We ask all this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our parish family wishes all the children a very happy first day of school and a wonderful year ahead. God bless and watch over you!



We honor all those who have gone before us on September 11, 2025.

We especially remember Father Charles J. Mc Elroy who entered eternal life on September 11, 2024
May they all rest in peace!

Living Stewardship Now

Create a quiet place in your home with a crucifix, statues or pictures of Mary and the saints, and pictures of people special to you. Pray there daily.

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Anyone who is interested in volunteering your time for... adult altar server, lector, cantor or religious prep please contact the rectory office.



Video & Discussion after the 8:15—

Wednesdays Starting September 17th—Friendship Hall Meeting Room. Featuring the Metanoia videos with Fr. Dave Pivonka. Metanoia contains 10, half hour episodes shot in locations all throughout the Holy Land. The audience will be able to encounter the Lord in the settings of some of the holiest sights in the world. Metanoia is a spiritual journey through the places where Jesus physically taught His Church the meaning and the way of metanoia. It is a transformation of the heart, a spiritual conversion, which comes about through repentance. This conversion may be in how we see Jesus, the Father, our self, and others. This follow-up series focuses on eight different areas that invite us to a deeper metanoia of who Jesus is and how He desires us to know Him. When one views this series, the viewer will have a much broader understanding of Jesus' message.

OUR LADY OF COROMOTO

September 11

On October 7, 1944, Pope Pius XII declared Mary Patroness of the Republic of Venezuela under this title, which she bears because of an appearance in 1651 to members of the indigenous Coromoto tribe.

FINANCE

August 31, 2025

Sunday: \$ 3059.00

Please know that if you attend St. Anthony's Church for Mass, your envelope contribution is forwarded to St. Joseph Church and the same with St. Anthony's envelopes.

Thank you for your contribution to St. Joseph Church. We appreciate all that you do.

HISPANIC MINISTRY

Le messe in spagnolo si svolgono la prima e la terza domenica alle 1:00 PM.

SAN PEDRO CLAVER (1581-1654)

9 de septiembre

Nació en la región de Cataluña, España. Siendo joven estudió en la Universidad de Barcelona, dirigida por los padres jesuitas. En 1602 fue admitido por los Jesuitas y profesó sus primeros votos. Luego de su noviciado se formó bajo la dirección de san Alfonso Rodríguez, quien fue para él un verdadero maestro y modelo de santidad. Luego de estudiar teología es enviado a la actual Colombia, donde fue ordenado sacerdote y quedó marcado profundamente al ver cómo trataban a los esclavos africanos traídos de Angola, en una travesía marítima que duraba hasta ocho semanas. No sólo era la trata de esclavos, sino las condiciones tan deplorables en que llegaban a Colombia. Él, sin hablar el idioma, se apresuraba a recibirlos ofreciéndoles medicina, pan y un trato digno. Solía decir que "antes de hablarles con los labios había que hablarles con las manos". Se convirtió en un servidor y protector de ellos, llamándose a sí mismo: "esclavo de los esclavos". Fue un apóstol incansable pues se preocupó de su bienestar espiritual así como de que se practicara la justicia hacia ellos.

—Miguel Arias

NUESTRA SEÑORA DE LA CARIDAD DEL COBRE

8 de septiembre

Allá por el año 1600, tres hombres de Santiago del Prado (ahora conocido como El Cobre), Cuba, estaban en su pequeño barco en la Bahía de Nipe cuando vieron un bulto blanco que flotaba lentamente hacia ellos. Era la estatua de la Virgen María que sostenía a un niño en el brazo izquierdo y a una cruz de oro en la mano derecha. La estatua estaba en una tablita pequeña que llevaba la inscripción: "Yo soy la Virgen de la Caridad".

LITURGY AND MUSIC

Scripture Readings

Sunday Wis 9:13-18b; Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 and 17; Phlm 9-10, 12-17; Lk 14:25-33

Monday Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30; Ps 13:6ab, 6c; Mt 1:1-16, 18-23

Tuesday Memorial of Saint Peter Claver, Priest Col 2:6-15; Ps 145:1b-2, 8-9, 10-11; Lk 6:12-19

Wednesday Col 3:1-11; Ps 145:2-3, 10-11, 12-13ab; Lk 6:20-26

Thursday Col 3:12-17; Ps 150:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6; Lk 6:27-38

Friday 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14; Ps 16:1b-2a and 5, 7-8, 11; Lk 6:39-42

Saturday Memorial of Saint John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

1 Tm 1:15-17; Ps 113:1b-2, 3-4, 5 and 6-7; Lk 6:43-49

Treasures From Our Tradition

In recent years, there has been remarkable progress in drawing persons with disabilities into full celebration. Now it is generally accepted that worship places need accommodations such as ramps or elevators, large-print materials for those who are sight-impaired, and perhaps even an assisted hearing system or signing in American Sign Language. American Sign Language is not merely English translated into movement, but a distinct language with its own grammar, syntax (word order), and vocabulary. For this reason, the American Catholic bishops have approved American Sign Language (ASL) as an official language of the liturgy.

Celebrating liturgy in our own language (the vernacular) means that liturgy must be accessible to all languages and cultures. The fact that Mass is celebrated this weekend in some places in total silence, but with the full participation of deaf people praising God in the movements of their hands, and sometimes even with a priest who is deaf, is nothing less than the Church being faithful to the image of Jesus, who made the deaf hear and the mute speak. Remember too that deafness is an invisible disability, and that there may well be people in your parish who are quietly yearning for Mass to be signed for them in ASL.

—James

Field



OUTSIDE NEWS

Corpus Christi Church

900 Sumneytown Pike, Lansdale
Presents Lunch and Bingo— September 20, 2025
Admission: \$40.00 (includes lunch and bingo)
Doors open at 9:00AM Bingo starts at noon
Door Prizes 50/50 Pull Tabs
For advanced sales and Table Reservations call:
Laurie Ponticello 610-584-5694
[email:geraldponticello@comcast.net](mailto:geraldponticello@comcast.net)

Catholic Women's Conference 2025

10 Year Anniversary Saturday, October 18, 2025— 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa 654 Ferry Road Doylestown, PA Our theme is "Women on Mission: The Feminine Genius in the New Apostolic Age" based on the book , From Christendom to Apostolic Mission: Pastoral Strategies for an Apostolic Age. At this year's conference, we will explore the beauty of our feminine genius and the unique position of Catholic women, transformed by Christ, to bring the light of the Gospel to a society that no longer knows it needs Him. Breakout sessions will feature examples of holy Catholic women who lived this reality in the midst of their own apostolic times. Visit <https://www.catholicwomensconference.org/> To learn more, volunteer and to register!

St Luke Over 50's Club

Opening Mass, Birthday Party and Meeting
Tuesday September 9, 2025 Mass: 11am at St Luke Church Lunch: 12 noon at the Glenside VFW
2519 Jenkintown Road, Glenside PA

Cardinal Dougherty High School Reunion



60th Reunion

**Cardinal Dougherty High School
Class of 1965**

Saturday, October 25, 2025
Noon to 4pm

Sandy Run Country Club

200 East Valley Green Road, Oreland, PA 19075

\$45 per person includes music, buffet, soda & iced tea
Cash bar

RSVP by September 1 to Marie Maguire

mariem@caramanico.com

Checks payable to: Marie Maguire '65

Venmo@marie-maguire-3



The cutoff for reservations is now October 1st.

Lansdale Catholic HS Class of '70-

55th Reunion Come join us for laughter and reconnecting! Saturday September 27, 2025 - 2 PM to 5 PM
Smokehouse Tavern, 155 Pennbrook Pky Lansdale, PA
\$35 cash at door - Call or text RSVP by September 13th : Marianne Monzo - 215-872-0883 or Pat O'Hara - 267- 973-0378 or Louise Linden - 215-933-8606

Bishop McDevitt

50th Reunion Celebration
Date: Saturday, October 18, 2025 Time: 5:00-9:00 PM
Location: Sandy Run Country Club
200 E. Valley Green Road
Oreland, PA 19075
Cost: \$75.00 per person Includes: Buffet Dinner (cash bar) Dress Code: Country Club Casual
RSVP by October 1 by mailing your check to:
Mary Pat Wilkinson
P.O. Box 5
Lafayette Hill, PA 19444
Please make checks payable to Mary Pat Wilkinson.
Also accepting Zelle – Mpwilk0211@aol.com
Please include your contact information with your payment and maiden names for the ladies.
Let's reconnect and celebrate 50 years of memories, laughter and Lancer Pride.
Any questions contact:
Mary Pat Wilkinson - mpwilk0211@aol.com
Audrey Brabson Durkin - abd328@gmail.com

Ambler Young Adult Catholic Ministry Next Potluck & Prayer

The Ambler Catholic Young Adult Ministry welcomes you to our monthly gathering for young adults, ages 18 to 39! Join us the second Tuesday of the month 6-8 PM. We meet in the St. Anthony Parish Center, 259 Forest Avenue, Ambler. Young adults with little ones are welcome! This ministry is hosted by St. Anthony & St. Joseph parishes. 6 PM: Potluck Dinner Bring a dish or beverage to share 7:15 PM: Discussion—7:45 PM: Eucharist Adoration & Prayer (Confession available) 8 PM Departure Please RSVP to let us know if you are bringing a dish or beverage using the QR code or text Nicole— (215) 622-8146.

RETROUVAILLE: REDISCOVER THE LOVE IN YOUR MARRIAGE

Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vy). If you know anyone who could benefit from this program, please pass this on. Couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next program begins the weekend of October 3 - 5 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information, or to register, call 215-766-3944 or send an email retrodelvalley@gmail.com



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Rob Day - Parishioner

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