

2nd Sunday of Advent

OFFERTORY

Offertory Budget.....	1,500,000.00
YTD Actual .....	584,085.98
Weekly Budget .....	28,846.15
Offertory -- 11-30-08 .....	18,370.51
Thanksgiving collection .....	690.00
2nd Collection: St. Vincent de Paul .....	4,082.61
Parish Debt (as of 11-1-08) .....	193,487.12

**“Pride in Our Past - Faith in Our Future”**

Pledged .....	3,118,479.71
Received .....	1,646,847.08

*John the Baptist’s call to repentance is echoed in the U.S. bishops’ pastoral letter on stewardship: “Christians must beg God for the grace of conversion: the grace to know who they are, to whom they belong, how they are to live — the grace to repent and change and grow, the grace to become good disciples and stewards.”*

**HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY NEWS**

[www.cym1.com](http://www.cym1.com)

**We will have Youth Group today** from 11:45 AM to 1:00 PM in the Parish Hall/Gym.

**Washington D.C. Youth and March for Life  
January 21 to 22, 2009**

**All high school youth are invited** to travel with us to join 200,000 others in protest of abortion. This is an overnight trip and the cost is only \$35 for active youth ministry students and \$80 for non-member youth. Call John for details.

**Our Young Ladies Faith Sharing Group** will meet on Wednesday, December 10 from 6:15 to 7:30 PM in the Parish Hall/Gym.

For more information on our activities, call John Waters at 238-6131.

**ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES**

You are invited to prepare for the birth of Jesus by attending an Advent Penance Service at one of the area churches.

**All services are scheduled for 7:00 PM**

Wednesday, December 10	Our Lady of the Lake
Thursday, December 11	Transfiguration
Monday, December 15	St. Peter
Tuesday, December 16	St. Martin de Porres
Wednesday, December 17	Our Lady of the Hills
Thursday, December 18	Corpus Christi
Friday, December 19	St. John Neumann

*Please Pray for the Sick of the Parish*

**Baptist:** Peggy Hunt, Rosemary Byrd

**Providence:** Frank Stiglbauer



**SCHOOL NEWS**

Dear Parish Friends,

As you look into your hearts during this holy season of Advent, please consider volunteering to help our school. Please see a request from the School Advisory Board (below):

The Saint Joseph School Advisory Board seeks volunteers for the following committees: Communications, Enrollment, Marketing and Development. The board and its committees are charged with implementing the long range strategic plan developed through the Catholic Schools Management consulting process. The committees meet approximately once a month and report to the board. Committee chairs are already established and sit on the school advisory board.

If you have specific experience in any of the following areas: mass communications, graphic arts, drafting press releases, proofreading, marketing, or development; then we'd appreciate hearing from you. Or, if you have a desire to assist our school advisory board in any capacity, please let us know. You can contact either school principal Rose Tindall, [rtindall@stjosdevine.com](mailto:rtindall@stjosdevine.com) / 254-6736 ext. 10, or board president Eric Fosmire [efosmire@collinsandlacy.com](mailto:efosmire@collinsandlacy.com) / 546-1067. We look forward to hearing from you.

May God bless you always!

**CHRISMON FRAMES NEEDED**

St. Joseph Women’s Society is in need of small (2 1/2 inch) round or square gold frames for Chrismon ornaments. If you have frames to donate, please contact Teresa at 254-7646 ext. 0.

The Women’s Society would also like to thank those parishioners who made Chrismon ornaments this year. Our Chrismon tree gets more beautiful each year!

**THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

**Holy Day of Obligation**

**Holy Day Masses:**

**7:30 AM, 9:00 AM, 12:15 PM, 6:00 PM**

**The Parish Office will be CLOSED**

**Monday, December 8, 2008**

December 7, 2008

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Religious Education classes continue on Wednesdays from 6:15 to 7:30 PM.

Parents of second grade students are reminded that "My Booklet about God's Love and Forgiveness" is due to catechists this week.

## PARISH DINNERS

A hot meal will be available from 5:15 PM – 6:15 PM in the Parish Hall/Gym on Religious Education Wednesdays. The cost for dinners will be \$5.00 / adult, \$3.00 / child under 12 or \$12.00 / family. This week's menu: beef stew, white rice, string beans, rolls, dessert and beverages.

## PROGRAM FOR ENGAGED COUPLES

*God's Plan for a Joy-Filled Marriage* will be offered on Saturday, December 13 in the Education Building Room C from 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM. Lunch will be provided. *God's Plan* is a marriage preparation supplement that offers engaged couples a compelling presentation of God's glorious plan for marital love. The cost is \$100 but scholarships are available. For more information or to register call Nettie Taylor at 540-1906 or e-mail stjoedre@aol.com. This program is required for all couples planning on being married at St. Joseph.

"There's nothing so great, my children, as the Eucharist. If you were to put all the good actions in the world against a Communion well made, it would be like a grain of dust against a mountain."

St. John Vianney (1786-1859AD) on the Eucharist

## WELCOME SUNDAY

**All are invited** to our Community Welcome Sunday, **December 14**. We will have refreshments after the 8:15, 10:30 AM & 12:15 PM Masses. Please join us in the lobby of the Rowland Education Building to visit with old friends and meet new parishioners.

## SACRAMENTAL CELEBRATIONS

In November 2008 we welcomed the following new members into the Church through the Sacrament of Baptism:

Brooklynn Reese Kim  
Gisele Christiana Saenz  
Henry William Shalkham  
Charles Joseph Webb, Jr.  
Peter Damien Fernandez  
Benjamin David Mullaney  
Heather Elizabeth Rabon  
Madisyn Alana Shirley  
William Daniel Sowards

## MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

### Sunday, December 7

8:15 AM Mrs. Virginia Williams +  
10:30 AM Deceased members of the Buckner Family  
12:15 PM Parishioners of St. Joseph  
5:30 PM Mr. Jamie Carrero +

### Monday, December 8

7:30 AM Mr. David Clark +  
9:00 AM Parishioners of St. Joseph  
12:15 PM Mr. Greg Rollings (I)  
6:00 PM Capt. Charles Wheeler, USMC (I)

### Tuesday, December 9

7:30 AM Mrs. Fadwa Aduta +  
5:30 PM Mrs. Grace L. Bultman +

### Wednesday, December 10

7:30 AM Rev. Daniel McCaffrey (I)

### Thursday, December 11

7:30 AM Mrs. Frances Monckton +

### Friday, December 12

7:30 AM Miss Mia McLaughlin (I)  
8:15 AM Mr. Robert Albenesius +

### Saturday, December 13

5:30 PM The end to abortion

### Sunday, December 14

8:15 AM Mr. George Goodwin +  
10:30 AM Mr. Francis Dalton White +  
12:15 PM Mrs. Pamela Atkins Sizemore +  
5:30 PM Parishioners of St. Joseph

## SHRINE TO THE UNBORN

Father Harris will dedicate the *SHRINE TO THE UNBORN* Monday, December 8, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, after the 12:15 PM Mass. Please spend an extra ten minutes after Mass to be a part of this dedication to those young lives we never had a chance to know. The Shrine is located outside the church behind the fountain.

## PARISH CHRISMON TREE

Blessing and Lighting

Wednesday, December 17 at 6:30 PM

All are invited to the blessing and lighting of the Parish Chrismon Tree. This evergreen tree will be decorated with tiny white lights and framed cross-stitch Chrismon ornaments. The word Chrismon is a contraction of the two words - **Christ** and **Monogram**. The ornaments are symbols from Christian history and tell the story of the true meaning of Christmas. The Chrismons were hand made by the Women's Society and parishioners. **As part of the Blessing and Lighting Service, our Religious Education children in K5 through third grade will present their Christmas Pageant.** Refreshments will be served following the service in the Lobby of the Education Building.

December 7, 2008

## ST. JOSEPH SENIOR LIFE OUTREACH

One of the activities of St. Joseph Senior Life Board is a Telephone Outreach Committee. Would you like to meet a new friend via telephone? Do you know of someone who is alone and would like to receive a telephone call now and then or on a daily basis? If so, please call Sr. Julienne Guy at 540-1901 for more information.

**"CELEBRATE THE SEASON"**  
with the **Columbia Choral Society**  
on **Sunday, December 14 at 3:00 PM**  
at **St. Joseph Catholic Church.**

Tickets may be purchased at the door for the concert. Church members may purchase tickets at a discount of \$10 in the church office or at the door the day of the concert. For information and tickets, please call 933-9060.

## COLUMBIA AREA YOUNG ADULT CATHOLICS

[www.imbibingthespirit.blogspot.com](http://www.imbibingthespirit.blogspot.com)

Join us for our Advent party, on **December 13 at Chris and Elizabeth's house in West Columbia.** This will be a night of fine food, drinking and fellowship! We ask that couples or individuals to bring a side dish and beverages. The main course will be provided. **Please RSVP to colayacs@gmail.com.** Directions will be mailed once we receive your RSVP.

## CHRISTMAS DAY DINNER AND GIFTS!

On Christmas Day, St. Peter's Church/St. Vincent de Paul Society will once again be feeding the homeless and the poorest of the poor. Lunch will be served from 11 AM to 1 PM. Each adult guest will be provided with a new hooded sweatshirt, thermal underwear, wool gloves, hat, socks, belt, a new blanket and toiletries; for the children, they will provide toys, candy and a Target Gift Card. Also, if you would like to provide a homemade dessert or adopt a gift bag for \$10.00, please call Robert Keeder at 796-9802. Make checks payable to St. Peter's Church, and mail to: Attn: Robert Keeder, St. Peter Catholic Church, 1529 Assembly Street, Columbia, SC 29201.

## SEMINARIAN OF THE WEEK

Please remember in your prayers seminarian

**Mr. Philip Gillespie**

Mount St. Mary's Seminary  
16300 Old Emmitsburg Road  
Emmitsburg, Maryland 21727-7797

## CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE



**Christmas Eve Masses**  
5:00 PM in the Church  
5:15 PM in the Hall/Gym  
7:30 PM in the Church  
Midnight Mass in the Church  
**Christmas Day Mass**  
10:00 AM in the Church

**No 7:30 AM Mass**  
on **Friday, December 26, 2008**

## GIFT WRAPPERS NEEDED

We need volunteers to help wrap the Christmas gifts we have received through our Giving Tree Program. This opportunity is available to individuals, friends who enjoy spending time together and groups. We will be wrapping December 9-12 (Tuesday-Friday) and December 15-18 (Monday-Thursday) during office hours. We can also make special arrangements for groups who would like to wrap after hours. Call John at 254-7646 ext. 23 for more information.

## H.O.S.T.

### Helping Others Serve Today

Do you want to become more involved in your Parish, School, or Community but don't know where to begin? St. Joseph is starting a newsletter of volunteer opportunities - opportunities in your parish, school, community and beyond. This new monthly newsletter will be available via e-mail, on the website and as a once-a-month insert in the bulletin beginning January 2009.

The e-mail address for the H.O.S.T - Helping Others Serve Today - newsletter is :

[volunteers@stjosephcolumbia.org](mailto:volunteers@stjosephcolumbia.org)

Please e-mail us

- if you would like to receive the new H.O.S.T. newsletter by e-mail
- if you have Volunteer Opportunities to be considered for inclusion in the H.O.S.T. newsletter
- or, if you would like more information about the H.O.S.T. newsletter.

You may also contact the newsletter editor, Melissa, by phone at 647-0394.