OFFICE HOURS
Monday, Wednesday, Friday—9:00 until Noon
E-mail address: stjoe parish ofc@bright.net

NORMAL MASS TIMES
Saturday: 5:00 pm
Sunday: 7:30 am and 9:30 am
Monday:
Tuesday: 7:00 pm
Wednesday: 7:00 pm
Thursday: 7:00 pm
Friday: 7:55 am

CONFESSIONS
Tuesdays 6:30 pm
Saturdays 4:30 pm
Anytime by request

BAPTISMS
Baptisms will be celebrated anytime agreeable with Fr. Charles or Deacon Larry. For BAPTISM INSTRUCTION date and time check the bulletin. Please call the parish office to register.

MARRIAGE
Make arrangements at least six months ahead of time by calling the parish office. Do not set wedding date prior to contacting the parish office.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)
RCIA classes run from September to May. These classes are for anyone interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith or who wish to join the Church. Call the parish office to register.

FAITH ENRICHMENT
Religious Education Classes for the elementary students from August through May. Classes for the Junior High and High School students run September through March. Adult Enrichment: Bible Study, Spiritual development, missions and retreats. Check the bulletin for details.

MINISTRY TO THE SICK AND ELDERLY
Visitation and Eucharist will be provided by a Eucharistic Minister. A priest will be available if needed. Notify the parish office about people in the hospital or shut-ins. If you are, or will be hospitalized because of a surgery or serious illness, contact the pastor to receive the Sacrament of Healing.

WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS
If you are new to our St. Joseph Parish Family, please call or visit the parish office to register.

ALL ARE WELCOME HERE
Intentions

Sat 12  5:00 pm Rita Knott
       Julius & Martha Neidert
Sun 13  7:30 am Urban & Marguerite Wieging
       George Krietemeyer
       9:30 am Gerald & Leona Youngpeter
       Frank & Mary Wehri
       Ralph & Frances Youngpeter
Mon 14  7:00 pm For a peaceful end of this year
       and a good beginning of next
       year.
Tues 15  7:00 pm Joanne & Milton Nichols
       Fr. Tony Borgia
       Lynn Borgia
Wed 16  7:15 pm Parish Confession Service
Thurs 17  7:00 pm Julius & Elsie Berelsman
        Lois McKowen
Fri 18   7:55 am For the Religious Ed Students
Sat 19   5:00 pm Loretta Inkrott
        Cheryl Maziers
        Betty Hooks
Sun 20   7:30 am Urban & Marguerite Wieging
        9:30 am Bob Meyer Family
        Dan Schimmoeller
        Todd Bidlack

THIS WEEK’S READINGS
Mon 12/14 Saint John of the Cross, Priest
       Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a  Mt 21:23-27
Wed 12/16 Is 45:6b-9, 18, 21c-25 Lk 7:18b-23
Thu 12/17 Gn 49:2, 8-10  Mt 1:1-17
Fri 12/18 Jer 23:5-8  Mt 1:18-25
Sat 12/19 Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a  Lk 1:5-25

Parish Advent Reconciliation Service will be on Wednesday, December 16th at 7:15 p.m. High School students are encouraged to attend even though we are not having class. Please, follow proper Covid precautions of masking and social distancing.

NEW HYMNALS are in the Narthex. Please, take a hymnal and bring the hymnal back and forth to Mass each week or use at home to follow along. Due to Covid, do not leave the hymnals in the pews after Mass. This will be your personal hymnal until the pandemic subsides.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS -  December 19 & 20:

SERVERS:
5:00 pm Abigail Koester
7:30 am Brook Hellman
9:30 am Lexi Kahle

EUCHEARISTIC MINISTERS:
5:00 pm Derek Weyrauch, Nancy Wiechart, Karen Young
7:30 am Volunteers Needed
9:30 am Mike Knippen, Roger Luersman, Rachael Luersman

LECTORS:
5:00 pm Amanda Maag
7:30 am Volunteer Needed
9:30 am Phil Wurst

USHERS:
5:00 pm Jerry Vetter, Roger Trentman
7:30 am Volunteers Needed
9:30 am Bryan & Shelley Hoersten

Pray for the sick: Cherie Luersman

Letters to Santa can be dropped off in the silver Mailbox in front of Memorial Hall!

Envelopes $3,194.00
Loose $518.00
Maintenance $1,253.00
Christmas Flowers $307.00
Christmas Sharing $90.00
Pew Rent $15.00
Christmas Envelopes $100.00
Cemetery $60.00
Immaculate Conception Env $38.00

YTD as of December 6th = $91,167.60
Under Budget = $832.40

A huge THANK YOU to those of you who have continued to donate throughout this difficult time.
If you are unable to attend church due to Covid, please, mail your offering to PO Box 68 or drop off at the FJ Bank, FJ Location. Thank you!
As we once again fall below budget, we ask for the support of our parishioners. Please, send in your donations even if you are not attending Mass.
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

BAPTISMS: To arrange a baptism please Call the Parish Office or Deacon Larry (cell) (419) 302-2532 or by email larry@fjsb.com.

BAPTISM CLASSES
Baptismal Classes are temporarily discontinued due to COVID-19.

Attend a Pre-Marriage Preparation Class before your marriage.
Find Marriage Prep Classes at http://ToledoMarriagePrep.org

Bulletin submissions deadline:
Wednesday at 10 a.m.

“\textit{I never thought it was such a bad little tree.}
\textit{It's not bad at all, really.}
\textit{Maybe it just needs a little love.}”
\textend{linus Van Pelt}

CHRISTMAS SHARING TREE

We need all presents or donations by December 19th.

Please attach the tag securely on the gift.

There are tags for several families on the “Sharing Tree” in the Narthex to help those in need for Christmas.

If you want to help, take a tag from the tree and purchase the item. \textit{Remember, the tags are ideas,} you do not need to get the exact item.

Return the item to the parish office or under the tree in the narthex. Gift wrapping the present would be greatly appreciated but not necessary. If you would like to make a cash donation, we would gladly do the shopping for you.

By the grace of God, we will begin the building of another house for a very poor widow by early 2021.

I remain ever grateful to you all for standing for these poor ones. May God bless you always. You are in my prayers.

\textbf{Cheers!!}

\textbf{&}

\textbf{Merry Christmas Blessings,}

Fr. Charles Obinwa

Nigerian Mission Fund

I have come again to solicit your support for the Nigerian Mission Fund. I ask of this request once a year during the Christmas season. Your generosity helps put smiles on the faces of the wretchedly poor in my homeland. I am extremely grateful to all of you for your prayers and very generous contributions to this fund in the past. May the good Lord bless and replenish your stocks.

This mission has benefited numerous people in so many diverse ways, food, school expenses, hospital bills, house rents, funerals and so on. We have been able to erect a house for a very poor widow and her children. All that remains is electricity for the house to be completed. When this house is finished you will see it in the bulletin.

By the grace of God, we will begin the building of another house for a very poor widow by early 2021.

I remain ever grateful to you all for standing for these poor ones. May God bless you always. You are in my prayers.

\textbf{Cheers!!}

\textbf{&}

\textbf{Merry Christmas Blessings,}

Fr. Charles Obinwa

OUR SYMPATHY goes out to the family & friends of Doyle Wittler, to his wife Doris (Kemper), his two sons, Jeffrey (Joan), Scott (Jennifer), his daughters Laura (Michael) Hutt, Tricia (Aaron) Halker, and his 7 grandchildren. He died December 7th at the age of 72. May the Lord grant Doyle eternal rest and life in the Kingdom.

Fort Jennings Elementary will hold kindergarten registration for the 2021-2022 school year on school days from December 7th thru December 22nd. To register your child, please come to the elementary office between 8:00 am and 2:00 pm. Parents are asked to bring their child’s birth certificate, social security number, and immunization record at the time of registration. Children must be five years of age on or before September 30, 2021 to be eligible for kindergarten. Please feel free to call the elementary office at 419-286-2762 if you have any questions.
CHRISTMAS MASSES will be on December 24th at 4 p.m., 7 p.m. & 8:30 p.m. We are hoping that the 7 & 8:30 p.m. Masses will lessen the number of attendees at the 4 p.m. Mass. Christmas Day Mass will be at 9:30 a.m. We are not doing tickets or seating charts like some neighboring churches, but social distancing and masking will be enforced at Christmas Masses. If you wish to get a seat, come early. We will have overflow seating in the Narthex but once we are at capacity you may need to come back later to another Mass. The greatest gift you can give this year to your fellow man is to adhere to the preventative guidelines therefore keeping each other safe from Covid.

A huge “THANK YOU” to the FJ LION’S CLUB!! The Lion’s Club donated made a VERY generous donation to the Sharing Tree and to the St. Joseph Food Pantry.

THANK YOU to the family of Todd Bidlack for the generous donation to our parish on Todd’s memory. May you be blessed for your generosity, Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Support St. Francis Spirituality Center by purchasing a ticket for the 2021 Christmas 365 Raffle! There will be raffle drawings for cash prizes on the 25th day of every month in 2021 St. Francis Spirituality Center will be giving away $4500 in cash prizes with each contestant having the possibility of up to 13 chances to win, which includes an extra $500 drawing on Christmas Day 2021. Each winning ticket goes back into the drum for a chance to win on the next drawing. Tickets are $10 each or 6 for $50. As an added incentive, due to the pandemic, if you purchase 6 tickets online you will receive 3 FREE entries, 12 tickets you will receive 6 FREE entries and 18 tickets you will receive 9 FREE entries. Tickets can be purchased online by visiting https://franciscanretreats.org/christmas-365-2021-raffle/.

Tickets are on sale through September 30, 2021. Winners will be notified by phone, and names will be posted on our Facebook page (St. Francis Spirituality Center) and website, www.franciscanretreat.org.

Hot Cocoa with Santa Drive Thru at the Meadows of Kalida this Sunday, Dec. 13th. Santa will be there to wave at the kids and you will be able to drop off your letters to Santa in the big red mailbox. Cocoa and cookies for all who attend. There is also a Christmas Gala on Sunday on the Meadows Facebook page. Bids for the Christmas Gala need to be placed under each of the photos in the comments section below the item. Bids end at 4 p.m. on Sunday, December 13th.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS – Envelopes are in the offertory boxes to use if you would like to donate in memory of your loved one and have them listed on the bulletin. If you do not have offertory envelopes, you can put an envelope in the collection marked “Christmas Flowers”. Include the name of your loved one that you would like to honor this Christmas.

THE SEARCH
This series on FORMED is an innovative video series that tackles the key questions of every human heart. In seven beautifully filmed episodes, Chris Stefanick and experts from multiple fields of science, medicine, psychology, art, and religion examine our place in the larger story of existence.

See below for how you can sign up for FORMED free of charge thanks to the Diocese of Toledo.

Formed is Available for ALL St. Joseph parishioners to use and watch. The Toledo Diocese has purchased this program for 2 years, as a way to help families stay connected to and nourish their faith. This is a Netflix type format, with Catholic content and teachings. To sign up you can use your computer, iPad/phone. Go to FORMED.ORG Click “sign up”. Click “I belong to Parish or Organization”. Create an new account. Search our parish by typing in our zip code 45844 - click “St Joseph OH 45844”. Click “next” then type in your name and email address and click “sign up”. It is that easy and from there you watch, learn and listen to whatever you like. There is so much on here from kids shows, movies, pod cast and much more. If you have any questions you can reach out to Rhonda Liebrecht.