



# St. Joseph Church



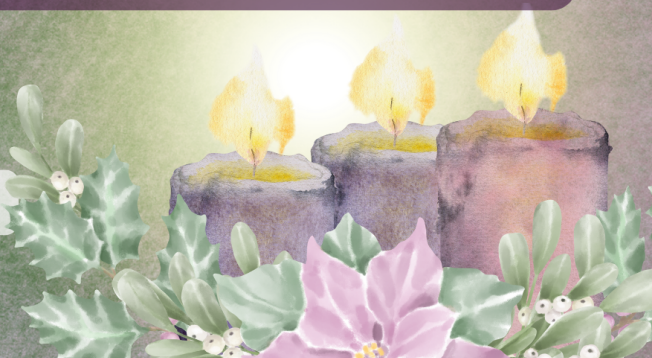
Limeport-Coopersburg  
A Parish Family - Living the Word, Loving Through Christ

5050 St. Joseph Road, Coopersburg, PA 18036 | 610-965-2877 | [www.stjoescoopersburg.org](http://www.stjoescoopersburg.org)

## THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Make your hearts firm,  
because the coming of the Lord is at hand.

James 5:8



### **The Third Sunday of Advent - Gaudete Sunday**

#### **Saturday, December 13 - 5:15PM Vigil**

*Edith & Arthur Fischer*

Altar Servers: B. Kelhart; R. & A. Shoemaker

Greeters: A. & L. Sumner

Commentator/Lector: A. Garguilo; T. Yaeger

Eucharistic Ministers: A. & L. Sumner; M. Figuli

#### **Sunday, December 14 - 9AM**

*William Carter*

Altar Servers: K. Hafler; O. Lounsberry; C. Mulhern

Greeters: S. Bartholomew; R. Hartung

Commentator/Lector: C. Grubb; R. Hartung

Eucharistic Ministers: A. & P. Lohr; H. Stankewicz

#### **Sunday, December 14 - 11AM**

*Gary Metzler*

Altar Servers: P. Ebert; F. Morris; J. Zientara

Greeters: E. & K. Reichenbach

Commentator/Lector: K. Mosko; P. Moreira

Eucharistic Ministers: C. Ehresman;

J. & P. Patterson

### **Today's Readings**

First Reading: Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10.  
"Lord, come and save us."

Second Reading: James 5:7-10

Gospel Acclamation: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the  
poor."

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

### **Upcoming Mass Schedule**

#### **Monday, December 15 - 8AM**

*Living & Deceased of St. Joseph Parish*

#### **Tuesday, December 16 - 8AM**

*Sick & Homebound of St. Joseph Parish*

#### **Wednesday, December 17 - 8AM**

*Dr. Patrick Sowards*

#### **Thursday, December 18 - 8AM**

*Michael Fenimore*

#### **Friday, December 19 - 8AM**

*Brenda Russell*

#### **Saturday, December 20 - 8AM**

*Donald Lees*



# WELCOME TO THE ST. JOSEPH PARISH FAMILY

*We are a faith-filled community that rejoices in, grows in, and spreads the Love of God the Father as revealed through the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit, and the Teachings of the Holy Roman Catholic Church through Word, Sacrament and Service.*

## Mass & Confessions Schedule

Weekday Mass - 8:00AM

Saturday Evening Vigil - 5:15PM

Sunday Morning - 9:00AM and 11:00AM

Confessions are held Saturday afternoons from  
4:30pm to 5:00pm.

*The Rosary is said after 8 am weekday morning Masses throughout the year, and at 6PM on the first Monday of the month.*

Our parish is a Sacrificial Giving Parish committed to serving the Lord with God-given time, talents and treasures.

**Pastor:** Rev. Thomas R. Buckley, M. Div.

**Deacon:** Conrad Paulus

## Parish Administration:

Rosemarie Lanning

Janessa O'Donnell

**All wage earners** should be receiving and using their envelopes regularly. Active parish membership of no less than six months duration is required to be a sponsor, to be married in the parish, and/or to have a child baptized. Contact the Rectory for more information.

**New members** are asked to register at the church following the 5:15 PM or 9:00 AM Masses on weekends. Please notify the parish office of a change of address or phone number. Information regarding Anointing of the Sick, Baptism, Marriage, Prayer Requests, Parish Religious Education, and more, is available on our website.

**Stay up-to-date on our Parish News** by joining our e-newsletter mailing list! Join via the link on our webpage, or email: [janessa.odonnell@stjoescoopersburg.org](mailto:janessa.odonnell@stjoescoopersburg.org).

**Parish Bulletin & Newsletter Submissions & Deadlines** - All copy for the bulletin & newsletter must be submitted no later than 10:00 A.M. Monday. Print advertisements are on a set schedule. See website for more info.

*Thank You* to our advertisers & sponsors!



DIocese OF  
ALLENTOWN

**Diocese of Allentown - Youth Protection**  
<https://www.allentowndiocese.org/youth-protection>

## Victim Assistance Coordinator for the Diocese of Allentown

Ms. Wendy S. Krisak, M.A., NCC, LPC

Email: [victimassistance@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:victimassistance@allentowndiocese.org)

Direct Line: 1-800-791-9209

Fax: 484-664-7794

## Secretary for Youth Protection

Pamela J. Russo, MSW, MS

Email: [prusso@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:prusso@allentowndiocese.org)

Diocese of Allentown

1515 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive P.O. Box F

Allentown, PA 18105-1538

610-871-5200, Ext. 2204

Fax: 610-871-5211

For information regarding the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People adopted by the USCCB, please visit the USCCB Website. To learn more about the Diocese of Allentown's Youth Protection Programs, Sexual Abuse Policy and Code of Conduct, please visit the Diocesan website. Please view the Volunteers page of our parish website for Pennsylvania & Diocesan Volunteer Requirements at St. Joseph Church.

## Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service

If you have an allegation of abuse against a bishop, please contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service at [www.ReportBishopAbuse.org](http://www.ReportBishopAbuse.org) or by calling 1-800-276-1562.

**SAVING LIVES WITH**  
*Saint Januarius*  
Patron Saint of Blood Banks

Donate blood September 19th - December 16th  
and receive a St. Januarius medallion.

**MKBC DONOR CENTERS**

**Bethlehem**  
1465 Valley Center Parkway

**Allentown**  
1255 S. Cedar Crest Blvd, Suite 1300

**Hamilton**  
Five City Center, 740 Hamilton St, Suite 120

**Easton**  
3765 Nicholas St, Suite B

**Reading**  
2745A Leitz's Bridge Road

**Ewing/Trenton**  
400 Main Boulevard East, Suite 601

**Saint Joseph's Catholic Church**  
#6984

**St. Michael the Archangel School**

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Contact Lindsey Heil at  
[lheil@st-mikes.com](mailto:lheil@st-mikes.com)

[www.st-mikes.com](http://www.st-mikes.com)



## MASS SCHEDULE - LOOKING AHEAD

**The Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
**Saturday, December 20 - 5:15PM Vigil**  
*Michael Lynn*  
**Sunday, December 21 - 9AM**  
*Peggy McGinn*  
**Sunday, December 21 - 11AM**  
*Schuster & Bodisch Families*

### **Christmas Eve - Wednesday, December 24, 2025** **Children's Mass - 5:15PM**

*Deceased of the Lanning & O'Donnell Families*  
Junior Choir & Instrumentalist Prelude at 4:45PM

**7:00PM Mass**

*Christian Baus*

**10:00PM Mass**

*Deceased of the Buckley Family*  
Adult Choir & Bells Choir Prelude at 9:30PM

### **Christmas Day - Thursday, December 25, 2025**

**9:00AM Mass**

*Curtis Fox*

**11:00AM Mass**

*Deceased of the White Family*

## St. Joseph Parish Family



### Newsletter



**Scan this box with your device to be taken to our weekly newsletter, which contains the most up-to-date news, including our full prayer list.** Please remember in your prayers all of the recently deceased, sick and homebound of our parish family, especially those whose names appear on our prayer list. If you are a parishioner who would like to be added to our prayer list, please feel free to contact Fr. Buckley, or [janessa.odonnell@stjoescopersburg.org](mailto:janessa.odonnell@stjoescopersburg.org). Names are not removed from the list until we are asked to remove them - please advise if a name appears in error.



**PREP Classes This Weekend -- Watch for Pedestrians & Extra Traffic!** Please be sure to use extra caution & follow all applicable traffic signs when on the parish grounds today. Please be sure to stop at the pedestrian crossing leading to the school building. Thank you!

### **PARISH STEWARDSHIP** **Best Bet Based on Inflation** **2025-2026 Budget**

Last Week	Fiscal Year To Date
12/07/25	07/01/25-06/30/26
Operating Expenses	Operating Expenses
\$12,744.	\$280,328.
Sunday/Holy Day Collections	Sunday/Holy Day Collections
\$17,144.	\$245,170.
Over/(Under) Budget	Over/(Under) Budget
\$ 4,400.	(\$ 35,158.)

Additional All Souls Collection: \$5.00;  
Mail in Contributions: \$3,000.  
Both reflected in the above.  
Additional Poverty Relief Collection: \$160.00 and  
Additional St. Vincent DePaul Collection: \$120.00  
both NOT reflected in the above.

**Thank you!**

## OUR PARISH & COMMUNITY CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

- 12/14 & 21 - Junior Choir Practice - Follows the 11AM Mass
- 12/14 - Gaudete Sunday Parish Family Christmas Party - 12PM - 3PM - Join us!
- 12/24 - Christmas Eve Masses - 5:15PM, 7PM & 10PM
- 12/25 - Christmas Day Masses - 9AM & 11AM
- 12/31 & 1/1 Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God - NYE Mass at 5:15PM, NYD Masses at 9AM & 11 AM

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Schedule Altar Flowers for the New Year!** If you are interested in purchasing the altar flowers for a special occasion or in memory of someone in 2026, please contact Reg Hartung at [regh@ptd.net](mailto:regh@ptd.net). or 610-965-3268. A triangular arrangement is \$100., and a bouquet is \$45. As a reminder, this is not a fundraiser, but rather a special way to participate in the Mass. Thank you!

**INCLEMENT WEATHER REMINDERS --** All weather or other emergency cancellations of weekend Masses will be announced on WFMZ. Daily Mass is cancelled whenever Southern Lehigh School District announces either a delay or cancellation for winter weather.

**BLESSED CHRISTMAS WAFERS** or "Oplatki" are available in the vestibule of the church. There are four wafers per pack at \$2.00 per pack. An instructional pamphlet is enclosed with each pack of Christmas Wafers explaining this centuries old Christmas tradition. The entire family, at Christmas Eve or Christmas Day dinner, traditionally shares the Christmas Wafers after the blessing, prior to eating the meal. Each family member may offer a prayer for the family while breaking off a piece of the Christmas Wafer, then passes the wafer to the next family member. This would be a nice family custom to begin, or continue, by adding another spiritual dimension to your holiday celebrations.

**THE JESSE TREE** located in front of the steps to the altar, is an Advent tradition named after Jesse, the father of King David. Biblical symbols representing the ancestry of Jesus, either in faith or in bloodline, are added one by one to the tree starting December 1st and ending on December 24th. Feel free to take a look! Ornaments featured this past week through today:

December 8th – Passover (Doorway With Lamb's Blood)  
December 9th – The Ten Commandments (Tablet With 10 Numbers)  
December 10th – Ruth & Boaz (Sheaf Of Wheat)  
December 11th – David & Goliath (Slingshot)  
December 12th – Prophecy: A Shoot From The Stump Of Jesse (Stump & Leaf)  
December 13th – Prophecy: The New Creation (Lion & Lamb Together)  
December 14th – Prophecy: Prince Of Peace (Dove & Crown)

**GIVING TREE 2025 --** This holiday season, please consider choosing a tag from the tree in the vestibule of the church and donating a gift to a needy infant within the Diocese of Allentown. All items should be new & unopened. Gifts are to be returned to the church UNWRAPPED please, and the tag returned to the tree for reuse. Thank you!

**ORNAMENTS FOR PARISH FAMILY CHRISTMAS TREE -** All families, especially those who have joined recently, are invited to add an ornament to our Parish Family Tree, which will be erected the third weekend of Advent, in front of the baptismal font. Add your ornament to the tree, or bring it with you to the Gaudete party and one of our "elves" will gladly add it for you!

**The Advent Ember Days for 2025 are as follows:**  
*Wednesday, December 17; Friday, December 19; and Saturday, December 20.*



### PLEASE JOIN US IN THANKING OUR 2025 BULLETIN SPONSORS!

*Bulletin Sponsorships are accepted on a rolling basis  
-- send in the form to be added to the list at any time  
throughout the year!*

The Burkhardt Family  
The Cochrane Family  
The DaSilva Family  
The Gridley Family  
The Yannarell Family

In Loving Memory of  
Frank D'Angelo  
In Loving Memory of  
Lou & Winnie Melinsky



Find us on Facebook:  
Picture This, Sew That

Linda Hoffstetter  
(610) 653-9542  
hoffyphotos@aol.com

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Laura Morton  
(610) 841-6824  
laura.hoffstetter@gmail.com



### Support Our Parish in 2026!

Do you have a business?  
Are you looking to reach out to your  
fellow parishioners every week?  
Would you like to help our parish in a  
unique way?

**If so, why not advertise  
in our weekly printed bulletin!**

Our printed bulletins & weekly emailed newsletters keep our Parish Family connected, with a combined over 700 individuals/families being reached each week! Ads and sponsorships for our publications allow for us to distribute a printed bulletin at little to no cost to the church. Please consider purchasing an ad, or becoming a sponsor!

Please use the forms on our website to become a sponsor/advertiser; scan the code here to be taken to the site. Print ready ads must be emailed to janessa.odonnell@stjoescoopersburg.org by the specified submission deadline. **HURRY -- DEADLINE TO MAKE THE JANUARY BULLETINS IS DECEMBER 31st!**



# SCAN ME



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**3570 Lanark Rd.**  
**Coopersburg, PA 18036**  
Phone: 610-797-0434  
Fax: 610-797-4354  
E-mail: [madles@rcn.com](mailto:madles@rcn.com)

### Store Hours

Mon - Fri 8:00am - 6:00pm  
Sat 8:00am - 5:00pm  
Sun 10:00am - 2:00pm



St. Joseph Parish Family

*Gaudete  
Sunday*

Christmas Celebration

**Sunday, December 14, 2025**  
**12PM-3PM in the Parish Center**  
*Potluck Luncheon, Carols with the Choir,  
visit with Santa Claus, and more!*  
**All are welcome - Join us!**