

# ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

*The Beacon of Ambler—Where Faith and Family are One*

Main and Poplar Sts. Ambler, PA 19002

CONTACT: 215-646-0494 EMAIL: [stjoeambler@gmail.com](mailto:stjoeambler@gmail.com) [www.stjoeambler.org](http://www.stjoeambler.org)

Rectory Address: 16 S. Spring Garden St. Ambler, PA 19002 FAX 215-643-6389

Father James T. Mc Guinn- *Parochial Administrator*

Father Michael J. Saban- *Parochial Vicar*

Father Charles J. Mc Elroy- *Retired Resident*

Deacon Mark Kuhn (Spanish speaking contact - 484-746-3414)

Mrs. Lisa Gallagher- *Parish Secretary, Music Ministry Director*

Mrs. Suzanne Kuhn- *Director of Religious Education* ([stjosephamblerdre@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephamblerdre@gmail.com))



*6th Sunday of Easter*

© Diocesan

**MAY 5, 2024**



**GENERAL**

**Mass Schedule**

Saturday Vigil at 4:00 PM  
 Sunday 9:00 and 11:00 AM  
 Masses in Spanish on the First and Third of the month at 1:00 PM  
 Mondays Daily Communion Service at 6:30 AM

**Tuesday through Friday**

6:30 AM The Miraculous Medal Novena Devotion takes place every Friday at the 6:30 AM mass. The 12:05 Mass will be sustained as of Monday, July 1, 2024.

**Confession**

Saturdays- 3:00 PM- 3:30 PM

**Holydays of Obligation**

6:30 AM  
 (No evening mass)  
 St. Anthony of Padua Church at 7:00 PM

**Rectory Office Hours**

Monday-Thursday 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM  
 (Closed for lunch from 12:30PM to 1:30PM )  
 Friday 9:00AM TO 12:00PM  
 Rectory Office is closed on all Holydays and Holidays

**All those who are in need of our prayers,**  
 Victor Balten, Rachel Barboni, Jimmy Cowman, Anthony D’Acunto, Diane Camasso, Clare Di Donato, Kathleen Hart, Donna McMullan lives of the Unborn, all who have been killed by unnecessary violence, people of the Ukraine, people of Israel and all those in our hearts.

\*\*Please continue to pray all who are ill or in need of prayers. Names of the sick will be removed at the end of the month unless notified. If you know anyone who would like to be on our prayer list, due to privacy issues, they or a family member must call the rectory. Let us know if they can be removed from the list. It is so good to know that prayers are answered!



**St. Joseph Our Patron  
 Pray for Us!  
 May 4-5, 2024**

**Saturday Vigil**

4:00 PM Victor Mitsch Jr. Anthony/Beth Minio

**Sunday**

9:00 AM Raymond Galliano Sr. Children  
 11:00 AM Florence Rimovics Swillo family  
 1:00 PM Mass in Spanish

**Weekday**

**Monday** 6:30 AM Communion Service  
 12:05 PM Father Tully Joanne Junker

**Tuesday**

6:30AM St. Bernadette John Strong  
 12:05 PM Samuel Hahm Marianna Yun

**Wednesday**

6:30 AM -----  
 12:05 PM Father Fitzpatrick Jeanette McKenna

**Thursday Ascension**

6:30 AM Special Intention John Strong  
 12:05 PM Joseph Sheedy Ken/Joan Sheedy

**Candle Intentions**

*The Sanctuary Candle  
 Special Intention*



*The Mary Candle  
 Florence Rimovics*

*The St. Joseph Candle  
 All First Communicants*



Reading 1 **Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48**

When Peter entered, Cornelius met him and, falling at his feet, paid him homage.

Peter, however, raised him up, saying, "Get up. I myself am also a human being."

Then Peter proceeded to speak and said, "In truth, I see that God shows no partiality.

Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly is acceptable to him."

While Peter was still speaking these things, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who were listening to the word. The circumcised believers who had accompanied Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit should have been poured out on the Gentiles also, for they could hear them speaking in tongues and glorifying God.

Then Peter responded,

"Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit even as we have?" He ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

The Word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

Responsorial Psalm **Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4**

***R. The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.***

Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done wondrous deeds;

His right hand has won victory for him, his holy arm.

***R. The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.***

The LORD has made his salvation known: in the sight of the nations he has revealed his justice. He has remembered his kindness and his faithfulness toward the house of Israel.

***R. The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.***

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation by our God. Sing joyfully to the LORD, all you lands; break into song; sing praise.

***R. The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.***

Reading 2 **1 Jn 4:7-10**

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is of God; everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God.

Whoever is without love does not know God, for God is love. In this way the love of God was revealed to us: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might have life through him.

In this is love: not that we have loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as expiation for our sins.

The Word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

Gospel **Jn 15:9-17**

Jesus said to his disciples:

"As the Father loves me, so I also love you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love.

"I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and your joy might be complete. This is my commandment: love one another as I love you.

No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.

You are my friends if you do what I command you.

I no longer call you slaves, because a slave does not know what his master is doing. I have called you friends, because I have told you everything I have heard from my Father.

It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name he may give you.

This I command you: love one another."

The Gospel of the Lord. ***Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.***



love one another as  
**I Love You**  
JOHN 15:12

**From the Pastor Week 6 of Easter**

In the Gospel today, Jesus speaks of the mutual love that exists among the Father and himself, himself and the disciples, and the disciples with each other. This love is what life is about. As followers of Christ we are called to love people, especially in ways they can experience and feel loved. This week, love people in ways they can feel loved.

*Father Jim*

**Liturgical Schedule for May 11-12**

**Celebrants:** (subject to change)

**4:00 PM VIGIL**  
**FATHER Saban**

**9:00 AM FATHER Saban**  
**11:00 AM FATHER Saban**  
**1:00 PM N/A**



We are looking to have 3 Eucharistic Ministers on for Mass, especially the Vigil and the 11. Please step up if you see that a Eucharistic minister is needed.

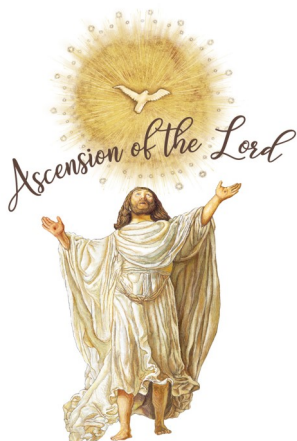


**CONTRIBUTIONS**

**Sunday collection:**

April 21, 2024- \$ 4132.00  
Spanish- \$438.00

We are blessed and so appreciative for all you continue to do for St. Joseph's.



**Ascension of the Lord**  
**Holyday of Obligation**

Masses are at 6:30 AM and 12:05 PM.  
St. Anthony of Padua 8:15 and 7:00 PM.  
The Rectory office is closed.

**Scripture Readings For the Week of May 5, 2024**

Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48; Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4; 1 Jn 4:7-10; Jn 15:9-17

**Monday** Acts 16:11-15; Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b; Jn 15:26 — 16:4a

**Tuesday** Acts 16:22-34; Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8; Jn 16:5-11

**Wednesday** Acts 17:15, 22 — 18:1; Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14; Jn 16:12-15

**Thursday Ascension of the Lord**

Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9; Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13; Mk 16:15-20

**Friday** Acts 18:9-18; Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7; Jn 16:20-23

**Saturday** Acts 18:23-28; Ps 47:2-3, 8-9, 10; Jn 16:23b-28

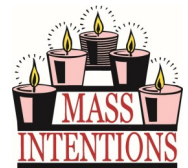
**Mass Book Open**

for July 1st to Dec. 31st

As of April 22nd, all mass offerings will be \$15 for both weekday and week-ends.

Candle offerings will remain \$10.

\*You may also submit your masses online to [stjoeambl@gmail.com](mailto:stjoeambl@gmail.com). Please note that these will be received after the opening day.



**Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord**

In the Gospel today, Jesus entrusts to his original followers the mission that God entrusted to him. He asked each one of them to do their part in sharing the Good News and transforming the world. This same mission continues in the Church today. Jesus Christ asks all of us as members of the Church to do our part in sharing the Good News and transforming our world. God has entrusted to each one of us here today some work or ministry that he did not entrust to anyone else. If we do not do it, then it will not be done. While there are exceptions, the typical place where most Catholics exercise their ministry and get involved with the mission of the Church is in their parish. The parish is the place where the universal mission of the Church gets local. This week, if you are not involved with a ministry then join one, and if you are involved be open to how God may be leading you to serve differently.

*Father Jim*

*Congratulations to our First Communicants! May they always keep Jesus close to them.*

Angel David Barrios  
 Pablo Flores Flores  
 Edwin Daniel Barrios  
 Andy Guzman  
 Yessica Adriana Cuz Cuz  
 CaraMcAleer  
 Mya Fabiani  
 Alexander Porfiro Aguilar  
 Anthony Flores Flores  
 Daniel Raya-Martinez



### Show God's Love

Part of the first reading from Acts that we don't hear is a vision Peter has, in which God tells him that all foods are OK to eat; no longer are some unclean. He later realizes that the vision was a symbol that all people are "clean," Gentiles as well as Jews. Not all of the early Christians understood. The Jewish Christians were shocked that the Holy Spirit would give gifts, such as speaking in tongues, to Gentiles. Especially Gentiles who had not been baptized.

The distinction between Gentile and Jewish Christians doesn't seem very important today. But we still need to follow St. Peter's example of sharing our faith in Jesus. Does that mean we should drag any non-believers we meet to church on Sunday? Should we brag about how much we love God?

Today's Gospel gives us a hint at what we can do to bring others to Christ. Jesus makes it sound simple: Love one another as I love you. (Jn 15:12) The second reading from John tells us that love is not people loving God; it's that God loved us first, enough to send his Son to die for us. We may think that we have chosen to love and follow Jesus, but as the gospel tells us, Jesus chose us before we ever chose him. So maybe that part about loving others as Jesus loves us is this: are we willing to love others without requiring that they love us first?

How can we do that? I can introduce myself to someone new to the parish that I see in church. I can offer to help the poor. I can make a priority of seeing what I can do for others, instead of what they can do for me. Perhaps part of our daily prayer can be asking God to show us who needs our love today.

*Tom Schmidt*

### The Power of Love

Why is it that we are "commanded" to love? Wouldn't it be better if we were *invited* to love others? Isn't it true that no one can make us love another person? And if we love out of duty are we really loving at all?

There have been any number of people in my life that I personally have not liked to be around. Over the years, however, I have discovered that my life is about more than getting along, or obtaining what I want, or experiencing pleasant circumstances.

As a Christian, my life is no longer my own. I have been given the grace to experience the absolute love of God poured out on me in the sacrament of baptism and the only response to that overwhelming and limitless gift of God's love and grace is to return love for love in as complete a manner as possible. As I put on the Lord Jesus, and I put into action his utter selfless loving here and now, in whatever situation I find myself in, I keep the one command I have been given by Jesus at the Last Supper: "This is my commandment: love one another as I love you." No, it is not a suggestion, if I feel like it, if it works out, or if it is to my benefit. That is not the way that Jesus loved us and it is not the way he commands us to love one another.

I will love you, even as I wrestle within a relationship, but I may not agree with you.

I will love you, even though I don't really prefer being around you.

I will love you, even though I will take steps to protect myself from your behaviors.

I will love you because Jesus has loved me and because Jesus loves you.

Love gives meaning to all the other commandments.

Love gives meaning to every suffering.

The power of love alone can give ultimate direction even to the hard realism of economics and politics and social strife and issues of social injustice and disparity. Love alone can break these open so they serve the world in charity.

Just before his death, Jesus talked about love, unity, friendship, glory, and joy, that the love the Father has for Jesus may be in us and that Jesus may be in us. If we focus on love, all else will follow. Love will lead us to unity and glory and joy, as Jesus is in us and we in him so that we may be brought to complete unity.

This love is the bedrock of our Christian life. If we miss this we have missed everything. The "command" should make it really stand out to us so that we keep this front and center in our journey to becoming and loving like Christ.

*By Sr. Kathryn James Hermes*



**AROUND TOWN.....**

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**Hallahan - Class of '74—50th Reunion** - Sunday, May 19,2024 - 12:00 pm - Brunch at Panache - for more De-tails email: HallahanClassof1974@ [gmail.com](mailto:gmail.com)

**Cardinal O’Hara High School** is planning a 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion for the **Class of 1974**. The reunion is October 19, 2024 at Llanerch Country Club. For more information or to update your email and mailing address, contact John Caramanico at [jcaramanico56@gmail.com](mailto:jcaramanico56@gmail.com) or 610.633.0783.

**Bishop McDevitt Class of 1974 - 50th High School Reunion** We are looking for classmates for our 50th class reunion on October 19, 2024 at Sandy Run Country Club. If interested, please contact either Rita Cassidy Stapf ([rcstapf@verizon.net](mailto:rcstapf@verizon.net)) or Barb Mullen Butynskiy ([b.butynskiy@comcast.net](mailto:b.butynskiy@comcast.net)).

**OVER 50’S CLUB**

We welcome **all seniors** to the meetings of St Luke Over 50’s Club, held at 11:30am on the second Tuesday of most months, at the VFW Post 676, 2519 Jenkintown Road, Glenside. Lunch is available for purchase from the VFW at these meetings, or you may bring your own. Desserts are provided and members are encouraged to sign the circulated sheet for a turn to bring desserts during the year. All meetings take place at the Glenside VFW. Please call with any questions or concerns: Sheila Stieritz 267-468-5353 class reunion on October 19, 2024 at Sandy Run Country Club

**June 1, 2024: [NUN RUN](#)** - A 5K Run / 3K Walk. Register by May 10th to be assured a t-shirt. Sponsored by the [Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary](#) at Camilla Hall, 100 Maxis Drive, Malvern, PA 19355. Proceeds benefit [Camilla Hall](#), the convent home and health care center for the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. For information or to register go to: [www. www.ihmnunrun.org](http://www.ihmnunrun.org). A fun family day and great opportunity for youth, young adults and all those who like to run or walk

**Moms and Tots Playgroup**

St. Anthony of Padua Church  
Friendship Hall Meeting Room  
May 8 & 22, and June 12  
9:15-10:15am



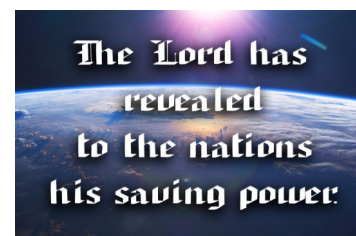
Ages 1-5 – Infants welcome too Based around play—a fun and easy way for you get your toddler moving and socializing with other tots , enjoy some playtime with you all while meeting other moms! Enter the glass doors at the bottom of the steps from the main parking lot and the meeting room is to your right. The door will be open. No need to register. Please contact Maria Henry at [mariahenry10210@gmail.com](mailto:mariahenry10210@gmail.com) with any questions.

*Called to be Saints*

Do you ever feel like it's almost impossible to raise holy kids who love God (and sit still in Mass!) in our modern world? You're not alone. Please join Called to be Saints in a Catholic Parenting Series Event by Formed. We will meet every other week beginning April 18 at 8pm to watch and discuss the 20 minute video on each topic.

Created by the Augustine Institute and Catholic Sprouts, the Catholic Parent aims to encourage you to embrace your God-given role as a mom or dad to form your family in the richness of the Catholic faith. We will rotate in person (St. Catherine of Siena Farmhouse, 319 Witmer Rd, Horscham, PA) and virtual events.

You are welcome to join for as many as you are able. Please email [scsyoungadults@gmail.com](mailto:scsyoungadults@gmail.com) to register or for more information.

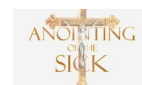


**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM and CONFIRMATION****ROLE OF SPONSORS**

A baptismal preparation evening class is mandatory for all parents who are requesting Baptism. The class is usually provided on the third Thursday of each month. Baptisms are scheduled with the Deacon. Please contact the rectory office for more information.

Godparent or Sponsor Requirement- 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).

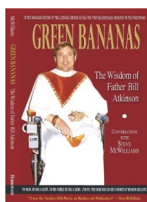
Eligibility Certificates for another Parish- \*We cannot issue certificates of eligibility to any parish if a person is not regularly attending Sunday mass and/or isn't properly registered in St. Joseph Parish .



**SACRAMENT OF THE SICK** In case of serious illness, please contact the Rectory or call the emergency number if after office hours.

**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE**

Parishioners planning wedding dates must make an appointment to set a wedding date at least six months or more prior to that wedding date. They must also arrange for Marriage Preparation Class by contacting [www.philamarriageprep.com](http://www.philamarriageprep.com). or call 610-873-2017. Saturday weddings cannot be scheduled any later than 2PM. Non-parishioner weddings are up to the Pastor's discretion.



**Father Bill Atkinson's Cause for Canonization: Please continue to pray for his intercession.. For favors received or for more information, write Fr. Bill's Cause -Augustinian Provincial Offices PO Box 340- Villanova, PA 19085**

**610-527-3330 [www.augustinian.org](http://www.augustinian.org)**

As you know we continue to remember and pray for Father William Atkinson's 'call to Sainthood". Father Atkinson has a beautiful story of his journey of faith and carrying his cross. Please continue to pray for Father Atkinson and all those whose lives were touched because of him.

Please continue to patronize all our advertisers who we recognize weekly and who supply our bulletins.

Through their generosity we receive our paper and digital bulletin.



**Is God calling you to 'step out of your comfort zone'?**

Now is the time to ask yourself...how can I get more involved and help our church grow? Step up and consider being an usher, lector, Eucharistic minister, adult server or church sacristan? Sing with your heart and become a leader of song. The work is easy, but the benefits are out of this world! Please contact the rectory office if you hear the call.



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!

**Universal Prayers for Peace in the Middle East**

We offer these special Universal Prayers for those affected by the violence in the Middle East: For an end to the tensions escalating in the Middle East, may they be transformed by the peace that comes from God; the peace that surpasses all human understanding, let us pray to the Lord. For those who have died in the violence in the Middle East, may they find perpetual peace and rest in the comforting arms of the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. For those who are mourning the deaths of friends or family members, and those whose loved ones are missing, may God console them in their pain and grief and grant them strength, let us pray to the Lord. For all innocent people in the Middle East harmed by violence or instability, may God's grace sustain and strengthen them and keep them from harm, let us pray to the Lord. Amen.

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