



Saint Joseph's Passionist Church

15 December 2024

3rd Sunday of Advent: Gaudete

Tel: (01) 42 27 28 56 [Int'l + 33 1]

Email stjosephparis@orange.fr

Website: www.saintjosephs.fr

Facebook: StJosephsChurchParis

Saturday: Mass 11am; Vigil: 6.30 p.m.

Sun Mass: 9.30, 11 & 12.30; 6.30 pm

Mon-Friday Mass 8:30am

Every Saturday before Mass: Eucharistic Adoration: 10:30am.

Confession: Saturday: 11.30 – 12.30

& 5 – 6 p.m. or by appointment.

Christmas 24 Dec Masses: 5:30pm;

7:30pm & 10pm.

25 Dec: One Mass at 11am.

CCD Children Christmas Pageant, 3 to 4pm on Sunday 15 December.

There will be a rehearsal just before, from 2pm, you may also contact yagparis@yahoo.com

CCD REQUIREMENT FHC Parents: Still some Baptism certs missing; **Confirmations:** a few missing (Diocese requirement), please urgently scan to stjosephparis@orange.fr : **Please note Those children will NOT be able to get Sacraments without Baptism cert.**

CCD payments missing: please check with **Chris/teacher this Sunday**

Bible Study Wed. 18 Dec : 10:30am (Xmas break, then back on 8th January)
RCIA: Thursday 19th Dec at 8pm (Xmas break, then back on 9th January)
Last Marriage prep: Sun 15 Dec 4pm (next course of 6 sessions in Feb 2025)

Pastoral Council: Wed 18 Dec at 7:30pm

Giving TREE: Many thanks to the St. Joseph community for the generous donations already offered.

Gift Donation suggestions to local and international charities are detailed on each paper ornament, which can then be attached to the wrapped or unwrapped gift, to be placed under the tree for distribution.

Looking for volunteers to help with wrapping, sorting and delivery. Please contact Gretchen at 0670010928

EVERYONE NEEDS A PRAYER!

St. Joseph's Online Prayer Warrior will have an Online Prayer every Friday evening at 8.30pm starting November 22, 2024. Intentions can be sent to **Venci @ stjoparis50avhoche@gmail.com** Call him at St. Joseph's for more details.

Collection 8 Dec: 3278.12; cc 566; Syrian orthodox:50; Coffee: 48.96; ADP: 820; Swahili Mass: 97.28 Bookstall: 60; Shrines: 239.85 THANKS a lot for your generosity.

NB: All "St Joseph ADP" (cheque or screen donations are 66% tax refundable, receipt sent directly by the diocese of Paris. MANY THANKS for your generosity

DOLLAR cheques to "St Joseph's church":
Tax receipts available, stjosephparis@orange.fr.

Sat 28 Dec 6:30pm, YA Mass

Feed the Homeless on Sat 4 Jan 11am

Magnificat for December available at the bookstall. Also New Testaments Bibles.

MYSTERY AND IMAGINATION



Christmas is a great time for children. There is so much colour and imagination. Today we will see the excitement of the young boys and girls as they play their parts as angels, shepherds, wise men and even sheep. We may even be surprised to see superman at Bethlehem. Mystery and imagination go together. It is imagination that enables us to see the invisible and to believe in the wonderful.

Children spend lots of time in an imaginary world of talking animals, monsters and superheroes, of great adventures and intergalactic travel. Children are seldom lonely because they have such an active and fertile imagination. They talk and argue with imaginary friends, they are very busy and serious playing doctors and nurses, cops and robbers, cowboys and Indians. At least, that's how it was when I was a child.

Children are happy because they live in a world that is bigger, richer, better than the flat and dull world of mere facts.

When I was a child, I was fascinated by Leprechauns, the little people, the Banshee, and the fairies in the Faery Fort. As children we loved to hear stories about haunted houses and ghosts. We lived in a mysterious and exciting world. That was before Batman, Superman and Spiderman arrived on the scene with even more adventures.

No one would think of dismissing the imaginary world of children as lies and deception. We know that children live, grow and develop by using their wonderful imagination to see new worlds and new possibilities. This is the essential school of human creativity and genius. The imagination is one of God's wonderful gifts through which He speaks to us. The Holy Scriptures are full fantastic imagery, miraculous stories, and parables. Long live the imagination and the wonderful new possibilities that come from it.

