

St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Church

842 US Highway 158 W Business
P.O. Box 934
Warrenton, NC 27589
252-257-5605
Fax Number: 252-257-5588
Email Address: stjoseph@embarqmail.com
Web Site: www.st-joseph-church.com

July 15, 2018

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.



Mission Statement of Saint Joseph the Worker Parish

We seek to provide opportunities for personal and communal worship and prayer; encourage spiritual growth and faith development; build our Catholic faith community through evangelization; reach out to the materially and spiritually poor and needy in our parish and community.

A Welcoming Faith Community

We are led in our faith by Bishop Luis Rafael Zarama

Saint Joseph the Worker Catholic Church

Pastor: Rev. Rafael A. Leon-Valencia
St. James Parish: 252-438-3124
Web Site: www.st-joseph-church.com

Organist: Sallye Duncan
Cantor: Bridget Marlin

PARISH NOTES

Second Collection:

July 15: Mortgage Reduction
July 22: Missionary Collection

ECUMENICAL SERVICES

The second Ecumenical Worship Service will be held on Wednesday, July 18 at 11:00AM at St. Joseph the Worker. The third and final service will be held on Wednesday, July 25. Please plan to join us.

FR. RAFAEL—OUT OF OFFICE

Fr. Rafael will be out of the office beginning July 16 through July 26. In his absence, Fr. Andrew, a missionary priest will say Mass. The diocese does require that we have a visiting missionary priest once a year. The second collection on July 22 will be for Fr. Andrew's mission.

INSTALLATION OF FR. RAFAEL

The Dean of the Piedmont Deanery, Very Reverend Scott McCue, will be celebrating the Mass which will include the installation of Rev. Rafael Leon-Valencia as the Pastor of St. James and St. Joseph the Worker, Mission Church in Warrenton.

Date: Tuesday, August 7th
Time: 7:00 pm Bilingual Mass

A reception will follow the Mass. Please bring appetizers/light snacks to share.

2018 COMMUNITY HEALTH OPINION SURVEY

The purpose of this survey is to learn more about the health and quality of life in Warren County. The survey is completely voluntary. It should take no more than 20 minutes to complete. All of the information given will be completely confidential and remember this is your opinion and your choices will not be linked to you in any way.

2018 Encuesta Comunitaria de Opinion de la Salud

El objetivo de la encuesta es obtener informacion sobre la salud y la calidad de vida en el Condado Warren, Carolina del Norte. Esta encuesta es totalmente voluntaria. Se llevara no mas de 20 minutos en completarla. Toda la informacion que usted nos proporcione sera completamente confidencial y recuerde estas son su opinion y sus opciones nunca relacionadas con usted por ningun motive.

Surveys are in the Narthex of the Church

LITURGICAL MINISTER SCHEDULE

HOSPITALITY

07/15 D. VANDEGRIFT, R. WHITT
07/22 C. DEAN, W. ALLEN
07/29 M. ENSOR, B. MCWHINNEY

GIFT PRESENTERS

07/15 M. ENSOR & M. KLINE
07/22 J. & P. SABO
07/29 C. SKOW, W. ALLEN

LECTOR

07/15 D. LILLEY
07/22 F. TOWNES
07/29 R. WHITT

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

07/15 S. PETERSON, J. RIGGAN
A. VANDEGRIFT
07/22 A. WHITING, H. HOGAN,
M. KLINE
07/29 D. LILLEY, A. WHITING,
P. MCWHINNEY

COLLECTION

07/15 N. RIGGAN
07/22 R. HOPKINS
07/29 D. VANDEGRIFT

ALTAR SERVERS

07/15 B. MASON
07/22 M. ENSOR
07/29 J. RIGGAN

JULY LINENS: D. MUNSCH
AUGUST LINENS: M. WILKERSON

JULY CLEANING: M. GAGLIARDI
J. RIGGAN

AUGUST CLEANING: P. MCWHINNEY
C. THACKER

JULY SACRISTAN: B. MASON
AUGUST SACRISTAN: S. MOFFETT

OFFERTORY: 7/1/2018	\$ 6,180	SHARE SUNDAY: \$127
OFFERTORY YTD:	\$ 6,180	
YTD AVERAGE:	\$ 6,180	
SHARE YTD:	\$ 127	

<u>CALENDAR OF EVENTS</u>		
JULY		
18	Ecumenical Services	11:00AM
25	Ecumenical Services	11:00AM
AUGUST		
07	Installation of Fr. Rafael St. James, Henderson	7:00PM
SEPTEMBER		
09	Youth Faith Development	

<u>PEOPLE TO KNOW</u>		
Pastor:	Rev. Rafael Leon	438-3124
Pastoral Council Chair:	Bruce McWhinney	257-1151
Finance Council Co-Chair:	Pete Moore	257-4059
Co-Chair:	Jim Sabo	434-689-2552
Liturgy Committee Chair:	Bruce McWhinney	257-1151
Morning Star Ministry Co-Chair:	Peg McWhinney	257-1151
Co-Chair:	Sue Peterson	257-3209
Grounds & Maintenance:	Rob Love	257-4446
Faith Development:	Heidi Hogan	586-6828
Parish Office Manager	Linda Dean	257-5605
(Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9:00AM to Noon, unless otherwise stated in the bulletin)		

Spiritual Resources for Homilies
The following are excellent resources to preview each Sunday gospel. These Catholic websites often provide the homily on the Wednesday prior to coming to Church on Sunday. By previewing the gospel and different approaches to homilies, you can deepen your understanding of the Word of God.
Saint Vincent Arch Abbey is a Benedictine Monastery in Pennsylvania - www.saintvincentarchabbey.org.
Father Robert Barron is a seminary professor - www.wordonfire.org
Creighton University (also has daily reflections)
Creighton University Daily Reflections - OnlineMinistries
St. Louis University Center for Liturgy - to link for Sunday

BAPTISM: Parents or guardians should contact the Parish House at least one month in advance to schedule preparation classes.
RECONCILIATION: Communal reconciliation is scheduled during Advent and Lent. For other times, please contact Father Rafael at St. James 252-438-3124.
MARRIAGE: Registered parishioners should make an appointment with the Pastor 6 months prior to the scheduled date.
ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Anyone seriously ill, anticipating surgery or weakened due to illness or age is encouraged to receive the Anointing of the Sick. Please call the Parish House or St. James 252-438-3124.

Please keep the following in your prayers:
Sue Appel, Donna Apple, Jordan Butler, Casey Carrick, Steven Cayton, Tommy Costello, Dale Crotty, Sarah Daniel, Margie Farley, Lisa Fitchett, N. Joseph Foit, Jr., Bill Frenzel, Mary Ann Gasko, Ethan Glass, Kim Harris, Will Hawkins, Lexi Jarman, Francis Kelley, Kurt Kreider, Kathleen LaMonica, Doris Landgraf, Steve Maliszewski, Tammy Mannon, Vinnie Martinez, Donna Melson, William Melson, Ashley Miller, Michele Miller, Joan Moffett, Brianna Moore, Sue Moret, Margie Mukavitz, John Pitchford, Greg Pullen, Danny Ransford, Tony Reekie, Mary Rowlands, Lynne Scharf, William Scott, Charles & Judy Siter, George Snediker Martha Squier, Bernadette Standowsky, Mary Lib Taylor, Chris Thomas, Savanna Tortorella, Phillip Vandegrift, Russell VanRoy, and Christopher Young.
NOTE: If you have additions or deletions to this list, please contact Linda, the parish secretary, at 252-257-5605 or send an email to stjoseph@embarqmail.com.

FIRST IMPRESSIONS FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME JUDE SICILIANO, OP

These prophets can be so disruptive! Last week we heard how God sent Ezekiel to the rebellious Israelites. Today it is Amos who is stirring things up. He is another prophet of God who has upset a ruler and the priests. It almost seems like that's the job description of a prophet: a disturber of the comfortable and the powerful. Amos was a lay prophet of very ordinary circumstances; he was a shepherd and a migrant worker. God called him to leave his home in Judah and travel north to Israel. Jeroboam was the ruler at a time when Israel was prosperous and powerful. The rich and influential lived in splendor and ate sumptuously (3:12, 15). But they were unconcerned about the poor and Amos accused them and their judges of corruption (3:10). No wonder Amaziah, the high priest, wanted to get rid of him. Amos didn't associate with one of the guilds of mercenary prophets, who claimed to speak for God and were paid. Rather, he led a very ordinary life and when God called him Amos left all to respond to his call.

I leave tomorrow to give a parish retreat across the country. Let's see: have I got my laptop, cell phone and cables for both? Have I checked in online for my upcoming flight? Do I have a ride to the airport? Will I have a pickup when I return home? Today's gospel pricks my conscience as Jesus sends the Twelve on mission and tells them not to provide for what they would usually need for a trip. "Nothing for the journey... no food, no sack, no money in their belts." He does suggest a walking stick and sandals which they will need, since they are on a road trip. He tells them, "not a second tunic" – as I pack my suitcase and hope it's under the 50 pounds I'm allowed by the airline. Should I just skip over this passage as "not applicable to my situation?" After all I'm not a first century follower of Jesus. Things, I protest, were simpler back then. Many readers have a similar reaction and tend to label today's gospel as "Not applicable to me."

The disciples would not carry much with them as they went out with "authority over unclean spirits." They would be dependent on God for their effectiveness, and courage. They would also be dependent on the hospitality of those who heard and received them. As preachers of the gospel they would experience a new community formed by those who heard the Word of God and welcomed the ones who brought it to them.

Each gospel narrates a different first miracle by Jesus. For example, in John's Gospel is the miracle at Cana, when he changed water into wine. The first miracle in each gospel sets up how and what the gospel will reveal about Jesus. The first miracle in Mark's is when Jesus drives out the devil in the Capernaum synagogue (1:21-28). Mark's Jesus will show himself to be more powerful than the evils that confront him and oppress humans. At that time people associated physical, psychological, and social problems as the work of demons. Throughout Mark Jesus will perform healing after healing, showing he has power over all manner of evils that afflict humans. Jesus doesn't spell out the Apostles' ministry. Instead, he "gave them authority over unclean spirits." That is, power over all sicknesses and sin, the evil spirits that plagued the people.

The apostles might have felt intimidated and afraid to face the forces they knew would resist them. On our own, any task of discipleship might seem beyond our limited gifts, or capacity. But Jesus doesn't tell the disciples what and how to do what he did. It's not merely a matter of following orders. The Gospels aren't just instruction books for the disciples, like an operator's manual for a computer program. Instead, Jesus sends his apostles out with his very own authority. With that power, the gift of the Holy Spirit, they will know what to do and when and how to do it.

The first and the gospel readings show that you never know whom God will call and what mission he will give them. Prophets seem to pop up everywhere: at parish and city council meetings; rallies for the poor; protests against unfair labor practices; at supermarkets collecting signatures for low-income housing. Thousands have gone to our southern border to protest the treatment of refugees and their children. God has not stopped calling prophets, like Amos, from among ordinary people. Maybe God is calling us to let go of some part of our lives, to be free to proclaim a message, as Amos did, to the powerful and the comfortable.

Why did Jesus send them out in pairs? Was it so they would have a companion when they met resistance? When one was down, the other could encourage them on. Jesus prepares them for the rejection they will surely meet. So that they don't give up when it happens, he tells them to "shake the dust" from their feet, not lose heart and move on. It's good to have a companion to share and give support in difficult moments as you try to live and preach the gospel. Since they were in pairs, they would also preach by the example of their partnership. They were not detached agents, but part of a community of witnesses, two people devoted to and excited in their witness to the risen Christ. We Christians are not solitaries, we are a community of support, encouragement and companionship in our shared role of witnessing to the risen Christ.

Jesus speaks to us modern Christians, called as the Twelve were, to go out to preach the gospel. We travel with his authority. He provides us with all we need to proclaim his word; for the authority he gives is his very Spirit with us. We aren't to be a self-enclosed community and, despite any sense of inadequacy, we are sent out with all that we need. We focus on the essentials and try not to be encumbered on our mission by the extra baggage of fear, or a sense of inadequacy.

It is not just the ordained who are given the missionary task of going forth to preach. By our baptism all of us are called to be prophets. We have been given the authority over evil spirits: racism, poverty, addiction, religious intolerance, etc. We can be assured that Jesus has given us sufficient authority to overcome these evils. Shall we go out and draw from that authority we have?