

## Why Do We Light Candles?



In the lighting of candles, we remember and truly live the words of Our Lord: “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” (*John 8:12*) The light signifies our prayer offered in faith coming into the light of God.

With the light of faith, we ask our Lord in prayer, or petition the saint to pray with us and for us to the Lord. We light a candle before a statue or sacred image of our Lord or of a saint. We do not honor the statue of the image itself, but the one whom the statue or image represents.

## What is a votive candle?

A votive candle or prayer candle is a small candle intended to be burnt as a votive offering in an act of prayer. To “light a candle for someone” indicates one’s intention to say a prayer for another person. Small candles in glass containers maintain the intention of prayers, and as a

remembrance of the deceased, especially loved ones. Those who light them usually say a prayer over one candle at a time. By keeping these individual candles lit for extended periods of time, the individual prayer is united with the intentions of the rest of the praying community.

This creates a collective spirit of prayer for the entire church that is comforting and empowering. Even when churchgoers leave, prayers remain in the Church as others may also pray over the lit candles.

## Light a Candle at the foot of



## St. Joseph Statue

## What is a votive candle made of?

A votive candle is made of real beeswax with electrified and flameless illumination.

## How do you light a votive candle?

Simply press the red button next to the candle of your choice.

## How many votive candles are available to light?

Currently, 35 votive candles arranged in three rows are available to light. The first two rows are for all-purpose votive candle lighting. Candles on the third row are reserved for your annual memorial offerings.

## All-Purpose Votive Candle:

There are 23 votive candles set aside to light at your convenience. Each lighted votive candle will stay lit for a period of two hours.

*Please consider making an offering before lighting a candle.*



## Annual Memorial Votive Candle:

There are 12 votive candles that are reserved for annual memorials offered on a first-come/first-serve basis. For special memorial of your loved one, a small name sign will be placed before each lit candle. This candle will remain lit continuously for 12 months, 7 days a week, 24-hr period. The cost to reserve this memorial votive candle is \$300, which will directly pay for materials and installation. This is renewable yearly and a reminder will be sent for a chance to renew.

**Annual  
Memorial  
Candle**



*Request Form*

PLEASE PRINT  
CLEARLY

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(Requestor's Name)

(Requestor's Address)

(City, State, Zip Code)

(Contact Number)



*In Memory Of:*

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Limit to 12 characters per line (including space)

(PRINT Full Name)

Please make checks payable to:  
*St. Joseph Church*

**ST. JOSEPH CHURCH  
VACAVILLE, CA  
VOTIVE CANDLES**



*Light up a candle!*



Welcome to St. Joseph Parish!



1791 Marshall Road, Vacaville, CA 95687

Call us at (707) 447-2354

707-447-2354

<http://stjv.org/>