

Greetings, Visitor!

To all of you who have discovered our website, our two Catholic communities within Swain County and the Qualla Boundary of the Cherokee Reservation welcome you.

A little over 100 families call these churches their spiritual homes. Most of these families stay here throughout the year. Many families come here during the summer months. Whether a person or an entire family is here either for the entire year or for one day, I pray that all people are always welcomed as Jesus Christ would be welcomed.

I have lived in different parts of the Appalachian Mountains range for many years. I know that many people have been drawn to these mountains for the sake of gaining spiritual serenity. The first verse of Psalm 121 has come to mind for many visitors to the region: "I lift my eyes to the hills, to find deliverance; from the Lord deliverance comes to me, the Lord who made heaven and earth." I hope that our churches can help you grow closer to the Lord.

The parishioners and I do our best to make sure that St. Joseph Church in Bryson City is open throughout the day. Come to the Lord and place yourself before Him.

The whole of the St. Joseph and OLG families thanks you for any and all generosity that you can provide, whether as a volunteer or as a benefactor. Thank you for both helping to maintain our churches and providing varied assistance to the people of the Smoky Mountains Region.

Thank you for your interest in our churches.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Shawn M. O'Neal
Pastor