

The Epiphany of the Lord
January 8, 2017



**They opened their treasures and offered
him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.**

— Matthew 2:11b

Stella Maris Catholic Church
Founded in the Marian Year 1954
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Rev. John R. Di Orio, Pastor
Rev. James F. Connelly, Pastor Emeritus
Rev. James T. McCabe, Parochial Vicar
Rectory: 215 465-2336
Convent: 215 462-1111

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Mass Intentions For
The Week of January 8, 2017

God's Plan for Giving—Tithing—A Way of Life

Collections for the Weekend of December 24 & December 25, 2016
Income: Plate = \$5,516.00 + AWC = \$126.25 = \$5,642.25
Bills Paid = Total Disbursements = (\$6,025.49)
Total = (\$ 383.24)

Collections for the Weekend of December 31 & January 1, 2017
Income: Plate = \$5,624.00 + AWC = \$85.00 = \$5709.00
Bills Paid = Total Disbursements = \$14,300.02
Total = (\$8,591.02)

Living Stewardship-Living God's Word:

Joy isn't found in the material objects surrounding us but in the inner recesses of the soul.

Automated Withdrawal Contributions (AWC):

Your Church contributions can be electronically withdrawn monthly from your account and deposited directly to your parish. Your offering can be in any amount. Please call the Rectory for more information. Thank you!

Sick Relatives & Friends

Please pray for all the sick that they may be comforted:

Rosario Allia, Ed Alioto, Blaise Ambrosini, Dottie Arcuri, Neil Baldwin, Martha Basualdo, Raymond Baxter, Ralph Berarducci, Kelly Anne Bodine, Shyla Boetter, Anthony Bologna, Emmanuel Borgesi, M/M Bracy, Donna Bria, Dominick Bucciarelli, Rose Cappetto, William Carbo, Arthur Carrado, Doris Castagno, Thomas Ciasullo, Elaine Cipparone, Sister Jeanne Crane SSJ, Sarah Croce, Donna Cunningham, Jill Daly, Antonio D'Angelo, Joanne DePena, Elvira DeSumma, Michael DeSumma, Charles DiMartini Jr., Teri DiOrio, Veronica Dolan, Marie Donato, Frederick Earlori, Trish Ezzie, Virginia Faulkner, Samuel Fiore, Clara Fioravanti, Russell Fiugalski, Marlene Flocco, Joan Gain, Evelyn Gardella, Eleanor Grecco, Keith Green, Maribel Guerrero, Margie Gurbuz, Carol Holman, Kimberly Honeschuck, Howard Horner III, Lucy Intelisano, Ann & Anthony Ippolito, Thomas P. Jones, Frank Kane, John Knight, Vito LaFranci, Ronald Lalli, Frederick Walter Lampe III, Petronella MacCarter, Kathleen Magnotta, Domenick Maiorano, Mario Marchetti, Marie Marino, Carmela Martini, Lilian Mattioli, Danielle McDevitt, Ernest Megali, Rita Mendicino, Louise Mento, Lucy Michielli, Joanne Minniti, Kayla Minore, Florence Mooney, Cecelia Moore, Josephine Dolores Napoli, Philomena Nardello, Thomas Nardone, Patrick Oldfield, Lenny Olivieri, Marie Ordine, Louis Pagano, Fred Papaleo, Jaycee Park, Jason Perri, Madeline Perri, Lauren Poppa, Madeline Porsia, Angela Raffa, M/M Robert Reed, John Renzulli, Sr., Jason Rindone, Keith Ross, Maria Russo, Philomena Salvatore, Theresa Salvatore, Mina Sammarone, Domenic Santaguida, Steven Scanlon, Lorraine Schellinger, Patricia Schiela, Anthony Sergontoni, Grover Simpson, Carmen Sipia, Evelyn Spina, Ralph Spina, Regina Stanley, Thomas Sweeney Jr., Savannah Taylor, James Trainor Jr., Lori Trischler, Terry Troiano, Caila Tuohey, Allyson Turner, Robin Twaddell, Christopher Vacante, Mike Vicario, Michael Valardi, Joseph Vitello, Kylie Waldron, Veronica Walls, Ed Williams, the military disabled, the home-bound, and their families.

Sunday—January 8 (The Epiphany of the Lord)

8:00 + Living and Deceased Members of Stella Maris
 9:30 + Domenico & Maria Romeo
 11:00 + O'Brien and Larkin Families (L & D)

Monday—January 9 (The Baptism of the Lord)

8:00 + George Colluzzi

Tuesday—January 10

8:00 + DePrince and Mitchell Families (L & D)

Wednesday—January 11

8:00 + Elizabeth Livewell

Thursday—January 12

8:00 + Gerry Murphy

Friday—January 13

8:00 + Anne Marie McDonald

Saturday—January 14

8:00 + Ginny McGowan
 5:00 + Lisa and Louis Fantacone

Sunday—January 15

8:00 + Frank and Marie Cosenza
 9:30 + Living and Deceased Members of Stella Maris
 11:00 + Frank and Rita Giunta

Church Sanctuary Lamp

In Memory of
Gilda Coluzzi

At the Request of
Dolores Alessi



Adoration Chapel Lamp

- 1) In Memory of
Thelma De Simone
At the Request of
Teri Di Orio
- 2) In Memory of
Thelma De Simone
At the Request of
Lynn Di Orio



Bread & Wine

In Memory of
John Meehan
Requested by
His wife, Louise



BIBLE STUDY

Everyone is most welcome to join us for our weekly Bible Study on Saturday mornings, immediately following the 8AM Mass. (Please note: There will be no Bible Study on Sodality meeting Saturdays). Sister Cathy Bones, SSJ, will lead the Bible Study, which will be held in the classroom in the Church Vestibule.



We Pray for our Deceased Parishioners, Relatives and Friends:

ANTHONY BOLOGNA JOSEPH DENISI
JOSEPH DE VITO DOMENIC GIANCATERINO
ANTHONY RAMBO

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let Perpetual Light shine upon them.

May their souls, and all the souls of the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

rom the Pastor's Desk

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I can't believe that we are in our 2nd week of the New Year already.

I share this reflection with you about the Feast of the Epiphany. The word epiphany means "manifestation." So what we celebrate on this special feast day is Christ's manifestation to the world. The magi were among the first to adore Jesus as the Messiah and they were Gentiles, i.e., non-Jews. Their story serves as testimony that Christ came for all people.

Matthew begins the story with a touch of irony. As the magi gain audience with Herod in order to seek information concerning the "newborn king of the Jews," the chief priests and the scribes are summoned to provide the information the magi seek. The chief priests and the scribes failed to recognize the signs before them as an indication that the Christ-event was taking place. They knew the prophecies, yet ignored them. Herod on the other hand, views the prophecies, not with joy and elation but with fear and trepidation. He saw this "newborn king of the Jews" as a threat to his own kingship and wanted that threat removed.

How often are we like the chief priests and scribes in that we fail to recognize Christ's manifestation in our lives? How often are we like Herod, aware that God may be revealing himself to us, or directing us, but resistant to God's presence because it conflicts with our agenda, our wants, or our needs?

The story also reveals something even more telling about our relationship with Christ. When we encounter Christ, we do not come away from the encounter unchanged. The magi encountered Christ in presumably Joseph's home in Bethlehem (i.e., "they entered a house and saw the child with Mary his mother.") That brief encounter changed them forever, for when, "they departed for their country", they did so by another way. They took a different route home. In biblical terms, when one changes direction, it symbolizes that the individual himself has been changed. He or she has had a change of heart and has undergone a conversion experience.

The same holds true for us today each time we encounter Christ. Each of us has an opportunity to encounter Christ in the sacraments, especially in the sacrament of the Eucharist. And we, like the magi, are changed through such an encounter. The beauty is, that in giving of himself in the sacraments, Christ provides us with the opportunity to encounter him again and again as we journey throughout our life. Each encounter offers us an opportunity for drawing into a deeper relationship with him. How has your relationship with Christ made you a better person? In what ways have you changed? What steps can you take to encounter Christ more frequently in your life? These are questions that this wonderful feast invites us to contemplate.

Be assured of my prayers and I ask you to pray for me.

Happy Epiphany!
Fr. Di Orio



THE STAR OF BETHLEHEM

The unfolding of the story of the Incarnation continues today as the Church celebrates the Epiphany. The tale of the magi from the East is one of the most fascinating in all of scripture. It has much to teach us about what we can come to expect, even in circumstances and places that may seem insignificant or small. Bethlehem was a tiny town, what we might refer to today as a town without even one stop light. Yet it is over this seemingly insignificant place that the guiding star stops in its own search for the place where the Savior would be born. Too often we fail to recognize the fact that the star of Bethlehem comes to rest in our everyday lives, where we can experience God's presence, manifested in ever new ways. Epiphany calls us to shake off our stupor and recognize the One who comes to save us.

9th ANNUAL ARCHDIOCESAN MEN'S SPIRITUALITY CONFERENCE

Registration is now open for MAN UP PHILLY 2017! On Saturday, 03/04/17 at St. Joseph University Hagan Arena, men from throughout the Archdiocese are invited to attend this conference. Speakers include EWTN's Dr. Marcellino D'Ambrosio, inspirational speaker Kevin Reilly, former Philadelphia Eagle whose career was ended by a rare cancer that led to the removal of his left arm, and Damon Owens, director of JoyTOB and an international speaker on the Theology of the Body. Acclaimed Irish tenor, Mark Forrest will provide inspirational accompaniment during a special Eucharistic Adoration. Register now and save \$10 (Early Bird Special) at manupphilly.com.

BUS TRIP FOR THE MARCH FOR LIFE TO THE NATIONAL BASILICA/SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



Last year, here in Philadelphia, our Holy Father, Pope Francis, with great courage, bore witness to faith in Jesus Christ, 'the Light to the nations,' in this often dark world in which we find ourselves.

On Friday, January 27, 2017, Stella Maris Parishioners hope to bear witness to the sanctity of life, gifted and redeemed by God, in the annual **March for Life** in Washington, DC. We will join Archbishop Chaput in offering Mass at the **National Basilica/Shrine of The Immaculate Conception** at 10am. The bus will leave from our parking lot at 6:30am. (Parking for the March will be in a designated area behind the Church.) This will be an opportunity to gain a plenary indulgence that is offered for anyone who attends the Mass and pilgrimage according to the usual conditions, namely, confession, communion and prayers for the Holy Father's intentions. The indulgence may be gained for yourself or a soul in purgatory.

You will have the option to go into center city Washington for the March for Life **or** stay at the shrine to visit its' many altars representing the apparitions and devotions to Mary from countries around the world. **During the March in Washington, there will be a Holy Hour for Life in the Basilica.** Those who go to the March will be picked up at **Union Railroad Station at 3pm. Those who are not there at that time will have to make their own way back to Philadelphia, at their own expense,** by train). Hopefully, after stopping for dinner, we will return to the parish, by 7:30pm.

Reservations will be taken on a **first come basis**, by calling the rectory at 215-465-2336. Cost to subsidize the bus rental, will be \$20 per person.

We hope you can join us!

HELLO DOLLY STARRING BETTE MIDLER

The Seniors are sponsoring a trip to New York to see the Broadway Musical "Hello Dolly" with Bette Midler on Wednesday, Oct. 4, 2017. **Due to the popularity of this show, seats are limited!** The cost is **\$300 per person**, which includes the show, dinner at Carmine's, and round trip motor coach. **A non-refundable deposit of \$150 is now due.** The balance of \$150 is to be paid in two payments of \$75 each: First payment of \$75 is due on or before May 10, 2017 and the second payment of \$75 is due on or before August 1, 2017. For more information or reservations, please call Marge at 215-463-3386 or Helen at 215-468-6618.



COME JOIN THE FUN WITH US AT OUR OLDIES' NIGHT WITH JERRY BLAVAT



Reunite with old friends and Dine, Dance & Party the night away with us on **Saturday, February 18, 2017 at Stella Maris Hall, 814 Bigler Street, from 7pm until 12 Midnight** with great music (featuring Jerry Blavat), great food, and great fun.

Ticket cost is \$40 (non-refundable), \$50 at the door, which includes selections at our hot buffet by "Galdo's" Caterers, desserts, beer, soda, coffee, and tea. Chances will be available for a 50/50 drawing and a basket of cheer. For tickets, please call Carol at 215-463-3410. Make all checks payable to:

Stella Maris Parish

Hope to see you on the dance floor!

ARCHDIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA AND LOURDES

As part of the celebration of the 100th Anniversary of Our Lady's apparitions in Fatima, Fr. Dennis Gill will be leading a pilgrimage to Fatima and Lourdes on June 5-12, 2017. This pilgrimage promises to be a deeply spiritual event in communion with the Mother of the Lord, with prayers for peace and healing for all of us, especially for the clergy and people of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Cost per person is \$3,395 (double occupancy); add \$395 more for a single. For more information on our 100th Anniversary of Fatima celebration, visit:



<http://archphila.org/fatima/>



NEED FINANCIAL HELP TO ATTEND COLLEGE? APPLY FOR A STELLA MARIS SCHOLARSHIP!

Eligibility Requirements:

- 1) Applicants must be parishioners of the Parish Church of Stella Maris, Philadelphia, PA
- 2) Applicants must demonstrate academic achievement
- 3) Applicants must demonstrate traits of high personal character, leadership, and financial need
- 1) Applicants must be an active, participating member of the parish

The number of recipients and scholarship amount will be based upon the market value of the scholarship fund assets each year as determined by Wells Fargo Bank, NA, Trustee. Scholarships may be renewable for up to three years or until a bachelors degree is obtained, whichever is earlier, providing scholarship requirements are met.

Eligible applicants may request an application from the parish office by calling 215-465-2336, Monday thru Friday, from 9am - 4pm.

DEADLINE FOR ALL MATERIALS IS MARCH 15 2017!

STELLA MARIS PARISH CALENDAR

- Tuesday, 01/10/17-Star of the Sea Seniors-1:00PM, Vestibule Mtg. Rm.
- Sunday, 01/15/17-NO CCD CLASSES-MLK Day Weekend
- Monday, 1/16/17-Helping Hands Meeting-7:00PM, Msgr. JFC Conf. Rm.
- Sunday, 01/22/17-CCD-9:15AM-Church/School
- Tuesday, 01/24/17-Star of the Sea Seniors-1:00PM, Vestibule Mtg. Rm.
- Sunday, 01/29/17-CCD-9:15AM, Church/School
- Thursday, 02/02/17-1st Communion Parents Meeting-7:00PM, Church

STELLA MARIS ALL CLASS REUNION

We are in the process of forming a Committee for an "All Class Reunion of Stella Maris Students" to plan to reach out to All former Stella Maris students regarding a possible All class reunion in the future. If you would like to be part of this committee, please call the Rectory at 215-465-2336.



STELLA MARIS MINISTRY

As Christians, we are called to share our time, talents, and treasures. Our Parish is asking you to share some of your time and talents by volunteering to be a part of one of our ministries (Lectors, Singers/Cantors, Ushers, etc.). If you are interested, please call the Rectory.

Thank you and God bless.



THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

Sincere thanks goes out to all of you who so generously contributed to our various outreach programs (Helping Hands Food Drive, Christmas Giving Tree, St. Francis Inn, St. John's Hospice, Dawn's Place). Through your generosity and compassion, many men, women, and children enjoyed a brighter Christmas.

Again, we thank you for helping us to spread some Christmas Cheer to those less fortunate.

May God bless you for your kindnesses.



FREE VIDEO SERIES:

THE BIBLE AND THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Join folks from all over the greater Philadelphia area in a 12 week long encounter with the Virgin Mary right from your own home! The St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology, founded by Dr. Scott Hahn, is offering limited-time free access to its new video Bible study series, *The Bible and the Virgin Mary*. You can access this 12-part series online at no cost beginning January 18, 2017. The videos can be used for individual or group study. To take advantage of this great opportunity to grow spiritually, sign up at:

BibleandtheVirginMary.com/Philadelphia

Feel free to share this link with friends and family!





CHURCH SANCTUARY CANDLE

Our Church Sanctuary Candle is available to be offered, for the living or deceased, and will remain lit for seven days. If you would like to reserve a candle, please complete the information below and return the form to Stella Maris Rectory with a \$20 donation. All names and information will be posted in our Church Bulletin accordingly.

IN HONOR/MEMORY OF:

REQUESTED BY:

PLEASE HELP US THANK OUR ADVERTISERS

Please patronize those who advertise here in our Church Bulletin. They enable us to publish our bulletin each week and we are grateful for their support. Tell them you are supporting them because you saw their advertisement in Stella Maris Church Bulletin.



CatholicPhilly.com

CatholicPhilly.com is the online successor to The Catholic Standard and Times. Read local and world Catholic news every day. Sign up for their free, weekly email newsletter!



ALTAR BREAD AND WINE

Altar Bread and Wine may be offered for an entire week, for the living or deceased. If you are interested, please complete the information below and return the form to Stella Maris Rectory with a \$25 donation. All names and information will be posted in our Church Bulletin accordingly.

IN HONOR/MEMORY OF:

REQUESTED BY:

ADORATION CHAPEL CANDLES

Two Adoration Chapel candles are available to be offered (\$20 each), for the living or deceased, and will remain lit for seven days. If you would like to reserve a candle, complete the information below and return the form to Stella Maris Rectory with a \$20 donation. All names will be posted in our Church Bulletin accordingly. Thank you!



IN HONOR/MEMORY OF:

REQUESTED BY:
