

NOVEMBER 30, 2025

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Stella Maris Catholic Church
Founded in the Marian Year 1954
2901 South 10th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19148
Website: www.stellamarisphila.com
E-mail: stellamarisparish@comcast.net
Follow us on Facebook; Stella Maris

Rev. John R. Di Orio
Pastor
Rectory Phone: 215-465-2336
Convent Phone: 215-462-1111

November 30, 2025
First Sunday of Advent



Your Church contributions can be electronically withdrawn from your account and deposited directly to Stella Maris. Please go to stellamarisphila.com and click on **Parish Giving** (under our Mass Schedule) for Information and/or to enroll.

Thank you.

Living Stewardship: “ Full of grace”..., which in the original Greek is ...“beloved” of God, is a title expressed in passive form, but this “passivity” of Mary, who has always been and is forever “loved” by the Lord, implies her free consent, her personal and original response...She is the perfect disciple of her Son, who realizes the fullness of His freedom and thus exercises the freedom through obedience to the Father.”

— *Pope Benedict XVI*



Please pray for the sick that they may be comforted:

Blaise Ambrosini, Nicholas Andreola, Neil Baldwin, Lisa Baranek, Raymond Baxter, Elaine Bianculli, Kim Birch, Kelly Ann Bodine, Emmanuel Borgesi, Anthony Borzillo, Mr. & Mrs. Bracy, Donna Bria, Dominick Bucciarelli, Loretta Bologna, Al Caruso, Clem Ciaramella, William Carbo, Kelly Carr, Louis Chila, Elaine Cipparone, Emilio Colella, Thomas Coco, Mary Conte, Mina Collazzo, Robert Costello, Donna Cunningham, Joseph Dalessio, Jill Daly, Antonio D’Angelo, Anna DelVecchio and Family, Daniel DiCarlo, Louis DiBruno, Matthew D’Imperio, Lynn Di Orio, Veronica Dolan, Michelle Dolce, Marie Donato, Lisa Donoflio, Lucy Dougherty, Vera Dolan, Dolore Edmondson, Trish Ezzie, Vera Freni, Virginia Faulkner, Marie Feehan, Russell Dalonzo SR., Russell Fiugalski, Jerry Francesco, George Fragnito, Samantha Fry, Joan Gain, Ellen Gabarino, Evelyn Gardella, Anthony Gentile, Gerta Goren, Margie Gurbuz, Charles Harron, Carol Holman, Kimberly Honeschuck, Bethany Hopkins, Dakota Hussein, Lucy Intelisano, Nora James, Frank Kane, Vito LaFranci, Charles LaSpada, Jean LaSpada, Ashleigh Leone, Robert and Marie Liccio, Rita Lange, Stacey Loke Pelle, Jamie Long, Bob Lutz, George McGehrin, Michael Macomber, Marsha Magen, Kathleen Magnotta, Mario Marchetti, Pat Marsico, Carmela Martini, Lilian Mattioli, Maryanne McCaffrey, Karen McConnell, Danielle McDevitt, Rita Mendicino, Harooz Morrall, Michelle Miller-Killian, Kayla Minore, Florence Mooney, Cecelia Moore, Philomena Nardello, Thomas Nardone, Patrick Oldfield, Matthew Padgeon, Louis Pagano, Jason Perri, Madeline Perri, Joe Petruzzi, Sophie Philipp, Johanna Pizzo, Christopher Pronio, Theresa Quieti, Angela Raffa, Jason Rindone, Michael Rines, Juan Rodriguez, Denise Romolini, Heather Russino, Patricia Resniak, Rich Rosati, Keith Ross, Lorraine Saia, Theresa Salvatore, Mina Sammarone, Rocco Santangelo, Steve Scanlon, Lorraine Schellinger, Patricia Schiela, Anthony Sergontoni, Bill & Theresa Sherwin, Erica Siderio, Joe Shireta, Katie Signell Ventus, Grover Simpson, Karen Specht, Evelyn Spina, Regina Stanley, Thomas Sweeney Jr., Savannah Taylor, James Trainor Jr., Lori Trischler, Steven Tropea, Cindy Tuohey, Stephen Tuohey, Allyson Turner, Paul and Geri Verdi, Alicia Viray, Sarah Wallace, Matt Watson, Caroyln Young, Deborah Young, the military disabled, the home-bound and their families.



We pray for our deceased Parishioners, Relatives and friends:

HOLY SOULS IN PURGATORY

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.

Mass Intentions for
the Week of November 30, 2025

Saturday - November 29

5:00 + James Salvatore

Sunday - November 30

8:00 + Marie Pizzo

10:30 + Rita Tordini

Monday - December 1

7:30 + Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesday - December 2

8:00 + Father Griffin, Fr. Esposito, and Fr. Gambone

Wednesday - December 3

8:00 + Vincent Tonelli and Family

Thursday - December 4

8:00 + Living and Deceased Members of Stella Maris

Friday - December 5

8:00 + Msgr. James Connelly

Saturday - December 6

8:00 + Dave and Edith Gambacorta and the
 Gambacorta – Martino Families

5:00 + Stanely and Adeline De Menno

Sunday - December 7 (Second Sunday of Advent)

8:00 + Louise Pino

10:30+ Christopher Pronio

Church Sanctuary Lamp



In Memory of
 Thomas A. Greco Jr.

Requested by
 Carol Ann Greco



**STELLA MARIS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS
 VISITATION AND CAROLING**

We invite you, (adults and children alike), to join the students in our CCD/PREP program, along with other willing participants, in spreading Christmas cheer to our Parish home-bound. Parish visitation this year will be on **Sunday, December 14th** from **12:00 PM to 2:00 PM**. Please call or text Lorinda @267-250-0186 if you are interested.

Thank you and God Bless You.



**FOOTBALL MANIA
 WINNING NUMBERS**

WEEK TWELVE

Due to Early Bulletin Week Twelve’s winning numbers will be posed next week!





Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Today is the First Sunday of Advent which begins a new liturgical year for the Church: so, for all of us who are the Church, Happy New Year!

Advent is a journey to bring us closer to God and to each other. It has a two-fold character: First it is a season to prepare for Christmas, when Christ's first coming to us is remembered and celebrated on December 25th. Secondly, Advent is a season when we remember to await Jesus' second coming at the end of time. The "already", (Christ has come), and "not yet", (Christ will come again), of Advent reminds us that even when we know what is coming, we still have to prepare for new things by opening ourselves to change. Awaiting Christ's coming this Advent season, as well as His second Coming, is an active pursuit with inspired anticipation and eagerness to receive God's gift. It is a season that should be full of devout hope and joy as we get ready.

We congratulate our young parishioners and those young parishioners from Epiphany of Our Lord Parish who on Wednesday December 3rd will be making their First Penance. Let us keep them in prayer as they prepare for this wonderful sacrament.

Louis Andrews	Joshua Martinez
Josue Banchon	Emilio Nardini
Skylar Burke	Emma Recines
Adelina Coletti-Delerme	Yissel Recines
Brooklynn De Salvo	Luciano Shirley
Edward Eusebio-Hernandez	Christopher Snyder
Luna Jean Klein	Anthony Tropea
Lola Lynch	Sean Vicario
Mallory Manion	Giuliana Weldon

This weekend I extend to the adults of our parish community a companion to journey within Advent. ***The Little Blue Book*** is the companion. This little blue book provides an easy and convenient way for us to spend a few extra minutes each day in prayer with our Lord throughout these Advent Weeks.

This weekend, we welcome our very own Sr. Regina Dougherty, SSJ, who will speak to us at all the Masses on behalf of the Retirement Fund for Religious Collection. This special collection will be taken up next weekend, December 6th and 7th.

Mark your calendar on Wednesday, December 17th, at 7:00 PM to come to our Parish Advent Penance Service. We will have several priests to help with individual confessions.

Be assured of my prayers and I ask you to please remember me in your prayers.

Happy Advent!

Fr. Di Orio



OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

November 30, 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Soon, our parishes will participate in the annual Retirement Fund for Religious collection. This important annual appeal benefits more than 20,500 senior sisters, brothers and religious order priests who have dedicated their lives in service to the Church.

These faithful servants have long been a source of inspiration and support in our communities. I am personally grateful for the religious who helped shape my own faith journey. Perhaps you, too, have known an elderly sister, brother, or religious order priest whose quiet dedication, prayerful presence, or selfless acts left a lasting impression on your life.

Today, the challenges many of these senior religious and their communities face in meeting their retirement needs are greater than ever. Most received little to no pay for their service, and their communities struggle to cover rising health care expenses and the increasing cost of day-to-day eldercare. The financial burdens continue to grow, and the need is urgent.

Gifts to the Retirement Fund for Religious make a real, tangible difference to these many women and men religious. Contributions directly support their ongoing care today and help ensure that their communities can plan wisely for their future.

The Collection for the **Retirement Fund for Religious** will be held in parishes of the Archdiocese on the weekend of **December 6 and 7, 2025**. Please consider making a gift to this year's collection and continue to pray for all of our elderly religious. They remember us daily in their prayers and continue to share their many gifts for the good of our Church.

Sincerely in Christ,

+Most Reverend Nelson J. Perez, D.D.

Archbishop of Philadelphia

HELPING HANDS THANKSGIVING OUTREACH

Many thanks to our parishioners who helped in any way with Helping Hands Thanksgiving Outreach. We thank everyone who donated the food, all who helped sort the food and all who helped distribute the food.

Your generous support made it possible for many families to have a wonderful Thanksgiving meal. God Bless You!



Stella Maris Events

2026

Saturday, February 28th—Bingo Night

Join us for a fun night of Cash Bingo! More information to follow.

Saturday, April 25th—P & S - Spaghetti Dinner

Join us for our Annual Night of Delicious P & S Spaghetti and Meatballs, Esposito's Porchetta, Great Music and Fabulous Prizes!

Spring 2026—\$50 Grand Raffle

\$50 Raffle tickets will be sold beginning in May 2026 for a drawing of 6 prizes which will be held after each Mass the weekend of Nov.22/23. More information to follow.

COME HAVE BREAKFAST WITH YOUR STELLA MARIS FAMILY

A Parish Gathering for All Ages



SUNDAY, DEC. 7TH
JOIN US AFTER 10:30 AM MASS

Adults \$15 * Kids 10 and under \$5
Tickets must be purchased in advance. Deadline: December 1st.

ON THE MENU

Pancakes * Eggs * Sausage * Bacon * Bagels
French Toast * Hash Brown Potatoes

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Star of the Sea Senior Citizens Club and Stella Maris Sodality invite you to their Annual Christmas Party which will be held, Wednesday, 12/10/2025 at 1:00PM at the Waterfall Room, 2015 S. Water Street. Cost is \$25 for the guests. Please contact Frances Giaquinto at 215-284-4686 for reservation. Cash or checks are acceptable, payable to Star of the Senior Club and mail or drop off to Stella Maris Rectory, 2901 South 10th St., Philadelphia, PA

STELLA MARIS CHRISTMAS OUTREACH

Today, 11/30/25, is the first Sunday of Advent. As we prepare for the Birth of the Christ Child, you can share the spirit of Christmas with those in need by participating in our Parish Outreach Programs listed below.

Christmas Giving Tree-Families in our area will be helped with gifts for children. Take a tag from the Christmas Tree in the back of church, buy and wrap the gift, and place the tag on the outside of the gift. Place your gift in the designated container in back of church.

Dawn's Place-This is a residential program located here in Philadelphia, for women who have been trafficked. The Sisters of Saint Joseph and their staff work with the women to help them regain their self-respect and once again become contributing members of society. How to help? Gift certificates to Target, CVS, Walgreens and Staples would be greatly appreciated. Please place these in the designated box in the back of church.

Catholic Social Services-This collection is for children's new toys and games, (**non-violent, PLEASE!**) Please place toys in the designated containers in the church vestibule.

St. John's Hospice - Once again we will be helping the homeless men who receive services at St. John's Hospice and are in need of hats, gloves, scarves, socks, and underwear. Please place these items in the designated containers in the church vestibule.

Christmas Food Drive - Helping Hands is collecting food to help area families in need to have a nice Christmas dinner. Items needed are: hams, canned pineapple, boxed potatoes, canned yams, and candy. Please bring your food donations to the Outreach Room in the church vestibule.

The deadline for all outreach is Sunday, December 14th.

Your support of these projects is greatly appreciated by these men, women and children. Thank you for your generosity.



Giving Hope TO ALL

CATHOLICCHARITIESAPPEAL.ORG



The Catholic Charities Appeal (CCA) of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia is more than a campaign. It is a powerful expression of what is possible when people of faith respond to Christ's call to love one another as He loves us.



For more than 65 years, CCA has remained a beacon of hope throughout our five-county region and sustained vital charitable ministries and programs that serve one in five people across our region. When you support CCA, you embrace your role as a Missionary Disciple and help us in Giving Hope to All.

- EVANGELIZATION
- SOCIAL SERVICES
- SPECIAL EDUCATION
- RETIRED AND INFIRMED PRIESTS
- MISSION PARISHES

SCAN HERE TO LEARN MORE



Turn \$5 into \$10,000!

Annual **Chance Drive**

Drawing December 11, 2025

Proceeds Benefit Saint Joseph Villa and the Retired Sisters of Saint Joseph



Sisters of Saint Joseph™ CHESTNUT HILL - PHILADELPHIA

5 Prizes \$500 each

Tickets \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00

Get Your Tickets Today Online!

For More Information visit us at: www.ssjphila.org



For more information call us or email us at: 1.800.482.6510 Development@ssjphila.org

**SPIRITUAL SUPPORT FOR ADDICTION:
HOPE IN CHRIST**

You are not alone! The Church desires to be close to her children who are struggling with addiction and to bring them the healing power of Jesus Christ's love. Many parishes around the Archdiocese are extending God's merciful and loving hand to those struggling with an addiction as well as their families and loved ones. The Hope in Christ: Spiritual Support for Addiction webpage provides a central location for Catholic resources, ongoing support, testimonies, and events that are happening throughout the Archdiocese of Philadelphia to spiritually support you in your journey towards recovery.

You may visit archphila.org/hope for details and postings.

**INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES AND
AUTISM HELP-LINE**

This convenient help-line assists families with connecting to disabilities services provided by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

To reach the Help-Line, please call 484-472-5041 or email IDDhelp@chs-adphila.org.

**ASSISTED LIVING AND/OR LONG-TERM
CARE FOR SENIORS**

For information on the cost of, or questions about Senior Living and Care in Philadelphia, along with Financial Assistance Programs, please feel free to visit the following website: www.payingforseniorcare.com. This website will help you find eligibility and benefit information for over 300 programs regarding care for elderly loved ones.

LILY'S GIFT MINISTRY

Lily's Gift Ministry is a network of concerned parents and professionals who have experienced, or worked closely with issues surrounding poor prenatal diagnosis. To expectant parents, we offer unique insight and sensitivity regarding such difficult issues as:

- +Maintaining hope when prognosis is poor
- +Sorting through medical decision making
- +Grieving the loss of the anticipated baby
- +Stillbirth and neonatal critical care

For more information, visit www.LilysGift.org or call Sister Kathleen Schipani at 215-587-3530.

This information has been provided by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, the Office for Life and Family.

ADOPTION SUPPORT GROUP MEETING

This group is open to anyone interested in learning more about the process of adopting children, in the process of adopting a child, or already a parent through adoption. Meet and talk to caring, supportive families that share their experience with the adoption process and parenting. **This group meets on the second Thursday of each month from 7:00PM to 8:30PM.**

Meetings are in person or virtual. In person location is Mary, Mother of the Redeemer Church, 1325 Upper State Road, North Wales, PA 19454.

Contact Maria at mariamalone@mmredeemer.org to attend in person, to get a virtual meeting link and to get any updates on meeting times and locations.



**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
FOR CHURCH CLEANING**

We are looking for volunteers to form a group to clean our Church on Mondays.

If you are able to help, please contact the Rectory at 215-465-2336.

"Many hands make light work"



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. Please include your phone number on the form. All names and donors will be posted in our Church Bulletin accordingly.

IN MEMORY OF or FOR THE INTENTIONS OF:

REQUESTED BY:

PHONE #



ALTAR BREAD AND WINE

Altar Bread and Wine is available to 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. Please include your phone number on the form. All names and donors will be posted in our Church Bulletin accordingly.

IN MEMORY OF or FOR THE INTENTIONS OF:

REQUESTED BY:

PHONE #

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, please complete the information below and return the form to Stella Maris Rectory with a \$20 donation. Please include your phone number on the form. All names and donors will be posted in our Church Bulletin accordingly.

IN MEMORY OF or FOR THE INTENTIONS OF:

REQUESTED BY:

PHONE #