

December 1, 2024
First Sunday of Advent



Stella Maris Catholic Church
Founded in the Marian Year 1954
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Follow us on Facebook; Stella Maris

Rev. John R. Di Orio
Pastor

Rectory: 215-465-2336
Convent: 215-462-1111

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

Due to an early printing deadline requested by our Bulletin Company, our Church Bulletin had to go to print before last weekend's collection took place. The collection figures will be posted in next week's Bulletin.



Your Church contributions can be electronically withdrawn from your account and deposited directly to Stella Maris.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: "If men knew the meaning of eternity, they would do anything to mend their lives."

- St. Jacinta Marto



Please pray for the sick that they may be comforted:

Blaise Ambrosini, Nicholas Andreola, Neil Baldwin, Lisa Baranek, Raymond Baxter, Elaine Belfi, Elaine Bianculli, Kim Birch, Kelly Ann Bodine, Shyla Boetter, 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, Thomas Coco, Mary Conte, Mina Collazzo, Robert Costello, Donna Cunningham, Joseph Dalessio, Jill Daly, Antonio D'Angelo, Anna DelVecchio and Family, Louis DiBruno, Matthe D'Imperio, Lynn Di Orio, Veronica Dolan, Michelle Dolce, Marie Donato, Lisa Donoflio, Lucy Dougherty, Vera Dolan, Dolore Edmondson, Trish Ez-zie, 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, 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 Quiet, Angela Raffa, Jason Rindone, Michael Rines, Juan Rodriguez, Denise Romolini, Patricia Resniak, Rich Rosati, Keith Ross, Lorraine Saia, Theresa Salvatore, Mina Sammarone, Domenic Santaguida, Rocco Santangelo, Steve Scanlon, Lorraine Schellinger, Patricia Schiela, Anthony Sergontoni, Bill & Theresa Sherwin, 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 December 1, 2024

Saturday - November 30

5:00 + Marie Pizzo

Sunday - December 1

8:00 + Louise And Joseph Pino

10:30 + Coffea Family

Monday - December 2

7:30 + Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesday - December 3

8:00 + Living and Deceased Members of Stella Maris

Wednesday - December 4

8:00 + Angie and Al Padlo and All poor Souls

Thursday - December 5

8:00 + Msgr. James Connelly

Friday - December 6

8:00 + Anna Melone

Saturday - December 7

8:00 + Leo Rago

5:00 + Christopher Pronio

Sunday - December 8

8:00 + Kenneth Brabazon Sr.

10:30 + Concetta Fina



Church Sanctuary Lamp

In Memory of
Philip Ejiofor

Requested by
Morayo Ejiofor

Altar Bread and Wine

In Memory of
Thomas Di Orio

Requested by
Family



ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA
TELEVISED MASS

Every Sunday, at 5:30AM on Channel 6-WPVI TV, the Archdiocese of Philadelphia celebrates Sunday Mass, which is broadcast through the courtesy of Channel 6-WPVI.

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!



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 has a two-fold character: 1) as a season to prepare for Christmas when Christ's first coming to us is remembered and celebrated on December 25th and 2) Advent is a season when we remember to await Jesus' second coming at the end of time. Advent reminds us that Jesus is coming to gather and claim us his brothers and sisters. His disciples need not panic at this, but instead, be as joyous as the angelic choir that sang at Jesus' birth and as amazed as the shepherds who spread this astonishing good news. Advent is a season that should be full of devout joy as we get ready. It is the perfect time to ask whether we are steering our lives or allowing them simply to be swept up in a momentum created by other people. It is an ideal time to drop some activity that we may feel obligated to repeat although it has grown stale over time. Advent helps us to develop a clearer sense of where our lives are going-or whether we are allowing our lives to drift. Jesus already has showed his followers the way, which we are encouraged to follow every Advent. We are called to live our faith courageously, prepare wisely, and maintain a sense of joyful anticipation for His coming.

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.

We congratulate our young parishioners and those young parishioners from Epiphany of Our Lord Parish who on Wednesday December 4th will be making their First Penance. Let us keep them in prayer as they prepare for this wonderful sacrament.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| Erin Bergen | Yezzlimar Martinez |
| Lincoln Biedenbender | Daniel McCarrie, V |
| Elianna Colace | Adalynn McQuilkin |
| Guadalupe Eusebio-Hernandez | Audrina Menniti |
| Marco Ferroni | Michael Moss |
| Riley Gatto | Allesandro Oliveto |
| Jacob Greenwood | Ava Russo |
| Michael Guerraty | Michael Stracciolini |
| Lorenzo Lopez | Rafaela Testa |
| Juliana Mannion | Alannah Tropea |
| Nathan Martin | Journey Tropea |

Nicholas Vasiliou, Jr.

This weekend, we welcome our very own Sisters of St. Joseph, 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 7th and 8th.

Mark your calendar on Wednesday, December 18th, 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!

Father Di Orio



STELLA MARIS 2024 LOTTERYCALENDAR
WINNING NUMBERS OF NOVEMBER 18th
THROUGH NOVEMBER 24th

**Winning numbers will be
posted next week, due to early
Bulletin deadline!**

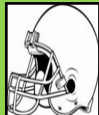


FOOTBALL MANIA WINNING NUMBERS

WEEK TWELVE



Winning numbers will be posted next week!



SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH ANNUAL CHANCE DRIVE

SSJ Annual Chance Drive to benefit Saint Joseph Villa and help us complete the renovation of the Villa Chapel!

Please help us make this year's Chance Drive especially successful by getting your ticket online!

Turn \$5 into \$10,000 — 6 Ways to win!

Grand Prize — \$10,000 also 5 prizes of \$500 each!

Donation -\$5.00 each or \$20.00 for a book of 5 chances!

Visit our website at www.ssiphila.org, click on Support Our Mission tab, then click on Fundraising Events.

Winners will be drawn on December 11th, 2024

For additional information, contact any Sister of Saint Joseph or the Development Office at 800-482-6510

or visit: Development@ssiphila.org

STELLA MARIS CHRISTMAS OUTREACH

Today, 12/01/24, 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. (**Donations can be brought when the church is open before or during Mass times.**)

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, Rite Aid, 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 toiletries, (**especially, disposable razors and deodorant**) 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, when the church is open before or during Mass times.

The deadline for all outreach is Sunday, December 15th.
Your support of these projects is greatly appreciated by these men, women and children. Thank you for your generosity.

RACHEL'S VINEYARD

If you or someone you love has been suffering from the emotional and spiritual pains of abortion—no matter how much time has passed—please know that a Rachel's Vineyard retreat weekend will help your soul transform that pain into hope for the future. Rachel's Vineyard retreats bring healing and God's forgiveness to the trauma and darkness of abortion for those who think they have committed the unforgivable sin. God's mercy is greater than sin and is waiting for us to reach out for it. Join us for a safe, loving, and confidential weekend to experience the healing power of God's infinite mercy.

**To contact our team to register or for questions:
Susan-610-716-4795; Georgeann-484-955-4278**

Join Us For Cana Night

Friday, December 13, 2024 @7pm
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel (St. Mary's Hall)
235 E. State Street
Doylestown, PA 18901

Meet and mingle with other couples and receive an inspiring and encouraging message on marriage and faith.

Speaker: Dr. Daniel Drain

Director of the office for Life & Family

bit.ly/CanaNight

RSVP by Dec. 2nd

\$35/couple for light dinner/ BYOB

Marriages of Grace
Archdiocese of Philadelphia
Office for Life and Family
phillymog@gmail.com

PARISH FROZEN FOOD PROGRAM

Our **Parish Frozen Food Program** is in need of frozen dinners: pasta, chicken, beef, ham, pork and fish. We kindly ask that meals you prepare contain meat or fish, a starch (pasta/potatoes/rice) and a vegetable. Those who receive these meals are elderly and is healthy for them to get a balanced, nutritious meal.

Please do not put individual leftover items in the freezer. We kindly ask, when the church is open before or during Mass times, that you please only put complete balanced meals in the freezer (each filled tray should contain a protein, a starch and a vegetable).

May God bless you for helping those in need!

STELLA MARIS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS VISITATION AND CAROLING

Every year Stella Maris young people and adults visit our homebound parishioners to bring Christmas cheer and a gift from our parish, including joyful caroling. Our Annual Christmas Visitation will be held on Sunday, December 15, 2024, from 12:00 Noon to 2:00 PM. Adult Volunteers are needed to accompany the school children to the homes of our homebound parishioners. This is a great family activity in preparation for the feast of Christmas! Everyone is invited to participate. Please call Sister Veronica at 215-462-1111 or sign up on the sheet in the vestibule.

Date: December 15th

Time: 12:00-2:00 pm

Place: Stella Maris Church Entrance

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!**

A NIGHT OF CAROLS

A Night of Carols is being presented by St. Edmond Choir in concert with Stella Maris Choir and St. Richard Choir on **Thursday, 12/12, 2024 at 7:00PM in St. Edmond Church, 2130 South 21st Street, Philadelphia, PA 19145.**

Parking is available in the Rectory Lot.

Light Refreshments to follow after the Concert.

Usher in this joyous Christmas Season by sharing an evening of uplifting music with fellow South Philadelphians!

ST. MARY POLISH AMERICAN SOCIETY CHRISTMAS ANNUAL FOOD SALE

We are happy to announce the return of our annual St. Mary Polish American Society Christmas Food Sale so everyone can stock up on yummy Polish treats in time for the holidays.

FOOD ITEMS WILL INCLUDE:

-Babkas (cheese, cinnamon crumb, or raspberry cheese) for \$17 each from L&M Bakery in Delran, NJ
-Frozen pierogi (potato, potato cheese, or sauerkraut) for \$10 per dozen from Polka Deli in Port Richmond in Philadelphia
-Kielbasa for \$9 per pound from Czerw's in Port Richmond
-Blesses oplatki (Polish Christmas wafer) are also available for a free will donation.

The deadline for food orders will be Wednesday December 4th so our suppliers have enough time to process our orders. **Order pick-up** will be on Friday, **Dec 13th** and Saturday, **Dec 14th** from 1 to 4 pm at St. Mary Catholic Church Hall in Conshohocken.

**To place a food order please email foodsale@stmarypolish.org
OR call Dorothy Swedkowski at 610-630-0861.**

**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.

Email 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.



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 #
