

December 11, 2022
Third Sunday of Advent

JOY



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Stella Maris Catholic Church
Founded in the Marian Year 1954
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Rev. John R. Di Orio
Pastor
Rectory Phone: 215-465-2336
Convent Phone: 215-462-1111

December 11, 2022
Third Sunday of Advent

Collection for weekend of December 3 & December 4

Income: Plate = \$8,974.00 + AWC= \$72.50 = \$9,046.50
Bills Paid= Total Disbursements = (\$27,235.13)
Total = (\$18,188.63)

 Your Church contributions can be electronically withdrawn from your account and deposited directly to Stella Maris.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:

“Joy is the true gift of Christmas, not expensive presents that demand time and money. We can transmit this joy simply: with a smile, with a kind gesture, with some small help, with forgiveness. Let us give this joy and the joy will be returned to us.”

-Pope Benedict XVI

 **Please pray for the sick that they may be comforted:** Jeannette Albanese, Blaise Ambrosini, Nicholas Andreola, Dottie Arcuri, Neil Baldwin, Raymond Baxter, Elaine Belfi, Elaine Bianculli, Kim Birch, Kelly Ann Bodine, Shyla Boetter, Emmanuel Borgesi, Anthony Borzillo, Mr. & Mrs. Bracy, Donna Bria, Dominick Bucciarelli, Rose Cappelto, William Carbo, Kelly Carr, Arthur Carrado, Louis Chila, Elaine Cipparone, Thomas Coco, Mina Collazzo, Robert Costello, Donna Cunningham, Joseph Dalessio, Jill Daly, Antonio D'Angelo, Anna DelVecchio & Family, Louis DiBruno, Matthew D'Imperio, Dom Dinella, Kathy Dinella, Lynn Di Orio, Veronica Dolan, Marie Donato, Lucy Dougherty, Dolores Edmondson, Trish Ezzie, Virginia Faulkner, Marie Feehan, Russell Fiugalski, George Fragnito, Samantha Fry, Joan Gain, Ellen Gabarino, Evelyn Gardella, Keith Green, Margie Gurbuz, Carol Holman, Kimberly Honeschuck, Bethany Hopkins, Dakota Hussein, Lucy Intelisano, Nora James, Frank Kane, Vito LaFranci, Ashleigh Leone, Stacey Loke Pelle, Jamie Long, Bob Lutz, Kathleen Magnotta, Domenick Maiorano, Mario Marchetti, Pat Marsico, Carmela Martini, Lilian Mattioli, Maryanne McCaffrey, Karen McConnell, Danielle McDevitt, Rita Mendicino, Michelle Miller-Killian, Kayla Minore, Florence Mooney, Cecelia Moore, Philomena Nardello, Thomas Nardone, Renate Nardy, Patrick Oldfield, Matthew Padgeon, Louis Pagano, Jaycee Park, Jason Perri, Madeline Perri, Sophie Philipp, Christopher Pronio, Theresa Quieti, Angela Raffa, Amanda Razzano, Jason Rindone, Michael Rines, Juan Rodriguez, Denise Romolini, Rich Rosati, Keith Ross, Joann Rua, Maria Russo, Carmen Rutolo, Lorrain 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, Terry Troiano, Steven Tropea, Cindy Tuohey, Stephen Tuohey, Allyson Turner, Alicia Viray, Sarah Wallace, Matt Watson, the military disabled, the home-bound and their families.

 **We pray for our deceased Parishioners, Relatives and Friends:** **BEVERLY AMOROSI**

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 11, 2022*

Sunday—December 11 (Third Sunday of Advent)

8:00 + Clint Mazzarelli
10:30 + John and Ida Tordini

Monday - December 12

7:30 + Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesday - December 13

8:00 + Deceased Sisters of St. Joseph

Wednesday– December 14

8:00 + Living and Deceased Members of Stella Maris

Thursday - December 15

8:00 + Dennis Romolini Jr. and Michael Gangemi

Friday - December 16

8:00 + Living and Deceased Members of the Poolos and Montemurro Families

Saturday– December 17

8:00 + Anna Melone
5:00 + Carmen Potito

Sunday - December 18 (Fourth Sunday of Advent)

8:00 + Giovanni Martino
10:30 + Ralph Dougherty

Church Sanctuary Lamp



In Memory of
Margaret Valentino
Requested by
Her Grandchildren

Adoration Chapel Candles



1) In Memory of
Giovanni Martino
Requested by
His Grandchildren Jessica, Brittny, and Gabrielle



2) In Memory of
Giovanni Martino
Requested by
His Wife Emilia and Sons Antonio and Domenick

Altar Bread and Wine

In Memory of
Josephine C. and Michael J. Rubbo
Requested by
Children and Grandchildren



ADULT CHOIR MEMBERS NEEDED!

The Stella Maris Adult Choir invites **all men and women who enjoy singing to join them.** No prior experience is necessary-all you need is a joy-filled love of singing! **Rehearsals are held on Wednesday evenings at 7:00PM in the Rectory music room** (please enter through the front door of the Rectory). Help us to enhance our liturgical celebrations with beautiful music and to vocally give praise and thanks to our Lord for all He has done for us.

All are welcome-the more, the merrier!



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Today, the 3rd Sunday of Advent, has been traditionally known as “Gaudete” Sunday. We rejoice as we prepare the way of the Lord. Great in our midst is the Holy One of Israel, a mighty Savior. The rose-colored candle in our Advent Wreath, which we light today, reinforces the joy we celebrate today as we near the end of Advent and clear the way to Christmas.

John the Baptist continues this week to be an important figure in our Advent journey. From the dark of prison and on the brink of death, John asks an urgent question:, “Are you the one... or should we look for another?” Jesus honors the question by providing an answer, “tell John what you hear and see”. Jesus’ answer is specific and concrete; “The blind see, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them.” Jesus is reminding us that His ministry is about service, healing, and justice. It is through our actions that the people, especially the poor and marginalized, are reminded of God’s love.

Advent is always about “already” and “not yet”. We know that Jesus has been born into our world already, “Great in our midst is the Holy One of Israel, a mighty Savior”, but we sense deep in our being that the reign of God is not yet shining with the glory and splendor that we long for in our lives. We are called to see, hear, and to leap with joy at the coming of the Messiah, even as we are also called to proclaim good news to the poor and raise to new life those dead to the reality of what love can do for all of us when it is shared with others as God shares life and love with us. Therefore, John’s question must become our own: Is Jesus the One for us, or are we really looking for another?

This Thursday, December 15, 2022, the parish will celebrate our Advent Penance (Reconciliation) Service. There will be a number of visiting priests to help with individual confessions. This will take place in our Church at 7:00 PM. Take this time for you! How about asking someone to come home for Christmas and bring them with you!

Today our young parishioners, accompanied by adults, will be visiting our homebound. They will bring them a card, gifts, a poinsettia, and their beautiful voices as they carol. Thanks to CCD/PREP, Star of the Sea Seniors, Stella Maris’ Helping Hands and you, the parishioners, for your donations of the gifts and poinsettias.

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

God bless,
Happy Advent!
Fr. Di Orio



STELLA MARIS CHRISTMAS OUTREACH

This week we continue our Christmas Outreach. We have listed several ways in which you can share the spirit of Christmas with those in need.

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

Catholic Social Services-This collection is for children’s new toys and games (non-violent, PLEASE!)

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, white t-shirts, boxer briefs, large bottles of body wash, shaving razors, and body powder.

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 all outreach gifts in the marked containers in the church vestibule. The deadline for all outreach is this Sunday, December 11th. Your support of these projects is greatly appreciated by these men, women and children.

Thank you for your generosity.

STELLA MARIS HELPING HANDS 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. **Deadline is this Sunday, 12/11/22.**

PARISH FROZEN FOOD PROGRAM

Our **Parish Frozen Food Program** is in need of dinners: pasta, chicken, beef, ham, pork and fish. We kindly ask that meals prepared contain meat or fish, a starch (pasta/potatoes/ rice) and a vegetable. **Please do not put individual leftover items in the freezer. We ask that you please only put complete balanced meals in the freezer (each filled tray should contain a protein, a starch and a vegetable). God bless all you do!!**

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES COLLECTION

Catholic Social Services (CSS) of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia is collecting feminine hygiene products to support women and girls who face difficulties in obtaining them. This initiative, “Take Back the Month”, addresses the wide-spread need of women and girls throughout the Philadelphia area who are unable to afford feminine hygiene products due to poverty, homelessness, and other issues, and ensures that they have access to these products at no cost. All goods donated will benefit CSS’ housing and homeless programs. If interested donating new, unopened items directly to CSS, contact Amy Stoner at astoner@CHS-ADPHILA.ORG or Cindy Volkert at cvolkert@CHS-ADPHILA.ORG. **You can also support this program financially by making an on-line donation at: <https://yougivegoods.com/takebackthemoth>**

EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops have called for a three-year grassroots revival of devotion and belief in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. They believe that God wants to see a movement of Catholics across the USA, healed, converted, formed, and unified by an encounter with Jesus in the Eucharist. Visit: phillyeucharisticrevival.org.

"Prayer for the Revival"

My God, I believe, I adore, I hope and I love You! I beg pardon for those who do not believe, nor adore, nor hope, nor love You. (three times)

Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I adore You profoundly. I offer You the most precious Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, present in all the tabernacles of the world in reparation for the outrages, sacrileges and indifferences by which He is offended. And, through the infinite merits of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I beg of You the conversion of sinners. Our Lady of Fatima, pray for us.

PHILLY ADORATION FOR VOCATIONS

The Archdiocese of Philadelphia Vocation Office invites you to the Sacred Heart Chapel at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, 100 E. Wynnewood Rd., Wynnewood, PA, to spend an hour before the Blessed Sacrament, on **Thursdays between the hours of 9AM to 5PM**, praying that more young people generously respond to the Lord's invitation to serve Him as priests and religious. To sign up to spend time with our Lord, visit: Heedthecall.org/Phillyadores. If you have any questions or would like more information, please email: Phillyadoration@gmail.com

SEMINARIAN SPOTLIGHT

As we pray for vocations to the priesthood, a good way to get to know our seminarians studying for ordination in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia is by listening to their vocation stories by visiting: Heedthecall.org/poster.

VOCATION PRAYER PARTNERS

Each day, numerous men and women in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia pray a rosary for the specific intention of an increase in vocations to the diocesan priesthood for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Prayer is the foundation of all that we do, and these faith-filled and supportive individuals are spiritual prayer-warriors, praying specifically for the men to whom God is calling to follow Him as His priests, and that they listen and heed His voice. On the **first Saturday of each month**, this group gathers online to pray as a community and in support of each other. If you wish to join this dynamic and growing community of Prayer Partners, please contact:

Sue Matour at **610-667-5778** or smatour@archphila.org.

A NIGHT OF CAROLS

A Night of Carols is being presented by St. Edmond Choir in concert with Saint Richard Choir and Stella Maris Choir **this Tuesday, 12/13/22 at 7PM at St. Edmond Church, 2130 South 21st Street, Philadelphia, PA 19145.** (Pease see insert in this Bulletin).

**Parking available in the Rectory Lot.
Light refreshments to follow.**

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

IS THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (R.C.I.A.) FOR YOU?

Are you interested in joining the Catholic Church? Are you curious about the Catholic faith, but not sure you want to make a commitment? Are you married to a Catholic spouse, raising the children Catholic, and interested in knowing more to be able to share with them? Are you a Catholic who desires to complete the initiation process by receiving Eucharist and/or Confirmation? If you answered yes to any of these questions, the R.C.I.A. may be for you.

The R.C.I.A. is designed to assist youth and adults who:

- *Have never been baptized and wish to be baptized in the Catholic Church
- *Have been baptized in another Christian Tradition (Lutheran, Episcopalian, etc.) and wish to become Catholic
- *Were baptized Catholic but have not yet received First Communion and/or Confirmation

There's no time like the present to begin your inquiry in the faith. If you are interested in learning more about R.C.I.A., please contact Mrs. Marie Milano at 215-465-2336, ext. 5.

WEEKLY ARCHDIOCESAN WORLD MISSION ROSARY

Every Monday at 8PM you can pray the rosary via Zoom or phone on the Archdiocesan LIVE World Mission Rosary. To join in this live rosary, visit phillymissions.org for the Zoom link, or type in <https://zoom.us/j/494480541#success>.

Join in as we ask for the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary for our Catholic faith, world peace, personal intentions, and for the Missions world-wide!



GET TO KNOW OUR SAINTS

During these busy days of Advent, why not take some time to research our Saints? You will find that we have lots of things in common with some of the Saints. This is a great activity for children and their parents, guardians, and/or grandparents to do together. You can start with your favorite Saint, the Saint for whom you are named, the Saint of the day, or the Saint for your birthday. The saints we celebrate this week are as follows:

- Dec. 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe
- Dec. 13 - St. Lucy
- Dec. 14 - St. John of the Cross

Enjoy your Saints Adventure!

SAFE SLEEP PHILLY CRIB PROGRAM*

Do you need a safe place for your baby to sleep? If you live in Philadelphia and are currently pregnant or have a baby under one year of age, we can provide a crib/Pack 'n Play. Visit us at Whitman Plaza Resource Hub, (in the plaza between GNC & Rainbow), Monday through Friday, 10AM to 5PM. For questions, you can contact **Michelle Crooks** at **215-585-5080** or email Michelle at michelle.crooks@phila.gov.

Sponsored by the Department of Public Health for the City of Philadelphia and Philadelphia Healthy Start

**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.pavingforseniorcare.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.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S HEALTHCARE

The Center provides an authentically Catholic approach to women's reproductive healthcare and follows Catholic medical ethics. The providers treat women in various age groups—from teen to seniors—and offer gynecologic care, yearly women's check-ups and natural family planning instruction in the Creighton Model Fertility Care System. Services are available in English and Spanish. The Gianna Center of Philadelphia is located in East Norriton (very close to the Plymouth Meeting Mall). For more information, call the center at 844-204-0005 or visit phgiannacenter.org.

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 HONOR/MEMORY 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 HONOR/MEMORY 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 HONOR/MEMORY OF:

REQUESTED BY:

PHONE #