

*December 22, 2024*  
*Fourth Sunday of Advent*



FILL US ALL WITH

*Love*



FILL US ALL WITH

*Christ*

*Stella Maris Catholic Church*  
*Founded in the Marian Year 1954*  
*2901 South 10th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19148*

*Website: [www.stellamarisphila.com](http://www.stellamarisphila.com)*  
*E-mail: [stellamarisparish@comcast.net](mailto:stellamarisparish@comcast.net)*  
*Follow us on Facebook: Stella Maris*

*Rev. John R. Di Orio*  
*Pastor*

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

## December 22, 2024 Fourth Sunday of Advent

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

Collection for weekend of December 7 & December 8

**Income: Plate = \$8,376.00 + AWC = \$85.00 = \$8,461.00**

**Bills Paid = Total Disbursements = (\$34,175.24)**

**Total = (\$25,714.24)**



Your Church contributions can be electronically withdrawn from your account and deposited directly to Stella Maris.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

***Living Stewardship:*** “We consider Christmas as the encounter, the great encounter, the historical encounter, the decisive encounter, between God and mankind. He who has faith knows this truly; let him rejoice.”

-Pope Benedict XVI



***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 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 Goreni, 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 Quieti, 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:***

**JOHN G. COLONA, CONCETTA PACE**

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 22, 2024

### **Saturday - December 21**

5:00 + Michael J. Bryan

### **Sunday - December 22**

8:00 + Angie and Milo Romolini

10:30 + Giovanni Martino

### **Monday - December 23**

8:00 + Communion Prayer Service

### **Tuesday - December 24**

8:00 + Michelle Venditti

5:00 + Living and Deceased Members of Stella Maris

### **Wednesday - December 25 (Nativity of the Lord)**

8:00 + Living and Deceased Members of Stella Maris

10:30 + Living and Deceased Members of Stella Maris

### **Thursday - December 26**

7:30 + Eucharistic Adoration

### **Friday - December 27**

8:00 + Marcia Ann Di Giovannantonio

### **Saturday - December 28**

8:00 + Living and Deceased Members of Stella Maris

5:00 + Margret Valentino

### **Sunday - December 29**

8:00 + Annemarie Mc Donald

10:30 + Living and Deceased Members of Ingrassia and Glynn Families

### **Church Sanctuary Lamp**



In Memory of  
Giovanni Martino  
Requested by  
His Grandchildren, Jessica,  
Brittney, and Gabrielle

### **Altar Bread and Wine**

For the Intentions of  
Jean LaSpada  
Requested by  
Carmel Brabazon



### **Adoration Chapel Candles**



1) In Memory of  
Sr. Mary William, SSJ  
Requested by  
Mary Gatto

2) For the Living and Deceased  
Members of Stella Maris





Dear Sisters and Brothers,

We are three days away from our annual celebration of Christmas, and on this Fourth Sunday of Advent, our Gospel from St. Luke has Mary traveling to visit her cousin Elizabeth. Mary's visit to her cousin Elizabeth is a story of Mary, the journeyer, the God-bearer, the woman who is there for others, caring about others even while carrying her own burdens. In this story, we see the disciple who perceives a need, responds in hospitable love, and goes the distance for others. Mary hears the word of God and acts on it courageously. Mary, the first person to celebrate the birthday of Jesus Christ, teaches us something about the experiential knowledge of Jesus. When she received the baby Jesus in her womb, she became, not only a recipient of the baby Jesus, but also a bearer of Jesus' serene presence. Advent has been preparing us to reflect on the presence of Jesus Christ in our lives so we can bring Him to others. In this visitation story, we find four simple phrases that describe what discipleship is all about: Mary went out, went toward, entered into, and remained with. Through these four actions, Mary brought Christ and Christ's values to others, and that is what all Christians are called to do.

The challenge for us is: Are we growing into discipleship like Mary? By "going out", we must go outside ourselves in order to participate in Christ's ministry. We must step out of our comfort zones. By "going toward" is to offer oneself as the bread of friendship and the wine of joy. It is to give the gift of oneself as Eucharist. By "entering into", we enter into the reality of the person, into the pains and joys of those who welcome us. By "remaining with" is to be present with another as life grows and develops, as pain comes and goes, as death introduces us to still newer life. Remaining with is the most difficult part of discipleship. It calls us to faithfulness.

Our Advent journey is almost over. Mary selflessly gave herself to serve the needs of Elizabeth. It is a reminder that we best open our hearts to Jesus when we give time and care to the needs of others. Have we been true Disciples of Christ, by going out, going toward, entering into and remaining with? Advent is truly the season of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love, and we see all of this in Mary.

To all of you parishioners, friends, and visitors, please accept on behalf of the members of our parish staff, our Sisters of St. Joseph, and me, our prayerful best wishes for a **Merry Christmas Day** and a joyful and happy Christmas Season. Remember that saying, "Jesus is the Reason for the Season." No matter what our situation is this Christmas, Jesus is with **YOU**. Make a place in your heart for Him.

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

Happy Advent and Merry Christmas!

Fr. Di Orio



### FOOTBALL MANIA WINNING NUMBERS



### WEEK FOURTEEN

NO WINNERS



Winning numbers will be posted weekly!

### CHRISTMAS RECTORY SCHEDULE



Stella Maris Rectory will be closed on Tuesday, 12/24/24, and will reopen on Monday, 12/30/2024 in observance of Christmas.

**A Blessed Christmas to all!**

### DO YOU KNOW YOUR TRIBUNAL?

The Tribunal is available to help people who have experienced divorce and who may wish to remarry in the Catholic Church. Whether you are divorced and want to marry in the Catholic Church or are remarried outside the Church, please visit our website:

[archphila.org/archdiocesan-offices/metropolitan-tribunal](http://archphila.org/archdiocesan-offices/metropolitan-tribunal)

### 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.

## Christmas Schedule -2024



### Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord Christmas Masses

**Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24**  
(no confessions on Christmas Eve)  
5:00pm-Vigil Mass

### Christmas Day, Wednesday, December 25

8:00am and 10:30am Masses  
(No evening Mass on Christmas Day)  
Confessions, Saturday, December 28, 4:00 to 4:45pm

### Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

(New Year's Day)  
Tuesday, December 31- 5:00pm Vigil Mass  
Wednesday, January 1- 8:00am and 10:30am

## RETROUVAILLE: REDISCOVER THE LOVE IN YOUR MARRIAGE

Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille. If you know anyone who could benefit from this program, please pass this on. Couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next program will be held **February 14-16, 2025** at the Family Life Center in Malvern. PA.

For more information, or to register, visit  
[www.HelpOurMarriage.org](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.org) Or call 214-766-3944 Or  
800-470-2230.

## BE ENCOURAGED CATHOLIC SUPPORT FOR MENTAL HEALTH

The Archdiocese of Philadelphia has launched a website with resources to support those who are experiencing mental health struggles and those who love them. The website offers links to find Catholic clinicians, local crisis response phone numbers and ministries that can assist with recovery and healing. In addition, there are tools to help parishes, schools, and institutions cultivate a deeper awareness of and responsiveness to these realities, suffered by so many. Visit the Be Encouraged website at:  
[www.archphila.org/support](http://www.archphila.org/support).

## BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

There is an 8 week Bereavement Support Group which runs several times each year at TJUH Methodist Hospital. Each week participants will have the opportunity to support one another and learn about different topics within the grieving process. For more information,

**please call the Department of Pastoral Care  
at 215-952-9547.**

## 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 2024 LOTTERY CALENDAR WINNING NUMBERS OF DECEMBER 2nd- THROUGH DECEMBER 8th

<b>Monday</b>	<b>#315-\$45</b> Winner
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>#740-\$45</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>#091-\$45</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>#453-\$45</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>#222-\$45</b> Winner
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>#314-\$45</b> Winner
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>#329-\$60</b> Winner

Winning numbers will be posted  
weekly!



## 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 unforgiveable 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**

## 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!

**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](http://archphila.org/hope) for details and postings.

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**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](mailto:IDDhelp@chs-adphila.org).

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**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](http://www.payingforseniorcare.com). This website will help you find eligibility and benefit information for over 300 programs regarding care for elderly loved ones.

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**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](http://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.

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**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](mailto: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 #

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**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 #

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**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 #

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