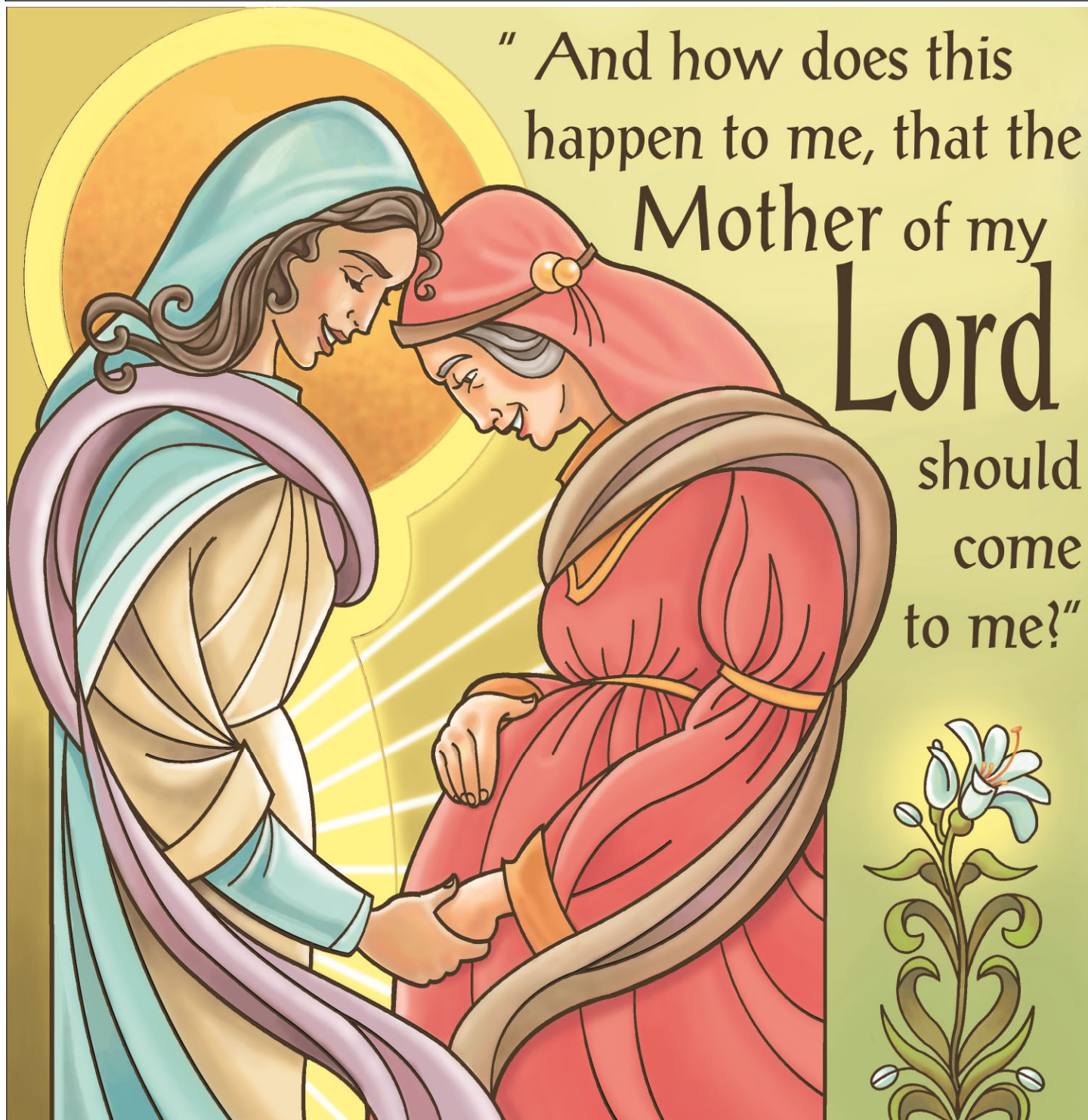


December 23, 2018
Fourth Sunday of Advent



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

Rev. John R. Di Orio, Pastor
Rev. Msgr. James F. Connelly, Pastor Emeritus
Rev. James T. McCabe, Parochial Vicar
Rectory: 215 465-2336
Convent: 215 462-1111

December 23, 2018
Fourth Sunday of Advent

Mass Intentions For
The Week of December 23, 2018

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

Due to an early printing deadline requested by J. S. Paluch, our Bulletin Printer, our Church Bulletin had to go to press before last weekend's collection took place. The collections for the weekend of 12/15/18-12/16/18 will be posted in next week's Bulletin.

Living Stewardship-Living God's Word:

"Faith, ultimately, is a gift. Consequently, the first condition is to let ourselves be given something, not to be self-sufficient or do everything by ourselves-because we cannot-but to open ourselves in the awareness that the Lord truly lives."

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Your Church contributions can be electronically withdrawn monthly from your account and deposited directly to your parish.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

Jeanette Albanese, Rosario Allia, Blaise Ambrosini, Dottie Arcuri, Neil Baldwin, Martha Basualdo, Raymond Baxter, Elaine Belfi, Enrico Belfi, Ralph Berarducci, Kelly Anne Bodine, Shyla Boetter, Emmanuel Borgesi, Mr. & Mrs. Bracy, Donna Bria, Dominick Bucciarelli, Rose Cappelto, William Carbo, Vincent Carchidi, Arthur Carrado, Doris Castagno, Elaine Cipparone, Sister Jeanne Crane SSJ, Sarah Croce, Donna Cunningham, Jill Daly, Antonio D'Angelo, Bea DeCaro, Anna Del Vecchio and the Del Vecchio Family, Matthew D'Imperio, Lynn DiOrio, Teri DiOrio, Veronica Dolan, Marie Donato, Dolores Edmondson, Trish Ezzie, Louis Falciani, Virginia Faulkner, Samuel Fiore, Clara Fioravanti, Russell Fiugalski, Marlene Flocco, Joan Gain, Evelyn Gardella, Keith Green, Margie Gurbuz, Carol Holman, Kimberly Honeschuck, Howard Horner III, Alice Idell, Lucy Intelisano, Ann Ippolito, Thomas P. Jones, Frank Kane, Diane Kessler, Vito LaFranci, Barbara Lalli, Ronald Lalli, Samantha LaSpada, Bob Lutz, Kathleen Magnotta, Domenick Maiorano, Mario Marchetti, Marie Marino, Pat Marsico, Carmela Martini, Lilian Mattioli, Danielle McDevitt, Rita Mendicino, Louise Mento, Lucy Michielli, Kayla Minore, Florence Mooney, Cecelia Moore, Josephine Dolores Napoli, Philomena Nardello, Thomas Nardone, Kathleen Nardy, Theodore Norkus, Patrick Oldfield, Louis Pagano, Rose Pagano, Ronald Palumbo, Fred Papaleo, Jaycee Park, Jason Perri, Madeline Perri, Sophia Phillips, Theresa Quieti, Angela Raffa, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Reed, Jason Rindone, Keith Ross, Maria Russo, Lorraine Saia, Theresa Salvatore, Mina Sammarone, Domenic Santaguida, Steven Scanlon, Lorraine Schellinger, Patricia Schiela, Anthony Sergontoni, Grover Simpson, Evelyn Spina, Ralph Spina, Regina Stanley, Thomas Sweeney Jr., Savannah Taylor, Mary Toscano, James Trainor Jr., Alessandra Trimarco, Lori Trischler, Terry Troiano, Cindy Tuohey, Allyson Turner, Alicia Viray, the military disabled, the home-bound, and their families.

Sunday—December 23

8:00 + DeSimone and Pagnotto Families (L & D)
9:30 + Frank and Rita Giunta
11:00 + Living and Deceased Members of Stella Maris

Monday—December 24 (Christmas Eve)

8:00 + Michelle Venditti
5:00 + Living and Deceased Members of Stella Maris

Tuesday—December 25 (Christmas Day)

12:00 + Living and Deceased Members of Stella Maris
8:00 + Living and Deceased Members of Stella Maris
9:30 + Living and Deceased Members of Stella Maris
11:00 + Living and Deceased Members of Stella Maris

Wednesday—December 26

8:00 + Marcia Ann DiGiovannantonio

Thursday—December 27

8:00 + Kenneth Brabazon Sr.-15th Anniversary

Friday—December 28

8:00 + DeSimone and Pagnotto Families (L & D)

Saturday—December 29

8:00 + Anne Marie McDonald
5:00 + Living and Deceased Members of Stella Maris

Sunday—December 30

8:00 + Deceased Friends of Ralph Berarducci
9:30 + Domenick Menniti
11:00 + Jerry Palestini II

Church Sanctuary Lamp

In Memory of
Ronald Curro
Requested by
His Mother



Adoration Chapel Lamp

- 1) In Memory of
Domenick Menniti
Requested by
Frank, Vince, Tony and Cosmo
- 2) For the Living and Deceased
Parishioners of Stella Maris



Bread & Wine

In Memory of
Theresa Pagnotto
Requested by
Teri Di Orio



Rest in Peace We Pray for our Deceased Parishioners,
Relatives and Friends:

PHYLLIS GRAZIANO
THERESA WILKINSON

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.



PARISH FROZEN FOOD PROGRAM

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

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

We are two 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?

To all of you parishioners, friends, and visitors, please accept on behalf of Fr. McCabe, the members of our parish staff, our Sisters of St. Joseph, and myself, our prayerful best wishes for a **Merry Christmas Day** and 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 pray for me.

Happy Advent and Merry Christmas!
Fr. Di Orio



Christmas Schedule -2018



Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord Christmas Masses

Monday, Christmas Eve, December 24
(no confessions on Christmas Eve)
4:30pm-Children's Choir-Carol Singing
5:00pm-Vigil Mass

11:30pm-Adult Choir-Carol Singing
Tuesday, Christmas Day, December 25
12:00am (Midnight Mass), 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am

Confessions, Saturday, December 29 - 4:00 to 4:45pm

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (New Year's Day)

Monday, New Year's Eve, December 31
5:00PM and 7:00PM-Vigil Masses
Tuesday, New Year's Day, January 1
8:00am



SHOPPING FOR CHRISTMAS? SHOP AND SAVE AT MODELL'S FOR "STELLA MARIS TEAMWEEKS"



Would you like to receive a DISCOUNT at Modell's? Well, Modell's Sporting Goods offers Team Weeks throughout the year to organizations whereby a coupon is offered to all who desire to receive 15% off of their total purchase. In addition, our Team (Stella Maris) will receive a 5% donation from all purchases made with the coupon during your "Team Weeks." Our Team Weeks continue through this Monday, December 24, 2018. **Coupons are available at the exits of the Church.** This is a **Win-Win Situation!** Thank you for your support! Happy Shopping!



STELLA MARIS RECTORY CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Stella Maris Rectory will be closed this Monday, 12/24/18, Tuesday, 12/25/18 and Wednesday 12/26/18 in observance of Christmas.

A Blessed Christmas to all!



SPECIAL EVENT!



SAVE THE DATE! FRIDAY, 02/22/19- CELEBRATE STELLA MARIS' 65th ANNIVERSARY!

Join us on **Friday, 02/22/19**, as we celebrate the 65th Anniversary of our beloved parish of Stella Maris.

Our celebration will begin with **Mass at 5:30PM** followed by **dinner at Galdo's, 20th St. and Moyamensing Ave., from 7PM to 11PM.** Ticket cost is \$50 per person and includes a hot buffet, dessert, soda, water, and coffee. Entertainment will be provided by the Sensational Soul Cruisers. Cash bar. Tickets will be available soon! More details in future bulletins!

SPECIAL EVENT!

CATHOLIC CHARITIES NIGHT WITH THE FLYERS!

Plan a night out with family and friends and head to the Wells Fargo Center for the Catholic Charities night with the Philadelphia Flyers versus the Pittsburgh Penguins on Monday, February 11th at 7PM. A portion of all tickets sold will directly benefit the Catholic Charities Appeal program. If 100 tickets are sold, CCA beneficiaries will perform on the concourse prior to the start of the game and Maddie from Archbishop Ryan Academy for the Deaf will get to sit in the penalty box during player warm-ups! To purchase tickets, please visit:

GROUPMATICSEVENTS/EVENT/CATHOLICCHARITIES6

SPIRITUAL SUPPORT FOR ADDICTION: HOPE IN CHRIST

Seeking spiritual support in the journey towards recovery? Many parishes around the Archdiocese are extending God's merciful and loving hand to those who have an addiction as well as their families and loved ones. The Hope in Christ: Spiritual Support for Addiction webpage provides a central location for resources, events, and testimonies that are happening throughout the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

Visit archphila.org/hope for new postings for Catholic



HEALING MASS FOR ADDICTIONS

On the First Tuesdays of every month, there will be a Healing Mass for all those in alcohol and drug addiction, and families affected by these addictions at 6PM in St. Raphael's Chapel, 3014 Dickinson St. (Myrtlewood and Dickinson Sts.). The service will include Mass, prayers, adoration, and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Immediately following will be the Social and Meeting. Come and join us as we ask God to help defeat this epidemic in our nation.

MEN'S GROUP AT ST. RITA'S

A Men's Group has formed at St. Rita's that meets each Monday evening from 6:30pm to 7:30pm. This is a great opportunity for men of all ages to receive support and assistance as they grow toward a chaste and joyful Christian life. This group is geared toward men struggling with pornography use, infidelity, and other temptations. Men of all ages are welcome.

For more information, please call Fr. Jim at 215-546-8333, ext.14.



FORGED BY THE FIRE-MEN'S DISCIPLESHIP FORMATION

This group is a fraternal brotherhood for young men at any stage of life who hunger to experience deeper faith and vigorous spirituality. Each group experiences three retreat weekends at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary.

February 1-3: Deepen your relationship with Jesus.

March 1-3: Renounce evil through the Father's love.

April 12-14: Join an Ignatian Retreat on the Holy Spirit.

For registration information, please contact Christopher Gallagher at CGallagher@ArchPhila.org or call 610-667-5778.

VARSITY TRACK AND FIELD COACH NEEDED

Merion Mercy Academy, an independent, all girls Catholic High School sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy, has an opening for a Varsity Track and Field Coach. Merion Mercy is located at 511 Montgomery Ave., Merion Station, PA 19066.

Interested and qualified applicants are asked to submit a cover letter and resume by January 8, 2019 to the Athletic Director, Barbara Clarke, at bclarke@merion-mercy.com.



MIDNIGHT MASS FOR NEW YEAR'S AND THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD

The Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul invites you to celebrate the New Year and the feast of Our Lady at **Midnight Mass**. The Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God is a holy day of obligation. This solemn Mass will take place in the **Cathedral Chapel**. All are welcome!

HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS

Join us in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament on **Sunday, January 6, 2019** at the **Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul** in Center City to gather as a faith community to pray for vocations. This Holy Hour will begin at **5:30PM**, prior to the 6:30PM Sunday Mass. Everyone is invited and encouraged to pray for those men who are seeking direction and guidance as they discern a vocation to the Holy Priesthood. Through the prayers, encouragement and support of their fellow Catholics, we hope these men will be inspired to seriously consider the Priesthood.



COME AND SEE WEEKENDS-ST. CHARLES SEMINARY

Come and See Weekends are designed to let young men who are discerning the priesthood see what a typical Seminary weekend looks like. Between Mass, Liturgy of the Hours, and fellowship with the seminarians, it is an unmatched opportunity for a young man to see if he has a vocations to the priesthood.

Come and see weekends come in two varieties: an overnight stay from Saturday into Sunday for high school men, and a Friday night to Sunday for post-high school men. The upcoming weekends are as follows:

High School Men: 01/26/19-01/27/19
02/16/19-02/17/19

Post High School Men: 01/18/19-01/20/19
02/22/19-02/24/19
03/29/19-03/31/19

If you know anyone who would benefit from a weekend of discernment, send them this information! Post-high school men and parents of high schoolers can register by contacting the **Vocation Office at 610-667-5778**.

EVENT FOR WOMEN: A DAY OF HEALING

Do you struggle with anxiety, feeling overwhelmed, self-doubt, self criticism? Come! Let the Lord meet you right where you are and guide you forward. Retreat activities include inspiring talks, community building, healing prayer, personal reflection, music and more. This is a powerful opportunity for any woman seeking healing and freedom from adverse patterns or habits-of body, mind, and emotion-in order to live fully in the love and freedom that the Lord desires for us. The facilitators are De Yarrison, CPCC and Fr. Stephen DeLacy. This event will take place on **Saturday, 01/12/19, from 9:00AM to 8:00PM** at Pope John Paul II High School in Royersford, PA. To learn more or to register, please visit: <https://youaremadenew.com/healing-retreats/>.

"JOY: Jesus first, Others second, Yourself last."

-More Roadside Signs Across America



STAR OF THE SEA SENIORS TRIP TO SMITHVILLE & TROPICANA CASINO

Star of the Sea Seniors are sponsoring a trip to Historic Smithville and the Tropicana Casino and Resort on **Monday, 01/28/19**. **Cost is \$75.00** per person. The trip includes: departure from Stella Maris Church at 9:30AM, a sit-down luncheon at Smithville Inn from 11AM to 1:00PM (must choose one entrée of either Smithville Chicken or Pan-Seared Tilapia), arrive at the Tropicana Casino and Resort at 1:30PM and receive \$25.00 in slot play and a ticket to the 3:00PM "Oldies but Goodies" Show, depart for home at 6:30PM, and arrive at Stella Maris Church approximately 8:00PM. **You must have a government issued photo identification to receive the casino bonus. Full payment is due no later than 01/08/19.**

Please **make checks payable to Star of the Sea Seniors**, and mail to: Star of the Sea Seniors, 2901 South 10th Street, Phila., PA 19148. For information and to make your reservation, please call Marge Varley at 215-463-3386 or Helen Wagenborg at 215-468-6618. (\$100 bonus slot dollars prize for one lucky winner on each bus* and Buffet Voucher for two lucky winners on each bus*) *Casino package subject to change at any time by the Casino.

FUEL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

read this

The cost of home heating will have a major impact on monthly budgets. To assist people with these rising costs, the **Pennsylvania Home Heating Fuel Assistance Rebate Program (LIHEAP)** is now in progress. This **Fuel Assistance Program** is available to people of all ages within the income guidelines.

For example, **individuals** with a monthly income less than **\$1,518**, or a **two-person household** with a **monthly income under \$2,058** qualify for the grant. Call **United Social Services** at **215-923-1900** Monday through Friday between 10AM and 4PM. A staff worker will explain the eligibility requirements, answer your questions and assist you in completing an application. **This grant is provided to all who qualify and does not have to be repaid.** All inquiries are **confidential**.

GREAT NEWS FOR WOMEN

We are happy to announce the opening of the new Gianna Center in Philadelphia. The Gianna Center is dedicated to providing general gynecologic care, natural family planning education and infertility services-all while honoring the sanctity of each human life, the dignity of women and the integrity of marriage. For more information, visit the website at: phgiannacenter.org.



STELLA MARIS PARISH CALENDAR

- Monday, 12/24/18-Masses-8:00AM, 5:00PM-Christmas Eve
- Tuesday, 12/25/18-HAPPY CHRISTMAS-Mass Schedule: 12Midnight, 8AM, 9:30AM, and 11:00AM
- Sunday, 12/30/18-NO CCD CLASSES-New Year Weekend
- Saturday, 01/05/19-Sodality-8:00AM, Church/Vestibule
- Sunday, 01/06/19-CCD-9:15AM, Church/School
- Tuesday, 01/08/19-Star of the Sea Seniors-1:00PM, Vestibule Mtg. Rm.
- Saturday, 01/12/19-Bible Study-8:30AM, Vestibule Mtg. Rm.
- Sunday, 01/13/19-NO CCD CLASSES
- Saturday-01/19/19-Bible Study-8:30AM, Vestibule Mtg. Rm.
- Sunday, 01/20/19-CCD, 7th (Family Liturgy/Service Project)-9:15AM-Church/School

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 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. 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, 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. Thank you!

IN HONOR/MEMORY OF:

REQUESTED BY:

phone# _____