

*December 3, 2017*  
*First Sunday of Advent*



You do not know  
when  
the **LORD**  
of the house is  
coming

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

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

**December 3, 2017**  
**First Sunday of Advent**

**Mass Intentions For**  
**The Week of December 3, 2017**

**Sunday—December 3**

8:00 + Living and Deceased Members of Stella Maris  
 9:30 + Stanley and Adeline DiMenno  
 11:00 + John and Ida Tordini

**Monday—December 4**

8:00 + Anne Marie McDonald

**Tuesday—December 5**

8:00 + In Honor and Thanksgiving to  
 Our Blessed Mother

**Wednesday—December 6**

8:00 + Frank and Anna Palesano

**Thursday—December 7**

8:00 + Edith DeStefano  
 5:00 + Joseph Carelli

**Friday—December 8 (Immaculate Conception)**

8:00 + Dominick Mennitti  
 7:00 + Concetta Fina

**Saturday—December 9**

8:00 + Anne Marie McDonald  
 5:00 + Tom Ciasullo (L) and Rosemary Ciasullo (D)

**Sunday—December 10**

8:00 + Domenic Latorre  
 9:30 + Living and Deceased Members of Stella Maris  
 11:00 + Saverio Greco

**Church Sanctuary Lamp**

In Memory of  
 Frank Pagnotto and  
 Thelma and Jerry DeSimone Sr. and Family  
 At the Request of  
 Great-Grandchildren Jerry, Gio, Joseph and Letti



**Adoration Chapel Lamp**

1) In Memory of  
 Mary and John Brigandi  
 and John and Charles Sr. Bonafino  
 Requested by  
 The Bonafino and Brigandi Families

2) For the Living and Deceased  
 Parishioners of Stella Maris



**Bread & Wine**

In Memory of  
 Concetta Fina  
 Requested by  
 Lorinda Fina



**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION**

**Please note:** There will be a meeting for all Extraordinary Ministers of Communion this **Thursday, 12/07/17 at 6:15PM, in Church**, immediately following the Vigil Mass for the Immaculate Conception.

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

**Collection for weekend of November 18 & November 19**

**Income: Plate = \$5,851.00 + AWC = \$131.25 = \$5,982.25**

**Bills Paid = Total Disbursements = (\$22,278.19)**

**Total = (\$16,295.94)**

**Collection for weekend of November 25 & November 26**

**Income: Plate = \$5,771.75 + AWC = \$131.25 = \$5,903.00**

**Bills Paid = Total Disbursements = (\$6,424.55)**

**Total = (\$521.55)**

**Living Stewardship—Living God's Word:**

*"Life has many choices. Eternity has two. What's yours?"*

**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, Ed Alioto, Blaise Ambrosini, Dottie Arcuri, Neil Baldwin, Martha Basualdo, Raymond Baxter, Ralph Berarducci, Kelly Anne Bodine, Shyla Boetter, Emmanuel Borgesi, M/M Bracy, Donna Bria, Dominick Bucciarelli, Rose Cappetto, William Carbo, Grace Carchidi, Vincent Carchidi, Arthur Carrado, Doris Castagno, Elaine Cipparone, Sister Jeanne Crane SSJ, Sarah Croce, Donna Cunningham, Jill Daly, Antonio D'Angelo, Joanne DePena, Baby Matthew D'Imperio, Michael DeSumma, Charles DiMartini Jr., Lynn DiOrio, Teri DiOrio, Veronica Dolan, Marie Donato, Frederick Earlori, Trish Ezzie, Virginia Faulkner, Samuel Fiore, Clara Fioravanti, Russell Fiugalski, Marlene Flocco, Joan Gain, Evelyn Gardella, Keith Green, Maribel Guerrero, Margie Gurbuz, Carol Holman, Kimberly Honeschuck, Howard Horner III, Alice Idell, Lucy Intelisano, Ann Ippolito, Anthony Ippolito, Thomas P. Jones, Frank Kane, Vito LaFranci, Ronald Lalli, Samantha LaSpada, Petronella MacCarter, Kathleen Magnotta, Domenick Maiorano, Mario Marchetti, Marie Marino, Carmela Martini, Joe Martino, Tina Martino, Lilian Mattioli, Danielle McDevitt, Ernest Megali, Rita Mendicino, Louise Mento, Lucy Michielli, Kayla Minore, Florence Mooney, Cecelia Moore, Josephine Dolores Napoli, Philomena Nardello, Thomas Nardone, Baby Theodore Norkus, Patrick Oldfield, Lenny Olivieri, Marie Ordine, Louis Pagano, Rose Pagano, Fred Papaleo, Jaycee Park, Jason Perri, Madeline Perri, Angela Raffa, M/M Robert Reed, Jason Rindone, Keith Ross, Maria Russo, 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, James Trainor Jr., Alessandra Trimarco, Lori Trischler, Terry Troiano, Caila Tuohey, Allyson Turner, Robin Twaddell, Christine Upchurch, Christopher Vacante, Michael Valardi, Anthony Vanore, Joseph Vitello, Kylie Waldron, Veronica Walls, Ed Williams, the military disabled, the homebound, and their families.



**We Pray for our Deceased Parishioners,  
 Relatives and Friends:**

**FRANCIS P. COLLINS, JR.**

**MADLINE DI GUGLIELMO FLORENCE GERACE**

**CATHERINE TEDESCO DONALD VARLEY**

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.

# From the Pastor's Desk

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 time of waiting, but what kind of waiting? What are we waiting for? Christmas of course. We know that Jesus, the Christ Child, has arrived. We no longer wait expectantly like our ancestors waited for the Messiah. Therefore, Advent reminds us that we still wait for something more; now we wait for Jesus' return. Therefore, the First Sunday of Advent carries echoes of the "end of the world". Thus, as we enter into the hopeful waiting of the Advent season, we focus this week on the second and final coming of Christ – His "coming in glory." Advent is a season that should be full of devout joy as we get ready. In today's Gospel, Jesus urges vigilance through a parable. The traveling man may be seen as Jesus who has left us in charge until His final return at the end. The slaves, left in charge to work and wait, represent us. Jesus wants us to be active in our waiting. We are told to "Be watchful! Be alert!" This can be a daunting task and requires constant work. But our joyful Advent preparation for Christmas should become a model for our daily, ongoing preparation for the day when Jesus comes for us.

Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup> is the feast of the Immaculate Conception. This feast is a holy day of obligation for all Catholics. The "Immaculate Conception" means that what we received at Baptism, Mary received immediately. From the first moment of her conception, she was free from sin - "immaculate". In 1854, Pope Pius IX declared the Immaculate Conception to be a doctrine of the Church. The Mass schedule is as follows: Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 5:00pm Vigil, Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 8:00am and 7:00pm.

This weekend, I extend to the adults of our parish community a companion to journey with in 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 second grade students, who on Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, will be making their First Penance. Let us keep them in prayer as they prepare for this wonderful sacrament.

Peyton Dadura  
Giovanni DeSimone  
Antonio Espinosa  
Rosaria Fortunato  
Sienna Guaglione  
Robert Kilrain

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

Happy Advent!  
Father Di Orio



## ANNUAL 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 next Sunday, December 10, 2017, from 12:00NOON to 2:00PM. 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 Sr. Veronica at 215-465-2336 ext. 8, or sign up on the sheet in the vestibule.

**Date: 12/10/17; Time: 12:00NOON-2:00PM; Place: Church Hall**

## 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 have begun and continue to December 21, 2017. **Coupons are available at the exits of the Church.** This is a **Win-Win Situation!** Thank you for your support! Happy Shopping!

## 2017 DAY OF SANCTIFICATION FOR PRIESTS

The priests of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia assemble each year for a day of prayer and reflection on the Sacred Priesthood. This year our priests will gather with Archbishop Chaput at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary this Monday, 12/04/17 for the *2017 Day of Sanctification for Priests*. Please pray for all priests of the Archdiocese, especially this weekend and Monday, with the following prayer from the *Roman Missal*:

*Lord our God, who in governing Your people  
make use of the ministry of Priests,  
grant to these men  
a persevering obedience to Your will,  
so that by their ministry and life  
they may gain glory for You in Christ,*

*Who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
One God, for ever and ever. AMEN.*



## COME JOIN THE FUN WITH US AT OUR OLDIES' NIGHT WITH JERRY BLAVAT



Reunite with old friends and Dine, Dance & Party the night away with us on **Saturday, February 17, 2017 at Stella Maris Hall, 814 Bigler Street, from 7pm until 11pm** with great music (featuring Jerry Blavat), great food, and great fun.

Ticket cost is \$45 (non-refundable), \$55 at the door, which includes selections at our hot buffet by "Galdo's" Caterers, desserts, beer, soda, coffee, and tea. Door prize, 50/50 chances and chances on a basket of cheer. For tickets, please call Carol at 215-463-3410. Make all checks payable to:

**Stella Maris Parish**

**Hope to see you on the dance floor!**



**STAR OF THE SEA SENIORS  
TRIP TO LANCASTER**

Star of the Sea Seniors are sponsoring a trip to the Sight and Sound Theater in Lancaster, PA, to see the brand new show, "JESUS", on **Tuesday, 03/13/18**. Cost is \$130 per person and includes: Theater matinee show, buffet lunch at Millers Restaurant, Rockvale Outlets, round-trip motorcoach transportation, all taxes and gratuities. **Deposit of \$65 is now due; balance of \$65 is due no later than 01/09/18.** For reservations, please call Marge Varley at 215-463-3386 or Helen Wagenborg at 215-468-6618.

**STAR OF THE SEA SENIORS CLUB and  
STELLA MARIS SODALITY  
THIRD ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY**



Everyone is welcome to our celebration of good food, music and fun, on **Wednesday, December 13, 2017 at 1:00PM** at **The Waterfall Room, 2015 S. Water St.** The cost is **\$20.00 for members and \$25.00 for non-members.** We will accept checks or money orders only, payable to the Star of the Sea Senior Club.

Please contact Rose Giovanelli (Star of the Sea Seniors Club) at 215-913-4297, or Cathy Everett (Sodality) at 215-465-7451 **by this Wednesday, December 6th**, for your reservations. Payments can be mailed or dropped off to *Stella Maris Rectory, 2901 South 10th Street.* We look forward to seeing you!



**FLAME OF LOVE ADVENT RETREAT**

Flame of Love is having an Advent Retreat from 12/15/17 to 12/17/17 (5PM on Friday -12Noon on Sunday) at Malvern Retreat House. Cost is \$265 per person, including meals and a single room in the Main Retreat House. This retreat is being directed by Fr. James Blount, SOLT. Fr. Blount is a priest of the Society of Our Lady of the trinity, a Georgia Mission. Fr. Jim is a bold charismatic preacher empowered by the gifts of the Holy Spirit. He speaks of living a life in relationship with each of the Persons of the Holy Trinity. His teachings depict his deep love for the Eucharist and his devotion to Jesus and Mary.

To register, please visit: [malvernretreat.com/register](http://malvernretreat.com/register) or for more information call **610-644-0400**.



**ART BY RICHARD G. CANNULI, O.S.A.**

Mixed media images: Sacred art and other subjects. Watercolors, icons, and vestments, now through 12/19/17. For more information, call **610-519-4612** or visit: [www.artgallery.villanova.edu](http://www.artgallery.villanova.edu)

**STELLA MARIS PARISH CALENDAR**



- Tuesday, 12/05/17-Star of the Seniors-1:00PM, Vestibule Mtg. Rm.
- Tuesday, 12/05/17-**First Penance**-7:00PM, Church
- Thursday, 12/07/17-Extraordinary Ministers-6:15PM, Church
- Sunday, 12/10/17-CCD-9:15AM, Church/School
- Sunday, 12/10/17-Visitation of Homebound-12NOON-Hall
- Wednesday, 12/13/17-Sodality & Seniors Christmas Party-1:00PM, Waterfall Room
- Sunday, 12/17/17-CCD-9:15AM, Church/School
- Sunday, 12/17/17-Decorating the Church-12Noon, Church
- Monday, 12/18/17-Helping Hands Meeting-7:00PM, Msgr. JFC Conf. Rm.



**Christmas Schedule-**



**2017 Confessions before Christmas**

Saturday, December 16 - 4:00 to 4:45pm

Saturday, December 23 - 4:00 to 4:45pm

**Advent Penance Service**

Wednesday, December 20, at 7:00pm

There will be visiting priests to help with individual confessions.

**Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord  
Christmas Masses**

**Sunday, Christmas Eve, December 24 - 5:00pm**  
(This Mass does not fulfill your Sunday obligation.)  
(no confessions on Christmas Eve)

**Monday, Christmas Day, December 25**  
12:00am (Midnight Mass), 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am  
Confessions, Saturday, December 30 - 4:00 to 4:45pm

**Holy Family Sunday-December 31**

Saturday, 12/30/17-(Vigil Mass), 5pm

Sunday, 12/31/17, 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am

**Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God - New Year's Day**

Monday, New Year's Day, January 1  
8:00am



**STELLA MARIS CHRISTMAS OUTREACH**

**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, place the tag on the outside of the gift.



**St. Francis Inn**-This collection is for children's new toys and games (non-violent, PLEASE!) for St. Francis Inn (located in Kensington).

**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.

**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 Aide, 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 Sunday, December 17th.**

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



**STELLA MARIS HELPING HANDS 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. Deadline is Sunday, 12/17/17.

**STELLA MARIS RECTORY CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE**

In observance of Christmas, the Rectory will be closed on Monday, 12/25/17 and Tuesday, 12/26/17.





**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. All names and information will be posted in our Church Bulletin accordingly.

**IN HONOR/MEMORY OF:**

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**REQUESTED BY:**

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**SAINT CHARLES BORROMEEO SEMINARY APPEAL**

We hope you will give prayerful consideration in contributing to the 2017-2018 Seminary Appeal. There are many ways in which you may contribute:

- Pledge Gift
- Electronic Fund Transfer
- One Time Gift
- Gifts of Securities
- Credit Card Gifts
- Planned Gifts
- Matching Gifts
- Tribute Gifts

All gifts to the 2017-2018 Annual Seminary Appeal are tax deductible. Consult your tax advisor on the tax treatment of all gifts, as they may vary from individual to individual. You may make a contribution in cash, online, or by direct mail, which you should have received from the Seminary. Gifts can be sent directly to: Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary  
100 E. Wynnewood Road  
Wynnewood, PA 19096

**Thank you for your generosity and support!**

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**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. All names and information will be posted in our Church Bulletin accordingly.

**IN HONOR/MEMORY OF:**

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**REQUESTED BY:**

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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, complete the information below and return the form to Stella Maris Rectory with a \$20 donation. All names will be posted in our Church Bulletin accordingly. Thank you!



**IN HONOR/MEMORY OF:**

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**REQUESTED BY:**

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