

DECEMBER 7, 2025

# SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



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

*December 7, 2025*  
*First Sunday of Advent*



Your Church contributions can be electronically withdrawn from your account and deposited directly to Stella Maris.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

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

**Collection for weekend of November 22 & November 23**

|  |
|--|
| <b>Income: Plate = \$4,345.00 + AWC= \$68.00 = \$4,413.00</b>  |
| <b>Bills Paid = Total Disbursements = \$(21,416.05)</b>        |
| <b>Total = \$(17,003.05)</b>                                   |
| <b>Collection for weekend of November 29 &amp; November 30</b> |
| <b>Income: Plate = \$4,580.00 + AWC= \$85.00 = \$4,665.00</b>  |
| <b>Bills Paid = Total Disbursements = \$(2,325.80)</b>         |
| <b>Total = \$(2,339.20)</b>                                    |

**Living Stewardship:** “Unlike those who were baptized by John, we were baptized “with the Holy Spirit” If that is so, then “what sort of persons ought” we to be? Like Isaiah, John, and Peter, we ought to be both heralding and “hastening the coming of the day of God”  
— Renewed by God's Word

**Please pray for the sick that they may be comforted:**



Blaise Ambrosini, Nicholas Andreola, Neil Baldwin, Lisa Baranek, Raymond Baxter, Elaine Bianculli, Kim Birch, Kelly Ann Bodine, 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, Emilio Colella, Thomas Coco, Mary Conte, Mina Collazzo, Robert Costello, Donna Cunningham, Joseph Dalessio, Jill Daly, Antonio D'Angelo, Anna DelVecchio and Family, Daniel DiCarlo, Louis DiBruno, Matthew 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, George McGehrin, 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, Heather Russino, Patricia Resniak, Rich Rosati, Keith Ross, Lorraine Saia, Theresa Salvatore, Mina Sammarone, Rocco Santangelo, Steve Scanlon, Lorraine Schellinger, Patricia Schiela, Anthony Sergontoni, Bill & Theresa Sherwin, Erica Siderio, 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, Carolyn 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 7, 2025*

**Saturday - December 6**

5:00 + Stanely and Adeline Di Menno

**Sunday - December 7**

8:00 + Louise Pino  
10:30 + Christopher Pronio

**Monday - December 8**

8:00 + Agnes Brett  
7:00 + Dominick Martino

**Tuesday - December 9**

8:00 + Robert Rena

**Wednesday - December 10**

8:00 + Deceased Sisters of St. Joseph

**Thursday - December 11**

8:00 + Amelia Iaconangelo

**Friday - December 12**

8:00 + Living and Deceased Members of Stella Maris

**Saturday - December 13**

8:00 + Bobby Gatto  
5:00 + Margaret Valentino

**Sunday - December 14 (Third Sunday of Advent)**

8:00 + Living and Deceased Members of the Poolos and Montemurro Families  
10:30 + John and Ida Tordini

**Church Sanctuary Lamp**



In Memory of  
Joshua and Cass Toner  
Requested by  
Family

**Altar Bread and Wine**



In Memory of  
Rescigno and Scaretti Families  
Requested by  
Mark, Kristen and Nadia

**ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA TELEVISION 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.



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Monday, 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: Monday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 8:00am and 7:00pm.

In Matthew’s Gospel, the people were being baptized by John the Baptist in large numbers, “as they acknowledged their sins.” John the Baptist challenged his followers to a type of repentance that required radical change. They knew that they were not living up to God’s commands. Therefore, John’s message is clearly one of conversion. It asks that his listeners not only turn away from their former way of life but also turn toward a kingdom that will be proclaimed. If they are to welcome the kingdom, they must first turn away from sin. They must have a change of heart, putting aside wickedness to prepare a way for the Lord. The Kingdom of Heaven has come, and it requires a change of behavior. That kingdom will require a new attitude of openness, an attitude that will enable one to go where the Messiah will lead, even if it is unfamiliar and uncharted. This is what repentance means - radical change. Saying the right words and thinking the right thoughts are not enough. Words and thoughts must now be transformed into actions and patterns of behavior. Actions speak louder than words. If we are going to be Christ’s followers, we must repent and live lives that are patterned after the Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ. This Advent we are called to prepare our hearts for the coming of the Lord. This requires both acknowledgement of our sins and true repentance – a change of heart. How are we preparing this Advent for the coming of our Savior? Are we willing to change radically, (repent), for Christ? We should ready ourselves for Christ’s coming, making sure our tree is not one that needs to be cut down.

Mark your calendar: our Parish Advent Service will be on Wednesday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 PM. We will have several priests to help with individual confessions. What a wonderful way to prepare for Christmas! Invite a friend.

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

God bless,  
Happy Advent!  
Fr. Di Orio



## Stella Maris Events

**2026**

### Saturday, February 28th—Bingo Night

Join us for a fun night of Cash Bingo! More information to follow.

### Saturday, April 25th— P & S - Spaghetti Dinner

Join us for our Annual Night of Delicious P & S Spaghetti and Meatballs, Esposito’s Porchetta, Great Music and Fabulous Prizes!

### Spring 2026—\$50 Grand Raffle

\$50 Raffle tickets will be sold beginning in May 2026 for a drawing of 6 prizes which will be held after each Mass the weekend of Nov.22/23. More information to follow.

## FOOTBALL MANIA WINNING NUMBERS

WEEK TWELVE

# 2806 — \$ 25

Winning numbers will be posted weekly !



## STELLA MARIS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS VISITATION AND CAROLING

We invite you, ( adults and children alike ), to join the students in our CCD/PREP program, along with other willing participants, in spreading Christmas cheer to our Parish homebound. Parish visitation this year will be on **Sunday, December 14th** from **12:00 PM to 2:00 PM**. Please call or text Lorinda @267-250-0186 if you are interested.

Thank you and God Bless You.



## ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Star of the Sea Senior Citizens Club and Stella Maris Sodality invite you to their Annual Christmas Party which will be held, Wednesday, **12/10/2025** at **1:00PM** at the **Waterfall Room, 2015 S. Water Street**. **Cost is \$25** for the guests. Please contact **Frances Giaquinto** at **215-284-4686** for reservation. Cash or checks are acceptable, payable to Star of the Senior Club and mail or drop off to Stella Maris Rectory, 2901 South 10th St., Philadelphia, PA 19148.

## Christmas Schedule -2025

### Advent Penance Service

Wednesday, December 17 at 7:00pm.  
There will be visiting priests to help with individual confessions.

### Confessions before Christmas

Saturday, December 13- 4:00 to 4:45pm  
Saturday, December 20- 4:00 to 4:45pm

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

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

### Christmas Day, Thursday, December 25

8:00am and 10:30am Masses  
(No evening Mass on Christmas Day)

Confessions, Saturday, December 27, 4:00 to 4:45pm

### Holy Family Sunday, December 28

8:00am and 10:30am Masses

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

Wednesday, December 31- 5:00pm -Vigil Mass  
Thursday, January 1- 8:00am and 10:30 am Masses  
(No evening Mass on New Year's Day)



## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CHURCH CLEANING**

We are looking for volunteers to form a group to clean our Church on Mondays.

If you are able to help, please contact the Rectory at 215-465-2336.

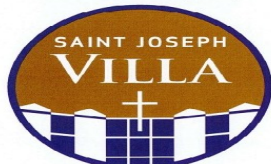
**"Many hands make light work"**

Turn \$5 into  
**\$10,000!**

Annual  
**Chance Drive**

Drawing December 11, 2025

Proceeds Benefit  
Saint Joseph Villa  
and the Retired  
Sisters of Saint Joseph



A Healing Presence



Sisters of  
Saint Joseph™  
CHESTNUT HILL • PHILADELPHIA

**5 Prizes**  
\$500 each

**Tickets**  
\$5.00 each or  
5 for \$20.00

**Get Your  
Tickets Today  
Online!**

For More  
Information  
visit us at:  
[www.ssphil.org](http://www.ssphil.org)



For more information  
call us or email us at:  
1.800.482.6510  
[Development@ssjphila.org](mailto:Development@ssjphila.org)



## 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 12/11/2025 at 7:00 PM 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!



## STELLA MARIS CHRISTMAS OUTREACH

Today, 12/07/25, is the second 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.

**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, 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 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.

**The deadline for all outreach is Sunday, December 14th.**  
Your support of these projects is greatly appreciated by these men, women and children. Thank you for your generosity.



*Giving Hope TO ALL*

[CATHOLICCHARITIESAPPEAL.ORG](http://CATHOLICCHARITIESAPPEAL.ORG)



The Catholic Charities Appeal (CCA) of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia is more than a campaign. It is a powerful expression of what is possible when people of faith respond to Christ's call to love one another as He loves us.



For more than 65 years, CCA has remained a beacon of hope throughout our five-county region and sustained vital charitable ministries and programs that serve one in five people across our region. When you support CCA, you embrace your role as a Missionary Disciple and help us in Giving Hope to All.



EVANGELIZATION  
SOCIAL SERVICES  
SPECIAL EDUCATION  
RETIRED AND INFIRMED PRIESTS  
MISSION PARISHES

SCAN HERE TO LEARN MORE



**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.



**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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