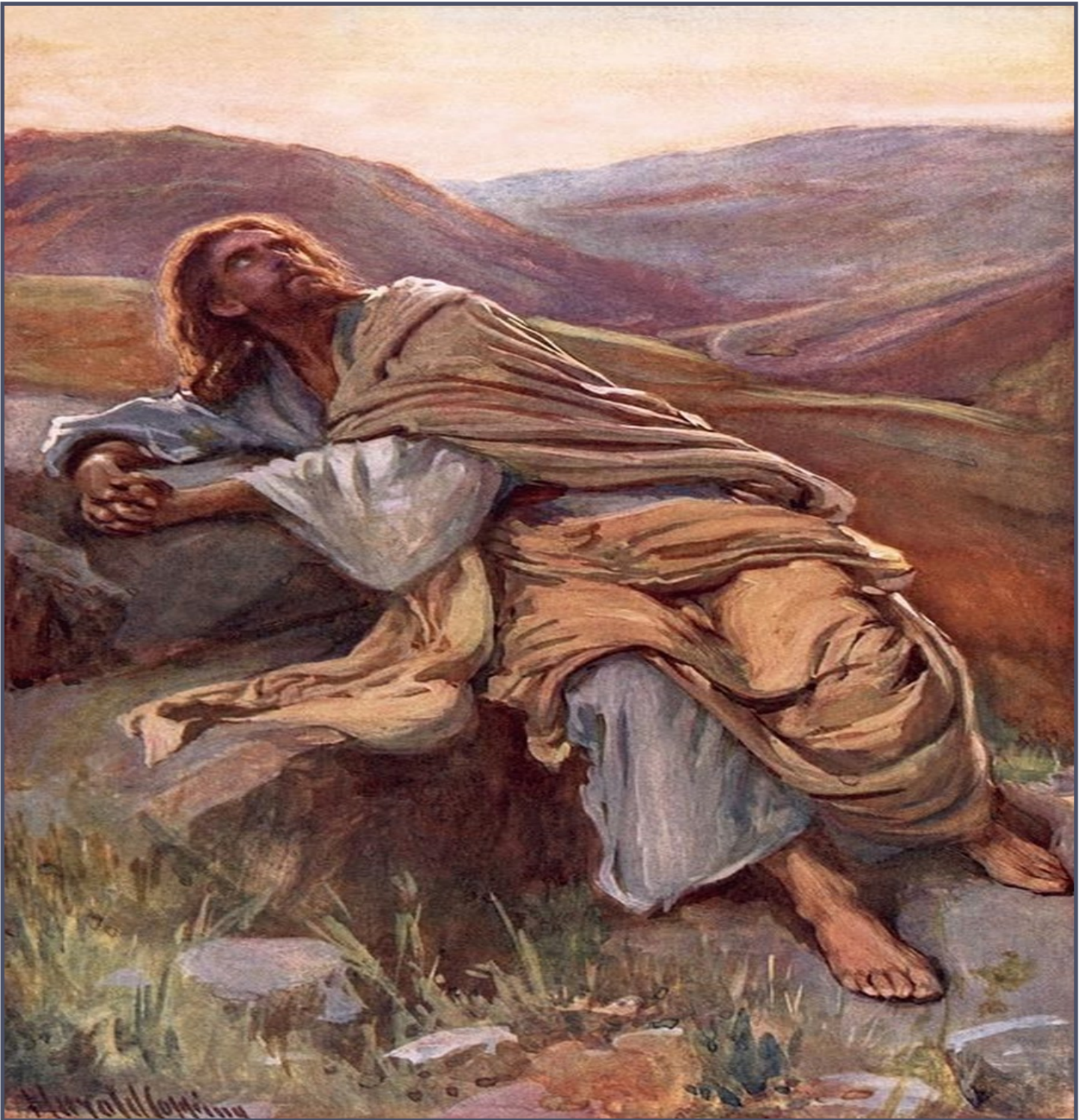


*February 22, 2026  
First Sunday of Lent*



*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*

*February 22, 2026*  
*First Sunday of Lent*



Your Church contributions can be electronically withdrawn from your account and deposited directly to Stella Maris.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 February 14 & February 15**

<b>Income: Plate = \$ 5,568.00+ AWC= \$85.00 = \$ 5,653.00</b>	
<b>Bills Paid = Total Disbursements = (\$25,889.96)</b>	
<b>Total = (\$20,236.96)</b>	

**Living Stewardship:** “To live life to the full in freedom we must overcome the test that this freedom entails, that is, temptation. Only if he is freed from the slavery of falsehood and sin can the human person, through the obedience of faith that opens him to the truth, find the full meaning of his life and attain peace, love, and joy.”

— Pope Benedict XVI



***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 Dalesio, 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 Fiu-galski, 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 Schelling, 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, Caroyln Young, Deborah Young, the military disabled, the home-bound and their families.

***We pray for our deceased Parishioners, Relatives and friends:***

**MICHAEL TARITERO**

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 February 22, 2026*

**Saturday - February 21**

5:00 +Lina and Giuseppe Maniaci

**Sunday - February 22**

8:00 + Fernando Marques

10:30 + David Shaw

**Monday - February 23**

8:00 + Communion Prayer Service

**Tuesday - February 24**

8:00 + Living and Deceased Members of Andrews Family

**Wednesday - February 25**

8:00 + Louise Giannette

**Thursday - February 26**

8:00 + Living and Deceased Members of Stella Maris

**Friday - February 27**

8:00 + Annemarie McDonald

6:30 + Stations of the Cross — Living Station

**Saturday - February 28**

8:00 + For the Intentions of the Andrews Family

5:00 + Robert and Marie Maffei

**Sunday - March 1**

8:00 + Mary DeVicaris

10:30 + Donna Marie Salvatore

***Church Sanctuary Lamp***



In Memory of  
Robert and Marie Maffei

Requested by  
Michele Cecala

***Altar Bread and Wine***



In Memory of  
Thomas A. Greco, Jr.

Requested by  
Carol Ann Greco

**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!



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

The Catholic Charities Appeal has begun in our Archdiocese. You should be receiving, if you haven't already, a direct mailing from the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. If you haven't, there are pamphlets in the pews for you to make your pledge. Thank you for your generosity and continued support to Catholic Charities. Again, thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

We have begun our Lenten journey. Let us all pray for one another and make our intention the words we heard on Ash Wednesday to "Repent and believe in the Gospel."

Now that we are at the beginning of March and in the Lenten Season, I believe that all the Christmas donations have been made by now. Our Christmas collection total is \$23,390.58. Thank you for your generosity and support of the parish in our recent Christmas collection.

Today's readings tell us something about temptation and sin. Why is sin so alluring? Usually, we all have good intentions to do our best and to accept the will of God, but oftentimes we fail, because we are inclined to follow our passions and let pride get in the way. In our first reading from Genesis, we learn that sin looks pleasing to the eyes and desirable for gaining wisdom, "the woman saw that the tree was good for food, pleasing to the eyes, and desirable for gaining wisdom." So, the devil tempts Eve into believing that if she ate from the tree she would be like God. What the devil didn't tell Eve is that if she sins (disobeys God), she will die. The serpent (devil) distracts Adam and Eve's attention away from the hurtful consequences of the tree's fruit and instead entices them with the prospect that its fruit will open their eyes to new wonders. As soon as they eat from it, their eyes are opened; they realize they are naked and seek to hide from God. Later they learn from God that their future includes hardships and eventually death. Genesis reminds us that the first sin of our parents was failing to listen to God. Adam and Eve allowed worldly pleasure and selfish ambition to encroach upon their perfect relationship with God. Temptation became too much for them, and when they turned away from God's plan, they came to know what sin is: separation from God and his love for us.

Thankfully, God does not leave us in our sin, and he never abandons those whom he loves. The Father sent His Son to save us. Jesus' perfect sacrifice on the cross allowed the sin of Adam and Eve to be reversed. Through Christ, we now have the opportunity to know our great dignity as God's own beloved sons and daughters.

In our Gospel the devil tempts Jesus. However, Jesus does not fall into the devil's traps, and in rebuking his attempts, he presents himself as the perfect servant of the Father. It is his obedience to his Father that allows him to demonstrate how we are to trust in God who loves us deeply.

During this Lent, we too, are to be tempted, not just to keep our Lenten resolutions but also in becoming more willing to follow God's lead. There are so many things in this world -addiction, anger, judgment, suffering, sickness, abandonment, loneliness – that prohibits us from seeing God as he is, a loving and provident Father.

Can we, like Jesus, reject the lies and deception of the world around us? Are we willing to trust in God and follow wherever he leads?

Be assured of my prayers and I ask that you please remember me in yours.

Happy Lent!

Fr. Di Orio

### **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)**

### **PARISH OUTREACH FOR EASTER**

We would like to assist some families who are in need of food this Easter. Through your generosity, we are asking for donations of hams, canned yams, canned vegetables, boxed instant potatoes, canned pineapple, and sweet treats (jelly beans, candy, cookies, etc.) Please deliver food when the church is open before or during Mass times. All contributions are greatly appreciated. Please take all food donations to the outreach room in the Church vestibule.

**Deadline for this outreach is Sunday, 03/22/26**

**NEED FINANCIAL HELP TO  
ATTEND COLLEGE? APPLY FOR  
A STELLA MARIS SCHOLARSHIP**

**Eligibility Requirements:**

- 1) Applicants must be high school seniors or graduates who are registered parishioners of Stella Maris Parish, Philadelphia, PA.
- 2) Applicants must be active, participating members of Stella Maris Parish, recommended by the Pastor.
- 3) Applicants must demonstrate academic achievement and financial need. A minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale is desired.
- 4) Applicants must plan to attend or be enrolled full-time at an accredited college or university located in the United States.

**Please note:** This scholarship is for one year only; current recipients may reapply to be considered for additional funding along with the new applicants. Scholarship recipients must be enrolled full-time.

Please call Stella Maris Parish Rectory at **215-4652336**, Monday through Friday, from 9AM to 4PM, **up to and including Friday, 03/04/26.**

**DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF ALL MATERIALS IS  
5:00PM EST ON MARCH 4, 2026**



**Application and Financial Aid information**

Application QR Code



SMS Application

Parent Portal Sign Up



FACTS

Financial Aid QR Code



Financial Aid

Interest Form:

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Entering: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

**Sr. Veronica's New Address**

Sr. Veronica Maier  
St. Joseph Villa  
110 West Wissahickon Ave.  
Flourtown, PA 19031

**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. When a divorce occurs, the Catholic Church always seeks to balance two realities. One is the durable bond of marriage. This is God's law. On the other hand, the Church is concerned about the spiritual welfare of the people involved. Whether a Catholic marriage or a marriage between two non-Catholics was celebrated, perhaps there was some deficiency in the consent of the parties involved regarding intentions, understanding, or ability. The annulment procedure addresses these circumstances. For information, please visit our web-site:

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

**CHURCH BINGO NIGHT!**

Join us for an evening of fun, fellowship, and prizes!

**Date:** Saturday, February 28, 2026

**Time:** Doors open at 6 PM and Bingo starts at 7 PM

**Location:** Stella Maris Church  
2901 S. 10th St. Phila., PA 19148

**What to Expect:**

- Multiple bingo rounds
- Cash prizes
- Refreshments and snacks available for purchase
- A BYOB event

**Admission:**

- \$30 per person, includes 10 bingo games
- Additional cards available for purchase on site
- Special games
- This is an adult event. Participants must be 18 to play.

**All proceeds support Stella Maris Church**

**Come enjoy a fun night for a great cause!**  
Everyone is welcome — bring your friends and family!

For more information, contact:  
**Stella Maris Rectory 215-465-2336**

Tickets will be sold after Mass or by calling the Rectory in advance.

**Save the Date**

**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.

**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 #**

\*\*\*\*\*



**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 #**