

February 26, 2023
First Sunday of Lent



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Stella Maris Catholic Church
Founded in the Marian Year 1954
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Rev. John R. Di Orio
Pastor

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

February 26, 2023
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God's Plan for Giving—Tithing—A Way of Life

Collection for weekend of February 18 & February 19

Income: Plate = \$4,682.00 + AWC = \$72.50 = \$4,754.50

Bills Paid = Total Disbursements = (\$31,835.64)

Total = (\$27,081.14)

 Your Church contributions can be electronically withdrawn from your account and deposited directly to Stella Maris.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

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:

Jeannette Albanese, Blaise Ambrosini, Nicholas Andreola, Dottie Arcuri, 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, Rose Cappetto, William Carbo, Kelly Carr, Arthur Carrado, Louis Chila, Elaine Cipparone, Thomas Coco, Mina Collazzo, Robert Costello, Donna Cunningham, Joseph Dalessio, Jill Daly, Antonio D’Angelo, Anna DelVecchio & Family, Louis DiBruno, Matthew D’Imperio, Dom Dinella, Kathy Dinella, Lynn Di Orio, Veronica Dolan, Deborah Dolce, Marie Donato, Lucy Dougherty, Dolores Edmondson, Trish Ezzie, Virginia Faulkner, Marie Feehan, Russell Fiugalski, George Fragnito, Samantha Fry, Joan Gain, Ellen Gabarino, Evelyn Gardella, Keith Green, Margie Gurbuz, Carol Holman, Kimberly Honeschuck, Bethany Hopkins, Dakota Hussein, Lucy Intelisano, Nora James, Frank Kane, Vito LaFranci, Ashleigh Leone, Stacey Loke Pelle, Jamie Long, Bob Lutz, Marsha Magen, Kathleen Magnotta, Domenick Maiorano, Mario Marchetti, Pat Marsico, Carmela Martini, Lilian Mattioli, Maryanne McCaffrey, Karen McConnell, Danielle McDevitt, Rita Mendicino, Michelle Miller-Killian, Kayla Minore, Florence Mooney, Cecelia Moore, Philomena Nardello, Thomas Nardone, Renate Nardy, Patrick Oldfield, Matthew Padgeon, Louis Pagano, Jaycee Park, Jason Perri, Madeline Perri, Sophie Philipp, Christopher Pronio, Theresa Quieti, Angela Raffa, Amanda Razzano, Jason Rindone, Michael Rines, Juan Rodriguez, Denise Romolini, Rich Rosati, Keith Ross, Joann Rua, Maria Russo, Carmen Rutolo, 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, Terry Troiano, Steven Tropea, Cindy Tuohey, Stephen Tuohey, Allyson Turner, Alicia Viray, Sarah Wallace, Matt Watson, the military disabled, the home-bound and their

 **We pray for our deceased Parishioners, Relatives and Friends:** MICHAEL RUSSELLO IRENE SCHAD

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 26, 2023

Sunday - February 26

8:00 + Joseph and Frances Badolato

10:30 + David Shaw

Monday - February 27

8:00 + Communion Prayer Service

Tuesday - February 28

8:00 + Annemarie McDonald

Wednesday - March 1

8:00 + Anthony and Mary Pizzo

Thursday - March 2

8:00 + Living and Deceased Members of Stella Maris

Friday - March 3

8:00 + Albert Livecchi

7:00 + Stations of the Cross

Saturday - March 4

8:00 + Living and Deceased Members of the Moulder, Irving, and Welker Families

5:00 + Sebastiano Squillaciotti

Sunday - March 5

8:00 + Margaret and Michael DeSanto

10:30 + Ronald Lalli



Church Sanctuary Lamp

In Memory of
 Anna Gajewski

Requested by
 Her Husband Joseph

Altar Bread and Wine

In Memory of
 Anna Gajewski

Requested by
 Her Husband Joseph



Adoration Chapel Candles

1) In Memory of
 Robert and Marie Maffei
 Requested by
 The Maffei Family

2) In Memory of
 Mario Bier
 Requested by
 Theresa Bier



GO FORTH: DEEPEN YOUR DISCIPLESHP, GROW IN MISSION

Archbishop Perez wants to text you! Join Archbishop Perez in his mission to create a culture of missionary disciples in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia! Through the **Go Forth** initiative, you can subscribe to receive a weekly text from the Archbishop with one action step you can take that week to deepen your friendship with Jesus or grow in your mission to bring Jesus to others.

There are two ways to subscribe to receive the texts: (1) use your phone to **text goforth to the number 84576**, or (2) visit the website phillydisciples.org/goforth.

Texts began on Ash Wednesday, 02/22/23, and will continue weekly for one year.



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

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 our Lenten Season, I believe that all the Christmas donations have been made by now. Our Christmas collection total is \$21,101.38. Thank you, thank you, thank you, for your generosity and support of the parish in our recent Christmas collection.

Next weekend the Second Collection will be taken up for the Archdiocese of Military Services.

Today's readings tell us something about temptation and sin. God made the world and all within for the good, giving breath of life to humans. God is the source of life, yet when tempted to turn away from God's will, Adam and Eve succumbed. In turning away from the source of life, death followed. 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 reversed the course of history by radical obedience, embracing the way of the cross to open the gates to eternal life. Through Christ, we now can 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. Jesus is a man on a mission. His total obedience, even in the face of trial and suffering, upends the course of history and restores what was lost through the pride of our ancestors. Therefore, this should encourage us to remain faithful to God. We share in Christ's faith, and we demonstrate the power of that faith through our own obedience to the word of God. We can overcome the powerful temptations of the devil.

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 prohibit 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



OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

February 26, 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA, was established by Saint John Paul II in 1985 to provide for the Catholic Church's full range of pastoral ministries to those in the United States Armed Forces. The mission of the Archdiocese is to "serve those who serve" by providing the pastoral care and services to Catholics serving in the U.S. Armed forces, enrolled in the U. S. Military Academies, undergoing treatment at any of the 153 Department of Veterans Affairs' Medical Centers in the U.S., Puerto Rico and Guam, working in civilian jobs for the federal government beyond U.S. borders, and the families of these populations. The Archdiocese and its endorsed priests and deacons are responsible for pastoral service to approximately 1.8 million Catholics. However, unlike a conventional diocese, the Archdiocese has no parishes or parish registries and no weekly collections. It relies solely on the generosity of private donations to support its programs and services. Pope Francis has told military ordinaries from around the world that, "The role of military chaplains is to accompany and support those in need on the journey, to be a comforting and brotherly presence for them all." Your support of the Archdiocese for the Military Services will bring the Gospel, the sacraments and other forms of spiritual support to men and women who serve our country and defend our freedoms, including parishioners and families from our own diocese. **The Collection for the Archdiocese for the Military Services will be conducted in your parish next weekend, 03/04/23-03/05/23.** I ask your continued prayers and generous support of this collection.

Gratefully and with best wishes in Jesus Christ,

+Most Reverend Nelson J. Perez, D.D.

Archbishop of Philadelphia

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.). All contributions are greatly appreciated. Please take all food donations to the room across from the trophy case in the Church vestibule.

Deadline for this outreach is Sunday, 03/26/23.

WEEKLY ARCHDIOCESAN WORLD MISSION ROSARY

Every Monday at 8PM you can pray the rosary via Zoom or phone on the Archdiocesan LIVE World Mission Rosary. To join in this live rosary, visit phillymissions.org for the Zoom link, or type in <https://zoom.us/j/494480541#success>.

Join in as we ask for the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary for our Catholic faith, world peace, personal intentions, and for the Missions world-wide!

EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops have called for a three-year grassroots revival of devotion and belief in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. They believe that God wants to see a movement of Catholics across the USA, healed, converted, formed, and unified by an encounter with Jesus in the Eucharist. Visit: phillyeucharisticrevival.org.

“Prayer for the Revival”

My God, I believe, I adore, I hope and I love You! I beg pardon for those who do not believe, nor adore, nor hope, nor love You. (three times)

Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I adore You profoundly. I offer You the most precious Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, present in all the tabernacles of the world in reparation for the outrages, sacrileges and indifferences by which He is offended. And, through the infinite merits of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I beg of You the conversion of sinners. Our Lady of Fatima, pray for us.

SEMINARIAN SPOTLIGHT

As we pray for vocations to the priesthood, a good way to get to know our seminarians studying for ordination in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia is by listening to their vocation stories by visiting: Heedthecall.org/poster.

PHILLY ADORATION FOR VOCATIONS

The Archdiocese of Philadelphia Vocation Office invites you to the Sacred Heart Chapel at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, 100 E. Wynnewood Rd., Wynnewood, PA, to spend an hour before the Blessed Sacrament, on **Thursdays between the hours of 9AM to 5PM**, praying that more young people generously respond to the Lord's invitation to serve Him as priests and religious. To sign up to spend time with our Lord, visit: Heedthecall.org/Phillyadores. If you have any questions or would like more information, please email:

Phillyadoration@gmail.com

VOCATION PRAYER PARTNERS

Each day, numerous men and women in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia pray a rosary for the specific intention of an increase in vocations to the diocesan priesthood for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Prayer is the foundation of all that we do, and these faith-filled and supportive individuals are spiritual prayer-warriors, praying specifically for the men to whom God is calling to follow Him as His priests, and that they listen and heed His voice. On the **first Saturday of each month**, this group gathers online to pray as a community and in support of each other. If you wish to join this dynamic and growing community of Prayer Partners, please contact:

Sue Matour at **610-667-5778** or smatour@archphila.org.

COME AND SEE WEEKENDS

Come and see weekends offer men (high school and above) who are discerning a call to the priesthood a chance to get away, meet other men on a similar journey, and find a place of quiet to listen to God speak. Held throughout the year, these weekends include Mass, praying the Liturgy of the Hours with the seminarians, Holy Hours, talks on discernment and vocations, and time for recreation with the seminarians. There is no cost to attend these weekends, which include a single room and all meals. For more information and to register for a particular weekend, please visit Heedthecall.org/ComeandSee.

Upcoming Come and See Weekend:

Post-High School Men

March 10-12, 2023

PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS

Please patronize those who advertise here in our Church Bulletin. They enable us to publish our bulletin each week and we are grateful for their support. Tell them you are giving them business because you saw their advertisement in our Church Bulletin.

RACHEL'S VINEYARD

If you or someone you love has been suffering from the emotional and spiritual pains of an 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 a 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 unforgivable 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. The next retreat weekend is scheduled from 03/03/23 to 03/05/23 at the IHM Spirituality Center, 210 IHM Drive, Malvern, PA 19355. Contact our team to register or for questions:

Susan-610-716-4795
Georgeann-484-955-4278

MAN UP PHILLY

The 15th Annual Archdiocesan Catholic Men's Conference will be held on **Saturday, 03/04/23, from 7:30AM to 3:30PM on the campus of Cardinal O'Hara High School in Springfield, PA, at the St. John Vianney Hall Theater**. Men are invited to join Catholic men from throughout the Archdiocese for a day focused on fellowship and ways to live your faith everyday. The theme this year is: *The Road to Emmaus-Finding Christ in the Breaking of the Bread*. Speakers include: Cardinal Timothy Dolan, Archbishop of New York, Deacon James Mahoney, Permanent Deacon of St. Athanasius in Philadelphia, and Jim Wahlberg, producer, writer, and film director. Irish tenor, Mark Forrest, will provide inspirational accompaniment during a special Eucharistic Adoration. The Conference will conclude with Saturday Mass (not the Sunday Vigil) celebrated by Archbishop Nelson J. Perez. Cost is \$60 per person; \$25 for students.

For more information, visit <https://manupphilly.com>.

Lenten Day of Recollection

On **Saturday, 03/18/23, from 9AM to 3:30PM**, a Lenten Day of Recollection is being held at the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul in the Cathedral Chapel and Drexel Hall (which is the hall located below the Cathedral). The speaker is Father Dennis Gill, Director of the Office of Divine Worship for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia and Rector of the Cathedral Basilica of SS. Peter and Paul.

The day's schedule is as follows:

9:00AM-Sign-In/Coffee & donuts

10:00AM-Morning Conference

11:00AM-Quiet Time/Confessions

12:05PM-Holy Mass followed by Lunch (which is provided)

1:45M-Afternoon Conference

2:30PM-Holy Hour with Exposition

3:30PM-Reposition with Benediction

This Day of Recollection is free but **you must RSVP** to Sr. Gabrielle Mary Braccio, RSM at: sr.gbraccio@archphila.org or by calling 215-587-3795

All are welcome!

**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 for details and postings.

**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.

**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.pavingforseniorcare.com. This website will help you find eligibility and benefit information for over 300 programs regarding care for elderly loved ones.

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 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.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S HEALTHCARE

The Center provides an authentically Catholic approach to women's reproductive healthcare and follows Catholic medical ethics. The providers treat women in various age groups-from teen to seniors-and offer gynecologic care, yearly women's check-ups and natural family planning instruction in the Creighton Model Fertility Care System. Services are available in English and Spanish. The Gianna Center of Philadelphia is located in East Norriton (very close to the Plymouth Meeting Mall). For more information, call the center at 844-204-0005 or visit phgiannacenter.org.

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 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 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, 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 #