

*March 15, 2026
Fourth Sunday of Lent*



*Stella Maris Catholic Church
Founded in the Marian Year 1954
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E-mail: stellamarisparish@comcast.net
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*Rev. John R. Di Orio
Pastor
Rectory Phone: 215-465-2336
Convent Phone: 215-462-1111*

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Your Church contributions can be electronically withdrawn from your account and deposited directly to Stella Maris.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

God's Plan for Giving—Tithing—A Way of Life
Collection for weekend of March 7 & March 8

Income: Plate = \$4,215.00 + AWC= \$65.00 = \$4,280.00
Bills Paid = Total Disbursements = (\$ 23,843.45)
Total = (\$ 19,563.45)

Living Stewardship: “ The truths of the spirit, the truths about good and evil, about the great goals and horizons of life, about our relationship with God—these truths cannot be attained without profound consequences for the way we live our lives.”

— 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 Fiugalski, Jerry Francesco, George Fragnito, Samantha Fry, Joan Gain, Ellen Gabarino, Evelyn Gardella, Anthony Gentile, Gerta Goren, 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., Michael Macomber, Marsha Magen, Kathleen Magnotta, Mario Marchetti, Pat Marsico, Carmela Martini, Lilian Mattioli, Maryanne McCaffrey, Karen McConnell, Danielle McDevitt, Rita Mendicino, Haroos 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:

**FRANK CASTELLUCCI, ROSEMARIE FRANCELLINI,
VINCENT SALCETO, ANDEO NOVELLI**

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 March 15, 2026*

Saturday - March 14

5:00 + Elaine Belfi

Sunday - March 15

8:00 + Msgr. Edward J. McLaughlin

10:30 + Primerano Family

Monday - March 16

7:30 + Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesday - March 17

8:00 + Living and Deceased Members of Stella Maris

Wednesday - March 18

8:00 + Marie DeMarzio

Thursday - March 19

8:00 + Sisters of St. Joseph

Friday - March 20

8:00 + Angelo Borzillo

6:30 + Stations of the Cross

Saturday - March 21

8:00 + Sister Lawrence Elizabeth SSJ

5:00 + Rose Mary Pecora

Sunday - March 22

8:00 + Marie DeMarzio

10:30 + Rita DeJulius

Church Sanctuary Lamp

For the Intentions of
Antoinette and Sam DiGregorio
Requested by
Anonymous



Altar Bread and Wine

In Memory of
Trina Bonacci
Requested by
Ralph Bonacci, Jr.



Adoration Chapel Candles

- 1) In Memory of
Josephine and Michael Rubbo
Requested by
Children and Grandchildren
- 2) For the Living and Deceased
Members of Stella Maris





Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Today, the Fourth Sunday of Lent, is traditionally known as *Laetare* Sunday, which means rejoice. God loves us. In today's Gospel reading from John, He tells us why we should rejoice; Jesus leads us out of darkness into light.

Thursday, March 19th, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of St. Joseph. Our sisters of St. Joseph will renew their vows at the 8:00am Mass. We extend to our sisters a happy and blessed feast day.

Today's Lenten readings noticeably shift focus, pointing believers away from sin's darkness toward the brightness that Christ's light brings to the world.

God sees what is in the depths of our hearts and ignores the physical appearance. What's on the outside doesn't matter; it's what's on the inside that makes us pure and worthy of God's eternal reward. The Gospel from St. John is similar to last week's Gospel of the woman at the well. The blind man did not know who Jesus was, nor did he come to a quick understanding of who Jesus was. We see this in the inner dynamics of the story, which tells of a blind man in the process of coming to sight and faith in the Son of Man. While at the same time, in this Gospel, the Jewish leaders move toward blindness. Little attention is given to the actual healing miracle itself. The drama of the story unfolds around the interactions between the blind man and his neighbors, the Pharisees, his parents, and finally Jesus. The blind man came to understand who Jesus was, and by teaching others, he becomes a missionary. We see this in the interrogation by the Pharisees, how the man grew in his understanding. At first, the one who gives the man sight was "the man called Jesus." The blind man recognizes Jesus as the man who facilitated the miraculous healing. Upon further interrogation, the man said, "He is a prophet." Further on, exasperated by the constant questions, the man says that "this man" was from God. Through constantly explaining Jesus to others, he found his own understanding of who Jesus was and in so doing, he came to faith. There are many kinds of blindness. Spiritual blindness is the most dangerous. It hinders our ability to see ourselves as God sees us. It prohibits us from developing and using our God-given gifts to draw us closer to Him. It forces us to put on ourselves limitations that can keep us from God's grace.

While the blind man undergoes this process of recognizing Jesus as the Son of Man, the Jewish leaders move in the exact opposite direction. The real problem is that the Jewish leaders are totally focused on the "how" of the miracle. The blind man was able to focus on the "Who" of the miracle. Because of his faith, the man born blind could see who Jesus really was while the Pharisees continued to reside in their blindness. The miracle for the blind man was not that he could now see; it was that he could now see the presence of God standing before him in the person of Christ. He could see truth. How clearly do we see in our own lives? Do we recognize Christ in the homeless, the poor, the oppressed, and the needs of even people dearest to us, or do we choose not to see and ignore what is in front of us? What blinds us from seeing with the compassionate eyes of God?

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

Happy Lent!
Fr. Di Orio

STELLA MARIS PARISH CLOTHING DRIVE

Stella Maris Helping Hands is sponsoring a Clothing Drive on **Saturday 5/2/26**, from **9:00AM to 12 Noon**, to benefit **St. Vincent DePaul**. Look for the **Thrifty Irishman Truck** in the church parking lot where an attendant will be able to assist you with your donations. Please place your donations of usable men's, women's and children's clothing/ shoes in plastic bags or boxes. Household items such as linens, kitchenware, small appliances in good working condition, sporting goods, games, toys, bikes, tools and jewelry are also accepted.

We cannot accept furniture, large appliances, TV's, computers or computer monitors.

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



Stella Maris Events

2026

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.



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 and Sr. Claire Lesher's New Address

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

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.

RACHEL'S VINEYARD

If you or someone you love has been suffering from the emotional and spiritual pains of 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 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 unforgiveable 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.

To contact our team to register or for questions:

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

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.

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 website:



Stations of the Cross

Stations of the cross are being held every Friday during Lent at 6:30 pm in Church.

**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.payingforseniorcare.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.

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 #

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 #