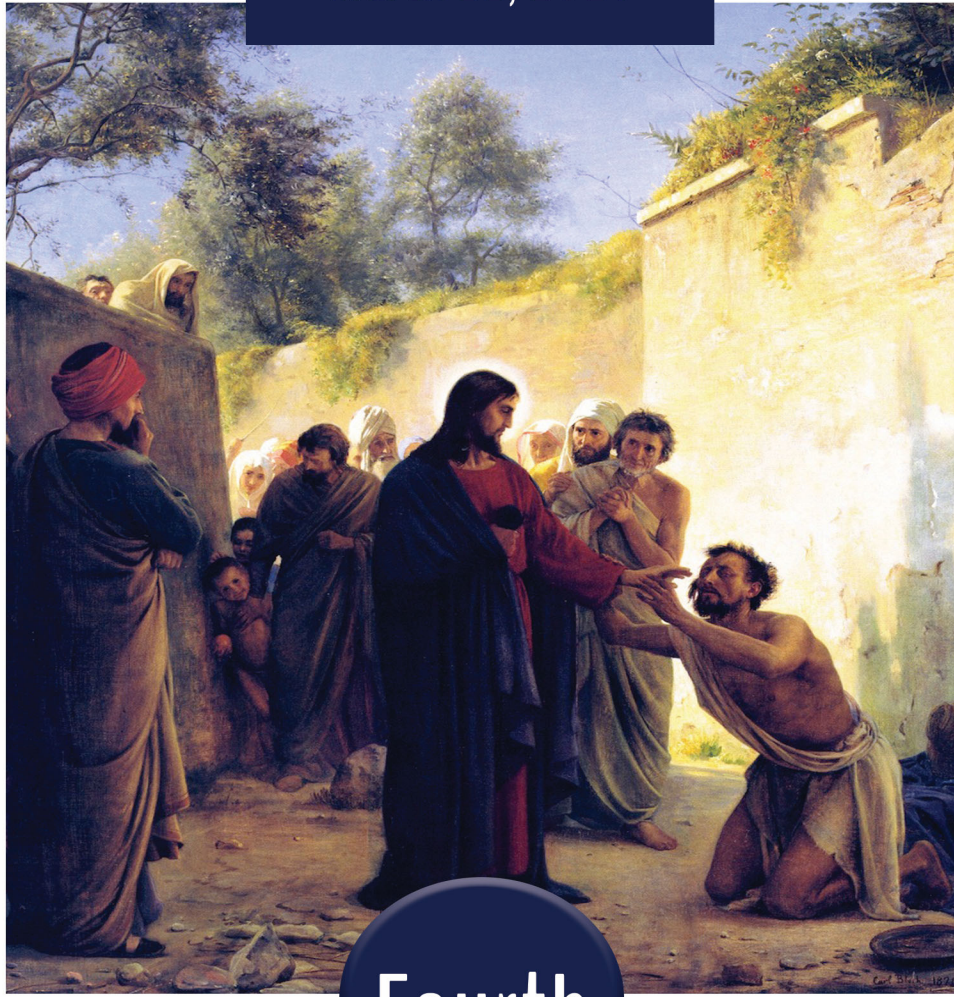


March 22, 2020



Fourth

Sunday of Lent

Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment,
so that those who do not see might see,
and those who do see might become blind."

John 9:39

Stella Maris Catholic Church
Founded in the Marian Year 1954
2901 S. 10th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19148

Website: www.stellamarisphila.com
E-mail: stellamarisparish@comcast.net
Follow us on Facebook: Stella Maris

Rev. John R. Di Orio, Pastor
Rev. Msgr. James F. Connelly, Pastor Emeritus

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

**March 22, 2020
Fourth Sunday of Lent**

**Mass Intentions For
The Week of March 22, 2020**

| | | |
|--|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| God's Plan for Giving—Tithing—A Way of Life: | | |
| Collection for weekend of March 14 and March 15 | | |
| Income: Plate = | \$3,410.00 + AWC = \$ 82.00 | = \$3,492.00 |
| Bills Paid= Total Disbursements | = | (\$28,379.16) |
| Total | = | (\$24,887.16) |

Living Stewardship-Living God's Word:

"Human existence is a journey of faith and as such, moves ahead more in shadows than in full light, and is no stranger to moments of obscurity and of complete darkness. While we are on this earth, our relationship with God takes place more by listening than by seeing; and the same contemplation comes about, so to speak, with closed eyes, thanks to the interior light that is kindled in us by the Word of God."

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Your Church contributions can be electronically withdrawn monthly from your account and deposited directly to your parish.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, Blaise Ambrosini, Gloria Angelozzi, Dottie Arcuri, Neil Baldwin, Maryann Baranek, Martha Basualdo, Raymond Baxter, Elaine Belfi, Enrico Belfi, Ralph Berarducci, Kim Birch, Kelly Anne Bodine, Shyla Boetter, Emmanuel Borgesi, Mr./Mrs. Bracy, Donna Bria, Dominick Bucciarelli, Rose Cappelto, William Carbo, Kelly Carr, Arthur Carrado, Doris Castagno, Louis Chila, Elaine Cipparone, Robert Costello, Sister Jeanne Crane SSJ, Donna Cunningham, Jill Daly, Antonio D'Angelo, Bea DeCaro, Ron DeJulius, Anna Del Vecchio and the Del Vecchio Family, Matthew D'Imperio, Lynn DiOrio, Veronica Dolan, Marie Donato, Lucy Dougherty, Dolores Edmondson, Trish Ezzie, Louis Falciani, Virginia Faulkner, Frank Filippello, Russell Fiugalski, Marlene Flocco, George Fragnito, Samantha Fry, Joan Gain, Evelyn Gardella, Keith Green, Margie Gurbuz, Carol Holman, Kimberly Honeschuck, Howard Horner III, Dakota Hussein, Lucy Intelisano, Ann Ippolito, Thomas Jones, Frank Kane, Vito LaFranci, Ronald Lalli, Charles LaSpada, Samantha LaSpada, Ashleigh Leone, Jamie Long, Bob Lutz, Kathleen Magnotta, Domenick Maiorano, Mario Marchetti, Marie Marino, Pat Marsico, Carmela Martini, Lilian Mattioli, Danielle McDevitt, Rita Mendicino, Louise Mento, Lucy Michielli, Kayla Minore, Florence Mooney, Cecelia Moore, Philomena Nardello, Thomas Nardone, Kathleen Nardy, Renate Nardy, Patrick Oldfield, Matthew Padgeon, Louis Pagano, Rose Pagano, Ronald Palumbo, Jaycee Park, Jason Perri, Madeline Perri, Anna Philipp, Sophie Philipp, Sophia Phillips, Theresa Quieti, Angela Raffa, Amanda Razzano, Mr./Mrs. Robert Reed, Jason Rindone, Michael Rines, Keith Ross, Joann Rua, Maria Russo, Carmen Rutolo, Lorraine Saia, Theresa Salvatore, Mina Sammarone, Domenic Santaguida, Baby Rocco Santangelo, Steven Scanlon, Lorraine Schellinger, Patricia Schiela, Anthony Sergontoni, Grover Simpson, Evelyn Spina, Ralph Spina, Regina Stanley, Thomas Sweeney Jr., Savannah Taylor, James Trainor Jr., Lori Trischler, Terry Troiano, Cindy Tuohey, Allyson Turner, Alicia Viray, Matt Watson, the military disabled, the home-bound, and

Sunday—March 22

8:00 + Anthony Sr. and Marie DeMarzio
10:30 + Jennie Moffo

Monday—March 23

8:00 + Communion Prayer Service

Tuesday—March 24

8:00 + Deceased Members of the Pandelakes Family

Wednesday—March 25

8:00 + Living and Deceased Members of Stella Maris

Thursday—March 26

8:00 + Anne Marie McDonald

Friday—March 27

8:00 + Vincent Tonelli
7:00 + Stations of the Cross

Saturday—March 28

8:00 + Elizabeth Sandoli
5:00 + Marie and Alfred Giosa

Sunday—March 29

8:00 + Joseph Crusco
10:30 + For those Preparing for Confirmation at Stella Maris



Church Sanctuary Lamp

In Memory of
Mom, Mary and Sister, Catherine

Requested by
Grace Bonafino



SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR PARISH BREAKFAST!

On **Sunday, 05/17/20**, Stella Maris Parish is having a **Parish Breakfast** for all of our parishioners—past, present, and for all who wish to be part of our growing family! Breakfast will be in the Church Hall **following the 10:30AM Mass**. Cost for the breakfast is **\$20.00 for adults** and **\$10 for children under 10 years old**. There will be a door prize sponsored by P&S Ravioli Company. Catering by Glado's. Also, the trophies that were awarded to Stella Maris School for various activities, and had been on display in the vestibule hallway, will be available to anyone wishing to take them home. **Tickets now on sale before and after Saturday Vigil and Sunday Masses and also in the Rectory!**



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!

PARISH FROZEN FOOD PROGRAM

Our Parish Frozen Food Program is in need of dinners: pasta, chicken, beef, ham, pork and fish. We kindly ask that meals prepared contain meat or fish, a starch (pasta/potatoes/rice) and a vegetable. Those who receive these meals are elderly and it is healthy for them to get a balanced, nutritious meal. We are grateful to those who take home trays and return them with their leftovers/prepared meals, and/or those who bring pantry items on a regular basis.

May God reward your efforts for feeding those in need.

Rest in Peace **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.

rom the Pastor's Desk

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Please Note: Confirmation that was scheduled for Sunday, March 29, 2019, at the 10:30AM Mass, has been postponed until further notice. Also the Mass scheduled for Thursday, April 23, 2020 at 7:00PM with Archbishop Perez at St. Monica's has been cancelled.

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.

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 limitations on ourselves 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 that you please remember me in yours.

Happy Lent!

Fr. Di Orio



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO CLEAN OUR CHURCH

Our church is so important to us as a community of faith, and we need your help to keep it looking beautiful and clean for all to enjoy worshipping the Lord here at Stella Maris. We are asking for volunteers, both men and women, to help keep our newly renovated church in tip-top shape. If you would like to volunteer for this most important ministry, please call the Rectory at 215-465-2336 during regular business hours (Monday to Friday, 9AM to 4PM).

We truly appreciate all those who will give of their time and talents to help us keep our sacred space looking lovely for our Lord and His people!

THINGS YOU CAN DO FOR LENT

+Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross are being held every Friday during Lent at 7:00PM in Church.



Stations of the Cross

+Lenten Talk and Soup Night

Our Sisters of St. Joseph are hosting their next **Lenten Talk and Soup Night, this Tuesday, 03/24/20**, from **5PM to 6:30PM** in the **Convent**. Evening includes prayer and reflection, and immediately following, the Sisters will have **Soup** available in the **Convent Dining Room** for all who wish to attend. The **free-will offering**, if you choose to contribute, will be given to **Operation Rice Bowl** as part of our Parish Lenten Sacrifice. We hope you can attend, be inspired, and break bread with one another in fellowship.



soup

+Parish Outreach

We are hoping to assist some families who are in need of food this Easter. Therefore, 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. **The deadline for this outreach is 04/03/20.**



Parish Outreach

STAR OF THE SEA SENIORS TRIP TO LANCASTER

Important Notice: The Star of the Sea Seniors trip to the Sight and Sound Theater in Lancaster, PA, to see the brand new show, “Queen Esther”, which was scheduled for **Thursday, 03/19/20 has been postponed until Thursday, September 17, 2020**, due to health concerns regarding public gatherings and the safety of those attending this trip. More information to follow as the trip date gets closer.

If you have any question, please contact Marge Varley at **215-463-3386**.

FLAME OF LOVE EVENTS

Many Flame of Love Events and Prayer Cenacles throughout the nation have been suspended due to the Coronavirus. To access Flame of Love Meditations and Prayers, please go to: <https://flameoflove.us/> and click on prayers.

Flame of Love Prayer line: **712-770-4340**;

Access Code #: 331973.

CELEBRATING MARY’S YES

As we celebrate the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord, the Archdiocese of Philadelphia will join together to pray a Rosary for vocations and ask the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary on her Feast Day. Pray with fellow Catholics for this **Rosary Rally at 7:00PM this Wednesday, 03/25/20**, for this simultaneous prayer to promote and support vocations! *Be a part of the culture of vocations in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia!* Tune in to this Virtual Rosary Rally by visiting: heedthecall.org/RosaryRally for details.

Celebrate Mary’s Yes!!!



INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES AND AUTISM HELP

Do you need help accessing services and supports for someone with an intellectual disability or Autism? A collaboration of Catholic Social Services-Developmental Programs, The Office for Persons with Disabilities and the Schools of Special Education of the Archdiocese is offering this convenient help-line to assist families to connect to disabilities services provided by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

To reach the Help-Line call **484-472-5041** or email: IDDhelp@chs-adphila.org.



COME AND SEE WEEKENDS AT ST. CHARLES SEMINARY

Come and See Weekends are designed to let young men who are discerning the priesthood see what a typical Seminary weekend looks like. Between Mass, Liturgy of the Hours, and fellowship with the seminarians, it is an unmatched opportunity for a young man to see if he has a vocation to the priesthood. There is an upcoming “Come and See” weekend for **post-high school men from Friday, 04/24/20 to Sunday, 04/26/20**.

If you know anyone who would benefit from a weekend of discernment, send them this information! Post-high school men can register by emailing Sue Matour, Associate Director at smatour@archphila or by visiting the website at heedthecall.org/comeandsee.

School Registration for Our Lady of Hope School



Registration for new students for the 2020-2021 continues, and is by appointment only. Appointments can be made by calling the school office at **215-467-5385**. Documents needed for registration are: Original birth certificate, Baptismal certificate, Social Security Card, Immunization Records, most recent Report Card, standardized testing for students entering grades 1 through 8, Registration fee of \$150 per family (non-refundable), and a \$200 tuition deposit. For Financial Aid, Grants or Scholarship information, please call 215-467-5385. Make checks payable to Our Lady of Hope School. Tours of the school are available by calling the school office to make an appointment. If you have any questions, please call the school at **215-467-5385** or email the principal at: pcody@ourladyofhopephilly.com.

POST-ABORTION HEALING RETREAT

Rachel’s Vineyard Ministries is having a Post-Abortion Healing Retreat from March 27th through March 29th, 2020 in Malvern-Frazer, PA. This retreat is designed to help you experience the mercy and compassion of God. It will help you focus on the buried emotions of the past, and begin healing in a non-judgmental, safe, loving, and confidential environment. It will give you hope for your future and freedom from the pain within your heart and soul. For information, please call Lauren at 215-720-5828. All inquiries are kept strictly confidential. Financial aid is offered if needed.

National website: www.rachelsvineyard.org.

MIRACULOUS MEDAL SHRINE LENTEN VIDEO SERIES

Each year, the Miraculous Medal Shrine develops a 40-Day Lenten video series. Experience God’s “Amazing Grace” this Lent. God’s grace is more powerful than anything we can imagine. Sign-up today to hear men, women, and children share their personal stories about God’s grace touching their lives. Connect daily on this Lenten journey of faith! The series continues until Easter Sunday,

Sign-up online at: www.VincentiansUSA.org/ParishLent.

DAY OF RECOLLECTION AND CONFERENCE

A Day of Reflection and Conference on “*You Are Called To Holiness*” is being held on **Saturday, 04/04/20 from 9:00AM to 6:15PM** at the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul in Center City Philadelphia, with the following speakers: His Eminence Raymond Cardinal Burke, D.D., J.C.D., Member and Prefect Emeritus, Supreme Tribunal of the Apostolic Signatura; the Most Reverend Joseph E. Strickland, J.C.L., Bishop of Tyler, Texas; and the Reverend Gerald Dennis Gill, S.L.L., Director of the Office of Divine Worship and Rector and Pastor of the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul. There will be Eucharistic Adoration and recitation of the Rosary and the presence of the National Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima. His Eminence Raymond Cardinal Burke will be the principal celebrant at the 5:15PM Palm Sunday Vigil Mass in the Cathedral Basilica. The Cathedral Basilica Choir will sing at the Mass. Reservations are required. Admission is \$65 per person/\$20 per full-time student. No charge for Priests, Sisters, and Seminarians. Coffee and donuts during registration; lunch will be served.

For more information, please call **215-247-2585**

or email: holinessconference2020@gmail.com.

To download a flyer and registration form please go to the website: www.stjohnneumannchapter.org.

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.

Visit archphila.org/hope for details and new postings.

HEALING MASS FOR ADDICTIONS

On the **THIRD TUESDAYS** of every month there is a Healing Mass for all those in alcohol and drug addiction and families affected by these addictions at 6:00PM at Saint Gabriel’s, 29th and Dickinson Streets. The service will include: Mass, prayers, adoration, Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament; followed by a social and meeting. Join us as we ask God to help us. All are invited.

Prayer for those in Addiction

Oh Lord, I come to You to pray for all who are weighed down with some form of addiction. Lord, You are the One Who came to set the captives free and to release the sinners from chains that bind them-so I lift before Your throne of grace all those addicted to drugs and alcohol. Lord, I know some personally, and others that I know-nothing about-but You know everyone that is enchained by the curse of addiction. Look with compassion on all that are ensnared by any form of addiction and send help and freedom to all who would accept help. Lord, I pray so that they may be released from this imprisonment and returned to a life that has dignity and meaning. Give wisdom to their family members and those who care for them that they may be given the help and support to put them back on the road to recovery. Endow them with patience, understanding and perseverance, knowing that this can take time to address. More than anything Lord, I pray for their salvation. You died for every sinner and it was Your love for them that caused You to die on the cross of shame that they might be lifted up and seated with Christ in heavenly places. Amen.

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.

STELLA MARIS PARISH CALENDAR

- Tuesday, 03/24/20-Lenten Talk and Soup Night-5:00PM, Convent
- Wednesday, 03/25/20-CCD Penance Service-7:00PM, Church
- Friday, 03/27/20-Stations of the Cross-7:00PM, Church
- Saturday, 03/28/20-Bible Study-8:30AM, Vestibule Mtg. Rm.
- Tuesday, 03/31/20-Parish Lenten Penance Service-7:00PM, Church
- Friday, 04/03/20-CCD-Living Stations of the Cross-7:00PM, Church
- Saturday, 04/04/20-HH Easter Outreach-8:30AM-Vestibule
- Sunday, 04/05/20-CCD/Palm Sunday-9:00AM, School/Church

ADORATION CHAPEL CANDLES, AND OFFERINGS OF BREAD AND WINE

Although the Mass Book for 2020 is full, there are Adoration Chapel Candles and Offerings of Bread and Wine still available in 2020. Each of these are lit or offered for an entire week, seven days. Just like a Mass, you may offer these for a living or deceased person, or a special intention. The donations are: \$20 for each Adoration Chapel Candle, and \$25 for the offering of Bread and Wine. Please call or come to the Rectory during regular business hours to see which weeks are available, or you may complete one of the forms below, being sure to include your phone number in case we need to contact you, attach your donation to the form, and place it in an envelope and drop it in the collection basket when you attend Mass.

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. 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, 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. Thank you!

IN HONOR/MEMORY OF:

REQUESTED BY:

phone# _____