

12 February 2017
Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time



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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — God allows us to make choices, but we are not to choose injustice or sinfulness (Sirach 15:15-20).

Psalm — Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord! (Psalm 119).

Second Reading — God's wisdom is mysterious and hidden (1 Corinthians 2:6-10).

Gospel — Jesus has come not to abolish but to fulfill the law and the prophets (Matthew 5:17-37).

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READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday: Gn 4:1-15, 25; Ps 50:1, 8, 16bc-17, 20-21; Mk 8:11-13
- Tuesday: Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10; Ps 29:1a, 2, 3ac-4, 3b, 9c-10; Mk 8:14-21
- Wed: Gn 8:6-13, 20-22; Ps 116:12-15, 18-19; Mk 8:22-26
- Thursday: Gn 9:1-13; Ps 102:16-21, 29, 22-23; Mk 8:27-33
- Friday: Gn 11:1-9; Ps 33:10-15; Mk 8:34 — 9:1
- Saturday: Heb 11:1-7; Ps 145:2-5, 10-11; Mk 9:2-13

Sunday: Lv 19:1-2, 17-18; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13; 1 Cor 3:16-23; Mt 5:38-48

The complete text of the daily lectionary readings can be found at www.usccb.org/bible/readings

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

- Monday February 13
 12:05pm **Old St. Joseph's Memorial Society**
 Presider: Fr. Ed O'Donnell, S.J.
- Tuesday February 14
 12:05pm **Benefactors of the Maryland Province**
 Presider: Fr. Ed Dougherty, S.J.
- Wed. February 15
 12:05pm **Dec. Mmbrs. of the Brown & McFeely Families**
 Presider: Fr. Phil Florio, S.J.
- Thursday February 16
 12:05pm **Old St. Joseph's Memorial Society**
 Presider: Fr. Ed Dougherty, S.J.
- Friday February 17
 12:05pm **Edward & Mary Britt Family (D)**
 Presider: Fr. Ed Dougherty, S.J.
- Saturday February 18
 12:05pm **Old St. Joseph's Memorial Society**
 Presider: Fr. Ed O'Donnell, S.J.
 5:30pm Presider: Fr. Dennis McNally, S.J.
- Sunday February 19
 7:30am Presider: Fr. Phil Florio, S.J.
 9:30am Presider: Fr. Ed Dougherty, S.J.
 11:30am Presider: Fr. Ed O'Donnell, S.J.
 6:30pm Presider: Fr. Phil Florio, S.J.

THIS WEEK AT OSJ

- Tues 14 12noon: Food, Faith and Friends (Barbelin)
 Al-Anon (Drexel)
 7:00p: Pre-Baptism Class (Drexel)
-
- Wed 15 6:30p: Centering Prayer (Drexel)
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- Thu 16 12noon: Food, Faith and Friends (Barbelin)
 7:00p: Schola Rehearsal (Church)
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- Sat 18 12noon: Food, Faith and Friends (Barbelin)
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- Sun 19 9:30a: CLOW (Barbelin)
 5:00p: Loyola Choir Rehearsal (Church)
 5:30p: YAC Pre-Mass Reflections (Drexel)
 7:30p: Cook-In (Barbelin)

Please remember our sick and homebound sisters and brothers: Thomas Hart, D. Minter, Jeanne Bradley, Peggy Curley, Jack Lees, Anna Marie Montone, Nada Sizgorich, Marie Wojcik, Marjorie Heald, Marie Jacobs. Pray also for our ministry at Pennsylvania Hospital.

Names will be removed after 4 weeks unless request is renewed.

✍️ FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP ✍️

Offertory for the week ending February 5, 2017

Collection	Regular	Online	Total
Daily Mass	\$287.00	n/a	\$266.00
Sunday Mass	\$5,429.00	\$6,347.00	\$11,776.00

Online Giving contributed 54% of the Sunday offertory.

NOTE: The Online Giving total is high this week due to monthly donations.

Online Givers – Funds have been set up for the following special collections:

Aging & Ill Priests	Now through March 5
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✍️ ONLINE GIVING ✍️

Old St. Joseph's provides Online Giving – a convenient, flexible and safe way to make a one-time or recurring donation to the fund of your choice (e.g., Sunday Offertory, FF&F, HPC, Ars Sacra). For Online Givers who are uneasy about not putting anything in the collection basket, "I gave online" cards are available at the back of the church. Simply put a card in the basket to represent your gift.

See the flyer at the back of the church for frequently asked questions about Online Giving and for instructions on how to sign up. To sign up for Online Giving, go to our website: www.oldstjoseph.org and click on the Online Giving tab underneath the Important Links column.

✍️ SECOND COLLECTION APPEAL ✍️

Next week, we will conduct a second collection for Care of Aging and Infirm Archdiocesan Priests. Our retired and infirm priests remember you in their daily prayers and Masses. Please remember them with your generous prayerful and financial assistance.

✍️ CATHOLIC CHARITIES APPEAL ✍️

By now you should have already received your Catholic Charities mailing from the Archdiocese, or you will be receiving one shortly. We encourage you to return your donation along with the pledge card in the return envelope provided and mail it directly to the Archdiocese. This year the appeal is not being recorded or run through OSJ and your donation will not appear on your OSJ contribution statement for 2017. The appeal runs through the month of May.

✍️ FROM THE PASTOR ✍️

AMDG

Dear OSJ Family,

On the 14th of this month the world will celebrate Valentine's Day. This day, while currently celebrated as a secular holiday, was once solely a Catholic feast day in honor of an actual Christian saint. In truth, there were at least two or three St. Valentines, all of whom were likely martyrs of the early church. I say "likely" because much of what we know about them is attributed to legend and not history or fact. Given this ambiguity, this church feast day is no longer celebrated in our liturgical calendar as we are not even sure which Valentine we honor that day! All we do know is that a Saint Valentine existed. Notably, the secular holiday is now associated with love and romance (and greeting cards!)

Again, there were "likely" two or more St Valentines and we know that the first was a Roman priest martyred on the Flaminian Way under the Roman Emperor Claudius and the second was a bishop of Terni, who was taken to Rome and martyred in the public square. Again, the accounts of martyrdom of both St Valentines are legendary, although each legend possess some elements of truth. What we do know is that at least two Valentines were martyred, having suffered persecution and death for our faith. Accordingly, red, the Church's liturgical color for martyrs, was used on St. Valentine's Day to represent the blood that was spilled for God. Over time, the feast of these martyred saints grew in popularity and, eventually, began to be associated with love and romance. How and why that happened, no one is sure, but some scholars have speculated that the association with romantic love on Valentine's Day is related to customs associated with the Roman celebration of *Lupercalia*, a festival of purification and fertility, which fell in mid-February.

Today, Saint Valentine's Day customs and traditions, while devoid of their religious significance, are nonetheless rooted in the Catholic practices of old. For example, sending Valentine greetings or "prayer cards," as well as the giving of candies, treats, and flowers were traditional ways that Catholics honored a person on their saint's day or name day.

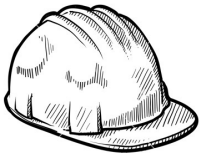
So while the Church no longer celebrates this mid-February day as a feast day, there is nothing to stop a Catholic from honoring—in prayer, word, or deed—one of the Saint Valentines on the 14th!

God bless,

Fr Phil Florio, SJ

↳ PARISH LIFE ↩

Fr. Jerry McAndrews, SJ, formerly of our parish staff, will celebrate the 9:30 am Mass on **Sunday, February 26** and will stay for coffee hour afterwards. All are welcome to come and visit with Fr McAndrews.



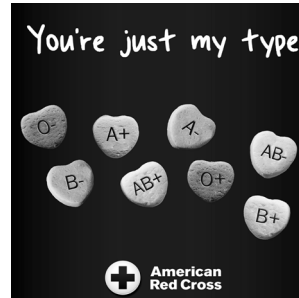
Two long-awaited construction projects have begun in the church. Scaffolding has been erected inside the sanctuary to allow Andy Palewski to access and repair the ceiling plaster directly above the left side of the altar. During the summer of 2014, the sanctuary ceiling was damaged by water that overflowed from the AC air handler which is located directly above the altar in the church attic. After that mishap, we installed an alarm system inside the air handler to avoid any possibility of a recurrence.

Also, the final phase of the lighting and rewiring project, which was started back in early 2013 by Keough Electric, will be completed during February. The ceiling lights which illuminate the sanctuary will be completely replaced and rewired. After this work is completed, the entire rectory and church will have been rewired and should last us at least 50 years.

Music Notes: The Schola Cantorum of Old St. Joseph's will again lead the singing of the Psalms and the Magnificat at our annual Lenten Choral Vespers, and this year we put a spotlight on some of the greatest composers from England: William Byrd, Herbert Howells, and Healey Willan. Please join us on Sunday, March 5, the First Sunday of Lent, at 4pm.

Is the Holy Spirit calling you to join our Music Ministry? There are many ways to express your faith here: singing with the Schola or the Loyola Choir (or

both), cantoring, or playing an instrument. If you ask any of our ministers they will attest to how the personal rewards are rich, and the service you provide our congregation is without measure. Contact Pat Montenegro at music@oldstjoseph at any time with your interest.



OSJ Red Cross Blood Drive, TODAY, Sunday February 12, 8:30 am 1:30 pm at Wyndham Philadelphia Historic District (400 Arch St) PLEASE NOTE: this drive IS NOT at the Church To make an appointment,

please visit www.redcrossblood.org and enter the sponsor code: Old St Joseph, email OSJSocialJustice@yahoo.com or call Tim Donofrio at 610-717-2618. The need for blood is constant and your contribution is very important.

The centering prayer group will meet on Wednesday, February 15 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm in the Drexel Parlor of the rectory. The meeting will include a discussion on centering prayer, followed by evening prayer with a period of centering. Anyone interested in this contemplative prayer is welcome to join us. For further information, contact Christine Szczepanowski at 267-250-3049 or christinesz52@gmail.com.



All are invited by the OSJ Young Adult Community to join in the parish monthly Sunday **Cook-In in Barbelin Hall after the 6:30pm Sunday Mass on February 19.** Come and enjoy good food and good company!

A Unique Workshop at OSJ Church: Join us for a Liturgical Workshop with Fr. Dennis Gill, Director of the Office for Divine Worship of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. **This workshop will take place on Saturday, April 1 from 10 am to Noon in Barbelin Hall.** The theme of the workshop is The Central Role of the Faithful/Congregation in the Celebration of the Eucharist.

This special workshop is open to all OSJ members and is an opportunity to learn more about our role in the sacred celebration of the Mass and other liturgies. We will hear more about the symbols and deep meanings of our liturgy and how we can be nourished and grow spiritually as we receive further instruction

in the beauty of our Catholic worship. If you have any questions or would like to RSVP, **contact Sister Asunta, acj, via email at liturgy@oldstjoseph.org**

↪ INTERFAITH ↩

Where on Earth is God?: Within the Judeo-Christian tradition, the story of creation is too big for one story. Genesis' opening chapters offer two very different accounts, yet the two stories agree on one thing: the formation of the first humans takes place in the context of an exceptionally diverse creation and as a result of the creative action of God. Faith and environment stand inseparable. The Incarnation of Jesus Christ and the conviction that in Christ there is unity of full divinity and full humanity echoes this inseparability.

Join us on March 5, 2017, 1:30 PM (Inclement weather date – March 19) at Old Pine Street Presbyterian Church (412 Pine Street) to hear speaker Rev. Nathan Stucky, PhD, Director of the Farminary Project at Princeton Theological Seminary. Event is free and open to the Public, Registration is required. For tickets, go to opc250-environment.eventbrite.com

↪ IGNATIAN SPIRITUALITY ↩

Lenten Day of Retreat: On Saturday, March 18, Fr. Florio will direct a one day retreat at the Cranaleith Spiritual Center in NE Philadelphia. As we prepare to bear witness to the Cross and Resurrection of our Savior, wouldn't it be nice to set aside one Saturday afternoon to stop, quiet down and pray? Mark your calendar and plan ahead to set some time aside for you. It could be the best present in your Easter basket! Space is limited, please RSVP, and direct any questions to concerns to: osjspirituality@oldstjoseph.org by Monday, March 13.

Lenten At-Home Retreat: The annual At-Home retreat is a book of daily prayers and reflections that affords each of us the opportunity to take a few minutes each day to reflect on the many gifts the Lord has given us. The Ignatian Spirituality Committee will be passing out the book of reflections the weekend of February 25 & 26.

From the Office of Ignatian Spirituality: Registration is now open for our upcoming Ignatian Leadership for Mission (ILM) retreats. We are offering two: the first in from May 1-4, 2017, in Faulkner, Maryland, and the second from June 18-23, 2017, in Wernersville, Pennsylvania. The ILM retreat focuses on the graces of

gratitude, healing, call and co-laboring. The retreat format combines presentation, silent prayer and reflection, and group faith sharing.

For more information and to register, please visit <http://tinyurl.com/z896loy>.

Registration is now open for "We Walk with a Heart That Does Not Rest: An Ignatian Spirituality Conference" taking place on April 1, 2017. Join us in person from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at Loyola Blakefield High School in Towson, Maryland, or participate online. For more information and to register, visit <http://tinyurl.com/h6zbzqn>.

↪ SOCIAL JUSTICE ↩

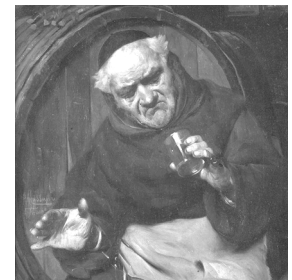
As the US Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) remind us, "Immigrants, new to our shores, call us out of our unawareness to a conversion of mind and heart through which we are able to offer a genuine and suitable welcome, to share together as brothers and sisters at the same table, and to work side by side to improve the quality of life for society's marginalized members." There are many ways to assist new arrivals. This might be through prayer, donations, material support, accompaniment, teaching English, etc.

Get involved by contacting one of these local agencies who staff refugee resettlement in our region:

- ♦ **Welcome the Refugee** // *Catholic Social Services, Archdiocese of Philadelphia* // welcometherefugee.org // 610-876-7101
- ♦ **HIAS PA** // hiaspa.org // 215-832-0900
- ♦ **Nationalities Service Center** // nscphila.org // (215) 893-8400
- ♦ **Bethany Christian Services** // bethany.org/Philadelphia // (215) 376-6200

↪ YOUNG ADULT COMMUNITY ↩

February OSJ YAC Happy Hour: "Garage + Fishtown = a match made in heaven!" So says Garage Philly (100 E Girard Ave), where YAC will be heading to for our monthly happy hour on **Friday, February 17.**



Located two blocks east of Girard Station (Market-Frankford Line) and with the largest canned beer

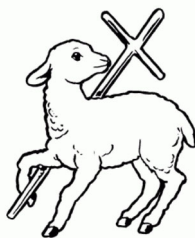
selection in town, sometimes Friday can get even better than expected. Join us for good beer and food, great company, and games! Yes, they even have a pool table and skeeball. If you have any trouble finding us, feel free to shoot Jenn a text at 917-930-9851. **We'll plan to get there at 5:30 pm, and will stay till at least 8 pm, so come early or late.** We hope to see you there!

Young Adult Pre-Mass Reflection Group, Sundays at 5:30pm, OSJ Courtyard or Drexel Parlor: All young adults are invited to prepare and reflect as a group for the Sunday readings that will be heard at the 6:30 Mass. Prayer will begin at 5:30, end between 6:15/6:20, and materials will be provided. If you have any questions, please contact us at osjyac@gmail.com.

AROUND THE CORNER

St. Joseph's University's Faith-Justice Intitute is offering a series of lectures this Spring. All lectures are free and open to the public. **The next lecture will be held on Tuesday, February 21 at 7 pm in the Foley Center.** Andeu Oliva, J.S., Joe Canas, President of Universidad Centroamericana, and Kevin Yonkers-Talz, Ed.D., Co-Founder of Casa Program in Santa Clara, will conduct a lecture called "**The Legacy of the UCA Martyrs: Inspiring Catholic Higher Education to be Solidarity with the Marginalized.**" The legacy of the UCA martyrs continue to inspire and challenge those of us in Catholic Jesuit higher education to stay close to the realities of the poor and to allow that concrete experience to continue to inform our teaching, research and, in the UCA's case, "proyección social". Creating opportunities by which faculty, staff and students can walk in solidarity with the marginalized is critical if we wish to foster well educated solidarity and promote faith that does justice.

Today, Sunday, February 12, at 2 pm, Dr. William Watson will speak about his ongoing research at Duffy's Cut, the site of an 1832 mass grave of 57 Irish Catholic railroad workers. The lecture is hosted by the American Catholic Historical Society (263 South 4th Street) Free and open to the public. For more information, visit www.amchs.org.



OSJ STAFF

Pastor: Fr. Philip Florio, S.J.
Parochial Vicar: Fr. Edward O'Donnell, S.J. (eodonnell@oldstjoseph.org)
In Residence: Br. Robert Carson, S.J.;
Fr. Edward Dougherty S.J. (dougherty@oldstjoseph.org);
Business Manager: Eric German (germane@oldstjoseph.org)
Director of Music: Pasquale Montenegro (music@oldstjoseph.org)
Liturgy Coordinator- Sr. Asunta Tanh, acj (liturgy@oldstjoseph.org)
Administrative Assistant: Eleanor Margaret (office@oldstjoseph.org)
Faith, Food & Friends Program Director: Mary Freedman (faithandfriends@oldstjoseph.org)
PREP Coordinator: Christine Szczepanowski (prep@oldstjoseph.org)
Parish Pastoral Council (osjpc@oldstjoseph.org)
Tom Nailor (co-chair), Rana McNamara (co-chair),
Richard Le, Jennifer Lydic, David Maynard, Melissa Mazur, Donna Frithsen, Lou Oschmann, Dan Salvatore, Madeleine Becker, Ted Robb, Karen DeMeis
Parish Finance Council
Paul Shay (Chair), Kathi Boczar, Cathy Califano, Camille Fallon, Dave Maynard (ex officio Parish Council), Matt McClure, Christopher McGill
Historic Preservation Corporation Board
Gregory Alexander; Carmen Croce (ex officio representing St. Joseph's University); Maryjane Green, Fr. Dan Joyce, S.J. (ex officio representing the Maryland Jesuits); Rana McNamara, Joseph Tozzi, Albert Russo, Chuck Capaldi, Barry Eiswerth, Bill Waffle
Parish Committees and Chairpersons
Adult Education: Rita O'Brien and Jeanmarie Zippo (adulthood@oldstjoseph.org)
Parish Life: Joe Casey
Ignatian Spirituality and Formation: John Bitterman (osjspirituality@oldstjoseph.org)
Social Justice: Bethany Welch (socialjustice@oldstjoseph.org)
Ministry Coordinators
Altar Servers: Donna Soultoukis, (dsoultoukis@yahoo.com)
Extraordinary Ministers of Communion: Bill Stewart (wstewart@kaplaw.com)
Hospital Ministers: Donna Frithsen, (donnagenevieve@gmail.com)
Lectors: Richard DeFortuna, (rdefortuna@gmail.com)
Ushers: Nikola Sizgorich, (niksiz@icloud.com)
Children's Liturgy of the Word: Peggy Connolly (pmcon@comcast.net)