

23 April 2017
Second Sunday of Easter



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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — All who believed were devoted to the teachings of the apostles, the communal life, the breaking of the bread, and prayer (Acts 2:42-47).

Psalm — Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting (Psalm 118).

Second Reading — God has given us an undiminished inheritance, safeguarded for us in heaven (1 Peter 1:3-9).

Gospel — The risen Christ comes to his disciples with peace and the Spirit. The absent Thomas doubts (John 20:19-31).

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READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday: Acts 4:23-31; Ps 2:1-9; Jn 3:1-8
- Tuesday: 1 Pt 5:5b-14; Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17; Mk 16:15-20
- Wed: Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-9; Jn 3:16-21
- Thursday: Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34:2, 9, 17-20; Jn 3:31-36
- Friday: Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Jn 6:1-15
- Saturday: Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19; Jn 6:16-21
- Sunday: Acts 2:14, 22-33; Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-11; 1 Pt 1:17-21; Lk 24:13-35

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

† MASSES FOR THE WEEK †

- Monday April 24
12:05pm **Mary M. Convery**
Presider: Fr. Ed O'Donnell, S.J.
- Tuesday April 25
12:05pm **Old St. Joseph's Memorial Society**
Presider: Fr. Ed Dougherty, S.J.
- Wed. April 26
12:05pm **Edward & Mary Britt Family (D)**
Presider: Fr. Philip Florio, S.J.
- Thursday April 27
11:30am **Old St. Joseph's Memorial Society**
Presider: Fr. Philip Florio, S.J.
- Friday April 28
12:05pm **Old St. Joseph's Memorial Society**
Presider: Fr. Ed O'Donnell, S.J.
- Saturday April 29
7:30pm **Old St. Joseph's Memorial Society**
Presider: Fr. Ed Dougherty, S.J.
5:30pm Presider: Fr. Ed Dougherty, S.J.
- Sunday April 30
7:30am Presider: Fr. Ed Dougherty, S.J.
9:30am Presider: Fr. Ed O'Donnell, S.J.
11:30am Presider: Fr. Dan Ruff, S.J.
11:30am Presider: Fr. Stephen Surovick, S.J.

† THIS WEEK AT OSJ †

- Tues 25 12noon: Food, Faith and Friends (Barbelin)
Al-Anon (Drexel)
- Thu 27 12noon: Food, Faith and Friends (Barbelin)
7:00p: Schola Rehearsal (Church)
- Sat 29 12noon: Food, Faith and Friends (Barbelin)
4:00p: First Communion Retreat (Barbelin)
- Sun 30 9:30a: CLOW (Barbelin)
5:00p: Loyola Choir Rehearsal (Church)
6:30p: YAC Pre-Mass Reflections (Drexel)

Please remember our sick and homebound sisters and brothers: Eleanor De Meis, Sharon Sylvester, Katherine Downs, Avram Aumick, Jerry McAndrews SJ, Irene Stone, Ed Tomezsko, Sara Orkline, Joanna Pearl, Lucy Pearl, Adeline Acerno, James McBride, Jerry McBride, Will Morrow, Kristin Morrow, Marie Malloy, Karen Lockyer, Fr. Nicholas Waseline OSFS, April DeMatto, Mariella Carnovale, Thomas Hart, D. Minter, Jeanne Bradley, Peggy Curley, Jack Lees, Anna Marie Montone, Marjorie Heald, Marie Jacobs. Pray also for

our ministry at Pennsylvania Hospital. **Names will be removed after 4 weeks unless request is renewed.**

The Parish Home Ministry is comprised of Eldership Community volunteers who are available to visit parishioners who are homebound. Volunteers are also Eucharistic Ministers who can bring communion to those who wish to receive. To request a home visit, call 267-457-2256 or e-mail joanslavin@aol.com

† FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP †

Offertory for the week ending April 9, 2017

Collection	Regular	Online	Total
Daily Mass	\$295.00	n/a	\$295.00
Palm Sunday	8,543.00	\$9,375.00	\$17,918.00
Holy Thursday	\$759.00	\$125.00	\$884.00
Good Friday	\$888.00	\$155.00	\$1,043.00

Percentage of Online donations for Palm Sunday: 52%

NOTE: The Easter offertory will be reported at the beginning of May to allow time for post-Easter donations. **The Palm Sunday offertory** is unusually high due to higher mass attendance and the online monthly donations which came in just prior to the Palm Sunday collection.

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

Holy Thursday	Now through April 30
Good Friday – Holy Land	Now through April 30
Easter	Now through May 7

† 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.

† OFFERTORY APPEAL †

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION: TOTAL ACCOUNTABILITY

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has defined stewardship as "a life of total accountability and responsibility, acknowledging God as Creator and owner of all." As we travel our faith journey through the Church Year, following in the footsteps of Jesus as His disciples, let us reflect on how accountable and responsible we have been with the gifts God has given us. Were we the good stewards that we are called to be? Did we give back with increase a portion of what we have received from our abundantly generous God? Have we grown in our faith and shared our time, talent, and treasure with others? It is not too late.

Rather, whoever wishes to be great among you will be your servant; whoever wishes to be first among you will be the slave of all. For the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many. (Mark 10:43-45) 3

STEWARDSHIP APPEAL UPDATE As our Stewardship Appeal draws to a close, 122 households have increased their offertory contribution, representing a combined weekly increase of \$1,322.92. Our average weekly increase is \$10.84. Old St. Joseph's is truly blessed with generous stewards. Thank you!

† FROM THE PASTOR †

AMDG

Dear OSJ Family,

Today in the Church calendar besides being the Second Sunday of Easter is popularly known as "Divine Mercy Sunday." Saint John Paul II formally instituted this feast in the Church's liturgical calendar during his pontificate. He first encountered this devotion while growing up in Poland. Between 1930 and 1938 Our Lord appeared to a young Polish nun, Sister Maria Faustina, a Sister of the Congregation of Our Lady of Mercy in Poland who first initiated the Divine Mercy devotion. Sister Faustina, now a canonized saint of the Church, was also a mystic. For a number of years, Jesus himself appeared to Faustina in various visions and inspired in her, and subsequently the entire Church, the devotion to Divine Mercy. On Good Friday, 1937, Jesus requested that Faustina make a special novena from Good Friday through the following Saturday. Jesus also asked that a picture be painted according to the vision of Himself as the very fountain of mercy. He also gave her a chaplet to be recited and said that it was appropriate

to pray the chaplet at three o'clock each afternoon (the Hour of Great Mercy).

Because of her promotion of this devotion, she has rightfully earned the title of "Apostle of Divine Mercy". Notably, in one of her visions, Jesus said to Sr Faustina: 'Humanity will never find peace until it turns with trust to the Mercy of God.' How true.

For your personal prayer on this feast, I provide the **Divine Mercy Chaplet** below. (The Chaplet of Mercy is recited using ordinary rosary beads of five decades.)

1. Make the Sign of the Cross

2. The Our Father

3. The Hail Mary

4. The Apostle's Creed

5. The Eternal Father

Recite: Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

6. On the ten small beads of each decade

Recite: For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

7. Repeat for the remaining decades

Saying the "Eternal Father" (6) on the "Our Father" bead and then 10 "For the sake of His sorrowful Passion" (7) on the following "Hail Mary" beads.

8. Conclude with Holy God (Repeat three times)

Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

Together let us continue to trust in God's abundant mercy and commend all of our prayers and needs to God's infinite love now, in this Holy Easter Season, and in the days to come.

In the Lord,
Fr Phil Florio, SJ
Pastor

† CATHOLIC CHARITIES APPEAL †

Over the last several weeks, OSJ parishioners should have received the 2017 Catholic Charities Appeal material through the mail. Please return your donation, along with the pledge card, directly to the Archdiocese in the return envelope provided in the mailing. If you are making your donation through a third party, such as the United Way, please make sure that OSJ receives credit for your donation. For 2017, OSJ has been asked to contribute \$38,880.00 as its share of this year's appeal, which will run through the month of May. Dan Salvatore, a member of our Parish Council, is OSJ's coordinator for this year's Catholic Charities Appeal. Dan can be reached at (215) 482-2662 or dsalvatore@comcast.net.

AMDG

Dear OSJ Family,

I am happy to inform you that with Archbishop Chaput's approval, the Very Rev. Robert Hussey, SJ, our Provincial, has missioned **Father Walter Modrys, SJ** to serve as the 60th pastor of Old Saint Joseph's, effective June 1, 2017.



Father Modrys graduated from the Jesuit-run Saint Peter's Prep School in Jersey City, New Jersey, in 1962 and from there entered the Society of Jesus. After professing vows as a Jesuit, he went on to study philosophy and theology and earned a Ph.D. in mathematics from the City University of New York. He was ordained to the priesthood in June, 1978.

Father is a seasoned and respected leader, having served for 19 years as pastor at Saint Ignatius Loyola Church on Park Avenue in Manhattan. After his pastoral work at St Ignatius, Father Modrys served as the treasurer of the New York Jesuits for over seven years. Additionally, he has served extensively in retreat ministry, as a teacher of mathematics at both the secondary and college level, and as a trustee and board member of numerous schools and foundations. Father Modrys' most recent assignment was in pastoral ministry at St Clare's Church, in Staten Island, which is one of the largest parishes in the Archdiocese of New York.

I know that Walter will be a welcome addition to our parish. While a scholastic (seminarian) studying in New York in the mid 90's, I was fortunate to attend liturgies at St Ignatius when he was the celebrant and homilist. The experience was always spiritually uplifting and those were moments I still cherish to this day.

Please join me in welcoming Father Modrys to OSJ. Please pray for me as well as I begin the transition to serve as the new Provincial Assistant for Vocations for the East Coast Jesuits.

In the Lord,
Fr. Phil Florio, SJ
Pastor

† PARISH LIFE †

➔ We are looking for a few good women and men to serve as Ushers during our beautiful liturgies. Scheduling is flexible and training will be provided! Please introduce yourself to an Usher after Mass or sign up online at www.oldstjoseph.org. ←



Requiescat in Pace - Col. Zim E. Lawhon,
father of OSJ parishioner Gretchen
Lawhon, passed away on Friday, April
7, 2017. His Mass of Christian Burial
was celebrated at St. Paul's Church,
Scranton, PA on Tuesday, April 11.
Please keep Gretchen and her husband Bob
Liptock in your thoughts and prayers.

† A SPECIAL WORD of THANKS †

AMDG

Dear OSJ Family,

On behalf of all at the parish, permit me please to offer our sincere thanks to all who helped to make the Sacred Triduum and Easter Festivities so incredibly beautiful and moving at OSJ.

Firstly, thanks to Marianne Lipson, our acting Music Director, for assuming leadership of our music program at a time of such critical and painful loss for us all with Pat's unexpected passing. Pat will be deeply missed and I am certain that, from his rightful place in heaven, Pat sent us Marianne who has done an exceptional job in her ministry to us these past few weeks.

Our singular thanks to the *Schola Cantorum*, the Loyola Choir and our talented musicians who helped to bring such beauty and grace to our liturgies. The music is always superb.

Thanks, and thanks again, to our parish staff; Eric and Eleanor and to all of our liturgical ministers; the Altar servers, Foot Washers, those who stripped the altar, Masters of Ceremony, Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Ushers, Sacristans and our clergy Presiders. We are especially indebted to parish Sacristan, Chuck Burke, who always goes beyond the call of duty, and to our environment team; Joe Casey and his band of volunteers who continually transform our already lovely church into a place of majestic beauty.

Special thanks go to our Liturgy Committee, its chair, Sister Asunta, our liturgical consultant, Stephen Paesani, and all who helped to make our celebrations so beautiful and reverent.

Thanks, as well, to our parish council members and volunteers who helped to organize the Easter Egg Hunt. We are grateful for your kindness.

Our continued gratitude to our parishioner and esteemed Funeral Director, Mr. Ron Rex Piselli, who each year gifts us with the use of precious religious objects and sacred vessels from his personal collection. The baroque chalices, the stunning repository, and the powerfully moving statue of the Risen Christ, have become valued treasures to our parish, adding to the

dignity and reverence of what we enact here in our praise and worship of God. This year, we are especially grateful to Mr Piselli for the exclusive gift of the Holland Baby Calla Lilies, flown in that week for use on our altar through the Easter celebrations. You, Ron, are a blessing to OSJ and to the larger community.

Lastly, thanks to all who donated Easter flowers, helped to clean the church and who joined us throughout the holy days. We are a solid community of prayer because of all of you!

May the Risen Lord continue to bless your generous hearts with peace, light, and grace!

Fr Phil Florio, SJ
Pastor

A Special Word of Thanks to our RCIA team, Fr Ed O'Donnell, SJ, Stephen Paesani and Christine Szczepanowski for preparing, so well, this year's candidates and catechumens. Thank you for helping to the form the future of our parish and the Church!

Gratefully,
Fr Phil Florio, SJ and the OSJ parish community

Welcoming Returning Catholics – Volunteers

Requested: To complement Old St. Joseph's ongoing outreach and evangelization, the OSJ Young Adult Community and Eldership Council are partnering to start a peer outreach program to welcome and guide adults returning to the Catholic Church. **We are currently seeking volunteer peer companions to help initiate this program.**

Volunteer peer companions should be Catholics mature in their faith. They should be willing to accompany those returning in both sacramental and spiritual life, especially with the sacraments of Eucharist and reconciliation. They will act as resources on both parish life and life as a practicing Catholic. They are not expected to have any formal training; instead, this should be a peer relationship, with one Catholic helping another in their journey back to Christ. Time commitment would vary depending on the relationship developed with the returning individual.

If interested in volunteering, becoming involved or sharing questions or comments, please contact Megan at mprilutski@gmail.com.

The OSJ Reading Group now has two sections, one daytime, one evening. The book for May will be *Dorothy Day: The World Will Be Saved by Beauty* by Kate



Hennessy. Kate Hennessy is Dorothy Day's granddaughter. We got so involved in Dorothy Day's life and the Catholic Workers' Movement at our last session that we decided to continue our exploration through this newly published "beautifully written, deeply revealing" memoir. Meeting dates are:

Tuesday, 2 May: 7:30 pm

Wednesday, 3 May: 12:45 pm.

Both groups meet in the Loyola Room. Contact: shlosscarol@gmail.com

Parish Pastoral Council election season is coming up!

Nomination forms will be available in the back of the Parish starting **April 29** and can be dropped off at the Parish Office, or can be emailed to osjpc@oldstjoseph.org. Questions can be directed to osjpc@oldstjoseph.org, or to Tom Nailor, PPC co-chair, at (203) 940-2790, or in-person. The term is 3 years (Fall 2017-Spring 2020) and any nominee should be a member of the Parish, regularly practicing at the Parish liturgically, interested in advising the Pastor, represent the voices of Parishioners, and working with the Parish Pastoral Council to enrich and enliven our Parish! Past accomplishments of the Parish Pastoral Council include our On-Line Giving Program, our Welcoming Committee, and the Parish Survey.



† ELDERSHIP COMMUNITY †

Prayer Group: On the second Wednesday of each month at 11:45 a.m., members of the Old St. Joseph's Eldership Community pray together before the 12:05 p.m. mass. To have your intention included, send the information to joanslavin@aol.com.

Calling all Actors! This coming June the Old St. Joseph's Eldership Community would like to showcase a reading of the play *The Jeweler's Shop* by St. John Paul II. All actors (and directors!) are asked to step stage front and let joanslavin@aol.com know of your interest in helping to make this happen.



† YOUNG ADULT COMMUNITY †

YAC Welcoming Happy Hour for New Parishioners and Members: Come to O'Neals Pub on Thursday, April 27 for a special YAC Happy Hour. At it, we would like to welcome any new young adult parishioners at Old St. Joseph's Church and new members of YAC. Current members and other friends are all, of course, welcome too. We'll arrive at 5:30 pm and plan to stay till at least 8pm, so come early or late -- we would love to see you. **If you have any questions, please contact Jenn at jennlydic@gmail.com.**

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.

† INTERFAITH †

14th Annual Philadelphia Interfaith Walk for Peace and Reconciliation: Listening in Humility, Walking in Strength Sunday Afternoon, April 30, 2017, 2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. West Oak Lane Community of Philadelphia, beginning at Masjidullah, 7401 Limekiln Pike: An optional pre-walk gathering is scheduled to begin at Al Aqsa Islamic Society, 1501 Germantown Ave. at 12:30 p.m. Men and women are welcome to enter their respective sections of the mosque to join in the prayers. Women entering the mosque are asked to dress modestly with arms and legs covered and to wear a head covering. Buses will be provided to take people to the beginning of the walk at Masjidullah in the West Oak Lane community. The buses will accompany the walk for those who find walking difficult and will return participants to Al Aqsa at the conclusion of the walk. The Interfaith Walk for Peace and Reconciliation is a RAIN OR SHINE event! Participation in the walk and the dinner is completely free of charge. There will be an opportunity to make a contribution to help cover the cost of food and buses. This is not a demonstration or a march. We walk in peace and unity; no political signs or banners are permitted. After the walk in the West Oak Lane community we will return to the Masjidullah for dialogue and a delicious vegetarian meal.