

Old St. Joseph's Church

Est. 1733 | Philadelphia's Jesuit Parish

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www.OLDSTJOSEPH.ORG

April 22, 2018 | The Fourth Sunday of Easter

MUSIC FOR THE GREAT FIFTY DAYS

The solemnities following Easter abound with a wealth of organ music written specifically for these celebrations in the liturgical calendar. Over the coming weeks I have scheduled some of these major compositions as both prelude and postlude music for our Masses here at Old St. Joseph's Church. As an introduction to these treasures, I'd like to offer some information and insight regarding these works.

For the repertoire that I will present for the solemnities of the Ascension, Pentecost, the Holy Trinity and Corpus Christi, I have chosen music written by two great 20th century French composers, Olivier Messiaen and Maurice Duruflé. Messiaen was organist at the *Eglise de la Sainte Trinité* in Paris. A man of great faith and vision, he has left us an abundance of music written for the church. As he himself wrote, "The illumination of the theological truths of the Catholic faith is the first aspect of my work, the noblest and, no doubt, the most useful."

One of Messiaen's masterpieces is his suite, *L'Ascension*, a collection of four movements depicting Christ's ascension. The "Prayer of Christ Ascending Toward His Father," which I have chosen as prelude music for Ascension Thursday, evokes a prayerful atmosphere. It is based on the words Jesus prayed at the Last Supper: "And now, O Father, I have revealed Your name to those whom You gave Me out of the world. And now I will no longer be in the world, but they are in the world while I am coming to You." The musical progression, representing Christ's ascent, begins in the lower registers of the organ and rises to the top registers. The ascent of the music is slow and solemn. Ascending sequences of chords progress with ever increasing intensity. The piece culminates as it arrives on a dominant seventh chord, summing up the great wonder of the ascension. Messiaen writes, "the music summarizes all of the solemnity of Christ's departure from the earth for an elevation which infinitely exceeds the celestial orders."

For the Solemnity of Pentecost, Sunday, May 20, I shall present a work by another great French 20th century composer, Maurice Duruflé. He was organist at *St. Etienne-du-Mont* and professor of harmony at the Paris Conservatory. The Roman Catholic liturgy played a prominent role in Duruflé's life and influenced his musical style and output. Duruflé particularly revered the liturgies themselves, referring to them as "absolutely casting a spell over me."

One of Duruflé's great organ compositions is his *Prelude, Adagio, and Choral Variations on the Theme Veni Creator Spiritus* which displays the composer's affinity for plainchant. The second half of this work consists of a series of variations based on the chant *Veni Creator Spiritus. Come, Holy Spirit, Creator, come from Your bright heavenly throne; come, take possession of our souls, and make them all Your own. You Who are called the Paraclete, best gift of God above, the living spring, the living fire, sweet unction and true love.*

After a solemn statement of the theme (chant melody) in a four-part chorale-like setting, an intricate duet in canon is featured in the first variation. The second variation consists of a brief yet stunning two-part texture of

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triplets over duples, perhaps suggesting the Three Persons of the Trinity, and the two natures of Jesus. A sumptuously divine third variation appears next with the *cantus firmus* played on the pedals of the organ with a series of lush chords suspended delicately over the melody. The final variation is a fiery toccata, typical of the French Romantic literature. Like Messiaen, Duruflé wrote primarily for the Church, and his music was very much influenced by the liturgies for which he made music. His deep faith shines through his profoundly spiritual writing.

For the Solemnity of the Holy Trinity I shall present, as prelude music, another work by Olivier Messiaen, "The Mystery of the Holy Trinity" taken from his suite, *Les Corps Glorieux*. The piece is set in three parts, each of the three voices representing a person of the Trinity--Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. A mysterious timeless atmosphere pervades this composition, the hushed orchestral qualities of the three voices drawing the listener in immediately. One senses great wonder and awe from the very first note. It is the middle voice, representing the Son, which dominates the three voices. It is played on an 8' flute. The other two voices are played on more distant colors, on stops that are higher and lower in pitch than the principal melody. This main voice, representing the Son, constantly draws the listener forward. The ethereal quality of the writing kindles the mystery and wonder of the Holy Trinity.

For the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, I shall again draw from the wealth of music of Olivier Messiaen. "The Celestial Banquet" was Messiaen's first published work. The slow, sustained, expressive writing evokes the celestial and mystical. Two themes are presented, the first, sustained, and mysterious, represents the love of God for His people by sending His Only Son to save us. The second theme, a melody played by the feet, like drops of water, represents Christ's blood that was shed for us. Over this second theme, the first theme is developed in a gradual yet dramatic orchestral crescendo and diminuendo beautifully portraying God's salvific grace.

Duruflé and Messiaen each dedicated their life's work to the service of the Church. Men of deep faith and conviction, they have left us a treasure of music which brings to life so wondrously the solemnities in the Church Year. As a pastoral musician I feel greatly blest to partake of these spiritual and musical riches each season. They have forever shaped and enlivened my faith journey. It is my hope that this introduction, commentary and presentation of compositions over the coming weeks gives you even a glimpse into each of these composer's deep spirituality and sublime music. Blessed Fifty Days!

—Mark Bani
Music Director

Announcements

Reminder:

Adult Education

Five Hundred Years Since the Protestant Reformation: What Ecumenical Progress Has Been Made?

A Talk by Dr. William Madges, Professor of Historical Theology at St. Joseph's University,

Monday, April 23, 7:30 PM, Barbelin Hall

Young Adults

YAC Welcoming Happy Hour for New Parishioners and Members—Come to O'Neal's Pub at 611 S. 3rd Street on Thursday, April 26th 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 8:00 PM, so come early or late—we would love to see you. If you have any questions, please contact Jenn at jennlydic@gmail.com.

Retreat Day, Saturday, May 5 — *Loved and Redeemed Sinners:*

Fr. Dan Ruff, S.J., former pastor at OSJ, will direct a half-day retreat on Saturday, May 5th here in Barbelin Hall from 10am to 2pm. The theme of the day will be the core grace of the "Spiritual Exercises" of Saint Ignatius: Through God's grace we come to realize ourselves as sinners, fully known to God and at the same time unconditionally loved by God. The retreat is a follow up to Fr. Modrys' Lenten Series on Sin and Reconciliation. Only when we understand our sinfulness as a lack of gratitude and a failure to love God as we have been loved can we understand the great mystery of our sinfulness and the even greater miracle of God's unlimited love. Come join us, to listen, to pray and to share faith with other loved and redeemed sinners.

A light lunch will be served and there is no charge for the retreat, but a **free will offering** is appreciated. Please RSVP by Monday, April 30th to: osjspirituality@oldstjoseph.org. *Sponsored by the Ignatian Spirituality Committee at OSJ.*

Memorial Service

All are invited to the Memorial Mass for long-time Old St. Joseph's parishioner Bob Knorr. The service will be on Saturday, April 28 at 10:00 AM at the Church.

Organ Recital

Come hear OSJ's very own music director, Mark Bani, on **Sunday, May 20 at 2:00 PM** as he performs the music of Bach, Franck, Vierne, and Messiaen at, **St. Matthew's Church, 219 Fayette Street, Conshohocken**. The church has a wonderful instrument and stunning acoustics. The recital will include compositions written specifically for the great Solemnities following Easter.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES UPDATE:

We have surpassed 50% of our goal for the Catholic Charities Appeal. Almost 22-thousand dollars has been received towards the 39-thousand-dollar goal. We hope to meet our goal this year.

One way to contribute to Catholic Charities is to join us for a Phillies Baseball Game on June 25th. A portion of all tickets sold will go to Catholic Charities. If more than 20 parishioners join us at the game, our pastor has promised to root for the Phillies this one night against the NEW YORK YANKEES, which will be a first in the history of baseball. Information on how to buy these special tickets for June 25 will be published soon.

World Day of Prayer for religious and priestly Vocations is observed, today Sunday, April 22nd, "Good Shepherd Sunday." The purpose of this day is to publicly fulfill the Lord's instruction to, "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest" (Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2). Please pray that young men and women hear and respond generously to the Lord's call to the priesthood, diaconate, religious life, societies of apostolic life or secular institutes. If you, or a man you know, may be interested in pursuing a Jesuit Vocation, please visit www.beajesuit.org.

A Hungry Heart: Discerning God's Will in Everyday Choices - A Silent Ignatian Retreat for Men & Women at the Malvern Retreat House: April 30 through May 3, 2018. Directed by Fr. Jeff Putthoff, S.J. The cost for this retreat is \$385.00 per person which includes ten (10) conferences, all meals and accommodations. Monday, April 30th (5PM registration) to Thursday, May 3rd lunch at noon. Register early at www.malvernretreat.com or by calling 610-644-0400.

Making choices, big and small, are all occasions for connecting with God. Making use of St. Ignatius's rules of discernment, Fr. Jeff Putthoff, S.J. will explore with you how the senses and imagination reveal God's presence in our daily lives; guiding us to greater unity with God's will. This is a SILENT retreat differing from a traditional Malvern Retreat House schedule.

Please remember our sick and homebound sisters and brothers

Rick Bravo
Joseph Burke
Christine Mari-Mazzola
Pat Farris
Allan May
Debbie Brooks
James McBride
Fr. Mike Hricko SJ

Ed Tomezsko
Mary Jacobs
Jerry McAndrews SJ
Lydia Staley
Charlotte Croce
Jack Lees
Catherine Keddie
Jerry McBride
Adeline Acerno

Tony Corvaia
JoAnna Pearl
Lucy Pearl
Marie Jacobs
Edward Jacobs
Hannah Poole
Patricia Yusko
Angelo Miczza

Please pray also for our ministry at Pennsylvania Hospital

Note from the Pastor

Bringing Communion to the Homebound

When people are ill or indisposed and confined to home, they can remain connected to our shared worship by receiving Communion at home. If you or a family member, friend or neighbor (with their approval of course), would like to receive Communion at home, contact the Parish Rectory so that we can arrange for a parish Eucharistic Minister to visit.

Date	Mass Intention and Presider	Calendar Events
Mon 23	12:05 PM: <i>Old St. Joseph's Memorial Society</i> Presider: Fr. O'Donnell SJ	6:00 PM: PREP 7:30 PM: Dr. Madges' Talk (Barbelin Hall)
Tues 24	12:05 PM: <i>Mary M. Convery (D)</i> Presider: Fr. O'Donnell SJ	12 Noon: Food, Faith, and Friends (Barbelin)
Wed 25	12:05 PM: <i>Edward and Mary Britt Family</i> Presider: Fr. Dougherty SJ	9:30 AM: St. Mary's School Mass 7:30 PM: Finance Council Meeting (Loyola)
Thurs 26	12:05 PM: <i>Old St. Joseph Memorial Society</i> Presider: Fr. O'Donnell SJ	12 Noon: Food, Faith, and Friends (Barbelin)
Fri 27	12:05 PM: <i>Mary Lou Fraser (D)</i> Presider: Fr. Dougherty SJ	
Sat 28	12:05 PM: <i>Lucien Letange (D)</i> Presider: Fr. O'Donnell SJ 5:30 PM: Presider: Fr. Dougherty SJ	10:00 AM: Memorial Mass for Bob Knorr 12 Noon: Food, Faith, and Friends (Barbelin) 3:30 PM: PREP First Communion Retreat (Barbelin)
Sun 29	7:30 AM: Presider: Fr. Modrys SJ 9:30 AM: Presider: Fr. Modrys SJ 11:30 AM: Presider: Fr. O'Donnell SJ 6:30 PM: Presider: Fr. Modrys SJ	5:30 PM: Loyola Choir Rehearsal (Church) 5:30 PM: YAC Pre-Mass Reflection (Greaton)

Financial Stewardship

Offertory Collection for the week ending April 15
Percent of online giving: 45%

Collection	Regular	Online	Total
Daily Mass	\$343.00	n/a	\$343.00
Sunday Mass	\$4531.00	\$3700.50	\$8231.50

Old St. Joseph's provides Online Giving, a convenient, safe, and flexible way to make one time or recurring donations to the fund of your choice—Sunday Offering, FF&F, and so on. Sign up on our parish website on the Online Giving tab under Important Links

Weekly Readings

The daily readings are posted online in English and Spanish by the US Conference of Catholic Bishops at usccb.org. Click on the calendar on the right side of the home page or click on Bible in the green header and you will find text and audio as well as links to daily video reflections. While there, you can subscribe to daily emails of the readings by clicking on RSS Feed.

A New Setting of the Mass Ordinary

During the Sundays of Easter, we will continue learning settings for the Kyrie, Gloria, Sanctus, Memorial Acclamation, Great Amen, and Agnus Dei from Randall DeBruyn's *Mass of the Resurrection*. Most fitting for these Sundays of Eastertide, it is an outstanding Mass setting. We will introduce a movement or two at time, while maintaining our familiar Mass settings as well.

Women Faith Fellowship: Join us for reading the day's gospel, reflection and faith sharing. We meet every other Wednesday from 6:30 pm-7:30 pm. Our next meeting is April 30. For more information, please contact Mary at maryzrached@gmail.com



Have Faith In Recovery

The Pennsylvania Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual disAbility Services will host its *Twelfth Annual Faith and Spiritual Affairs Conference, Have Faith in Recovery: Thriving Together, Children Family and Community* on April 27, 2018 8-4PM, at the Pennsylvania Convention Center. The conference will increase awareness of programs and services for children, families and communities of Philadelphia. These programs support behavioral health, trauma based services, respite care, health care, education, access to healthy food and community programs. Workshops will be offered by local and national experts in traditional and non-traditional programs and services for children, youth and adolescents. The conference will demonstrate how community sectors, can work together effectively to achieve better outcomes for families and communities while cultivating faith or a spiritual life which is an important part of wellness. To register, go to <https://bhten.com/node/974/register> or call (215) 923-2116.

INFORMATION

Rectory Office Hours

Monday through Friday: 9:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Sunday: 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Mass Times

Monday through Saturday: 12:05 PM

Saturday Vigil Mass for Sunday: 5:30 PM

Sunday: 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 AM and 6:30 PM

Holy Days: 12:05 and 7:30 PM

Medical Emergency

In the event of a medical emergency when the need for a priest is urgent, please call the rectory.

Hearing Enhancements

Old St. Joseph's is equipped with an audio hearing loop. Switch on the T-coil function of your device to use the loop. Booklets with the Sunday readings are in the rear of the church.

Registration

Persons who want to register as parishioners should complete a parish registration form and return it to the rectory office by mail or in person. Registration forms are available in the rectory office during normal office hours, on the bookcases in the back of the church and online at www.oldstjoseph.org.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Monday through Saturday: 11:30 AM to noon and by appointment

Sacrament of Baptism

Persons wanting to arrange for a baptism should call Fr. Dougherty at the parish office at least two months before the desired date to arrange catechesis and the baptism celebration.

The Sacrament of Anointing

The Sacrament of Anointing (the sacrament of the sick) is administered during the 12:05 PM Mass on the first Saturday of each month. Homebound or hospitalized persons wanting to receive the Sacrament of Anointing should call the parish office.

Sacrament of Matrimony

Persons wanting to be married in the parish should call Fr. O'Donnell at the parish office at least nine months before the desired date.

Rite of Christian Initiation

Unbaptized adults who are considering baptism into the Catholic Church, baptized Catholics who have received no other sacraments and who want to be confirmed and to receive First Eucharist, and baptized non-Catholics who are considering full communion in the Catholic Church should call Fr. O'Donnell at the parish office.

To arrange Mass of Christian Burial, the funeral director should call the parish office.

OSJ STAFF

Pastor: Fr. Walter Modrys SJ

(pastor@oldstjoseph.org)

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Edward O'Donnell SJ

(eodonnell@oldstjoseph.org)

Fr. Edward Dougherty SJ

(dougherty@oldstjoseph.org)

In Residence: Br. Robert Carson SJ

Business Manager: Eric German

(germane@oldstjoseph.org)

Director of Music: Mark Bani

(music@oldstjoseph.org)

Liturgy Coordinator: Sr. Asunta Thanh acj

(liturgy@oldstjoseph.org)

Administrative Assistant: BJ Brown

(office@oldstjoseph.org)

PREP Coordinator: Christine Szczepanowski

(prep@oldstjoseph.org)

Faith, Food & Friends Director:

Deborah Hluchan, *(faithandfriends@oldstjoseph.org)*

OSJ Councils and Boards

Parish Pastoral Council: *(osjpc@oldstjoseph.org)*, Rana McNamara and Richard Le, co-chairs

Parish Finance Council: Paul Shay, chair

Historic Preservation Corporation Board: Fr. Walter Modrys SJ, president.

Parish Committees and Chairpersons

Adult Education: Rita O'Brien and Jeanmarie Zippo

(adulted@oldstjoseph.org)

Parish Life: Joe Casey *(joetcasey@aol.com)*

Ignatian Spirituality and Formation: John Bitterman

(osjspirituality@oldstjoseph.org)

Ministry Leaders

Altar Servers: Maria Ramirez *(mathra71@yahoo.com)*

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Bill

Stewart *(wstewart@kaplanlaw.com)*

Hospital Ministry: Luanne Balestrucci

(lbasetrucchi@yahoo.com)

Homebound Ministry: Neal Hébert

(neal9536@gmail.com)

Lectors: Lou Anne Bulik *(labulik@yahoo.com)*

Ushers: Nikola Sizgorich *(niksiz@icloud.com)*

Children's Liturgy of the Word: Peggy Connolly

(pmcon@comcast.net)