

Old St. Joseph's Church

Est. 1733 | Philadelphia's Jesuit Parish

321 Willings Alley
Philadelphia, PA 19106
Phone: (215) 923-1733
www.oldstjoseph.org

April 29, 2018 | The Fifth Sunday of Easter

THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

How did the Church begin? Some people imagine that Jesus of Nazareth before he died sat down with his followers and established a new world religion, instructing them on how to proceed after his death. They think that Jesus gave us the seven sacraments, ordained the apostles and made Peter the first Pope, etc. So that all the Church has to do for all of its history is just to follow the plan Jesus left behind. But this kind of thinking ignores the real history of the Church, makes needed Church reforms unintelligible and obscures how the Holy Spirit in fact guides the Church.

The truth is much more profound. Jesus died as a very pious Jew hoping that the Covenant with Israel would be fulfilled and the Kingdom of God would be established. He believed that this would happen because of his own complete openness to the will of his Father. The Father's response to Jesus' self-offering was to raise Jesus from the dead so that the Spirit of the risen Lord could then be sent into the world. The Church has its origins in the dynamic action of the Spirit which, as Jesus said, teaches us what we need to learn and protects us along the way. Without this Spirit working in us, we could never respond to the invitation to follow Jesus.

That is why this Season of Easter is so important with its culmination in the Feast of Pentecost. It's the story of the Holy Spirit inspiring the apostles and finally descending upon them, which marks the beginning of the Church, not just temporally, but religiously. There was no Church until the Spirit inspired the apostolic community to begin preaching the Good News about Jesus, the risen Lord. As John's gospel depicts the scene, without the Spirit the Church would be nothing but a small group of frightened men hiding behind closed doors and would have long since passed into oblivion.

Right from the start, the Church had to stretch beyond its Jewish roots – despite the resistance from so many early followers of Christ. Even in the early days, the Eucharist was celebrated, but who would preside over the assembly and how abuses were to be controlled all had to be worked out. Over time the Church had to discover that the sacraments are special instruments of God's grace that communicate Christ's presence and action, but formalizing this recognition took time and experience. In fact, over one thousand years passed before the dignity of marriage in particular as a sacrament was officially recognized in the Church. Regarding the Bible, after the first generation of Jesus' followers had died, the need became apparent for someone to write down the stories and sayings of Jesus, but some of those attempts had to be discarded and only some could be accepted. Who was to decide what to accept and what to discard? Finally, the Church settled on what became known as the four gospels in the New Testament. It took centuries of prayer and arguing for the Church to put into words the essence of Christian belief in the Creed.

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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.

Authentic inspiration was not found by a human investigation into the life of Jesus of Nazareth, but through openness to the Spirit who revealed to the Church the true power of the death and resurrection of the Lord and made the risen Lord fully present among us. That Spirit, we believe, is still alive and active in the Church. Where is the Spirit leading us today? The story of the Church has not ended. How will our generation of Christians, through so many trials and errors, respond to the directions of the Spirit in our own day? We are still experiencing the miracle of Easter, the time of the Spirit, and the fullness of Pentecost. Come, Holy Spirit, Come!

Father Walter Modrys, S.J.
Pastor

Announcements



YAC to Visit the National Shrine of Saint Rita of Cascia for a Special Lecture:

"Hail, Mary: A Journey through Representation of the Blessed Mother in Art and History" - For centuries, artists have depicted the Mother of God. On Tuesday, May 1st from 6:45pm to 8:00pm, YAC will visit St. Rita's Shrine located at 1166 S Broad Street for this lecture. Come learn the language of artists, what inspired and influenced their portrayals of the Virgin Mother. The lecture will incorporate information about beautiful imagery, art history, Catholic history, opportunities for prayer and reflection, and music. The presentation will begin at 7:00pm in the Lower Shrine chapel, following a short musical

prelude around 6:45 p.m. For more information, check out the shrine's website at <https://www.saintritashrine.org>. All are welcome.

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.*

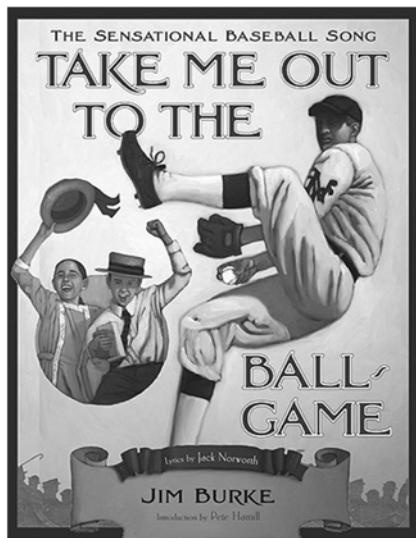


During the month of May, OSJ will be participating in a food drive for MANNA.

MANNA's food pantry is largely stocked through community food donations. With your help, MANNA can offer food, to individuals who are in need in the community.

MANNA Bags will be available in the back of the church beginning this weekend. Please take a bag, fill it with groceries (such as canned fruit, pasta sauces, dry pasta, canned tomatoes, shelf-stable milk, non-sugary cereals, oatmeal, peanut butter) and return your filled bag to the baptismal area located in the back of the church **by Sunday, May 20, 2018.**

Catholic History Lecture Just Around the Corner! On Sunday, May 6, at 2pm, Fr. Michael Di Gregorio, OSA will speak on the history of the Augustinian mission to the Italian community in South Philadelphia at the American Catholic Historical Society (263 South 4th Street). The lecture is free and open to the public. For information, visit www.amchs.org.



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.

LET'S GO OUT TO THE BALL GAME!

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. We have purchased 80 tickets and 40 have already been sold! Tickets are available after each of the Masses - please see an usher if you are interested in purchasing a ticket. The cost is \$23.00 per ticket. If all the tickets are sold, 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!



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.

CLOW UPDATE:

On May 6, First Communion Sunday, we will not dismiss the children for the Liturgy of the Word (CLOW) at the 9:30 Mass.

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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
Marjorie Dugan

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 30	12:05 PM: <i>Edward and Mary Britt Family</i> Presider: Fr. Dougherty SJ	6:00 PM: PREP 6:30 PM: Women's Group (Loyola)
Tues 1	12:05 PM: <i>Robert Dobbs (D)</i> Presider: Fr. Modrys SJ	12 Noon: Food, Faith, and Friends (Barbelin) 6:30 PM: CLC 2 (Drexel) 7:00 PM: YAC Spirituality Night (Barbelin) 7:30 PM: Book Group (Loyola)
Wed 2	12:05 PM: <i>Michelina Marino (D)</i> Presider: Fr. Modrys SJ	
Thurs 3	12:05 PM: <i>James and Katherine Henderson</i> Presider: Fr. O'Donnell SJ	12 Noon: Food, Faith, and Friends (Barbelin)
Fri 4	12:05 PM: <i>Old St. Joseph Memorial Society (D)</i> Presider: Fr. Dougherty SJ	
Sat 5	12:05 PM: <i>Hugh & Pauline Scott (D)</i> Presider: Fr. Modrys SJ 5:30 PM: Presider: Fr. Modrys SJ	10:00 AM: Retreat with Fr. Dan Ruff SJ 12 Noon: Food, Faith, and Friends (Barbelin) 12:30 PM: Anointing of the Sick
Sun 6	7:30 AM: Presider: Fr. Dougherty SJ 9:30 AM: Presider: Fr. Modrys SJ 11:30 AM: Presider: Fr. Frederico SJ 6:30 PM: Presider: Fr. O'Donnell SJ	9:30 AM: First Holy Communion 11:00 AM: Ignatian Spirituality Committee (Loyola) 4:00 PM: Contemplative Leaders in Action (Drexel) 5:30 PM: Loyola Choir Rehearsal (Church) 5:30 PM: YAC Pre-Mass Reflection (Greaton)

Financial Stewardship

Offertory Collection for the week ending April 22
Percent of online giving: 49%

Collection	Regular	Online	Total
Daily Mass	246.00	n/a	\$246.00
Sunday Mass	\$5556.00	\$5323.50	\$10,879.50

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



Requiescat in pace

Ralph Bertolino

OSJ parishioner Ralph Bertolino passed away on Monday, April 16. His Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at Annunciation Church in South Philadelphia on Saturday, April 21. We extend our heartfelt condolences to Ralph's wife Phyllis and their family and friends.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him; may his soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

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@kaplaw.com)*

Hospital Ministry: Luanne Balestrucci

(lbasetrucci@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)