

Old St. Joseph's Church

Est. 1733 | Philadelphia's Jesuit Parish

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Philadelphia, PA 19106
Phone: (215) 923-1733
www.OLDSTJOSEPH.ORG

May 6, 2018 | The Sixth Sunday of Easter

First Holy Communion

This Sunday at the 9:30 Mass twenty children from our parish religious education program (PREP) will be receiving the Eucharist for the first time. They have been a part of our Eucharistic celebrations at Old Saint Joseph's and now we invite them to share with us the Body and Blood of Christ. This is a moment of celebration for them and their families but also for us as a parish community and more generally for all the people of God. We welcome these newest companions around the table of the Lord.

Celebrations like First Communion, a marriage or a graduation honor a current event. It's a once in a lifetime event. But there are other celebrations that honor a past event when such an event continues to be active in our lives - birthdays and anniversaries of various sorts or annual holidays like Memorial Day. We repeat such celebrations over and over again through our lifetimes. We adults usually keep past and present apart because we live in history and the distinction enables us to sort through our memories and keep them in order.

But when we celebrate the Mass, the past and the present have a way of coming together. Regarding the past, the Mass speaks of the death of Jesus on Calvary—an historical event—the offering that Jesus made of himself to his Father. But the Mass is also about the present, because Jesus is present to us here and now as the risen Lord coming to us through the action of the Spirit by which the bread and wine are changed into His body and blood. So we speak of the Mass as a memorial meal referring to a past event, but also as a present encounter with the Lord that unites us in love with God our Father and with one another. Past and present come together: We proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes again.

Children seem to have an uncanny sense of this blending of past and present, perhaps because their imaginations are so open to the impact of a story from the past on their immediate experience. The distinction of past and present is not as sharp for them. Jesus offering himself to His Father because of his love for me calls for a response from me to love in return and to share that love with all the people around me. Sometimes it seems to be more simple for a child to grasp this than for us adults who relegate historical events to the distant past separated off from present experience. For the children, the Mass is clearly one celebration with reference both to a past and a present.

Another dichotomy that we adults tend to bring to the Mass is that between the personal and the communal. The Mass is an intensely personal invitation to enter into communion with Jesus. But as the liturgical reforms of Vatican II keep reminding us, the Mass is preeminently communal worship offered by the assembled community and by the entire Church. Here, too, children seem far more spontaneous in bridging the apparent gap between the personal and the communal. Children everywhere seem attracted to "receiving with their friends," as they put it.

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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.

Children seem naturally to understand the connection between communion with Christ, with one another, and with their community. No child in my experience wants to receive alone, or without music, or without others to share the experience. And their community is not just family members and close friend, but also strangers, the people who naturally solicit our compassion like the poor and the vulnerable. How limited we adults are when we think that delving deeply into ourselves means removing others from our conscientiousness?

So what kind of preparation have these children received in PREP to bring them to this important day in their lives? We try to encourage the children to look at all the places where God is at work in their lives, to develop a relationship with Him and to begin to consider where the Lord is leading them. Of course, the language we use to communicate this vision is age appropriate for their young minds. But if the wording is familiar to you, it is because it explicitly reflects the basic approach of Ignatian spirituality. This formation gives the children a foundation, one upon which they will build throughout their lives—as all of us hopefully are doing—for understanding the significance of the Eucharist. Let’s pray that they are richly blessed by this grace.

At the same time, this is an opportunity for the rest of us to recall the simple yet profound understanding at the heart of our rich Eucharistic theology that as the body of Christ we are both many and one. And that is a blessing for all of us.

—Christine Szczepanowski
PREP Coordinator

Announcements

Company’s Coming!

The OSJ Young Adult Community invites everyone to the Parish Monthly **Sunday Cook-In in Barbelin Hall on May 13 after the 6:30 PM Mass**. This month we will be hosting graduating seniors from St. Joseph’s University. Come and enjoy good food and good company!

Prayer Meeting

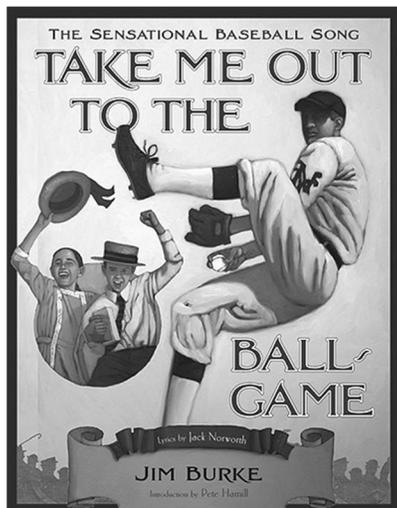
The **Centering Prayer Group** will meet on **Wednesday, May 16 from 6:30-8:30 PM** in the Drexel Parlor of the rectory. The meeting will include discussion of the centering prayer followed by evening prayer with a period of centering. Anyone interested in contemplative prayer is welcome to join us. For more information, contact Christine Szczepanowski at 267-250-3049 or christinesz52@gmail.com

Catholic Charities Update

We have reached 74% of our goal for the Catholic Charities Appeal, contributing more than \$28,000 toward our \$38,000 goal. Can you help us make 100%?

Let’s Make Baseball History!

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 already sold 80 tickets and have ordered more! Tickets are available after each of the Masses—please see an usher if you are interested in purchasing a ticket. The cost is \$23 per ticket. Come see our dyed in the wool NY pastor root for the Phillies against the *New York Yankees!*, which will be a first in the history of baseball!





MANNA Canned Food Collection

This month, Old St. Joseph's will participate in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia's food drive for Manna. This drive will restock emergency food cupboards across the archdiocese's five counties for the summer months, when food donations traditionally decline.

MANNA grocery bags are available in the back of the church. Please take a bag, fill it with groceries (such as canned fruit, pasta sauces, dry pasta, canned tomatoes, shelf-stable milk, whole grain cereals, oatmeal, peanut butter) and return it to the baptismal area located in the back of the church **by Sunday, May 20, 2018**. Thank you!

Socks, Soap and a Shave:

A warm thank you to those who generously donated socks, outerwear, and toiletries for distribution by Faith, Food & Friends during the winter months. Since the need for clean, dry socks and basic toiletry items is year-round, we are asking again for donations of the following basic items:

- Men's socks
- Bars of soap
- Razors (disposable, in packages)

All donations of these items are greatly appreciated; donations of travel-size containers of shampoo and lotion are welcome as well. Donation baskets will be at the back of the church for the next two Sundays. Or drop off donations in the church office any time during business hours. You can email faithandfriends@oldstjoseph.org with any questions. Thank you for your generosity!

Tell Me on a Sunday

AT THE WALNUT ST. THEATER

The Eldership Community invites you to a performance of Andrew Lloyd's Webber's *Tell Me On A Sunday* at the Walnut Street Theater's Independence Studio on 3 (825 Walnut St.) at **2:30 PM on Sunday, May 20**. Tickets \$22.00. (an \$18. discount from the regular price!) Contact JoanSlavin@aol.com at the soonest if you don't want to miss this production! *All are welcome!*



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.

Calling All Knitters

(And those who would like to be!)

Volunteers are needed to create knitted quilts that will be given this fall to members of the Food, Faith and Friends community. If you don't know how to knit, this is an opportunity to learn! All you need to do is master one stitch, knit it in a straight line and make a 7" by 9" rectangle. Your rectangles will be joined to others to fashion patchwork quilts. The group's goal is to make ten quilts by this coming fall.

The knitting circle next meets on **Tuesday, May 8, at 2:00 PM** at the Hopkinson House, 604 South Washington Square Contact joanslavin@aol.com in advance if you would like to participate and to get location specifics.

Marion Mercy Academy, an independent all girls Catholic High School, is seeking a fulltime Spanish and French teacher for the 2018-2019 school year. Qualified applicants with secondary certification should contact Mary Ann Danovich, Assistant Head of School for Academic Affairs, at madanovich@merion-mercy.com.

Please remember our sick and homebound sisters and brothers

Rick Bravo
Christine Mari-Mazzola
Pat Farris
Allen 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 7	12:05 PM: <i>T.V. Whitfield (D)</i> Presider: Fr. Dougherty SJ	6:00 PM PREP (St. Mary's)
Tues 8	12:05 PM: <i>Old St. Joseph Memorial Society</i> Presider: Fr. Modrys SJ	10:00 AM Funeral: Joe Burke (Viewing at 9:00 AM) 12 Noon: Food, Faith, and Friends (Barbelin) 7:00 PM Pre-Baptism Class (Drexel) 7:30 PM: CLC 1 (Faber)
Wed 9	12:05 PM: <i>Carol Corson & Thomas Gallagher (D)</i> Presider: Fr. Modrys SJ	
Thurs 10	<i>Feast of the Ascension</i> 12:05 PM Presider: Fr. O'Donnell SJ 7:30 PM: Presider: Fr. O'Donnell SJ	12 Noon: Food, Faith, and Friends (Barbelin)
Fri 11	12:05 PM: <i>Old St. Joseph Memorial Society</i> Presider: Fr. Dougherty SJ	
Sat 12	12:05 PM: <i>Edward and Mary Britt Family (D)</i> Presider: Fr. O'Donnell SJ 5:30 PM: Presider: Fr. Dougherty SJ	12:30 PM: Food, Faith, and Friends (Barbelin)
Sun 13	7:30 AM: Presider: Fr. O'Donnell SJ 9:30 AM: Presider: Fr. Modrys SJ 11:30 AM: Presider: Fr. Modrys SJ 6:30 PM: Presider: Fr. Modrys SJ	5:30 PM: Loyola Choir Rehearsal (Church) 5:30 PM YAC Pre-Mass Reflection (Greaton) 7:30 PM: Cook-in with St. Joseph Univ Graduating Seniors (Barbelin Hall)

Financial Stewardship

Offertory Collection for the week ending April 29
Percent of online giving: 40%

Collection	Regular	Online	Total
Daily Mass	\$306.00	n/a	\$306.00
Sunday Mass	\$5034.00	\$3389.50	\$8423.50
Easter Flowers			\$1173.00
Easter Music			\$1080.00
Easter Sunday			\$28,199.00

The Catholic Home Mission and Ascension Thursday Collections are active on the Online Giving Website through May 27.

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.

Catholic Home Missions Collection This Weekend!

Right now, over 40 percent of dioceses in the United States are considered home mission territory because they are unable to fund the essential pastoral work needed in their communities. Your support funds programs such as religious education, seminary formation, and lay ministry training, to build vibrant faith communities right here in the United States. Please be generous!



Requiescat in pace

Joe Burke

OSJ parishioner Joe Burke passed away on Monday, April 30. His Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Tuesday, May 8, at 10:00 AM, with a viewing at 9:00 AM. Please keep his wife Linda and their families and friends in your thoughts and prayers.

George Alvarez

George Alvarez, the brother-in-law of Edwino Dizon, died in Manilla on Sunday, April 29. Please keep Edwino and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Eternal rest grant unto them, 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)