

Old St. Joseph's Church

Est. 1733 | Philadelphia's Jesuit Parish

321 Willings Alley
Philadelphia PA 19106
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www.oldstjoseph.org

November 18, 2018 | Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Welcoming the Stranger

After several attempts to write this, I finally made some progress on the Solemnity of All Saints. This was thanks, in part, to the reminder by Fr. Ed O'Donnell that we were invited to enter the names of deceased loved ones in the parish book at Mary's altar after Mass. I dutifully listed two of my deceased grandparents. Then, I hesitantly moved to another line to name the unnamed: disappeared persons, particularly women, who are lost in the shadows of broken systems that swallow up the vulnerable, the poor, and the oppressed.

Femicide is an all too common reality for women in Central America and Mexico. Young women. Teenagers. Mothers. Grandmothers. Sisters. Those who work. Those who are home with little ones. There is no real pattern except extreme violence that ends in death. Some of the murders are the result of interpersonal/partner violence. Some come at the hands of criminal actors who traffic in fear. Still other murders are perpetrated by agents of the state, such as corrupt police officers, or made more possible in the absence of outreach services for women.

The work that I do at Aquinas Center in South Philadelphia puts me into regular conversation with women who have fled this specter of death. On a cold day a few weeks back, a young family arrived at the center for a consultation with an accredited representative who assists individuals trying to navigate immigration policies and applications for specific forms of relief. There wasn't a social worker

on site at that time, so I sat with the seven-year-old daughter and we filled pages and pages of a cartoon coloring book so her mother could more easily explain why and how they had fled Central America.



This young family is like many in the caravan slowly making their way to the U.S./Mexico border to ask our government for asylum. There are few to no sources of employment in their rural village. Schooling and education for girls is often truncated

when more family members working means the ability to put food on the table each night. What little income a family earns is frequently controlled by the male in the household. Domestic abuse, often rooted in a desperate hopelessness, escalates. Not for every woman, not in every home, but enough that in 2014, the United Nations created a project to investigate gender-related killings of women in Latin America.

The current political climate has weaponized migration to make it about fear and a lack of abundance. U.S. residents are being encouraged to

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This Week at Old St. Joseph's

Date		Mass Intention and Presider	Calendar Events	
Mon	12:05 PM	<i>Old St. Joseph's Memorial Society</i>		
19		Presider: Fr. O'Donnell SJ	6:30 PM	PREP
Tues	12:05 PM	<i>Edward & Mary Britt Families (D)</i>	12 Noon	Faith, Food, and Friends (Barbelin)
20		Presider: Fr. Modrys SJ	7:00 PM	Schola Cantorum Rehearsal
Wed	12:05 PM	<i>Old St. Joseph's Memorial Society</i>		
21		Presider: Fr. Dougherty SJ		
Thurs	12:05 PM	<i>Thanksgiving</i>	12 Noon	Faith, Food, and Friends (Barbelin)
22		Presider: Fr. Dougherty SJ		
Fri	12:05 PM	<i>Winifred Grace (D)</i>		
23		Presider: Fr. Dougherty SJ		
Sat	12:05 PM	<i>Thomas L. Farris (D)</i>		
24		Presider: Fr. O'Donnell SJ		
	5:30 PM	Presider: Fr. O'Donnell SJ		
Sun	7:30 AM	Presider: Fr. Dougherty SJ	9:30 AM	Children's Liturgy of the Word (Barbelin)
25	9:30 AM	Presider: Fr. Modrys SJ		
	11:30 AM	Presider: Fr. Modrys SJ	5:30 PM	Loyola Choir Rehearsal (Church)
	6:30 PM	Presider: Fr. Modrys SJ	5:30 PM	YAC Pre-Mass Reflection (Greateon)

In your prayers,
please remember our sick and homebound brothers and sisters
and our ministry at Pennsylvania Hospital.

Adeline Acerno, Teresa Aponte, Louis Balestrucci, Mark Bojanowski, Rick Bravo, Debbie Brooks, Christopher Browne, Tony Corvaia, Melissa Counsellor, Charlotte Croce, Ann Crowther, Simeon Crowther, April DeMateo, Fred DiStefano, Pat Farris, Lenny Felixson, Fred Hembree, Fr. Mike Hricko SJ, Aaron Hull, Edward Jacobs, Marie Jacobs, Mary Jacobs, Janet Jeitner, Tamae Kan, Catherine Keddie, David Luerssen, Fr. Jerry McAndrews SJ, James McBride, Jerry McBride, Christine Mari-Mazzola, Allen May, Angelo Miczza, D. Minter, Catherine O'Brien, Bernie Paquett, Joanna Pearl, Lucy Pearl, Betty Farris Pfeiffer, Colleen Raymond, Kim Reed, Ursula Reed, Joan Russo, Steve Saunders, Barbara Schmidt, Mida Skalamera, Sara Smith, Lydia Staley, Janet Street, Ed Tomezsko, Arlene Tomlin, Craig Walsh, Patricia Yusko, Mickey Zippo.

Bringing Communion to the Homebound

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

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see those fleeing deep poverty, war, climate change, religious persecution, political unrest, and violence as the “other,” someone to be avoided at all costs.

Yet our most sacred texts exhort us to do just the opposite. “When a stranger sojourns with you in your land, you shall not do him wrong,” says the author of Leviticus. “You shall treat the stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God,” the passage concludes (Lev 19:33-34).

Perhaps this Thanksgiving weekend is a time to reflect on the sojourn that your relatives and family made to create a life for themselves in your hometown. Maybe, like the immigrant and refugee families that I accompany daily, your parents and grandparents left a place and a community they loved dearly in order to pursue safety, education, economic security, or even basic human rights, like equality for women, freedom of religion, and the right to public assembly. Gathered around the table, no doubt filled with foods that show love and

tradition, you can revisit their reasons for coming to the United States or even their means of arrival. Some of these conversations could be difficult. Slavery and indentured servitude, now often known as human trafficking, brought many to our shores. Others may have known the pain of being displaced from native lands. But these conversations, which should hopefully be a dialogue with deep listening on all parts, could be part of shifting attitudes toward the immigrant and the stranger. Our country—our city—need your efforts, as Fr. Greg Boyle, SJ says, “to widen the circle of compassion.” In *Tattoos on the Heart*, this Jesuit powerhouse goes on to write,

Soon we imagine, with God, this circle of compassion. Then we imagine no one standing outside of that circle, moving ourselves closer to the margins so that the margins themselves will be erased...At the edges, we join the easily despised and the readily left out. We stand with the demonized so that the demonizing will stop. We situate ourselves right next to the disposable so that the day will come when we stop throwing people away.

—Bethany J. Welch, PhD
Executive Director, The Aquinas Center

Announcements

Catholic School Scholarships

Scholarship applications through Business Leaders Organized for Catholic Schools (BLOCS) for the 2019-2020 school year are now available online at blocs.org/apply-scholarship. BLOCS is an independent charitable organization supported by individuals, companies, firms, and foundations of all sizes in the five-county Philadelphia region. BLOCS works within Pennsylvania's EITC & OSTC guidelines and uses an outside scholarship administrator to determine eligibility for scholarship grants for pre-K through high school students at Catholic Schools. For more information on BLOCS please visit blocs.org; for questions about the application process, please contact FACTS at 866-441-4637.

Did You Know. . .

That Old St. Joseph's has an **AED**—that is, an Automated External Defibrillator?

Do you know where it is? It's **in Barbelin Hall, at the base of the staircase that leads up to the church, outside the bathrooms.**

Do you know why it is there? Sudden cardiac arrest affects some 500,000 people every year; the likelihood of survival decreases by 10% with each minute after arrest without CPR. In the event of a heart attack, the first response is to call 911. The second is to send someone to get the AED, which is equipped with a microprocessor that analyzes a victim's cardiac rhythm and advises whether a shock is needed. med.upenn.edu/myheartmap/aed.html# offers a wealth of additional information about AEDs, including access to training opportunities.

Advent Giving Tree

Old St. Joseph's Advent Giving Tree will return on the first weekend of Advent, **December 1-2**. Take one of its ornament-tags and follow the directions on it to provide a holiday gift to a neighbor in need. (Gifts must be returned to the foot of the tree by **Sunday, December 16**). This year, the Advent Giving Tree will benefit two local organizations, the Gesu School and the Aquinas Center.

Gesu School is an independent Catholic Jesuit preK-grade 8 school in North Philadelphia. It serves 450 students living in six surrounding zip codes, including the three poorest zip codes in the city. One in five Gesu families lives below the federal poverty line, and one in three earns less than \$30,000 a year. Gesu School's mission is inspired by the Jesuit and Immaculate Heart of Mary (IHM) traditions of social justice, faith, hope, and love, to strive without selective admissions to provide a quality innovative education to help children in its neighborhood to break the cycle of poverty and violence. This year, Gesu School celebrates 25 years as an independent Catholic School. Learn more at gesuschool.org.

The Aquinas Center in south Philadelphia provides a welcoming space for mutual support and fostering shared understanding across boundaries of class, race, ethnicity, language, and geographic distance. Programs animated by its core values of hospitality, solidarity, responsiveness, and transformation include community organizing, English classes, immigration legal services, and a Green and Growing Summer Camp. Learn more at aquinascenterphilly.org.

Announcements

Advent by Candlelight on November 28

OSJ's Women Faith and Fellowship invites all women in the parish to an evening of hospitality and friendship at



Advent by Candlelight in Barbelin Hall on **Wednesday November 28, 7:00-8:30 PM**. Rev. Julia Sheetz Willard PhD, Associate Director of Campus Ministry for Ecumenical and Interfaith Outreach at Villanova University, will reflect on *From Scared to Sacred: Receiving the Gifts of Darkness*. The evening's reflection and candle lighting will be followed by dessert, coffee and tea. For more information and to RSVP (the evening is free), contact Women, Faith and Fellowship at wff@oldstjoseph.org.

Also Upcoming. . .

Advent Reconciliation Service, Tuesday, December 11 at 7:30 PM in the Church.

Lessons and Carols, Sunday, December 16 at 3:00 PM in the Church; light reception to follow in Barbelin Hall.

Daily Reflections for Advent and Christmas

The OSJ Ignatian Spirituality Committee invites all parishioners to set aside a few minutes a day to pray at home through these beautiful seasons. This year's book of reflections, based on the daily Scripture readings, is written by Sr. Genevieve Glen OSB. Subtitled "Waiting in Joyful Hope," each entry includes suggestions for applying the passages to your own life. Books will be distributed after all Masses on November 24-25 and December 1-2.

Correction:

Waldron Mercy Academy Visits Today!

Sister Joellen McDonnell RSM of Waldron Mercy Academy will be at Coffee and Donuts at **10:30 AM on Sunday, November 18**. She will be available to introduce the pre-K—grade 8 coed independent school to the families of prospective students.

Solidarity on Tap

All are invited to the Fall 2018 Solidarity on Tap on **Tuesday November 27, 7:00-9:00 PM** at the Field House (1150 Filbert St., in the old Reading Terminal). Solidarity on Tap is an interfaith, intergenerational gathering for socializing and social justice for all those (over 21, please!) connected to the Jesuits and sharing the spirituality of St. Ignatius of Loyola. Sponsors include the Ignatian Solidarity Network, Jesuit Volunteer Corps, Jesuit Volunteer Corps Northwest, the Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara, Boston College School of Theology and Ministry, and Jesuitical, as well as local partners. At **7:30 PM**, Michael Gomez PhD, principal of Cristo Rey Philadelphia High School, will speak on "A Man for Others: Rebel with a Gospel Cause." See you (former Jesuit Volunteers, Jesuit school alumni, Jesuit parish members, etc.) there!

Young Adult Community Spirituality Night

For one Spirituality Night only, **Tuesday, November 27, 7:00-9:00 PM**, YAC moves from Barbelin Hall and heads to Field House for **Solidarity on Tap** along with other Jesuit-affiliated groups and organizations. Hope to see you there!

We're on Facebook!

Look for—and like—Old St. Joseph's Facebook page, OSJ19106.

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

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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 or 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.

Pastor

Fr. Walter Modrys SJ (pastor@oldstjoseph.org)

Parochial Vicar

Fr. Edward O'Donnell SJ (eodonnell@oldstjoseph.org)

In Residence

Br. Robert Carson SJ

Fr. Edward Dougherty SJ (dougherty@oldstjoseph.org)

Pastoral Associate

BJ Brown (bjbrown@oldstjoseph.org)

Business Manager

Eric German (germane@oldstjoseph.org)

Director of Music

Mark Bani (music@oldstjoseph.org)

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PREP Coordinator

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Faith, Food & Friends Director

Deborah Hluchan (faithandfriends@oldstjoseph.org)

Parish Pastoral Council

Rana McNamara and Richard Le, co-chairs
(osjpc@oldstjoseph.org)

Parish Finance Council

Paul Shay, chair

Historic Preservation Corporation Board

Fr. Walter Modrys SJ, president.

Adult Education

Rita O'Brien and Jeanmarie Zippo
(adulted@oldstjoseph.org)

Eldership

Joan Slavin (joanslavin@aol.com)

Parish Life

Joe Casey (joetcasey@aol.com)

Ignatian Spirituality and Formation

John Bitterman (osjspirituality@oldstjoseph.org)

Women, Faith and Fellowship

Rana McNamara (wff@oldstjoseph.org)

Young Adult Community

Jenn Lydic and Megan Prilutski (osjyac@gmail.com)

Altar Servers

Maria Ramirez (mathra71@yahoo.com)

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Bill Stewart (wstewart@kaplaw.com)

Hospital Ministry

Luanne Balestrucci (lbalestrucci@yahoo.com)

Homebound Ministry

Neal Hébert (neal9536@gmail.com)

Lectors

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Ushers

Nikola Sizgorich (niksiz@icloud.com)

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Peggy Connolly (pmcon@comcast.net)