

Old St. Joseph's Church

Est. 1733 | Philadelphia's Jesuit Parish

321 Willings Alley
Philadelphia PA 19106
215-923-1733
www.oldstjoseph.org

February 17, 2019 | The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The words of the very first document of the Second Vatican Council remain as beautiful and challenging as they were fifty-six years ago: "The Church, therefore, earnestly desires that Christ's faithful, when present at [the Eucharist], should not be there as strangers or silent spectators; on the contrary, through a good understanding of the rites and prayers they should take part in the sacred action conscious of what they are doing, with devotion and full collaboration." (Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, 48) But for many of us, that 'good understanding' has changed little since our first communion. This week and next, our bulletin essays will endeavor to draw forth and deepen that "fully conscious and active participation" which baptism makes our right and duty.

Why We Do What We Do

Why do we do what we do every Sunday? Why do we come together to the same place, reciting the same prayers, moving through the same ritual week after week? We come from different backgrounds, ages, and professions. We come with different hopes and fears; we come with our own joys and sorrows. And yet, we come. Why do we do it and what exactly is it that we do when we get here? Among the advantages of belonging to a community that has been around for 2,000 years is that there is no scarcity of ways to understand what we do and why. Our sacred Scripture and our tradition—the centuries of prayer, study and reflection on our shared experience—lead us to some answers.

From its very beginnings, the Christian community appreciated the importance of coming together, sharing a meal, and recounting all that Jesus had done through his life and ministry. This meeting came to be known by several different names. The New Testament mentions several of these, and early theologians such as Tertullian, Origen, and Irenaeus used several more. The Catechism of the Catholic Church (#s 1328-1332) lists a dozen names for what we do when we come together, and each one



highlights a particular aspect of this most important activity of the Christian community. By reflecting on these names, we can increase our own insight and understanding into what we do and why we are doing it. Let us focus on just four of them: *Eucharist, Synaxis, The Memorial of the Lord's Passion and Resurrection, and Mass.*

The earliest Christians came together, as we still do today, to celebrate *Eucharist*. The word comes from the Greek *eucharistein*, to give thanks. The gatherings were, and are, an act of thanksgiving to God for all God has done for us, namely, our

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This Week at Old St. Joseph's

Date		Mass Intention and Presider	Calendar Events	
Mon 18	12:05 PM	<i>Old St. Joseph's Memorial Society</i> Presider: Fr. Dougherty SJ		<i>President's Day</i> <i>Parish Offices open 11:00AM–1:00 PM</i> <i>No PREP</i>
Tues 19	12:05 PM	<i>Old St. Joseph's Memorial Society</i> Presider: Fr. O'Donnell SJ	12 Noon 12 Noon 7:00 PM	Faith, Food and Friends (Barbelin) Al-Anon Meeting (Drexel) YA Spirituality Night (Barbelin)
Wed 20	12:05 PM	<i>Andy and Emma Ocampo (D)</i> Presider: Fr. Dougherty SJ	6:30 PM	Centering Prayer (Drexel)
Thurs 21	12:05 PM	<i>Old St. Joseph's Memorial Society</i> Presider: Fr. O'Donnell SJ	12 Noon 7:00 PM	Faith, Food and Friends (Barbelin) <i>Schola Cantorum</i> Rehearsal (Barbelin)
Fri 22	12:05 PM	<i>Edward & Mary Britt Families (D)</i> Presider: Fr. Dougherty SJ		
Sat 23	12:05 PM 5:30 PM	<i>Donal Godfrey SJ (L)</i> Presider: Fr. O'Donnell SJ Presider: Fr. Dougherty SJ	12 Noon	Faith, Food and Friends (Barbelin)
Sun 24	7:30 AM 9:30 AM 11:30 AM 6:30 PM	Presider: Fr. Dougherty SJ Presider: Fr. O'Donnell SJ Presider: Fr. O'Donnell SJ Presider: Fr. Modryš SJ	9:30 AM 5:30 PM 5:30 PM	Children's Liturgy of the Word (Barbelin) Loyola Choir rehearsal (Church) YAC Pre-Mass Reflection (Greaton)

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

Debbie Brooks, Tony Corvaia, Ann Crowther, Simeon Crowther, Paul DuSold, Lenny Felixson, Jillian Grayson,
Fr. Mike Hricko SJ, Aaron Hull, Mary Jacobs, Catherine Keddie, Raymond LaPalme, Karen Lessing,
Fr. Jerry McAndrews SJ, Marge Marziani, Allen May, D. Minter, Bernie Paquette, Ursula Reed, Joan Russo,
Sara Smith, Arlene Tomlin, Thomas Turnbull, Patricia Yusko, and Mickey Zippo.

Bringing Communion to the Homebound

Those who are confined to home—even for a short time—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 offices at 215-923-1733 to arrange for a parish Eucharistic Minister to visit.

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creation, redemption, and sanctification. We come together to give thanks. We are reminded that the Eucharist is an action, something we do to express our gratitude to God.

A less familiar name for what we do is *Synaxis*, the Assembly. The Eucharistic action was, and is, celebrated among and with the entire community. It is neither a solitary act nor a private prayer. It is the new People of God, formed in the Spirit of Jesus, coming together as one people to offer praise and thanksgiving to God. *Synaxis* draws our attention to the communal nature of our gathering, so much so that Vatican II states that the Church is most visible when the community is gathered to celebrate Sunday Eucharist (*Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, 2*).

Arriving at what can arguably be called the heart of the matter, the Eucharistic gathering is also called the *Memorial of the Lord's Passion and Resurrection*. As the early Church deepened its understanding, it connected Jesus' actions at supper on the night before he died with his passion, death and resurrection. The command, "Do this in memory of me," took on a significance that is at the very heart of our faith and that has endured through the centuries to our own day. While Jesus' sacrifice on the Cross was once for all

time, that saving event is made present in the here and now every time we gather for this Memorial of the Lord's Passion and Resurrection.

Finally, the most familiar name for what we do is *Mass*, from the Latin *Missa*, which comes from the phrase *Ite, missa est*, which is translated, "Go forth, the Mass is ended." We are sent forth into the world to proclaim the Good News of Christ by how we live our lives. What we do is not for us alone. There is a real missionary aspect to our celebration that compels us to go out and share what we have experienced with all those we meet.

So, back to our original question: why do we do what we do each Sunday? What we do is assemble, give thanks, recall our Lord's Passion and Resurrection, and get sent forth into the world. We do it because God created us and loves us. God has reached out to us in the person of Jesus and through his Paschal Mystery, has given us a new life, freed from the power of sin and death. We do it because through the Spirit of Jesus we are formed into the People of God, conscious of this new life that is ours. We do it to be strengthened and renewed in our commitment to live the Gospel life. And, because of the love shown us, we do it to share all these good things with everyone we meet. That's why we do what we do each Sunday.

—Stephen Paesani

Stephen Paesani is a parishioner and chair of OSJ's liturgy committee.

Why We Do What We Do—To Be Continued!

Join us on **Saturday March 9 at 10:00 AM** when Norbertine Fr. Andrew Ciferni comes to Old St. Joseph's to speak about how we pray together in our liturgies. A distinguished teacher and consultant on liturgy, Fr. Ciferni will also be the principal celebrant at 12:05 PM Mass. All are welcome; and all presently serving as or wishing to become lectors, eucharistic ministers, ushers or altar servicers are particularly urged to attend!

Announcements

Congratulations!

Congrats to Sydney Parson, ninth grader and daughter of Alexandra and Travis Parson, who made the first semester honor roll at Merion Mercy Academy.

Summer Pilgrimages

Join Thomas A. Kane CSP of Paulist Pilgrimages and Julio Giulietti SJ on an Ignatian pilgrimage this summer. *Ignatius in Rome* is a seven-day journey and *The Loyola Experience* is a ten-day retreat pilgrimage that follows Ignatius' footsteps. Each celebrates the life of St. Ignatius in different yet complimentary ways. Visit www.paulist.org/pilgrimages or contact Fr. Thomas at 617-792-7360 for more information.

Living Justice Lectures at Cabrini University

Teresa Pitt Green will open Cabrini University's annual lecture series on **Monday, February 18 at 4:30 PM** in the university's Mansion Dining Room. Ms. Pitt Green, founder of *Spirit Fire* and editor of *Healing Voices* magazine, will give the Mother Ursula Infante Memorial Lecture, entitled *From Abuse to Healing*. For more information, contact Dr. Ray Ward at rew68@cabrini.edu.

Faith-Justice Institute Hosts Discussion On Migration and Immigration.

On **Tuesday, February 19 at 7:00 PM** Saint Joseph's University's Faith-Justice Institute and SJU's Immigrant Working Group will present a panel on *Love Thy Neighbor: Faith-Based Refugee and Immigrant Services in Philadelphia*. Speakers from the Aquinas Center, the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society and the Archdiocese of Philadelphia will address the call to promote justice and protect refugees. The discussion will be held in SJU's Foley Center.

Jesuit Refugee Service @ SJU

Please join Dr. Mireille Twayigira and Jesuit Refugee Service/USA at Saint Joseph's University's Campion Banquet Hall on **Wednesday, February 27 at 4:00 PM**. Dr. Twayigira will speak about what can be done to ensure that children forced to flee from crisis and conflict receive an education and an opportunity for a hopeful future. Dr. Twayigira, herself, became a refugee at age two. She eventually received an education through Jesuit Refugee Service at Dzaleka refugee camp in Malawi and won a scholarship to medical school in China. Visit www.jrsusa.org/fullofhope to RSVP and to learn more. All are welcome!

Announcements

Catholic Charities Annual Appeal

The Archdiocese of Philadelphia's annual Catholic Charities Appeal benefits the Nutritional Development Services' Community Food Program, Catholic special education and a wide range of social services. To participate in the *Giving Hope to All* appeal, you can donate online at catholiccharitiesappeal.org or pick up forms and envelopes in the back of the church. Thanks for your generosity!

Young Adult Community Spirituality Night

Ever wished it was a little bit easier to find resources for prayer? Interested in good Catholic podcasts, blogs or apps for spiritual support? Look no further than the internet—and the Young Adult Community! Join us on **Tuesday, February 19** for *Enhancing Your (Online) Prayer Life*. We'll discuss the wide variety of resources designed to deepen both your spiritual and prayer lives, and you can share resources you already appreciate. Spirits will be available in Barbelin Hall at **7:00 PM** and discussion will begin at **7:30 PM**. We hope to see you there! Have questions? Contact Jenn at jennlydic@gmail.com.

YAC Post-Mass Reflection

Young adults are invited to join us for additional reflection after the 6:30 PM Mass on **Sunday, February 24**. We will meet in the front of the church and then head to the Greaton Parlor. We'll re-read the Scriptures from the evening Mass and allow time for quiet prayer, sharing and discussion. Materials will be provided, and we will end by 8:30 PM. All young adults are welcome!

All are Welcome to Centering Prayer

The centering prayer group will meet on **Wednesday, February 20, 6:30–8:30 PM** in the Drexel Parlor. There will be a discussion of centering prayer followed by evening prayer with a period of centering. Anyone interested in contemplative prayer is welcome! For further information, contact Christine at 267-250-3049 or christinesz52@gmail.com.

Volunteer Orientation at MANNA

Join OSJ's Eldership Community on **Thursday February 21 1:00–4:00 PM** at MANNA, an all-volunteer nonprofit located at 420 North 20th Street (www.mannapa.org). MANNA cooks and delivers nutritious, medically-appropriate meals and provides nutrition counseling to neighbors who are battling life-threatening illnesses. An orientation session will be followed by an opportunity to take a shift in the kitchen that afternoon and learn hands on. Please advise patricia.nelson103@gmail.com by **February 18** if you plan to attend.

Women, Faith and Friends

Women Faith and Friends invites women of the parish to gather at Frieda Café, 320 Walnut Street at **10:00 AM next Sunday, February 24**. Come grab a coffee or brunch and catch up with folks you met at Advent by Candlelight. We'll also talk about future opportunities for prayer and companionship! RSVP to wff@oldstjoseph.org so we can reserve enough tables.

Lenten Vespers

Join us for Lenten Vespers with the Schola Cantorum on **Sunday, March 31 at 4:00 PM**. Our annual hour of choral and organ music is a beautiful opportunity to enter deeply into Lenten prayer. All are welcome!

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 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 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.

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)

Parish Offices

(office@oldstjoseph.org)

PREP Coordinator

Christine Szczepanowski (prep@oldstjoseph.org)

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

Pat Nelson (patricia.nelson103@gmail.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

Lou Anne Bulik (labulik@yahoo.com)

Ushers

Nikola Sizgorich (niksiz@icloud.com)

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Peggy Connolly (pmcon@comcast.net)