

# Old St. Joseph's Church

Est. 1733 | Philadelphia's Jesuit Parish

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

March 10, 2019 | First Sunday of Lent

## An Eminently Christian Virtue

I remember when the Pope 'columbused' solidarity.

'To columbus' is a great verb that I learned from my much younger (and cooler) brother. It means to discover as new something that's been there all along. It refers to Christopher Columbus' experience in the Caribbean.

Pope John Paul II's much-quoted definition of solidarity appears in his 1987 encyclical letter, *Sollicitudo Rei Socialis (The Social Concern of the Church)*. It is a good definition, and worth recalling in full. John Paul wrote that solidarity is

*not a feeling of vague compassion or shallow distress at the misfortunes of so many people, both near and far. On the contrary, it is a firm and persevering determination to commit oneself to the common good; that is to say to the good of all and of each individual, because we are really all responsible for all.*

John Paul II wrote in response to a growing awareness—even in 1987—of interdependence between individuals, communities and nations across the globe. The internet and social media have only intensified that awareness in the decades since. When the metaphorical butterfly flaps its wings in the Amazon, we see it—and the resultant typhoon—instantly on our smartphones. Social media have become a powerful connector that can organize social and political actions ranging from the



viral ice bucket challenge, to using Facebook and Instagram to stir public protest, to smartphone videos documenting terrorist atrocities. In 2019, it is hard not to know just how interconnected we are.

But there's more to solidarity than the fact of global connectedness. Solidarity embraces the moral obligation that the fact of interdependence demands. And solidarity is, as the Catechism points out, an "eminently Christian virtue" that is deeply rooted in the heart of our faith.

John Paul II's predecessors used terms like 'civic friendship,' 'social charity' and 'social love' to describe the moral obligation that he called solidarity. But the true roots of solidarity run deeper than a century of Catholic social teaching.

From beginning to end, our scriptures tell the story of a merciful God who created us in his own image and for each other. The love that binds us to God demands that we care for the least among us, however the stranger, widow and orphan appear in our day. The death and resurrection of Jesus Christ are the full embodiment of that love, which is present among us with each celebration of the

—continued inside



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.

# This Week at Old St. Joseph's

Date		Mass Intention and Presider	Calendar Events	
Mon 18	12:05 PM	<i>Neil Cox</i> Presider: Fr. Dougherty SJ	6:00 PM	PREP
Tues 19	12:05 PM 6:00 PM	<i>St. Joseph's Feast Day</i> Presider: Fr. Modrys SJ Presider: Fr. Modrys SJ	12 Noon 12 Noon 7:00 PM	Faith, Food & Friends (Barbelin) Al-Anon Meeting (Drexel) Feast Day Dinner (Barbelin)
Wed 20	12:05 PM	<i>Old St. Joseph's Memorial Society</i> Presider: Fr. Dougherty SJ	7:30 PM	Centering Prayer (Drexel)
Thurs 21	12:05 PM	<i>Patricia Cox (D)</i> Presider: Fr. O'Donnell SJ	12 Noon 7:00 PM	Faith, Food & Friends (Barbelin) <i>Schola Cantorum</i> rehearsal (Barbelin)
Fri 22	12:05 PM	<i>Old St. Joseph's Memorial Society</i> Presider: Fr. Dougherty SJ		
Sat 23	12:05 PM 5:30 PM	<i>Edward and Mary Britt Families (D)</i> Presider: Fr. O'Donnell SJ Presider: Fr. Dougherty SJ	10:00 AM 12 Noon	Parish Retreat (St. Raphaela Center) Faith, Food & Friends (Barbelin)
Sun 24	7:30 AM 9:30 AM 11:30 AM 6:30 PM	Presider: Fr. O'Donnell SJ Presider: Fr. Modrys SJ Presider: Fr. Modrys SJ Presider: Fr. O'Donnell SJ	9:30 AM 10:30 AM 12:30 PM 5:30 PM 5:30 PM 7:30 PM	Children's Liturgy of the Word (Barbelin) Coffee Hour and Advocacy (Barbelin) Coffee Hour and Advocacy (Barbelin) Loyola Choir rehearsal (Church) YAC Pre-Mass Reflection (Greaton) YAC Post-Mass Reflection (Greaton)

*The flowers under the statue of St. Joseph statue this week were donated by Lois Marcolongo in loving memory of her father, Emilio E. Marcolongo.*

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

Debbie Brooks, Brenda Byrne, Tony Corvaia, Ann Crowther, Simeon Crowther, Paul DuSold, Toby Epstein  
Lenny Felixson, Susan Friend, 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, 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.*

*Continued from front page*

Eucharist. From first to last, we are destined for solidarity, meant to actively share in the lives of neighbors as near to us as the first woman and man were to each other, through people at the peripheries of our communities, and even to the ends of the earth.

These stories of our faith are never just about me and Jesus; they are always about God, me and everybody else. (One of my favorite descriptions of the Catholic faith is “here comes everybody!”) Since we are formed by such stories, how can solidarity not be part and parcel of how we practice our faith? But then again, to the ends of the earth is pretty far. It’s challenging to fit that overwhelming idea into an everyday life of going to work, grocery shopping and meal prep, and getting the taxes and the homework done.

Which is why solidarity seems to me a particularly apt focus for Lenten reflection. Over the next several weeks, the Sunday readings will lead us through a review of salvation history and along our journeys in faith. We will be prompted to recall the faith that we were baptized into and what we were baptized for, in preparation for renewing those promises at Easter. We will be called to a Lenten penance that is “not only inward and individual but

outward and social” (*Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, 110*).

Catholic Relief Services’ Rice Bowls offer a series of lenses for such reflection and prompts for action. The calendar’s and app’s stories about specific people who have been helped by CRS’ aid programs offer a focus for our prayer. The practice of Rice Bowl almsgiving offers a concrete way to support Catholic Relief Service’s work. Old St. Joseph’s letter-writing coffee hours on March 24 (details below) will be an opportunity to advocate for full funding of international aid focused on relieving poverty. Perhaps other small steps will make sense to us: we might choose to shop local or to buy fair trade goods; we may give up single use plastics or fast fashion produced in sweat shops.

There is a kinder way than ‘columbusing’ for me to describe John Paul II’s reflections on solidarity. Matthew’s Gospel (13:52) tells how one who has accepted the message of Jesus is like the head of a household who brings from her storeroom treasures both old and new. Reflecting on what’s familiar—particularly in a new light—can lead to new understanding. I pray that this Lent, the light of the Gospel and the practice of solidarity will lead me to discover both a renewed understanding of, and new commitments within, my familiar routines and surroundings. May it be so for you, too.

—BJ Brown  
Pastoral Associate

*Front page: Photo by Jon Tyson on Unsplash.*

*You are invited to write a letter to your congressional representatives **next Sunday, March 24 at the Coffee Hours after 9:30 AM and 11:30 AM Masses**. Model letters, writing materials and moral support will be available in abundance to help you advocate for robust funding for foreign assistance in the US Fiscal Year 2020 budget.*

*Catholic Relief Services receives such funding and uses it for food security projects like Feed the Future in Ghana and Rwanda, Food for Peace in Guatemala and Ethiopia, and Emergency Food Security Programs in Nigeria and Somalia.*

*According to the US Agency for International Development, the world’s need for food assistance is rising, even without taking into account the effects of severe weather and the needs of refugees. Congress did not cut foreign assistance in 2017 and 2018, despite demands from the executive branch. The priorities of the electorate—expressed in letters, phone calls and texts sent by people like us—made a difference!*

# Announcements

## News from the Archdiocesan Office for Persons with Disabilities

Each year, the Archdiocese of Philadelphia hosts a celebration honoring persons with disabilities, the deaf community and family, friends and caregivers. This year's Mass will be on **Saturday, March 30 at 10:30 AM** at the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul at 18<sup>th</sup> and Race Streets. A reception will follow. RSVP **by Friday, March 20** with the number of attendees and accommodations needed at [opdarchphilly.org](http://opdarchphilly.org) or [opd@archphila.org](mailto:opd@archphila.org). Accessible parking is available on site.

## One Faith, Many Cultures, One Family

On **Saturday, March 23**, the Archdiocese of Philadelphia's Office of Pastoral Care for Migrants and its Pontifical Mission Societies will host the annual Cultural Heritage Mass at the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul at 18<sup>th</sup> and Race Streets. A procession will begin at **2:00 PM** and Mass is at **2:30 PM**. Archbishop Charles Chaput OFM Cap will be principal celebrant and homilist. All are welcome!

## Pilgrimage to Spain

Friends of St. Joseph's Prep are invited to take part in an extraordinary pilgrimage through Spain from **June 23–30**. Led by the Prep's Fr. John Swope SJ and Fr. Chuck Frederico SJ, the pilgrimage will visit sites where Ignatius developed his *Spiritual Exercises* as well as important places in the early life of the Society of Jesus. For more information, contact Tara McFadden at [tmcfadden@sjprep.org](mailto:tmcfadden@sjprep.org) or 215-978-1963, or visit [travelillumine.com](http://travelillumine.com) and enter program number 19.10496.

## Visionary Women

On **Wednesday, March 27 at 7:00 PM**, St. Joseph's University will celebrate Women's History Month with a talk by Sr. Mary Scullion RSM on the historical contributions of women in the Catholic Church as champions of peace and social justice. Sr. Mary will also talk about her lifelong journey as an advocate for homeless people. This event is sponsored by the Faith-Justice Institute's Joseph William and Madeline Eberle Klein Fund. It will be held at SJU's Foley Center and is free and open to the public. For more information, please contact Annie Bole at 610-660-1132 or [abole@sju.edu](mailto:abole@sju.edu).

## Discernment Retreat

Single young women, ages 18-35, are invited for a weekend of prayer and spiritual conferences along with meals and recreation with the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. This discernment retreat will be held at the Villa Maria House of Studies in Malvern, PA from **March 22–24**. For more information, contact: Sister Marianne at 610-889-1553 or [ihmvoc@gmail.com](mailto:ihmvoc@gmail.com).

## Bishop Neumann Class of 1969 Reunion

The Class of 1969 from Bishop Neumann High School will celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion on **April 5 from 7–11:00 PM** at the Waterfall Room, 2015 Water Street in Philadelphia. For more information, contact The Millay Club at 215-389-0925 or [millayclub@gmail.com](mailto:millayclub@gmail.com).

# Announcements

## *Doing God's Work Through Serving Your Neighbor*

OSJ's Ignatian Spirituality Committee invites everyone to a day-long retreat with Fr. Dan Ruff SJ on **Saturday, March 23 from 10:00 AM–3:00 PM**. We will meet at the St. Raphaela Retreat Center, 616 Cooperstown Road, Haverford, PA. The retreat will include time for private reflection and group discussion, and will end with celebrating the day's Mass. The cost is \$35 for lunch and materials; please RSVP by **March 18** to [osjspirituality@oldstjoseph.org](mailto:osjspirituality@oldstjoseph.org).

## Centering Prayer

The centering prayer group will meet on **Wednesday, March 20 from 6:30–8:30 PM** in the Drexel Parlor. The meeting will include a discussion of centering prayer followed by a period of centering. Anyone interested in contemplative prayer is welcome to attend. For further information, contact Christine Szczepanowski at [prep@oldstjoseph.org](mailto:prep@oldstjoseph.org).

## Catholic Charities Annual Appeal

The Archdiocese of Philadelphia's annual Catholic Charities Appeal is well underway. To date, Old St. Joseph's has contributed 32% of the \$38,880 goal set for us by the Archdiocese. More information about the educational and social services that the *Giving Hope to All* campaign supports can be found online at [catholiccharitiesappeal.org](http://catholiccharitiesappeal.org). The website also describes opportunities to donate and to volunteer with organizations which from the appeal.

## St Joseph's Feast Day!

Come celebrate the Feast of St. Joseph on **Tuesday, March 19 at 6:00 PM**, starting with Mass and followed immediately by dinner in Barbelin Hall. Tickets are on sale at the front desk of the parish office: \$10 for adults and no charge for children. Donations of wine and dessert are welcome! Many volunteers will make light work of food prep on **Monday, March 18**, and set-up, serving and clean-up on **Tuesday, March 19**. Please contact Joe Casey at 215-843-3573 or [joetcasey@aol.com](mailto:joetcasey@aol.com) to sign up or for further information.

## Lenten Choral Vespers

All are invited to our Lenten Choral Vespers Service on **Sunday, March 31 at 4:00 PM**. We will chant the antiphons and psalms appointed for the day. In addition, the Schola Cantorum, under the direction of Dr. Mark Bani, will sing a choral gem from the late Georgian period, *The Wilderness*, by Samuel Sebastian Wesley, and Herbert Sumsion's lyrical setting of the *Magnificat in G Major*. Organ music will include Brahms' poignantly moving setting of *O Sadness, O Heart Sorrow*, and Buxtehude's setting of *O Sacred Head Surrounded*. (A free will offering will be gratefully accepted.) We hope you will join us for this ancient prayer of the church and an opportunity for Lenten reflection and prayer.

## *Requiescat in Pace*

David Landis, a guest at OSJ's Faith, Food & Friends, passed away early in March. We extend our heartfelt condolences to his friends and all who cared for him.

*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 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 available 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](http://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](mailto:pastor@oldstjoseph.org))

## Parochial Vicar

Fr. Edward O'Donnell SJ ([eodonnell@oldstjoseph.org](mailto:eodonnell@oldstjoseph.org))

## In Residence

Br. Robert Carson SJ

Fr. Edward Dougherty SJ ([dougherty@oldstjoseph.org](mailto:dougherty@oldstjoseph.org))

## Pastoral Associate

BJ Brown ([bjbrown@oldstjoseph.org](mailto:bjbrown@oldstjoseph.org))

## Business Manager

Eric German ([germane@oldstjoseph.org](mailto:germane@oldstjoseph.org))

## Director of Music

Mark Bani ([music@oldstjoseph.org](mailto:music@oldstjoseph.org))

## Parish Offices

([office@oldstjoseph.org](mailto:office@oldstjoseph.org))

## PREP Coordinator

Christine Szczepanowski ([prep@oldstjoseph.org](mailto:prep@oldstjoseph.org))

## Faith, Food & Friends Director

Deborah Hluchan ([faithandfriends@oldstjoseph.org](mailto:faithandfriends@oldstjoseph.org))

## Parish Pastoral Council

Rana McNamara and Richard Le, co-chairs  
([osjpc@oldstjoseph.org](mailto: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](mailto:adulted@oldstjoseph.org))

## Eldership

Pat Nelson ([eldership@oldstjoseph.org](mailto:eldership@oldstjoseph.org))

## Parish Life

Joe Casey ([parishlife@oldstjoseph.org](mailto:parishlife@oldstjoseph.org))

## Ignatian Spirituality and Formation

John Bitterman ([osjspirituality@oldstjoseph.org](mailto:osjspirituality@oldstjoseph.org))

## Women, Faith and Fellowship

Rana McNamara ([wff@oldstjoseph.org](mailto:wff@oldstjoseph.org))

## Young Adult Community

Jenn Lydic and Megan Prilutski ([osjyac@gmail.com](mailto:osjyac@gmail.com))

## Altar Servers

Maria Ramirez ([altarserver@oldstjoseph.org](mailto:altarserver@oldstjoseph.org))

## Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Bill Stewart ([EM@oldstjoseph.org](mailto:EM@oldstjoseph.org))

## Hospital Ministry

Luanne Balestrucci ([hospitalEM@oldstjoseph.org](mailto:hospitalEM@oldstjoseph.org))

## Homebound Ministry

Neal Hébert ([homeEM@oldstjoseph.org](mailto:homeEM@oldstjoseph.org))

## Lectors

Lou Anne Bulik ([lectors@oldstjoseph.org](mailto:lectors@oldstjoseph.org))

## Ushers

Nikola Sizgorich ([ushers@oldstjoseph.org](mailto:ushers@oldstjoseph.org))

## Children's Liturgy of the Word

Peggy Connolly ([clow@oldstjoseph.org](mailto:cw@oldstjoseph.org))