

Old St. Joseph's Church

Est. 1733 | Philadelphia's Jesuit Parish

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

March 3, 2019 | The Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

We Belong to One Another

I traveled to Malawi, Africa last summer with people from all over the United States who are promoting Catholic Relief Services' work in their parishes. In Malawi, we came face to face with the social ills that most of us in the United States only hear about from media reports, and we met the people affected by them. Farmers' yields were diminished due to the punishing effects of climate change. Desperate poverty strained families and often led to single-parent or abusive homes. Children ate only one meal a day, and few attended daycare. Yet it was on this trip that a woman named Mary opened my eyes to the power of Catholic Relief Services' work.

Mary was an older woman and the leader of a Savings and Internal Lending Community. SILC groups are a method of microfinance. They empower people without access to banking services to pool their financial resources, make small loans to one another, and track and repay those loans within a certain amount of time. Mary led a SILC group comprised of people living with HIV/AIDS. They were not mired in fear of their diagnosis but possessed a contagious hope. "In the past, it was every person for themselves," Mary told us through a translator. "Now [with this SILC group] we help provide for one another. It has brought oneness."

Mary's plain statement changed my own thinking about CRS' work around the world. It helped me see clearly how the work CRS does helps people who are poor and marginalized by society retain their inherent human dignity and re-connects them to the one human family.

Again and again, Pope Francis has drawn our



attention towards the inherent human dignity of every person in our one human family. For example, in his encyclical *Laudato Si*, Francis highlights how all of us are responsible for caring for our common home and how human society and every creature on the planet are connected. "Because all creatures are connected, each must be cherished with love and respect, for all of us as living creatures are dependent on one another. Each. . . is responsible for the care of this family" (*Laudato Si*, 42). Francis' focus on our connections reminds me of the words of another great Catholic figure of recent memory. Saint Teresa of Calcutta taught that "if we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other."

Both Pope Francis and St. Mother Teresa reflect the importance of caring for one another as Jesus did. Every gospel has stories of Jesus fostering community among the disciples—whether by calling to them to join him as 'fishers of people' (Mark

—continued inside



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This Week at Old St. Joseph's

Date		Mass Intention and Presider	Calendar Events	
Mon 4	12:05 PM	<i>Dolores Rose McDonald (D)</i> Presider: Fr. Dougherty SJ	6:00 PM	PREP
Tues 5	12:05 PM	<i>James and Katherine Henderson (D)</i> Presider: Fr. Modrys SJ	12 Noon 12 Noon 7:00 PM	Faith, Food and Friends (Barbelin) Al-Anon Meeting (Drexel) YA Community Happy Hour (off-site)
Wed 6	12:05 PM 7:30 PM	<i>Ash Wednesday</i> Presider: Fr. Modrys SJ Presider: Fr. Modrys SJ		<i>Relaxed parking will be available.</i>
Thurs 7	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 8	12:05 PM	<i>Edward and Mary Britt Families (D)</i> Presider: Fr. Dougherty SJ	12:30 PM	Litany of the Sacred Heart
Sat 9	12:05 PM 5:30 PM	<i>Old St. Joseph's Memorial Society</i> Presider: Fr. Andrew Ciferni O.Praem Presider: Fr. Dougherty SJ	10:00 AM 12 Noon	<i>Gathered to Become Church</i> with Fr. Andrew Ciferni (Church) Faith, Food and Friends (Barbelin)
Sun 10	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. Modrys SJ		<i>Second Collection—Solidarity Fund for the Church in Latin America</i> Children's Liturgy of the Word (Barbelin) Loyola Choir rehearsal (Church) YAC Pre-Mass Reflection (Greaton)

Fast and Abstinence during Lent

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting for people ages fourteen through fifty-eight (as they are able). Fasting customarily means one full and two light meals on those days. Ash Wednesday and Fridays during Lent are also days when people age fourteen and older are asked to abstain from eating meat.

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,
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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1:17), or by multiplying loaves and fishes so that every person was fed (Matthew 14; Mark 6; Luke 9; John 6). Jesus' ministry was all about restoring connection, drawing people on the margins of society back to the one human family. We see this in large ways when he drives out demons and gives sight to the blind, and in small ways, when he meets with the Samaritan woman at the well (John 4) and invites Zacchaeus down from the tree (Luke 19). Jesus taught that "blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God" (Luke 6:20). If the excluded and marginalized of society are given God's reign, then we as followers of Jesus must ensure that the poor and marginalized of the world are both cared for and connected to the one human family.

I think a lot about Mary in Malawi; I try to find ways to stay connected with her as part of the one, human family. With Lent approaching, I'm looking forward to participating more deeply with CRS Rice Bowl than I have in the past. Rice Bowl offers daily Lenten reflections on its CRS Rice Bowl app and through its online and paper Lenten calendars that I can follow with my family and friends to enhance our Lenten sacrifices. Not only am I confident of the fact that 94 cents of every dollar donated goes directly to CRS programming around the world, I also am looking forward to reflecting on the stories



of others who have—like Mary--benefited from the work of CRS around the world. Remembering Mary during my Lenten practice prompts me to ask what more I can do for the poor and vulnerable in Philadelphia and beyond.

Lent is a time for us to explore the ways in which we can re-connect with ourselves and it reminds us that we share this journey with the whole human family. We are challenged to make sure everyone is cared for, especially the poor and vulnerable. Meeting Mary made real for me Christ's call to work with and for the least of my brothers and sisters all over the world. I hope that my Lenten prayer and almsgiving, with the help of CRS' Rice Bowl, will help me live out the gospel call to create God's reign here on earth, so that we might all belong to one another and live together in the oneness that Mary showed me in Malawi.

—Jeffrey Miguel Wallace
Jeffrey is a parishioner and Relationship Manager in the Northeast Mid-Atlantic Office of Catholic Relief Services

To learn more about the work of Catholic Relief Services, visit crs.org.

Front page: Jean-Francois Millet, The Gleaners, 1857, oil on canvas, Musée d'Orsay, Paris.

The Whys and Hows of CRS Rice Bowl

Catholic Relief Services (CRS) is the international humanitarian agency of the US Catholic community. CRS began during World War II, serving the needs of migrants and refugees displaced by war. Its work has since expanded across the globe and includes agriculture and water security projects, microfinance, education, and mother and child health—all in partnership with the US Conference of Catholic Bishops' commitment to protect human dignity by promoting integral human development. Here in the US, CRS supports domestic nutrition programs and public policy advocacy.

CRS Rice Bowl is an opportunity to connect with the work of Catholic Relief Services around the world. Using traditional Lenten practices, Rice Bowl suggests opportunities to pray with and for CRS partners, to fast by sharing simple meals and to give alms toward CRS' humanitarian and advocacy work.

At OSJ this Lent, opportunities to participate in Rice Bowl will include letter-writing at coffee hours on **March 24** in support of a CRS legislative initiative on early childhood development. Also, there will be an opportunity to share a simple meatless meal and for letter writing at the **April 7** cookout dinner after the 6:30 PM Mass.

For those who choose to set aside cash alms, the Rice Bowl collection will be taken up on the Second Sunday of Easter, **April 28**, (converting cash to a single check will allow OSJ to add your donation to the tax-deductible totals reported to you at the end of the year).

If you choose to use the CRS Rice Bowl app (available through Google Play and the Apple App Store), be sure to designate Old St. Joseph's as your parish. This will help ensure that the 25% local share of the collection will go to the Archdiocese of Philadelphia's Nutritional Development Services

(remember, our own Faith, Food and Friends receives support from NDS!) Paper Rice Bowls and calendars will be available after church this weekend. We will also distribute copies of *Not by Bread Alone, Daily Reflections for Lent 2019*, which OSJ's Ignatian Spirituality Committee recommends as part of our Lenten practice.

The Local Roots of CRS Rice Bowl

For over four decades, Catholic Relief Services (CRS) has enriched the Lenten journey of US Catholics through Rice Bowl, a faith formation program that combines prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Nowhere is CRS Rice Bowl better received and as meaningful as in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia—perhaps because Rice Bowl has deep local roots!

In 1976, the Archdiocese of Philadelphia hosted the 41st International Eucharistic Congress. The overall theme of the gathering was *Hungers of the Human Family*, and on the second day, the focus was on *Hunger for Bread*. Father Edward Brady SJ of St. Joseph's University engaged an amazing group of speakers, including Dorothy Day, Cesar Chavez, Brazilian Archbishop Dom Helder Camara and Father Pedro Arrupe SJ.

Building on an initiative from the Diocese of Allentown, Father Brady also introduced an action opportunity, Operation Rice Bowl (as it was then known), at the Eucharistic Congress. Rice Bowl was later adopted as a program of CRS. Rice Bowl donations support CRS' work in roughly 45 different countries each year. Over the years, Rice Bowl has raised nearly \$300 million. It remains a part of the Lenten journey for US Catholics who connect celebrating the Eucharist with feeding the hungry. In the words of Father Arrupe, "we cannot receive the Bread of Life without sharing bread for life with those in need."

—Anne H. Ayella
CRS Diocesan Director
Archdiocese of Philadelphia

Announcements

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!

Catholic Charities Annual Appeal

You can donate to the Archdiocese of Philadelphia's annual Catholic Charities Appeal *Giving Hope to All* by using the forms and envelopes found in the back of the church or online at catholiccharitiesappeal.org. The website also describes opportunities to volunteer with organizations benefitting from the appeal. Visit the site today for more information!

OSJ Book Group

Old Saint Joseph's Book Reading Group will meet on **Tuesday, March 5 at 7:30–9:00 PM** in the Drexel Parlor to discuss *Dakota: A Spiritual Landscape* by Kathleen Norris. Described as a deeply spiritual book, *Dakota* explores small town prairie life and the many ways that people come to reflect the landscape they live in. For more information contact Carol Shloss at shlosscarol@gmail.com.

Young Adult Community

Fat Tuesday Happy Hour

Come join OSJ's YAC for a special Mardi Gras/Fat Tuesday happy hour on **Tuesday, March 5 from 7:00–9:00 PM**. For a last fling before Lent, which begins the next day, we will gather at the Red Owl Tavern, located on the corner of Independence Mall and Chestnut Street, just east of the Liberty Bell. The Red Owl runs a late(r) happy hour from 7:00–9:00 PM on weekdays with \$5 beers and \$6 glasses of wine. If you have any questions, contact Jenn at jennlydic@gmail.com.

People Gathered to Become Church

What does it mean to gather for worship? To us, to our community, to the world around us? How—and why—does our celebration of the Eucharist change us? On **Saturday, March 9 from 10:00 AM–12:00 PM**, Norbertine Father Andrew Ciferni, a distinguished teacher of liturgy, will guide us in examining God's standing invitation to share in word and sacrament and to be transformed and sent out into the world. Plan to remain for 12:05 PM Mass; Fr. Ciferni will be the celebrant. Everyone is invited. Current and prospective lectors, eucharistic ministers, ushers and altar servers are particularly encouraged to attend.

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 to sign up or for further information.

Lenten Retreat

OSJ's Ignatian Spirituality Committee invites everyone to a day-long retreat on **Saturday, March 23 from 10:00 AM–3:00 PM** at the St. Raphaela Retreat Center in Haverford, PA. Father Dan Ruff SJ will help us reflect on *Doing God's Work Through Serving Your Neighbor*, with time for private reflection and group discussion. The cost of the retreat is \$35 for lunch and materials; please RSVP by **March 18** to osjspirituality@oldstjoseph.org.

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.

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

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Nikola Sizgorich (niksiz@icloud.com)

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Peggy Connolly (pmcon@comcast.net)