

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

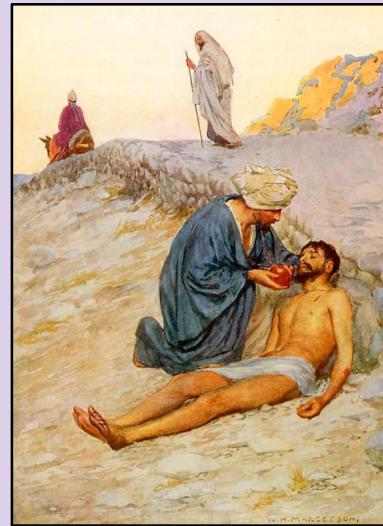
A Sneak Preview

In this essay, Fr. Dan Ruff SJ previews the March 23 retreat "Doing God's Work Through Serving Our Neighbor." Details about joining us are inside!

The first thing most people learn about Ignatian spirituality is the tagline "finding God in all things." There have been countless words written on Ignatian spirituality and the *Spiritual Exercises* they are rooted in. My elevator speech version is this: Everything in the natural universe, and especially on our beautiful blue marble Earth, was created by a loving God. Just as a painting reflects the unique touch of its artist, everything in creation—from the oceans, sun and stars to caterpillars, ants and amoebas—tells us something about the loving God who created it, if we really look, really pay attention.

Nothing in creation can tell us more about God than the last thing God created, human beings. As the Genesis stories tell us "God created humankind in God's image; in the image of God, God created them; male and female God created them" (Gn 1:27). And again, God blew God's own breath of life into the 'man of dust' (Gn 2:7).

The Genesis stories assure us that God's original intent was for human beings to till and keep the world that God created. Unfortunately, we know that God's Plan A didn't quite work out. We live with the effects of evil, so much so that it is hard to see the godliness in ourselves, or in one another. That is why Ignatius invites the retreatant to ponder the



mystery of sin—and it *is* a mystery!—at the very outset of his *Spiritual Exercises*.

Yet Ignatius, his Jesuits and all practitioners of Ignatian spirituality remain optimists in the face of the reality of sin. Why? Because God has another plan to offer us. God offers us an exemplar of human nature at its best, its most perfect and God-like, in Jesus. God's own divine Son became incarnate for us, to lead us out of bondage to sin.

By the end of the first week of the *Spiritual Exercises*, one comes to know oneself as a loved and redeemed sinner, filled with loving gratitude and with a zealous desire to serve God. In the next step of his *Exercises*, Ignatius points all of that overflowing love and restless energy toward following Jesus.

Which finally gets us to *doing God's work through serving our neighbor*. In the "Call of the King" meditation (*Sp Ex* #91-98), Ignatius invites us to imagine that Jesus, who is more attractive and perfect than any mere earthly leader, calls us into

—continued inside



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This Week at Old St. Joseph's

| Date | | Mass Intention and Presider | | Calendar Events |
|-------------|----------|---|-------------------------------|--|
| Mon 11 | 12:05 PM | <i>Old St. Joseph's Memorial Society</i> Presider: Fr. Dougherty SJ | 6:00 PM | PREP |
| Tues 12 | 12:05 PM | <i>Old St. Joseph's Memorial Society</i> Presider: Fr. Modrys SJ | 12 Noon 12 Noon 7:00 PM | Faith, Food and Friends (Barbelin) Al-Anon Meeting (Drexel) Pre-Baptism Class (Drexel) |
| Wed 13 | 12:05 PM | <i>Edward and Mary Britt Families (D)</i> Presider: Fr. Dougherty SJ | 7:00 PM | First Communion Parents Meeting (Barbelin) |
| Thurs 14 | 12:05 PM | <i>Benefactors of the Maryland Province</i> Presider: Fr. O'Donnell SJ | 12 Noon 7:00 PM | Faith, Food and Friends (Barbelin) <i>Schola Cantorum</i> rehearsal (Barbelin) |
| Fri 15 | 12:05 PM | <i>Conor Patrick Devlin (D)</i> Presider: Fr. Dougherty SJ | 5:30 PM | YAC Happy Hour (off-site) |
| Sat 16 | 12:05 PM | <i>Nancy Shashaty (D)</i> Presider: Fr. Dougherty SJ | 12 Noon | Faith, Food and Friends (Barbelin) |
| | 5:30 PM | Presider: Fr. Modrys SJ | | |
| Sun 17 | 7:30 AM | Presider: Fr. Dougherty SJ | 9:30 AM | Children's Liturgy of the Word (Barbelin) |
| | 9:30 AM | Presider: Fr. Modrys SJ | | |
| | 11:30 AM | Presider: Fr. O'Donnell SJ | 5:30 PM | Loyola Choir rehearsal (Church) |
| | 6:30 PM | Presider: Fr. Modrys SJ | 5:30 PM | 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, Brenda Byrne, Tony Corvaia, Ann Crowther, Simeon Crowther, Paul DuSold, 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.

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his service. We are invited to follow his lead, to overcome disease, poverty, ignorance, oppression, slavery, and all the other evils which beset humankind. Honest king that he is, Jesus promises hardship along the way. He also promises that if we stay faithful to him and his project, we will share in his glory as well. So as Christians, it is God's work that we do when we serve our neighbor. We learn to see through Jesus' eyes, to see every person as a child of God. We want to emulate Jesus and work alongside him in his ongoing project of redeeming our fallen world.

There is a lot more to be said; more than this bulletin meditation can hold. If you are intrigued and want to learn more, I encourage you to be part of the March 23 retreat organized by OSJ's Ignatian Spirituality Committee (details below). If you haven't ever been on a retreat—or at least, not lately—let me say a word about why you might want to go.

One of our marketing professors at St. Joseph's University, Dr. Smith, likes to remind his students

that we live in an "attention economy." All kinds of people and entities spend a great deal of money and creative effort trying to capture our attention. On our end, Dr. Smith points out, we spend our attention on things and people that we care about.

During Lent, it is particularly appropriate to really look, to really pay attention to people and things we care deeply about—God, Jesus and our own journey of discipleship. If we can, we go to a beautiful and quiet place (like the St. Raphaela Center in Haverford) where we can slow down, take a deep breath, and ask ourselves: Where am I in following Jesus? In serving my neighbor? Who is my neighbor?

Give yourself a gift this Lent. Take a few hours on March 23 to renew your sense of purpose and meaning in doing God's work by serving your neighbor. Come, find God in all things!

—Dan Ruff SJ
Campus Minister, St. Joseph's University

Front page: William Henry Margetson, The Good Samaritan, date and location unknown.

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.

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!

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 18th and Race Streets. A reception will follow. RSVP by **Friday, March 20** with the number of attendees and accommodations needed at opdarchphilly.org or pod@archphila.org. Accessible parking is available on site.

The Archdiocesan Office for Persons with Disabilities and Catholic Social Services also seek input on creating individualized community-based programming for adults with special needs in the Philadelphia region. If you have a child with Intellectual Developmental Disability between the ages of 18–35 years, please consider completing a survey about how to best serve the needs of this community. Find the survey at www.opdarchphilly.org and click on Catholic Social Services Adult Community Program Survey. If you have questions or prefer a paper survey, please contact Mary Beth Malloy at marybethmalloy@verizon.net or 610-724-8579.

Bishop Neumann Class of 1969 Reunion
The Class of 1969 from Bishop Neumann High School will celebrate its 50th 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.

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 18th and Race Streets. A procession will begin at **2:00** and Mass at **2:30 PM**. Archbishop Charles Chaput OFM Cap will be principal celebrant and homilist. All are welcome!

Catholic Charities Annual Appeal

The Archdiocese of Philadelphia's annual Catholic Charities Appeal is well underway. To date, Old St. Joseph's has contributed 31% 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. The website also describes opportunities to donate and to volunteer with organizations benefitting from the appeal.

Waldron Mercy Open House

Waldron Mercy Academy (WMA) will hold an open house on **Tuesday, March 5 from 9–10 AM**. WMA, a Blue-Ribbon School of Excellence located in Merion Station, offers a Catholic, co-educational, independent preschool through Grade 8, along with a Montessori program for ages 3 through 6. WMA is a sponsored work of the Sisters of Mercy. A challenging and well-rounded curriculum offers opportunities to develop the whole child academically, athletically, artistically and socially. RVSP for the open house by contacting Admission Director Sr. Joellen at 610-664-9847 x. 113 or jmcdonnell@waldronmercy.org.

Announcements

Liturgical Ministers Scheduling

Altar servers, Eucharistic ministers, lectors, and ushers: Please update your profile by **March 15** for the April 1–May 31 ministry schedule. Also, we are actively recruiting new volunteers; if you are interested in joining any of the liturgical ministries, please sign up online through the Ministry Scheduling Program at [www.oldstjoseph.org!](http://www.oldstjoseph.org)

Young Adult Community Happy Hour

Join us for our monthly happy hour at The Green Room (1940 Green St.) in Fairmount on **Friday, March 15 from 5:30–8:00 PM**. This classic Philly dive bar has a long history and has retained its welcoming and friendly vibe. The Green Room is cash only, so plan accordingly. Contact Colleen O’Neil at 440-552-3838 or coneil0909@gmail.com with any questions or to find us at the bar. Join us when you can!

Centering Prayer

The centering prayer group will meet on **Wednesday, March 20, 6:30–8:30 PM** in the Drexel Parlor. The meeting will include 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)

Parents of First Communicants

Parents of children who will make their First Communion on May 19 at the 9:30 AM Mass will meet this **Wednesday March 13 at 7:00 PM** in Barbelin Hall with Christine Szczepanowski and Fr. Walter Modrys SJ. Parents, also mark your calendars for the May 4 retreat for families with first communicants, which will begin at 3:00 PM in the Church.

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.

CRS and Global Hunger

Across the globe, hunger and malnutrition follow on the heels of extreme poverty, flight from violence and increasingly common natural disasters. One in nine people do not have enough to eat; one in four children experience stunted growth from malnutrition. These are some of the facts of hunger. But global hunger is should not be considered normal; it demands a moral response from each of us.

The US is both a wealthy nation and the world's largest provider of international humanitarian assistance. As such, it can be a model that inspires other nations to prioritize policies and funding that address hunger. With a new Congress taking up the next fiscal year's budget, now is a good time to advocate on behalf of hungry neighbors around the world. At our **March 24 coffee hours**, OSJ will hold letter-writing sessions addressing Catholic Relief Services' legislative priorities. In the meantime, you can express your moral response to hunger by texting NOURISH CHANGE at 306-44. You will receive a text back from CRS with a link enabling you to email your members of Congress.

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 (eldership@oldstjoseph.org)

Parish Life

Joe Casey (parishlife@oldstjoseph.org)

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 (altarserver@oldstjoseph.org)

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Bill Stewart (EM@oldstjoseph.org)

Hospital Ministry

Luanne Balestrucci (hospitalEM@oldstjoseph.org)

Homebound Ministry

Neal Hébert (homeEM@oldstjoseph.org)

Lectors

Lou Anne Bulik (lectors@oldstjoseph.org)

Ushers

Nikola Sizgorich (ushers@oldstjoseph.org)

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Peggy Connolly (clow@oldstjoseph.org)