Faith, Food and Friends (FF&F) is a parish-funded, volunteer-run outreach program that is part of Old St. Joseph’s Church’s response to the Gospel’s call to feed the hungry and minister to the poor. FF&F volunteers plan, prepare and serve a noon meal for men in Barbelin Hall on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from late August through the following July, with short closings at Christmas and Easter. From August 2018 through July 2019, FF&F was open on 140 days, and our volunteers prepared and served 6891 meals.

FF&F’s volunteers are parishioners, neighbors and friends of the parish, with over 50 regular active volunteers. Typically committed to serve one day a week, the volunteers cook, set up the dining room and serve the meal. Sometimes, volunteers bring in delicious home-baked desserts to top off lunch in style for 65 hungry and appreciative men.

Other volunteers come to us from organizations with which FF&F has developed a special relationship. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, we may be joined by WSFS Bank (formerly Beneficial Bank) employees who come in on their lunch hour, through the Bank’s community service program. For the past three years, students from St. Joseph’s University serve one morning per week for a semester as part of a service-learning class. We are pleased to be continuing this partnership with SJU in the 2019-2020 academic year.

Guest attendance is limited to 63-70 guests to foster fellowship and community. Daily attendance averages between 50-60 guests, with attendance lower earlier in the month and increasing to full capacity toward the end of the month, when guests may have exhausted their government assistance funds. Upon entering Barbelin Hall at 11:30 AM, the men help themselves to coffee or tea, choose a seat, and have some time to socialize before lunch is served. Lunch is served at noon. The meal is cooked and plated in the kitchen and is served restaurant style by the volunteers. Afterwards, the men bus their own tables and take care of the kitchen and dining hall clean up. FF&F’s typical meal includes a soup, a salad, a main course (consisting of a meat or protein, a starch and a vegetable) and a dessert. Beverages include coffee, tea, milk, chocolate milk and water.

Meals are planned in advance on a monthly basis. FF&F places an order each month with a food wholesaler for the groceries required to prepare the planned meals. The parish pays the cost of the the groceries and necessary kitchen supplies.

In addition to serving what our guests tell us are the best meals in town, FF&F provides the

—continued inside
**12:05 Daily Mass Intentions and Presider**

**Monday**
11/11
Old St. Joseph’s Memorial Society
Presider: Fr. O’Donnell SJ

**Tuesday**
11/12
Allen Michlin
Presider: Fr. Modrys SJ

**Wednesday**
11/13
Edward and Mary Britt and Family (D)
Presider: Fr. O’Donnell SJ

**Thursday**
11/14
Benefactors of the Maryland Province
Presider: Fr. Gillespie SJ

**Friday**
11/15
Old St. Joseph’s Memorial Society
Presider: Fr. O’Donnell SJ

**Saturday**
11/16
Lydia Farris-Staley (D)
Presider: Fr. Gillespie SJ

**Saturday–Sunday**

**Saturday**
11/16
5:30 PM  Presider: Fr. O’Donnell SJ

**Sunday**
11/17
7:30 AM  Presider: Fr. Gillespie SJ
9:30 AM  Presider: Fr. Modrys SJ
11:30 AM  Presider: Fr. Gillespie SJ
6:30 PM  Presider: Fr. Modrys SJ

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


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**Pope Francis’ Invitation to Prayer in November**

During the month of November, the Apostleship of Prayer at popesprayerusa.net offers a number of reflections and resources to explore Pope Francis’ intention for the month: for *Dialogue and Reconciliation in the Near East*, so that a spirit of dialogue, encounter, and reconciliation emerge in the Near East, where diverse religious communities share their lives together.

**Magis Lay Formation Opportunity**

The Office of Ignatian Spirituality of the Maryland and USA Northeast provinces of the Society of Jesus is now accepting applications to its lay formation program, *Magis*. The program will explore Ignatian spirituality and the mission and way of proceeding of the Jesuits. The next cohort will gather for four two-day seminars over the course of eighteen months beginning in March 2020. Meetings will alternate between Jogues Retreat in Cornwall, NY and Campion Center in Weston, MA. Additional information is available at jesuitseast.org/programs or by emailing kobrien1@jesuits.org. The application deadline is December 1.
following support services for our guests:

**Mail:** FF&F serves as a mail drop for those guests who wish to use the Church’s address as their legal mailing address. Having a secure address to receive mail helps guests apply for and obtain housing, medical benefits and various forms of assistance. **Health Services:** On Saturdays, a volunteer nurse is available to take blood pressure readings.

**Assistance with Benefits and Tax Issues:** An RN/case worker assists the men with benefits questions and with completing and filing tax forms, including Pennsylvania rent rebate filings.

**Toiletries and Socks:** Once a week, we provide basic toiletry items (soap, shampoo, razors, deodorant, etc.) and hundreds of pairs of new socks to guests in need, thanks to the generosity of OSJ parishioners and our volunteers. In addition, thanks to various one-time donations, FF&F is often able to provide occasional clothing items and shoes to guests in need.

**Celebrations and Ceremonies:** The bonds of community and friendship at FF&F were strengthened this year as we celebrated joyful events and remembered the lives of community members whom we lost. The WSFS Bank team, OSJ’s Spirituality Committee and other generous friends took over our kitchen and prepared and served special meals on various occasions (or no special occasion) throughout the year. We rang in the Christmas holidays at our annual Christmas party, with carols, a competitive game of trivia, a special roast beef dinner, and gifts of hand-knit scarves from OSJ’s Eldership Committee.

In December we remembered a long-time FF&F guest who passed away suddenly, with a prayer service led by OSJ’s pastor Walter Modrys SJ and attended by FF&F guests, volunteers, and caregivers and friends of the deceased. In June, Father Modrys led us again in prayer as we celebrated the life of long-time volunteer and former program coordinator, John Trumbore, at a remembrance service in Barbelin Hall attended by FF&F volunteers and guests and John’s children and grandson. John personified the spirit of FF&F. He led Saturday spirituality sessions, acted as postmaster for guests receiving their mail at OSJ, and served as the delighted architect of the annual Christmas party and its spirited trivia competition that emphasized all things Philadelphia.

**Shelter and Housing:** In September 2018, FF&F began a collaboration with the Bethesda Project to assist our street-homeless guests in finding emergency shelter and working towards affordable stable housing. An experienced caseworker from the Bethesda Project began visiting FF&F two or three Saturdays a month for lunch and conversation. A second experienced case worker joined this effort in July 2019 and now visits FF&F on Tuesdays. This collaboration has benefitted many of our guests. Twenty-three men were admitted to Bethesda’s Church Shelter program, coming in off the streets for a period of time during the coldest part of the past winter. Of those 23 men, six are currently in-shelter, awaiting a housing opportunity; four have moved to a safe haven for chronically homeless men; and six have signed a lease for permanent supportive housing and “have keys” to their own apartments. Of further note, for men who do not stay in city shelters, attendance records at FF&F have provided critical evidence in establishing a history of homelessness, which is necessary documentation to begin the quest for subsidized housing.

On behalf of everyone connected with FF&F, I offer heartfelt thanks to Old St. Joseph’s parish, staff and extended community for the many ways, large and small, in which you support FF&F and affirm and encourage its care for some of the least among us. None of this could happen without each and every FF&F volunteer’s generous, faithful and regular service. Our volunteers bring good cheer, camaraderie and joy in service as they work to implement our goals of providing great meals and a welcoming and safe place for guests to come and enjoy fellowship and support. I also wish to thank our guests and our hard-working guest/volunteers for sharing themselves, their perspectives, their struggles, and their hopes and aspirations with all of us.

—Deborah Hluchan
Coordinator, Faith, Food & Friends

*Front page image by Tom Hauk via Unsplash*
On Philadelphia’s Next Archbishop

At its October 15 meeting, Old St. Joseph’s Parish Council discussed the pastoral needs of our city and archdiocese and the qualities we hope to see in our next pastoral leader. After the meeting, a writing committee drafted the following letter, which was reviewed by the pastor, Walter Modrys SJ, and accepted by all members of Parish Council, including those who were not able to attend the October 15 meeting. On October 28, the letter was sent to three men who play key roles in naming our next Archbishop: Cardinal Marc Ouellet PSS, Prefect of the Congregation of Bishops, Cardinal Blaise Cupich, a US member of the Congregation, and Archbishop Christoph Pierre, apostolic nuncio to the United States. We now share this letter with the parish and invite your prayer for the Holy Spirit to guide the naming of Archbishop Charles Chaput’s successor and for the next Archbishop’s ministry among us.

Your Eminences and Your Excellency,

As you take part in discerning who should be the next Archbishop of Philadelphia, we wish to share with you the fruits of our prayerful consideration of the pastoral needs of our Archdiocese and city and the qualities of leadership these needs require. We are members of the Parish Council at Old St. Joseph’s Church. While we are members of Philadelphia’s oldest Catholic parish, we hope to see new life in our church in the years ahead.

We believe it is most important that Philadelphia’s next Archbishop understands the character of this place: its pervasive poverty, the challenges of homelessness and immigration, the particular needs of the city and its suburbs, and in this context, the rich history of parishes trying to pass on their faith to the next generation.

We hope that our next Archbishop will be known for his openness and humility and for his readiness to listen to, engage with, and be moved by people within the church and outside it, including people who find themselves disaffected from the church and at the margins of our faith community.

We believe that the church in Philadelphia needs a shepherd who understands how to lead by the example of his own commitment to a life of prayer and humility, by his practice of honesty and transparency, and by his ability to draw on the gifts of both laypeople and clergy in this Archdiocese. We hope to see that these qualities have been demonstrated during significant pastoral and administrative experience in parishes and at the diocesan level.

Finally, we hope that the next Archbishop of Philadelphia demonstrates the “daring prudence” that Pope Francis spoke of during the recent Synod. We hope to see the church in Philadelphia become known for welcoming and seeking justice for ‘the least among us’ and for our commitment to reconciliation within our faith community.

We are aware of the challenges our new Archbishop will face, and we assure you of our prayers for you during this critical time of decision. We pledge our prayers and support as well when we welcome our new Archbishop to Philadelphia.

Luanne Balestrucci
Danielle Critelli
Neal Hébert
Rita O’Brien
Maria Ramirez
Paul Shay
Cara Tripodi
Lou Anne Bulik
Barry Eiswerth
Debbie Hluchan
Stephen Paesani
Ted Robb
Nik Sizgorich
Jeanmarie Zippo
Peggy Connolly
Mary Freedman
Rana McNamara
Megan Prilutski
Beth Shay
Bill Stewart
Announcements

How to Read and Pray with Scripture
The second in Fr. Walter Modrys’ series of talks on How to Read and Pray with the Bible will be on Tuesday, November 12 at 7:00 PM in Barbelin Hall. His topic that evening will be An Overview of Matthew’s Gospel. Two recommended and brief books on Matthew’s Gospel, Meeting St. Matthew Today and What are They Saying About Matthew, are available at Head House Books (619 S. 2nd Street) at a 15% discount.

Advent by Candlelight
Advent by Candlelight, an evening of prayer for women, will be Wednesday, December 4, at 7:00 PM in Barbelin Hall. Jaclyn Newns, director of campus ministry at Chestnut Hill College, will lead us in Dreaming and Beholding: an evening of prayer, art, song, and fellowship that draws us deeper into God’s invitation of love this Advent.

Mass on Thanksgiving Day
On Thanksgiving Day, Mass will be celebrated at 10:00 AM—there will be no confessions or 12:05 PM Mass that day.

Save the Date(s)
Old St. Joseph’s Advent Reconciliation Service will be on Tuesday, December 10 at 7:00 PM. OSJ’s annual celebration of Lessons and Carols will be on Sunday, December 15 at 3:00 PM in the church. A reception will follow in Barbelin Hall.

Centering Prayer to Meet
The centering prayer group will meet on Wednesday, November 20, 6:30–8:30 PM in the Drexel Parlor of the parish offices. There will be a presentation with discussion on centering prayer, followed by evening prayer with a period of centering. Anyone interested in contemplative prayer is welcome. For further information, contact Christine Szczepanowski at 267-250-3049 or prep@oldstjoseph.org.

Holy Land Pilgrimage Introduced Today!
This Sunday, November 10 at 1:00 PM in Barbelin Hall, Fr. Brendan Lally, SJ of St. Joseph’s University will introduce a June 16-26 pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Fr. Lally will bring slides and artifacts from the proposed itinerary. To register for the trip, visit pilgrimages.com/frlally or email Fr. Lally at blally@sju.edu.

Anointing of the Sick
The Sacrament of the Sick will be offered at the 5:30 PM Mass on Saturday, November 16. This celebration is in addition to the regularly monthly celebration on the first Saturday at the 12:05 Mass. We wish to extend the offer of grace and spiritual healing more widely to all who suffer from illness of any sort. All who wish to be anointed are welcome to be there.

Lector Workbook 2020
Lectors: if you haven’t got your copy of the 2020 Workbook for Lectors, Gospel Readers, and Proclaimers of the Word, please pick up your copy in the sacristy before December 1.

Ministry Scheduling Updates Due
If you are an acolyte, Eucharistic minister, lector, or usher, please visit the Ministry Scheduling Program and update your availability before November 15. Please note that the next scheduling block includes Lessons and Carols on December 15, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, and the Feast of Mary the Mother of God on January 1. New ministers are always welcome! If you’re are interested in serving in any of these liturgical roles, contact the ministry coordinators listed on the Information page of the bulletin.
INFORMATION

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

Parochial Vicar
Fr. Fran Gillespie SJ (fgillespie@oldstjoseph.org)

In Residence
Br. Robert Carson SJ
Fr. Edward Dougherty SJ (dougherty@oldstjoseph.org)
Fr. Ed O’Donnell SJ (eodonnell@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)

Religious Education (PREP) Coordinator
Christine Szczepanowski (prep@oldstjoseph.org)

Faith, Food & Friends Director
Deborah Hluchan (faithandfriends@oldstjoseph.org)

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 7:00 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
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. They can be returned to the parish office by mail or in person.

Sacrament of Reconciliation
A priest is available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation Monday through Saturday from 11:30 AM–12:00 PM or by appointment.

Sacrament of Baptism
If you want to arrange a baptism, please contact Fr. Gillespie (fgillespie@oldstjoseph.org) at least two months before the desired date to arrange catechesis and the baptism celebration.

Eucharist for the Homebound
To arrange to receive Communion at home, please contact the parish offices.

The Sacrament of Anointing
The Sacrament of Anointing (the sacrament of the sick) is offered 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
If you want to be married at Old St. Joseph’s, please visit our website, oldstjoseph.org and read the material under the heading Weddings. When you are ready to set a date, call the parish office at 215-923-1766 at least nine months before your desired wedding date.

Rite of Christian Initiation
If you are an adult wishing to be baptized, or to receive First Eucharist and Confirmation, or are a baptized non-Catholic seeking full communion with Catholic Church, please call the parish office or email rcia@oldstjoseph.org.

Mass of Christian Burial
To schedule a funeral or memorial Mass, ask your funeral director to call the parish office

Parish Pastoral Council
(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
Len Mancini (osjspirituality@oldstjoseph.org)

Women, Faith and Fellowship
Rana McNamara (wff@oldstjoseph.org)

Young Adult Community
(osjyac@gmail.com)

Altar Servers
Maria Ramirez (altarserver@oldstjoseph.org)

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
Bill Stewart (EM@oldstjoseph.org)

Hospital Ministry
Luianne Balestrucci (hospitaleM@oldstjoseph.org)

Homebound Ministry
Neal Hébert (homeEM@oldstjoseph.org)

Lectors
Lou Anne Bulik (lectors@oldstjoseph.org)

Ushers
Nikola Szgorich (ushers@oldstjoseph.org)

Children’s Liturgy of the Word
Peggy Connolly (clow@oldstjoseph.org)