

Old St. Joseph's Church

Est. 1733 | Philadelphia's Jesuit Parish

321 Willings Alley
Philadelphia PA 19106

215-923-1733

www.oldstjoseph.org

March 21, 2021 | The Fifth Sunday of Lent

Solidarity

Grace for the Week: To open our hearts to the common good that binds us together through Jesus Christ and recognizes that we all are nourished when the gifts, needs, and perspectives of each member are respected in our communities.

Solidarity is a virtue which calls us—like all the virtues—to “excellence” in how we live together. Many experience solidarity in the world we live in right now as a kind of “lost” virtue. Our present world judges primarily according to the life and cultural values of economics, business, politics, technology, and “the self”. Solidarity takes seriously our obligations and duties to others and to the common good. Recently we have been hearing often from the Gospel of Mark. I am continually struck by how deeply concerned Jesus is throughout Mark’s Gospel for others around him—especially the sick, the suffering, the dying, the hungry, and those close to him. Jesus is constantly on the move in Mark’s Gospel and what he does is mostly inspired by his concern for others. In the stories we have about him, Jesus is directed outward—toward others.

This is a part of the Christian life and experience we can never forget—even as we spend more time in private individual prayer this Lent. Our time alone with the Lord in prayer in our own “closed rooms” eventually moves us outside of ourselves toward others. The *Spiritual Exercises* of St. Ignatius Loyola can lead us into an intense and highly individual experience of prayer. Yet, Ignatian prayer is not primarily about teaching us to pray and live as individuals. In fact, just the opposite. The Second Week experience of the *Spiritual Exercises*—where one is invited to respond to the call to follow Christ—always leads us in this outward direction toward others. Solidarity is considered frequently in moral theology and in Catholic social thought, and this “ethical” concept always moves us back to our personal lives in community.

Some time ago I taught a course for undergraduate students in ethics. I decided to begin the course by having the students read a novel in the hope of inspiring our moral imaginations for the rest of the course. I chose *Hard Times* by the great English writer Charles Dickens. A central background theme of this historic novel is the view that since the time of the industrial revolution (c. 1760-1840)

utilitarian-based economics and philosophy have led to a decline in concern for others, causing the common good to become harder and harder to maintain. In Dickens’ story “the individual self” and utilitarian calculation that focuses only on “the self” and individual gain become the measure of everything. All else becomes fantasy and is not real or worthy of our attention. In our time a powerful and enduring focus on ‘the self’ has made solidarity even harder to live. Solidarity calls us to look beyond ourselves to the good of others and to that of the communities we live in. One might say that the key to a life lived in solidarity is the way Jesus lived with others. As his followers we best live this virtue by modeling our lives on his.

What might solidarity mean practically for us this Lent? First, it may be to acknowledge that we need healing, conversion, and forgiveness for our own personal tendencies to focus more on ourselves and less on the needs of others both near and far to us. We can easily be caught up and influenced by the powerful and often sinful forces in the world. One challenge for us may be to discern well in our own lives how we may be blind to these forces. While we may take more time for private prayer during the days of Lent each of us will do well to take stock of our own lives and pray to find ways to more generously follow the life modeled by Jesus in the gospels. We can pray for others. We can carry out acts of charity and almsgiving which can purify our own hearts. Living the virtue of solidarity is always a life-long journey and challenge. Saint John Paul II, who wrote and preached often about this social virtue, described solidarity not as a “feeling of vague compassion” but rather as a “commitment to the common good...since we are all really responsible for all”. (*Sollicitudo Rei Socialis*). The heart of solidarity is always grounded in our own lives with Jesus who shows us how to live with and for others.



—Francis T. Hannafey, S.J.

A Prayer for this Week

To you, O Christ,
let those who are beset by the temptation to lose heart and despair
turn to hear the message of hope . . .

May humankind rediscover in you, O Lord, the courage
to come together in solidarity to oppose the many evils
that oppress us. . .

Help us to work tirelessly so that a world more just
and more committed to the common good might arise,
a world whose beginning you yourself gave us through your Resurrection.
Amen.

--Saint John Paul II; translated from the Polish by Christine Szczepanowski



Prepare for Easter by participating in a
Celebration of God's Forgiveness.

Please join us for a

Lenten Penance Service

in the church on

**Wednesday Evening
March 24 at 7:00 PM**

NOTE: We have relaxed parking for the service.

This Week at Old St. Joseph's

Date	Mass Intention and Presider	Calendar Events
Mon 22	12:05 PM <i>Old St. Joseph's Memorial Society</i> Presider: Fr. Roche SJ	4:45 PM PREP 6:00 PM PREP
Tues 23	12:05 PM <i>Erwin Tan (L)</i> Presider: Fr. Hannafey SJ	11:00 AM Faith, Food & Friends (Barbelin Hall) 7:00 PM YAC About Scripture – Zoom
Wed 24	12:05 PM <i>Thomas Convery (D)</i> Presider: Fr. Hannafey SJ	7:00 PM Penance Service
Thurs 25	12:05 PM <i>Old St. Joseph's Memorial Society</i> Presider: Fr. Roche SJ	11:00 AM Faith, Food and Friends (Barbelin Hall)
Fri 26	12:05 PM <i>Geraldine Marren & Family</i> Presider: Fr. Roche SJ	7:00 PM YAC Social Hour
Sat 27	12:05 PM <i>Maryanne T. Rocco (D)</i> Presider: Fr. Hannafey SJ	11:00 AM Faith, Food and Friends (Barbelin Hall)
Sun 28	7:30 AM Presider: Fr. Hannafey SJ 9:30 AM Presider: Fr. Hannafey SJ 11:30 AM Presider: Fr. Roche SJ	NOTE: ALL MASSES ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC 10:00 AM RCIA – Zoom 1:30 PM Baptism 5:00 PM Sunday Vespers

Announcements



Longstanding OSJ parishioner **Donna Soutoukis** has accepted the new position of Pastoral Administrative Assistant. Donna has already started working three days per week in the rectory. Please thank and congratulate Donna when you see her.

OSJ'S 2021 HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Holy Thursday ~ April 1

Confessions: 11:30am – 12:30pm
Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7:30pm
Compline: 9:00pm

Good Friday ~ April 2

Stations of the Cross: 12:05pm
Commemoration of the Lord's Passion: 3:00pm

Easter Vigil ~ Saturday, April 3

Mass at 8:00pm

Easter Sunday ~ April 4

Masses at 7:30am, 9:30am, & 11:30am

NOTES: The following liturgies will be live-streamed: 4/1: Mass of the Lord's Supper; 4/2: Commemoration of the Lord's Passion; 4/3: Easter Vigil; 4/4: 11:30 Easter Sunday Mass. **Seating will be on a first come first serve basis.** Barbelin Hall will be set up for seating and audio in case our church COVID occupancy allowances are met at any of the Easter Morning Masses.

FINANCIAL INFO

Offertory for the week ending March 14, 2021

In-Pew Sunday Collection:	\$512.00
Mail-In Sunday Collection:	\$2,288.00
Online Giving Sunday Collection:	\$4,587.00
Total Sunday Collection	\$7,387.00

Thank you!

Offertory for the week ending March 15, 2020

In-Pew Sunday Collection:	\$1,534.00
Mail-In Sunday Collection:	\$433.00
Online Giving Sunday Collection:	\$4,282.00
Total Sunday Collection for 3/15/20:	\$6,249.00

The following second collections are now active on our [ParishSOFT Giving site](#) and Text-to-Give (215-929-7151)

Church in Latin America (thru 3/28)
Easter Flowers and Music, Holy Thursday,
Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land,
Easter Sunday (all thru 4/25)

Rice Bowl (thru 4/18)

Catholic Charities Appeal (no end date)

NOTE: The Text-to-Give keywords are LatinAmer, EasterFlowers, EasterMusic, HolyThur, GoodFri, Easter, RiceBowl.



A Friendly Reminder: Face masks, covering your nose and mouth, must be worn at all times inside the church. Thank you!

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

George Bernato, Eleanor and Rick Bravo, Carole Breslin, Lou Brown, Ann Crowther, Jane Crowther, Mary Kay Crowther, Barbara Epting, Edie Jett, Bill Jennings, Allen May, Fr. Jerry McAndrews SJ, Julie Sessions, Joanne Steube, Larry Williams, and Sandra Williams.

Updating our Prayer List: *Once a quarter, OSJ updates our parish prayer list.*

If you would like someone's name to remain on the prayer list, or to add a name, please call 215-923-1733.

INFORMATION

Rectory Office Hours

Monday through Friday: 9:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Mass Times

Monday through Saturday: 12:05 PM

Sunday: 7:30, 9:30, and 11:30 AM **Note:** All Sunday morning

Masses are open to the public. The 11:30 Mass is live-streamed (vimeo.com/osjphl)

Holy Days: 12:05 and 7:00 PM

Medical Emergency

In a medical emergency when the need for a priest is urgent, please call 267-438-7266

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 and online at www.oldstjoseph.org.

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.

Registration Sacrament of Reconciliation

Monday through Saturday: Please approach the presiding priest directly after the 12:05 Mass to request reconciliation.

Sacrament of Baptism

Persons wanting to arrange a baptism should call Christine Szczepanowski at the parish office at least two months before the desired date to arrange catechesis and the baptism celebration.

Sacrament of Matrimony

Persons wanting to be married in the parish should call our wedding line (215-923-1766) 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 Christine Szczepanowski at the parish office.

Mass of Christian Burial

The funeral director should call the parish office.

STAFF

Administrator

Fr. Francis Hannafey SJ (pastor@oldstjoseph.org)

Senior Priest

Fr. Matthew Roche SJ (mroche@oldstjoseph.org)

In Residence

Br. Robert Carson SJ

Business Manager

Eric German (germane@oldstjoseph.org)

Director of Music

Mark Bani (music@oldstjoseph.org)

Parish Administrative Assistant

Donna Soultoukis (dsoultoukis@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

Administrator, Fr. Francis Hannafey

(osjpc@oldstjoseph.org) *Note: OSJ's Parish Council consists of the following chairs:*

Parish Finance Council

Paul Shay, chair

Historic Preservation Corporation Board

Fr. Francis Hannafey SJ, president

Barry Eiswerth, chair

Adult Education

Rita O'Brien and Jeanmarie Zippo

(adulthood@oldstjoseph.org)

Eldership

Ted Robb (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

Danielle Critelli and Mark Dushel (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 and Scheduling

Nikola Sizgorich (ushers@oldstjoseph.org)

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Peggy Connolly (clow@oldstjoseph.org)

Faith, Food and Friends:

Deborah Hluchan and Mary Freedman

(faithandfriends@oldstjoseph.org)

Social Justice

Christine Ferrari Strickland (socialjustice@oldstjoseph.org)

