

Old St. Joseph's Church

Est. 1733 | Philadelphia's Jesuit Parish

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

December 3, 2023 | First Sunday of Advent (B)



Today's Gospel: Mark: 13:33-37

Jesus said to his disciples:

“Be watchful! Be alert!

You do not know when the time will come.

It is like a man traveling abroad.

He leaves home and places his servants in charge,
each with his own work,

and orders the gatekeeper to be on the watch.

Watch, therefore;

you do not know when the lord of the house is coming,
whether in the evening, or at midnight,

or at cockcrow, or in the morning.

May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping.

What I say to you, I say to all: ‘Watch!’”



We have a new hearing assistance system which requires a smartphone to operate. Instructions including the needed QR symbols, Wi-Fi address, password, and required software app download can be found on the bulletin boards in the church entryways.

This Week at Old St. Joseph's

Date	Mass Intention and Presider		Calendar Events	
Mon 4			6:00 PM	PREP Advent Mass (Church)
Tues 5	12:05 PM	<i>Theodora West (D)</i> Presider: Fr. Hannafey SJ	10:00 AM	FF&F Lunch (Barbelin)
Wed 6	12:05 PM	<i>Old St. Joseph's Memorial Society</i> Presider: Fr. Hannafey SJ	7:00 PM 7:00 PM	Women's Advent by Candlelight (Barbelin) Finance Council Zoom Mtg
Thurs 7	12:05 PM	<i>Our FF&F Guests</i> Presider: Fr. Hannafey SJ	5:00 PM 7:00 PM	Wedding reh: Hahn & Carroll Choir Rehearsal / RCIA
Fri 8	12:05 PM	Holyday – No Announced Mass Presider: Fr. Hannafey SJ	12:5 PM 3:00 PM	IMMACULATE CONCEPTION MASS Wedding: Hahn & Carroll
Sat 9			10:00 AM	FF&F Lunch (Barbelin)
Sun 10	7:30 AM 9:30 AM 11:30 AM	<i>Geraldine Marren & Family (D)</i> Presider: Fr. Hannafey SJ <i>Old St. Joseph's Memorial Society</i> Presider: Fr. O'Donnell SJ Presider: Fr. O'Donnell SJ	Post-Mass 10:40 AM 5:00 PM	Coffee Hours & Listening Sessions YAC Scripture Reading (Greaton) Vespers (Zoom)

Old St. Joseph's Advent Giving Tree Returns!

Our Advent Giving Tree has returned to the back of the church! Please take one or more of 150 tags from the tree and buy a picture book or early reader for a child of The Gesu School located at 17th & Thompson Streets. We also have tags for sweatshirts & sweatpants, and gift cards for the Sisters of St. Joseph's Welcome Center in Kensington. **Bring your gift, WRAPPED with the tag attached to it, back to the tree or to the rectory front office, no later than 1:00 PM on Sunday December 17.** Your gifts will be delivered to both the Gesu School and the Welcome Center by an OSJ volunteer on Monday, Dec. 18. **Please make sure your gifts are here by December 17th!**

Due to the pandemic, for the past three years we set up Amazon Wish Lists for parishioners to purchase gifts for this program. Since many of the gifts arrived after Christmas last year, we will no longer continue this method of giving. Instead, this year we will issue grants from the *Barbelin Center for Outreach Ministries Fund* to the other two organizations we supported last year – The Bethesda Project, and St. Thomas Aquinas Parish. If you would prefer to make your gift by helping to replenish funds to our Barbelin Ministries Fund, please make your check payable to "OSJ Church" and write "Barbelin Ministries" on the memo line so your donation is deposited into the correct account.

Thank you for your commitment and generosity to this annual program which brings joy to our neighbors who are in need.

OSJ PRAYER LIST

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

Howard Magen, Louise Cruz Vizcaino, Bob Moore, Janice Moore, Gail Williams, Larry Carlin, Michael Nardi, Michael Paesani, Rosario Lamberto, Gina Hil, Mary Beggy, Paul Smith, Dennis Scott, Susanna Mazzoleni, Rosemarie Greco, Anne Morrissey, John Butts, Grazyna Kolondra, Richard Swift, Joseph Kahriger, Brendan Minihan, Helen Walsh, Julio Umberto Rivera, Marilyn Davies, Nik Sizgorich, Bill Wilson, Anthony Pelle, John McKeown Jr, George Bernato, Beckett Quinn, Stefania Crum, Eleanor Bravo, Allen May, Anthony Pelle Jr, Betty Farris Pfeiffer

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.

St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church, 24th and Poplar Sts. (Fairmount), Philadelphia, in celebration of its 80th anniversary, invites you to “One Faith – Many Voices”, a concert of sacred music drawn from both Eastern and Western traditions. Composers from the Eastern tradition include Bortniansky, Hurko, Zakkak, Tavener and Lysenko; from the Western tradition, Pitoni, Distler, Palestrina and Victoria. **Save the date: Sunday, December 10, at 4:00 p.m.** Tickets are bargain-priced at \$15 at the door. Ticket sales support the parish’s special outreach to Philadelphia Ukrainian-Americans and Ukrainian refugees living here, and humanitarian aid to the people of Ukraine. Light refreshments are included. We hope to see you there!

Reminder: The **Anointing of the Sick** takes place during the 7:30 a.m. Mass on the First Sunday of each Month. The next date is January 7.



OSJ's HOLIDAY SCHEDULE 2023

CHRISTMAS EVE DAY – ADVENT IV

SUNDAY, December 24

Regular Sunday Mass Schedule: 7:30, 9:30 & 11:30

CHRISTMAS EVE

Children’s Mass at 4:00pm

Prelude, Organ & Choral Selections at 8:40pm

followed by Mass at 9:00pm

CHRISTMAS DAY

Monday, December 25

Mass at 10:00am only

NOTE: There will be hot cider and cookies served in the courtyard after each Mass on Christmas Eve. Relaxed parking is available for all Masses. Please place a parking notice on your dashboard!

SOLEMNITY of MARY, MOTHER of GOD

Monday, January 1, 2024

Not a Holyday of Obligation this year.

No scheduled Mass.

YAC Scripture Reflection Group:

All young adults are invited on Sundays to discuss and reflect as a group the weekend's readings. The structure will include a reading of the scripture for that day, followed by a short bit of quiet prayer before an opportunity for sharing and discussion. Materials will be provided, and all are welcome. The reflection group gathers in the Greaton (middle) Parlor of the rectory at 10:40am, between the 9:30 and 11:30 am Masses. Please enter through the sacristy or hall door at the front of the main church to the right of the altar. If you have any questions, please contact osjyac@gmail.com. **NOTE: The group will not meet Thanksgiving weekend (11/26) and between Christmas (12/24) and New Years (12/31).**

YOUNG
adults

Sunday, December 10 after the 11:30am Mass: Post-Mass Lunch @ Oh Brothers: All young adults are invited! Jackie W will lead the group. Please look for her in the courtyard after Mass so we can walk to lunch together! If you are meeting us at the restaurant, please email osjyac@gmail.com so we know to expect you!



Faith, Food & Friends – Our

Christmas Wishes: It’s been quite a year! In 2023, we have seen dramatic increases in the number of hungry and housing-insecure guests coming to FF&F for a hot meal and other assistance. Thanks to the generous support of OSJ

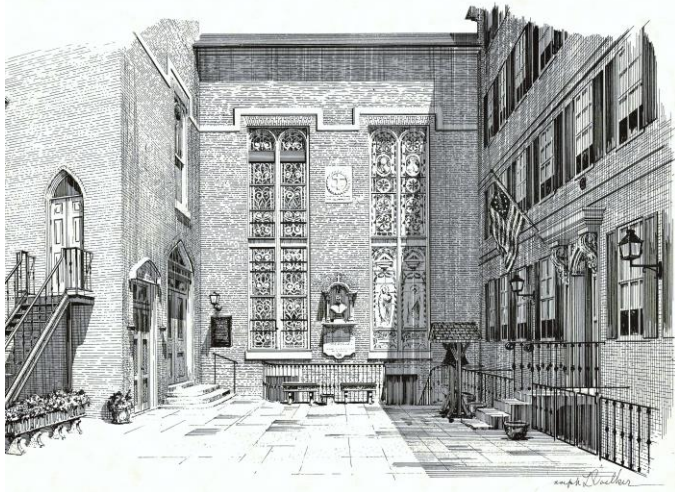
parishioners, FF&F is able to distribute socks and personal care items to our guests weekly. To enable us to meet our guests’ basic needs through the winter, **our Christmas list includes donations of the following items: Bar soap; travel-size deodorant; travel-size body lotion; & disposable twin blade razors.**

Please visit the Faith, Food & Friends Amazon wish list ([click here](#)) where you can find these essentials and other items that would be most appreciated by our guests. We ask that you consider making a Christmas gift to FF&F of one or more of these items. We thank you for your support. Merry Christmas!



Are you a Costco or other big box store customer?

Faith, Food & Friends has a favor to ask. An item frequently requested by our guests is a roll of toilet paper. So, if on your next visit to a big box store, you could purchase a large size package of toilet paper for FF&F, it would be greatly appreciated. You may drop off a package any time that the rectory is open, or at FF&F on Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday, or after Mass on Sunday. Many thanks!



INFORMATION

Rectory Office Hours

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

Mass Times

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 12:05 PM

Sunday: 7:30, 9:30, and 11:30 AM / Holy Days: 12:05 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.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Tues., Wed., & Thurs: 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.

Anointing of the Sick

The anointing of the sick will take place according to the schedule in the bulletin.

Sacrament of Matrimony

Persons wanting to be married in the parish should call the front 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 Christine Szczepanowski at the parish office.

Mass of Christian Burial

The funeral director should call the parish office.

OSJ STAFF and COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Pastor

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

In Residence Br. Robert Carson SJ

Business Manager

Eric German (germane@oldstjoseph.org)

Director of Music

Mark Bani (music@oldstjoseph.org)

Pastoral Associate for Weddings

Donna Soultoukis (dsoultoukis@oldstjoseph.org)

Parish Offices (office@oldstjoseph.org)

PREP & Baptism Coordinator

Christine Szczepanowski (prep@oldstjoseph.org)

Faith, Food & Friends Director

Deborah Hluchan (faithandfriends@oldstjoseph.org)

Parish Pastoral Council

Pastor, Fr. Francis Hannafey; Chair, John Bitterman
Secretary, Nina Vitullo (osjpc@oldstjoseph.org)

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)

Friendship Circle (former Eldership Committee)

John Welsh (friendshipcircle@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

Danielle Critelli (osjyac@gmail.com)

Altar Servers

Len Mancini (altarserver@oldstjoseph.org)

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Bill Stewart (EM@oldstjoseph.org)

Homebound Ministry

Dennis Faucher (homeEM@oldstjoseph.org)

Hospital Ministry

TBA (office@oldstjoseph.org)

Lectors

Kathleen Catanese (lectors@oldstjoseph.org)

Ushers and Scheduling

Nikola Sizgorich (ushers@oldstjoseph.org)

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW)

Nina Vitullo (clow@oldstjoseph.org)

Faith, Food and Friends:

Deborah Hluchan and Mary Freedman
(faithandfriends@oldstjoseph.org)

Social Justice Committee

Sarah Johnson & Bob Culleton
(socialjustice@oldstjoseph.org)

Care for Creation Committee

Bill Stigliani (careforcreation@oldstjoseph.org)

MUSIC at OSJ



Lessons and Carols with The Schola Cantorum on **Sunday, December 17, 2023** (Gaudete Sunday) at 3:00 PM.

Women, Faith, and Fellowship invite the women of Old St. Joseph's parish to Christine

Eberle's dramatic interpretation of the story of Martha and Mary entitled "The One Thing Needed" on Wednesday, December 6, 2023. Doors open at 6:30 PM in Barbelin Hall and the program begins at 7 PM. Light refreshments will be served. Please RSVP by November 30th to wff@oldstjoseph.org.



The Old St. Joseph Children's Choir, under the direction of Dr. Mark Bani **began rehearsing on Sunday, November 26**. The children are scheduled to sing on Christmas Eve at the 4 PM Mass. Please email Nina Vitullo at vitullon@oldstjoseph.org for more information and to sign up. We are looking forward to hearing the children's voices lifted in song.



First Sunday of Advent Coffee Hours this weekend: Please join us for the first Sunday of the month coffee hours on December 3rd hosted by Parish Life. All children are invited to make an Advent Wreath after the 9:30 AM Mass with our Children's Liturgy of the Word leaders.

NEXT SUNDAY! Parish Council Coffee Hours and Listening Sessions: The Parish Council cordially invites you to coffee hours on **December 10th after all Masses**. Members of the Parish Council will host Listening Sessions during this time to hear from you the parishioner of OSJ. Please join us and make your voice heard. We look forward to seeing you there.



ALTAR SERVERS, EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION, LECTORS, AND USHERS: the December Ministry Schedule has been posted! Please log into the app or [click here](#) and volunteer now for upcoming assignments in your ministry. In order to maintain a fair and balanced schedule, all volunteers must serve at least once every month. +AMDG!

FINANCIAL INFO

Offertory for the week ending November 19, 2023

Daily Mass:	\$32.00
In-Pew Sunday Collection:	\$1,789.00
Mail-In Sunday Collection:	\$420.00
Online Giving Sunday Collection:	\$6,766.00
Total Collection:	\$9,007.00

Offertory for the week ending November 26, 2023

Daily Mass:	\$0.00
In-Pew Sunday Collection:	\$3,367.00
Mail-In Sunday Collection:	\$100.00
Online Giving Sunday Collection:	\$4,522.00
Total Collection:	\$7,989.00

Thank you

November Collection Totals Comparison

November 2022: \$32,840

November 2023: \$37,843

NOTE: November 2023 shows an increase of \$5,003 or 15.24% over November 2022.

Thank you for your increased financial support!

Retired Religious Collection This Weekend:

Dec. 2 & 3 Please give as generously as you are able.

The following collections are active on ParishSOFT Giving and Text-to-Give:

Retired Religious, Immaculate Conception, Christmas, Christmas Music Memorials, Christmas Flowers Memorials, and Solemnity of Mary

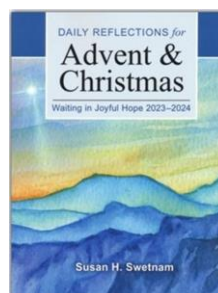
The keywords are

RetiredReligious, ImmaculateConception, Christmas, ChristmasFlowers, ChristmasMusic, SolemnityMary

ONLINE GIVING & TEXT-TO-GIVE

Please click here for access to [ParishSOFT Giving](#).

For Text-to-Give, please dial 215-929-7151



Daily Reflections for Advent & Christmas

The OSJ Ignatian Spirituality Committee invites all parishioners to set aside a few minutes a day during these beautiful seasons to pray at home with **Daily Reflections for Advent and Christmas**. This year's book of reflections, based on the daily Scripture readings, is written by Susan H. Swetnam. Subtitled "Waiting in Joyful Hope," each entry includes suggestions for applying the passages to your own life. **Books will be distributed after all Masses this weekend.**

Ronald Rex Piselli Funeral Chapels Inc.



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This season, sponsor a veterans'
wreath at a cemetery near you.



WREATHS
— across —
AMERICA

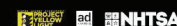
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**GOD BLESS
AMERICA**

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animal cruelty.



visit www.aspc.org

THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Our Father who art in Heaven,
Hallowed be thy name;
Thy kingdom come
Thy will be done
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
And forgive us our trespasses
As we forgive those who
trespass against us;
And lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil.*



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