

Old St. Joseph's Church

Est. 1733 | Philadelphia's Jesuit Parish

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

February 18, 2024 | The First Sunday in Lent (B)



Today's Gospel: Mark 1:12-15

Man of Sorrows – William Dyce (1806-1864)

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert,
and he remained in the desert for forty days,
tempted by Satan.

He was among wild beasts,
and the angels ministered to him.

After John had been arrested,
Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God:
"This is the time of fulfillment.
The kingdom of God is at hand.
Repent, and believe in the gospel."



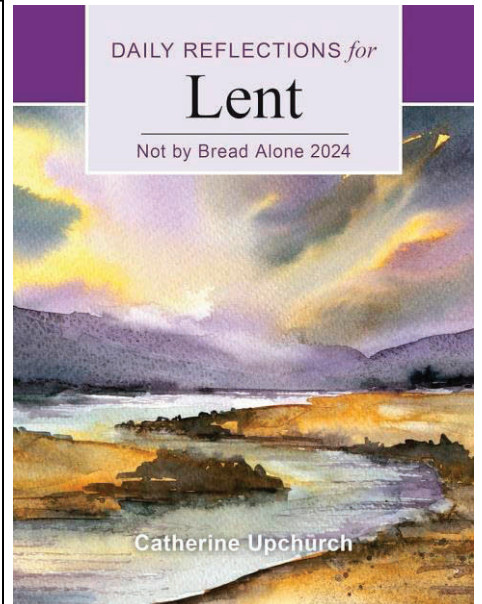
We have a hearing assistance system which requires a smartphone to operate. Instructions including the needed QR symbols, Wi-Fi address, password, and required software app download can be found on the entryway bulletin boards.

This Week at Old St. Joseph's

Date				
Mon	19			
Tues	12:05 PM	<i>Our Faith, Food & Friends Guests (L)</i>	10:00 AM	Faith, Food & Friends (Barbelin Hall)
20		Presider: Fr. Hannafey SJ		
Wed	12:05 PM	<i>Old St. Joseph's Memorial Society</i>		
21		Presider: Fr. Hannafey SJ		
Thurs	12:05 PM	<i>Old St. Joseph's Memorial Society</i>	10:00 AM	Faith, Food & Friends (Barbelin Hall)
22		Presider: Fr. Hannafey SJ	7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal & RCIA
Fri			5:00 PM	Wedding reh: Doyle & Fitzgerald
23				
Sat			10:00 AM	Faith, Food & Friends (Barbelin Hall)
24			1:00 PM	Wedding: Doyle & Fitzgerald
Sun	7:30 AM	<i>Old St. Joseph's Memorial Society</i>	10:00 AM	Women, Faith & Fellowship (Drexel)
25		Presider: Fr. Hannafey SJ	10:40 AM	YAC Scripture Reading (Greaton)
	9:30 AM	<i>Old St. Joseph's Memorial Society</i>	5:00 PM	Zoom Vespers
		Presider: Fr. Hannafey SJ		
	11:30 AM	Presider: Fr. O'Donnell SJ		



Daily Reflections for Lent: The OSJ Ignatian Spirituality Committee invites all parishioners to set aside a few minutes a day during Lent to pray at home with *Daily Reflections for Lent – Not by Bread Alone 2024*. This year's book of reflections, based on the daily Scripture readings, is written by Catherine Upchurch. **Books will be distributed after all Masses this weekend.**



OSJ PRAYER LIST

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

Aurelia Bond, Denise Domitrovic, Wayne Franks, Neal Hébert, Fr. Jerry McAndrews SJ, Sr. Maria Christi Drysdale GNSH, Greg Alexander, 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, Susanna Mazzoleni, Rosemarie Greco, Anne Morrissey, John Butts, Grazyna Kolondra, Richard Swift, Joseph Kahriger, 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.



REQUIESANT IN PACEM

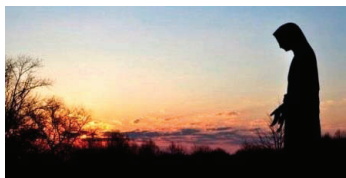
OSJ parishioner Marcy Wells recently lost both her father and brother during the last few months. Please pray for Marcy and her family during this time and for the repose of Lonnel Wells (father) and Albert Wells (brother). May they rest in God's eternal peace.

The OSJ Reading Group will meet next on Tuesday, 5 March at 7.30 p.m. via Zoom. Our book for the month will be Alice Monroe: Dear Life: Stories. New members are welcome. To be added to the Zoom link, contact Carol Shloss: shlosscarol@gmail.com.



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.



OSJ Sunday Vespers on Zoom:

Every Sunday at 5PM, we offer a Zoom Vespers/Evening Prayer for anyone interested. If you are not already an

active participant and would like to be, please contact Stephen Paesani at spaesani@gmail.com and he will send you the Zoom link.



SOUTHBOUND I-95 will be closed between the I-676/Callowhill Street off-ramps and the Morris Street on-ramp from 5pm Saturday February 24th to 5am Monday February 26th. Please plan ahead and familiarize

yourself with the detours and alternate routes at www.95revive.com.

It's all about Baptism...Lent 2024

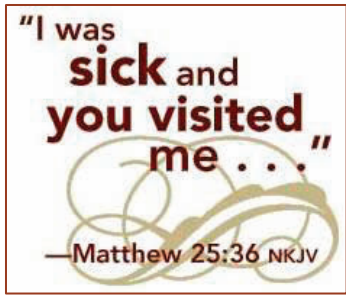
The central event of the liturgical year is our solemn celebration of the Lord's Passion, Death & Resurrection, the Paschal Triduum. The climax of the Triduum is the making of new Christians by the celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist) at the Easter Vigil in the Holy Night on Holy Saturday. From the earliest days, the Church has seen Easter as the privileged time to receive new members since in baptism we are united to Jesus' own death and resurrection and share in his glorified life. What better time to receive brothers and sisters into this mystery than on the holiest night of the Church year. It is within this context that Lent was the period of immediate preparation for those to be welcomed into the Church at Easter.

With the restoration of the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA), the baptismal nature of the Ester Vigil becomes prominent once again. This year, our community of Old St. Joseph's welcomes Lisa Anne Cumming and Christopher Perez who will receive the Sacraments of Initiation on Holy Saturday night. They have been praying and studying for this moment. During Lent, they will go through a "Period of Purification & Enlightenment", where they more intensely prepare themselves for the reception of the Sacraments, much like a retreat.

Also in our OCIA program, Annie Pascutti and Trevor Young, already baptized in other Christian denominations, will be making their profession of faith in the Catholic Church on the Sunday after Easter, April 7. Joe Weber, baptized in the Catholic Church, will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation at the Cathedral on Pentecost Sunday. For them, this Lent will be a time of reflection and a call to continual conversion of life as they seek to deepen their relationship with the Lord.

And what about the rest of us, we who have already received the Sacraments of Initiation...what does Lent mean for us? For us, the culmination of our Lenten observance will be the renewal of our Baptismal Promises during our Easter celebration. With this backdrop, Lent then becomes the Church's annual retreat...using the three classic Lenten activities (prayer, fasting, and almsgiving), we look at our lives in light of our Baptism...how have we lived as followers of Christ; where have we been faithful and where do we need the Lord's mercy, forgiveness, and grace to do better?

So for all of us, Catechumens, Candidates, and the fully Initiated, Lent is a grace-filled and life-giving time when we celebrate God's immense love for us and seek to know, love, and serve him with renewed joy, devotion, and enthusiasm.



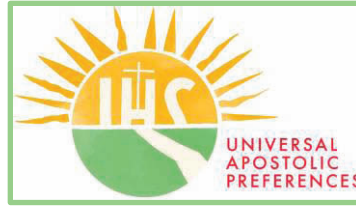
Dear Fellow Parishioners:

For many years Old St. Joseph's has been entrusted with the mission of ministering to the patients at Pennsylvania Hospital. This is a great responsibility as the Catholic patient population at the Hospital exceeds 50 patients most of the time. A very small group of ministers in our Parish are carrying out this ministry by visiting the Catholic patients and offering them the Eucharistic. At present there are only 7 active ministers of whom only 4 visit the Hospital on Sundays. This ministry is therefore in great need of additional volunteers.

All of us who serve in this ministry can tell you about the spiritually powerful encounters we regularly experience. We frequently meet patients who are enormously appreciative of our visits regardless of whether they are devout practicing Catholics or have not been connected to a church in many years. And I can't even put into words the incredible blessings we receive as ministers by sharing the Eucharist and a few minutes of prayer with folks who are in need of spiritual as well as physical care. The Gospels tell us of the many times that Jesus healed those who were suffering both physically and spiritually. We are so blessed here at Old St. Joseph's to have the opportunity to imitate the life of Jesus in this way.

I hope you will consider joining our Hospital Ministry. I am happy to tell you more and so if you have any questions or would just like chat about this, please feel free to contact me at wstewart@kaplaw.com. You can also contact Christine Szczepanowski of the Parish staff at christinesz52@gmail.com.

—Bill Stewart



To read how Old St. Joseph's Church's Care for Creation Committee has responded to the Four Universal Apostolic Preferences, please pick up a copy of Bill Stigliani's report located in the back of the church.

EVENING OF MERCY All catholic are invited to the Cathedral for an evening with the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation. Allow Jesus to unburden your heart this Lent through a thorough confession of your sins. Multiple priests will be available for confessions, including our Missionaries of Mercy. **MARCH 13, 2024, 7-9pm**, Cathedral Basilica of Sts. Peter & Paul, 18th & Benjamin Franklin Pkwy. Free parking is available in lot next to the Cathedral.



Pray for Peace with Old St. Joseph's Church

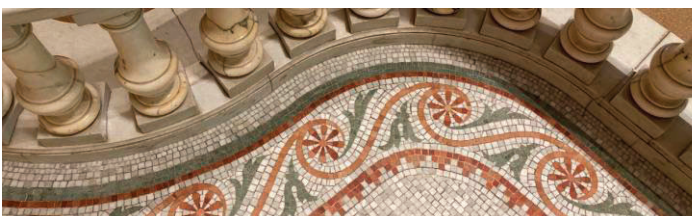
If you are wondering what you can do in the face of war in the Middle East, Ukraine, and Africa, we have something you can do today, tomorrow, and every day, or once or twice a week. It's very simple, and it won't cost you a cent - Pray for peace. Jesus said, "If two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father. For where two or three are gathered in my name, there I am in the midst of them." So let us agree and commit to pray for peace. Each week, Old St. Joseph's will post a prayer for peace on the website. Please pray with us for peace, and please invite your friends to do the same. Please click here to access the prayer series on our website.



St. Joseph Feast Day Celebration:

Help us celebrate St. Joseph's Day on Tuesday, March 19 with Mass at 6:00 pm followed by dinner in Barbelin Hall. Tickets are on sale now after the 9:30 and 11:30 Sunday Masses: \$10 for adults; children eat for free.

Donations of wine and desserts will be appreciated. Volunteers are needed to prepare the food for the dinner on Monday, March 18 and serving, set up of the hall, and clean up on Tuesday March 19. Please contact Joe Casey at joetcasey@aol.com to volunteer and for more information.



MUSIC AT OSJ

All are invited to mark your calendars to join us for a musical highlight of our Spring season here at OSJ! On **Sunday, April 21, 2024, at 3:00 PM** students from the renowned Curtis Institute of Music will present a concert of classical guitar music--both solo and duo works, including compositions by Fernando Sor and Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco.

Our Children's Choir will be singing at the 9:30 AM Mass on Sunday, April 21. All children are invited to join the choir for rehearsals and for April 21. Rehearsals will be held on Sundays after the 9:30 AM Mass on: March 3, 10, 17, 24, April 7, and 14.



Please Join Us! The Women, Faith and Fellowship Committee invites women of the parish and female guests to gather for "Coffee and Conversation" on Sunday, February 25th from 10 AM to 11:15 AM in the Drexel Parlor in the Rectory. Looking forward to seeing you. Please RSVP to wff@oldstjoseph.org.



The next coffee hours will take place TODAY — February 18!

The Parish Council sponsors coffee hours on the **third Sunday** of the month **after the 7:30, 9:30 and 11:30**

AM Masses. Any committee or ministry that wants to co-sponsor one of the coffee hours can email Nina Vitullo at Vitullon@oldstjoseph.org. This is a good opportunity for groups that would like to share an upcoming project with the larger parish community or recruit new members. **Please note** that our regularly scheduled 1st of the month Parish Life Coffee Hours will remain the same.



Old St. Joseph's Church Lenten Reconciliation

Confessions will be heard in the church on Saturday afternoons during Lent on the following dates:

**Saturdays: March 2, March 9, & March 23
from 1:00 to 2:00 pm**

Make your Lenten celebration of this Sacrament demonstrate your Lenten effort to convert more faithfully to the baptismal life in Christ. **Note:** Please enter the church through the alley/courtyard entrance.

FINANCIAL INFO

Offertory for the week ending February 11, 2024

Daily Mass Collection	\$36.00
In-Pew Sunday Collection:	\$2,502.00
Mail-In Sunday Collection:	\$85.00
Online Giving Sunday Collection:	\$5,223.46
Total Collection:	\$7,846.46

Thank you

January Collection Comparison

January 2023: \$38,917
January 2024: \$34,869

NOTE: January 2024 shows a decrease of \$4,048 or 10.4% under January 2023.

Thank you for your continued support of OSJ!

The following collections are active on ParishSOFT Giving and Text-to-Give: **Ash Wednesday, Operation Rice Bowl, Catholic Charities Appeal**
The keywords are *AshWednesday, RiceBowl, and CatholicCharities*

ONLINE GIVING & TEXT-TO-GIVE

Please click here for access to [ParishSOFT Giving](#).
For Text-to-Give, please dial 215-929-7151



The **Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl Collection** is now active on our online giving site. If you don't have an online

account and would like to donate, please make your check payable to "OSJ Church" and write *Operation Rice Bowl* on the memo line or insert your check or cash into a marked, temporary envelope located in the back of the church.



The **Archdiocese of Philadelphia's annual Catholic Charities Appeal** is underway. 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 benefiting from the appeal. Under Parish Affiliation, please choose Old St. Joseph's—Philadelphia. You may also donate through our ParishSOFT Giving site

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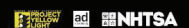
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THE LORD'S PRAYER

*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.*

