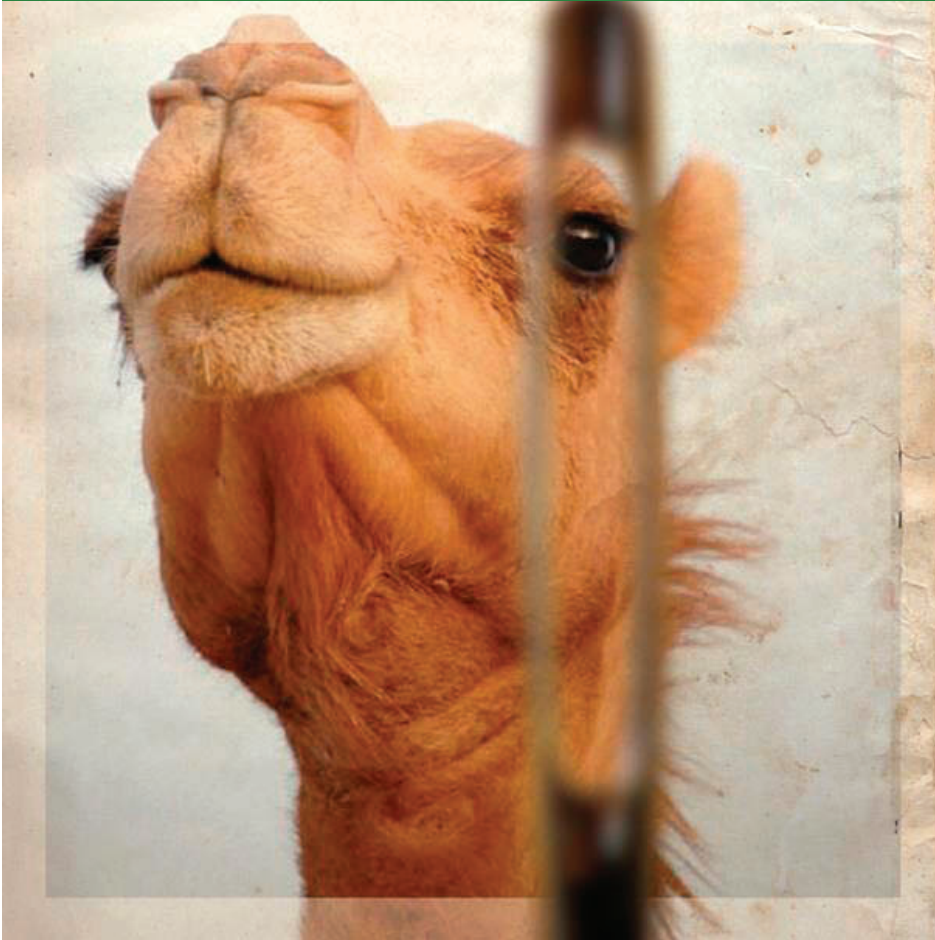


Old St. Joseph's Church

Est. 1733 | Philadelphia's Jesuit Parish

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

October 13, 2024 | The 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)



**Today's Gospel Reading:
Mark 10:17-30**

As Jesus was setting out on a journey, a man ran up, knelt down before him, and asked him, "Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus answered him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: You shall not kill; you shall not commit adultery; you shall not steal; you shall not bear false witness; you shall not defraud; honor your father and your mother." He replied and said to him, "Teacher, all of these I have observed from my youth." Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said to him, "You are lacking in one thing. Go, sell what you have, and give to the poor and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." At that statement his face fell, and he went away sad, for he had many possessions.

Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" The disciples were amazed at his words. So Jesus again said to them in reply, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for one who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." They were exceedingly astonished and said among themselves, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "For human beings it is impossible, but not for God. All things are possible for God." Peter began to say to him, "We have given up everything and followed you." Jesus said, "Amen, I say to you, there is no one who has given up house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands for my sake and for the sake of the gospel who will not receive a hundred times more now in this present age: houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and eternal life in the age to come."



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	14	COLUMBUS DAY – Church Offices Closed			
Tues	12:05 PM	<i>Edward & Mary Britt Family (D)</i> Presider: Fr. Hannafey SJ	10:00 AM	Faith, Food & Friends (Barbelin)	
Wed	12:05 PM	<i>Old St. Joseph's Memorial Society</i> Presider: Fr. Hannafey SJ			
Thurs	12:05 PM	<i>Victoria Daher (D)</i> Presider: Fr. Hannafey SJ	10:00 AM	Faith, Food & Friends (Barbelin)	
	17		7:00 PM	Choir rehearsal (Barbelin)	
Fri	18				
Sat	19		10:00 AM	Faith, Food & Friends (Barbelin)	
Sun	7:30 AM	<i>Thomas & Bella Reale (L)</i> Presider: Fr. Hannafey SJ	COFFEE!!	Socials After All Masses!	
	20		1:30 PM	Group Baptisms	
	9:30 AM	<i>Giancarlo Mazzoleni (D)</i> Presider: Fr. Hannafey SJ		LGBTQ Prayer Group	
	11:30 AM	Presider: Fr. O'Donnell SJ	5:00 PM	Zoom Vespers	

Join the OSJ Children's Choir Ministry! We are thrilled to announce that the OSJ Children's Choir is expanding its ministry this year, offering even more opportunities for our young singers to grow spiritually and in service to our parish community. *** First Rehearsal: Next Sunday, Oct. 20th, immediately following the 9:30 AM Mass.** *** Rehearsal Duration:** 15 minutes. *** Who Can Join:** All grade school age children. *** Leadership:** The choir will be directed by our Music Director Dr. Mark Bani in collaboration with the CLOW leadership. We look forward to seeing your children's voices lift in song! To join our email lists and receive updates on other parish children's programming please email Nina Vitullo at vitullon@oldstjoseph.org.



OSJ PRAYER LIST

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

Peggy and Mike Connolly, Dave Phelps, Gary Bushelli, Mary Lou Crompton, Joseph Kahriger Jr, Richard Swift, Grazyna Kolondra, Linda Piantoni, Larry Carlin, George Westby, Gloria Brull, Fran DelRe, Darla Himles, Aurelia Bond, Denise Domitrovic, Wayne Franks, Fr. Jerry McAndrews SJ, Sr. Maria Christi Drysdale GNSH, Greg Alexander, Bob Moore, Janice Moore, Michael Nardi, Rosario Lamberto, Gina Hil, Mary Beggy, Paul Smith, Susanna Mazzoleni, Rosemarie Greco, Anne Morrissey, John Butts, Allen May

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.

The OSJ Reading Group will meet via Zoom on Wednesday, November 6. We usually meet on Tuesday, but we want to avoid meeting on Election Day. Our book for the month is *Olive, Again* by Elizabeth Strout. The Zoom meeting begins at 7.30. If you would like to join us, email Carol Shloss and we will add you to our list. shlosscarol@gmail.com.

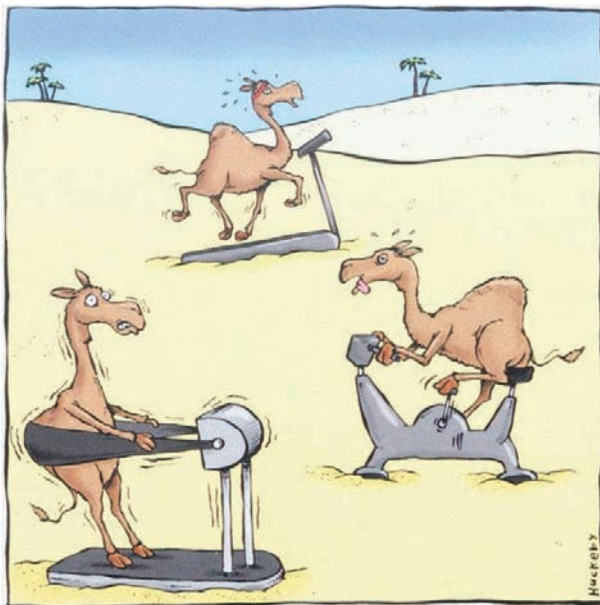


Save the Date! Women, Faith and Fellowship's annual Advent by Candlelight gathering for women of Old St. Joseph's parish and their female guests will be held **Wednesday evening, December 4th** in Barbelin Hall. More details to follow.

Please Note: Women, Faith and Fellowship will **not** meet for Coffee and Conversation on Sunday, October 27th. We will gather again on Sunday, Nov. 24th. Looking forward to seeing you in November.



LGBTQ Prayer Group – All are invited to join a monthly prayer group. Our next meeting is on **October 20**. Starting next month, the group will meet every fourth Sunday after the 11:30 AM Mass and coffee hour. Please find Robert Lord-Schell at coffee hour who will lead the group to the Drexel room at 1:30 PM. The meetings will consist of prayer, scripture reading and discussion. Contact Robert Lord-Schell at Robert.lord.schell@icloud.com for more details. We hope you will join us.



PREPARING FOR THE EYE OF THE NEEDLE

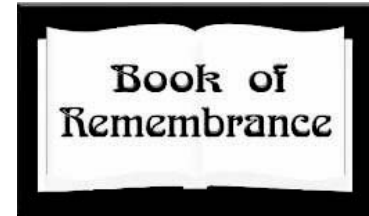


All Saints: Friday, November 1st

Mass at 12:05 p.m.

All Souls: Saturday, November 2nd

Mass at 12:05 p.m.



OSJ's Book of Remembrance will be placed on the Sacred Heart Altar during the month of November. All are invited to write in the names of their loved ones who have passed away.



The **OSJ Ignatian Spirituality Committee** is developing an Initiative to promote opportunities for our parish to experience the 19th Annotation of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius - a version of the

Spiritual Exercises that is performed amid our daily lives. This is in accordance with the first Universal Apostolic Preference of the Society of Jesus to show the way to God through the Spiritual Exercises and discernment.

To that end, we are working to form a group of qualified Spiritual Directors who can be available to our parish. If you are a trained Director of the Spiritual Exercises or know someone who is, please contact us at osjspirituality@oldstjoseph.org and we will provide you with details about the plan so that you can determine if you would like to be involved.

On November 10, 2024, at 10:30 (between the 9:30 and 11:30 Masses) we will host a Parish informational session to be presented by Christine Szczepanowski and Donna Soutoukis about the Ignatian Spiritual Exercises. They will discuss the different forms in which the Spiritual Exercises can be experienced (e.g., everyday life, 30-day retreat, group format, individual one-on-one format) as well as Ignatian spiritual direction in general.

Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam.

—From the Members of OSJ's Ignatian Spirituality & Formation Committee



Old St. Joseph's Church Distributes Blessing Bags Empowering Children to put Their Faith in Action!

People with no place to call home can be seen nearly everywhere in most cities and towns. Sometimes we encounter them asleep on a park bench or huddled over a

steam grate in the winter for warmth on a cold day. Frequently we see them on a street corner hoping a kind person will give them something to help them survive another day. Some of them suffer from mental health issues exacerbated by drug and alcohol abuse, but no matter what the reason for their plight these vulnerable people need our assistance.

When we happen upon these unfortunate individuals, we wonder what we can do to help. The children of Old St. Joseph Parish (OSJ) in center city Philadelphia are providing one solution: Blessing Bags. Under the tutelage of Pastoral Assistant, Ms. Nina Vitullo, parish children who are part of CLOW (Children's Liturgy of the Word), are assembling various items for these Blessing Bags. Included in their contributions is information regarding local services offered to the homeless population as well as some non-perishable snacks along with other items that can help persons lacking shelter as they navigate the difficulties they face living on the street.

"The Blessing Bag initiative is designed to engage children in acts of faith and justice" said Vitullo. "I want them to know and love their faith and I hope this collaborative effort will shape their lives and create a hope-filled future," She added. Pastor of OSJ, Father Hannafey also addressed the children as they gathered to discuss assembling the items that would be placed in each Blessing Bag. When asked about the project Father Hannafey said "This is a wonderful opportunity for our parish children and community to serve the poor and reflect on complex questions of social and economic justice." All the children in attendance echoed the sentiments of six-year-old Taylor G. who said, "filling the bags made her feel very good because she wished they all had a home." This particular project began last school semester and will continue as an ongoing collaborative effort. The children have completed filling some of the Blessing Bags, and distribution by parishioners began after the Ministry Fair in September when they received these items to give to homeless individuals in need of help. Basically, this project allows everyone who participates to be "good Samaritans" to those unshel-



-tered individuals who are struggling to meet their day-to-day needs. As Jesus suggests in this parable anyone who requires compassion is our neighbor and worthy of love in the form of a helping hand. Ms. Vitullo views this initiative as a "way to encourage the children to see their efforts as faith in action as well as one to reflect on the spiritual component of fulfilling the gospel message."

After the bags were blessed by Father Hannafey, the children received questions and prompts to facilitate discussion among family members. They also were given a special prayer emphasizing the difficulties faced by the homeless and the importance of giving a gift designed to ameliorate their unfortunate situation. "Since parents are the first teachers for their children, we felt it was important to provide a way for families to foster the message of charity and its importance in daily life," said Vitullo.

Blessing bags have been a part of charitable culture for several years. Ms. Vitullo adopted the idea to inspire the children participating in CLOW "to assume the mantle of charity to help those individuals they encounter who are homeless." By encouraging the children to participate in this charitable work, Vitullo hopes their involvement "will foster meaningful volunteerism among young parishioners." Eventually, she wants to see the project spread to children from other parishes, and she has already invited some school groups to participate in this venture at Old St. Joseph Church.

—By Dolores Giesman

MUSIC at OSJ

Sunday, November 24, 2024, at 3:00 PM:

Piano Recital by our parishioner, Michael Caruso, with pupils from the Settlement Music School. Compositions by Bach, Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, Chopin, Scriabin, and Rachmaninoff. (Free will offering)



Sunday, December 8, 2024 at 3:00 PM, the Schola Cantorum, under the direction of Dr. Bani: Part I of Handel's sublime oratorio, Messiah (Advent and Christmas portions.) Free will offering.

Receptions will follow both events.

The Americans with Disabilities Act prohibits bicycles from being locked to railings, benches, or other objects that block the right of way. Please use the bike rack located on the church's north patio. Thanks!



Children's Liturgy of The Word

CLOW

Children's Liturgy of the Word and the Care for Creation Committee will be hosting an artistic event for the children at the 9:30 coffee hour on

October 20. Please join us as the kids will be invited to paint colorful ladybugs rocks. Their artwork will decorate the Freedom Garden, planted by FF&F guests in the green space on the north side of the church. (All art supplies as well as aprons will be provided.)



Your Old Magazines are Needed! We are planning to use them for FFF as part of our art activities to make collages. We're interested in any kind of magazine or journal. Please drop your magazines off at the front office.

NEXT SUNDAY

October 20th, the annual 5-mile Market Street

"Run for the Blue" will be held. The race begins at 8AM but street closures will begin earlier on that day. The race will take place on Market from the Delaware River to the Schuylkill River. Please expect delays in travel until the race concludes. For additional information marketstreerun.org.

MARKET STREET
Run for Blue

FINANCIAL INFO

Offertory for the week ending October 6, 2024

Daily Mass Collection	\$20.00
Mail-In Sunday Collection:	\$1,088.00
Online Giving Sunday Collection:	\$5,431.50
In-Pew Sunday Collection:	\$3,671.00
Total Collection:	\$10,210.50

Thank you for supporting Old St. Joseph's Church.

Second Collection Next Weekend, October 20:

Mission Sunday Collection

Please give as generously as you are able.

The following collections are active on ParishSOFT Giving and Text-to-Give: **Mission Sunday Collection, All Saints, All Souls, and St. Charles Borromeo**
The keywords are *MissionSunday, AllSaints, and AllSouls.*

ONLINE GIVING & TEXT-TO-GIVE

Please click here for access to **ParishSOFT Giving.**
For Text-to-Give, please dial **215-929-7151**

SEPTEMBER COLLECTION COMPARISON

Sept. 2023: \$31,577 (Four Sundays)

Sept. 2024: \$43,459 (Five Sundays)

Since Sept. 2023 had 4 Sundays and Sept. 2024 had 5 Sundays, we took a weekly average for the September comparison:

September 2024 shows an average weekly increase of \$797.55 or 9.18% over September 2023.

Thank you for your increased generosity to OSJ!



The USCCB's Annual National Catholic Mental Health Campaign (NCMHC) launch is upon us (October 10-18) for mental health awareness. For all the individuals who are impacted by issues of mental health, especially within our local community, we pray that God may bless them with his grace and consolation, and that Catholics everywhere will accompany and support women and men who experience mental health challenges and promote mental and spiritual wellness.

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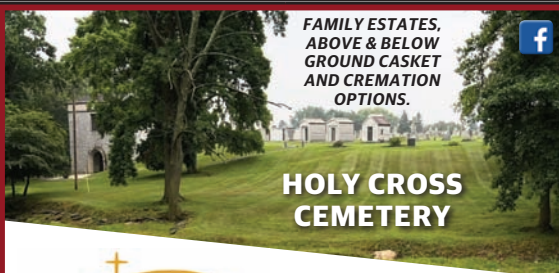
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Let's **TACO**
'bout the need
for blood.



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.

