

Old St. Joseph's Church

Est. 1733 | Philadelphia's Jesuit Parish

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

January 12, 2025 | The Baptism of the Lord



Today's Gospel:
Luke: 3: 15-16, 21-22

The people were filled with expectation, and all were asking in their hearts whether John might be the Christ. John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire."

After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

Baptism of Christ
Mid-16 century - Paolo Veronese
The Barnes Foundation



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

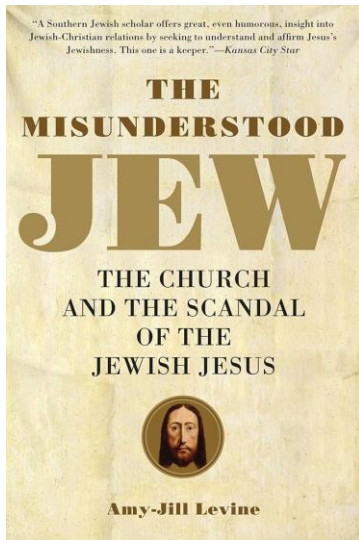
Date					
Mon	13				
Tues	12:05 PM	<i>Geraldine Marren & Family (D)</i>	10:00 AM	Faith, Food, & Friends	
14		Presider: Fr. Hannafey SJ			
Wed	12:05 AM	Wm. Henry & Rose Mary Eells & Family (D)			
15		Presider: Fr. Hannafey SJ			
Thurs	12:05 PM	<i>Louis May (D)</i>	10:00 AM	Faith, Food & Friends	
16		Presider: Fr. Hannafey SJ	7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal (Barbelin)	
Fri	17				
Sat			10:00 AM	Faith, Food & Friends	
18					
Sun	7:30 AM	<i>Old St. Joseph's Memorial Society</i>	10:30 AM	Ignatian Spirituality Comm Mtg (Loyola)	
19		Presider: Fr. Hannafey SJ	10:30 AM	COFFEE HOURS (Barbelin Hall)	
	9:30 AM	<i>Giancarlo Mazzoleni (D)</i>	& 12:30		
		Presider: Fr. Hannafey SJ	5:00 PM	Zoom Vespers	
	11:30 AM	Presider: Fr. Surovick SJ			

OSJ PRAYER LIST

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

Neal Hébert, Bobby Score, Toni Tomei Culleton, Michael Caruso, Anita Thompson, Ed Tomezsko, Louise Cruz-Vizcaino, Leslie Ronaldson Haskins, Paul Smith, Barbara Merdiushev, Bonnie Park, Peggy and Mike Connolly, Gary Bushelli, Mary Lou Crompton, Joseph Kahriger Jr, Richard Swift, Grazyna Kolondra, Linda Piantoni, George Westby, Gloria Brull, Fran DelRe, Darla Himles, Denise Domitrovic, Wayne Franks, Sr. Maria Christi Drysdale GNSH, Susanna Mazzoleni, 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.



SAVE THE DATE:

On Sunday February 9, Old Saint Joseph's Adult Education Committee will host a discussion of the Book by Amy-Jill Levine, *The Misunderstood Jew: The Church and the Scandal of the Jewish Jesus* (HarperOne, 2009).

Levine is Professor of New Testament and Jewish Studies at Hartford International University for Religion

and Peace, Professor of New Testament and Jewish Studies at Hartford International University for Religion and Peace Professor Emeritus at Vanderbilt Divinity School and Department of Jewish Studies.

Her work, written for the laity, helps Christians and Jews understand the "Jewishness" of Jesus so that their appreciation of him deepens and a greater interfaith dialogue can take place. Levine's humor and informed truth-telling provokes honest conversation and debate about how Christians and Jews should understand Jesus, the New Testament, and each other.

The book is available at Barnes and Noble (including eBook and audiobook) and Amazon (including Kindle and audiobook).

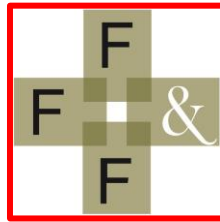
Please plan to join us to discuss the Jewish man Jesus of Nazareth, and Catholic-Jewish relations from the points of view of both the Jewish and the Catholic faithful.

The discussion will be in person at Old Saint Joseph's, and the time and place will be determined shortly. We look forward to seeing you on February 9 at 1 Pm in Barbelin Hall!



GBTQ Prayer Group – Please join us for a monthly prayer group. All are welcome! The group will meet every fourth Sunday after the 11:30 AM Mass. Please find Robert Lord-Schell, who will lead the group to the Drexel

Room in the Rectory at 12:30 PM. The meetings will consist of prayer, scripture reading, and discussion. The next meeting will take place on January 26. Contact Robert Lord-Schell at Robert.lord.schell@icloud.com for more details. We hope you will join us.



Faith, Food & Friends – Our New Year's Wishes: During 2024, we have continued to see increases in the number of hungry and housing-insecure men and women coming to Faith, Food & Friends 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 every Thursday. To meet our guests' basic needs through the winter months, our Christmas wish list includes donations of the following items: *Bar soap; travel-size deodorant; travel-size body lotion and disposable twin blade razors.* This program, run by FF&F volunteers, helps restore dignity, cleanliness and confidence for those we serve.

Please visit the Faith, Food & Friends Amazon wish list ([click here](#)) (URL address listed below) where you can find these essentials and other items that would be most appreciated by our guests. We ask that you consider making a gift to FF&F of one or more of these items, by ordering through Amazon or a retailer of your choice or by delivering the items directly to OSJ. In addition to items identified on the wish list, an item frequently requested by our guests is a roll of toilet paper. To ensure that we have an adequate supply on hand to distribute a roll when requested, we are seeking donations of large size packages of toilet paper. These can be purchased most economically at big box stores and may be dropped off at OSJ any time that the rectory is open.

We thank you for your generous support of FF&F and our guests. https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1ADBXS5SJA64N?ref_=wl_share



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,

January 26th 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.



Catholic History Lecture: On Sunday, January 19 at 2:00pm, the American Catholic Historical Society (263 S. 4th Street) is pleased to have Father Thomas Betz, OFM Cap, speaking on the history of Holy Redeemer Church,

Philadelphia. Founded in 1941, it has the distinction of being the first Catholic church in the Western hemisphere built for Chinese people. The event is free and open to the public, with the option to attend in-person or view the livestream. Please visit www.amchs.org for more information and to register.



OSJ CONTACT 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

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

Please see the bottom of the front page of the bulletin for information on our hearing assistance system.

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 takes place during the 7:30 Mass on the First Sunday of each month.

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)

Pastoral Associate

Nina Vitullo (vitullon@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

(adulsted@oldstjoseph.org)

Friendship Circle (former Eldership Committee)

John Welsh (friendshipcircle@oldstjoseph.org)

Parish Life

Joe Casey (parishlife@oldstjoseph.org)

Ignatian Spirituality and Formation

LouAnne Bulik & Cynthia Locke

(osjspirituality@oldstjoseph.org)

Women, Faith and Fellowship

Rana McNamara (wff@oldstjoseph.org)

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

Robert Lord-Schell (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)



Giving Tree Thanks

On behalf of the Children of the Gesu School and the Sisters of St Joseph Welcome Center in Kensington, many thanks for including them in your Christmas Gift Giving. Through your generosity we collected many books for the Gesu Children and gifts cards for the SSJ. It was a very impressive collection. Many, many thanks from our friends at Gesu & SSJ and the OSJ Social Justice Committee.



The Friendship Circle is inviting all parishioners to our January Happy Hour on Wednesday, January 15th from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM at PJ Clarke's at 601 Walnut Street. Come out and enjoy nice conversation and spirits with your fellow OSJ parishioners. If you will be attending this outing, email us at friendshipcircle@oldstjosepg.org.

THANK YOU

We offer our warmest thanks to all who helped to make the season bright here at OSJ! Thanks to Mark Bani, the Schola Cantorum, our cantors, and the children who sang so beautifully at our Masses. To all our liturgical ministers – thank you! Thanks to Joe Casey and his crew for the beautiful decorations inside and out and for the after-Mass courtyard socials. Finally, warm thanks to all of you for your generosity in the Advent and Christmas collections and for your many kindnesses to the parish. You are a great blessing and Christmas gift. We wish you all a very blessed New Year!



The Care for Creation Committee and Women, Faith and Fellowship are jointly sponsoring a Pre-Lenten Potluck Vegetarian Luncheon on February 23 after the 11:30 mass in Barbelin Hall. Please mark your calendars. We are inviting parishioners to

contribute their favorite vegetarian dishes to the potluck and to share their recipes with the other attendees. If you are interested in making a dish, please contact Bill Stigliani at careforcreation@oldstjoseph.org

FINANCIAL INFO

Offertory for the week ending December 29, 2024

Daily Mass:	\$0.00
Mail-In Sunday Collection:	\$300.00
Online Giving Sunday Collection:	\$6,125.50
In-Pew Sunday Collection:	\$2,333.00
Total Collection:	\$8,758.50

Offertory for the week ending January 5, 2024

Daily Mass:	\$21.00
Mail-In Sunday Collection:	\$140.00
Online Giving Sunday Collection:	\$6,075.00
In-Pew Sunday Collection:	\$2,593.00
Total Collection:	\$8,829.00

Thank you

Second Collection This Weekend

January 12: Catholic Relief Services. Please give as generously as you are able.

The Christmas collections will be published next weekend in the January 19 bulletin to allow time for late donations. End of the year 2024 contribution statements will be snail-mailed before the end of January.

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

Christmas, Christmas Music Memorials, Christmas Flowers Memorials, and Solemnity of Mary

The keywords are

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

DECEMBER COLLECTION COMPARISON

December 2023: \$50,126

December 2024: \$45,877

December 2024 shows a decrease of \$4,249 or 8.48% over December 2023.

Thank you for your generosity to OSJ!