

St. Cornelius Parish



SUNDAY BULLETIN

November 16, 2025

Lo, the day is coming, blazing like an oven,
when all the proud and all evildoers will be stubble.

Malachi 3:19

160 Ridge Rd, Chadds Ford, PA 19317

Phone: (610) 459-2502 • Fax: (610) 459-3942

Web: www.saintcornelius.org

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Msgr. David Diamond, Pastor

Deacons: Harry Morris • John Todor (Ret.)

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Parish Religious Education Program: Abbie McCusker

Director of Music: Margie Melchiere

Director of Parish Services: Kelly Limmina

St. Cornelius Early Learning Center

Abbie McCusker, Director

Phone: (610) 459-8663

Website: www.scornelius.org

St. Cornelius Parish Office Hours

Monday thru Thursday 8:00 am to 3:00 pm

Friday 8:00 am to 12:00 pm Noon

Saturday: Confessions 2:30 - 3:30 Vigil Mass 4:00 pm

Sunday: 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 4:00 pm **Weekday Mass: 7:30 am**

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Friday after morning Mass to 4 pm

LiveStream <https://vimeo.com/user123448673>

Thoughts from the Second Floor Front XXXIII Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 16, 2025

As we approach the end of the liturgical year it is entirely appropriate that the Liturgy of the Word presents readings that address the finality of life. This weekend from the prophet Malachi to the Apostle Paul to the words of Jesus, we are called upon to reflect on the end things. The ancient Greek Philosopher Heraclitus asserted that *All things change, no man steps into the same river twice. Because it is not the same river and he is not the same man.* Please pardon the gender specific reference. You will have to pardon Heraclitus. There really was not a whole lot of concern for inclusive language in the 6th century BC.

Things must have changed very slowly in Old Heraclitus' day. Not in our own. I was in an educational apostolate for close to three decades, both as a classroom teacher and in administration. With the approach to teaching and learning today, I am not at all sure I could re-enter that world, at least not without a lot of retraining and upgrading.

In obituaries, which I read with some regularity, it is not unusual for the writer to speak of the deceased's career. While at one time it was not uncommon for a person to work for one company for twenty-five or thirty years or more. Today it is more commonplace to have five or six career changes in one's employment history. That reality can add a dimension of instability to one's world.

As disciples of Jesus we are called on to recognize that we have not here a lasting home. That reality ought to encourage us, even empower us, to live a particular manner. We are to live in this world with our eyes fixed on the next one. In our spiritual tradition the month of November has a unique dimension that calls for our attention. It is a month dedicated to the Holy Souls as we reflect on those who have gone to God ahead of us. We intercede on their behalf with our prayers. We call to mind the love we still have for them despite their physical absence. The bonds of love are not severed because of death. Love is a spiritual entity and does not depend on the physical to be experienced. We remember them and the times we had with them.

St. Augustine spends a considerable part of The Confession in reflecting on the power of memory. He actually calls it a spark of the Divine. Centuries before anyone had any understanding of what we call short term and long-term memory, he actually describes the process of how we recall, how we utilize our memories. The Bishop of Hippo had no concept of the synapses in our brain that make connections often times without our willing it. He had no understanding of the structure of our brain but he did understand the concept of our mind. Our brain is a physical entity. Our mind is a spiritual entity. Our memory, Augustine asserts, has a role in our identity. Augustine has put forth the idea that memory is at the source of our identity and our search for God.

This past week we celebrated the Dedication of the Church of St. John Lateran, the Mother Church of Christendom. Do you remember the church you attended as a child? There is something very special about those memories. What are your memories of being in church and praying? Recently several of our parishioners participated in the Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC. Several commented on the beauty of the building. But it did not stop there. Many commented on the spiritual experience that became apparent to them while in the building. The spiritual experience is a manifestation of the grace at work on us and in us drawing us closer to the God who calls us His own.

Faithfully,

Msgr. Diamond



St. Cornelius Giving Tree

The 2025 Saint Cornelius "Giving Tree" will continue to extend its branches to reach those in need this Christmas season. This ministry benefits hundreds of people who need assistance. The Giving Tree will be set up in the Narthex by Saturday, November 22nd.

Due to the increasing cost of postage, we are NOT mailing a Giving Tree Letter to parish families this year. Rather a Giving Tree Flyer with details can be found on the parish website, it will be included in Msgr's weekly email, and in the weekly bulletin. Look for the Giving Tree Flyer to be posted by November 20 and please pass it along to friends, families and neighbors who may not have access to the internet or are unable to attend mass.

All the charities we sponsor have asked to receive gift cards; they assure us gift cards provide the recipients with the opportunity to shop with dignity for what their families need most. For your convenience envelopes that can be used to return the gift cards will be available in the Narthex. All gift cards must be dropped off at Church or the PLC by Sunday, December 14th to allow time for delivery to the recipients.

Our Parish supports these seven charities which are in great need, and your kindness and generosity will help to provide food, clothing, and Christmas gifts for these good people:

- Catholic Social Services of Delaware County in Chester;
- Mothers with children sheltered at Mary, Mother of Hope House III in Wilmington;
- Mothers with babies living at Mothers' Home in Darby;
- Three schools / outreach centers in Philadelphia: St. Ignatius Parish, St. Thomas Aquinas Parish and St. Peter the Apostle Parish;
- Saint Cornelius Ministry of Caring aiding those in our own community.

It is through our charitable actions that we create a legacy that inspires others, for it is more of a blessing to give than to receive.

If you have any questions please contact Mary Allen at 484-432-5098 (cell) or [email maryballen16@verizon.net](mailto:emailmaryballen16@verizon.net).

Welcome to the Parish!



Dylan and Gabrielle Montgomery
Michael and Christina Recchiuti and family



Knights of Columbus®

The Knights of Columbus is a Catholic men's fraternal service organization that operates on the principles of charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism. The Saint Cornelius Council of the Knights of Columbus performs many good works for the benefit of the parish community.

If you are a Catholic man 18 years or older, you may join the Knights of Columbus. The St. Cornelius Council invites you to become part of this vibrant fraternity.

You may join online at kofc.org/join and use our council number, [12391], to connect with us. New members may join for free using the promo code **BLESSEDMCGIVNEY** in honor of Blessed Michael J. McGivney, the Founder of the Knights.

For your convenience, a QR code that will take you to the membership page is here:



*Come grow in faith, build lasting friendships, and
serve our community as a Knight!
God bless you.*



Assisted Hearing Devices

We have assisted hearing devices, which connect directly to the sound system. They are located inside the church, along side the wall to your left as you view the altar.

Easy to operate: the ear pieces are already attached. Just turn it on, a green light will blink and then remain on, adjust the volume.

Comments from satisfied users:

*Wow - That is the first time in a long Time that I
have heard everything at Mass.*

THE ST. CORNELIUS LITERARY SOCIETY

Marce Catlett: The Force of a Story:

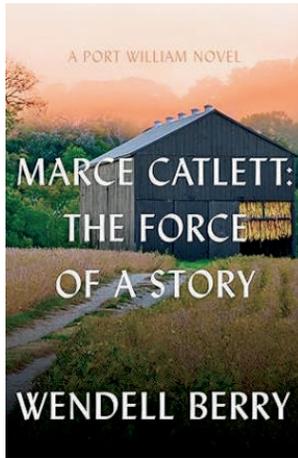
by Wendell Berry

Andy Catlett's story begins as his grandfather Marce Catlett rises in the dark to travel from his farm by horseback and train to Louisville for the auction of his 1906 tobacco crop. The price paid for each year's crop has been depressed to virtually nothing by the power of a single buyer, James B. Duke. This year is especially grim since the price offered to each grower is less than the expense of bringing the crop to market. A year's labor is lost.

Marce returns to his family defeated, defiant, and determined to grow another crop. Many of his fellow farmers at first seem to lack the resiliency and resourcefulness to continue. Only with the cooperation of other growers can a way be found that protects these farmers and keeps their rural families vital and in place.

The power and depth of this story—and of the many stories within the history of the Port William Membership—resonate with love, kindness, and the held memory of family and community. In *Marce Catlett: The Force of a Story*, celebrated author Wendell Berry brings to life a tale that devoted readers of the series will cherish. This moving novel is a testament to the goodwill that lives within the human heart and a stirring reminder that standing up for what we believe in is always a cause worth fighting for.

Please plan on attending our next meeting Sunday, November 23 at 2:00 PM in the Parish Life Center.



The Sunday collection is very important for us to maintain our fiscal responsibilities. So, if you are away on a Sunday, ENJOY; but remember YOUR church.

November 9, 2025

WeShare e Giving	\$7,055.40
Envelope Offering	<u>\$12,276.50</u>
	\$19,331.90



"For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be."

Luke 12:34



Monsignor's Thursday Email

Msgr. Diamond's weekly Thursday Email is a popular weekly newsletter for our parishioners. Currently there are **over 1,148** people who receive his email each Thursday afternoon. If you would like to be on our distribution list, please call the office at (610) 459-2502 or send your request to be added to our distribution at

Stcorn1@comcast.net.

Buildings and Grounds Committee



If you have any experience in the trades, the Buildings and Grounds Committee is looking for new members. As the pastor says: If you can hammer a nail in straight, you are over qualified. In reality we have a big campus, close to 60 acres, with a lot of moving parts. The Committee meets once month, discusses aspects of the temporal goods of the parish and make recommendations for the attention that is necessary. Please give it consideration and if interested talk to Msgr. Diamond.

Have you Registered with the Parish?



The church calendar is drawing to a close. After today we have only 2 more Sunday's and then we begin Advent. Advent is a good time to reconnect with your Catholic

faith and your parish. We invite you to stop in to the Parish Life Center and complete a registration form so we can meet you, your family and include you in our activities.

Perhaps you have recently moved to the area, or maybe you have been here awhile and just haven't taken the time to register.

Whatever the reason, we encourage you to stop in the Parish Life Center and join the life of the Church here at St. Cornelius.

Our office hours are Monday thru Thursday 8:00 am to 3:00 pm, and Friday 8:00 am to 12:00 pm Noon. We close for Lunch 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm

We look forward to seeing you and your family!

THE PARISH CHURCH
AND ITS FURNISHINGS
AMBRY

Written by Paul Turner

An ambry is the cabinet where holy oils are stored. Every church has one, though many people don't know what it's called.

We keep three oils there—the oil for anointing the sick, the oil for anointing catechumens, and Chrism for Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Orders, and the consecration of altars and walls. The bishop blesses these oils in large containers at the Chrism Mass (Wednesday of Holy Week) every year. Then they are poured into smaller vessels and brought to all the parishes of the diocese. The ambry should be replenished with fresh oil every year. The old oil may be burned, possibly in the Easter fire.

The shape and size of ambries vary quite a bit. The church gives very few specific instructions about its appearance. After the Chrism Mass, the bishop is to instruct the presbyters in the sacristy about the “reverent use and safe custody of the holy oils” (Ceremonial of Bishops, 294). After a priest anoints the sick, he is instructed to return the extra oil to a place “where it is kept with proper respect” (Pastoral Care of the Sick: Rites of Anointing and Viaticum, 21). According to canon law, pastors should carefully keep all the oils “diligently with proper care” (can. 847 §2). With those vague instructions, the design for an ambry needs only to be appropriate for its sacred contents and safe from vandalism, theft, or some other harm.



The ambry may be visible or concealed. Many churches have an ambry built into a wall of the sacristy. Accessible to priests, but virtually invisible to people, the ambry was often located there, where it would not intrude on the Mass. However, since ambries were kept locked with a key that could easily be lost, many priests have simply kept the oils in a sacristy closet or safe.

More and more, Catholic parishes are building beautiful ambries and placing them where they can be seen. We have a great respect for the sacraments in which we use these holy oils. By keeping them in dignified vessels and displaying them in a handsome, well-lit case, the faithful can better regard their significance.

Canon law also permits a priest to carry the Oil of the Sick with him in case of necessity. Most priests carry a small container in the glove compartment of their car.

IN COMMUNION WITH OUR SAINTS

St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious
November 17

Elizabeth was daughter of a king Andrew II of Hungary, her brother succeeded his father on the throne of Hungary as Bela IV; the sister of her mother was Saint Hedwig. She was betrothed in infancy, age 4, to Louis, Landgrave of Thuringia, and brought up in his father's court. He unfortunately died and so was then betrothed to the brother of Louis, Ludwig.

Not content with receiving daily numbers of poor in her palace, and relieving all in distress, she built several hospitals, where she served the sick, dressing the most repulsive sores with her own hands. Once as she was carrying some provisions for the poor in the folds of her mantle, she met her husband returning from the chase. Astonished to see her bending under the weight of her burden, he opened the mantle which she kept pressed against her, and found in it nothing but beautiful red and white roses, although it was not the season for flowers. Bidding her to pursue her way, he took one of the marvelous roses, and kept it all his life. On her husband's death she was cruelly driven from her palace, and forced to wander through the streets with her little children, a prey to hunger and cold; but she welcomed all her sufferings, and continued to be the mother of the poor, converting many by her holy life. She died in 1231, at the age of twenty-four.



St. Elizabeth of Hungary is the patron saint of **bakers, beggars, brides, Catholic charities, the homeless, nurses, and widows**, among others. Her patronage is rooted in her life of charity, where she gave her wealth and time to serve the poor, sick, and suffering, and her example of devotion and love. She built hospitals, gave food to the poor, and took care of the sick.

Prayer of St. Elizabeth of Hungary

Almighty God, by whose grace your servant Elizabeth of Hungary recognized and honored Jesus in the poor of this world: Grant that we, following her example, may with love and gladness serve those in any need or trouble, in the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. - Amen



St. Cornelius Early Learning Center

Our little friends had a very special visit from a State Trooper! The trooper talked to the children about the important job police officers do in keeping everyone safe and helping people in our community. The little ones learned that they can always trust police officers and go to them whenever they need help. The trooper showed them some of the tools used on duty and even let them see the patrol car up close! It was an exciting and educational visit that helped our little friends feel comfortable and confident around our local heroes.



Baptisms

Baptized in Christ



Leonardo Francis Godio
Son of Joseph and Erica Godio

Nicolas DelVecchio
Son of Thomas and Mary DelVecchio

Let us pray for our newly baptized Christians.



**THANK YOU,
ST. CORNELIUS
DONORS!**

Many thanks to those who were able to take part in the Parish's Red Cross Blood Drive on November 6th. 39 units were collected and each of those donations can save up to three lives! We will sponsor another blood drive in May 2026!

The need is constant. Consider donating before then at a nearby site by calling

1-800-Red-Cross or register at **redcrossblood.org**



**YOUNG CATHOLIC
PROFESSIONALS**
Working in Witness for Christ™

In a world that can be void of meaning and leave young adults restless and dissatisfied, Young Catholic Professionals Philadelphia brings together young professionals in their 20s and 30s into a community of belonging, support, and encouragement at all stages of your faith journey. Young Catholic Professionals empowers and equips you to live your Catholic faith through everyday work and to perform all work with excellence for the glory of God.

Our patron saint is Saint Joseph the Worker. Our mission calls upon the intercession of Saint Joseph the Worker, a simple carpenter who reminds us of the importance of stillness, reflection, and prayer.

Young Catholic Professionals mission is to challenge, train, and inspire young adults working in various professional careers to work in witness for Christ. For more information go to our local Philadelphia website at

www.ycpphiladelphia.org/cpages/home

CRS NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT

With changing priorities for U.S. government humanitarian assistance, our most vulnerable sisters and brothers are being affected around the world. Due to funding challenges, people need us more than ever. We are experiencing immediate and critical gaps in our ability to bring lifesaving programs across all areas of our work in the face of ongoing humanitarian assistance crisis.

Every gift you give helps a child thrive, brings hope to a family and rebuilds a community. When you give, you help provide food to young children so they can study hard in school. You help prevent trafficking and provide welcome kits for survivors. You help mothers and babies around the world receive nutritional care and health exams. Your care is a blessing—whether you are providing nutritious food and clean water for school children, bringing safe shelter to people who have lost everything in disasters such as the earthquake in Myanmar and Thailand, or relief for people feeling the anguish of war. Please make a generous gift today at www.crs.org. Thank you for your support!



PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL AND THOSE WHO CARE FOR THEM

Kara Ulatowski, James M. Sullivan, Jim & Kathy Buckley, Brian Buckley, Judy & Ed Field, Eileen Talley, Tom Eno, Luke Post, Nancy Cunningham, Andrea Bateman, Bernice & Arthur Hindle, Joan Carrington, Edna Werwinski, Hayes Gonzalez



The Ministry of Consolation

A St. Cornelius community response to the needs of people grieving the death of a significant person/persons in their lives, the ministry honors the words and example of the Lord Jesus:

"Blessed are they who mourn; they shall be consoled"

(Matthew 5:4).

A team of four St. Cornelius church members have been trained to set up and facilitate a Support Group for the Consolation Ministry.

On **December 20, 2025**, the Consolation Group will meet at the **Parish Life Center, Fr. Simon Room** from **2:30pm to 3:30pm**.

Contact Joan Holliday for any questions
dochollisv@aol.com or call (610) 717-2180.

Let us pray for our Men and Women serving in the Armed Forces. Especially for:

SSG Ana Brunal	2nd Lt. Kevin Malone
SPC Mike Canfield	Sgt Alexander Marlow
Cpl Michael Castle	PFC Zachary Marlow
Lt. Connor Cleary	CPT. Travis Mauer
Fr. Joseph Coffey (Chaplain)	Lt. Cmdr Daniel McCadden
Maj Robert B. Cusick, Jr.	Capt Jonathan McGrath
Capt Joshua deFreitas	LT Molly K. McGuckin
SSGT Michael DiVernieri	LCDR Ryan A. McGuckin
Cadet Emily Fanning	Maj. Sean P. Noll
Lt. Ryan Gallagher	Lt. Col Brian J. O'Shea
SSG. Eric Gardner	Lt. Cmdr Inga O'Shea
Capt Matthew Gibbons	Maj James O'Shea
Ens Patrick Gibbons	Sgt. Maj. Justin Rogowski
Ens John Paul Gibbons	PFC L Roland
Maj Rachel Gonzalez	LTJG Christian Samulewicz
SPC Logan Hannum	1st Lt. Olivia Samulewicz
Sgt Andrew Hart	Capt. Neal F. Schubert
Devin J. Hunt	Ens Nicholas Spadaccini
PO1 Nathan R. Keller	MSG Thomas Stone
1st Lt Lauren Kinnee	Cpl Mark Truex
Spc. Andrew Koehler	Lt. Christopher Vish
Capt Daniel Kohli	Capt. Aidan Walsh
Maj. Chris Love	PFC Ellianna Welsh
Maj. Megan Love	Capt Jennifer Wynn
Sgt Jason Lyons	

LENDING LIBRARY

You may not be aware of the Lending Library that exists in our ambulatory, near the large stain glass windows overlooking the family portico. The cart pictured to the right contains a variety of reading material that you are welcome to take with you. You may also find a variety of holy cards, prayer pamphlets and novenas. Please feel free to take what you like.



Giving Hope to All





Eucharistic Adoration

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament flows from the sacrifice of the Mass and serves to deepen our hunger for Communion with Christ and the rest of the Church.

Join us for Adoration on Friday mornings after Mass. Please help by signing up for Adoration at least one hour each week. Your commitment will cover the same hour for each Friday.



You are welcome to visit anytime during the day until we repose the Blessed Sacrament at 4:00 PM.

If a wedding is scheduled for a Friday, there will be NO exposition.



Helping Hands and Hearts

This ministry offers temporary help (meals, errands, etc.) to individuals and families in need! If you are aware of someone in need or would like to be a volunteer helper, please contact Marilyn Gustin at magustin05@gmail.com (484) 947-7295.

**Thursday
Scripture Study
10:00 am - 11:00 am
Parish Life Center
with Msgr. Diamond**



Join us at any time!

All women and men are invited to join us each Thursday morning from 10:00 am to 11:00 am. If you weren't able to join us last year, do not let that deter you. The goal of this Scripture study will be to broaden our knowledge of Scripture, the Church's teaching regarding the Scriptures, and it will enhance our understanding and personal faith life. Please bring a bible.

saintcornelius.org/morning-bible-study

If you have questions, please call Nancy Todor - cell 609-234-1193.

It is never too late to pick up and read.



Charitable Giving Through Appreciated Stocks and Mutual Funds

If your investment portfolio has appreciated assets, a great way to reduce your taxes and donate to the church is to gift St. Cornelius appreciated investments. If you do have appreciated investments, Saint Cornelius is able to accept stocks and mutual funds as a charitable contribution through *Charles Schwab*.

For further information, please contact David Bauer, the business manager for the church, at 610-459-2502.

Thank you for your generous support of the parish.

Festival of Lessons and Carols

December 7th at 1:30 pm in Church

Presented by the Music Ministry – Please join us!



The Festival of Lessons and Carols is a service of Scripture and song that dates to the late 19th century. In this service, we listen to nine Scripture lessons which recount the Fall, the promise of a Messiah, the Incarnation, and the Great Commission to preach the Good News. Each lesson is followed by a carol that reflects on the lesson's message and a brief prayer.

There will be a prelude presented by each of the music ministry groups.



Help provide home cooked meals to neighbors in need! Caring for Friends (formerly Aid for Friends) is collecting frozen meals and soups for homebound seniors and food insecure individuals. Meal trays and soup containers can be found in the utility closet on the right of the side door of the narthex. Consider putting aside an extra dinner or soup portion, freeze it and then bring it to the freezer also located in the utility closet. PLEASE sign the meals and soup in on the list attached to the shelves next to the freezer. The food is distributed all over the Greater Philadelphia Area. This effort is on-going at our parish. We invite you to contribute what you can. If you have questions, please contact Nancy Todor 609-234-1193



**Sunday
November 16
11:45 AM**



Join our Parish Pro-Life Group in the church on Sunday, November 16, at 11:45 AM, as we pray a Rosary and the Litany of Loreto for the unborn and an end to abortion. It is a perfect way to perform a spiritual work of mercy for the most vulnerable.

This event is scheduled every 3rd Sunday so please mark your calendar now. Bring a friend.

Sunday Mass Intentions

- 7:30 AM Jeff Behm
- 9:00 AM Lorraine G. Aleski
- 11:00 AM Grace & Frank DeFeo
- 4:00 PM Stan Hulkewicz

**Weekly Mass Schedule
(Week of November 17 - November 21)**

Saturday Vigil / Sunday Morning

Intention: *Missa pro populo (Mass for the people)*
 Reading: Mal 3:19-20a; Ps 98:5-6, 7-8, 9; 2
 Thes 3:7-12; Lk 21:5-19

Monday 7:30 AM

Memorial of Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious

Intention: Phyllis Young
 Reading: 1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63;
 Ps 119:53, 61, 134, 150, 155, 158;
 Lk 18:35-43

Tuesday 7:30 AM

**Memorial of Dedication of
the Basilicas of Saints Peter and Paul**

Intention: Rev. James Ambrogio
 Reading: 2 Mc 6:18-31; Ps 3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7;
 Lk 19:1-10

Wednesday 7:30 AM

Intention: Mary Palmer
 Reading: 2 Mc 7:1, 20-31; Ps 17:1bcd, 5-6, 8b
 and 15; Lk 19:11-28

Thursday 7:30 AM

Intention: Rev. Msgr. Daniel Murray
 Reading: 1 Mc 2:15-29; Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15;
 Lk 19:41-44

Friday 7:30 AM

**Memorial of the Presentation of
the Blessed Virgin Mary**

Intention: John & Joanna Boznango
 Reading: 1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59; 1 Chr 29:10bcd,
 11abc, 11d-12a, 12bcd; Lk 19:45-48

**PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM
(PREP)**
 Saint Cornelius Parish

You can contact Mrs. Abbie McCusker at
 stcornprep@scornelius.org or by calling
 the PREP office (610) 459-7723

We are happy to share that our parish will be offering a Children's Liturgy of the Word during the 9:00 AM Sunday Mass. This special time allows our youngest parishioners to hear God's Word in a way that is age-appropriate and meaningful, helping them grow in their love for Jesus and understanding of the Gospel. The children will be invited to gather separately during the Liturgy of the Word and will return to their families for the remainder of Mass. We are blessed to have Abigail McCusker and Debbie Anderson leading this ministry, and we encourage parents to bring their children so they can take part in this wonderful opportunity to learn, pray, and grow in faith.

HEED THE CALL



**VOCATION OFFICE FOR
DIOCESAN PRIESTHOOD**
 Visit our website
WWW.HeedTheCall.org



PILGRIM STATUE

- 11 - 16 - 2025 Debbie Brisgone
- 11 - 23 - 2025 Kathy Howley
- 11 - 30 - 2025 Jean Wysocki

The dates for August thru December are now available on the sign-up.

Call Carla Santoleri at (610) 361-8447 for more information.

LIFE IS HARD, BUT HAVE NO FEAR

Today's readings take a fearless look at reality and reach a conclusion that we all know: life is hard. The prophet Malachi preaches fire and brimstone, warning us that evildoers will perish in flames. Saint Paul offers his own warning to the Thessalonians: keep busy, but never become a busybody. He reminds Christians that the apostles themselves worked in "toil and drudgery" as a model for how we ought to contribute to our community. The Gospel returns to the apocalyptic tone of Malachi, describing the utter chaos of the end-times. We will know the end is near when violence, catastrophe, and hatred dominate the earth. But we must not fear! God's saving plan brings peace to our hearts. Malachi speaks of the sun's "healing rays," and Jesus himself promises to protect every hair on our heads.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

We are faced with strong and disturbing readings today that hold a certain fascination, since they seem at first glance to be blueprints for future inevitable wars and hardship. A fundamentalist interpretation focuses on this aspect. Yet we hear them at our Sunday celebration of the Eucharist, which infuses them with hope and optimism. Rather than dreading the fu-

ture, today's liturgy assures us that God is with us in all of life's inevitable trials, and that we have a role in shaping the outcome of human history. Occasionally, some Christians have attempted to decode these readings for an exact measure of the world's end, but they have thus far been disappointed.

"Nothing lasts forever" is a lyric from a Broadway show. Stars fall from the sky, leaves wither and fall, mountains wash into the sea, human projects and governments totter and collapse with great regularity. Today's liturgy opposes this idea as incomplete, reminding us that Christ has made a permanent change in human history, and that life in him is life forever. Rather than inviting us to throw in the towel, today's liturgy strengthens us for acts of goodness and grace in our families, communities, and world.

—James Field



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St. Cornelius Annual **Thanksgiving Drive** To Support **Mercy Neighborhood Ministries**

The Mission of Mercy Neighborhood Ministries of Philadelphia, Inc. is to create partnerships and services that respond to the needs of those who are poor in the North Philadelphia community, especially women, children and persons with special needs.



Weekend of November 22 & 23, 2025

Drop donations off at the Parish Life Center PRIOR to Mass

Suggested donations

Please, NO EXPIRED Items – Thank You!

- Canned vegetables
- Instant potatoes
- Turkey gravy
- Stuffing mix
- Goya beans
- Muffin mix
- Canned cranberry sauce
- Low sugar breakfast cereal
- Instant pudding
- Unbreakable juice bottles

Cash or Gift Cards to Shop Rite & Giant (PA) are also appreciated; please write the value directly on the card.

For further information or to Volunteer (**Help Needed to collect & deliver**)
please contact: Mary Allen (text 484-432-5098)
or Colleen Zangla (colleenmz@hotmail.com)

Thank you so much and God Bless You for your Generosity

