



# St. Cornelius Parish

SUNDAY BULLETIN

January 25, 2026

160 Ridge Rd, Chadds Ford, PA 19317

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

Web: [www.saintcornelius.org](http://www.saintcornelius.org)

Email: [stcorn1@comcast.net](mailto:stcorn1@comcast.net)

Facebook: Like us on Facebook

**Msgr. David Diamond, Pastor**

Deacons: Harry Morris • John Todor (Ret.)

## Parish Council Members

Michael Brisgone

José Dominguez

Franca Felcher

Mary Jo Gordon

John Guest

Laurie Hays

Jon Lippard

Mary Rose Mitchell

Jerry O'Rourke

David Ripsom

**Business Manager:** David Bauer, CPA

**Pastoral & Administrative Assistant:** Marie McGuigan

**Office Manager:** Douglas Kitson

**Parish Religious Education Program:** Abbie McCusker

**Director of Music:** Margie Melchiorre

**Director of Parish Services:** Kelly Limmina

### *St. Cornelius Early Learning Center*

Abbie McCusker, Director

Phone: (610) 459-8663

Website: [www.scornelius.org](http://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 8:00 am to 4 pm

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

## Thoughts from the Second Floor Front III Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 25, 2026

Anybody who writes anything has a purpose in writing. If you have no purpose, I suppose you would call it doodling. But that is not what we usually do when we write. It certainly was not what St. Paul was doing when he wrote to the Corinthians. We write with a purpose. If I go to Wegman's I write out a shopping list because I know myself well enough to know that if I did not bother to write a list one of two things are certain to happen. I will wind up buying something or some things that I do not need. Or, even worse, I will not remember to get what it was that was the original reason for the trip. It is not unlike the increasingly regular phenomenon of walking into a room and then asking myself: Now why did I come in here?

We are at the very beginning of the first letter of St. Paul to the Church in Corinth. We will hear this epistle proclaimed for the next several weeks, leading up to Lent. Paul founded the Church in Corinth about the year 50 AD during his second missionary journey. Corinth was a port city and by the mid-2<sup>nd</sup> century was under the control of Rome. The city and its surroundings were destroyed by Rome but Julius Caesar rebuilt it and renamed it after himself. As a port city it was notorious, even by Roman standards, as a cauldron of immorality. Into this city known for its depravity, St. Paul preaches the gospel. Characteristically, he is not very successful with the Jewish population and so he turns to the Gentiles. With them Paul meets with success and the Church of Corinth begins.

St. Paul's approach to the missionary work was a set pattern. He would go to a city where the name of Jesus of Nazareth had never been heard before and begin to preach. First in the synagogue then outside the synagogue. He would stay in the area for up to a year and a half preaching, teaching and forming the church. When he was satisfied that things were established and working according to his vision, he moved to a new location and did the whole thing again. He kept in touch with the community through a series of letters, hence the letters of the New Testament which we hear proclaimed within the liturgy. As far as the Church in Corinthian was concerned the catalyst for the letter arose from issues that Paul heard, probably through Timothy.

There were four issues that Paul addresses in the letter. The first and most pressing is the issue of factions within the community. We hear of that this Sunday as Paul addresses the various groups who have aligned themselves with individuals: Cephas, Chloe, Apollos, Paul himself and Christ. He may have settled the issue of factions in Corinth but there is evidence that this problem has sadly persisted throughout Church history and can still plague us today.

The second issue is a moral one dealing with sexual morality. Someone in the community has married his father's wife. Probably the man did not marry his biological mother. Marrying your stepmother, however, was legal in Roman Society but unacceptable to the morality embraced by Christians.

There was a theological question about the resurrection of the dead. Remember that the ancient Greek philosophy often rejected the human body, all matter in fact, as something from which we are to escape as soon as possible. This was the source and beginning of not a few Gnostic heresies. As my friend Flannery O'Connor said: Matter does matter.

The final issue Paul addresses is a problem in the manner the community celebrated the Eucharist. That issue is addressed in Chapter 11. We will not hear that in this liturgical cycle but it is worth reading on your own. It seems that the faction issue has even affected the manner in which the Mass is celebrated making distinctions based on wealth.

Evidently the first letter to the Corinthians did not have the desired effect. This led Paul to write the second letter to the Corinthians. In that letter he asserted that he would come back to Corinth and see how they were doing. He never made it. He was arrested, taken to Rome, put under house arrest and finally suffered Martyrdom. His commitment to the faith and to the Savior he met on the Road to Damascus never wavered.

Faithfully,

Msgr. Diamond

**THE PARISH CHURCH  
AND IT'S FURNISHINGS  
REGIONAL MATERIALS**

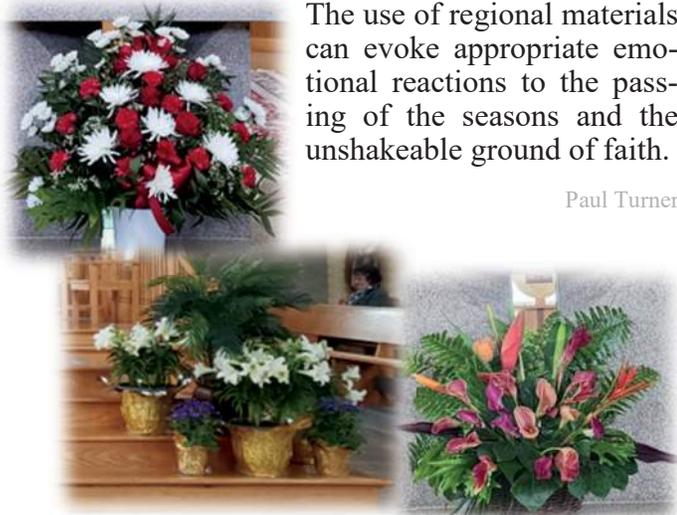
The decoration of Catholic churches can be sincerely enhanced by the use of regional materials. Many buildings are fashioned from local brick or stone. Many furnishings are made from local wood. Floral decorations may come from local gardens and fields. The Catholic Church encourages the use of regional materials.

“As in the case of the building of churches, so also regarding all sacred furnishings the Church admits the manner of art of each individual region and accepts those adaptations that are in keeping with the culture and traditions of the individual nations, provided that all are suited to the purpose for which the sacred furnishings are intended” (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, 325). It takes ingenuity and faith to use regional materials well, but they can be a source of great inspiration, as people recognize how the natural resources of their very own region give glory to God.

For this reason, when decorating a church, the use of living materials is usually a better choice than artificial ones. “In the choice of elements attention should be paid to authenticity and there should be the intention of fostering the instruction of the faithful and the dignity of the entire sacred place” (GIRM, 292). The point was echoed in a statement by the bishops of the United States of America. “The use of living flowers and plants, rather than artificial greens, serves as a reminder of the gift of life God has given to the human community. Planning for plants and flowers should include not only the procurement and placement but also the continuing care needed to sustain living things” (*Built of Living Stones*, 129).

The use of regional materials can evoke appropriate emotional reactions to the passing of the seasons and the unshakeable ground of faith.

Paul Turner



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.

**January 18, 2026**

WeShare eGiving	\$6,794.90
Envelope Offering	<u>\$19,642.21</u>
	\$26,437.11



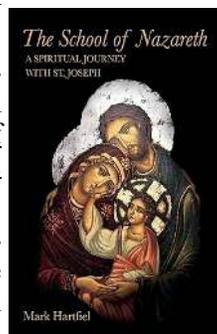
“For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be.”

Luke 12:34

**THE SCHOOL OF NAZARETH  
A SPIRITUAL JOURNEY WITH ST. JOSEPH**

Pope St. John Paul II said: "The Holy Family is the beginning of countless other holy families." Pope Paul VI said: "Nazareth is a kind of school where we may begin to discover what Christ's life was like and even to understand His Gospel."

Please join us for a 30-Day journey leading up to the Feast Day of St. Joseph on Thursday, March 19. "The School of Nazareth - A Spiritual Journey with St. Joseph" book will be our guide:



We will pray together and share our reflections on the readings and how we are personally getting to know St. Joseph in a deeper spiritual manner.

We will meet at 8:00 pm via Zoom on the following dates:

- ◆ Tuesday, February 17
- ◆ Wednesday, February 25
- ◆ Wednesday, March 4
- ◆ Wednesday, March 11
- ◆ Wednesday, March 18

If you are interested in getting to know more about St. Joseph and, hopefully adopt some of his wonderful Christ-like qualities - humility, silence, patience, just to name a few - please contact Agnes or Kevin to sign up and receive more info:

Agnes Arkus, [agnesa324@verizon.net](mailto:agnesa324@verizon.net), 302-290-3486  
Kevin Shaw, [kevins8371@gmail.com](mailto:kevins8371@gmail.com), 703-405-7579

**Third Sunday in Ordinary Time  
January 25, 2026**

*The LORD is my light and my salvation;  
whom should I fear?  
The LORD is my life's refuge;  
of whom should I be afraid?*

Ps 27:1

**First Sunday Coffee**



The St. Cornelius Council of the Knights of Columbus will be hosting a coffee reception in the Holy Family Portico after the 11:00 Mass on **Sunday, February 1.**

Nick Cappelli of Suburban Food Service is again supplying us with the caffeine, cocoa and tea. Parishioners with the last names beginning A to M are asked to donate goodies for the event. Please join us after Mass with your fellow parishioners.

*See you there!!*

**SNOW CLOSING**

The safety of our children both in the Early Learning Center and PREP are of the utmost importance. Ice, sleet and snow can come at any time. We encourage you to monitor the weather from your home and use good judgement in determining your travel. While it is always good to gather for Mass each day, you should not feel obligated to risk your safety on days when weather conditions do not make it safe to travel.

It takes a big undertaking to clear the parking lot and have the pathways shoveled. Closing the Early Learning Center and canceling PREP allows our snow removal company to clean up the snow and restore our property to a safe and active place. If schools are closed **ALL ACTIVITIES** for the day and evening are canceled.

**Remember - Safety comes First!!**

**PARISH SERVICES**



**THEOLOGY ON TAP**

Young Adults (ages 18-35)

***Raising a Family in the Catholic Faith***

Join us for a discussion with parishioners, Kevin & Janelle Shaw. Kevin is involved in "That Man is You!", a Catholic men's program within the archdiocese.

Tuesday January 27th 7pm  
Parish House Basement

Snacks & drinks provided



**RETRouvaille**  
A LIFELINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES

***REDISCOVER THE LOVE IN YOUR MARRIAGE***

Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vy). If you know anyone who could benefit from this program, please pass this on. Couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next program begins the weekend of **February 6-8, 2026** at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information, or to register, call 215-766-3944 or visit [www.MarriageHelpDelVal.org](http://www.MarriageHelpDelVal.org).

*All inquiries are strictly confidential.*



*Giving Hope to All*



St. Cornelius **February**  
Food Drive benefiting:



*(Serving the basic needs of the poor  
in the Chester County Area!)*



**FEED THE  
HUNGRY**

**Weekend of February 7 & 8, 2026**

**Drop off at the Parish Life Center  
PRIOR to Mass**

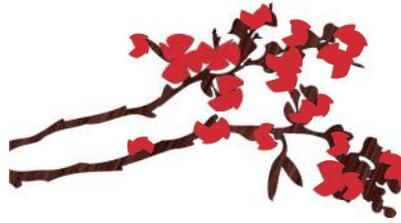
**Suggested donations:**

**Please, NO expired items  
and NO GLASS containers!**

- Cold Cereals - **Low Sugar**
- Canned Tuna & Chicken
- Canned Tomato Products
- Canned Soup – **Low Sodium**
- Rice (2 lb. packages)
- Canned Fruit - **Low Sugar**
- Dried Beans (kidney, black & pinto)
- Canned Beans
- Canned meals: Beef stew, pasta, baked beans, Spaghetti-Os, SPAM)
- Canned Vegetables – **Low Sodium**
- Peanut Butter & Jelly

**For further information or to Volunteer,  
please contact:**

**Mary Allen (text 484-432-5098) or  
Colleen Zangla ([colleenmz@hotmail.com](mailto:colleenmz@hotmail.com))**



## RACHEL'S VINEYARD

A PLACE TO HEAL FROM ABORTION

**DATES: MARCH 6-8, 2026**

LOCATION: IHM SPIRITUALITY CENTER  
210 IHM DRIVE MALVERN, PA 19355

If you or someone you love has been suffering from the emotional and spiritual pains of an abortion – no matter how much time has passed – please know that a Rachel's Vineyard retreat weekend will help your soul transform that pain into a hope for the future. Rachel's Vineyard retreats bring healing and God's forgiveness to the trauma and darkness of abortion for those who think they have committed the unforgivable sin. God's mercy is greater than sin and is waiting for us to reach out for it. Join us for a safe, loving and confidential weekend to experience the healing power of God's infinite mercy.

Contact our team to register or for questions:  
Susan – 610-716-4795, [Susiemck@comcast.net](mailto:Susiemck@comcast.net)  
Georgeann – 484-955-4278, [geemcgarry@gmail.com](mailto:geemcgarry@gmail.com)



**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.ycphiladelphia.org/cpages/home](http://www.ycphiladelphia.org/cpages/home)



# St. Cornelius Early Learning Center

Our Pre-K friends had a sweet time learning with Hershey Kisses! After counting our Hershey Kisses, we graphed them to practice early math skills and compare quantities. We also created an adorable Hershey Kiss craft that encouraged creativity and fine motor development. To add even more fun, we measured our little friends using large Hershey Kisses, discovering new ways to explore size and measurement. Who knew learning with Hershey Kisses could be so much fun—and even more delicious to eat!



## Knights of Columbus®

The Knights of Columbus will be attending the Parish Rosary Service after the 11 am Mass on Saturday, January 18, 2026.

The next membership meeting of the Knights is **Thursday, February 12, at 7 pm in the PLC.** We will have pizza and assorted beverages for a period of fellowship following our meeting. We had 20 men attend our January meeting. Please come join our growing Council!

The Knights will be leading the Stations of the Cross on February 27 during Lent.

The Knights continue to serve as Greeters at all Masses. The men of Saint Cornelius are welcome to join the Knights and help us serve in this important ministry.

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](http://kofc.org/join) and use our council number, [12391], to connect with us. New members may join for free using the promo code **BLESSEDMC-GIVNEY** 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!

### Salesianum Sanders Scholarship Golf Outing

## Save the Date October 5th, 2026



To benefit young men from Southeastern PA facing financial hardships, who aspire to attend Salesianum and join this community of distinguished gentlemen.

**Kennett Square Golf & Country Club**  
**Kennett Square, PA**  
Registration Opens Winter 2026

Sponsorship Opportunities are available.  
For more information, please contact Mike Sanders at  
(610) 836-1864

## CRS NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT

In the high, rugged landscape of Todos Santos Cuchumatán, Guatemala, more than 50 families faced a long-running challenge. For generations, families had cooked over open fires, with the constant smoke impacting family health and contributing to deforestation. The Horizons Initiative changed the game by providing new, wood-saving stoves.

Through this CRS project, these families now cook with cleaner, more efficient stoves that dramatically reduce smoke and lessen demand for firewood from the surrounding forests.



The project was more than a delivery; it was a testament to collaboration. With the combined efforts of a local organization

ADAT, the Municipality of Todos Santos, and the Community Development Council, the community took ownership of its own progress.

"Community leadership is important for us," explained Porfirio, a local leader. "Men and women participate so we can know what we are missing and

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

SSG Ana Brunal  
SPC Mike Canfield  
Cpl Michael Castle  
Lt. Connor Cleary  
Fr. Joseph Coffey (Chaplain)  
Maj Robert B. Cusick, Jr.  
Capt Joshua deFreitas  
SSGT Michael DiVernieri  
Cadet Emily Fanning  
Lt. Ryan Gallagher  
SSG. Eric Gardner  
Capt Matthew Gibbons  
Ens Patrick Gibbons  
Ens John Paul Gibbons  
Maj Rachel Gonzalez  
SPC Logan Hannum  
Sgt Andrew Hart  
Devin J. Hunt  
PO1 Nathan R. Keller  
1st Lt Lauren Kinnee  
Spc. Andrew Koehler  
Capt Daniel Kohli  
Maj. Chris Love  
Maj. Megan Love  
Sgt Jason Lyons

2nd Lt. Kevin Malone  
Sgt Alexander Marlow  
PFC Zachary Marlow  
CPT. Travis Mauer  
Lt. Cmdr Daniel McCadden  
Capt Jonathan McGrath  
LT Molly K. McGuckin  
LCDR Ryan A. McGuckin  
Maj. Sean P. Noll  
Lt. Col Brian J. O'Shea  
Lt. Cmdr Inga O'Shea  
Maj James O'Shea  
Sgt. Maj. Justin Rogowski  
PFC L Roland  
LTJG Christian Samulewicz  
1st Lt. Olivia Samulewicz  
Capt. Neal F. Schubert  
Ens Nicholas Spadaccini  
MSG Thomas Stone  
Cpl Mark Truex  
Lt. Christopher Vish  
Capt. Aidan Walsh  
PFC Ellianna Welsh  
Capt Jennifer Wynn

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

Natalie Gallen, Doris Wysocki, Kathy Coleman, Kara Ulatowski, James M. Sullivan, Jim & Kathy Buckley, Brian Buckley, Judy & Ed Field, Tom Eno, Luke Post, Nancy Cunningham, Andrea Bate-man, Bernice & Arthur Hindle, Joan Car- rington, 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 **February 21, 2026**, 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](mailto:dochollisv@aol.com) or call (610) 717-2180.

## Prayer Shawl Ministry... Come, Join US!



Did you know that each baby baptized at St. Cornelius receives a hand-made blanket made by our Prayer Shawl Ministry? You are welcome to join us in this rewarding ministry. We also make shawls, blankets, scarves, hats, mittens etc. for elderly homes, the Giving Tree and anyone looking for a comforting gift.

**Every 4th Monday of each month  
1:30pm to 3:00pm, Parish Life Center**

We find ourselves in need of white acrylic yarn or funding to help continue this wonderful ministry. Please prayerfully consider donating to our ministry or purchasing a "Pound of Love" or "Caron Pound" of white acrylic yarn. We have a basket set up in the narthex, below the large TV monitor, to offer our works and for your donations. Also, you are welcome to drop off any yarn donations to the Parish Life Center. Donations are greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions, please contact

Valerie Childs (610) 213-0515  
and Vickie Gambino (317) 440-5210



## 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 [mgustin05@gmail.com](mailto:mgustin05@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](http://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.***



**PEACE WITH CREATION**  
SEASON OF CREATION 2025

Please join us to build a **CREATION CARING TEAM** in St. Cornelius Parish!

### WHY?

To create a caring environment, based on a contemplative Christian spirit and the highest good of all creation.

### WHAT

- Pope Leo challenges us to impact on
- A collective moral failure
  - Water is Life, Water is food, Leave no one behind
  - Ecological crisis requires contemplative gaze
  - And a living laboratory

### HOW

**INFORMATION SESSION: Monday, January 26, 7:00-8:30pm, PLC Fr. Simon Rm**

- Attend an Information Session to learn about the work of a Creation Caring Team and how we can participate in bringing about its development in our parish.
- Be able to live our faith in actions – its Trinitarian nature – in all arenas of our life, e.g., in our family, our community, our work, and in the world.

**Please let us know if you will attend**

Contact Bob Holliday at: [uwolliday@gmail.com](mailto:uwolliday@gmail.com); or 610-717-2265.

[saintcornelius.org/laudato-si-ministry-1](http://saintcornelius.org/laudato-si-ministry-1)



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





## Church Contributions

Parishioners who would like a statement of their 2025 contributions must call the Parish Office during business hours at (610) 459-2502, or Email the office at [stcorn1@comcast.net](mailto:stcorn1@comcast.net).



December contributions made using WeShare will be posted by January 15th, 2026.



### ST BLAISE MEN'S RETREAT Malvern Retreat House January 30 - February 1, 2026

Please join us for the annual St Blaise Men's Retreat at Malvern, January 30<sup>th</sup> to February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026. This year's retreat is being directed by **Fr Jason Buck**, the Dean of Men at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary, where he oversees the formation of young men discerning the priesthood. Whether leading young men through the rigors of seminary life or crafting a powerful hymn or anthem, his mission remains the same: **to call men to greatness and holiness** in a world that desperately needs both.

Please contact David Santoleri at [dave@santoleri.net](mailto:dave@santoleri.net) for more information or follow the QR code below to go directly to the retreat registration page.



Register at: <https://www.malvernretreat.com/events/st-blaise-currant-memorial>.



VOCATION OFFICE FOR  
DIOCESAN PRIESTHOOD

Visit our website  
[WWW.HeedTheCall.org](http://WWW.HeedTheCall.org)

## HEED THE CALL

## Sunday Mass Intentions

7:30 AM Michael Kotivicki  
9:00 AM William McDowell  
11:00 AM Mary & Harry Kerwin  
4:00 PM William McDowell

### Saturday Vigil / Sunday Morning

Intention: *Missa pro populo (Mass for the people)*  
Reading: Is 8:23- 9:3; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; 1 Cor 1:10-13, 17; Mt 4:12-23 or 4:12-17

### Weekly Mass Schedule (Week of January 26 - January 30)

#### Monday 7:30 AM

**Memorial of Saints Timothy and Titus, Bishops**  
Intention: Joseph Postus  
Reading: 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5; Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 7-8a, 10; Mk 3:22-30

#### Tuesday 7:30 AM

Intention: Jimmy Mellon  
Reading: 2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19; Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10; Mk 3:31-35

#### Wednesday 7:30 AM

**Memorial of Saint Thomas Aquinas,  
Priest and Doctor of the Church**  
Intention: Michael Kotivicki  
Reading: 2 Sm 7:4-17; Ps 89:4-5, 27-28, 29-30; Mk 4:1-20

#### Thursday 7:30 AM

Intention: Barbara Baxter Chabert  
Reading: 2 Sm 7:18-19, 24-29; Ps 132:1-2, 3-5, 11, 12, 13-14; Mk 4:21-25

#### Friday 7:30 AM

Intention: Rose M. Monaghan  
Reading: 2 Sm 11:1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17; Ps 51:3-4, 5-6a, 6bcd-7, 10-11; Mk 4:26-34

## TABERNACLE CANDLES

For the intentions of Sarah Bleyer,  
Requested by Anna Marie DiSabatino

## PILGRIM STATUE



01 - 25 - 2026 Susan Gomez Rubio  
02 - 01 - 2026 Shirley Snyder  
02 - 08 - 2026 Open

The January - June 2026 dates are  
now available for you to sign up.

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

**Rejoicing in the Lord**

In the first reading, Ezra gets a strange reaction from the people to whom he reads the book of the law. First they lie down, with faces to the ground, and then they all are weeping. Remember the background of this reading. The people of Israel had returned from exile and needed to become a unified nation. Most had never heard the laws, so when they learned what was expected of them and realized how much of the Law they had broken, they wept from shame. Many probably didn't know that they had been breaking the law. Others might have been overwhelmed with all the requirements of the law.

Ezra and Nehemiah console the people by reminding them that their return makes this a day "holy to the Lord" (Nehemiah 8:10). He adds that they would draw strength from "rejoicing in the Lord." That may be good advice for us also.

We might find ourselves so trapped in sin that we think we could never be forgiven. We need to remember that Jesus loved sinners so much that he gave his life on the cross to free us from sin. No sin can be so bad that God's love cannot forgive it. In other words, God's forgiveness is only limited by our failure

to ask for it. As the psalms say, God's mercy endures forever. In fact, the more I have to repent, the more God wants to forgive. So we can rejoice in the Lord's forgiveness and the Spirit will give us the strength to change our lives.

And what about those who find the law overwhelming? That usually means a lack of faith in God's willingness to help us or in our ability to do the best we can to live as Christians. It can also be because we have forgotten Jesus' saying that all of God's laws are contained in the command to love God and love our neighbor as we love ourselves. The more we come to accept God's presence in our lives and see God in others, the easier it becomes to keep the law of love.

Tom Schmidt

Confession is available each Saturday, 2:30pm — 3:30pm before the 4:00 pm Mass.  
Lenten Penance Service will be March 24, 11:00 am and 7:00 pm



**EWTN.COM/RADIO**

**TUNE IN**

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# ST. CORNELIUS CHURCH

In partnership with Rise Against Hunger



## JOIN US TO FIGHT GLOBAL HUNGER

PACKAGE MEALS FOR THOSE IN NEED WITH HELPING HANDS

### DATE

February 28, 2026

### 2 TIME SESSIONS

8:30 am - 11:00 am

or Noon - 2:30 pm

### LOCATION

St. Cornelius Church, PLC

### CONTACT

Parish Office 610.459.2502

Our goal this year is to package and send at least 50,000 meals to those who suffer food insecurity in Africa and other parts of the world. In addition, we hope to raise the awareness of the growing need of our brothers and sisters throughout the world.

With the support of volunteers like you and your family, we will once again gather to confront the hunger that our brothers and sisters suffer from each day.

Register on line at [saintcornelius.org/meal-packing-event](http://saintcornelius.org/meal-packing-event) and join your fellow parishioners to fight hunger.

