

*Your talent is God's
gift to you.*

*What you do with it is
your gift back to God.*

Matthew 25: 14-30

**Sacred Heart Parish
Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
November 19, 2023**



SACRED HEART CHURCH
838 Walnut Street
P.O. Box 64
Royersford, PA 19468
(610) 948-5915
Fax: (610) 948-0573

CLERGY

Reverend Tadeusz Gorka, Pastor
Reverend Christopher Cooke,
Weekend Assistant
David Kubczak, Deacon

DIRECTOR OF SACRED MUSIC

Mrs. Milena Urban, C.A.G.O.
milena@sacredheartroyersford.org

BUSINESS MANAGER

Susan Ciabattoni
susanc@sacredheartroyersford.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Ann Marie Campbell
religioused@sacredheartroyersford.org

SAFE ENVIRONMENT

Christine Klag
christine.klag@sacredheartroyersford.org

BULLETIN

Cara Burrell
carab@sacredheartroyersford.org

HOLY CROSS REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Mrs. Theresa Healy, Principal
thealy@holycrossregionalschool.org
(610) 489-9434, ext. 2225

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Open daily 7:30 AM to 7:30 PM

THE HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS

MASS SCHEDULE
Saturday Vigil: 4:15 PM
Sunday: 8 AM and 10 AM
Daily Mass: 8 AM (M-Sat)
Rosary Recitation: 7:30 AM (M-Sat)

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Monday - Saturday, at 7:30 AM
Saturday at 3 PM and by
appointment by calling
(610) 948-5915.

From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

This past Sunday, November 12th, at 2pm, our parish celebrated Mass as twelve of our young parishioners from public schools and from Holy Cross Regional Catholic School received the Sacrament of Confirmation.

During his homily, Bishop McIntyre explained to the Confirmandi, and all who were gathered, the importance of this Sacrament in their future lives. I would like to extend my sincere congratulations to the Confirmandi, their Sponsors, and Parents. And I would like to express my gratitude to our Director of Religious Education for all her hard work as well as Altar Servers, Deacons, Cantor, Choir Members, and our Music Director who supported the beautiful Confirmation Mass.

In a few days we will celebrate the Feast of St. Cecelia. She is the patron saint of musicians, organists, and poets. She is one of the most revered early Roman martyrs and one of the seven women commemorated in the Canon of the Mass. She led an extraordinary life and had a steadfast faith. On this special occasion I would like to express my gratitude to our choir and our organist, Milena Urban. Thank you for elevating the Holy Eucharist to God every Sunday - through your voices and music - and helping the whole congregation to participate more fully.

I also invite any new members, men or women, from our parish, to join the choir. Rehearsals are on Tuesday evenings and you can reach out to Milena for more information.

This Thursday is Thanksgiving Day! I am giving thanks to God for our beautiful Sacred Heart Parish Community and invite you to begin this special day in our country with our Lord. Join us for Mass at 9am on Thanksgiving morning.

I wish you and your families a very Happy Thanksgiving.

Have a Blessed Sunday,

Rev. Tadeusz Gorka



Although Thanksgiving is seen as a secular holiday in the United States and Canada, it has never really been a holiday separable from faith. The Protestant pilgrims who came to North America celebrated the first Thanksgiving, giving thanks to God for having overcome the harsh winter and made it through alive for a whole year and for an abundant harvest. Over the decades, it has evolved into a celebration of giving thanks for the many benefits we have in our lives, and the unspoken truth is that we only have God to thank for these and all others.

As Catholics, we celebrate explicitly Thanksgiving with votive Masses of thanksgiving. What better way is there to glorify God for His merciful generosity than the Eucharist, from the Greek word for "thanksgiving"? Truly, thanks is at the heart of Catholic worship; we thank God for health, wealth, life, and even for trials, sufferings, and tests of faith. Above all, we express our humblest gratitude for the gift of God Himself, made Man for us in the second Person of the Trinity, and for His holy revelation revealed by the Holy Ghost through the Catholic Church. Today, let us simply be grateful for all that God has given us and meditate on how there is nothing we can do that adequately approaches the thanks due to God on high.

Saint Devotions

Nov 21 - *The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

As we venerate the glorious memory of the most holy Virgin Mary, grant, we pray, O Lord, through her intercession, that we, too, may merit to receive from the fullness of your grace. Through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Nov 22 - *St. Cecilia*

Saint Cecilia, intercede for all musicians and those working in the music industry. Help them to remain true to themselves and the creative gifts God has given them. May their music help others and do much good in this world, and, one day, may they join the eternal chorus in heaven forever. Amen.

Nov 23 - *St. Clement I*

Make me, O Lord, attentive at prayer, moderate at meals, diligent at work, steadfast in intent. May I be careful to maintain interior innocence, outward modesty, exemplary behavior, a regular life. May I be always watchful in subduing nature, in nourishing grace, in observing your law, in winning salvation.

Nov 24 - *St. Andrew Dũng-Lac*

St. Andrew, you provided a wonderful example to your flock of a life lived totally for God. Pray that we may dedicate our lives to evangelizing the Good News of God's Love for us. St. Andrew, you did not let fear deter you from your work in God's service. Pray that we may not let people's opinions affect our actions or hinder us from carrying out God's will. St. Andrew, you shed your blood for the sake of the lamb; pray for us who still labor in the valley of tears, that we may be strong until the end.

Nov 25 - *St. Catherine of Alexandria*

Glorious Saint Catherine, help me to imitate your love of purity. Give me strength and courage in fighting off the temptations of the world and evil desires. Help me to love God with my whole heart and serve Him faithfully. O Saint Catherine, through your glorious martyrdom for the love of Christ, help me to be loyal to my faith and my God as long as I live. Amen.



Please pray for the sick of our parish and those that care for them.

Kevin Schurr, Steven DiGuiseppe, Garrett Rogers, John Slanga, Kitty Heebner, Baby Briana, Tara Clarke, Aria Gessner, Dan Dordea, John Hoff, Max Good, Johanna McLaughlin, Helen Gallagher, Dex Volpe, Eileen Barone, Hank Edleman, Alex Stadelmaier, Jake Dailey, John Sowell, James McManus, Lauri Ronan, John Durante, Heather Murphy, Cecelia Ricci, Charlotte Cody, John Breslawski, Ed Reynolds, Steve Curll, Jackie Zabicki, Alyson Laysner, Charles Crowder, Keith Garnett, Grace Giuffre, Patricia Berner, Elizabeth, Caroline, and Tommy Cummings, Orville Otis, Nancy McNamara, Patricia McMinn, Anna, Mary Jane Durante, Josephine, Madison D'Annunzio, Casey Glennon, the Gonzalez Family, Jimmy D'Annunzio, Annalies Frisco, Taylor O'Neill, Marissa and Enzo Fuentes, Mike Mehle, Genevieve Tuski, Deirdre Magolon, Rosemary Buchanan, Adrienne Eisenhauer, Doug Dunn, Sara Nyce, Moira Randazzo, Jim Bob and Barbara McEwen, Andrea and Jim McManus, Connie Udicious, Maureen Yust, Alfred DePaoli, and all the sick and suffering of the parish.

We pray that God will bless you all with His healing hand.
When your loved one recovers, please notify the Parish Office so we can offer a prayer of thanks!

Mass Intentions

MON, Nov 20

8:00 AM Elena Craft
Requested by Regina Golie

TUES, Nov 21 *The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

8:00 AM Antoinette Granese
Requested by The Porrecca Family

WED, Nov 22 *Saint Cecilia - Virgin and Martyr*

8:00 AM John and Marian Rebilas
Requested by
The Children of Martin and Anne DePaoli

THUR, Nov 23 Thanksgiving Day
Saint Clement I - Pope and Martyr
Saint Columban - Abbot
Blessed Miguel Augustin Pro - Priest and Martyr

9:00 AM Louis Paul Herman
Requested by Family

FRI, Nov 24 *Saint Andrew Dũng-Lac - Priest, and Companions - Martyrs*

8:00 AM Kathleen Slanga
Requested by Vince Slanga

SAT, Nov 25 *Saint Catherine of Alexandria - Virgin and Martyr*

8:00 AM Charles Carfagno - Living Intentions
Requested by Father Gorka

4:15 PM Elsa Tancredi
Requested by The Cirino Family

SUN, Nov 26 *Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe*

8:00 AM Dorothy Chrisman
Requested by Mary Chrisman

10:00 AM Dylan Unruh
Requested by Joann Gaylor

Lord, we thank you for the goodness of our people and for the spirit of justice that fills this nation. We thank you for the beauty and fullness of the land and the challenge of the cities.

We thank you for our work and our rest, for one another, and for our homes.

We thank you, Lord: accept our thanksgiving on this day. We pray and give thanks through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING FROM THE PARISH OFFICE STAFF

**Please Pray For Those Serving
In The Military**

U.S. AIR FORCE

Airman Nicholas Dougherty
Airman Nathan Hennessey
1st Lt. Daniel Jucker
2nd Lt. Kira Zeller

U.S. AIR FORCE SPECIAL FORCES

Captain Ian Gardocki

U.S. ARMY

Private Samuel Burns
2nd Lt. Nicholas Gardocki
SSG Daniel A. Manildo
2nd Lt. Michael McCormick
Tom Miller; National Guard



U.S. MARINE CORPS

Sergeant Justin Solorio

U.S. Navy

Marty Miller; Seabees
PO2 Ryan Wheaton



November's prayer intentions are for
the Deceased Pastors of Sacred Heart



*A candle burns this week next to the
Holy Family*

*for **Private Intention***

Requested by Matt and Mindy Bower

The tradition of the Christmas "Oplatki" wafer.
The spirit of Christ-like charity is baked into this wafer.

The Christmas wafers come from Eastern Europe. The name means "Angel Bread." Made only of flour and water, they are stamped with Christmas images such as the Star of Bethlehem or the Nativity. On Christmas Eve, the head of the family prays for the members of his family, present or absent, then breaks a piece off the wafer and gives it to each person. As the family members receive the wafer pieces, they are greeted with a kiss and a felicitation for a joyful feast. They then return the greeting in the same way. The lesson of this custom is that the family must be united with the bonds of charity. It reminds us that we do not seek salvation alone, but with others, especially our family. We should help each other obtain salvation, always bearing Christ-like charity toward one another. When we are united in charity, we are joined, by the head of the family, to the unbroken links of One Body, One Bread, One Christ, and One Church.



You can purchase Christmas Oplatki here in the Café beginning today through December 17th! They easily mail in Christmas cards to friends far and wide.

We hope you'll share this special gift with others.

November

Decade-A-Day Rosary Group
Prayer Intentions

For the month of November we pray that all families be a reflection of the Church; may they teach love, respect, sharing, and service, and that all members of the family grow together in God's Spirit.

Sacred Heart
Renewing our Faith



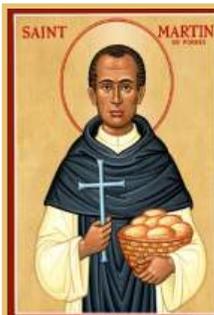
Next Adult Faith Formation Meeting:
Led by parishioner, Ed Kashmere.
(an ED TALK as we like to call it!)

Join us for a casual discussion in the Café to discuss and reignite our passion for our Faith.

Nov 29: 6:30pm

Dec 13: 6:30pm

**STOCKS POUND CAKE & KIELBASA
CHRISTMAS PRESALE:**
**Pre-Orders will be taken in the Cafe
December 3 and 10**
Pick Up: December 13th from 5-7pm
Last pick up before Christmas: December 17th from 7am-12n



Please join us this Season of Giving in providing
Christmas food and gifts to those in need
The list of families from St. Martin de Porres and other information is now available in the Café after all Masses. Join with others from Sacred Heart or your own family to provide food and gifts for a family in need.

Gift/Food Drop Off:

at the Gym on Friday, December 15th between 2:00 and 7:00 p.m.

Truck Arrival/Load Up:

at the Gym on Saturday, December 16th between 8:00 and 8:30 a.m.

CHRISTMAS SALE

a Gift of Food and Fellowship

GET 20% OFF A CAFÉ GIFT CARD*

**AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE ON
SUNDAY, DEC 3, 10, & 17!**

*MINIMUM PURCHASE FOR DISCOUNT: \$10.



Veterans Center Collection

The Silver Liner's Senior Circle is once again collecting **NEW** items for the South Eastern Veterans Center.

Leave your unwrapped, **new items only** in the collection box in the Café.

The full list of items needed will be placed at the collection box and can also be found on our website.

Item examples: Gift cards to Center City Pizza, Wilkes, Mayflower, Amazon. New Clothing (M & W): leisure pants, zip up sweatshirts, cardigans, men's pajamas. Personal Items: watches with big numbers, readers, wheel chair bags, twin comforter, stamps, CD players.

Knights of Columbus Council 1374 Crab Cake Fundraiser Sale

Now through Dec 3rd

Offering delicious Capt'n Chucky's Jumbo Lump Crab Cakes at "buy the box" prices, Crab Critter appetizers, and Maryland Crab Soup.

Now through Sunday, December 3rd.

NEW PRODUCTS: Crab Ravioli and Lobster Ravioli

Representatives will distribute order forms and take orders at the end of all Masses in the Café.

Pick up is Thurs, December 7th 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm in the Sacred Heart Café.

For further information, please contact us at kofc1374info@gmail.com or by phone at 610-792-7283.



Order forms can also be found at our website www.kofc1374.org.




Knights Annual Coats for Kids WINTER COAT DRIVE

So many kids are in need, and we need your help!

Please support us in our effort to collect "Coats for Kids" with either new or like-new coats for children ages 1-17.

We have a drop box placed in the back of the Cafe.

We will be collecting coats through Sunday, November 19th, and then distributing them to children via local charities.

Thank you for your charity!

Donation Deadline:
November 19th

Drop Off Location:
In the collection box, in the back of the Cafe at Sacred Heart Church, Royersford



SOUNDS OF CHRISTMAS

The musical ensemble, **Gaudeamus**, will be presenting three Christmas concerts.

Sun, 11/26 at 4pm @ Our Lady of Guadalupe, Buckingham
Sun, 12/3 at 7pm @ St. Patrick's - Malvern
Sun, 12/10 at 7pm @ Epiphany of Our Lord - Plymouth Meeting. (Joined by the Valley Forge Chorale)
Sun 12/15 at 7pm @ St. Francis of Assisi Church in Norristown.

All concerts are free and open to the public.
 A free-will donation will be collected to benefit charities chosen by Gaudeamus. For more information, please visit their website at www.letusrejoice.org.

The Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul Annual Christmas Concert

December 10, at 3pm.

Join the Cathedral Choirs and instrumentalists as they perform works by Gjeilo, Whitacre and Bettinis as well as beloved Christmas Carols for all to participate. May we all experience the hope, joy and love of our Lord, Jesus Christ, throughout the Christmas season.

For information and tickets, please visit:
<https://cathedralphila.org/christmas-concert/>

Children's Advent Celebration

Sunday, December 17, 2023. 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM

National Centre for Padre Pio - 111 Barto Road - Barto, PA

Celebrate the Third Sunday of Advent with some fun and faith-filled activities at the National Centre for Padre Pio. There is no cost to attend, however, it is a ticketed event. Register at www.padrepio.org by clicking on the event calendar for December 17th .

PROJECT OUTREACH ADOPT A FAMILY:

Be a blessing to a local family this Christmas!

Family Selections are available and gifts should be delivered no later than December 18.

1. Select a family
2. Shop for the child(ren) with the provided wish list
3. Deliver gifts to an agreed upon meeting place!

Contact Project Outreach for more details! 610.948.5111

Families in Need - call or stop by the Project Outreach office to apply for the program. Applications accepted Nov 1-Dec 7

St. Raymond Nonnatus Foundation for Freedom, Family, and Faith Fundraiser. December 17th, noon - 4pm

National Shrine of Saint Rita of Cascia Center, 1166 S. Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19146. The foundation makes pastoral outreach to families in crisis in the Philadelphia area and beyond. The luncheon is a BYOB. Perfect family event for the holiday season. Keynote: Mr. Pete DeMaio, President of Pennsylvanians for Human Life. Cost: \$60 per person / Table of 8 is \$450. Register: www.nonnatus.org/in-person-fundraising-event Sponsorships and Exhibitor Tables for nonprofit are available. Questions: Email director.srnf@gmail.com. Learn about SRNF by visiting Nonnatus.org.



ST. MARY POLISH AMERICAN SOCIETY RAFFLE AND CHRISTMAS FOOD SALE

The deadline for food orders will be **Wednesday December 6th** so our suppliers have enough time to process our orders. Order pick-up will be on Fri, December 15th and Sat, December 16th from 1 to 4 pm at St. Mary Catholic Church Hall in Conshohocken.

- Babkas (cheese, cinnamon crumb, or raspberry cheese) for \$15 each from L&M Bakery in Delran, NJ
- Pierogi (potato, potato cheese, or sauerkraut) for \$10 per dozen from Polka Deli in Port Richmond in Philadelphia
- Kielbasa for \$9 per pound from Czerw's in Port Richmond
- Blessed opłatki (Polish Christmas wafer) are also available for a free will donation.

Tickets are still for sale for our annual raffle!! The raffle will feature \$10,000 in prizes paid out to seven winning tickets and will be broken down as follows:

1st Prize- \$5,000; 2nd Prize- \$2,000; 3rd Prize- \$1,000 and Four \$500 prizes.

Tickets are \$50 each. A total of 500 tickets will be sold.

To place a food order please email foodsale@stmarypolish.org.
 To purchase a raffle ticket please email raffle@stmarypolish.org.
 or for food orders or raffle tickets call Dorothy Swedkowski at 610-630-0861.

Raffle proceeds and the Christmas Food Sale support our mission of promoting Polish heritage in Montgomery County, PA and assistance with the restoration of St. Mary Catholic Church in Conshohocken, PA.
 The drawing will be held on Sunday, December 17, 2023 at St. Mary Hall.

TEAM PIEROGI IS BACK! SACRED HEART CHURCH
HOMEMADE PIEROGI MAKING

November 27, 28 & 29
from 1:30pm - 6pm

We hope you will join us!
Together we will prepare our pierogi to sell for Christmas!

All Are Welcome!
No need to sign up.
We will see you in the Café on Nov 27!



The Flame of Love Organization is currently operating throughout the USA and Canada and many other countries. A speaker from the Flame of Love organization will be present at St. Teresa of Calcutta Ministry Center on **November 29, 2023 from 7 - 8 pm**. You are invited to come and learn about how Jesus and Mary gave Elizabeth Kindlemann the knowledge of the Flame of Love and how they wish their message to spread to us and to all people in many countries throughout the world. This will be a very worthwhile evening for all who are able to attend.

flameoflove.us



Come & See:

Discernment Opportunities.

Online and in person for men who are considering a vocation.

Visit the St. Charles Borromeo Seminary to see what seminary life is like and explore a possible call to the priesthood. To register, go to: heedthecall.org/comeandsee, or contact Fr. Friel, Vocation Director:

fr.dfriel@archphila.org **POST HIGH SCHOOL MEN:** December 1-3, 2023. **HIGH SCHOOL MEN:** January 20-21, 2024

Other News and Events

- **Project Outreach Community Thanksgiving Meal:** Thu. Nov 23. Doors open 11:30am; meal at 12n. Royersford United Methodist Church: 380 Church Street, Royersford. Call: 610-948-5111 for reservations.
- **Project Outreach Adopt-A-Family:** Families in Need - Call or stop by the office by Dec 7th to apply! 610.948.5111
- **Villa Maria by the Sea Retreat Center**, Stone Harbor, NJ, is offering two retreats in December: 12/6: **"The Gift You Have Received, Give as a Gift!"** and 12/15: **Private/Directed Retreat** with Sister Ruth Bolarte. Please visit VMbytheSea.com to register for these offerings of spiritual workshops and weekend retreats. Contact Sr. Emily Vincent, IHM, at 609-964-7696 or S.ERebalsky@VMbytheSea.com with any questions.
- **St. Patrick's All Year Reunion:** March 23, 2024, 6 - 10 PM. Embassy Room. 1489 DeKalb Pike, Blue Bell. \$50 per person includes roast beef, meatballs, penne, dessert, beer and soda. Bring your own wine! Reserve Your Ticket: Santangelob1@verizon.net and mail checks to: Barbara Santangelo 1202 W. Elm St. Norristown, PA 19401.



HOLY CROSS
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A SCHOOL UNITED IN FAITH, HOPE, AND LOVE

We are grateful. We are blessed.



The Holy Cross school community came together to provide Thanksgiving dinners for families in need. Led by JP and Jason Jandrisitz, this drive began several years ago and benefits the Catholic Social Services Food Pantry in Norristown. The school collected canned goods and non-perishable food items to provide full Thanksgiving dinners for local families. A dress down day was held to raise money to purchase the turkeys and fresh produce. Thanksgiving is the perfect time to practice our mission of being united in *Faith, Hope, and Love*. We are thankful for our parishes and their continued support and we ask God to continue to bless all our students, their families, our teachers, staff and parish community during this season of Thanksgiving.

Give a Gift Today!



#IGIVECATHOLIC

We are grateful for all those who have donated to our Annual Advancement Fund so far. We truly appreciate your support. This year we are again participating in the *iGiveCatholic* campaign to support Catholic education. Our Annual fund provides tuition assistance for those families experiencing hardship, as well as building on our strong, academic curriculum, maintaining our facilities and providing advanced technological capabilities. Please prayerfully consider a gift to support Holy Cross Regional Catholic School during this season of giving.



Advanced giving is open now leading up to **Tuesday, November 28th, 2023, National Day of Giving.**

<https://philadelphia.igivecatholic.org/organizations/holy-cross-regional-catholic-school-collegeville-pa>

Use the QR code, the link above or mail a check to: **701 Locust Street, Collegeville, PA 19426**

(write "iGiveCatholic" in the memo section)

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Page 5 - 013 Sacred Heart Parish

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*Valid thru December 31, 2023. Valid on advance planning cemetery space purchases only in specific areas of the cemetery. See location manager for details. Monthly payment is subject to down payment, interest rate and term. Minimum of 5% down payment required. Cannot be combined with other offers. Excludes prior purchases. Vault and Opening and Closing required for Burial. Limit 10 cemetery spaces per family.

PhiladelphiaCatholicCemeteries.com

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