

# ST. BASIL THE GREAT

Rev. Gary T. Pacitti, M.Div., Pastor

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## Mass Schedule

**Saturday:** 5:00 pm  
**Sunday:** 8:30 am, 11:00 am  
**Daily (M-F):** 8:45 am  
**Holy Days:** 7:00 pm Vigil  
8:45 am, 7:00 pm

*All Masses are open to the public. Daily Masses are also live-streamed on the parish Facebook page.*

## Confessions

Available Saturdays at 4 pm

## Weekly Offering:

January 16-17, 2024

Weekly Online: \$3,881.00  
Weekly Mail & Mass: \$6,945.00  
Weekly Total: \$10,826.00

## Interested in Joining Our Parish?

We would love that! Please see our website for instructions or call the Parish at 610-933-2110.

If you have been coming regularly and haven't yet, please register so we can communicate better with you! Thank you for your support of our parish



## Parish Programs

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** - Tuesdays following the 8:45 am Daily Mass until 4 pm.

**Bereavement Group** - The Bereavement Group will meet every first Tuesday of the month at 7 pm in the Parish Life Center.

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** - Tuesdays following the 8:45 am Daily Mass until 4 pm.

**Discovery Discipleship Faith Study** - Rediscover your faith and a personal relationship with God.

**Legion of Mary** - Meets weekly on Weds at 10:00 am in the Parish Life Center.

**Men's Gospel Reflection Group** - Meets Thursdays at 7 pm in the Parish Life Center.

**Order of Christian Initiation of Adults** - For those thinking about becoming Catholic.

**Parents of Special Needs Children** - Meets the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 9:30 am via Zoom.

**Scripture Study** - Meets Thursdays at 7 pm in the Parish Life Center.

**Spiritual Book Club** - Meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 9:30 am via Zoom.

**Walking with Purpose** - Meets Mondays at 7 pm in the Parish Life Center.

Programs are for parishioners who are 18 years old or older. Contact the parish for details and to register.

## Music Ministry

**Adult Choir** - Meets Wednesdays at 7 pm in the Church.

**Bell Choir** - Meets Thursdays at 7 pm in the Church.

## Please Pray For:

All those listed on the Sick List on the parish website.

*To add people to Parish Prayer List:* Please contact the parish office. Thank you for praying for those in our parish who need special prayers.

# Mass Intentions

## Saturday, January 27

5:00pm: *People of St. Basil the Great*

## Sunday, January 28

8:30am: Joseph Bodick

11:00am: For Our Parishioners

## Monday, January 29

8:45am: Ernest Coccia

## Tuesday, January 30

8:45am: Nancy Neal

## Wednesday, January 31

8:45am: *People of St. Basil the Great*

## Thursday, February 1

8:45am: All Living & Deceased Members of the Carlisle Family

## Friday, February 2

8:45am: Michael Colella

## Saturday, February 3

5:00pm: *People of St. Basil the Great*

## Sunday, February 4

8:30am: Marguerite Peggy Moran

11:00am: For Our Parishioners

*Starting in January, Mass cards will now be available in person. Please stop by the Parish Life Center (PLC) Tuesday through Thursday from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm to get your Mass card.*

Please remember in your prayers this week the souls of the faithful departed.

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
and may Perpetual Light shine upon them.*



# Jr. Legion of Mary

Please come and see what the Jr. Legion of Mary is about at St. Basil's Family Life Center Library on Thursday's at 6:00p.m. until 7:00 pm Parents are welcome to attend. The Junior Legion of Mary is open to all Catholic youth between the ages of 8 and 17 and meets weekly with two Sr. Legion of Mary members.

Please contact Agnes Connor for more information at: 215-498-4916 or e-mail: [agnieszka.connor@gmail.com](mailto:agnieszka.connor@gmail.com)

"Let the children come to me, and do not prevent them, for the Kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these. Matthew 19:14

## Faith Study Group

The Discovery Discipleship Faith Study Groups will be starting on January 14th. Sign up sheets are in the Narthex of the Church. Any questions regarding the program, please email Jim King, DRE, at [jimkingdre@gmail.com](mailto:jimkingdre@gmail.com)

## Meals on Wheels

Phoenixville Meals on Wheels program is in need of drivers and delivery persons. If you would like to contribute your time, about 1 to 1.5 hours a week or month depending on your availability, please contact:

Linda Keenan [keenanjl1@verizon.net](mailto:keenanjl1@verizon.net)  
(H) 610-933-3332  
(C) 610-246-1546.

## Celebrating Catholic Schools Week



Holy Family School will be celebrating Catholic Schools Week from Sunday, January 28th through Friday, February 1st. Catholic Schools Week is an annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. The week is dedicated to highlighting the contributions of Catholic schools to education and society. During this week we have various events and activities organized. There will be a School Mass on Thursday at 9:00 in St. Ann's Chapel. All are welcome to attend. If you have specific questions or if there's something particular you'd like to know about Catholic Schools Week or our school, please contact Mona Sabatino at 610.933.7562.

**Catholic Schools**  
**United in Faith and Community**



# THE GOSPEL OF LIFE

## A BRIEF SUMMARY

The prophetic papal encyclical *Evangelium vitae* (*The Gospel of Life*) was written by Pope St. John Paul II in 1995 to reaffirm the value and inviolability of every human life and to appeal to all people to respect, protect, love, and serve every human life. The following is a brief overview of this important document.

The Gospel of life is at the *heart* of Jesus' saving message to the world. Through the Incarnation and birth of Christ, God reveals to us the dignity of all human life. Human life, as a gift of God, is sacred and inviolable. The Son of God has united himself with every human being and desires for us to share eternal life with him. For this reason, direct attacks on human life, such as abortion and euthanasia, are always unacceptable. Yet, sadly we see new and expanding threats to human life emerging on an alarming scale. These new threats to life are often justified, protected, and even promoted by our laws and culture.

### **The Gospel of life is at the heart of Jesus' saving message to the world.**

Not only must human life not be taken, but it must be protected with loving concern. Each of us is made in the image and likeness of God, and we reflect his glory in the world. God made the human person with the capacity to love and reason and share in a relationship with himself, the Creator. The human person bears an indelible imprint of God and is the pinnacle of all creation. The source of our dignity is not only linked to our creation by God, but to our final end and destiny to spend eternity with the Father. By accepting Christ as our Savior through the ministry of the Church, despite our sinfulness, we can begin to share in eternal life even now.

**In sharing in the lowliest and most vulnerable conditions of human life—even death on a cross—Jesus shows us that life is always good.**

Despite the grave threats to human life in the modern world, we, as the People of God, are called to place our faith in Jesus, the “Word of life” (1 Jn 1:1). As Christians, we have received the full truth about human life as proclaimed by the very person of Jesus. In sharing in the lowliest and most vulnerable conditions of human life—even death on a cross—Jesus shows us that life is *always good*. The true meaning of our lives is found in giving and receiving love. It is only through this understanding of a sincere gift of self that human sexuality and procreation reach their true and full significance.

God holds the lives of all people in his gentle and loving care, giving meaning and value to any sufferings that we bear. Even within the mystery which surrounds suffering and death, these experiences can become saving events as we unite them with Christ's own sacrifice. By making human life the instrument of our salvation, the Son of God shows us the priceless value of human life.

Although the roots of violence against life are not new—going all the way back to Genesis,

when Cain took the life of his brother Abel—our modern world is now suffering under a culture of death. Scientific and technological advances and an increasingly secularized world have led to an eclipse of the value of human life. However, respect for life requires that science and technology should always be at the service of the human person and his integral development. We must reject systems of structuralized sin which value efficiency and productivity over human persons.

Governments and international institutions promote abortion and euthanasia as marks of progress and freedom. But this is a false and perverse understanding in which freedom is equated with absolute individualism. True freedom is inherently relational, recognizing that God has entrusted us to one another. As cultures and societies fail to recognize these objective truths, everything becomes relative, and all principles are called into question—even the fundamental right to life. However, the blood of Christ's sacrifice remains our constant hope.

**To proclaim Jesus is to proclaim life itself. Gratitude and joy at the incomparable dignity of the human person impel us to bring the Gospel of life to the hearts of all people and make it penetrate every part of society.**

Christ's gift of himself on the Cross reveals how precious life truly is and gives us the strength to commit ourselves to building a *culture of life*. Christ's blood, shed for us, promises that in God's plan death will be no more, and life will be victorious.



Society as a whole must respect, defend and promote the dignity of every human person, at every moment and in every condition of that person's life. Each life is a gift from God and ultimately belongs to him. He has sole authority over life and death. We are therefore called to reverence and love every human person, loving our neighbors as ourselves. It is our responsibility to care for and protect human life, especially the lives of the most vulnerable among us.

Having received the gift of the Gospel of life, we are the people of life and a people for life. It is our duty to proclaim the Gospel of life to the world. *To proclaim Jesus is to proclaim life itself.* Gratitude and joy at the incomparable dignity of the human person impel us to bring the Gospel of life to the hearts of all people and make it penetrate every part of society. In every child which is born, and in every person who lives or dies, we see the image of God's glory. We celebrate this glory in every human being, a sign of the living God, an icon of Jesus Christ.

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**UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS**  
Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities | [usccb.org/prolife](https://usccb.org/prolife)



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# Hearts for Life Fundraiser

Please join-in helping the Respect Life Committee of the Knights of Columbus with their "Hearts for Life" fundraiser which will run from January 13<sup>th</sup> through February 11<sup>th</sup>. This fundraiser will support several local pregnancy resource centers who help women-in-need make life-affirming decisions for their unborn children.

The organizations supported are:

- ♥ A Baby's Breath (Phoenixville)
- ♥ Genesis Women's Clinic (Phoenixville)
- ♥ Amnion Pregnancy Center (Norristown)

This fundraiser will work similar to a "Giving Tree" where specific items can be purchased for donation. You will be able to pick-up a "heart" in the Narthex beginning January 13<sup>th</sup>.

The fundraiser will also include a "baby bottle" option where baby bottles can be picked up and returned with cash and check donations. Please consider doing both donation types! All purchased items and financial donations are requested to be returned by Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup> so they may be delivered by Valentines Day. More information will be available in the Narthex or please email the Knights of Columbus at [council13800@gmail.com](mailto:council13800@gmail.com).

