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 Deacon Michael Murtha..... Permanent Deacon  
 Deacon Ed Schiappa.....Permanent Deacon

Phone: 610-269-8294 Fax: 610-269-2487

[www.stjosephrc.org](http://www.stjosephrc.org)

332 Manor Avenue, Downingtown, PA 19335

July 2, 2023 | 13th Sunday of Ordinary Time



WHOEVER LOSES HIS LIFE  
 FOR MY SAKE WILL FIND IT

**Parish Staff**

Mr. Allan Anderson, CPA Business Manager  
 Mrs. Joyce Castaldi Parish Secretary  
 Mrs. Kelly Ennis Elder Care Manager  
 Mrs. Dodie Milano Receptionist  
 Mrs. Mary Beth Mostyn Administrative Assistant  
 Mrs. Carol Orphanos Bookkeeper  
 Mr. Darrin Preston Facilities Manager

**Parish Office Hours**

Monday - Friday 8AM-4 PM  
 \*\*Memorial Day-Labor Day, Office Closes at 4pm on Fridays\*\*  
 Evening Hours MON & WED: 4PM-7PM  
 Sunday 9AM-1:30PM  
 \*Closed 12PM-1PM Weekdays\*

**School**

Phone: 610-269-8999  
 Fax: 610-269-2252

[www.StJosephRCSchool.org](http://www.StJosephRCSchool.org)

Sister Lisa Ann Golden, I.H.M. Principal  
 Sister Diane Licordare, I.H.M. Vice Principal  
 Mrs. Mary Jane McGeehan Administrative Assistant

**Parish Religious Education Program**

Phone: 610-873-8798  
 Fax: 610-873-5466

[www.stjosephrc.org/prep](http://www.stjosephrc.org/prep)

Mrs. Kathy Thomas Director of Religious Education

**Convent**

484-593-4352

Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

# MASS INTENTIONS

## SATURDAY, JULY 1

5pm: George Bird

## SUNDAY, JULY 2

6am: Parishioners

7:30am: Gerald McIntyre

9am: Mary B. Walsh

### 10:30AM MASS

#### MEMORIAL SOCIETY

Florence Buttner, Joseph Gasper, Justine Rogevich, Peter Chuc Phan, Jim DiSante, Lily Waldman, Anne DiLuigi, Donna Tuthill.

12pm: Dan Moran

4pm: Justin McCarthy

## MONDAY, JULY 3

7am: Florence Buttner

9am: Lily Waldman

## TUESDAY, JULY 4

8am: Dr. Michael & Alexandra Foley, Living

## WEDNESDAY, JULY 5

7am: Nancy Toscani

9am: Thomas Yocono, Sr.

## THURSDAY, JULY 6

7am: James Ferraro

9am: Freda Kresach

## FRIDAY, JULY 7

7am: Joseph Altieri

9am: Mary Josephine McIntyre

## SATURDAY, JULY 8

8am: William R. Carey

## SATURDAY, JULY 8

5pm: Tina Webb

## SUNDAY, JULY 9

6am: Parishioners

7:30am: Kathleen McGinley

9am: Wilma Murphy

10:30am: Thomas Lawson

12pm: Edward Smith

4pm: Steve Curtiss

# SACRAMENTS & DEVOTIONS

## BAPTISM

Parents of babies to be baptized are asked to please register for Pre-Jordan, a baptism preparation program. You can find the class dates and register either online via our website: [stjosephrc.org/baptism](http://stjosephrc.org/baptism)

## MATRIMONY

Couples planning to marry are asked to meet with their parish priest as soon as possible after their engagement and to enroll in a marriage-prep program at least 6 months prior to the wedding. For more information, visit [stjosephrc.org/matrimony](http://stjosephrc.org/matrimony)

## RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 330PM-430PM

Wednesdays: 630AM, 830AM, 630PM

## ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Any sick or hospitalized parishioner who is in need of the Sacrament of the Sick should contact the Parish Office.

## PERPETUAL ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Available 24/7 in the Holy Family Center.

## MORNING PRAYER

Monday—Friday at 630AM in Church.

## DAILY DEVOTIONS

The Holy Rosary: Recited before the 9AM Mass daily.

Miraculous Medal Devotions: Every Tuesday after the 9AM Mass.

Novena to Saint Joseph: Every Wednesday after the 9AM Mass.

Divine Mercy Chaplet: Every Thursday after the 9AM Mass.

Litany to the Sacred Heart: First Friday of the month after the 9AM Mass.

First Saturday Devotions: The First Saturday of each month at 830AM

# PRAYER LIST

*Every three months we will remove names from the military and sick list. This is to help ensure that our lists are always up to date. Please call the parish office to add or remove names.*

### **...those who are serving our country:**

Brandon W. A'Hara, SSGT Steve Anderson, Pvt. Daniel Barron, Petty Officer Katesiree Cannon Boson, Caytie Castells, PV2 Francesca Chindemi, Ensign Morgan S. Dankanich, Major Joseph S. DiBerardinis, CPL Daniel A. DiLuigi, Capt. Mark Edwards, Pvt. Corinne Riley Estrella, Sargent Ian Fay, James Heisler, Nathan J. Horton, Christopher L. Hume, USN Victoria Jones, Zachary Kish, Peter Kurtz, Lt. Col. Paul Lang, Krzysztof Malarz, Capt. Andrew C. Oddo, Pvt. Vincent Romano, Cpt. Joseph W. Rule, 1st Lt. Eric F. Satterthwaite, Pvt. 1st Class Matthew Scalia, Cmdr. Christopher Schwarz, Jr., Corporal Jeremy Solnosky, SaR. Max Spatola, LT Sean Sweeney and Aaron Thieroff, Captain Kyle Wagner and Sgt. Stephen Yori

### **...those who are sick:**

William Allan, Lidia Arasin, Sally Aruis, Charles Authier, Daniel Barron, Deb Blazejewski, Baby Botero, Kevin Boylan, Donna Buckalew, Kim Buttner, Mary Ann Cardelli, Bernadette Constant, Tony D'Angelo, Mason Ellingsworth, Helen Fiorillo, Joan Garber, Waldtraut Gauss, Craig Glantz, William Gilland, Toby Graveno, Carrie Grosso, Dana Hathaway, Liam Hawk, Christina Hoffmann, Danielle Horack, David Horack, Roseanna Isabella, Baby Kai, Jimmy Kane, Matthew Keenan, Aidan Kelly, Rosie Kuchar, John Keenan, Jim Lisney, Chris Litwinko, Barbara Luminella, Mike Lyons, Donna Martin, Kellie Martin, Taylor Martin, McBeth Family, Mary McDonald, James Mento, Jr., Bill and Rosemarie McReynolds, Richard Miller, Deborah Nejman, Katie Nejman, Michele Pate, Jeannette Petrella, John Pontzer, Gina Ofner, William O'Neill, De Anna Ousey, Chris Osner, Nancy Paquet, Brenda Pezone, Larry Polinsky, Charlie Rivas, Dee Roache, Dave Robey, Anna Reverman, Robin Reichert, Stephen, Ed Shultz, Justin Smith, Robin Smith, Phyllis Suleski, Donald Sundstrom, Bob Tiedemann, Noah Thomas, Agnes Timothy, Barbara Wayne and Patricia Wishing.

# WE REMEMBER

**Please remember in your prayers all those who have died.**

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

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# WEEKLY LETTER

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July 2, 2023

*Dear Friends,*

What Jesus is saying and offering for our consideration is very difficult to hear and to live out in our lives. The truth is that we read and hear the words of Jesus and we filter those words through our human experience and our day-to-day living. Now that is not necessarily a negative. However, as faithful disciples of the Lord we also need to read and hear His words and realize that Jesus is always encouraging us and that he truly desires for us to live our lives as His followers, as sons and daughters of a loving God.

“Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me.” While this is the truth, it can be tough to hear and even more difficult to live each day. Making Jesus and His word and His life the center of all that we do and say, all that we are, that is the mission of each Christian woman and man. As a people made in the image and likeness of God, we are called to love God above all else and that means we must place God first in our hearts above all others. Rather than limiting us in any way, doing this will free us to be even more devoted followers of Jesus and it will help us to love the people He puts into our lives with even more devotion and in a truly Christ-like manner.

As we prepare to celebrate Independence Day as a nation we are reminded again and again of the freedom that is ours as members of this country. That freedom is precious but brings with it responsibilities and the need to protect, promote, and defend those freedoms for all people. We give thanks that we live in these United States, and we pray:

“Father of all nations and ages,

we recall the day when our country claimed its place among the family of nations.

For what has been achieved we give you thanks, for the work that remains we ask your help, and as you have called us from many peoples to be one nation, grant that, under your providence, our country may share your blessings with all the peoples of the earth.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

Amen.”

*Peace,*

*Fr. Steve Leva*





## HOPE TRANSPORTATION MINISTRY

HOPE is a transportation ministry which provides rides to doctor's appointments, the grocery store, the pharmacy and other necessary errands. Rides require a minimum of 48 hours notice and can be requested a week in advance. For more information, please contact Debbie Hastings at 610-304-0631.

For the week of July 3

Nancy Coccetti at 610-269-3036

Helen Lyons at 484-402-8407

For the week of July 10

Mary Sweeney at 610-269-0604

Michele DiGiantomasso at 267-312-2269

## SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR DREXEL NEUMANN ACADEMY

It is time to collect schools supplies again for our sister school, Drexel Neumann Academy (DNA) in Chester, PA. They will soon be beginning their 17th year of service to the children of Chester. DNA offers students a safe environment to learn and a challenging curriculum, which will prepare them not only for their academic future, but also for life. DNA is giving the children of Chester the opportunity to be models of peacemaking in a violent environment and the educational foundation for a bright and successful future.

As a parish, St. Joseph has helped DNA in their mission by providing needed books and supplies for their students for the past seven years. On July 1st, tags will be available in the narthex with items on their wish list. Please choose a tag and bring the item/items by July 16th to the narthex. If you have any questions please call Peg or Tim Cassidy at 610-873-1641, or email at [ptcassidy1980@gmail.com](mailto:ptcassidy1980@gmail.com).

DREXEL  NEUMANN  
ACADEMY



# 4<sup>th</sup> of July

God,

source of all freedom,  
this day is bright with the memory  
of those that declared that life and liberty  
are your gift to every human being.

Help us to continue a good work begun long ago.  
Make our vision clear and our will strong;  
that only in human solidarity will we find liberty,  
and justice only in the honor that belongs  
to every life on earth.

Turn our hearts towards the family of nations:  
to understand the ways of others,  
to offer friendship, and to find safety  
in the common good for all.

We ask this through Christ our Lord,  
*Amen.*



# PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Being part of the prayer shawl ministry means being open to the urgings of the Holy Spirit and following through on them. There are a few guidelines we follow, but generally each member is free to make as few or as many shawls as she is prompted to do. The idea behind a prayer shawl is to pray while making them for the comfort, safety and love of the unknown recipient. How often or how long a person works on one is strictly between her and the Spirit. Once finished, all shawls are put together for the blessing, with no recognition being given to one more than the other. After being blessed, each member at the meeting lays hands on each shawl and sends it along with additional silent prayer.

We often say that when the shawl is given, it becomes the work of the Holy Spirit to look after the recipient. From the notes and conversations received, the Holy Spirit has been very busy at St. Joseph's Parish.

We welcome anyone needing one, to take one, along with the mini prayer shawls available in the St. Katherine Drexel Room. We have some repeating donations such as the monthly visits to St. Martha's as well as individual requests. We have never worried about whether we would run out, as whenever the supply seems low in the cupboard, women talk of getting the nudge from the Holy Spirit to start a new one.

The ministry is open to all knitters and crocheters. We meet on the first Thursday of the month at 9:45 am in the St. John Neumann Room. But meeting attendance is not mandatory to be part of the ministry.

For more information, contact Carol Grigson, 610-269-5413 or email [carol.k.grigson@gmail.com](mailto:carol.k.grigson@gmail.com)



## RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Thursday and Friday, July 6 and 7, 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm  
at St. Joseph's Education Center Gym.

The need for blood is constant. Appointments only. For more info or to schedule an appointment call Dana Gryger at 610-269-4613.

Or you may schedule an appointment online at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org). Enter Sponsor Code St Joes Dtown.

# Archdiocese of Philadelphia Eucharistic Revival

Scandal, division, disease, doubt. The Church has withstood each of these throughout our very human history. But today we confront all of them, all at once. Our response in this moment is pivotal. In the midst of these roaring waves, Jesus is present, reminding us that he is more powerful than the storm. He desires to heal, renew, and unify the Church and the world.

How will he do it? By uniting us once again around the source and summit of our faith—the Holy Eucharist. The National Eucharistic Revival is the joyful, expectant, grassroots response of the entire Catholic Church in the U.S. to this divine invitation.

Stay up to date on our local celebration of the Eucharistic Revival at [phillyeucharisticrevival.org](http://phillyeucharisticrevival.org).

*"When we work hard,  
we must eat well.  
What a joy,  
that you can receive  
Holy Communion often!*

*It's our life and support  
in this life --*

*Receive Communion often,  
and Jesus will  
change you into himself."*

**Saint Peter Julian Eymard**



# THANK YOU HOSPITALITY!

What a wonderful evening it was celebrating the 10th anniversary of our beautiful church as well as the retirement of Mrs. Kathy Thomas, Deacon Ed Schiappa and Deacon Jim Bogdan. The barbecue and desserts served after the 5 pm Mass was enjoyed by all who attended.

Thank you to the Festival Crew, who did all the setup and cooking for the event along with the Hospitality Ministry for all the baked goods. Thank you to Linda Bonaduce, Marie Hill, and her daughter, Rene, Pam Seymour and JoAnn Williams who all helped serve the desserts and clean up, as well as baked goodies too.

Blessings to all of you.

*Gratefully, Karen & Pat*



## CARING FOR FRIENDS

The Caring For Friends freezer is in need of meals throughout the summer months for our local homebound neighbors. Pans are available in the Holy Family center (church office) or in the Katherine Drexel room at church. If you cook on the grill when it's too hot to heat up the kitchen, meals made with grilled chicken, burgers or fish are welcome additions to CFF meals.

Be sure to freeze the meals at home before taking the filled pans to the freezer in the office. Thank you so much for continuing to provide healthy meals for our neighbors in need! Contact Debby @ dokeefe19@hotmailcom for more information.

## ST. VINCENT DE PAUL: HELPING OUR NEIGHBORS

Your charitable donations to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul of St. Joseph Church allow us to help our neighbors in need in the greater Downtown area.

SVDP helps our neighbors with shelter, utilities, transportation and other expenses of modern day living including food and gas cards.

We are funded totally by donation and 100% of money contributed goes to support our neighbors in need. We are grateful for your generosity!

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## THE SOUND OF FREEDOM: LOCAL SCREENING

Human trafficking is a primary violation of human freedom. It is the slavery issue of our modern day. Please educate yourself by attending a viewing of "Sound of Freedom" based on a true character played by Jim Caviezel. The trailer can be viewed and tickets purchased at [www.angel.com](http://www.angel.com) or [www.regmovies.com](http://www.regmovies.com). It premieres July 4 at Regal in Downingtown.

## WANT TO HELP COUNT THE WEEKLY COLLECTION?



Volunteers are still needed to help count the weekly collection. Volunteers gather at the parish office Monday mornings at 8am to count the collection from the weekend's Masses. Don't worry, we have calculators and we'll show you the process. It's easy to do and a great opportunity for retirees who'd like to stay sharp! There are two volunteer teams, so you'd be able to count on an every-other-week basis.

If you'd like to know more, please contact Carol Orphanos, Bookkeeper, 215-269-8294 or [CarolO@stjosephrc.org](mailto:CarolO@stjosephrc.org)

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT

### REGULAR COLLECTIONS (CASH, CHECK & ONLINE)

June 25                    \$26,212

### ANNUAL TO DATE (FISCAL YEAR START JULY 1)

2022-23                    \$2,193,322

*thank you*

### MONTHLY POOR BOX GOOD WORKS

Weekly Total                    \$189

## WOMEN OF HOPE CASSEROLE SCHEDULE

Group 1- Ham & Noodles  
Group 2- American Chop Suey

### Requested Items:

Single size blankets/sheets/comforters  
Towels, washclothes, sport bras,  
deodorant, yoga pants and t-shirts

Please leave items in the Loaves and  
Fishes closet in the designated basket.


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