

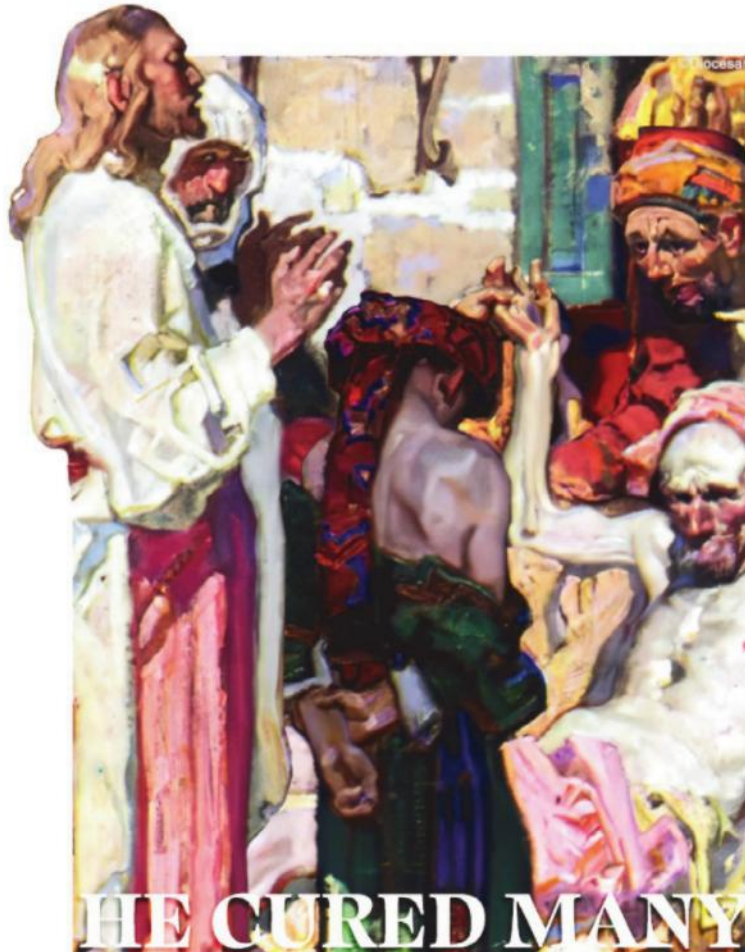


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Deacon Michael Murtha.....Permanent Deacon

338 Manor Avenue, Downingtown, PA 19335
Phone: (610) 269-8294 Website: www.stjosephrc.org

Sunday, February 4, 2024

5th Sunday of Ordinary Time



HE CURED MANY
who were sick with
VARIOUS DISEASES

MARK 1:34

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, Administrator
Deacon Michael Murtha, Ministry Coordinator
Mrs. Carol Orphanos, Bookkeeper
Mr. Darrin Preston, Facilities Manager

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Friday: 8AM-4 PM
Evening Hours Mon & Wed: 4PM-7PM
Sunday: 9AM-1:30PM
Closed 12PM-1PM Weekdays

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Heart of Mary

School

Phone: 610-269-8999
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
www.stjosephrc.org/prep
Mrs. Kathleen Greco, Director of Religious Education



Mass Intentions

Monday, Feb. 5

7am: Christian Michael Rohrs
9am: John Samoylo

Wednesday, Feb. 7

7am: Jean & Michael Tamburri
9am: Angela & Giovanni DiFrancesco

Friday, Feb. 9

7am: Jack McGinley
9am: Fr. Michael Sullivan, OSA

Tuesday, Feb. 6

7am: Rose Ann Manetta
9am: Patricia Ward

Thursday, Feb. 8

7am: Jane & Dan, Sr. Massimini
9am: Stephen Reinoehl

Saturday, Feb. 10

8am: Kathleen Donnelly

Sunday, Feb. 4

5pm Vigil: Baby Joey Harrison

6am: Parishioners

7:30am: Rose Ann Manetta

9am: Geno DiSantis

10:30am Memorial Society: *Rose Ann Manetta, Kathleen E. McDaid, KayArellano, Jeanette Petrella, Renato Sanchez, Daniel Thomson, Carmelo D'Urso, Donna Tarello, William Koskinen, Garrett Vincent Fasano, Joseph Gasper, James Quick & Michael DiPuppo*

12pm: Nicholas Chilla

4pm: Dawn Duffy Kavelich

Sanctuary Candle: Peter J. Mento

Chapel Sanctuary Candle: Lawrence Madden

Sunday, Feb. 11

5pm Vigil: John Bentley

6am: Parishioners

7:30am Jim DiSante

9am: Bundens & Fogarty Families (Living)

10:30am: Nicholas Chilla

12pm: Frank DelCoria, Jr.

4pm: Stephen P. Gerry

Sacraments & Devotions

Baptism

First-time parents are asked to please attend Pre-Jordan. Baptism scheduling and Pre-Jordan class information can be found on the parish website.

Matrimony

Engaged couples are asked to meet with their parish priest as soon as possible to enroll in a marriage-prep program at least 6 months prior to the wedding.

Reconciliation

Saturday: 330PM-430PM &
Wednesdays: 630AM, 830AM, 630PM

Anointing of the Sick

Please contact the Parish Office.

Prayer List

Every three months we will remove names from the military and sick list to ensure the list remains up-to-date. Please call the parish office to add intentions.

For those that are serving our country:

Brandon W. A'Hara SSGT Steve Anderson, Petty Officer Katesiree Cannon Bason, Caytie Castells, Francesca Chindemi, Specialist, Ensign Morgan S. Dankanich, Major Joseph S. DiBerardinis, CPL Daniel A. DiLuigi, Airman First Class, James G. DiSantis, Sargent Ian Fay, James Heisler, LTJG Nathan J. Horton, USN, Christopher L. Hume, USN Victoria Jones, Peter Kurtz, Lt. Col. Paul Lang, Krzysztof Malarz, Capt. Andrew C. Oddo, Pvt. Vincent Romano, 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, and Sgt. Stephen Yori

For those who are sick:

William Allan, Lidia Arasin, Sean Arnold, Diane Blakely Attien, Ted Barone, Vincent Bellistri, Wilma Bird, Deb Blazejewski, Baby Botero, Ashlyn Brown, Donn Cabott, Charles Chaiko, Bernadette Constant, Mary Crawford, Patricia Cudahy, Gerry Daney, Tony D'Angelo, Joan Dawson, Lisa Dawson, Patricia Derelanko, Conner Farnum, Joan Garber, Carrie Grosso, John G. Haney, Dana Hathaway, Liam Hawk, Danielle Horack, David Horack, Baby Kai D'Amore, Kari D'Amore, Dante Danilshenko, Lisa Dawson, Lori D'Ginto Haring, Jimmy Kane, Matthew Keenan, John Keenan, Elizabeth Leisse, Jim Lisney, Kathleen Manuel Donna Martin, Kellie Martin, Taylor Martin, Patricia Melcher, Jim Mento, Winnie Mullen, Michelle Murdaugh, Jennifer Murphy, Deborah Nejman, Katie Nejman, Gloria Nicolazzo, Angie Pisano, Gina Ofner, George Pastino, Nancy Paquet, Brenda Pezone, Larry Polinsky, Dave Robey, John Rogelstad, Stephen, Eileen Schafer, Don Skomsky, Helen Rechner Short, Justin Smith, Robin Smith, Donald Sundstrom, Noah Thomas, Christian Toner and Barbara Wayne

We remember in our prayers those who have died, especially:

Barbara Lombardi, Ramon Rodriguez, Deanna Roache, Joan Scalia and Gail Weldon

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



Weekly Letter

February 4, 2024

Dear Friends,

Today we read a beautiful story of compassion and grace as Jesus heals Simon's mother-in-law and brings her back to full health. This really is no surprise to any of us as we read story after story of Jesus extending His compassion and mercy, especially to those who need healing of all kinds. As the story unfolds for us today, we read, "Rising very early before dawn, he left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed. Simon and those who were with him pursued him and on finding him said, everyone is looking for you." We know that the crowds were always looking for Jesus and wanted to be in His presence wherever He went during His public ministry. So often it was because they wanted to hear His inspiring words, or perhaps they wanted to see if He would perform a miracle or two. But even more than those reasons, so many of those who sought Him did so because they wanted to be healed or they wanted healing for someone they loved.

Healing, wholeness, peace of heart, mind and spirit, these blessings are found in Jesus and much like the people of his day, we long for those blessings and we seek Jesus who brings that peace to our hearts and our lives. Jesus is still the great healer, and that the presence of God comes to each of us this day and every day to heal our minds, our emotions, our relationships, and our personal sinfulness. The result of all that healing, if we accept it is the grace of God filling us and drawing us closer to Jesus and to one another. I really believe that this is the answer to the fear and unrest of our day, allowing the healing of Jesus to lay on our hearts and minds can and will make us more compassionate people, more loving people. That is always going to be a blessing.

As we begin to prepare for the start of the Lenten season, may we spend these days listening intently for the voice of Jesus. His voice brings peace, and His voice brings healing, our mission is to allow that healing and that grace to transform us so that we can help to heal and transform the world.

Recently I have been speaking with Peg Cassidy who oversees our Perpetual Adoration Chapel. The presence of the Perpetual Adoration Chapel in our parish is a great blessing for all of us. Recently we have noticed that more and more frequently there are hours throughout the day when there is no one in the chapel adoring the Blessed Sacrament. Peg has confirmed for me that many of our long time "adorers" are no longer able to keep their adoration times especially in the early hours of the morning or late at night. The United States Catholic Conference of Bishops states that, "Every effort should be made to ensure that there should be at least two people present. There must absolutely never be periods when the Blessed Sacrament is exposed and there is no one present for adoration. It may prove necessary to expose the Blessed Sacrament for adoration only at stated times when members of the faithful are present."

I love that we have a Perpetual Adoration Chapel here at Saint Joseph's, I do worry that there are many times when no one is in the chapel to adore and keep watch. I am asking our parish family to join me and to pray that this beautiful ministry might find new members who are willing to be a part of our Perpetual Adoration team. We need new adorers to come forward and help ensure that we have 24-hour, 7 days a week coverage in the chapel. Please contact Peg Cassidy (ptcassidy1980@gmail.com) if you are interested in being a part of this wonderful ministry. Thank you for your consideration.

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 Feb. 5
Nancy Coccetti at 610-269-3036
Helen Lyons at 484-402-8407

For the week of Feb. 12
Mary Sweeney at 610-269-0604
Janet Schramm at 484-631-8875



Ministry of the Week: Scouts

Boy Scouts

Sunday, February 4 is Scout Sunday. On this day it allows the scouts to live out their "Duty to God". We also recognize our scouts and leaders for their commitment and contributions to scouting. On behalf of Boy Scout Troop 2 and Cub Scout Pack 2, thank you for your support. Please keep us in your prayers for another successful year of Scouting.

Contact: Cub Scout Pack 2, ages K-5th grade (pack2dtown@gmail.com) and Boy Scout Troop 2, ages 11-18, (dtown.troop2@gmail.com).

Girl Scouts

Girl Scouting offers friendship, outdoor adventure, and new experiences to girls from Kindergarten through eighth grade. Visit the pages at the left for information about the different Girl Scout troops at St. Joseph. We are very interested in forming new troops. Leaders and co-leaders are always needed.

Contact: Maria Read (GSEPTroop41140@gmail.com)



Girl Scout Cookies for Purchase After Masses This Weekend!

Your cookie purchase helps our girls in our community achieve their goals as they work on building essential skills of goal setting, decision-making, money management, people skills, and business ethics.

All of your favorite cookies are back this year, as well as some of our newer flavors!

Cookies are \$5.00 a box; Gluten Free \$6.00



40 Days for Life Kickoff Saturday, February 10, 2024

Saint Agnes Church
10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Speaker: Marlene Downing

Spring 2024 Vigil runs Feb 14 - Mar 24, in front of West Chester Planned Parenthood abortion facility
Sign up now for Vigil hours: www.40daysforlife.com/chestercounty

Prayer & fasting, peaceful vigil, and community outreach truly make a life-saving and life-changing impact as shown in these 40 Days for Life worldwide results: 24,224 lives saved, 148 abortion centers closed, and 256 abortion workers quit. THANK YOU for your continued perseverance and faithfulness on the front lines, giving of your time to advocating for abortion-vulnerable moms and babies as long as it takes to bring an end to the wicked culture of death stronghold and usher in a beautiful culture of Life.



Catholic Relief Services: Lent is Coming

Join our faith community in a transformative Lenten journey through CRS Rice Bowl to meet people in Uganda, El Salvador and Indonesia who are working hard to overcome the challenges of hunger and the impact of climate change. Pick up your family's CRS Rice Bowl after Masses Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 10-11. During the 40 days of Lent, we will reflect on our connectedness as one family in Christ and work together to ensure our sisters and brothers worldwide can thrive. Visit csrricebowl.org to learn more.

PRESENCE

The Mystery of the Eucharist

Presented by
Adult Faith Formation

5-Week Course Begins Feb. 20
Tues PM: 7-8:30pm OR
Fri AM: 9:30-11am



Explore how God is with us and strengthens us through the Miracle at every Mass! This 5-week video course with group discussion will lead us in discovering the powerful way that God is present to us in the Eucharist.

We will:

- examine the effects of the sacrament and its setting in the Mass,
- explore the scriptural foundation of the sacrament, and
- discover the beauty of Holy Communion and the transformative power of the grace God offers us in this sacrament.

More Info & Registration: <https://stjosephrc.org/presence-the-mystery-of-the-eucharist>



Course Preview: God Is With Us

When is the last time you sat down to enjoy a meal with your family or close friends—not just to eat food in close proximity to each other, but to bask in each other's presence and grow in love for one another? For most of us, this doesn't happen at a typical meal. But this is the kind of meal God wants to share with us. This is the kind of meal he has prepared for us and invites us to participate in through the Sacrament of the Eucharist.



The Samaritans Choice: An Act of Love

On February 19, 2024 at 7:00pm at St Joseph Church, the **Archdiocesan Office for Life and Family**, in partnership with the **Sovereign Military Order of Malta, American Association** will present an educational program designed to help stem the tide of human trafficking in our local community.

The presentation is provided free of charge and open to all. The focus is on prevention and protection for you, your family and those who fall into your sphere of influence by raising awareness on how to identify the signs, how to report it, and how to support survivors.

Additional screenings will take place at following locations/times:

1/29/2024	700PM	Corpus Christi	900 Sunnyside Pike, Lansdale, PA 19446
1/30/2024	7:00PM	St John Neumann	380 Highland Ln, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010
1/31/2024	7:00PM	Saint Cyprian	Cobbs Creek Pkwy. at Cedar Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19143
2/1/2024	7:00PM	Sacred Heart Oxford	203 Church Road, Oxford, PA 19163
2/5/2024	7:00PM	Visitation BVM	2625 B St, Philadelphia, PA 19125
2/6/2024	7:00PM	Our Lady of Grace	225 Bellevue Ave, Pennel, PA 19047
2/12/2024	7:00PM	Saint Mary Magdalen	2400 N Providence Rd, Media, PA 19063
2/26/2024	7:00PM	Saint Monica	2422 S 17th St, Philadelphia, PA 19145
2/19/2024	7:00PM	St. Joseph	332 Manor Ave, Downingtown, PA 19335
4/16/2024	6:30PM	Our Lady Of Mount Carmel	235 E State St, Doylestown, PA 18901

For more information on this program please visit the website of the Office of Life and family at: <https://phillycatholiclife.org/>.

Knights of Columbus 8th Annual Golf Outing

Join the Knights of Columbus Monday, April 29th at the Coatesville Country Club (new venue!) for their annual golf outing.

8am check-in and a 9am shotgun start. Cost is \$140 per golfer, or \$550 per foursome and includes golf, cart, range, continental breakfast and buffet lunch. Mulligans, raffles and course games can be purchased for an additional cost.

Proceeds benefit David's Drive 831 and local food banks.

Sponsorships are available:

- Lunch sponsor: \$750
- Beverage Cart: \$500
- Breakfast sponsor: \$500
- Driving Range sponsor: \$500
- Hole sponsor: \$150

For more information or to purchase tickets, please contact Joe Cutolo (jcutolo@gmail.com) or Brian Roselli (Brian@BrianRoselli.com)



Make Someone's Day!

Every week parishioners depend on the HOPE ministry to get to their medical appointments.

Ride coordinators and drivers are urgently needed to meet their needs. A few hours of your time could truly make someone's day.

For more info please contact Debbie Hastings at 610-304-0631.

Altar Server Training

Altar server training will be offered to all students in grades 5 and up on Monday, February 12, at 7 pm in the church. All current servers who would like additional training are encouraged to come and bring your questions!

We will need all our servers over the next few months as we prepare for Lent, Easter, First Communion and Confirmation!

Contact: Tracy Hoffmann
(TracyH@stjosephrc.org)

Homebound Parishioners

Do you have a family member or friend in the parish who cannot attend Mass? Will you be homebound due to an upcoming surgery? St. Joseph Parish has a wonderful ministry that will bring the Eucharist to a homebound parishioner every week for as long as the parishioner is unable to attend Mass.

If you would like to schedule this wonderful service, please contact the parish office and provide the name of the parishioner, a good phone number and the address. If you are a caregiver of a homebound parishioner, Communion can also be brought to you.

One Day Marriage Retreat

Saturday, February 10th | Begins at 8:45 AM and ends with our Parish Mass at 5:00 PM
St. Joseph Parish Meeting Center (located behind the school building)

Come spend the day investing in your marriage. Retreat offers various presenters. Open to all married couples, no matter how long you've been married!

Registration Closes February 5th! Please visit <https://stjosephrc.org/a-marriage-day-to-refresh> to register. Cost is \$45 per couple and includes Continental breakfast and lunch.



Rachel's Vineyard

A Place to Heal from Abortion

March 8-10, 2024

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

Georgeann – 484-955-4278

FIND HELP IN OVERCOMING ADDICTIONS &
UNHEALTHY ATTACHMENTS ON THIS HEALING

Women's **RETREAT**

FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY

April 5th-7th

5p.m. Friday – 1p.m. Sunday

@ Malvern Retreat House, Malvern, PA

A weekend-long retreat for women impacted by addiction. Participants will be immersed in witness talks, discussions, Catholic in Recovery meetings, sacraments & fellowship.



REGISTER ONLINE by visiting
www.catholicinrecovery.com/events

 **Catholic
in Recovery**



Stewardship Report

January 28 2024

Weekly / Monthly / Online:
\$52,517

Fiscal Year-to-Date

\$1,352,242

Rooted In Faith

\$7,672

Poor Box

(Honey Brook Food Pantry)

\$168



Women of Hope Casserole Schedule

Group 1:

Chinese Chicken & Noodles

Group 2:

Meaty Macaroni Bake

Requested Items:

water & small snack bags.

*Please leave items in the Loaves and
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