

*Saint Maria Goretti Parish
Hatfield, PA*

215-721-0199

www.stmariagoretti.net

We can have

H·O·P·E

because God is faithful and will
keep the promises He made to us.
Our hope comes from God.

Romans 15:12-13





OUTREACH NEWS
Choose an Angel, Have it Back
NO LATER than Sunday,
December 16th

Over thirty years ago, Outreach placed a little tree with some angels on it asking for gifts for a few needy families in the area. We were hoping our parishioners would respond! Well, thanks to the generosity of our parishioners and the Outreach reputation of respect & confidentiality, it wasn't long before we soon had "Outreach Giving Tree" walls! The narthex is filled with angels requesting gifts for members from our community and parish.

How does all this work? Gift requests come into Outreach - they are coded into a confidential numbered format (names are never used) where age & sex might be listed along with the gift. Outreach members help write angels & hang them in our Narthex to celebrate the 1st week of Advent. Parishioners may then choose one (1) or as many angels as they can afford and purchase the exact gift requested (do not add anything extra, not even a card). Please return your gift wrapped with the angel taped securely to the top (this how we identify where it goes!) **no later than Sunday, December 16th** (3rd week of Advent).

If you have an angel requesting a gift certificate or a donation for food or tuition (Checks may be made out to "SMG Outreach") Gift cards are conveniently located at the SCRIP desk for purchase. Please place your angel with gift certificate and/ or donations in an envelope marked Outreach Giving Tree and drop in collection basket or deliver to Parish Center, again no later than Sunday, December 16th.

If you have any questions please contact Maripat Shelly at 215-256-0273.

ATTN: ALTAR SERVERS, LECTORS & EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS
Christmas Volunteer Sign-up

Please stop in the ministry room or altar server room to sign up for Christmas Eve and Christmas morning Masses. The Mass schedule is as follows:

Christmas Eve—4pm, 7pm & 9pm
Christmas morning—7:30am, 9:30am & 11:30am

CHRISTMAS DECORATING: you may have noticed that Christmas Eve is on a Monday. We again have to put up the trees before the end of Advent. Decorating will take place on Thursday, December 20, at 6:30. We will have the poinsettias delivered on Saturday and put them out early on Christmas Eve. We need many hands to put up the trees, lights, wreaths and miscellaneous decorations. This is a fun way to serve our Church. We hope to see you there on the 20th.

TREE ORNAMENTS: It would really be wonderful if children with their parent's input would make an ornament to put on our Narthex Christmas tree. They can be returned as long as your contact info is on it. If not hand made, please bring an ornament to be put on the tree by December 20 and place in a designated basket in the Narthex. We hope you will take part in this beautiful adornment of our religious home.

Questions: Lynne Hipp, Irhipp@gmail.com

CHARLIE ZAHM'S "CELTIC" CHRISTMAS CONCERT



Sunday, December 2nd, 2018 at 7 PM. The concert is being held in the St. Maria Goretti Church for the benefit of Society of St. Vincent de Paul, SMG conference. Cost is \$10 per ticket, \$5 children 12 or under. Please bring a canned food item for the December Food Pantry drive. Light refreshments served and basket raffle held at intermission. **TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR.**

PRO-LIFE MARCH ~ WASHINGTON D.C.
Friday, January 18, 2019



Bus departs from SMG parking lot at 5:45am.

Join Pro-Life members from all over the country in the fight to end abortion. We will leave at 5:45am (with a stop for a quick break) to participate at Mass at 10am at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. After Mass there will be time to visit all of the beauty of the Shrine.

The March will begin between 12—1pm and all participants will be supplied with Metro passes to the March. The bus will leave the Shrine parking lot at 4pm and we will stop at Old Country Buffet in Newark, DE for dinner. The bus, metro pass and dinner are included in the cost of \$15. Family discounts are available.

Anyone who cannot make the March but would like to donate to help with expenses can drop your check in the collection basket payable to St. Maria Goretti marked Pro-Life March or mail to 1601 Derstine Road, Hatfield. For more information, please call Bob McCormick at 215-362-1247 or bobmcc52@verizon.net.

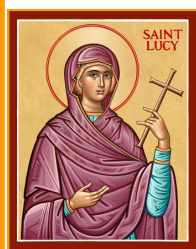
Tickets must be purchased in advance. Send your name, address, phone number, number of tickets along with your check to SMG attention Pro-Life March.

"LIGHT" LUNCH

Celebrate the feast of Saint Lucy with a "light" lunch as we view the heartwarming film entitled, "Beyond Christmas." Be inspired by the story of three benevolent spirits who work behind the scenes to ensure that a young couple, who they met at Christmas, will find a way to be together and have a love that will last forever.

Thursday, December 13, 2018
12:00 PM to 2:00 PM

Parish Center: Lower Level
 Movie Running Time: 84 Minutes
 Luncheon Cost: \$10.00



Please register using the form that can be found on our parish website at www.stmariagoretti.net or on the Adult Faith Formation table in our narthex. Please mail form along with payment. Payment is transferrable to another person but not refundable.



Mass
Schedule

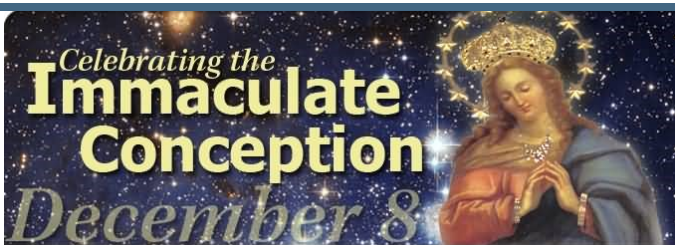
MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MON., Dec. 3	8:30 A.M. Mimi Req. by The Grear's
TUES., Dec. 4	8:30 A.M. Felicia Duch's Birthday Req. by Ron & Eleonore Duch
WED., Dec. 5	8:30 A.M. The Tenaglia Family Req. by Michael Butera
THURS., Dec. 6	8:30 A.M. Sean Flynn Req. by The Ryan Family
FRI., Dec. 7	8:30 A.M. Mary Jane Rydzewski Req. by The Rydzewski Family 7:00pm The Ryan & Geiger Families Req. by The Schussler Family
SAT., Dec. 8	7:00A.M. Mario Giordano Req. by Like & Sara Ertel 8:30 A.M. Thelma Stanek Req. by Deborah, Catherine & Andy 12 noon Joseph Hoyle Req. by Richard & Sheila Maialetti 5:00 P.M. Mary Sharella Req. by The Family
SUN., Dec. 9	7:30 A.M. Maureen Unger Req. by The Mining Family 9:30 A.M. Sean Flynn Req. by The Family 11:30 A.M. John Casinelli Req. by David & Maria Richardson

PRECIOUS BLOOD



The distribution of Precious Blood will be discontinued for the winter months and will resume following Easter to help to prevent the spreading of winter illnesses. The faith of the Church teaches that Christ, whole and entire, is received even under only one species.



HOLIDAY OF OBLIGATION

The Mass schedule is:
Vigil Mass: Friday, December 7th at 7pm
Saturday, December 8th at 7am, 8:30am 12 noon

SANCTUARY LIGHT

The Sanctuary Light for this week is lit in memory of **Rev. Brian P. Hennessey** requested by John & MaryAnna Harvie.



PRAYER LINE

Our Parish Prayer Line consists of five adult prayer groups. Requests for prayers for the prayer line may be given by calling **the Parish Center at 215-721-0199**. Your prayer request is mentioned in the prayers of those on the line for 2 weeks and then included in their prayers for the following weeks in an inclusive prayer



PLEASE KEEP IN MIND the following people who at this time need your prayers and support: Warren Allison, Immaculata Antonucci, Ruth Adams, Jennifer & Kimberly Agnew,

Paul Baril, Ray Baril, Joey Berical, Jerilyn Bowler, Linda Burbank, Mary Callaghan, Mary Campagna, Caridad Carlos, Aldo Carnara, Danny Catts, Kristen Chipollini, Joanna Cavacini, Michael Costello, Jerry Cronin, Helen Curren, Leo Dennis, Ernest Doherty, Ceferina Eusubio, Sally Esbensen, Peter Fallon, Marybeth Hentschel Fiorelli, Sebastian Fillion, Patrick Gardenier, Lianessa Gonzalez, Andrew Green, Dionne Greim, Sharon, Fernando & Ian Griffin, Frank Holloway, Lori Hanson, Gloria Harris, Michelle Heacock, Ron Hoffman, Kevin Iavecchia, Lindsay Jaso, Gerald Kenny, Emily Keiser, Charles Kline, Bernadette Kubej, Sue Kunze, Peg Krempl, Trish Lavelle, Angelique Lee, Keenan Lee, Curt Lecrone, Dina Lukasko, Mary Magnarella, Patti Maguire, Barbara Masser, William & Kristen Morrow, John McLaughlin, Bridget Micshener, Helen Millar, Diane Moll, Frank Monroe, Munson Family, John Mye, Terry Shields Neumann, Joan Nickerson, Mele Lee-Nippins, Ernie Nippins, Zachery Olberholzer, Bill O'Brien, Catherine Pagano, Robert Pauloski, Flocefida & Savador Penganon, Michael Praher, Marian Quinn, Pat Raber, Michael Rafter, Scott Randall, Jim Richardson, Sheila Rothenberger, Linda Santana, Barbara Scally, Susan Schmidt, Helen Shekalis, Joseph & Michael Thomas, Peg Trexler, Mae Veneziale, Sofia Wagner, Jim Ward, Glenn Watt, Charles Wetzel, Paula Jayne White, John Willstaudt, Arlene Wyatt, Salem Yabut, Joe Zdun & Jack Zampirri.

MONTHLY HOLY HOUR

A great opportunity for stewardship!

Holy Hour gives the parish an opportunity to pray for the needs of the church especially vocations to the priesthood and religious life. The Holy Hour will include public prayer (Liturgy of the Hours) and private prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. Everyone is welcome. Holy Hour is held the Thursday evening before First Friday at 7pm. **The next Holy Hour will be held on Thursday, December 6th.**



REGISTRATION SUNDAY

Registration Sunday will take place **next Sunday, December 9th**. Please stop by the Parish Center between the hours of 10am and 1pm to be officially welcomed into the parish. No paperwork is necessary from your previous parish. The process will take no longer than 15 minutes.



PLAY & PRAY MOM AND TOTS GROUP!

Moms/Grandmoms and their little ones infant through age 5 are most welcome to join our weekly playgroup! We gather for simple crafts/coloring, Bible stories and songs, as well as a chance for free play and socialization.

What a great way to get to know other moms as well! We hope you will join us on Thursdays from 9:30am-11am in the Parish Library for fellowship and fun. There is no need to register, but for more info please contact Kendra at itpmentor209@yahoo.com

2018 DAY OF SANCTIFICATION FOR PRIESTS

The priests of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia assemble each year for a day of prayer and reflection on the Sacred Priesthood. This year our priests will gather with Archbishop Chaput at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary on Monday, December 3rd. Please pray for all priests of the Archdiocese.

*Lord our God, who in governing your people
make use of the ministry of priests,
Grant to these men
a persevering obedience to our will,
so that by their ministry and life
they may gain glory for you in Christ.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the
Holy Spirit
one God forever and ever. Amen.*

Help Needed
OPPORTUNITIES FOR STEWARDSHIP

Linen Washers - we are looking for parishioners to become part of the team that clean the smaller altar linens. Approximately 4 times a year you would be scheduled to pick up the linens, wash, iron and return them back to the church. If you are interested, please contact Joanne Dumke 267-476-1960 or Pat Conroy 215-260-5480.

Temple Cleansers— This team of parishioners rotates through a six-week schedule to do light housekeeping of the church. These tasks include dusting, vacuuming, wiping of furnishings and renewing of the holy water font as well as the holy water reservoir. Each group sets its own time for gathering to clean. To find out more about this ministry please call Cheryl at 215-721-0199.

Meal Preparation—So often the Parish Center gets calls about helping fellow parishioners with meals for a temporary time such as after the birth of a baby, surgery, death in a family... If you like to cook and are interested in helping with this ministry please call Cheryl at 215-721-0199.



Youth Ministry Update



December 8th & 9th Luminary Sale after All Masses in Church

December 18th
Teen Christmas Carols, Confession and Christmas Party-Parish Library 7:00PM

December 24th 9am—Placing of Luminaries
Teens Meet in School Building

December 26th 9am—Luminary Clean Up



Children's Youth Ministry
Epiphany of Our Lord Event
Friday, January 4, 2019

6:30 pm to 8:00 pm in Drexel Hall
Must register by December 25th!

Maria Richardson, Director of
Family Faith Formation, Religious Education
and Parish Services

maria.richardson@stmariagoretti.net

215-721-6559

Find details and registration at <http://stmariagoretti.net/maria-2/>




CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES SPOTLIGHT

Programs authorized in the Farm Bill help give children and families experiencing hunger around the world the opportunity to thrive. Your voice is needed to help this critical piece of legislation continue to combat global hunger. Why now? With the midterm elections over, Congress is back in session, so it's the perfect opportunity to raise your voice about an issue Congress is working on in the remaining days they have left in session this year.

This time, Catholic Relief Services is asking Congress to finalize the Farm Bill and ensure that the final version of the bill protects and improves key international food security programs. Visit www.crs.org to send your message today to help prevent and end hunger around the world!

POOR BOX STEWARDSHIP

The total collected last week was: \$860.49

BENEFITS ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY

Before leaving our church building each weekend, please consider stopping by one of our poor boxes located in the narthex, with your contribution. For the months of **November** and **December** 2018, all offerings from the poor box will be designated to **St. Vincent de Paul Society**. The SMG Conference of the Society was newly formed in 2007 and meets each Monday evening in the Parish Center to review the needs of individuals within our community. The Society works in collaboration with other organizations to provide person-to-person service, recognizing Christ in the face of those in need. The Society also supports the initiatives of the International Society, including clothing and food drives, as well as other special projects. This collection will provide much needed funding to fulfill our mission to serve the poor and needy. As quoted in the Society's motto... "No form of charity is foreign to the Society." **If donating by check please make payable to St. Maria Goretti. Thank you!**



To all of our Parish Friends, your prayers and support mean so much to the children, parents, and staff of Mater Dei. Thank you for helping us to continue our mission and give the gift of a Catholic education to our children. Blessings to all of our parish families! Blue Ribbon Celebration ... Thank You!

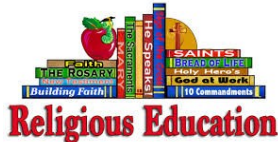
Schedule a Tour at Mater Dei Catholic School

All families with preschool to Grade 8 children are welcome to visit Mater Dei. Tours are available and the Advancement Office can accommodate your schedule. **Learn more about giving your child the gift of an exceptional Catholic education from a 2018 National Blue Ribbon School.** For more information, please contact the Advancement Office at 215-368-9787 or gsmanns@materdeicatholic.com.

Save the Date: Mater Dei Christmas Pageant

Celebrate the Christmas Spirit with the Mater Dei Catholic School community on Tuesday, December 11, at 7:00 PM in St. Stanislaus Church. All are welcome!

Still a few spots available! Immediate acceptance of infants to 36 month old children... If you would like information or would like to schedule a visit, please contact Katherine Stansbury, Center Director,



All Parishioners are invited to join us for the Advent Christmas Pageant Sing A Long Wednesday, December 5, 2018 6:30 P.M. in church. Light refreshments to follow!

CONTACT: Maria Richardson, Director of Family Faith Formation, Religious Education and Parish Services maria.richardson@stmariagoretti.net 215-721-6559

Parish Ministry Update!

Hospitality Ministry
Greeters needed for the Christmas Masses
contact Joe Pekala
joe.pekala@insurancejpa.com

CLUB + 50

2 seats available for "Jesus" at Sight and Sound Theatre on December 12th

GAMES DAY

The first Wednesday of the month
1PM – 4PM Parish Library

The Donut Social is in need of Leadership if we are to continue in January of 2019!
PLEASE HELP! Contact Maria Richardson
maria.richardson@stmariagoretti.net

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

The 31st Annual **Retirement Fund for Religious** Collection will be held at parishes throughout the Archdiocese of Philadelphia this weekend, **December 1-2, 2018**. This effort is coordinated by the National Religious Retirement Office and offers financial support for the day to day care of over 31,000 senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests throughout the country.

Last year, the Archdiocese of Philadelphia contributed over \$106,449.55 to this collection. In 2018, local religious orders received a combined total of over \$1.2 million dollars in financial assistance made possible by the national appeal.

The Retirement Fund for Religious Collection was initiated in 1988 by the Catholic Bishops of the United States to address the significant lack of retirement funding among Catholic religious communities in the United States. Proceeds are distributed to eligible communities to help underwrite retirement and health-care expenses. Nearly 95 percent of every donation directly supports senior religious and their communities.

SUNDAY OFFERING



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COUNTING OUR BLESSINGS

	Nov. 19, 2017	Nov. 18, 2018
Sunday Offering	\$ 21,551.78	\$18,711.92
Online Parish Giving	\$ 2,494.00	\$ 2,002.00
	Nov. 26, 2017	Nov. 25, 2018
Sunday Offering	\$16,665.73	\$16,335.50
Online Parish Giving	\$ 6,487.00	\$ 6,302.00
Total # of contributors	
Misc. Offerings November 25, 2018		
Heat & Energy Offering: \$778.00	
Poor Box Offering: \$860.49	
Christmas Flower collection: \$1,233.00	



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SHARE THE JOURNEY



Share the Journey
#sharejourney

Pope Francis calls us to "Share the Journey" with the refugees of the world. We have the opportunity to put our faith into action locally by providing gift cards to newly arrived refugees.

Catholic Social Services of Philadelphia works with refugees that come to the US after extreme vetting. These families come with the clothes on their back and a suitcase. After fleeing their home country and spending an average of 5 years in refugee camps around the world they have arrived in their new homeland. This is the beginning of an arduous task of resettling in a foreign land and culture, navigating the area, learning a new language, finding a job, finding permanent housing, etc. We can assist by praying for them and the people that work and volunteer to assist them and by donating to purchase gift cards for their many shopping needs.

There is a new line on the SCRIP form marked, "REFUGEE DONATION". Please consider adding \$5, \$10 or more to your SCRIP order. OR drop a few dollars in the box on the SCRIP table marked "REFUGEE DONATION". The money will be used to purchase gift certificates to be given out by CSS Philadelphia to our new neighbors for the purchase of food, clothing and everyday items. To learn more about the refugees and how else you can get involved, check out www.sharejourney.org, or www.welcometheresrefugee.org, or www.crs.org or email joannekratz@gmail.com



MINISTRIES SCHEDULED FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9th

E.M. of Holy Communion

5:00pm – Sacristan, P. Pinkston, M. Rosenberger, P. O'Hara
7:30am – Sacristan, R. Pacheco, V. & L. Lelii
9:30am – Sacristan, M. Lee-Nippins, J. Forbes, T. Hipp
11:30am – Sacristan, M. Niche, B. Santulli, K. Staudt

E.M. Home Visits

A1–B. Hudak , A2-C. Friel, A3-M. D'Elia, A4-C. Opdyke, A5–G. Salanik , B1-A. Russo, B2-C. LeBrocq , B3-D. Trotter, B4-K. Hay, B5-D. Fuse

Lectors

5:00pm – C. Amuso, F. Filler
7:30am – B. Healy, M. McCormick
9:30am – N. & R. Boak
11:30am – E. Gallagher, V. Rivera

Cantors

5:00pm – Joe
7:30am – Michele
9:30am – Tara
11:30am – Guitar Ensemble

Altar Servers

5:00pm – T. Beveridge, M. Brodsky, E. Walsh
7:30am – S. & T. Butler, G. Zobel
9:30am – V. Forbes, T. Orndorff, O. Watters
11:30am – B. Mazeroski, B. & C. O'Reilly

Children's Liturgy

9:30am – M. D'Elia, M. Romito

MUSIC NOTES



Rehearsals for Tuesday, December 4th

Bell Choir—6:30 to 7:30pm
Guitar Ensemble—7:30 to 8:45pm

Rehearsals for Saturday, December 8th

Children's Choir—4 to 4:30pm

Music Ministry for Next Weekend:

Sunday, December 9th

9:30am – Home School Bell Choir
11:30am—Guitar Ensemble

FIND THE PERFECT GIFTS THIS YEAR WITH SCRIP

Who doesn't love picking out their own gifts? By giving a scrip card to someone you love this Christmas, they can do just that while you earn credits for yourself. Of course, if you have the perfect gift in mind for someone, or you have a list of presents to check off for your kids, just purchase the gifts with scrip and save. Support your parish by purchasing SCRIP this Christmas season!

