

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ DECEMBER 10, 2023

Sacred Heart Parish

Partnering Parishes Sacred Heart, St. Charles Borromeo (Drexel Hill) and St. Hedwig's Chapel (Chester)

Rev. Msgr. George A. Majoros,
M.Div., M.S., Pastor

Rev. Paul Stenson,
Retired Priest in Residence

Deacon John H. Farrell
Permanent Deacon

Sacred Heart Church
316 East Broadway Avenue
Clifton Heights, PA 19018

Rectory
Phone 610-623-0409
Fax 610-623-2926
E-mail sacredheartchurch@rcn.com
Parish Website:
www.sacredheart-cliftonheights.net

Office Hours
Monday-Friday
8:30AM to 3:30PM
Remotely Monday, Wednesday, Friday
In parish office Tuesday and Thursday

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

To live and grow as a church in the Roman Catholic tradition by devotion to God in worship, doctrine, ministry, and loving service to each other and to the people entrusted to us.



Sunday Schedule Of Masses

Sacred Heart (Vigil) 4:00PM, 7:30AM
St. Hedwig Chapel 9:15AM (Rosary before Mass)
St. Charles (Vigil) 5:30PM, 10:00AM, 4:00PM

Weekdays Masses 8:30AM

Sacred Heart Mon, Tues, Wed
St. Charles Thurs, Fri, Sat

First Friday at St. Charles Borromeo
7:00P.M. – Holy Hour

First Saturday at St. Charles Borromeo
8:30AM Morning Mass
Exposition, Devotions, Confession, Benediction

Flame of Love Holy Hour
St. Charles Borromeo 6:30PM Thursday

Holy Day Masses
St. Charles (Vigils) 4:00PM & 7:00PM, 8:30AM
Sacred Heart 12:00 Noon, 7:00PM

Sacrament of Reconciliation Confession Schedule

Sacred Heart 3:00-3:45PM Saturday

St. Hedwig Chapel 9:00AM Sunday

St. Charles Borromeo 4:30-5:15PM before Vigil,
6:30-7:30PM on the Thursday before 1st Friday

St. Charles Borromeo 9:15-10:00AM on the First
Saturday of the month

Masses For The Week

Sacred Heart Church

4:00PM Frank Rizzo, Jr. Of Betty McGehrin & Family

Sunday, December 10

7:30AM Grassa Family Of Grassa Family

Monday, December 11

8:30AM Living & Deceased of Sacred Heart

Tuesday, December 12

8:30AM The Holy Souls

Wednesday, December 13

8:30AM McGinnis & Hart Families Of Family

Saturday, December 16

4:00PM Anne Pontarelli Of John Perfetti and family

Sunday, December 17

7:30AM Salute, Lesniak, & Cavanaugh families Of Family

St. Hedwig's Chapel

Sunday, December 10

9:15AM Natalie Zoltak Of Zoltak Family

Sunday, December 17

9:15AM Catherine & Walter Kowalski

Sacred Heart and St. Charles Borromeo Churches will be open Monday through Friday 9:00A.M to 12:00 Noon



Candles for the Month of December

Sacred Heart

Ernesto Lelii & Tina Mori

Thomas McGehrin

Michael Richard Grassa

St. Hedwig

Joseph Bush & Stephen Ruggieri

The Brzezicki Family

Benjamin & Sophie & Henry & Blanche Dychala

Flame of Love Holy Hour



**Thursday evenings 6:30-7:30PM
at Saint Charles Borromeo Church**

All are welcome to join as we pray for the intentions of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

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Mass Celebrants Weekend of December 9-10

Sacred Heart

4:00PM Fr. Anderson

7:30AM Msgr. Majoros

St. Hedwig's Chapel

9:15AM Msgr. Majoros

St. Charles Borromeo

5:30PM Msgr. Majoros

10:00AM Fr. Stenson

4:00PM Fr. Stenson



Mass Celebrants Weekend of December 16-17

Sacred Heart

4:00PM Msgr. Majoros

7:30AM Msgr. Majoros

St. Hedwig's Chapel

9:15AM Fr. Stenson

St. Charles Borromeo

5:30PM Fr. Stenson

10:00AM Msgr. Majoros

4:00PM Fr. Anderson



Celebrants Are Subject To Change

Come and See Dates 2023-2024

Come & See events offer men considering a vocation the opportunity to visit the St. Charles Borromeo Seminary to see what seminary life is like and explore a possible call to the priesthood. To register for one or more of these events, and see dates contact Fr. Friel, Vocation Director (fr.dfriel@archphila.org): **High School Men** January 20, 2024, January 21, February 10, February 11, March 9, March 10 **Post High School Men** December 1, December 3, January 26, January 28, February 23, February 25.

The Sacrament of Penance Advent 2023

Regular Saturday Confessions

Sacred Heart Church: 3:00-3:45pm

St. Charles Borromeo Church: 4:30-5:15pm

Monday, December 11, 2023

St. Charles Borromeo Church: 7:30-8:30pm

Tuesday, December 19, 2023

St. Charles Borromeo Church

1:30-2:30pm

7:00-8:00pm

Wednesday, December 20, 2023

Sacred Heart Church

1:30-2:30pm

7:00-8:00pm

Saturday, December 23, 2023

St. Charles Borromeo Church

10:30-11:30am

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Prayerfully consider your Offertory Gift as your act of praise to God for all HE has given you.

Sacred Heart– December 3, 2023

Sunday Envelopes	52	\$1,799.00
Loose		<u>214.00</u>
Total		2,013.00
Loose		86.00
Maintenance		65.00
Christmas Flowers		158.00
Retired Religious		288.00

St. Hedwig - December 3, 2023

Sunday Envelopes	24	\$803.00
Loose		<u>136.00</u>
Total		939.00
Christmas Flowers		105.00
Retired Religious		70.00

**Thank you to all who have given so generously
as we struggle to make ends meet .**

The Catholic Charities Appeal needs you to be an instrument of Hope for the remaining 2023 giving year. Even in these most strained economic times, the CCA humbly asks for your support. When you make a donation to the Catholic Charities Appeal, you provide hope to those most in need. Each donation, big or small, makes a tremendous impact. Your gift matters. If you have any questions or need any further information about the Catholic Charities Appeal, visit:
<https://www.catholiccharitiesappeal.org/donate>

Thank you to everyone who has participated in this year's **St. Charles Borromeo Seminary Appeal**. Your gift supports a shared spiritual mission that impacts each of us.

Annual Stewardship Appeal (Block Collection)

Thank you to all those who have already responded to our Stewardship/Block mailing. This Appeal is **most** important for our Parish. Thank you for all the good works you do and for the financial support of your parish.

Please prayerfully consider your donation

Winter Lotto ~ January 1, 2024 to Ash Wednesday

Sacred Heart chances are \$25.00 each. You choose a 3-digit number of your liking and watch the evening PA Lottery Drawing to see if you are a winner. These make a great Christmas or Birthday gift! ***Thank you for supporting all the fundraisers at Sacred Heart, St. Charles Borromeo and St. Hedwig's Chapel. It is a great help!***

Extra forms in the church vestibule!

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Christian Initiative Preparation “Becoming Catholic” Baptism, Confirmation, First Holy Communion

For more information contact Sr. Theresa Marie
srtheresam@scbdh.org 215-983-9462

A Special Thank You

Thank you to everyone who graciously donated their time to clean St. Hedwig's Chapel for the Christmas Season. Your time, talent and treasure are always appreciated. May God bless you always.

Sponsored by the Office of Consecrated Life

ADVENT DAY OF RECOLLECTION

THEME: THE O ANTIPHONS

SATURDAY

DECEMBER 16, 2023

9:00 a.m. **Morning Gathering**

Coffee/sweet breads

Drexel Hall for conferences and meal

Cathedral Basilica of Sts. Peter and Paul
18th Street and Benjamin Franklin Pkwy

10:00 a.m. **Conference**—Mother Maria Catherine, PVMI

11:00 a.m. Quiet time in Cathedral Chapel or Main Church

11:30 a.m. **Confessions** (Cathedral)

12:05 p.m. **Holy Sacrifice of the Mass** (Chapel)

12:45 p.m. Lunch (Drexel Hall)

1:45 p.m. **Conference**—Mother Maria Catherine, PVMI

2:30 p.m. **Exposition with Benediction** (Chapel)

3:30 p.m. **Retreat Day Concludes**

**All are
Welcome!**

Parking Available;
Free Will donation
RSVP: sr.gbraccio@archphila.org
or 215-587-3795



Christmas Wafer

Oplatki will be available in the Church Only

\$2.00 per pack

Please see Mark, our sexton, following Mass.

Decorating The Church For Christmas Wednesday, December 13

At 9:30AM

*(If there is a funeral we will decorate after the service.)
“Many hands make light work” Thank you!*

Second Sunday of Advent

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

"Follow the Leader." Many of us remember it well as the game to play in the recess yard or on rainy days at home with family or friends. Recall the basic rules: 1. One person is chosen to be the leader; 2. The rest line up behind the leader. They must copy all the actions and movements of the leader (run when the leader runs; do jumping jacks; turn and take 2 steps forward, etc.) 3. Anyone who does not successfully copy the movement is out. 4. The last child still following the leader is the leader in the next round.

While I could never equate the process of human salvation to a game, there is something similar in the way John the Baptist, Jesus' natural cousin, follows his Cousin's leadership.

Remember that John was at the pinnacle of his success in terms of preaching repentance and baptizing crowds gathered around the Jordan river. What impressive humility John shows when he proclaims that "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals." He doesn't reject a secondary role. In fact he embraces it. He knows Jesus is his Leader.

During Advent, which urges some fasting before the great feast, we should take some time over these long nights and short days to think about more than preparing for another Christmas. What does it mean for me, for example, that Christ was born to save me from the destruction I deserve on account of my sins? Or how about this: Am I planning on making a good confession during these weeks? After all, the confessionals in our churches are not there as remnants of a past generation of Catholic practice. They are the places to receive the graces John the Baptist was preaching about. Many parishes offer a special evening service for confessions during the season, with visiting priests available.

And then there is the perennial question for prosperous times:

As a parent or relative, are we indirectly teaching our young ones that the source of happiness is getting every material good that I ask for with a huge display under the tree?

This is the perfect season to remember that we are called to follow our spiritual Leader, Our Lord Jesus Christ, not as part of a game but as a goal.

God love you and give you His peace.

Say the Word



"You know my cousin?!" the second-grader asked me in surprise, as we were putting together the Jesse Tree ornaments for his Advent Wreath. "I do," I said. "I helped him prepare for Confirmation last year." "Oh," he said, and headed back to the table where his grandma, aunt, and cousin were sitting. His aunt is also in a Women's Bible Study I am a part of and he must have asked them about knowing me, because when he came back for a little more help he asked me, "Does my cousin go to the Bible Study?" "No," I explained, "it's a Women's Bible Study, and your cousin is usually working during that time, anyway." Then he surprised me, "Are there men's Bible Studies?" I explained that there are men's Bible Studies, but we don't have one going right now.

As I reflected on this conversation, I realized that he was trying to figure out how everyone fit together and where his place is in this community - how does he belong? This is part of our Advent Journey, as well. The Jesse Tree is a tradition that recalls how God has worked throughout Salvation History in the lives of His people, and especially in the family tree of Jesus. Each ornament recalls a person or family whom God loved, and through their stories we realize that He also loves us and works in our lives. We are all a part of this Community, the Body of Christ, and this is a place for each of us to belong.

Prayers for PREP

Jesus, as we prepare to celebrate Your coming to earth 2000 years ago, may we also realize that You desire to come to each of us every day. We pray for our parish families, especially for the children, to know that they belong to Your family. May they be welcomed and know their connections with You and Your family of faith. Amen.



Second Sunday of Advent

Preparing our Hearts and asking for the Grace

We prepare this week by stepping up the longing. We move through this week by naming deeper and more specific desires. Each morning this week, if even for that brief moment at the side of our beds, we want to light a second inner candle. We want to let it represent "a bit more hope." Perhaps we can pause, breathe deeply and say, "Lord, I place my trust in you."



Each day this week, as we encounter times that are rushed, even crazy, we can take that deep breath, and make that profound prayer. Each time we face some darkness, some experience of "parched land" or desert, some place where we feel "defeated" or "trapped," we hear the words, "Our God will come to save us!"

The grace we desire for this week is to be able to hear the promise and to invite our God to come into those real places of our lives that dearly need God's coming. We want to be able to say: "Lord, I place my trust in your promise. Please, Lord, rouse your power and come into this place in my life, this relationship, into this deep self-defeating pattern. Please come here and save me."

Each night this week we can look back over the day and give thanks for the moments of deep breath, that opened a space for more trust and confidence in God's fidelity to us. No matter how difficult the challenges we are facing - from the growing realization of our personal sinfulness, to any experience of emptiness or powerlessness, even in the face of death itself - we can give thanks for the two candles that faithfully push back the darkness. And, we can give thanks for the graces given us to believe that "Our God will come to save us" because we were given the courageous faith to desire and ask boldly. **Come, Lord Jesus. Come and visit your people. We await your coming. Come, O Lord.**

Advent Series with Father Paul Stenson

To help your spiritual journey this Advent, Father Stenson will explore the writings of Lisa Piccarreta on Living the Divine Will.



When: Fridays, December 15, 22

Time: 1:30—2:30pm

Where: St. Charles Borromeo Rectory

All are welcome!

Holiday Food Drive at St. Hedwig's



We will be accepting donations of non-perishable items for our food drive for **CHRISTMAS**.

Please see Phil or Gina for more details

FORMED

Prepare Your Heart with Fr. Agustino Torres, CFR

Join Fr. Agustino Torres, CFR—founder of Corazón Puro—on a multimedia Advent journey led by the saints and the Holy Family to prepare yourself to enter into the story of Christ's birth through prayer, charity, and joyful acts of service to the needy. During each week of Advent, you will embark on a new path informed by Franciscan spirituality to guide you to becoming closer to God:

Week One, the way of Nazareth: a spirituality that attunes you to the needs of others and the hidden presence of God.

Week Two, the way of the saints: featuring Sts. Lucy, Nicholas, Juan Diego, and Our Lady of Guadalupe, whose feast days fall during Advent; they will teach you to live with intentionality, humility, and devotion.

Week Three, the way of St. Joseph: revealing the creative courage of Jesus's foster father, teaching you how he makes a home for each of us in the heart of God.

Week Four, the way of Mary: a tutorial in learning how to say yes to God's call for your life and trusting in his loving providence

