

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ DECEMBER 22, 2024

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.



Christmas & New Year Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24, 2024

Sacred Heart Church	St. Charles Borromeo Church
4:00PM Vigil Mass	5:30PM Vigil Mass
	12:00 Midnight Mass

Christmas Day, Wednesday, December 25, 2024

Sacred Heart Church	St. Charles Borromeo Church
7:30AM	10:00AM
12:00Noon	NO 4:00PM MASS

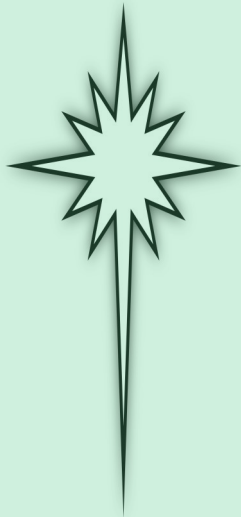
New Year's Eve, Tuesday, December 31, 2024

Sacred Heart	St. Charles Borromeo Church
4:00PM	5:30PM
	9:00PM Holy Hour followed by a social in the rectory.

New Year's Day, Wednesday, January 1, 2025

The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, Holy Day of Obligation

Sacred Heart Church	St. Charles Borromeo Church
8:30AM	10:00AM
12:00Noon	



Masses For The Week

Sacred Heart Church

4:00PM (Vigil) Thomas McGehrin Of Family
Sunday, December 22
7:30AM Karen Flower Of D'Orazio Family

Monday, December 23

8:30AM The Living & Deceased of Sacred Heart Parish

Tuesday, December 24 Christmas Eve

8:30AM Louis Pontarelli Of Elizabeth Ziolkowska
4:00PM(Vigil) Stephen Pyfer Of Mom, Dad & family

Wednesday, December 25 Christmas Day

7:30AM Gary Schnell, Romeo D'Orazio, & Karen Flower Of D'Orazio family
12:00Noon Living & Deceased of Sacred Heart

Saturday, December 28

4:00PM (Vigil) Olga Cienki Of DiCola & Crawford Family

Sunday, December 29

7:30AM Mary & Vincent Natale and Dominic, and Vincent Natale Of Strunk family

High School Discernment Dates

January 25-26, 2025 March 29-30, 2025

For more information and to register, visit:
HeedtheCall.org/ComeandSee



Candles for the Month of December

Ernesto Lelii & Tina Mori

*Thomas McGehrin Frank Rizzo, Jr.
Edna Soltanuk*

Save the Date

National March for Life in Washington, DC
January 24, 2025,



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.*

092-2

Mass Celebrants Weekend of December 21-22

Sacred Heart

4:00PM Fr. Stenson
7:30AM Fr. Stenson

St. Charles Borromeo

5:30PM Msgr. Majoros
10:00AM Fr. Stenson
4:00PM Fr. McGowan



Mass Celebrants Weekend of December 24-25

Sacred Heart

4:00PM Fr. Stenson
7:30AM Fr. McGowan
12:00 Noon Msgr. Majoros

St. Charles Borromeo

5:30PM Fr. McGowan
12:00 Midnight Msgr. Majoros
10:00AM Fr. Stenson

Mass Celebrants Weekend of December 28-29

Sacred Heart

4:00PM Msgr. Majoros
7:30AM Msgr. Majoros

St. Charles Borromeo

5:30PM Fr. Stenson
10:00AM Fr. McGowan
4:00PM Fr. Stenson



Celebrants Are Subject To Change

Archdiocesan Opening of the Jubilee Year December 29, 2024 - 11:00 AM

Solemn Mass Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul 18th and Benjamin Franklin Parkway Philadelphia, PA 19103. Representatives of every parish, institution and religious community are invited to come as pilgrims of hope and then return with the message of the Jubilee year to spread throughout the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

**For more information about the Jubilee Year 2025
see the Parish Website.**

Beginning in January 2025 St. Charles Borromeo Church Changes in Schedule

Discontinued Masses
The Saturday 5:30 PM Mass
Holy Day 7:00PM Vigil Mass

Weekend Confession Schedule
Confessions 9:30-10:30AM following the
Saturday 8:30AM Mass

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

Sacred Heart—December 15, 2024

Sunday Envelopes

Loose

Total Will Be in Next Bulletin

Loose

Maintenance

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



Feel free to call or email us with any questions at 866-307-7140, or info@parishgiving.org.

MOTHER BONIFACE SPIRITUALITY CENTER

Renew and Breathe Retreats for Mothers of All Ages

New Year: January 11, 2025,

Lent: March 1, 2025

<https://msbt.org/mbsc/events-at-mother-boniface-spirituality-center>

Winter Lotto ~ January 1, 2025 -February 28, 2025

You should be receiving forms in the mail

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 and St. Charles Borromeo. It is a great help!**

Extra forms in the church vestibule!

Candles for the month are \$20.00

Mass Intentions are \$10.00

Call the Rectory at 610-623-0409 if interested.

Villa Maria by the Sea Retreat Center, Stone Harbor, NJ
Wednesday, January 22 10:00 am—4:00 pm \$25

Private Day of Prayer—On the Day of Prayer for Legal Protection of the Unborn, spend a quiet day praying for the intention of the right to life from conception until natural death. Throughout the day, there will be periods of communal prayer for this very special intention. Lunch is provided.

Villa Maria by the Sea Retreat Center, Stone Harbor, NJ
Friday, January 31 8:45 am—2:15 pm \$60*

Arise and Call her Blessed Presented by Sr. Sheila Galigan, IHM Come to celebrate God's gift of his Mother Let's come to appreciate the role the Blessed Mother plan in keeping us close to Jesus. Coffee and check-in begin at 8:45 am. The day includes Mass and lunch. *You may opt to stay overnight the evening before this event for an additional \$95.

Italy Pilgrimage with the St. Raymond Nonnatus Foundation

Join the St. Raymond Nonnatus Foundation for an Italy Pilgrimage to the Shrines of the Eucharistic Miracles. **May 12 - 25 2025** The pilgrimage offers the opportunity to explore some of Europe's most magnificent churches and basilicas during the Jubilee in 2025! The pilgrimage is offered through Trinity Tour Travels.

Hosts: Father Matthew Phelan, O.deM., Vicar of the Mercedarian Religious Order and Pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes, Philadelphia, and Anne DeSantis, Executive Director for the St. Raymond Nonnatus Foundation.

To learn more and to register: <https://trinitytourtravels.com/anne-desantis-father-matthew-whelan>

Questions: Email director.srnf@gmail.com Annual Catholic

Young Adult Women's Conference that will take place on **June 7, 2025** at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa. Come to enter a community of young adult women in their 20's and 30's, receive spiritual nourishment, and grow deeper in your walk with Christ

Visit the imprisoned. Become a Pen Pal

In prison, sometimes the only contact with the outside world is in the form of letters. Pen Pals are needed to write to the poorest of the poor. Call John or Sue at 610-259-3178 or Email marymotherofcaptives@augustinian.org

Delco Young Disciples

Who We Are

A Ministry for DELCO Teens in Grades 7-12 that provides opportunities to grow in their faith and bring their talents and energy to their local Parish family and our broader communities.

For more info visit:

<https://sites.google.com/view/delco-young-disciples/about>

092-3

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

Christmas is all about connections. When you stop and think about it there are many. There are the personal ones, of course. And then there are the biblical ones. The latter come from God the Holy Spirit, and they complete the picture.

The personal connections, I trust, are those happy memories of past Christmases, when we were “young and foolish” as the song says. Perhaps it was our first encounter with Santa, when we walked nervously toward the smiling gentleman with our list of wants and desires lined up in memory. Usually, a photo was taken of that event, which found its way into the family album. Today’s photos likely wind up on a phone collection.

Or maybe it was that Christmas when the one toy we really wanted stayed hidden for a while until Mom or Dad prompted us to look behind the tree.

Or maybe it was the Christmas eve you proposed to the girl of your dreams and offered her a ring that sparkled almost as much as her eyes when she said “Yes!”

I must give a nod here to the strong possibility of a possibly unhappy Christmas memory because the big day came too close to the funeral of a beloved parent. That one happened to my beloved Mom when she was a little girl.

The biblical Christmas connections are those annual scenes and memorable words that come around each year, often enriched with our personal meanings. For example, there is that visitation of Mary to her cousin Elizabeth which highlights the Blessed Mother’s charity and concern. Something we have come to depend on also as our life moves on.

Underneath that obvious one is the deeper Scriptural message about the two baby boys awaiting their birth. These cousins will be connected more powerfully than usual. John the Baptist is connected spiritually with all the great prophets who preceded him in the Old Covenant times. John is the last of their kind, and he connects the New Covenant with the Old. John will also be the precursor of Jesus when both reach maturity.

Admittedly it can be a struggle at this time of year to stay focused on the spiritual. So many secular accumulations have come along over the centuries to our celebration of Christmas, either from our nationalities or those special family traditions that we must maintain our faith connection with the story. Our personal connection with Christ remains the ultimate reason for our joy at this holy time.

Perhaps the best help is one attributed to Stephen Covey. He said, “Always remember that the main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing.”

A blessed Christmas to you and yours!

Fourth Sunday of Advent

So many of us experience the ironic reality that Christmas can be the most lonely time of our lives. Some of these "mixed feelings" or "sad feelings" are difficult to recognize or name. For some of us, the Christmas we will celebrate this year pales in comparison to wonderful Christmases of our past - perhaps because we were younger or more "innocent" then, perhaps because some of our loved ones who were central to our Christmas are no longer living or not where I am, perhaps because the burdens and struggles of my life or the changes in our world and the war have robbed this Christmas of something that was there before. For some of us, Christmas will be just another day. Unable to get out to go to church to be with a faith community, and without family or friends to be with, Christmas will be a day we are tempted to ignore. For some of us, Christmas inevitably means family conflicts. Facing the days ahead, whether it be the last few remaining parties, or conflicting demands of family and friends, or the friend or relative who drinks too much, or the experience I'm having that I drink too much and this season is an easy excuse. For some of us, Christmas challenges us with terrible financial burdens. Children today become victims of the gross commercial exploitation of the day. For those of us struggling to make ends meet on a day to day basis, feeling the cultural pressure of buying for our children things which we can't afford, can lead us to put more debt on the credit card in ways that simply push us further and further behind. Some of us, might be really looking forward to Christmas, and not be aware of these struggles with Christmas, yet feel that, in spite of our best efforts to make Advent different this year, there is still something missing, and we still feel un-ready for Christmas.

Dear Church Family,

December 22, 2024

Today is the Fourth Sunday of Advent—with only three days before we enter the **CHRISTMAS SEASON**. Perhaps the **Sacrament of Penance (Confessions)** can be just what you need to get in the true spirit of the Season of Christmas by making room in your heart for Christ. For your convenience, here are the special times for the Sacrament of Penance.

Monday, December 23, 2024

Sacred Heart Church, Clifton Heights: 1:30-2:30P.M.
St. Charles Borromeo Church, Drexel Hill: 6:30-7:30P.M.

Christmas is the solemn celebration of the Nativity (Birth) of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, and Savior of the world. It is always a Holy Day of Obligation, and this holy day enables us to worship our loving God who took on our human nature and became Man so that we can share in His Divinity forever. Start your Christmas festivities by coming to Holy Mass and share in His love and joy with your family and friends.

Please See The Front Cover Of The Bulletin For The 2024 Christmas Schedule

We wish you a wonderful and **MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

December 26th through 28th is the Regular Daily Mass Schedule

Saturday, December 28, 2024

Sacred Heart Church

3:00-3:45P.M. Confessions
400P.M. Vigil Mass

St. Charles Borromeo Church

4:30-5:15P.M. Confessions
5:30P.M. Vigil Mass

N.B. This is the last 5:30PM Vigil on Saturday at St. Charles Borromeo Church.

Sunday, December 29, 2024

Sacred Heart Church

7:30 A.M.

St. Charles Borromeo Church

10:00 A.M.
4:00P.M.

THANK YOU! Please accept my grateful appreciation for your generous support of our parishes through your consistent use of your Weekly Church envelopes, online giving, your special Christmas offering, and your donation to the Annual Stewardship Appeal of Treasure (the former Block Collection). May God reward your goodness! *Parishioners who are preparing their taxes may wish a record of their contributions for the year 2024 by calling or emailing the rectory offices after January 15th and request a copy of your contributions for 2024.* **YEAR END GIVING:** It is never too late to make an end of the year tax deductible contribution to one of our Partnering Parishes or the Parish Memorial Fund in memory of a deceased loved one.

Merry Christmas and a Blessed Happy New Year of 2025!
Monsignor George A. Majoros
Pastor

