

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH ~ DECEMBER 31, 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.



Mass Schedule for New Year's Eve and New Year's Day

Sunday, December 31, 2023

Sacred Heart Church 7:30 A.M

St. Hedwig Chapel 9:15A.M.

St. Charles Borromeo Church 10:00 A.M., 4:00P.M.

Monday, January 1, 2024

9:00P.M. New Year's Eve Mass with Holy Hour and Social at St. Charles

Sacred Heart Church 8:30 A.M

St. Charles Borromeo Church 10:00 A.M



Masses For The Week

Sacred Heart Church

4:00PM Alexander Oleykowski Of Alexandra Danicki

Sunday, December 31

7:30AM Living & Deceased of Sacred Heart

Monday, January 1

8:30AM Laura Wufsus Of husband, Mark

Tuesday, January 2

8:30AM Living & Deceased of Sacred Heart

Wednesday, January 3

8:30AM Special Intention for Jeanne Flowers Of Barbara Simmons

Saturday, January 6

4:00PM "Family" Of The Barrett Family

Sunday, January 7

7:30AM The Holy Souls

St. Hedwig's Chapel

Sunday, December 31

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

Candles for the Month of January

Ernesto Lelii & Tina Mori

Thomas McGehrin

Mass Intentions \$10.00

Candles for the month are \$20.00

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

Mass Celebrants Weekend of December 30-31

Sacred Heart

4:00PM Fr. McGowan

7:30AM Fr. McGowan

St. Hedwig's Chapel

9:15AM Msgr. Majoros

St. Charles Borromeo

5:30PM Msgr. Majoros

10:00AM Fr. Stenson

4:00PM Fr. Stenson

9:00PM Msgr. Majoros



Mass Celebrants Weekend of January 6-7

Sacred Heart

4:00PM Fr. Anderson

7:30AM Fr. Stenson

St. Charles Borromeo

5:30PM Fr. Stenson

10:00AM Msgr. Majoros

4:00PM Fr. Stenson



Celebrants Are Subject To Change



The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

St. Charles Borromeo Church

New Year's Eve

Special 9:00P.M. Mass and Holy Hour for the New Year (followed by a social in St. Charles Rectory)

Monday, January 1, 2024 -New Year's Day

The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

Sacred Heart Church

8:30A.M.

St. Charles Borromeo Church

10:00A.M

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.

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

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

Sacred Heart– December 17, 2023

Sunday Envelopes	39	\$1,323.00
Loose		<u>296.00</u>
Total		1,619.00
Loose		152.00
Maintenance		40.00
Immaculate Conception		25.00

St. Hedwig - December 17, 2023

Sunday Envelopes	21	\$483.00
Loose		<u>222.00</u>
Total		705.00
Maintenance		2.00
Immaculate Conception		6.00

Sacred Heart– December 24, 2023

Sunday Envelopes		
Loose		
Total	Will Appear in Next Bulletin	
Christmas Flowers		

St. Hedwig - December 24, 2023

Sunday Envelopes		
Loose		
	Will Appear in Next Bulletin	

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

Prayer For the Feast of The Holy Family

Dear Lord, bless our family. Be so kind as to give us the unity, peace, and mutual love that You found in Your own family in the little town of Nazareth.

Saint Joseph, bless the head of our family. Obtain for him the strength, the wisdom, and the prudence he needs to support and direct those under his care.

Mother Mary, bless the mother of our family. Help her to be pure and kind, gentle and self-sacrificing. For the more she resembles you, the better will our family be.

Lord Jesus, bless the children of our family. Help them to be obedient and devoted to their parents. Make them more and more like You. Let them grow, as You did, in wisdom and age and grace before God and man.

Holy Family of Nazareth, make our family and home more and more like Yours, until we are all one family, happy and at peace in our true home with You. Amen.

Christian Initiative Preparation

“Becoming Catholic”

Baptism, Confirmation,

First Holy Communion

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

2024 HOLY SPIRIT RETREAT

All are invited to Malvern Retreat Center for the 2024 Holy Spirit Retreat on the weekend of **January 26-28, 2024**. Check-in begins on Friday at 5PM. Retreat concludes on Sunday morning with the celebration of Mass. Retreat director is Fr. Tom Heron. Theme: “This is the time of fulfilment. The Kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the Gospel.” (Mark 1:15). Please register at www.malvernretreat.com/events/holy-spirit-2024/ The donation amount being asked this year is \$275. If you need help, we are happy to assist you in registering. Contact Carlo Borgia: 610- 544-6369

Holiday Food Drive at St. Hedwig's



Thank you for all your kind and generous donations to the Holiday Food Drive.

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!

Save The Date

Sacred Heart will take down the Christmas decorations on **Monday, January 8, 2024**, The Baptism of the Lord

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

Many items in our everyday lives follow a formula. The list would include everything from breakfast cereal to industrial chemicals. But the same holds true for our spiritual lives. Our Catholic prayers, for example, generally follow the "formula" or pattern of the "Our Father." We praise God and then make respectful request(s) of Him.

So too is there a formula for living family life as given us in Holy Scripture. Today's Second Reading, of St. Paul to the Colossians, should rank high in our estimation. It is a direct refute of all the bullish attacks on Christian family life in the secular culture that surrounds us. The chief feature there is the absence of God and any reference to Him that is sadly prevalent in many families today.

The purpose of this particular letter was to bolster the faith of the community at Colossae and to correct errors reported about the Church in that city. Jewish and Hellenistic elements seem to be combined in those errors. Paganism, magic, astrology and mystery religions.

As we read the particular section of the Letter chosen for us on this special Feast of the Holy Family, we note the formula that emerges for living all our families in a truly Christian way. The basic component is the fact that we are "God's chosen ones." This means that God's existence as well as His presence are the essentials. Take God away and the whole formula is baseless. Note that "bearing with one another and forgiving one another" is included. How absent that seems to be many times these days!

Comedians make light of it, sometimes, but underneath the laughter is the sad kernel of truth that too many of us do not forgive and forget the mistakes of those people who have the same last name as ours.

We dare not push aside the Holy Family as our model because of the sublime holiness present there. If we are, as Paul tells us, "God's chosen ones," we have the inborn ability to honor God's choice by our prayer and daily effort.

The story is told of a young man who stood before a judge to be sentenced for forgery. The judge had been a friend of the boy's father, who was famous for his books on the law of trusts. "Young man," said the judge sternly, "do you remember your father, that father whom you have disgraced?"

"I remember him perfectly." the young man answered quietly.

"When I went to him for advice or companionship. He would say 'Run away, boy, I'm busy.' Well, my father finished his book, and here I am."

God love you, and bring His peace to your family.

Say the Word



"We made cookies shaped like bells and stars and snowmen and snowflakes, or maybe they were flowers, I couldn't tell," she told me. "That sounds like a lot of fun. I didn't see them, but I think I like the stars the best. Can you guess why?" She thought hard, but said, "I can't figure it out." "Think about why we would make star-shaped cookies at Christmas time," I encouraged her. "Oh!" she exclaimed. "The star led the three... the three...wise...the three wise men to Jesus!" She got it right, and as we look at all the star decorations this time of year, they can bring our thoughts to Jesus as well.

This time of year can be even more busy than our usual pace and sometimes we get so busy we don't even have time to think about why we're doing what we're doing. Why are we celebrating anyway? It can also be a time when in a quiet moment we ask ourselves, "What am I here for? Does God even hear me? Why do I bother?" Others may see this as their one yearly encounter with God. As we ask those deeper questions, we offer you an opportunity to explore through a video-based program that explores life's questions. "The Search" is available through Formed.org, and there will also be daytime and evening group sessions at St. Charles this winter. For more information, please check out <https://sites.google.com/view/thesearch-scb/home>



Prayers for PREP

Come, Holy Spirit. As we enter into a New Year, we ask You to move in the hearts of our parish families. May we each respond to Your call to follow the Star and explore the big questions of life. Let us hear Your voice, that we may be saved.

Dear Parishioners,

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

I hope and pray you are still enjoying these special days of Christmas even as the secular world has stopped playing the Christmas carols. Savor this great mystery of our Catholic faith—that God became Man so that we can become more like God! During these days of Christmas, let's try to deepen our awareness of God's abundant love for us and how we can share His love to raise up a hurting and broken world.

We are blessed to have loving families here in our parishes. As we celebrate this Sunday within the Octave of Christmas dedicated to the Holy Family of Nazareth, we are reminded that God's blessings come to our society by way of the family. St. John Paul II, stated that we "owe to the family our very existence as an individual." Each of us is "...particular, unique and unrepeatable" as a person. We recognize the great truth that "although families have roles and functions, **the main value in families is in the relationships, which are irreplaceable.**" He prophetically said: "The future of the world and of the Church passes through the family" (Apostolic exhortation On The Family).

Father Patrick Peyton, a Holy Cross Priest, and whose cause is being promoted for sainthood, coined the phrase "the family that prays together, stays together." We need to heed this sound advice entering a New Year of 2024 seeking God's graces and blessings to keep trying to be a holy family in this day and age.

The Christmas Season evokes many emotions as we celebrate in joy with our loved ones with us, and in sadness, for those we miss, who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith. Today, we join with the faithful members of St. Hedwig Church as they participate in the last Sunday Mass to be offered in their beloved Church. We entrust all of them as we pray, God our Father help us all live as the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, united in respect and love so that one day we may share the joy and peace of the eternal home of heaven.

NEW YEAR'S DAY IS THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD
A HOLY DAY WITHOUT OBLIGATION THIS YEAR BECAUSE IT FALLS ON A MONDAY.
However,

December 31, 2023-New Year's Eve

St. Charles Borromeo Church

9:00P.M. Special Mass for New Year's Eve, Holy Hour, Benediction and a Social immediately to follow in the Rectory.

January 1, 2024-New Year's Day

Sacred Heart Church

8:30A.M.

St. Charles Borromeo Church

10:00A.M.

Regular Schedule of Masses Next Weekend as we celebrate the Solemnity of the Epiphany of Our Lord

THANK YOU TO OUR CHURCH ANGELS: In your name, I wish to extend a huge THANK YOU and our sincere gratitude to all those church angels, be they staff or parish volunteers, who helped to decorate our churches for this Christmas Season. May God bless and prosper the work of their hands! God bless you and keep you safe and healthy!

Monsignor George A. Majoros