St. Patrick Catholic Church

131 Channing Avenue Malvern, PA 19355 www.stpatrickmalvern.org

Third Sunday of Advent

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor, to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, to announce a year of favor from the LORD and a day of vindication by our God.

- Isaiah 61:1-2

Parish Staff

Rev. Monsignor Joseph P. Duncan, Pastor
Rev. Arul Amalraj, O. Praem, Parochial Vicar
Rev. Mark Cavara, In Residence
Rev. Dennis O'Donnell, Sunday Assistant
Deacon Louis Libbi, Permanent Deacon
Deacon Tom Strohmetz Permanent Deacon
Ms. Patricia O'Donnell, Principal
Sister Eileen Tiernan, IHM, DRE
Ms. Julia Goldschmidt, Director of Parish Services
Mr. William Norman, Director of Liturgical Music
Mr. Daniel Milani, Dir. of Adult Faith Formation

Adoration

Monday: 9:30AM - 6:00PM (Benediction)

Contact Information

Office: 610-647-2345 School: 610-644-5797 PREP: 610-296-8899

Music Ministry: wnorman@stpatrickmalvern.org

Liturgy Schedule

Daily Mass: 6:30AM & 9:00AM **Saturday Vigil:** 5:00PM **Sunday Mass:** 7:30AM, 9:30AM, 11:30AM

Reconciliation

Thursday: 8:00AM - 8:45AM **Saturday:** 9:30AM - 10:30AM

Staff Reflection



Mass Intentions

Third Sunday of Advent

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

7:30AM – Joseph Donahue 9:30AM – Louis Principe 11:30AM – Eugene Marino

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18

6:30AM – For the Parish 9:00AM – Mark Brunstetter

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19

6:30am – Bobby Alvord 9:00am – Mark Brunstetter

WED., DECEMBER 20

6:30AM – William Lauder 9:00AM – Albertina Siberski

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21

6:30AM – Roderick Morrison 9:00AM – Joseph Novelli

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22

6:30AM – Camille Conrad 9:00AM – Sue & Larry Froio

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23

9:00AM – Mr. & Mrs. Salvatore Paolino 5:00PM – John Kleponis

Fourth Sunday of Advent

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

7:30AM – For the Parish 9:30AM – For the Parish 11:30AM – For the Parish

I have always been drawn to the title of Jesus as "Light of the World." As a kid afraid of the dark, the light was a source of comfort. As an adult, the Light of Christ is a relief as we constantly are exposed to news that shows the dark side of humanity. The Light of the World, Jesus Christ, is the fulfillment of a promise God made to us as His beloved creation that the darkness will never overcome the Light.

Today's gospel describes a man who was chosen by God to amplify the Light in extraordinary ways. John the Baptist is a colorful figure in the gospels, described wearing clothes of camel's hair, and eating the unconventional diet of locusts and honey (see Mark 1:6). Today's readings, however, show what the goal of John the Baptist's life is: to point towards Christ as the Light of the World and our Savior.

As the priests and Levites question the Baptist's identity, John refuses to elevate himself beyond who he knows himself to be. It would be so easy for John to say that he himself is the savior instead of Jesus, or that he is a great prophet, because that would undoubtedly bring himself fame and glory. Rather, John diverts attention away from himself repeatedly. He chooses to share the truth about his identity as a witness to the fulfillment of God's promises to mankind.

Instead of trying to be the light himself, John the Baptist prepares the way so that the Light of Christ can shine over the whole world, ending the darkness of separation between God and humanity. Johny cries out in the wilderness, to the desolate sand and the uninhabitable spaces devoid of life, that the Lord is coming! His birth is soon! The Light is almost with us! But there is still so much that can impede the light from getting to us. Paths need to be straightened and the rough roads must be smoothed. John the Baptist's cry is urgent, because transformation on our part is required for the Light's arrival. Real, lasting repentance in the heart of each and every man, woman, and child paves the way for Christ's arrival at Christmas.

So what is our role here? We do not have to go into the desert and eat bugs like John the Baptist to be like him (thank goodness!). As Christians, we can be like John the Baptist in the witness that we provide to others. We must focus our attention on the Light of Christ, so that through us, the whole world may know Jesus. We must make paths straight and pave a clear way for the Lord to enter into our lives. It is no secret that there is a lot of darkness in the world, whether it is the sin of pride, arrogance, destructive habits, or indifference. Our choosing to focus on the Light of Christ and His imminent arrival is what allows His Light to shine most brightly. Through our own lives, we can be like John the Baptist, pointing to the Light of Christ and preparing the way for His coming.

Yours in Christ, Julia Goldschmidt

Sacraments

May God Bless all our parents and their children, especially

Peyton Elizabeth O'Donnell & Baylor Ray Goss

who were baptized on December 3rd.

Week of December 17

The Sanctuary Candle burns in memory of:

Betsy Roe

Blessed Mother Candle burns in memory of:

Paul Coleman

The St. Joseph Candle burns in memory of: Mark Roe



If you would like your child to be baptized here at St. Patrick Parish, please email Sr. Eileen at

etiernan@stpatrickmalvern.org for information and guidance on the process of preparing for this Sacrament.





Upcoming Events!



Advent Penance Service Tuesday, Dec. 19th - 6:30PM

The parish will celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation on December 20th, 6:30PM to 8:00PM. Take advantage of this opportunity to prepare your heart and soul to receive the gift of Jesus this Christmas



Mass Schedules for Christmas

This year Christmas falls on a Monday which may cause some confusion about obligations to attend Mass. Our Sunday obligation should be

observed by attending a vigil Mass on the evening of Saturday, December 23rd or a morning Mass on December 24th.

Our Christmas obligation should be observed by attending a Vigil Mass on the evening of December 24th or on Christmas Day.

Our specific Mass times are listed below:

4th Sunday of Advent Masses

December 23th: 5:00PM (Vigil) December 24th: 7:30AM & 9:30AM NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO 11:30AM Mass

Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve: 4PM, 6PM, & 8PM (Vigil) Christmas Day: 7:30AM, 9:30AM, & 11:30AM

Feast of the Epiphany

Sunday, January 7, 2023

Just as the three Kings brought gifts to the Infant Child, Jesus, the St. Patrick's Pro-Life Committee invites you to bring gifts for young children and the unborn. Each family is asked to bring Infant and Toddler hats and mittens to Mass on the Weekend of January 6th & 7th to be collected in the church vestibule.



HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

Monday 12/25 and Tuesday 12/26: Closed

Wednesday 12/27 and Thursday 12/28: 9am - 12pm

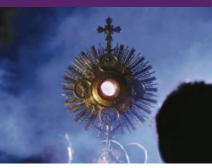
Friday 12/29: Closed

Monday, 1/1/2024: Closed

Tuesday 1/2/2024: (Regular Office Hours Resume) 9am—3:00pm

Eucharistic Adoration

DECEMBER 17, 2023



Adoration is offered on **Mondays** following the **9:00AM Mass** and concluding with Benediction at 6:00PM.

Night Prayer

Night Prayer will be paused for the next few weeks and resume in January.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday 9:00AM to 3:00PM



Join the Flock!

We are so glad you're here today. Stay in touch and receive our weekly parish Flocknotes (email) which includes updates and invitations to parish events and activities. Text the keyword "saintpats" to 84576 and you will receive all the latest news.

Pray for the Sick

Jack Donnelly, Chuck Marvil, Jay Holland, Jack Reynolds, John Michael Killinger, Debbie Herrington, Roses Madrigale, Karen Walsh, Richard Beston. Karen Donnelly, Nancy Meredith, Sophia Borzillo. Carmen Bevilacqua, Lindsay Dillon, Norman Collins, Kevin Baffa, Colin Dwyer (child), Isabella Rambo (child), Jennifer Anderson, Linda Barton, Chrissy Brown, Lisa Bove, Gina Butcher, Andrew Butler, Sue Castaldi, Dolores Christmas, Audrey Clarke, Mary Cola, Rosemary Crecco, Alicia Dellario, Eve DelSoldo, Anthony Diels, Nerisa Eachus, Stephanie Elko, Nellie Emigh, Samantha Falcone, Cara Grim, John Hendricks, Sr. Immaculata, IHM, Mary Huhtenan, Karen, Elizabeth Kelly, Carol Lubecki, Daniel Luther, Margaret Martin, Riley Palmer, Elizabeth Pentek, Priscilla Pfizenmayer, James Rizzo, Jodi Schmon, Claire Sieracki Clardy, Howard Shellem, Kim Spada, Aya Rock Stryker, Christopher Thorpe, Lily Walker, Patricia Warren,

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord...

Rita Yeost, Ann Zillitto, Barry Zimnoch.

Please remember in your prayers our deceased parishioners and benefactors especially,

Giovanny Almada Sr.

Sick List Information: If you would like to add an intentions to the list, please contact Dan Milani:

dmilani@stpatrickmalvern.org

St. Patrick

It is hard to believe that our children have been attending their PREP classes for a few months now. These weeks pass quickly. During December, the children will learn of our Advent faith customs and prayers as we observe Growing in Faith this holy season. Before we break for Christmas time, we will celebrate an Advent/Christmas

prayer in which all involved in PREP choose a place at the court of the Infant King and try to live that practice all through the coming year. We continue to grow in our love of Jesus as we learn more about him and our Catholic faith. Wishing all in our parish a Blessed Advent and Christmas!

For more information about PREP, please contact Monica Bartoldson (610-296-8899 or mbartoldson@stpatrickmalvern.org) or visit our webpage at:

www.stpatrickmalvern.org/prep

Sunday Collection Report

November 26th: \$26,942

Thank you for your continued generosity to our parish. We now offer an online giving option through Parish Giving. Giving online offers the convenience of recurring payments so you never forget to make your contribution. Sign up to give online at: http://saintpat.net/give

St. Patrick Young Adults

St. Patrick's Young Adult Group is an active community of young adults (20s and 30s) growing in virtue and understanding. We invite all young adults in the area to join us for bible study, adoration, hangouts and service opportunities each month.

Dive into the Word to learn more about the faith and grow in friendship with each other! Meetings will be held in the parish office at 6:30pm.

Contact us or get more info: scan the QR code or visit: saintpat.net/YA



St. Patrick's Young Adult Bible Study Join us every other Tuesday at 6:30pm

on the second floor of the parish office.

133 Channing Ave, Malvern, PA 19355

Dates for the fall: October roth and 24th Novemeber 7th and 21st December 5th and 19th

STPATSYOUNGADULT.GMAIL.COM FOR ANY QUESTIONS

Weekly Prayer Meetings

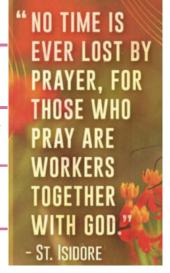
Legion of Mary: Meetings each Thursdays at 10AM in the Vesting room (up the stairs from the church vestibule). Also, daily rosary, 8:30AM in the chapel.

Flame of Love: Meetings are held on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month at 7 PM in the Church. Contact Deacon Lou for more information: llibbi@stpatrickmalvern.org

Divine Mercy Cenacle - 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month | 2PM to 3:15PM | Malvern Retreat Center, St Joseph building | Contact Kathy: ksstrvker7@gmail.com

Men's Gospel Reflection Friday Morning | 7AM to 8AM | Parish office | Contact Tony Celentano for more details: acelentano66@gmail.com

Friends of Mary meeting are held on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 7 PM in the parish office. All are welcome!





SAVE THE DATE!



Please join us for Saint Patrick Parish's annual fundraiser on

March 8, 2024

Overbrook Golf Club
Dinner, Music Danicing and
Live Auction

7-11pm

Tickets go on sale in January

ShamROCK Sponsorship Opportunities

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- Logo on event website
- Complimentary Uber to and from event

Backstage Pass \$2,500

- ♣ Signage at Event
- 2 tickets to the event
- Reserved Seating
- Logo on event website

Front Row Seats \$1,000

- Signage at Event
- ♣ Logo on event website

Groupie \$500

- Signage at the event
- A Name listed on event website

Interested donors contact Autumn Lexer: marisaautumn@comcast.net

Outreach

Ongoing Needs

The Patrician Society and the Dorothy Day Room are serving approximately 200 families each week. Due to inflation, reduced SNAP benefits and the end of the Child Tax Credit, more families are experiencing food insecurity. Please see the updated list of items that are extremely low in the pantries.



DOROTHY DAY ROOM:

- Pasta Sauce (plastic bottles)
- Boxed Milk
- 1-2 lb bags white rice
- 1-2 lb bags sugar
- 1 lb bags black beans
- 1 lb bags pinto beans
- Spaghetti or Pasta
- Salt
- Corn Flour

THE NORRISTOWN SOUP KITCHEN:

• CapriSun

PATRICIAN SOCIETY

- Macaroni & Cheese
- Jelly
- Peanut Butter
- Canned Meat: Tuna/Spam/Beef Stew/ Chili/Canned Chicken
- Legumes Black Beans/ Kidney Beans, etc

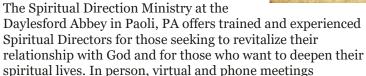
All types of non perishable food is always appreciated!

ST. JOHN'S HOSPICE IN PHILLY:

Casseroles

Spiritual Direction Companions for the Journey

Spiritual Direction is the contemplative practice of helping others to awaken to the mystery of God in their lives. Even more so in these unprecedented times, our need for our personal connection to God is vital.



For more information on how this ministry can enrich your life, contact Daylesford Abbey at 610-647-2530 ext. 1020 or at spiritualdirector@daylesford.org.



The PAWS Program at Pope John Paul II High School supports the individual needs of students with learning differences through instruction and academic accommodations. We will be hosting an information session about the program on Thursday, January 11 at 6:00PM in the Panthers' Learning Center at PJP to outline the program objectives, enrollment process, fees, and financial aid opportunities. Individual meetings and tours are also available. To register, please contact Mr. Joseph Rogers, Director of Academic Support, at jrogers@pjphs.org.

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College-Age* Retreat

January 5 - 7,2024

This retreat is designed to bring young people together of college-age (17-22). So whether you are in college or working come join us to renew your spiritual life, deepen your relationship with God and to meet new friends. Our time will be filled with prayer experiences, peer group discussions, Eucharist and lots of fun! Cost: \$145 per person

* High School Seniors are welcomed

Young Adult Retreat

February 9 - 11, 2024

Come join other young adults (ages 22-35) married or single, to take a step back from our busy lives. This will be a time to examine your personal faith and your relationship with God, your family members and yourself. Our time will be filled with prayer experiences, peer group discussions, Eucharist and lots of fun! Cost: \$145 per person

For information, brochure and application visit our website:

www.capemaymarianists.org

New Years Young Adult Retreat Malvern Retreat House

Young Adults in their 20s & 30s are all welcome to Malvern Retreat House for a weekend retreat with the CFR Brothers and Sisters to close out 2023 with praise and thanksgiving and prepare for a new year with prayer, fellowship, reflection and the presence of the Holy Eucharist. The weekend will include talks, testimonies and music from the CFR Franciscans, Holy Mass, Confession, Eucharistic Adoration, group discussion, a bonfire, and time for silence and solitude amidst the peace and beauty of Malvern Retreat House. Come, be filled anew with the Holy Spirit and enjoy the company of friends during the final days of 2023!

Cost: \$175 (includes meals & lodging; scholarship is available)

For more information please contact **pland@malvernretreat.com** or 484-321-2538

Or scan the QR code ———->



Catholic in Recovery

St. Joseph Parish, Downingtown

Catholic in Recovery provides healing from addictions, compulsions, and unhealthy attachments. Meetings combine the spiritual principles of 12-step recovery and the sacraments of the Catholic Church. Join others in recovery as we overlap scripture from Sunday's Mass readings, liturgical themes, and recovery topics with honest discussion and prayer. Confidentiality is protected.

www.catholicinrecovery.com

Employment Opportunities

Kindergarten - Long Term Sub

St. Patrick School is seeking a long-term substitute teacher for Kindergarten beginning in January. Qualified persons must submit Child Abuse and Criminal Background Clearances as well as Safe Environment Training. Please send resumes and clearances to Lori Lawless at:

llawless@saintpatrickmalvern.org

Bryn Mawr Rehab

Join the team at Bryn Mawr Rehab Hospital. Dietary Services, Environmental Services, Patient Care Technicians. Training is available for all roles. Contact Tyler Fetherston at: **FetherstonT@MLHS.org**

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