

# Sacred Heart Parish

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MATTHEW 5:14



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**Rev. Peter J. DiMaria**

*Pastor*

[frdimaria@shswedesburg.org](mailto:frdimaria@shswedesburg.org)

**Rev. Thomas A. Nasta**

*Pastor Emeritus*

**Rev. James A. Lyons**

*Pastor Emeritus - Our Lady of Charity  
Weekend Assistant*

## FOCUS Missionaries:

**Caitlyn Sechuk**

[csechuk@shswedesburg.org](mailto:csechuk@shswedesburg.org)

**Thomas Horlander**

[thorlander@shswedesburg.org](mailto:thorlander@shswedesburg.org)

## Holy Mass:

Saturday: Anticipated Mass 4:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am & 10:15 am

Monday through Friday at 8:00 am

## Sacrament of Penance:

**Sunday:** 9:30 to 9:50 am

**Wednesdays:**

7:30 to 7:50 am & 6:30 to 7:00 pm

**Saturday:** 3:00 to 3:45 pm

**Linda Moser**

*Coordinator of Religious Education*

[lmoser@shswedesburg.org](mailto:lmoser@shswedesburg.org)

**Leo Brady**

*Sacristan*

**Mary Sue Kilian**

*Parish Bookkeeper*

[mkilian@shswedesburg.org](mailto:mkilian@shswedesburg.org)

**Joanne D'Alessandro**

*Parish Office Manager*

[jdalessandro@shswedesburg.org](mailto:jdalessandro@shswedesburg.org)

**Brenda Turner**

*Cemetery Manager*

*Parish Office Assistant*

[bturmer@shswedesburg.org](mailto:bturmer@shswedesburg.org)

**Carl Gedeik**

*Director of*

*Liturgical Music*

**Joe & Jeff Houseal**

*Directors of Parish*

*& Cemetery Facilities*

**FEBRUARY 8, 2026**  
**FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**



**Ash Wednesday**

Lent begins on February 18<sup>th</sup> with the observance of Ash Wednesday.

Holy Mass and the distribution of ashes will occur at 8:00 a.m.

Liturgy of the Word and distribution of ashes will take place at 4:00 p.m. & 7:00p.m.

**Eucharistic Adoration During the Wednesdays of Lent**

Beginning on Ash Wednesday and on all Wednesdays of Lent, we will have adoration of the Blessed Sacrament beginning at Noon. There will be a sign-up sheet at the back of the church for people to commit to periods of Adoration.

**Stations of the Cross and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament**

We will have Stations of the Cross and Benediction of Blessed Sacrament beginning at 7:30 p.m. on the following Wednesdays of Lent: March 4, 11 and 18. There will be no Stations of the Cross on Wednesday of Holy Week.

*We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You, because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world!*



**Monday Night Rosary** will be recited in church each Monday at 7 p.m.

**Pro Life Holy Hour** at 12:00 noon each Wednesday in church.

**Lenten Mission At Sacred Heart Church, Bridgeport**

Sacred Heart Church, Bridgeport, invites you to participate in their Lenten Parish Mission which begins on **Monday, February 23**

**and ends on Thursday, February 26.** Each evening beginning at 7 p.m. Fr. Ken Geraci of the Fathers of Mercy will conduct this Lenten program entitled: **Why Be Catholic?** Among the topics Fr. Geraci will address will be: What Did Jesus Do: Church or Spirituality? Two Obstacles To Healing, and How To Pray the Mass. Confessions will be available on each night of the Mission beginning at 6 p.m.



**Child Care During the Lenten Mission**

In order to allow as many people as possible to attend the Lenten Mission, child care will be available during the mission.

Baby sitting will be run by our PREP teachers under the direction of Linda Moser.

You may bring your child to the school hall as early as 6:40 p.m. and pick up your child after the Mission is complete. Please enter the hall through the rear entrance of the school building.

Toddlers and older children to the age of 12 are welcome. Older children may wish to bring their homework to the child care session.

# The Catholic Church of Philadelphia Planning Study Survey

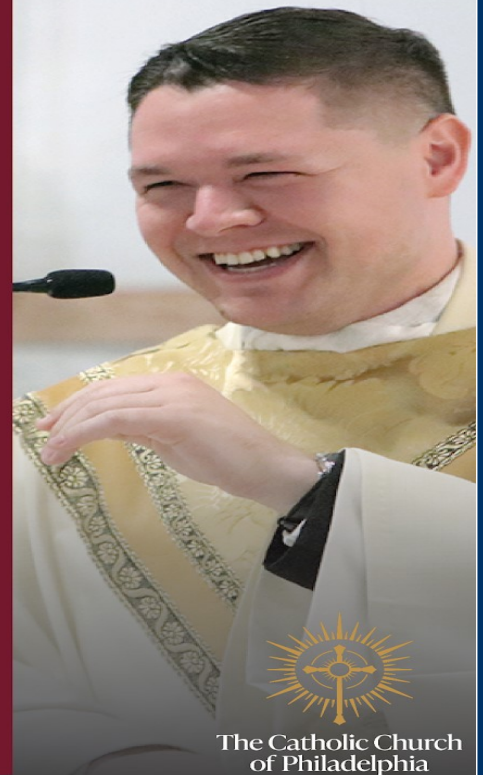


Learn more at [TrustandHope.org](http://TrustandHope.org)

## Support the Priests Who Have Supported You Throughout Your Lifetime

The Catholic Church of Philadelphia is committed to strengthening support for our priests – future, active, and retired. This includes educational support for seminarians, professional development and sabbaticals for active priests, trained Parish Life Coordinators to assist with parish operations, and dignified healthcare and retirement for those who have served. Share your thoughts by completing the planning study survey. Click this post to offer your feedback.

Learn more about the priests' support plan at [TrustandHope.org](http://TrustandHope.org).



The Catholic Church  
of Philadelphia

### January's Poor Box Collection



We collected \$413.00 in the Poor Box during the month of the January. The money has been sent to **Our House Ministries** located in in the city's Grays Ferry section.

**Our House Ministries** provides recovery homes and faith-based sobriety programs for those in need.

Thank you for your continued support of our outreach efforts to the less fortunate.



The next book club meeting will be on Tuesday, Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 in the Rectory Meeting Room. We will be discussing **The Prayer Box** by Lisa Wingate.

Pick up your copy today and join us on Feb. 17!





## MASS INTENTIONS

**Saturday, February 7**

**4:00pm Lewis & Alice Springer**

*Requested by Carl & Kass Perretta*

**Sunday, February 8**

**8:00am Dorothy Watson**

*Requested by MaryCatherine Murphy*

**10:15am Ken & Sophie Gunsalus**

*Requested by The Family*

**Monday, February 9**

**8:00am Benjamin Spencer**

*Requested by Vincent & Janet Mallon*

**Tuesday, February 10**

**8:00am Sandra Dolo**

*Requested by Elisa Pagnotti*

**Wednesday, February 11**

**8:00am Richard L. Stiles, Sr.**

*Requested by Sal & Charlotte DiNenna*

**Thursday, February 12**

**8:00am Kenneth Zadroga**

*Requested by His Brother & Family*

**Friday, February 13**

**8:00am Jeannie Ann Farrer**

*Requested by Leah Noveras*

**Saturday, February 14**

**4:00pm Deceased Members of the Marinari Family**

*Requested by Bob & Theresa Wagner*

**Sunday, February 15**

**8:00am Deceased Members of the Keller & Estock Families**

*Requested by Mary Sue & Larry Kilian*

**10:15am Deceased Members of the Kuroczko, Woloszyn & DeStefano Families**

*Requested by Spike & Joan*



## LITURGICAL MINISTRIES



*Let Us Serve The Lord With Gladness!*

The following Ministers are scheduled for our Parish Masses.

**Saturday evening, February 14:**

**4:00pm**

**Celebrant:** Father DiMaria

**Extraordinary Minister:** Valencia Zaremba

**Lector:** Elisa Pagnotti

**Sunday morning, February 15:**

**8:00am**

**Celebrant:** Father Lyons

**Extraordinary Minister:** Joan Koeck

**Lector:** Robert Stefanik

**10:15am**

**Celebrant:** Father DiMaria

**Extraordinary Minister:** Andy Moletzsky

**Lector:** Daniel Fahy, Jr.



*Weekly Report*

January 24 - 25, 2026

\$6,751.00

January 31 - February 1, 2026

\$9,511.00

*Thank you for your support of Our Parish!*



*Thank You*

**CHRISTMAS COLLECTION**

We are happy to report that our Christmas collection totaled \$29,497.00.

Sincere thanks are extended to all of our people for their generous gifts to the parish. May God who is never outdone in generosity bless your goodness to Sacred Heart.



*This week the Sanctuary Lamp in the Church burns in loving memory of*

*Martha Opielski*

*Anniversary Remembrance*

*at the Request of Wanda & Family*

*Spaghetti Dinner*

**Sunday,  
February 15, 2026  
4:00 - 6:00 pm**



**Adult: \$ 12  
Child: (3-9) \$7  
Under 3 Free**

**School Hall**

**Ticket sales start Jan. 24th  
after Mass & at Rectory**

**Spaghetti &  
Meatballs  
Italian Bread  
Caesar Salad  
Italian Salad  
Beverages  
Desserts  
BYOB**

Swedesburg Vol Fire Co.

Valentine Karaoke

Saturday February 14, 2026

Food - 5PM

Karaoke - 7PM - 11PM

See Facebook For More Info



**Philadelphia's Annual Catholic Men's Conference - "PICK UP YOUR CROSS AND FOLLOW ME"**

Man Up Philly 2026 invites the men of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia to the **18<sup>th</sup> Annual Men's Spirituality Conference** to be held on Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup> at **Cardinal O'Hara's St. John Vianney Hall Theater.**

For more information and to register, visit:  
[www.ManUpPhilly.com](http://www.ManUpPhilly.com)



**Registration for Sacred Heart PREP Summer Session is now Open!**

The session runs from June 15 to June 19, 2026, scheduled daily from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

\*If Upper Merion Area School District schedules a makeup day on June 15, the program will begin on June 16, with an extra hour added each day.

PREP registration fees are as follows:

- \$125 for one child
- \$150 for two children
- \$175 for three or more children

Register between February 1 and March 29. Registrations submitted after March 29 will incur a \$50 late fee. If you have questions or concerns, please contact the Pastor or CRE. Registration forms are available at the back of the church or on the parish website.

Children must complete two consecutive years of religious education before receiving a sacrament, which includes attending all required sacrament preparation classes. Furthermore, all students must complete five PREP family activities by the end of each PREP year.



- |                        |                          |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Salvatore Salamone     | Al Cowling               |
| Francisca Diniz        | Mary (Puzio) Stephenson  |
| Lisa Ronan             | Mary Boyle               |
| David Reuter           | Fran Toth                |
| Bob Bores              | Joan Birely              |
| Chas Pires             | Martha & John Smoczylo   |
| Julie Burk             | Kelly Benedict           |
| Greg Schloth           | Patricia Gaffney         |
| William J. Ryan        | Angela Desmond           |
| June DiDesidero        | Eileen Brandt            |
| Cindy Burke            | Denise & Tom Kavanagh    |
| Parker Grey Davis      | Michael Martin           |
| Catherine Martin       | Ronald Halas             |
| Joseph Puzio           | Marge & Stan Leszczynski |
| Piper Kaplan           | Fran & Rob Worrall       |
| Francis Rodenbaugh III | Marion Raup              |
| Karen Braithwaite      | Irene Elliott            |
| Elaine Fertal          | Butch Rodenbaugh         |
| Barbara Pruskowski     | Nicholas Janicki         |
| George Minnis          | Laurie Ronan             |



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**SUDDENLY SENIORS** will meet on Thursday, February 19<sup>th</sup> @ the Swedesburg Firehouse on Jefferson Street beginning at 12. Bring your own lunch. Water, coffee & tea will be provided. Anyone able to bring a dessert, this will be greatly appreciated.

Guest speaker will be Sangeetha Srinivasan, Head of Community Engagement & Technology Coordinator at Upper Merion Township Library.

Anyone who is not yet a member of 'Suddenly Seniors', please consider joining. We would love to have you join our group. Meetings are on the Third Thursday of each month.



**Palm Sunday Celebrated March 29, 2026**  
**Bridgeport Elks Lodge #714**  
**Decorated Palm Project**

One sized palm will be available at a cost of **\$12.00**

Order should be placed by Friday March 6<sup>th</sup>. Orders placed after March 6 will be subject to availability.

Decorated Palms will be made Wednesday March 25<sup>th</sup> and Thursday March 26<sup>th</sup>

Pick-up on Thursday March 26<sup>th</sup>, noon till 6pm and Friday March 27<sup>th</sup> 10am till 6pm

Help is always welcome. If interested Contact Maureen 484-620-2093

**We offer several ways of placing orders:**  
Call Bridgeport Elks Lodge #714 at 610-277-3810  
Call Maureen DeStefano at 484-620-2093  
Email: [mdalvin@comcast.net](mailto:mdalvin@comcast.net)

Mail the order form below to: Bridgeport Elks Lodge #714 494 Ford Street Bridgeport PA 19405

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Quantity: \_\_\_\_\_

Pick Up Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Women of Hope Retreat**  
**March 20-22, 2026**

Come to Malvern Retreat House to renew and refresh, while strengthening your relationship with our Lord. Take time and share in the company of women who seek more for their faith lives. The theme is, **"Come into My Eucharistic Presence and be filled with the Fruits of Love and Mercy."**

We are pleased to have **Bishop Joseph Coffey** as our retreat director. Celebrate Mass in our first Archdiocesan Shrine dedicated to St. Carlo Acutis, the first millennial saint of the youth. Please consider the gift of this weekend retreat for yourself and other women in your life. Conferences, time for reconciliation, Stations of the Cross, and the Rosary will be part of the weekend. The cost is \$290, and a \$75 deposit minimum is requested to secure your spot. To register, call 610-644-0400 or visit <https://www.malvernretreat.com>



**FEBRUARY 8, 2026**

**FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

*Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson*

One sure proof that the “now” is so different from the “then” is the presence of so many blue screens in our world and what you see on them. While they are small on smart phones, they grow a bit larger on various “pads.” But they reach the ultimate on those like the billboard-size screens available in stadiums and even in St. Peter’s Square at the Vatican.

Technology is so much with us that we must scratch our heads to remember when it was not. Watching a toddler imitate his elders fingering the keys of a phone can make you laugh at first, and then perhaps later make you ponder what technology lies ahead for that tiny human being. “AI” may be antique by then.

It becomes a necessity to think about the place of religion in all of this, and of our place in the world as believers. The changes that will inevitably come our way might scare us into thinking faith and religion will become obsolete.

No worries! Once you come back to reality you will quickly notice that an awful lot of our fellow travelers are in dire need. That not limited to luxuries. The plain truth is that, as humans, we all need more than the basics of food, clothing, and shelter. Science cannot provide love. That is precisely where God and true religion enter the scene.

Nowadays we realize that there is a type of human pain that stretches beyond the obvious. Well past material needs. Sometimes that need is no more mysterious than having a fellow human being nearby who will listen to us. That is one way that we become salt and light in the world as the Lord Jesus would have us be.

What is our energy source? The “battery,” if you will? It is the love and grace of God, coming to us through the Holy Spirit that never gets outdated. We cannot neglect being “charged by Love.” We need to “think large.”

When James Garfield, later to become for a short time the President of the United States, (and the subject of a current TV series) was the principal of Hiram College in Ohio, one father asked him if the course of his son’s studies could not be shortened, so that his son might be able to complete his studies in less time. “Certainly,” Garfield replied. “But it all depends on what you want to make of your boy. When God wants to make an oak, He takes one hundred years. When He wants to make a squash, He requires only two months.”

God love you and give you, His peace.



**Thursday April 16<sup>th</sup>**  
**Suddenly Seniors**  
**Bus Trip**  
**Shady Maple**  
**Smorgasbord &**  
**Hollywood Casino**  
**in Morgantown**  
**Details to follow**



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