

## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday, December 16, 2018

7:00AM Augustine and Thomas Smolik

8:30AM Emidio and Natalia Galie

10:00AM Deacon Thomas Woods

(1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary)

11:30AM Frank McKnight

Monday, December 17, 2018

8:00AM Albert Schorza

1:00PM ADORATION

Tuesday, December 18, 2018

8:00AM Joseph Clapper

Wednesday, December 19, 2018

8:00AM Mary Ciarrochi

Thursday, December 20, 2018

8:00AM Salvatore Maltese

Friday, December 21, 2018

8:00AM Caruso and Gracey Families

Saturday, December 22, 2018

8:00AM Deacon Art McGuire

4:00PM For the People of the Parish

Sunday, December 23, 2018

7:00AM Mary Price

8:30AM George and Betty McCarron

and Jean McGinley

10:00AM Nancy Curtis (2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary)

11:30AM Christopher Cash and Mary Toto

### THE SANCTUARY CANDLE



This candle burns to remind us of the sacramental presence of Jesus Christ. For the Week of **December 16th**, the candle will burn in memory of **Jack Kline** as requested by his wife, **Louise Kline**.



### MEMORIAL FOR DECEMBER 2018

BREAD ~ Frank Krewson

WINE ~ Mary P. Price

†REMEMBER ALL THOSE WHO HAVE DIED†

*Especially, Gloria Kaminski, Louis Farese, Arthur Coccoli,  
Maria Pietrafitta*

*May they rest in God's peace and May their families be comforted.*



Home Sales: Monday-Thursday; 9AM-5PM

Debbie Peterson at [sfascriptsales@gmail.com](mailto:sfascriptsales@gmail.com) call 484-432-1472

Sunday hours: CCR (building behind Church): 9-11:15AM.

### HOLIDAY BULLETIN DEADLINES:

The following dates are **DEADLINES** for the upcoming Holiday Bulletins. Thank you in advance for your cooperation! Send all bulletin requests to Joan Curtis at [sfbulletin@hotmail.com](mailto:sfbulletin@hotmail.com).

Bulletin 12/30: Due 12/19 by 4PM

Bulletin 1/6/19: Due 12/26 by 4PM

### ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE



All are invited to 'prepare the way of the Lord' by attending our Advent Penance Service on **Wednesday, December 19 at 7:00PM at St. Kevin's Church**. Several priests will be present to hear confessions and extend the love and forgiveness of God as we wait to celebrate the Feast of Christmas. Be a disciple of Jesus by 'reaching out' in love and compassion and invite someone you know (spouse, child, neighbor, co-worker) who has been away from the Church and the Sacraments to attend the Penance Service with you and 'Come Home for Christmas.'

### PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK



Baby Michael Farley	7 y/o Lexi Cable	Baby Caroline Ferry
Shiloh Cronck		14 y/o Evan Farrington
Timothy Duke	Dominic Rosini	Gino Francisco
Meghan Rauchut	Diane Colgan	Marjorie Silli
Isabella Carullo	Emilee Serrano	Carrie Serrano
Mag Post	Robby Wonder	Bill Colgan
Pam Flood	Susan Marcantonio	James Fox
Rich Buckley	Doreen Grafstrom	Monique Carpenter
Peter Minnis	Marie Brown	Andrew Barna
Bridget McHugh	Anne McGlone	Jack Valvardi
Steven Little	John Harlow	Jackie McPeake
Anna Rokos	Richard Gildea	Bill Seavey
Daniel Fahey	John Conforti	Colleen Minnis
Bob Iatesta	Phyllis Dunn	Violet McGeever
Nicole Vela Small	Thomas Nolan	Terri DeSantis
Diana Nardello	Ryan Montgomery	Christopher Biddle
Alan Lauer	Robert Busch	Barry Hill
Kathy Fritz	MaryLou Dellipriscoli	Jim McDonnell
Kenneth M. Siebert	Jeannette Siebert	Shealyn Mencil
Rev. Mark Kunigonis	Cynthia Fries	Rita Murphy
Rita O'Donnell	Judy Devine	Dr. Bill Hushion
Frank Canavan	Doris O'Hara	Joann Hoffman
Cass Johnston Lavan	Beth McCarron	Mary Benedetti
William Teste	John Peters	Jon Grady
Jean Gallagher	Lauren McRae	Stephen Marchini
Kathleen Mullin	Ralph Feindt	Marty Meenan
Stephen Spence	Henry Gray	Laura Howarth
Joy Van Berg	Edward Dunn	

*If you have someone you would like prayed for, OR have removed from prayer list, please email Joan Curtis at [sfbulletin@hotmail.com](mailto:sfbulletin@hotmail.com) or call the Rectory at 610-543-0848. Thank you for your prayers.*

### BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

Fourth Sunday of Advent ~ December 23rd

**Micah: 5:1-4A**

When have you been inspired by the strength of a small person? What Godly revelation can be gleaned from this?

**Hebrews 10:5-10**

Paul reminds us that our succumbing to God's will is more desired by God than sacrifices and holocausts. How difficult is it to accept God's will in your life? Is there someone in your life who can help you in this challenge?

**Luke 1:39-45**

Elizabeth immediately recognized God's grace within her cousin, Mary, and was humbled by her presence. How has God touched you with humility?

## CHRISTMAS CHURCH DECORATING

We extend an invitation to all men, women and teens to come and help decorate St. Francis Church for Christmas. **We will gather in Church on Sunday, December 23 at 1:00PM.** The entire project will take a couple of hours. Come and help make your Church beautiful and festive for the great feast of Our Lord's birth! *All are welcome! All are needed!*



## ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY

Our conference of The St. Vincent de Paul Society assists the parish in performing the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. Due to these difficult times, we have been unable to provide needed help to some clients in need. Donations to the St. Francis Conference would be appreciated. 100% of all donations have always been distributed to those in need; there are no middleman costs or overhead. We acknowledge donations over \$50.00 and we are a Section 501 © (3) charity. Vincentians practice the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy in helping those in need. Our assistance is given confidentially. We are always open to new members who have a desire to aid those in need. We meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month in Conway Hall at 7:30PM.



## PARISH CATHOLIC BOOK CLUB

Coordinated by the Three Parish Adult Faith Formation Team

The Three Parish Book Club meets on the last **Wednesday of the month at 7pm (PLEASE NOTE: we will not meet on Wednesday, December 26. Our next meeting will be on January 2, 2019)** in the Parish Center of Holy Cross Church. At each meeting, we not only discuss the selected book(s) but also offer suggestions of books we personally enjoyed. You need not have read the month's selection to attend. We would love to have you join us for refreshments and conversation!



**DECEMBER:** The Witness of Early Christian Women by Mike Aquilina.

**JANUARY:** The Twelve by Bernard Ruffin

*For more information, please call Angie Hominy at 610- 328-1054.*

SFA CYO is the recipient of the United Way under the Honor Option Plan. Your donation supports our activities for youth of our parish. If you wish to support the CYO, please indicate:

**CYO/ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI/SPRINGFIELD #7046 SFA CYO**

## WHITE ELEPHANT CHRISTMAS SALE



The shop will be closed for the holidays on Saturday, 12/22 and will re-open on Saturday, January 5. Please do not leave donations outside when the shop is closed.

## GREENDROP CLOTHING PICKUP

Donate your gently used CLOTHING every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday. GreenDrop Clothing pickup will be at the White Elephant from 9AM for an hour (sometimes longer). ONLY CLOTHING WILL BE ACCEPTED. Collections benefit the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

## God Bless All Who Serve Our Country



Davidson Cox ~ Skip Turner ~ Kevin Geiger ~ Jon Hylton  
Connor Lyons ~ Michael McGarvey ~ Steven Ramoni  
Mike Froeter ~ Daniel McLee ~ Bill McDermott ~ Dan Marchini  
James McDonald ~ Timothy McCans ~ Patrick J. Ryan, Jr.  
Sean Sweeney ~ Michael Jones ~ Peter Quinn ~ Joseph Spence  
Mitch Devine ~ Rick Kern, Jr. ~ Cale Amador  
Timothy Drabyak ~ Daniel McGonigal  
James M. Ketter, Jr ~ Jonathan Butterfield  
Jimmy Braconnier ~ Colin Butler ~ Liam Golden  
Jake & John-Michael Bartivic ~ Nicholas & Stephen Peranteau  
Anthony Del Vecchio ~ Shane Donnelly  
Jesse and Chase Stewart ~ Shawn McConaghy

*Let us pray for those who SERVE and PROTECT...*

*Dear Lord, bless our soldiers, protectors of our land. Servants called to battle when our country takes a stand.*

*Please give them the strength and courage and hearts that will forgive. With peace and understanding in a world for all to live.*

*Our country's prayers are with them, no matter where they roam.*

*Please listen when they are lonely and return them safely home.*

*Amen.*



**Welcome  
New  
Parishioners**

St. Francis of Assisi welcomes the following families who have joined our parish family in **November**:

*Miss Kathyleen Jurek*

*Mr. and Mrs. Daniel and Jessica Malatesta and family*

*Mrs. Margaret Binetsky*

*Mr. and Mrs. Robert and Danielle Driscoll and family*

*Mr. Michael Condon and Ms. Kathleen Murphy*

*Mr. and Mrs. Timothy and Heather Eaton and family*

*Mr. and Mrs. Robert and Christine DellaPolla*

*May the Lord bless their families and keep them close to Him.*

## ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA--TELEVISION MASS

Sunday mornings at 5:30AM: WPVI—Channel 6

The Archdiocese thanks Channel 6 for its generosity in broadcasting the Television Mass.

## ST. FRANCIS FAMILY ROSARY GROUP

Father Patrick Peyton is known for saying, "The family that prays together stays together." The St. Francis Family Rosary Group meets to bring families together for the purpose of prayer – to pray for families and youth, the parish, our priests, bishops, our Holy Father Pope Francis, the Universal Church and peace in the world as requested by Our Lady of Fatima. If you have any questions, please contact Anita Galligan at [anitagalligan1@verizon.net](mailto:anitagalligan1@verizon.net) or Beth McCarthy at [mccarthy9022@aol.com](mailto:mccarthy9022@aol.com)

*Family Rosary group meets at 7pm in the church. Families and individual parishioners of all ages are all welcome to join us!*

**PRO-LIFE INFO...**  
**SPIRITUAL ADOPTION PRAYER PROGRAM**  
*Second Month*

Your spiritually adopted baby is growing very quickly. They are now 1 ¼ inches long and weigh 1/30 of an ounce. But if they were to keep growing all 9 months as fast as they grow during the second month, they would weigh 14 TONS at birth! Luckily, the growth rate slows down dramatically so that they will probably weigh somewhere between 7 and 8 pounds at birth. All internal organs, their heart, stomach, liver and kidneys, are present and beginning to work. Brain waves have been recorded at 40 days. Your baby's finger prints are formed and will never change except for size.

**SPIRITUAL ADOPTION PRAYER**

**Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I love you very much. I beg you to spare the life of the unborn child whom I have spiritually adopted who is in danger of abortion.**

**"PRO-LIFE" LINES"**

Crisis Pregnancy Resource hotline: 610-626-4006.  
Rachel's Vineyard Post-Abortion healing: 877-HOPE-4-ME  
[www.rachelsvineyard.org](http://www.rachelsvineyard.org).  
A Baby's Breath 24-hour hotline: 484-580-6436,  
[www.ababysbreath.org](http://www.ababysbreath.org).  
Delaware County Pregnancy Center: [www.dcpchester.org](http://www.dcpchester.org).  
Mother's Home: 610-583-HOME, [www.mothershome.org](http://www.mothershome.org) .  
Pro-Life Union of Delaware County: 610-789-LIFE,  
[www.prolifedelco.org](http://www.prolifedelco.org).

**MARCH FOR LIFE**



St. Francis of Assisi Parish will again be sending a bus to the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual "March for Life" in Washington, DC on **Friday, January 18<sup>th</sup>**. For more information, or to

reserve a seat, please call Anita Galligan at (610)585-0142.  
*Pray for an end to abortion---all lives are precious.*

**ST. FRANCIS OVER 50**



The next meeting is January 10. We will be entertained by Jennifer and Danielle. Tickets for Hoagie Day (Feb. 28) will be on sale.

**UPCOMING TRIPS:**

**Casino Trips:** (1/21~Resorts) (2/18~Resorts) (3/18~Resorts) Cost: \$23 with a return of \$25 in slot play. Bus leaves at 10AM. Call Bob Hodgson at 610-449-2956.

**March 31, 2019:** "Late Nite Catechism" comedy show called Sister Rolls the Dice. The convent needs a new roof so Sister throws a Las Vegas Night. Cost is \$85 (includes bus, show at Church of Visitation, full course luncheon with 4 entrees at Tuscany Restaurant). Bus departs 9AM from Springfield Library (70 Powell Road) Boarding at 8:45AM. For more info or reservations, contact Maria Santone at 610-544-7664 or 610-745-0820.

**For Rosaries:** call Claire Doyle at 610-604-0160

**For Membership:** call Betty Pote at 610-544-7570

*The club is non-denominational and all are welcome!*

**THREE PARISH EVANGELIZATION TEAM**  
**St. Francis ~ St. Kevin ~ Holy Cross**  
*All Are Welcome*

**ARE YOU SEARCHING FOR WAYS TO BECOME CLOSER TO JESUS?**

Listen to the experiences of your fellow parishioners, any time. Right here in our parish we have...

**Eucharistic Adoration every Monday from 1 to 8 pm.**

Marian activities including a Legion of Mary Praesidium and a Flame of Love Cenacle.

**A Weekly Men's Group**

Several weekly Bible Study groups

**A Mom's Faith Sharing Group**

A Family Rosary Group

**Small Church Communities to study the Sunday gospels during Lent...**

*And more...*

Coming up there will be the **Bishop Barron** presentation on the **Eucharist** ...and in the Spring...

**Life in the Spirit (part II)**

And, **formed.org**—online resources, **free to all parishioners!**

**JUST LOOK AROUND AND LISTEN & PARTICIPATE**

**WEEKLY MEN'S GROUP AT SFA**

Weekly Men's Group meets here at St. Francis every **Saturday, 7-8AM** in "Conway Conference Room" (building behind Church). Experience the power of investing one hour a week with men who share a desire to be better husbands, fathers, grandfathers, leaders, followers, sons and friends. Free material is supplied. For more info, call Rob Longo 610.544.2103.

**FLAME OF LOVE CENACLE at ST. FRANCIS**

The parish Cenacle Group meets each **Monday at 1:30PM in the Church** for Adoration and the Rosary. Join us to pray for priests, the dying, the souls in purgatory and for our parish. All are welcome.

**LEGION OF MARY**

The Legion of Mary presidium, called Our Lady Queen of Peace, meets every **Thursday evening at 7:00PM**, in Conference Room 'A' of the Rectory basement. We welcome those interested in becoming members and auxiliary members. Members do two hours a week of good work for the parish; auxiliary members pray for the universal Church and the intentions of the Blessed Mother. Come and see what you can do for Our Lady.

**BABYSITTING DURING MASS**

Babysitting is available during the 8:30-10:00 Mass. Babysitting is now taking place in the **Pre-school room of St. Francis School**. Please enter by the gate to the little playground. Infants to age 4 years old are welcome. No registration is necessary.

# what's happenin'!

**MAIN LINE SINGLES DINNER CLUB** (AGES 52-66)  
Catholic men & women are cordially invited to join to share common interests & dine together twice a month. Scheduled event: **Mon., Dec. 31**, Our New Year's Eve Restaurant Event at 9pm, at Stephen's On State Restaurant, located at 105 W. State St., Media. More info call Barb (610) 896-6542.

**COLLEGE AGE\* RETREAT...January 4-6, 2019** at the Marianist Family Retreat Center at Cape May Point, NJ 08212. 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 meet new friends. Our time will be filled with prayer experiences, peer group discussions, Eucharist and lots of fun! Cost: \$135/person, double occ. Register at: [www.capemaymarianists.org](http://www.capemaymarianists.org) or call 609-884-3829. *Some financial aid is available. \*Current Year High School Seniors are welcomed.*

**ATTENTION LADIES:** Do you or any ladies you know need hair care at your home? I offer all services. Color, cut, perm or just a weekly blowout. I have been in the business over 25 years. I have all supplies for all your needs. I have been a lifetime Springfield resident. Don't hesitate to reach out! Call Stacey Godsey at 610-246-9441.

**THE CALIX SOCIETY:** Are you currently in a 12-Step Program? Would you like to be able to freely discuss how your Catholic Faith, Christ and His Sacraments nourish your recovery? If so, The Calix Society is for you! We welcome participants from other 12-Step Programs and those concerned with addiction. We meet on the **2<sup>nd</sup> Monday** of each month, at 6:15PM in the Adoration Chapel at Nativity B.V.M. Church, located at Monroe and Franklin Streets, Media, PA. We follow our Holy Hour with discussion from 7-8PM in the brick building. For more details, please contact Harry at 610-316-5560. All are welcome!

**COME AND SEE WEEKENDS** A Come and See Weekend is a perfect opportunity for men who are considering a vocation to come to St. Charles Borromeo Seminary to see what seminary life is like and explore the possibility of their own call to the priesthood. This is an ideal retreat for someone who is actively pursuing a call to the priesthood. It is also a great opportunity for a man who has been evangelized to explore the possibility of a call to the priesthood! The weekend includes reflections on the priesthood, vocation stories from seminarians, Liturgy of the Hours, Mass and Eucharistic Adoration. Come and See Weekends are scheduled for high school men and post-high school men on separate weekends. To learn more, or to register for a particular weekend, visit [www.heedthecall.org/comeandsee.com](http://www.heedthecall.org/comeandsee.com) or contact the Vocation office at 610-667-5778.

<b><u>HIGH SCHOOL MEN</u></b> Jan. 26-27, 2019 Feb. 16-17, 2019	<b><u>POST-HIGH SCHOOL MEN</u></b> Jan. 18-20, 2019 Feb. 22-24, 2019 Mar. 29-31, 2019
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**HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS** This year for the Called by Name program, parishes across the Archdiocese nominated men to consider the priesthood. We invite you to bring friends and family and join us for a Holy Hour for Vocations to be held at **12:30PM on Sunday, January 6, 2019**. The Holy Hour will be at St. Denis Parish, 2401 St. Denis Lane, Havertown, PA 19083. For more information, visit [heedthecall.org/holyhour](http://heedthecall.org/holyhour). Let us unite before the Blessed Sacrament and pray for fortitude, discernment, and attention to God's call for those men in seminary and those discerning a vocation to the priesthood. "The love of God and neighbor, the greatest commandment, is expressed in, and the fruit of, Eucharistic worship." – **Pope St. John Paul II**

**REDISCOVER THE LOVE IN YOUR MARRIAGE!**  
The Retrouvaille Marriage Program offers help for struggling marriages. It gives you the chance to rediscover yourself and your spouse. Tens of thousands of couples headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending a Retrouvaille weekend and the six post sessions that follow it. Retrouvaille is not just a social gathering or series of seminars, but rather a way to rediscover and rekindle the loving relationship in your marriage. The next program begins on the weekend of **February 8-10** at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information, or to register for our upcoming weekend, visit our website: [www.HelpOurMarriage.org](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.org) or call 1-800-470-2230 or 1-215-766-3944. All inquiries are kept strictly confidential.

**AUGUSTINE'S BROTHERS**...is a support/accountability group for men who struggle with pornography as well as other excessive sexual behaviors. Augustine's Brothers meets weekly at the Cathedral on **Tuesdays, from 7-9PM**. All inquiries are kept in strict confidentiality and one's wish to remain anonymous is highly respected. *There is no need for registration.* For more information, visit the website: [www.AugustinesBrothers.org](http://www.AugustinesBrothers.org) or call 800.348.0758.

**DO YOU KNOW YOUR TRIBUNAL?** The Tribunal is a group of specially qualified Catholics whose responsibility is to come to the help of people who have experienced divorce and who may wish to remarry in the Catholic Church. When a divorce occurs, the Catholic Church always seeks to balance two realities. One is the unbreakableness of the bond of marriage. This is God's law. It cannot be broken by human intervention. On the other hand, the Church is concerned about the spiritual welfare of the people involved. Was this a true marriage? Even though a Catholic marriage was celebrated, was there perhaps some deficiency in the consent of the parties involved? The annulment procedure addresses this problem. If you are divorced and want to marry in the church or remarried outside the Catholic Church, please call the Tribunal Office at 215-587-3750.

**OREMUS FAMILY ROSARY PROGRAM** ...Join in the regularly scheduled live streaming recitation of The Holy Rosary throughout the year (Monday thru Saturday at 12:15pm & Sunday at 2pm). Just log onto: [www.oremuscomms.com](http://www.oremuscomms.com) and click on: *LISTEN LIVE. OREMUS.*

## **NEW YEAR'S EVE RETREAT**

**December 31 - 6:00pm to January 1 - 11:00am**

Join us as we say farewell to 2018 and welcome 2019 in God's presence. We will begin at 6 pm with a feast, followed by a presentation, quiet time for personal prayer and Adoration. Mass will be celebrated at midnight followed by light refreshments. We will conclude the retreat with Morning Prayer and a New Year's Day brunch. Presenter: Rev. Bernard Farley. Registration and 6:00 PM Dinner. Cost: \$90.00 per person / \$155.00 couple / \$60.00 commuters. Please register online ([www.straphaelacenter.org](http://www.straphaelacenter.org)) or call St. Raphael Center at 610-642-5715.

## **WINTER DIRECTED RETREAT EXTENDED**

**January 25 - 4:00pm to February 1 - 11:00am OR**

**January 25 - 4:00pm to January 27 - 12:00pm**

Spend a week or a weekend in silence and tranquility to listen more deeply to the quiet voice of God. Our spiritual directors on staff will accompany you throughout this time of retreat in the Ignatian spirit. Come away to be renewed and refreshed in the abundant love of God. Cost: Ranges from \$200-\$605 depending on length of time & choice of room. Registration: On-line at [www.straphaelacenter.org](http://www.straphaelacenter.org) or call St. Raphaela Center at 610-642-5715 by Friday, January 11, 2019

**LILY'S GIFT**... If a prenatal diagnosis is poor... you are not alone. There is help. Lily's Gift is a network of concerned parents and professionals who have experienced or worked closely with issues surrounding poor prenatal diagnosis. Modeled and trained by BE NOT AFRAID, volunteers from Lily's Gift offer a free service of practical guidance and compassionate care focusing on meeting the needs of expectant parents as they seek to honor the life of their baby no matter how frail or how brief. For more info, visit [www.LilysGift.org](http://www.LilysGift.org), or [www.benotafraid.net](http://www.benotafraid.net). For support call Sr. Kathleen Schipani at 215.587.3530; or email [LilysGiftLuke12.27@gmail.com](mailto:LilysGiftLuke12.27@gmail.com).

**CAMILLA HALL**...known by many as the "**Powerhouse of Prayer**", is a convent home for the sick and aging Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary located in Immaculata, PA. The Camilla sisters are ready, willing and able to respond to your requests for prayers and special intentions. Consider putting the **Powerhouse of Prayer** to work for you. Call 610-386-2000 to leave a message or email [prayforme@camillahall.org](mailto:prayforme@camillahall.org).

**COURAGE, ENCOURAGE** and Same-Sex Attraction... Do you or a loved one struggle with same-sex attraction? The Courage Apostolate is the only national, ecclesiastically approved Catholic Ministry to men and women living with same-sex attraction. Courage is not an orientation change group. Rather, we are a spiritual support group for those who wish to live chastely in accordance with the teachings of the Church. To contact or speak with the Philadelphia Courage Chapter, email: [courage.philadelphia@gmail.com](mailto:courage.philadelphia@gmail.com) or call 215-587-4505. *Your confidentiality is respected.*

## **THE PRAYER NETWORK**



*Is the Lord calling you to ministry, but you don't drive or get out at night to participate?*

Join our Prayer Network and become a Prayer Warrior. A PRAYER NETWORK is the work of a silent, unobtrusive group of people who offer to "stand in the breach" and intercede for the serious needs of fellow parishioners, their families and friends. Since *prayer is its only purpose*, a parish prayer network can become a spiritual community builder unlike any other Church group. There is NO ORGANIZATION to it. It requires NO MEETINGS, NO OFFICERS, and NO ACTIVITIES. The "pray-ers" who volunteer can choose whatever kind of prayer they are led to use, for as long as they feel the Lord desires them to do so. A telephone call comes, needs are expressed and a prayer (usually a Hail Mary and Sacred Heart of Jesus, I trust in You) are prayed with the caller. The recipient calls the next person on the line and repeats the process. A prayer or two may be said during the day for those intentions. Your prayer may be an ejaculation (My Jesus, Mercy), a rosary or whatever prayer you are most comfortable with. We would hope that the family would pray together for the intentions, thus exposing the children to praying for the needs of others. This is one small way we can "love one another" as Jesus has commanded us. No one should ever have to feel alone in their suffering or time of crisis. For more information or to volunteer, please call 610-328-0741 or 610-543-0728.

### **ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK**

We salute the advertisers in our bulletin. This week we thank **CATHOLICMATCH PENNSYLVANIA**

*CatholicMatch.com/datePA*

*Please consider using our advertisers' services and tell them you saw their ad in our bulletin.*

### **CATHOLICPHILLY.COM**

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### **PRAYER FOR THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**Prayer Corner**  
O Almighty God, gracious provider and giver of life, we anxiously await the celebration of Your birth. Like the people of long ago, our ancestors in faith, we, too, are in need of light, in need of direction, in need of Your Word, to show us the way. Our busy lives and the consumerism that surrounds us make it difficult to recognize Your kingdom and to hear Your voice. Help us Lord, to focus on You. We pray that You hear our prayer in the name of Jesus. Amen.