

# ST. FRANCES CABRINI PARISH

## *Come and See* THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

325 S. Oxford Valley Road, Fairless Hills, PA 19030

### MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Evening Vigil: 5:30 PM

Sunday: 7:00, 9:00 & 11:00 AM

Monday - Saturday: 9:30 AM

HOLY DAYS: 6:30 AM, 12:00 Noon, 7:00 PM

(except January 1st which follows a Sunday Mass schedule)

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

SATURDAY: 4:15-5:15 PM or by appointment

### DAILY ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

#### SAINT JOSEPH CHAPEL

MONDAY - SATURDAY: 8:00 AM - 8:00 PM

SUNDAY: 12:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Rev. Msgr. Michael P. McCormac  
*Pastor*

Deacon Jonah Brox

Deacon Mace M. Mazzoni

Rev. Msgr. Michael K. Magee  
*Weekend Assistant*

Mrs. Theresa Leonetti O'Connor  
*Director of Parish Services*

Miss Jean E. Madden  
*Director of Religious Education*  
*Director of Music*

Mr. Henry J. Wajda, Jr.  
*Principal Organist*

Mrs. Karen M. David  
*Parish Business Manager*

Sr. MaryRose Mroz, SCC  
*Parish Secretary*

### Rectory Office

Hours: Monday-Friday

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM, 1:00 - 8:00 PM

Phone Number: 215-946-4040

Fax Number: 215-943-1116

Email: parish@saintfrancescabrini.net

### Office of Religious Education

Phone Number: 215-946-1115

Fax Number: 215-943-1116

Email: jeanemadden@saintfrancescabrini.net

### Holy Family Regional Catholic School

2477 Trenton Road, Levittown, PA 19056

Phone Number: 215-269-9600

Fax Number: 215-269-9609

Website: www.HFRCS.org;

Email: hfres@HFRCS.org

*Principal:* Mrs. Kara Haggerty

*Advancement Director:* Mrs. MaryAnn Conway

*Enrollment Director:* Ms. Brittany Konen

*Business Manager:* Mrs. Susan Weed

*Secretary:* Mrs. Michelle Mangapit



## SAINT FRANCES CABRINI PARISH PURPOSE STATEMENT

The Purpose of Saint Frances Cabrini Parish is to be reverently and passionately committed to the Liturgy and celebration of the Eucharist. Our Parish Community is a Catholic family ignited by the love of Christ, embracing compassion, love, and mutual respect for each other. We encourage and welcome everyone to share our life journey bearing witness to the teachings of Jesus Christ and joyfully praising God in our everyday lives.

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE: [WWW.SAINTFRANCESCABRINI.NET](http://WWW.SAINTFRANCESCABRINI.NET)



**Sunday December 17, 2023**

The 11:00 AM Mass will be celebrated for the deceased members of Saint Frances Cabrini Parish.

**Week of December 18, 2023**

- MONDAY**    **Advent Weekday**  
**9:30 AM**    Paul & Rose Schmidt—Rosemarie Schmidt
- TUESDAY**   **Advent Weekday**  
**9:30 AM**    Gregory & Craig Obert—Marjorie Obert
- WEDNESDAY** **Advent Weekday**  
**9:30 AM**    Henry J. Wajda, Sr.—The Pierce Family
- THURSDAY** **Advent Weekday**  
**9:30 AM**    Kristin DiMattia—Peg Koutsouros
- FRIDAY**    **Advent Weekday**  
**9:30 AM**    Joseph J. Deery, Sr.—his wife, Dolores
- SATURDAY** **Advent Weekday**  
**9:30 AM**    Tiffany Abate (27th Anniversary)—her parents, Bill & Darlene

**Sunday December 24, 2023**

The 5:30 PM Mass will be celebrated for the deceased members of Saint Frances Cabrini Parish.



**SANCTUARY LAMP MEMORIALS**

Sanctuary Lamps are being provided this week for  
*Linda Kreutzer—Chick and Family*  
*A Special Intention*

**BREAD AND WINE MEMORIALS**

The Bread and Wine is being provided this week for  
*Filippo Evola—Jean Madden*



Please pray for all those listed in our White Intercessory Book. We also pray for the following people and those who care for them:

- |                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Edward Baranoski   | Joseph Killian      |
| Harriet Beatrice   | Hailey Knorr        |
| Marie Breen        | Barbara Milorey     |
| Betty Brooks       | Maria Percaccia     |
| Mike Caine         | Dennis Pierce       |
| Peter Cellucci     | Marie Ranniello     |
| Josephine Dominick | Mimi Sabol          |
| Lorena Goodreau    | Justin Saunders     |
| Betty Graham       | Samantha Tomasick   |
| Marc Gravante      | Mark Whittaker, Jr. |
| George Kasperitis  | Jean Wilt           |

Please Note:

With regard to parishioners, relatives, and friends who are ill, we invite you to write their names in our White Intercessory Book. Your loved ones will be remembered in each of our weekend Masses.



We pray for our own families, our Parish Family, and all those who have lost their lives through war and violence.

May the Lord Jesus bring all our loved ones into His Kingdom especially

Walter Croke • Bob Hickey  
Fr. John Scarcia • Patrick Stanton

*Sanctuary Lamp Memorials and Bread and Wine Memorials are available for near dates. The first Masses available in 2024 are in August. As usual, Seminary Mass enrollments and Mission Masses are available to you. Stop in or call (215-946-4040) the Rectory Office.*

# The Advent Journey

Monsignor McCormac

As we now move into the third week of Advent, and realizing that the fourth week of Advent is only one day, the Fourth Sunday of Advent, it is hard to believe that very soon, we will be celebrating the birth of Christ. For many people, the month of December usually poses a challenge to stay focused on the true meaning of Christmas and the true significance of the birth of Jesus. With the constant pull of the merchandising world and constant undermining of our religious beliefs by the secular world, it is an ever constant struggle to be present to the grace of this holy season of Advent.

Sometime ago, I read a reflection that said that unlike years ago when anti-Christian people would argue against Christ and His message to the world, if Jesus were to come in the flesh today, the secular world would simply ignore him! They would treat Jesus as insignificant and irrelevant. Although we are preparing for the celebration of the birth of Christ, our Lord and Savior, there will be many who will celebrate the "holiday," without any reference to Christ and His message of love and peace for the world.

Although it is important to know that this reality exists, it is most important to return to the true meaning of our celebration. What is it that we Catholics celebrate at this time of the year? Father Daniel L. Lowery, a Redemptorist priest, wrote the following:

*"We celebrate the past: the birth of Jesus Christ in human history.*

*We celebrate the present: the presence of Jesus Christ in Word and Sacrament.*

*We celebrate the future: that Jesus Christ will come again in glory."*

The Christmas Feast is, then, a glorious celebration of the mystery of Christ, who loves us and came into the world for our salvation. It is a joyful reminder of the meaning of our Christian life, a life of faith, hope and love.

Recognizing that not everyone who "celebrates" Christmas believes in the Bethlehem Miracle, we praise and thank God for our Christian faith which allows us to say "yes, we do believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God and yes, we do celebrate His birth into our world and into our personal lives."

As we journey through Advent, continue to make time for reflection on the great mystery of our God coming to us!

In anticipation of Christmas Day, I am pleased to announce that we will be providing a Christmas Gift to our adult parishioners. At the doors of the church on Christmas Eve and on Christmas Day, we will be giving our parishioners the book, "Beautiful Eucharist." The book was written by Matthew Kelly and it contains 12 reflections on the Eucharist. In the beginning of the book, Matthew Kelly writes: "Encountering Jesus in the Eucharist should be like touching Heaven and that should change the way we live here on earth." During the National Eucharistic Revival, it is our collective prayer that this Christmas gift will provide everyone with a tremendous resource for our growing in our love and appreciation of the Holy Eucharist.

 **Annual Giving Tree**  
**If you have not yet returned your gift, please bring it to the church by noon Sunday, December 17. Thank you.**



**Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing.** In today's readings Isaiah, Paul, and John the Baptist rejoice because they have Good News. God is with them and working through them. They are anointed, blessed, and sent to do God's will. On this Gaudete Sunday, we, too, find reason to rejoice. Let us rejoice in sharing the Good News of Christ.

**Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11**

**1 Thessalonians 5:16-24**

**John 1:6-8, 19-28**

In the first reading, Isaiah is anointed by the Lord and sent to announce a day of vindication by our God. In the second reading, Paul encourages the Thessalonians to always rejoice, pray, and give thanks. In the Gospel, John the Baptist testifies to the light and says he is the voice of one crying out in the desert, "make straight the way of the Lord."

### **OBLIGATIONS OF THE FAITHFUL FOR THE 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT & CHRISTMAS 2023**

The faithful are bound to observe the obligation of Holy Mass for a Sunday as usual for the Fourth Sunday of Advent with attendance at the anticipated Mass or on Sunday morning. The faithful are bound to observe the obligation of Holy Mass for Christmas at the Vigil Mass or on Christmas Day. Thus, the faithful have two obligations back to back.



### **CHURCH DECORATING**

All parishioners are welcome to share their time and talent as we bring the joy of Christmas to St. Frances Cabrini Parish. There is much to do and many hands make light work!



Join us to decorate

**Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>  
12:30 PM**

We look forward to seeing you!

## **Martha's Cupboard**

Thank you for your continued support of the Martha's Cupboard Ministry!

If you have an extra free ham or turkey, you may drop it off at the Rectory, Monday-Friday between 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

Gift cards to local grocery stores are always welcome and may be dropped off at the vestibule of the church or at the Rectory.

The Cupboard will be open on Saturday December 23 from 11:00 AM-1:00 PM and will be closed on Monday December 25 for the Christmas holiday. The Cupboard will be open on Tuesday December 26 from 12:00 PM-2:00 PM.

If you know of anyone needing food assistance, please have them reach out to the Cupboard at [MarthasCupboard@saintfrancescabrini.net](mailto:MarthasCupboard@saintfrancescabrini.net) or send them to the Rectory.

Our Parish Community's Martha's Cupboard Ministry thanks you for your generosity in helping those in need within our civic community.

## **CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE**

### **CHRISTMAS EVE**

**Sunday, December 24**

**5:00 PM**

**7:30 PM**

**Midnight Mass**

### **CHRISTMAS DAY**

**Monday, December 25**

**7:00 AM**

**9:00 AM**

**11:00 AM**

*We look forward to celebrating  
Christ's birth with you!*





### Mary of Nazareth

What would it have been like to have known the Mother of God? Watch this beautiful film portraying the life of Mary in order to contemplate Mary's profound faith and the mysteries of her life.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription. Visit [formed.org/signup](https://formed.org/signup) and select our parish. Scan the QR code to download the FORMED app to your phone.



An offering from the AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE and GRACICUS PRESS



### Men of Harmony Christmas Concert December 17, 2023 \* 3:00 PM

#### St. Charles Seminary Appeal

A donation to the St. Charles Seminary Appeal supports our seminarians, candidates for the Permanent Diaconate, and lay church leaders in their formation. Most importantly, your gift provides for the future of our faith. Please prayerfully consider a gift to this year's Appeal to provide for the future generations of the Church.



Please send your contribution to:  
Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary  
CL # 5315  
P.O. Box 95000-5315  
Philadelphia, PA 19195-0001

### SAINT FRANCES CABRINI PARISH COMMUNITY POT OF GOLD WEEKLY LOTTERY PROGRAM



December 11, 2023

13—20—21—27—30

**JACKPOT PRIZE WINNER  
(None)**

**CONSOLATION PRIZE WINNERS  
1@ \$1,000**

**WINNER**  
Yalitza

**SELLER**  
Victoria Snyder

**NEXT WEEK'S JACKPOT PRIZE  
\$11,000**

Thank you for participating in the Pot of Gold Program. For more information, contact the Rectory at 215-946-4040. We are not responsible for typographical errors.

Please be aware there will be no drawing on December 25 (Christmas day) rather, it will take place on Tuesday, December 26.

#### WE ARE A TITHING COMMUNITY

Sunday Collection—December 3, 2023	\$9,194
Parish Giving EFT	\$4,065
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$13,259</b>
Prior Year's Collection	\$14,096

As always, we thank you for your generosity and support of our St. Frances Cabrini Parish Community.

#### Why Online Giving?

It's simple: Go to our parish website, click on the Parish Giving Logo, and follow the easy registration instructions.

It's secure: Parish Giving is Payment Card Industry compliant and uses the strongest encryption technology available.

It's convenient: No more searching for the check book or stops at the ATM machine. You can pick the day of the month for recurring contributions.

Contact our Business Manager, Karen David, at 215-946-4040 with any questions.

**Saint Ephrem Parish: Living Nativity**  
**7:00pm, Thursday, December 21**

A cast of over thirty parishioners offer a dramatic presentation of the birth of Our Lord with song and Scripture. All are welcome to join us as we celebrate with great joy the birth of our Lord Jesus!

5400 Hulmeville Road, Bensalem

**Share Christmas Joy!**  
**Join us in Caroling**  
**for the Homebound**  
**Thursday, December 28<sup>th</sup>**  
**between 6:00 PM & 8:30 PM**



Bring Christ to our homebound parishioners who are physically unable to join our Christmas celebrations. Members of the Saint Frances Cabrini Music Ministry will take the lead in singing a variety of Christmas songs and hymns on the doorsteps of our homebound parishioners.

**ALL are encouraged to participate and share in the joy of the Christmas season.**

To add a name to either the list of carolers or to the list of homes on our caroling route, or for additional information, please call Jean Madden at 215-946-4040

Archdiocese of Philadelphia




**Be Encouraged**  
 Catholic Support for Mental Health

Holidays can be a difficult time emotionally and mentally for many, please do not hesitate to reach out for assistance!

Resources to assist with healing, accompaniment and flourishing


[archphila.org/support](http://archphila.org/support)

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VISIT US AT [HFRCS.ORG](http://HFRCS.ORG)


The **Sisters of Christian Charity**, who were founded by Blessed Pauline von Mallinckrodt in 1849, will be holding a service trip in honor of the **175th anniversary** of their Congregation. It is open to young women ages 18-30, and includes opportunities to visit some of the ministries of the Sisters, and follow in the footsteps of Blessed Pauline who visited the USA twice during her lifetime. For more information see the link below or contact: [vocations@scceast.org](mailto:vocations@scceast.org).

**MOTHER PAULINE SERVICE TRIP**



*"My hands at work, my heart with God."*

January 15-29  
 Mendham, NJ  
 Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 New York, NY

Spend two weeks walking in the footsteps of Mother Pauline in North America



Young women age 18-30  
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