



**PRIEST MASS SCHEDULE FOR SUNDAY, APRIL , 2024**

5:00PM Fr. John  
 6:30AM Fr. Kirk  
 8:00AM Fr. Kirk  
 10:00AM Fr. John  
 12:00PM Fr. Monica

**Monday April 15, 2024**

6:30 Stratton Family req. by Family  
 8:00 Steven O'Keefe req. by Taylor Family

**Tuesday April 16, 2024**

6:30 Robert Johnson req. by John Mirkil  
 8:00 Victor J. Orkis req. by Regina McNamee

**Wednesday April 17, 2024**

6:30 Joe Reilly req. by Family  
 8:00 Ann Marasheski req. by Teson Family

**Thursday April 18, 2024**

6:30 Robert Johnson req. by Linda Campbell  
 8:00 Patricia Friel req. by Friend

**Friday April 19, 2024**

6:30 Anthony Vinci req. by Sandy & Mike McGill  
 8:00 Dorothy Ann Slawter req. by Nora Kramer

**Saturday April 20, 2024**

8:00 Colleen Everly req. by Ciampoli Family  
 5:00PM Carmen Neir req. by Family

**Sunday April 21, 2024**

6:30 Frank Dzwoniarek req. by Maryanne & Paul Klein  
 8:00 Eugene & Frances Rysak req. by Rysak Family  
 10:00 Dec'd Mem of Beck Fam req. by Michael Beck  
 12:00 Henry Cole req. by Patricia Cole



**All sick parishioners, their relatives, and friends:**

Danny Robbins- son of Kathy & Jack Robbins  
Carol Mannion- friend of Frank & Lillian Daley

**All deceased parishioners, their relatives, and friends:**

Dorothy Nichols- mother of Lisa Vega and sister of Ruth Ann McCann

Margaret Laigaie- parishioner  
Richard Cunningham- parishioner

**For those in the armed forces:** Joseph Pitts-Air Force; Brendan Vizza-Marines; Andrew Morrison, Marine Corp; Eric Charles Taylor-Navy; Emma Marks-Navy; Ryan Sylvester-Air Force; Kyle Higgins-Army; Justin T. Erbrick-Army; Sean Conroy-Navy; Joseph Erbrick, III-Marines; Joseph Costick-Coast Guard; Christopher Smith-Navy; Alex McAneney-Air Force; Brian McGinty-Marines; Dan O'Brien-Air Force; Ashley O'Brien-Air Force; Daniel Patty-Navy; Michael Sheppard-Air Force; Hoku Teson-Army; John McFillin-Navy; Trevor O'Malley-Army; Daniel Taylor-Air Force; Stephen Winther-Marines; Bobby Winther-Navy; Amanda Smith-Navy; Joseph Patty-Army; Christian Curtis-Marines; Thomas Campbell-Marines; Michael Bones, Jr-Navy

**Divine Mercy Prayers** are on the third Sunday of each Month after the 10 AM Mass. All are welcome.

**Hospital Visits** - If you are in the hospital and would like a visit from a priest, please call the rectory office at 215-637-7515. Due to HIPPA laws we are unable to get information from the hospital - we must hear directly from the patient/family.

**Congratulations to our March Calendar Winners - #519, 124, 416, 316, 428.**

**LITURGY SCHEDULE FOR APRIL 21, 2024**

Mass	Communion	Lectors
5:00PM	R. Hill C. Hill	D. Haggerty
6:30AM	L. Konopka	K. McNab
8:00AM	A. Lozada R. Johnson	J. Teson
10:00AM	B. Wagner C. Mulray	N. Burnosky J. Lynch
12:00PM	B. Richmond D. Bores	J. Guiffre





**GRADUATION SCHOLARSHIPS** – Every year at this time we ask parishioners and friends of OLC to consider a donation of any amount toward a Memorial Scholarship for a deserving OLC 8<sup>th</sup> Grader to assist with their high school tuition. The Class of 2024 has many deserving students that would benefit from your generosity- if you are able to do so. Checks may be dropped off at the school or rectory and made payable to Our Lady of Calvary School. Any consideration to invest in their future Catholic education would be greatly appreciated.

**BSA TROOP 460** is hosting a SPAGHETTI DINNER in appreciation for seniors in our community at Our Lady of Calvary Gym on Saturday, April 27, 2024 from 4:00PM to 7:00 PM. Doors open at 3:45PM. RSVP required by Wednesday, April 24, 2024 to Sarah Janiszewski at 610-742-8173 or Stephanie West at 267-688-5334.

**AI Anon** meeting at 7:00PM on Sundays (in person) in the lower church meeting room.

**2024 SBS Gala – the Spirit of Peace and St. Katharine Drexel National Justice Award Presentation** on Sunday, April 28, 2024 – interested in supporting us – Purchase a raffle ticket; support through advertising in our Ad book or become a sponsor. For more information, visit [www.KatharineDrexel.org/news-events/GALA-2024](http://www.KatharineDrexel.org/news-events/GALA-2024) or contact the Gala Committee at 267-592-6711 or [sbscm.cfgp@gmail.com](mailto:sbscm.cfgp@gmail.com)

**Marriage Encounter Experience** – is an enrichment for married couples who value their relationship and desire a richer, fuller life together. It is also for priests and religious who want to strengthen their relationships with their church communities. Our next Marriage Encounter is at Our Lady of Czestochowa, Doylestown, Pa on April 19-21, July 12-14, Oct 11-13 and Nov 15-17. For more information visit our website at [www.wwme-philly.org](http://www.wwme-philly.org) or contact Al & Mary Liz at [Applications@wwme-philly.org](mailto:Applications@wwme-philly.org) or call 610-449-1859.

**CALVARY SENIORS** meet every Tuesday – doors open at 9:30AM and meetings begin at 10:30AM. We meet at Regina Coeli Hall, 9617 James Street. Come join us and enjoy playing cars and bingo.

**CARING FOR FRIENDS FROZEN MEALS** – drop off at Our Lady of Calvary – if you are looking to donate meals please abide to these guidelines: We only accept Frozen Prepared Meals. (No can goods, box cereals, non-prepared frozen dinners.)

**St. Katherine of Siena Parish** is hosting “QUIZZO” night, along with the NE Philadelphia Pro Life Coalition, in McBride Hall on Friday, April 19, 2024 from 7-10PM for \$35 per person. Admission includes” Entertainment, pizza, beer, snacks, and prizes. Gift baskets will be raffled off. To register and for more information call Mike McMonigal at 215-393-3610.

**The Ladies of the Knights of Columbus #4765** are sponsoring a DESIGNER BAG BINGO on Saturday, April 20, 2024 at St. Thoms Aquinas Parish, Father Crehan Hall, 121 Belmont Avenue, Croydon. Doors open at 5:30PM and games start at 7:00PM. Tickets are \$30/pp. BYOB and BYOS. For more information and/or tickets contact the Parish Office at 215-788-2989.

**Nazareth Academy High School** is sponsoring SPRING OPEN HOUSE on Wednesday, April 24, 2024. Any prospective students and their families are welcome to attend! Pre-registration is required –

[NazarethAcademyHS.org/Admissions/visit-us](http://NazarethAcademyHS.org/Admissions/visit-us). Or Contact Ashley Figaniak at 215-268-1026.

BEACH BAG BINGO is Friday, May 3, 2024 from 6:30PM to 9PM for girls in 7<sup>th</sup> grade – this is a free event with bingo, prizes, pizza and refreshments. Must register for this event at the above email address.

**April is Abortion Recovery Awareness Month** – are you or someone you love suffering from a traumatic pregnancy loss and experiencing – depression, anxiety and panic attacks, intense grief, sadness, rage, feelings of shame and guilt, etc. – you can find healing. Experience forgiveness and be freed from shame. Confidential, compassionate, non-judgmental help is available. For in-person retreat contact [RachelsVineyard.org](http://RachelsVineyard.org) or for online go to [HerChoiceToHela.com](http://HerChoiceToHela.com); [ShjeFoundHisGrace.org](http://ShjeFoundHisGrace.org); [Saveone.org](http://Saveone.org)

**SPONSOR OF THE WEEK**  
**Our Lady of Calvary appreciates**  
**AAA – MIKE ALTOMARI – Travel Advisor**  
**for advertising in our bulletin**

## Making Sense of Bioethics:

### Should I Have a Living Will?

A living will (also called an “advance directive”) may seem like a good idea, but it can sometimes end up serving as a rather “blunt instrument” when it comes to handling complex and nuanced end-of-life situations. Moreover, living wills are sometimes used to buttress or justify some of the morally problematic decisions being made in health care settings today.

**One of the major difficulties with some living wills is that they may be written using broad and imprecise language, giving rise to the idea that all treatment options are morally equivalent.** One widely available living will called “5 Wishes” offers morally dubious choices to the patient by including, as but one example, the following series of check—boxes:

#### *Permanent And Severe Brain Damage And Not Expected To Recover:*

If my doctor and another health care professional both decide that I have permanent and severe brain damage, (for example, I can open my eyes, but I cannot speak or understand) and I am not expected to get better, and life-support treatment would only delay the moment of my death (Choose one of the following):

I want to have life-support treatment.

I do not want life-support treatment. If it has been started, I want it stopped.

I want to have life-support treatment if my doctor believes it could help. But I want my doctor to stop giving me life-support treatment if it is not helping my health condition or symptoms.

The various options presented above cannot be morally legitimate for every case of severe brain damage, even though they are offered as if they were. Severe brain damage affects different people differently, *but even when likely to cause a permanent disability, or otherwise lower the individual’s “quality of life,” this does not imply that we always have a valid moral option to discontinue life support.* Many people live in compromised, less-than-ideal situations, yet are valuable members of our families and communities. Some have argued that the loose language of many living wills has the effect of setting up a “glide path” into euthanasia or physician-assisted suicide.

Too often, people imagine that the choice to accept or decline a particular medical intervention can be made in a kind of vacuum, as if every decision were equally acceptable, since we are “free to choose” But the freedom to make our own health care decisions implies that we have moral duties, one of which is to be certain that we are using the “ordinary” or “proportionate” interventions needed to maintain our life and health. Those medical treatments, medications, and procedures

that offer reasonable hope of benefit without grave burden to oneself or another are ordinary care, and are morally required.

An advance directive can be a “blunt instrument” for another reason. In drafting a living will, we may suppose the ability to foresee, predict or somehow imagine what our particular medical situation will be like in the future, maybe 10 or 20 years down the road. This is clearly an exercise in speculation, and we might actually fare better in the stock market or in Las Vegas than in an exercise of this sort.

I recall hearing about a man who asked a Catholic ethicist to review his living will and see if there was anything in it that would be in conflict with good ethics or Catholic teaching. The document was a full 26 pages long, covering as many scenarios as the man could imagine or dream up. After looking over the living will, the ethicist told him that he had only one comment: it was too short! Even when we labor exhaustively in preparation of a living will, we can’t realistically be expected to cover every possibility, and we may miss the one condition or circumstance that does eventually befall us.

Moreover, we don’t always know what a particular situation will really be like before it happens. We may tell ourselves ahead of time that we would never want to be hooked up to a ventilator, for example, but when we find ourselves laboring or gasping for every breath, we may suddenly view things in a very different light.

**Better than a living will, or at least together with it, we should always choose a surrogate, a living person, who will make health care decisions in real time on our behalf if we are rendered unable to do so. The proposed surrogate (also called a “health care proxy”) is someone who we trust and who loves us. Such a person is reasonably able to make decisions in accord with our known wishes and with our best medical and spiritual interests in mind.**

Filling out a form to designate our proxy is a sensible way to prepare for difficult end-of-life situations that may arise. Preparing such a written document can also prompt us to begin discussing these important topics more effectively with our families and loved ones.

[Forms are available to assist with selecting a health care proxy: see the link to the “end-of-Life Guide” under the Publications/Store section of The NCBC website – [www.ncbcenter.org](http://www.ncbcenter.org)].

*Fr. Tad Pacholczyk earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and did postdoctoral work at Harvard. He is a priest of the diocese of Fall River, MA, and serves as Senior Ethicist at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia.*

Copyright© 2020, The National Catholic Bioethics Center, Philadelphia, PA. All rights reserved.

If there is a specific topic or questions you would like addressed in this column, please email me at [profteson@gmail.com](mailto:profteson@gmail.com)