



PRIEST MASS SCHEDULE FOR SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 2024

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

Monday April 8, 2024

6:30 Marge Carter req. by Linda Dzwoniarek
 8:00 Joan Barron req. by O'Neil Family

Tuesday April 9, 2024

6:30 Bridget & Grandmom req. by Grace White
 8:00 Helen Davis req. by Bielawski Family

Wednesday April 10, 2024

6:30 Maryann & Charles Garuffe req. by Grace White
 8:00 Joan Sheridan req. by Seamus & Cathy Bonner

Thursday April 11, 2024

6:30 Bridget Higgins req. by Mom, Dad, John
 8:00 June C. Shields req. by Linda Caristo

Friday April 12, 2024

6:30 Anne O'Shea req. by Teson Family
 8:00 Maureen O'Donnell req. by Quiring Family

Saturday April 13, 2024

8:00 Stan Kaluza req. by Debbie Klineski
 5:00PM June C. Shields req. by Ed & MaryAnn Murray

Sunday April 14, 2024

6:30 Mary Ann McFadden req. by Grow Family
 8:00 Diane Hodowanec req. by Dolores Snell
 10:00 Thanksgiving to St. Anthony req. by J. Hueber
 12:00 Jennie, Rene, & Elaine Garcia req. by Family



All sick parishioners, their relatives, and friends:

Dorothy Nichols- mother of Lisa Vega and sister of Ruthann McCann

All deceased parishioners, their relatives, and friends:

Bill Knox- nephew of Margaret & James Knox

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 McAnaney-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.

LITURGY SCHEDULE FOR APRIL 14, 2024

<i>Mass</i>	<i>Communion</i>	<i>Lectors</i>
5:00PM	R. Gola C. Gola	S. Donohue
6:30AM	S. Brown	M. Konopka
8:00AM	J. Robbins M. Bloesch	R. Johnson
10:00AM	M. Ciampoli E. Taylor	T. Cullen C. Comly
12:00PM	J. Spear R. Spear	J. Spear

MEMORIAL FUND

Thank you to the Palumbo Family for their donation in memory of *Catherine Banas*.





CONGRATULATIONS to the following who received their sacraments at the Easter Vigil –

- Joanne DeFrancis*
- Kam DeFrancis*
- Layla Sammon*
- Austin Kooker*
- Richard Pyott*
- Leona Xiao*
- Scott Garton*
- Kathleen Momme*
- Leo Melesio*
- Ivan Xiao*

Divine Mercy Sunday – April 7

The Divine Mercy Chaplet will be sung after the 12:00PM Mass

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 8th 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.

IHM NUN RUN – A 5K Run / 3K Walk – early bird registration is April 1 -15th – register by May 10th to be assured a t-shirt. Sponsored by the Sisters – Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary at Camilla Hall, 100 Maxis Drive, Malvern, PA. Proceeds benefit Camilla Hall, the convent home and health care center for the Sisters. For information or to register go to www.ihmnunrun.org A fun family day and great opportunity for youth, young adults and all those who like to run or walks

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 or contact the Gala Committee at 267-592-6711 or sbscm.cfcp@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 or contact Al & Mary Liz at 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.)

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. Or Contact Ashley Figaniak at 215-268-1026.

BEACH BAG BINGO is Friday, May 3, 2024 from 6:30PM to 9PM for girls in 7th 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 or for online go to HerChoiceToHela.com; ShjeFoundHisGrace.org; Saveone.org

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Making Sense of Bioethics

What About Synthetic Embryos?

Embryonic stem cells have held out a certain appeal and promise because they are remarkably flexible. Researchers can make various cell types out of them, whether nerve cells or pancreatic islet cells, and these could, in theory, be used to treat diseases like Parkinson’s or diabetes. These morally-problematic cells, obtained by destroying human embryos, are, however, limited in their degree of flexibility, lacking the ability to “rewind” and make an entire embryo. Until now.

Recent reports suggest it may now be possible to generate “synthetic embryos” from embryonic stem cells through various manipulations, including genetic re-programming steps and mixing various cell types together, without the need for sperm and egg. Researchers claim that synthetic embryos could be used to help them unlock the mysteries of very early human development and address early pregnancy loss.

When a researcher from Cambridge University and another in Israel recently announced that they had been able to produce such an “embryo model,” a longstanding “line in the biological sand” appears to have been crossed, along with some important ethical lines as well.

At least two notable ethical concerns arise in the wake of this new technology: First, the use of unethically-derived cell types in biomedical research, especially human embryonic stem cells, still remains a major concern. Second, if scientists are able to successfully produce a living human embryo by this technology, this would clearly raise additional serious ethical objections.

New human beings are entitled to the respect of entering the world only through the marital embrace. Any time we create living human embryos by other approaches, whether by cloning, by IVF, by synthetic embryo construction, or by other novel methods, we cross a key moral line.

The big question hanging over this research is: Are these so-called “synthetic embryos” really living human embryos? If they are, we have walked right into the ethical landmine of creating human beings solely to be exploited for research or experimental purposes. If they are not, can that line be crossed through additional steps to make them authentic human embryos?

Scientists are likely to continue to improve their techniques so as to generate better embryo stand-ins, enabling them to study in ever greater detail the way that early human development unfolds.

As the Director of the Anscombe Bioethics Centre, David Albert Jones, sums it up:

A synthetic embryo is not a ‘model’ of an embryo, it is an attempt to make an embryo. If this attempt is successful, scientifically, then it will be wrong ethically, but if it is not successful scientifically then it will not be able to tell us much about normal human development.

The lab from Cambridge concluded that the structures it made were not real embryos. Alfonso Martinez Arias, a

developmental biologist at Pompeu Fabra University in Barcelona, Spain agreed, describing them as “masses of cells separated into compartments, but no embryolike organization.” He suggested that the cell manipulation “confuses what [the] cells do” so that a real embryo is not produced.

The research team based at the Weizmann Institute in Israel, however, produced extremely realistic synthetic embryo models that grew for up to two weeks. They exhibited characteristics quite similar to regular embryos, as developmental biologist Jesse Veenvliet of the Max Planck Institute of Molecular Cell Biology and Genetics pointed out: “The similarity to the natural embryo is remarkable, almost uncanny.” If it walks like a duck and quacks like a duck then, as they say, might it really be a duck?

Some claim that if synthetic embryos were implanted, they would fail to initiate a pregnancy, and this proves they aren’t real embryos. But women’s pregnancies sometimes fail through miscarriages not because their child was “not an embryo,” but because their child was affected by a genetic or developmental defect.

Could these newly-produced synthetic embryos be real embryos that have a defect thanks to the various laboratory manipulations they have undergone? It seems unsafe to start from the assumption that they are “synthetic” and hence “not-truly embryos,” given the challenging task of distinguishing a “non-embryo” from an “embryo with a defect.”

By employing terms like “embryo structures,” “synthetic embryos,” “stem cell embryo models,” Or even “stembrayos,” researchers may be seeking to go around ethics by relying on euphemism.

Even though sperm and egg are not directly employed to make synthetic embryos, this also does not rule out the possibility that these entities could be genuine embryos. In human cloning, for example, no sperm is needed to make real cloned human embryos. Dolly the sheep arose from a real sheep embryo, even though no sperm was involved. Over time scientists are coming up with more technologically advanced ways of creating organisms, including human organisms, apart from the usual approach that relies directly on sperm and egg.

Ethically speaking, a great deal is at stake in these kinds of synthetic embryo experiments that threaten to manipulate and destroy human life. These developmental studies ought to be carried out by studying animal models, carefully avoiding the use of human embryonic stem cells and the production of human embryos.

Article: What About Synthetic Embryos? Date: May, 2023. Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D. earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and did post-doctoral work at Harvard. He is a priest of the diocese of Fall River, MA, and serve as the Director of Education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. Father Tad writes a monthly column on timely life issues.