



PRIEST MASS SCHEDULE FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2024

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

Monday December 16, 2024

6:30 Timothy Gardner req. by Matt & Betsy Sheprow
 8:00 Fred S. Perrone req. by Ciampoli Family

Tuesday December 17, 2024

6:30 Marie DiGiovanni req. by Katie O'Brien
 8:00 Dolores Chiodo req. by Seamus & Cathy Bonner

Wednesday December 18, 2024

6:30 Janis Beatty req. by Brangan Family
 8:00 Dorothy Nichols req. by Ron & Marge Mikulski

Thursday December 19, 2024

6:30 Catherine Clark req. by Family
 8:00 Sr. Mary Ann Mulzet req. by Nina Rossi

Friday December 20, 2024

6:30 Olga Drozd req. by Maureen & Rich Trzaska
 8:00 Sr. Mary Ann Mulzet req. by Nina Rossi

Saturday December 21, 2024

8:00 Patty Nungesser req. by Brian & Kathy
 5:00PM Patty Nungesser req. by Joey & Maryellen

Sunday December 22, 2024

6:30 Patricia Urso req. by Leone Family
 8:00 Dec'd mem of Macdonald/Howard Fam req. by Kloepfer Fam
 10:00 Margaret Zachwieja req. by John & Lynn Matonis
 12:00 Frank Dzwoniarek req. by Gerard Family



All sick parishioners, their relatives, and friends:

Michael Morris – brother of Jim Morris
Geraldine Lapinsky – friend of Kilrain Family
Teresa Fochtman – friend of Kilrain Family
Elizabeth Duggan – mother of Kathleen Duggan
Tom Gimbel – nephew of Jean Trojak
Ken Gimbel – nephew of Jean Trojak

All deceased parishioners, their relatives, and friends:

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

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 NOVEMBER CALENDAR WINNERS - #203, 145,713, 359, 650,299.

LITURGY SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER 22, 2024

<i>Mass</i>	<i>Communion</i>	<i>Lectors</i>
5:00PM	S. Michielli S. Wilson	S. Donohue
6:30AM	S. Brown	K. McNabb
8:00AM	J. Sweeten M. Hatfield	R. Juliano
10:00AM	M. Ciampoli E. Taylor	N. Burnosky J. Lynch
12:00PM	R. Spear J. Spear	J. Spear



CHRISTMAS WAFERS – (OPLATEK) are available at the Convent or School Office. A goodwill offering is acceptable.

TEMPORARY ENVELOPES – Please remember before placing a temporary envelope in the Offertory basket at Mass to write your name and address on the front of the envelope. Temporary envelopes are located right inside the front doors of the Church and can be used if you forgot your envelope or did not receive your regular mailing envelopes or if you are a visitor. Putting cash in an envelope and not identifying yourself is the same as simply putting loose cash in the basket which is fine, but does not require an envelope. If you are attending and contributing to the Church regularly, please call the Rectory Office to pursue being added to your membership files and receive pre-printed envelopes which can be used to record your offering and produce a tax statement of your charitable contributions. Thank you for your continued support of Our Lady of Calvary Parish.

HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE – Help TJ FLUEHR & his STAFF to fill the cupboard at Holy Redeemer Food Pantry this December. We will be collecting non-perishable food items to be distributed to families in need through December 22nd. The food pantry is in need of ready-made items such as, but not limited to, canned soups, canned raviolis, canned pasta and meatballs, pasta sauces in plastic jars, etc. Through your generosity, we hope to feed many families this holiday season. Please place items in the designated box at the back of church or reach out to us directly at 215-637-7373.

CASH CALENDARS are being sold in the OLC Rectory during regular business hours. This is a very important fundraiser for our Parish – please support us if you are able. The cost of each calendar is \$40. Thank you!

Please support the VISCONTO FAMILY’S 20th ANNUAL ST. FRANCIS INN BLANKET DRIVE. With the help of our family, friends and neighbors we have been able to spread warmth around the Philadelphia area and we sincerely thank you. You may drop off all blankets to the Visconto Funeral Home, 2031 Vista Street or to 3908 Fairdale Road. You are also welcome to call us at 215-637-8184 and we will be happy to pick your blankets up. Drop off date is December 15 from 1-3PM. THANK YOU!

The George Karusky, IV Memorial Foundation keeps the spirit of GK4 alive. The GK4 Memorial Foundation is offering two four-year scholarships at \$500.00 per year to two students (a Raider and Ragdoll) entering 9th Grade at Archbishop Ryan High School for the school year of 2025/26. Applications must be submitted by Saturday, March 1, 2025. For more information go to gk4foundation@gmail.com

2nd Annual ASH BASH supporting the Superhero Project Inc. – February 15th from 7:00-11:00 PM at The Heroes Ballroom – Formal Dress – dinner – open bar – raffle baskets – 50/50s. \$100/per – purchase a table with friends of 10. Call 215-622-4268. If you are interested in donating, making a basket or want to honor your superhero, please reach out!

CALVARY SENIORS meet every Tuesday at Regina Coeli Hall (across from Torresdale train station), 9617 James Street. Doors open at 9:30 and the meeting start at 10:30. NO MEETING ON DECEMBER 24 and DECEMBER 31 – meetings resume JANUARY 7, 2025.

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

Questions and Answers on Stem Cell Research

by Pennsylvania Catholic Bishops (Part 3 of 3)

The following is an effort to present in an even briefer form information about stem cell research.

What is stem cell?

A stem cell is essentially a “blank” [unspecialized] cell, capable of becoming another more differentiated cell type in the body, such as a skin cell, a muscle cell, or a nerve cell.

Why are stem cells important?

Stem cells can be used to replace or heal damaged tissues or cells in the body.

What are the two broad classes of stem cells?

The two broad classes of stem cells are **embryonic** type and **adult** type.

The **embryonic** type are: embryonic stem cells and embryonic germ cells.

The **adult** type are: umbilical cord stem cells, placental stem cells and adult stem cells.

Where do adult stem cells come from?

Umbilical cords, placentas and amniotic fluid – Adult type stem cells can be derived from various pregnancy-related tissues.

Adult Tissues – In adults, stem cells are present within various tissues and organ systems. These include the bone marrow, liver, epidermis, retina, skeletal muscle, intestine, brain, dental pulp, and elsewhere. Even fat obtained from liposuction has been shown to contain significant numbers of adult type stem cells.

Cadavers – Neural stem cells have been removed from specific areas in post-mortem human brains as late as 20 hours following death.

How do embryonic and adult stem cells compare?

Embryonic stem cell advantages:

1. Flexible – appear to have the potential to make any cell.
2. “Immortal” - one embryonic stem cell line can potentially provide an endless supply of cells with defined characteristics.
3. Availability – embryos from in vitro fertilization clinics.

Embryonic stem cell disadvantages:

1. Destruction of human life.
2. Difficult to differentiate uniformly and homogeneously into a target tissue.

3. Immunogenic – embryonic stem cells from a random embryo donor are likely to be rejected after transplant.
4. Tumorigenic – capable of forming tumors or promoting tumor formation.

Adult stem cell advantages:

1. Special adult type stem cells from bone marrow and from umbilical cords have been isolated recently which appear to be as flexible as the embryonic type.
2. Already somewhat specialized - inducement may be simpler.
3. Not immunogenic – recipients who receive the products of their own stem cells will not experience immune rejection.
4. Relative ease of procurement – some adult stem cells are easy to harvest (skin, muscle, marrow, fat), while others may be more difficult to obtain (brain stem cells). Umbilical and placental stem cells are likely to be readily available.
5. Non-tumorigenic – tend not to form tumors.
6. No harm done to donor.

Adult stem cell disadvantages:

1. Limited Quantity – can sometimes be difficult to obtain in large numbers.
2. Finite – may not live as long as embryonic stem cells in culture.
3. Less flexible (with the exception of #1 under “Adult stem cell advantages”) – may be more difficult to reprogram to form other tissue types.

Why are adult stem cells preferable to embryonic stem cells?

Adult stem cells are a “natural” solution. They naturally exist in our bodies, and they provide a natural repair mechanism for many tissues of our bodies. They belong in the microenvironment of an adult body while embryonic stem cells belong in the microenvironment of the early embryo, not in an adult body where they tend to cause tumors and immune system reactions. Most importantly, adult stem cells have already been successfully used in human therapies for many years. As of the date of this publication, NO therapies in humans have been successfully carried out using embryonic stem cells. New therapies using adult stem cells, on the other hand, are being developed all the time. There are many examples of success stories using adult stem cells.

Questions and Answers on Stem Cells (Presented here with permission of the NCBC and Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, PhD)