

# St. Augustine R. C. Parish First Sunday of Advent December 3, 2023



National Shrine of  
Santo Niño de Cebú

*"Creating A Community Of Involvement And Evangelization"*

**Served by the Augustinian Friars since 1796**

*St. Augustine parish is an open, diverse, and active Roman Catholic community rooted in the Gospel of Jesus Christ and founded in the Augustinian Tradition. We invite all to participate in our worship, service to others, and our faith development. These endeavors allow us to grow in the knowledge of God present in ourselves and each other.*

*Our community joyfully welcomes all who are searching for a spiritual center to call home.*

243 North Lawrence Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19106  
(GPS Address: 250 N. 4th Street)  
Phone: 215-627-1838 FAX: 215-627-3911



Website: [www.st-augustinechurch.com](http://www.st-augustinechurch.com)

#### Office Hours:

9:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday to Friday

#### Mass Schedule:

Monday - Friday: 12:05 PM (LiveStreamed)  
(10:00 AM on Legal Holidays)

Saturday Vigil — *Suspended Indefinitely*

Sunday: 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM & 7:00 PM  
(All Masses are LiveStreamed)

#### Parish Staff:

Rev. William F. Waters, O.S.A.  
Pastor (Ext. 110)  
[pastorstaugustine@gmail.com](mailto:pastorstaugustine@gmail.com)

Jacob A. Marquart, III, O.F.S.  
Parish Services Director (Ext. 115)  
[staugustineparish09@gmail.com](mailto:staugustineparish09@gmail.com)

Jean Mangini  
Wedding Coordinator (Ext. 118)  
[staugweddings9@gmail.com](mailto:staugweddings9@gmail.com)

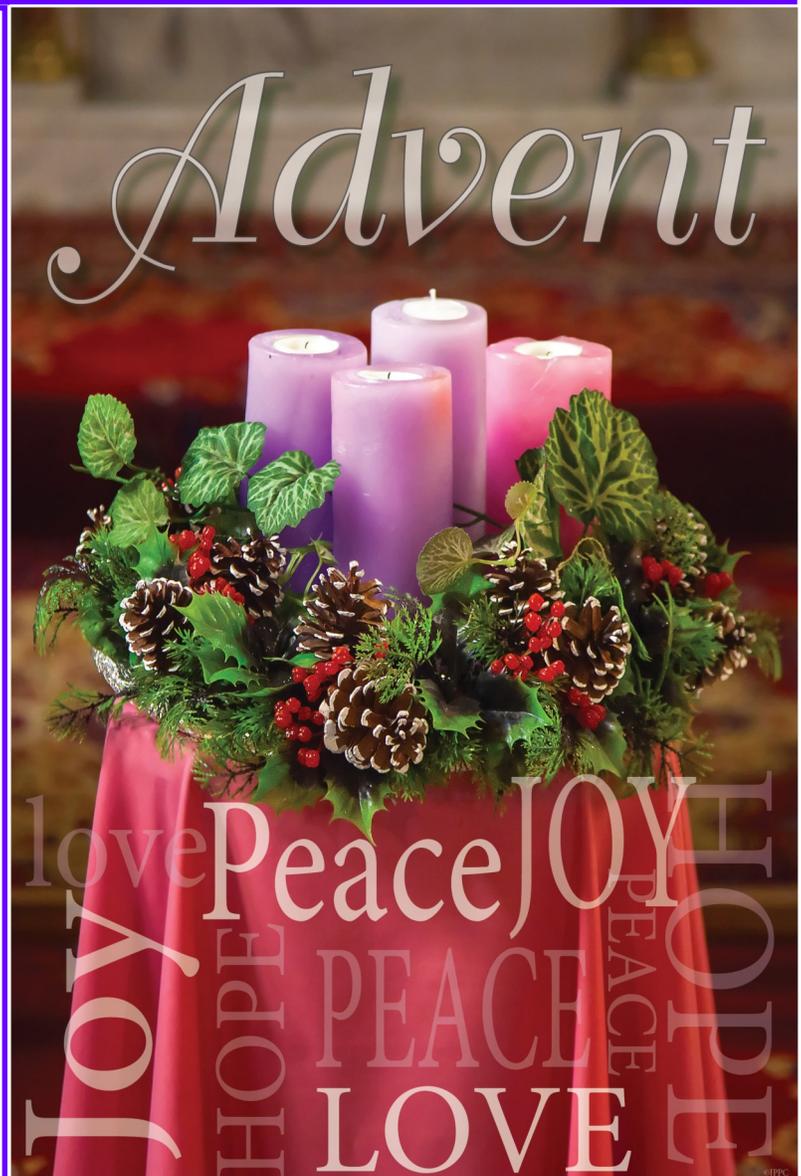
Kim Barroso  
Music Director  
[kim.barroso@gmail.com](mailto:kim.barroso@gmail.com)

Adam Klukiewski  
Maintenance Director (Ext. 111)  
[facilities243@gmail.com](mailto:facilities243@gmail.com)

Tim Babbage  
Accountant (Ext. 116)  
[timbabbage@hotmail.com](mailto:timbabbage@hotmail.com)

#### In Residence:

Rev. Paul Morrissey, O.S.A., [spirhealth@aol.com](mailto:spirhealth@aol.com)  
Rev. James Paradis, O.S.A., Prior  
Rev. Richard O'Leary, O.S.A.



Weekly Parish Rosary via Zoom—8:00 PM on Tuesday  
Meeting ID: 854-1235-0301 PW: 150408

Weekly Scripture Study via Zoom—7:00 PM on Thursday  
Meeting ID: 832-4986-0935 PW: 025786



**Saint Augustine Parish Giving Tree** will be supporting the following organizations this year: **Bethesda Project, Adeodatus Prison Ministry, The Gift of Life Family House, Woman of Hope and ADROP.**

This year we will be donating Gift Cards to the various organizations. **Please return the tree tag along with the gift card that you purchased into the basket on the altar.** We want to pass along the gratitude from all these organizations to our parish.

Your consistent generosity has brought and continues to bring joy to each of the organizations over the Holiday Season.

Again, thank you for your consistent generosity over the years.

**Please return your gift cards by December 17th.**

### WHY DO WE USE AN ADVENT WREATH?

**Evergreen wreath**—The circle of the wreath, which has no beginning or end, symbolizes the eternity of God (the Alpha and Omega). The evergreen is chosen as the base because God is the foundation of all good. Green is the colour that represents hope and new life.

**Four Candles**—represent the four (4) weeks of Advent. Traditionally, each week represents one thousand years, to sum to the 4,000 years from Adam and Eve until the birth of the Savior. The first two purple candles symbolizes **Hope** and **Love**, respectively. The third candle (which is pink/rose) symbolizes **Joy**. The fourth and last purple candle represents **Peace**. The light of the candles signifies the light of Christ to mankind. On Christmas, the center white Christ candle is lit.



### Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

**Friday, December 08, 2023**

Mass will be Celebrated at:  
**12:05 PM & 7:00 PM for the Holy Day of Obligation**



### Mass Intentions

**Sunday, December 3, 2023**

**First Sunday of Advent**

- 9:00 AM † Daniel F. Waters, Jr.
- 11:00 AM † Prima Manguba
- 7:00 PM Deceased Members of the Marquart & Gallagher Families

**Monday, December 4, 2023**

- 12:05 PM Cronin Family

**Tuesday, December 5, 2023**

- 12:05 PM The Parish Community

**Wednesday, December 6, 2023**

- 12:05 PM Cronin Family

**Thursday, December 7, 2023**

- 12:05 PM † Christopher Mermer

**Friday, December 8, 2023**

- The Immaculate Conception of the BVM**
- 12:05 PM † Elsie Manning
- 7:00 PM † Elvira Gahob Rato

**Saturday, December 9, 2023**

† = Deceased



### Capital Campaign News

**Goal: \$750,000 (Phase 1) To date:**  
**Pledges: 222 Percentage: 116.8221%**  
**Amount Pledged: \$876,165.68**  
**Pledges Received: \$820,655.68**  
**In-Kind Gifts Received: \$10,437.71**  
**Campaign Total Rec'd: \$831,093.39**

### Sacrificial Giving November 26, 2023

**Number of Envelopes Used: 24**  
**Amount in Envelopes: \$660.00**  
**Average \$/Envelope: \$27.50**  
**Electronic Giving: 46**  
**Amount Electronic: \$1,645.00**  
**Average \$/Electronic: \$35.76**  
**Loose Money: \$515.00**  
**Total Collection: \$2,820.00**

### Electronic Giving

Just log on to our website,  
[www.st-augustinechurch.com](http://www.st-augustinechurch.com)  
 and click on:  
**"Sign Up For Electronic Giving"**



### The Bulletin Board

**First Sunday of Advent**  
**Sunday, December 3, 2023**

**Monday, December 4, 2023**

**Tuesday, December 5, 2023**

- 7:00 PM Advent Program—Zoom
- 7:00 PM Sexaholics Anonymous (SA)
- 8:00 PM Weekly Parish Rosary—Zoom

**Wednesday, December 6, 2023**

**Thursday, December 7, 2023**

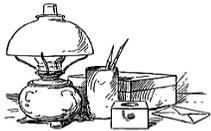
- 5:30 PM Barckley-Cavalieri Rehearsal
- 7:00 PM Parish Scripture Study—Zoom
- 7:00 PM Sexaholics Anonymous (SA)

**Friday, December 8, 2023**

- 2:30 PM Barckley-Cavalieri Wedding

**Saturday, December 9, 2023**

- 2:00 PM Franceschini-McKeon Wedding
- 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous (NA)
- 7:00 PM Ilacano Christmas Party



## *A word from Fr. Bill...*

Dear Parishioners:

Welcome to the Advent Season and to a new liturgical year. It is important to remember that this is the Advent Season and that the Christmas Season does not begin until December 25th. The Christmas Season ends with the celebration of the Baptism of Jesus on January 7th. Hopefully, we don't lose the meaning and value of this season. It is so easy to get absorbed into our culture which already has begun to celebrate Christmas with songs and decorations, even before Advent began - let alone before Christmas. It is not unusual that when Christmas Day comes we are ready to move on. Christmas Day is when the Christmas Season begins. The more we keep to the spirit of advent of preparing for, waiting and longing for Christmas the better the Christmas Season we will have.

We are providing a number of ways to help all of us center in on Advent.

There are three resources in the back of the church which give a different reflection for each day of Advent:

- "Daily Reflections for Advent and Christmas" by Susan Seetnam
- "Waiting in Hope" with reflections from Pope Francis, Mother Teresa, and Fr. Henri Nouwen
- "Welcoming the Christ Child" with reflections from Pope Francis and Fr. Nouwen.

You also will find helpful a pamphlet entitled "How to Celebrate Advent" which provides some thoughts for each of the weeks of Advent. Lastly, you will find an insert in the bulletin each week which gives some reflections to ponder, an explanation of Advent practices (e.g. the Advent wreath), and a connection each week with the Catholic Catechism.

As has been our practice for the past three years, we will have our parish Advent program on Zoom. This year the focus is on Why Jesus Came. You will find more detailed information (the presenter and topic) on our parish website. You need to register for these presentations and discussions. You can register on our parish website. They are all at 7:00 PM on Tuesday nights, December 5, 12 and 19.

You will see in the back of the church "The Giving Tree". You are invited to take a tag from it. Each tag is a suggestion for a gift card for different agencies who help those in need, e.g. Women of Hope, Gift of Life, ADROP (Augustinian Defenders of the Rights of the Poor), Adeodatus Prison Ministry and the Bethesda Project. Please put the certificates in the basket placed on the altar rail in the front of the church by Sunday, December 17th.

As I mentioned in my letter last week, there are forms in the pews to register in the parish. We strongly encourage those who are not formally registered in the parish to do so. It is important that we can give the Archdiocese as an accurate number as possible of the number of parishioners here at St Augustine Parish. Also, it is necessary to be registered in a parish for anyone who is asked to be a Godparent or anyone who wishes to be married in another parish.

As I mentioned last week, at the 7:00 PM Mass, this weekend we welcome Bryan Sobchuk as an official Candidate preparing for full communion with the Catholic Church. Bryan is 36 and was born in Bristol, Connecticut. He graduated from the University of New Haven. He served in the Marines from 2009 to 2013. He is an electrical engineer. For relaxation, Bryan enjoys long distant running, reading (especially about history) and playing chess. Bryan was baptized Catholic but never received Confirmation or First Communion. He started to come to Saint Augustine's when he came to the Sinulog with his girlfriend, Kathrina Inchoco. After coming here, a number of times, he felt very comfortable. He called me about a year ago and then we talked on Zoom most Monday mornings for about 15 minutes. As I explained in my letter last week, Bryan has been meeting with 5 of us every Monday evening in the "Inquiry" stage of the process. Please keep Bryan in your prayers as he continues on his journey for full communion with the Catholic Church.

The Augustinians are very present in the City of Philadelphia. We serve 3 parishes (St. Augustine, St. Paul and St. Nicholas of Tolentine), the National Shrine of St. Rita of Cascia, and an organization reaching out to the poor and marginalized, ADROP (Augustinian Defenders of the Rights of the Poor). In all of these apostolates there are a number of varied activities (concerts, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Novenas, book club, processions, Penance Services, advent presentations on Zoom, and others) which we would like you to be aware and in which you are invited to participate. We have developed a monthly flyer which will be inserted into the parish bulletin for your awareness of all the varied activities in which you can participate. Please review the first of these flyers in this week's bulletin.

Have a great week.

Fr. Bill

**In Philadelphia, we are blessed with 3 separate parishes, 1 Shrine, 5 different church buildings and 1 non-profit with Augustinian ministries. Each offers a number of wonderful programs and opportunities, find information here.**

**Confessions and Conversations** – Open opportunity to simply have a conversation with a priest of whatever is on your heart or to experience the sacrament of confession.  
Mondays, 5pm-6pm                      St. Paul's, 923 Christian St.

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** – Saturdays 3:45-4:45pm  
At St. Nick's, 1718 S 9th St. & Annunciation, 1511 South 10th St.

**Novena to the Immaculate Conception** - Begins November 29<sup>th</sup> at Annunciation each day after the 7:30 AM Mass, at St. Nicholas each day at 7 PM Mass, on Saturdays at both churches after the 5 PM Mass, and on Sundays after the 11AM Mass. Novena Prayers prayed together.

**A Concert to Celebrate the Season** – The Chamber Choir and the Filipino Choir will host their annual pre-Christmas Concert to begin the Advent Season!  
Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 7:30pm Free!                      St. Augustine's Church 250 N. 4<sup>th</sup> St.

**Donut Social with Christmas Card Writing** – While we enjoy each other's company, we will write Christmas cards of hope and encouragement to incarcerated members of the community.  
Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 11am                      Hall of Peace, Cascia Center, 1166 S. Broad St.

**Advent Book Club** – Join in reading *Set the World on Fire* by Vinita Hampton Wright  
Thursday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, December 7<sup>th</sup>, December 14<sup>th</sup>, December 21<sup>st</sup> 12:35pm  
Founders Hall, The Cascia Center, 1166 S. Broad St.  
Email Donna to sign up, [office@saintritashrine.org](mailto:office@saintritashrine.org)

**Everything you Always Wanted to Know about Why Jesus Came** – 3 date series about why God came to save us, featuring speakers Fr. John Lydon, O.S.A., Dr. Janet Haggerty, PhD, and Most Rev. David J Bonnar.  
December 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, & 19<sup>th</sup>  
For more information and to submit your questions, contact     
Jacob Marquart, O.F.S. at [staugustineparish09@gmail.com](mailto:staugustineparish09@gmail.com) or call (215) 627-1838

**Lessons & Carols for Peace** – Visiting choirs and musicians from around Philadelphia will join us for this event of the season as we prepare for the celebration of Christmas and pray for peace in our world, our city, and our hearts.  
Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, 7pm-8:30pm, National Shrine of St. Rita, 1166 S. Broad St

**Procession for the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe** – After the 12pm Mass, December 12<sup>th</sup>  
Shrine to Breezeway, National Shrine of St. Rita of Cascia, 1166 S. Broad St, Phila, PA 19146

**A Visit from Santa Claus** – December 12<sup>th</sup>, 3pm-7pm Hall of Peace, Cascia Center, 1166 S. Broad St

**Annual Christmas Caroling with the Parish Choir** - Jenna Esposito & Quaker City String Band  
December 13th, 7pm, St. Nicholas of Tolentine Church, 1718 S. 9th St.

**Festival of Carols** – December 18<sup>th</sup>, 1pm, St. Anthony of Padua School (9<sup>th</sup> and Pierce)

**Advent Penance Services** – 7pm, December 19<sup>th</sup>, St. Nick's, 1718 S 9th St  
7pm, December 21<sup>st</sup>, Annunciation, 1511 South 10th St

**Weep with Those Who Weep** – To remember and pray for those who have died from addictions. Robin Rader Knaap will provide comfort through song and reflections, time for sharing, and concluded with a prayer service. Sponsored by Afire Ministry.  
January 12th at 7 PM, St. Nicholas of Tolentine Church, 1718 S. 9<sup>th</sup> St.

**A.D.R.O.P. Fall 2023 Newsletter** – Read what's happening at Augustinian Defenders of the Rights of the Poor by scanning the QR code at right.



**Bronze Sculpture Project**– Fr. Bill Atkinson, O.S.A., Servant of God  
Join us as we advance the cause of Sainthood & Memorialize the legacy of Fr. Bill



**Footsteps of St. Augustine Pilgrimage** – Join Fr. Bill Waters, O.S.A. on this tour of Italy following the path of St. Augustine

May 23<sup>rd</sup> – June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024

\$5,849 from Philadelphia or \$5,999 from Boston

For information contact Fr. Bill Waters, O.S.A. at 215-627-1838 x110 or

[pastorstaugustine@gmail.com](mailto:pastorstaugustine@gmail.com); for Reservations contact Unitours, Inc. at 1-800-777-7432

**La Celebración de Nuestra Señora De Guadalupe (parroquia Anunciación)** –

Novena del 1-10 de Diciembre (Lunes a Sabados 6pm, Domingos 8am)

11 de Diciembre: 6pm Misa, 7pm Procesion hacia Catedral, 11pm-3am Mañanitas

12 de Diciembre: 6pm Procecion (Santa Rita hacia Iglesia Anunciación para 7pm Misa)

**Posadas** – Del 16 al 24 de diciembre primera y última posada en la parroquia Anunciacion BVM.  
Entre esas fechas serán en casas de la comunidad a las 7pm



@saintritashrine @adropphilly @augustinians\_villanovaprovince @the\_mix\_sp

St. Augustine Parish, Phila.  
Presents:

Everything you  
always wanted to  
know about ~~sex~~\*  
Why Jesus Came

\* But were afraid to ask

Why did God have  
to take on our flesh  
to save us?

How can Jesus  
be both human  
and divine?

Was Jesus  
actually human  
like us?

**WHAT ARE YOUR QUESTIONS?** Submit your questions for our three-part series during Advent when we will discuss and answer questions regarding Church teaching on “**Why Jesus Came.**” Join us and our special guest participants via Zoom from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM on the dates listed below!



**Tuesday, 12/5 - Jesus Came to Give His Life as a Ransom for Many -**  
Rev. John Lydon, O.S.A., Associate Director, Center of Faith and Learning,  
Villanova University -

**Register at the link below:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZApce-gqz0tHtGzynCmabZ9A26ihQM86rXE#/registration>



**Tuesday, 12/12 - Jesus Came to Give Eternal Life -**  
Dr. Janet Haggerty, PhD., Associate Professor of Theology,  
College Seminary and Associate Professor of Systematic Theology,  
Theological Seminary, Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary -

**Register at the link below:**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/upclceGqpjktHdKaATasHQFakHMQdD-o715G>



**Tuesday, 12/19 - Jesus Came to Reveal the Father -**  
Most Reverend David J. Bonnar, Bishop of Youngstown (Ohio),  
Editor of *The Priest* magazine -

**Register at the link below:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEpd-uuqj8vHdKD1cCpm7fVo2XWmKk8TLAc#/registration>

For more information and to submit your questions, contact Bro. Jacob Marquart, O.F.S. at:  
[staugustineparish09@gmail.com](mailto:staugustineparish09@gmail.com) or call (215) 627-1838

Parish Website: [www.st-augustinechurch.com](http://www.st-augustinechurch.com)

A detailed illustration of the Nativity scene. In the center, the infant Jesus lies in a manger, wrapped in swaddling clothes, with a bright star above. Mary is seated to the right, holding the child. Joseph stands behind her. Three wise men kneel on the left, offering gifts. Two shepherds are in the foreground, one kneeling and one standing. Two white lambs are in the lower right. The background features palm trees and a stone archway under a starry night sky.

**CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE 2023 - 2024**

**Sunday, December 24, 2023**

**9:00 AM and 11:00 AM**

**No 7:00 PM Mass**

**CHRISTMAS EVE**

**5:30 PM and 8:30 PM**

**THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD  
CHRISTMAS DAY**

**Monday, December 25, 2023**

**10:00 AM**

**SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD  
New Year's Day**

**Sunday, December 31, 2023**

**9:00 AM, 11:00 AM and 7:00 PM**

**Monday, January 01, 2024**

**10:00 AM and 7:00 PM**



**OPPORTUNITIES  
FOR YOUNG CATHOLIC ADULTS  
AT THE CATHEDRAL BASILICA  
OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL**

18<sup>TH</sup> STREET AND THE BENJAMIN FRANKLIN PARKWAY  
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, 19103

**EVERY FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH**

GATHER FOR THE 6:30 PM SUNDAY MASS IN THE CATHEDRAL BASILICA  
AND FELLOWSHIP AFTER MASS  
*CONFESSIONS AT 5:30 PM*

ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2023  
THE FELLOWSHIP WILL BE IN DREXEL HALL  
WHICH IS BELOW THE CATHEDRAL CHAPEL

*PARKING AVAILABLE*

**ADVENT EVENING OF RECOLLECTION  
IN THE CATHEDRAL CHAPEL  
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2023**

5:15 MASS FOR THE HOLY DAY

**TIME OF RECOLLECTION**  
7:00–9:00 PM

ADORATION OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT AND BENEDICTION  
ADVENT REFLECTIONS AND SILENCE  
OPPORTUNITY FOR THE SACRAMENT OF PENANCE AND RECONCILIATION

*PARKING AVAILABLE*

**MARK SQUILLA**  
 1ST DISTRICT COUNCILMEMBER  
 MAJORITY WHIP  
 City Hall Room 332, Philadelphia  
**215-686-3458**  
 squilla@phila.gov



**Welcome to Our Church!**



**Thinking About Cataract Surgery?**  
 Understand your options for this life changing surgery.

You could be a candidate for the new implants that:

- Correct your Astigmatism
- Allow you to see far away and close up

**Wills Physicians and Surgeons**



**KAY, TABAS & NIKNAM**  
 Ophthalmology Associates



601 Monument Road  
 Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004  
 610.667.6760  
 www.kaytabas.com

601 Walnut Street  
 Philadelphia, PA 19106  
 215.925.6402

**catholicmatch®**  
 Pennsylvania

IN REMEMBRANCE OF SAMANTHA JOSEPHSON

**S A M I**

STOP ASK MATCH INFORM

ASK **#WHATSMYNAME**  
 BEFORE YOU GET IN A RIDE SHARE



CatholicMatch.com/  
 datePA

**Mallory's Army Foundation**  
 United Together In The Fight Against Bullying...  
 Don't Just Teach Kindness... BE KINDNESS!

[www.MallorysArmy.com](http://www.MallorysArmy.com)  
 (973) 440-8657 • info@mallorysarmy.org

It's easy to join our mailing list! Just send your email address by text message:  
 Text MALLORYSARMY to 22828 to get started.

 Message and data rates may apply.

Connecting businesses to customers in realtime!

**YOUR BUSINESS**



 American Red Cross

Make a Difference in Your Community

**VOLUNTEER**

with the American Red Cross

Join today at [redcross.org/Volunteer](http://redcross.org/Volunteer)

Special Savings Offer for All Parish Members!

**10% DISCOUNT ON BURIAL SPACE\***

Advance Planning helps save families from emotional and financial burdens at the time of death!

CALL **610.232.7182**

**HOLY CROSS CEMETERY**  
 AN ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA CATHOLIC CEMETERY

\*Valid thru December 31, 2023. Valid on advance planning cemetery space purchases only in specific areas of the cemetery. See location manager for details. Monthly payment is subject to down payment, interest rate and term. Minimum of 5% down payment required. Cannot be combined with other offers. Excludes prior purchases. Vault and Opening and Closing required for Burial. Limit 10 cemetery spaces per family.

[PhiladelphiaCatholicCemeteries.com](http://PhiladelphiaCatholicCemeteries.com)

Finding **FIBER**™





Support Our Advertisers!

**SHOP LOCAL • EAT LOCAL • ENJOY LOCAL**



**Thank you**

to our bulletin sponsors for their support during the past year! Your continued support has not gone unnoticed by your parish community and is so appreciated!

To do list...  
 Call 1.800.333.3166 x161

Find out how to place an ad in the weekly church bulletin

1.800.333.3166  
[www.jpcc.net](http://www.jpcc.net)



**INCREASE YOUR VISIBILITY IN THE COMMUNITY**

Place Your Ad Here to Support Our Parish!

**CONTACT ME**  
**Marsha Haney**

[mhaney@jpcc.net](mailto:mhaney@jpcc.net)  
 (941) 445-0778

