PARISH STAFF
Rev. Thomas M. Sodano, Pastor
Rev. Msgr. Charles E. McGroarty, Pastor Emeritus,
St. Matthew Parish, Philadelphia In Residence
Rev. John D. Gabin, In Residence
Deacon Patrick Kelly, Permanent Deacon
Mrs. Diana M. Martyn, Director of Music
Ms. Jenny Clay, PREP Secretary
Ms. Lisa Grillo, Elder Care Program Manager, 484-494-5011

MASS SCHEDULE
Saturday:
4:30PM Vigil
Sunday:
8:00AM, 11:00AM, and 6:00PM
Weekdays:
(Monday – Friday) 8:00AM
Saturdays:
8:00AM
Holy Days:
8:00AM & 7:00PM

CONFessions:
Saturday: 3:00 - 4:00 PM

Marriages:
Couples contemplating marriage should contact the rectory a minimum of six months before the date of the wedding.

Baptisms:
Baptisms are celebrated the first and third Sundays of the month after the 11AM Mass. First time parents are required to attend a Pre - Jordan (Baptism Preparation) Session. The sessions are held the fourth Monday of the month at 7:30pm in church. Registration is required. Only when Certificates of Eligibility from godparents are presented, then a date for the Baptism can be set. Please call the rectory to set up an appointment for Pre - Jordan and the Baptism.

Appointments:
The pastor is most willing to be of service to our parishioners. If you wish to meet with him, please call the rectory in advance to arrange an appointment.

R.C.I.A.:
The RCIA prepares adults for Baptism and full communion in the Church. If you’re interested in becoming a Catholic or completing your initiation into the Catholic Church, please contact the Rectory.

Rectory Office:
The secretaries are available for business matters from Monday to Thursday, 9AM – 3PM and Friday 9AM - 12N.

Divine Mercy Sunday • April 19, 2020

Visits to the Sick and Elderly:
The clergy and extraordinary ministers of the Holy Eucharist visit the homebound sick and elderly on a regular scheduled basis. Please call the Rectory to report a needed visit.

Anointing of the Sick:
If you are scheduled for surgery or a hospital stay, receive the Sacrament of the Sick before you go to the hospital. Call the rectory or ask the priest on Sunday to administer the Anointing of the Sick after Mass.

Hospital Visits:
Due to the Pennsylvania Privacy Act you must tell the hospital that you would like to be visited by a priest who serves the hospital as Catholic Chaplain.

Parish Registration:
Welcome to St. Joseph Parish!
We invite all Catholics living within parish boundaries to become registered members of St. Joseph Parish as soon as possible. If you have recently changed your status, married, moved out of your parents home or graduated from college, you need to re-register. If you move, we would also appreciate a phone call to the rectory so that our records will be in order.

Handicapped Accessible
BULLETIN DEADLINE - TUESDAY, 12:00 NOON
Saint Joseph Church
Divine Mercy Sunday
April 19, 2020

Lord have mercy on our friend and shepherd of your church
Monsignor Charles E. McGroarty
**Divine Mercy Sunday**

HOLY HOUR – 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Followed by recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet – Ending with Benediction

This day is a gift of God's Grace. The Lord Jesus revealed to St. Faustina “...On that day, the depths of my Mercy will be open to all. Whoever will go to confession (within 20 days before or after Divine Mercy Sunday) and receive Holy Communion on that day will receive completed forgiveness of sin and punishment. Mankind will not enjoy peace until it turns with confidence to my Mercy.

Divine Mercy Chaplet is a powerful intercessory prayer Jesus taught to St Faustina and is prayed by millions the world over at 3 PM, the Hour of Great Mercy.

Steven Bobelick

The doors of our church will be open every Sunday, 8am-2pm for private prayer.

If you are a parishioner you may use The door code to access the church at any time.

If you need the code to the door, please call

The rectory at 610-583-4530

During this pandemic it is understood that there is financial stress due to layoffs & cut working hours. We pray that everyone will be back working when the quarantine is lifted. If it is within your means to give something to St. Joe’s during this difficult time we are most grateful.

To get your donations to us you can drop it off at the rectory, mail it, drop it in the candle box in church or sign onto online giving at:

https://saintjoseph-collingdale.churchgiving.com

Most Gratefully Yours, Fr. Sodano

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Sunday, April 19, 2020
Divine Mercy Sunday

Mass & Intentions for the Week

Sun. 04/19 8AM
11AM Pro Populo
6PM

Mon. 04/20 8AM Joshua White

Tue. 04/21 8AM Stanley & Mary Kumiega

Wed. 04/22 8AM Lester & Betty Traband

Thur. 04/23 8AM Fitzpatrick & O'Meara Families

Fri. 04/24 8AM Rev. Robert Feeney

Sat 04/25 8AM John Enright
4:30PM

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**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK**


Please call to be put on this list. Names are listed for one month.

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**THIS WEEK AT ST. JOSEPH PARISH**

Sunday 04/19/20 Divine Mercy Sunday
Saturday, 04/25/20
3PM-4PM Confessions are still being offered
This is Divine Mercy Sunday. It is Saint Faustina of Kowalska who had this inspiring devotion in revelation. Her full religious name is Sr. Maria Faustina of the Blessed Sacrament. You might ask why does the Lord continue these private revelations? I believe it is to get us to take seriously our faith. So many times we "shelve our faith" by putting it aside as something only for Sunday or worse still for just Christmas or Easter. This year we could not even do that. The reason that Jesus Christ came down in the flesh was to reveal His Father's love for us. God is real! He revealed himself in the flesh! This is the mystery of the incarnation. God truly comes to us in the Most Blessed Sacrament. But how many of us really believe in this mystery?

This Holy week in quarantine at St. Joseph rectory I was listening to KYW News radio one afternoon. A minister from some protestant denomination was advertising ministering through the phone or on line to anyone who needs the comfort. They even offered the "last rites" over the phone to people who were very sick. How this just turned my stomach. I thought of how Jesus Christ went in person to heal the sick. He grabbed the hand of the little girl that he brought back to life when others thought she was dead. He touched the man with leprosy, without a glove and without a surgical mask to make him clean of this awful disease.

I don't expect to be cavalier and not take precautions with the corona virus. But what I cannot understand is why priests are not considered part of healthcare. Many die without the sacraments. They cannot go to confession. They cannot receive viaticum. They cannot receive the anointing of the sick and final blessing before death. This is outrageous! I read in the Philadelphia Inquirer how Marijuana, alcohol and even abortions are still allowed as "vital" services. But the practice of our faith has been bottled up. Unlike our protestant friends who transmit sacraments through cyber space our Roman Catholic Church forbids this. Sacraments can only be given in person the same way Jesus Christ ministered when he walked the earth.

Saint Joseph save us from this virus,
Father Sodano

Msgr. Charles E. McGroarty, 86, a leader of Catholic family life programs and pastor emeritus of St. Matthew parish in Philadelphia, died Tuesday, March 17, of a ruptured aortic aneurysm at Holy Redeemer Hospital.

Born in Collingdale to Edward and Margaret McGroarty, he graduated from St. James High School in Chester and earned a bachelor's degree in science from what is now St. Joseph's University.

While Msgr. McGroarty was in college in 1953, his mother died. Influenced by her loss and the advice of his pastor at St. Joseph parish in Collingdale, he felt a call to religious life. He enrolled in St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Wynnewood.

Since he hadn't taken Greek and Latin at St. Joseph’s, and because seminaries had exacting language requirements then, he was advised that he would have to repeat his college studies. He agreed, and graduated with a bachelor of arts degree.

In 1959, he was sent by Cardinal John O’Hara to study at Rome’s Gregorian University, and was ordained a priest in Rome on Dec. 19, 1962. He completed his studies in sacred theology in 1963 before returning to Philadelphia.

Msgr. McGroarty served for a short time as an assistant at St. Raphael parish before becoming a math and religion teacher at Roman Catholic High School.

He studied at Catholic University of America in Washington for a master's degree in sociology and marriage counseling, and then returned to St. Charles Borromeo as an instructor in moral theology. Later, he became an associate professor of sociology in the seminary’s college division.

The Rev. Roland Slobogin, who remembered Msgr. McGroarty from his student days at St. Charles, said sociology wasn’t an easy subject to teach seminarians. “He got it across,” Slobogin said.

As the Catholic Church became more interested in family life, Msgr. McGroarty was appointed assistant director of the Philadelphia Archdiocese’s Family Life Bureau in 1966 and its director in 1972. His staff numbered almost a dozen.

Philadelphia Inquirer Article on Msgr. McGroarty Written by Bonnie L. Cook
He created programs for engaged couples, married couples, and those interested in natural family planning. He also formed groups for separated and divorced adults, widows and widowers, and parents trying to improve communication with their teenage children.

Perhaps his most popular creation was an annual Mass for couples celebrating marriage milestones. It was such a hit among parishioners that two Masses had to be held — one for 25-year anniversaries and another for 50 or more years of marriage.

“We used to send out formal invitations to the Mass,” said Geri McTear, a longtime friend who worked with him. “Whatever he did, he did to the hilt. He was a perfectionist.

“Msgr. McGroarty’s mind, energy, and work ethic never ceased to amaze his staff. He was never afraid to try something new,” she said.

In recognition of his contributions to marriage and the family, he was named a monsignor in 1976.

In 1980, Msgr. McGroarty was given a governor’s appointment to serve as a Pennsylvania delegate to the White House Conference on Families. He also strongly advocated for the Respect Life Program as its archdiocesan coordinator from 1969 to 1988, and was chairman of the Pennsylvania Statewide Coordinating Committee for Pro-Life Activities from 1975 to 1981.

In 1987, Msgr. McGroarty was named pastor of St. Matthew parish. He remained there until 2014, when he became pastor emeritus with residence at St. Joseph in Collingdale, returning to the parish where his religious aspirations had begun.

Slobogin, who followed him as pastor at St. Matthew, said Msgr. McGroarty was dedicated to the people of his church. “He never thought of himself, he was always caring about you,” Slobogin said.

“I hope for my remaining years I can be the servant and teacher he was,” Slobogin said. “He knew who he was, he knew Jesus, and he served his people.”

Msgr. McGroarty is survived by many nieces and nephews.

A memorial Mass and life celebration is being delayed by the coronavirus pandemic, but will be held later at St. Matthew.
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