

*Saint Charles Borromeo Church*  
 3422 Dennison Ave Drexel Hill, PA 19026  
 Office: 610-623-3800 Fax: 610-284-9583  
 December 29, 2024  
*The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph*



**PARTNERING PARISHES OF SACRED HEART  
 AND ST. CHARLES BORROMEEO MASS  
 SCHEDULE**

**SUNDAY SCHEDULE  
SACRED HEART**

4:00 PM Saturday Vigil Mass ~ 7:30 AM Mass  
**ST. CHARLES BORROMEEO**  
 5:30 PM Saturday Vigil Mass ~ 10:00 AM Mass  
 ~ 4:00 PM Mass

**WEEKDAY MASSES  
SACRED HEART**

8:30 AM Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday  
**ST. CHARLES BORROMEEO**  
 8:30 AM Thursday, Friday and Saturday

**HOLY DAY MASSES  
ST. CHARLES BORROMEEO**

4:00 PM Vigil Mass  
 7:00 PM Vigil Mass  
 8:30 AM Morning Mass  
**SACRED HEART**  
 12:00 Noon Mass  
 7:00 PM Mass

**THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION  
SACRED HEART**

3:00—3:45 PM—Before Saturday Vigil Mass

**SAINT CHARLES BORROMEEO**

4:30-5:15 PM—Before Saturday Vigil Mass  
 6:30—7:30 PM—Thursday before First Friday  
 9:15-10:00— On First Saturday (barring a funeral)

**FIRST FRIDAY AT ST. CHARLES**

8:30AM—Mass  
 7:00-8:00PM—Holy Hour of Reparation

**FIRST SATURDAY AT ST. CHARLES**

8:30AM Morning Mass  
 Exposition, Devotions, Confession and Benediction

*Flame of Love Holy Hour* - Join us on Thursday evenings 6:30-7:30 in Saint Charles Borromeo Church as we pray for the Intentions of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

**New Year Schedule**

**New Year's Eve, Tuesday, December 31, 2024**

Sacred Heart Church	St. Charles Borromeo Church
5:30pm Vigil	4:00PM Vigil

9:00PM Holy Hour -

followed by a social in the rectory

**New Year's Day, Wednesday, January 1, 2025**

The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God,

**Holy Day of Obligation**

Sacred Heart Church	St. Charles Borromeo Church
8:30AM	10:00AM
12:00Noon	

## Dear Church Family,

As we celebrate this Sunday within the Octave of Christmas dedicated to the Holy Family of Nazareth, we are reminded that God's blessings come to our society by way of the family. Saint John Paul II stated that we "owe to the family our very existence as an individual." Each of us is "...particular, unique and unrepeatable" as a person. We recognize the great truth that "although families have roles and functions, **the main value in families is in the relationships, which are irreplaceable.**" He prophetically said in his Apostolic Exhortation on The Family: "The future of the world and of the Church passes through the family." In this New Year – a Jubilee Year of 2025, may we seek God's graces to be a holy family. God our Father help us all live as the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, united in respect and love so that one day we may share the joy and peace of the eternal home of heaven.

### 2025 A Jubilee Year-Pilgrims of Hope



On Christmas Eve, Pope Francis opened the Holy Door at St. Peter's Basilica, Rome, marking the beginning of the 2025 as a Jubilee Year. But what is a Jubilee? The Vatican website ([www.vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va)) says it is A year of forgiveness of sins and also the punishment due to sin, it is a year of reconciliation between adversaries, of conversion and receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and consequently of solidarity, hope, justice, commitment to serve God with joy and in peace with our brothers and sisters. A Jubilee Year is above all the year of Christ, who brings life and grace to humanity.

The idea of the Jubilee, however, goes back to the Old Testament. The word *jobel* in Hebrew refers to the exaltation that followed the harvest. It came to be applied to the restoration of family land lost by indebtedness and the release from other debts which God commanded every fiftieth year (Leviticus 25:10). As in many Old Testament prefigurements, its authentic meaning is spiritual and is found in Christ through His Church-through release from the indebtedness of sin and the restoration of sanctifying grace. This is mankind's authentic patrimony, as we are made in the image of God and intended for His kingdom.

The first documented Christian Jubilee, or Holy Year, was in 1300 under Pope Boniface VIII. Since 1470, Jubilees have occurred every 25 years. Sometimes popes have established Great Jubilees, such as that of the Year 2000 celebrating two millennia since the Birth of Our Lord, and even special Holy Years, most recently the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy in 2015-2016.

The theme for this Jubilee Year of 2025 is Pilgrims of Hope. In *Spes Non Confundit*, the Papal Bull announcing the Jubilee, "Hope does not disappoint" (Romans 5:5), Pope Francis said, "For all of us, may the Jubilee be an opportunity to be renewed in hope. God's word helps us find reasons for that hope." I encourage you to go to the Vatican website and read the *Spes Non Confundit*, the Papal Bull of Indiction in English, and to meditate on it as source of hope and strength for this new year.

**Today**, at the Cathedral-Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul in Philadelphia, Archbishop Nelson J. Perez, will celebrate the opening of the Jubilee Year in the Archdiocese with a Solemn Mass this morning at 11:00A.M. In fact, every bishop throughout the world will be doing the same at their respective Cathedrals. Archbishop Perez invites all Catholics in the Church of Philadelphia to experience spiritual renewal by participating in Holy Year events in their homes, in their local parishes, and at shrines throughout the region, and at the Cathedral Basilica of SS. Peter and Paul, the Mother Church of the Archdiocese. The goal of the Jubilee Year 2025 is to offer pilgrims opportunities for reconciliation, indulgences, prayer, and reception of the sacraments in their local communities. The fruits of these activities include strengthened personal relationships with Jesus Christ and enriched faith journeys.

One of the ways that Catholics can participate in the Jubilee Year is by making a pilgrimage to the church where they were baptized, according to Father Dennis Gill, Rector of the Cathedral-Basilica and Director of the Office for Divine Worship. "The Holy Father sees as one of the principal pilgrimages that we all make is the pilgrimage through life to eternal life," he said. "He is encouraging an understanding of the pilgrimage of living our Christian life more authentically, and he is encouraging people to visit the font where they were baptized, the origin of their Christian life."

Opportunities to receive the sacrament of reconciliation and [plenary indulgences](#) are important aspects of the Jubilee Year, Father Gill said. "The Archbishop has designated our national archdiocesan shrines as particular places of pilgrimage where the indulgence will be available for Catholics," he added. Those shrines are the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown, and the National Shrines of St. John Neumann and St. Rita of Cascia in Philadelphia.

The gift of an indulgence provides the faithful — through the sacraments and good works — the remission of any punishment due to their sins upon death. The 10 Missionary of Mercy priests in the archdiocese will be key participants in hearing confessions. Pope Francis has commissioned these priests to emphasize the duty shared by all priests to "hear confessions and preach on behalf of and promote the Sacrament of Reconciliation."

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR GOOD STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Please accept my grateful appreciation for your generous support of our parishes through your consistent use of your Weekly Church envelopes, online giving, your special Christmas offering, and your donation to the Annual Stewardship Appeal of Treasure. May God reward your goodness! *Parishioners who are preparing their taxes may wish a record of their contributions for the year 2024. Please call or email the rectory offices after January 15<sup>th</sup> and request a copy of your contributions for 2024.*

Merry Christmas and a Blessed Happy New Year of 2025!  
Monsignor George A. Majoros-Pastor



## MOTHERS' HOME NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT TODAY MORE THAN EVER

### *Dear Friend of Mothers' Home:*

Mothers' Home is truly a special place to all of us who work there, serve on its board, or volunteer. More importantly, it is an incredible home for the women and babies who reside there. This shelter for homeless pregnant women and their newborns is life sustaining and provides a priceless gift at their most vulnerable time - the hope for a brighter tomorrow. Our residents feel the love and support of the community which gives them the tools to continue the demanding work of providing a brighter future for themselves and their child.



Every major faith tradition teaches that the poor must have a prominent place in our hearts. At Mothers' Home we put faith into action. Without this residential program, these homeless women would have no safe place to live and provide for their newborn.

For over 30 years, Mothers' Home has served thousands of women and children whose lives would have been shattered without our help. Mothers' Home does not receive federal funding. **Our state funding ended last year leaving a void in our budget.** We survive mainly by the support and sacrifice

made by private donors like you who read this message. We know that you receive many requests for donations but hope that this plea is one that touches your heart and inspires you to offer your continued financial support. Without you, Mothers' Home will cease to exist. Please consider a donation to help us continue this critical mission.

We are so grateful for your continued support and hope that the partnership you have had with Mothers' Home over the years brings you peace and joy knowing you have been a part of the success of so many women and children who have come to us seeking shelter.

**Thank You for your generosity!**

*We wish you and your family a  
Joyful Christmas and  
Peaceful Holiday Season*

*Brigid Risko, Executive Director,  
and the*

*Board of Directors of Mothers' Home*

**51 N. MacDade Blvd, Darby, PA 19023  
610-583-4663 • mothershome.org  
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### *In their own words ...*

"I've learned so much in my time at Mothers' Home especially gratitude. Mothers' Home is not a shelter to me, it is a safe haven and a place of peace where they don't judge you. Between the staff and volunteers, I have learned so many life skills and how to be a better mother, wife, daughter and productive member of society."

"Mothers' Home has helped me become more independent, responsible, mature, and through it all I've received so much love. I thank Mothers' Home for accepting me, keeping my baby and I safe, and for trusting me to do the right thing. If I can do it, I know any mother can!"

"People think shelters are crummy, but Mothers' Home was a home. They provided a home for me and my baby. I was able to save money, pay off debt and fix my credit and eventually buy my home. Mothers' Home was my last stop on the train. I wouldn't be in as good a place as I am now had I not gotten into Mothers' Home. I probably would've gone back to my abusive ex, as there was nothing else I could've done."

"All I can say is that supporters don't even know how much they are really changing the start of life for a child. You are putting that child in the position to not have to need or want for anything. This starts the child's life off better."

### **"The Main Line Singles Dinner Club" (Ages 52-68)**

**Catholic men & women are cordially invited to join "The Main Line Singles Dinner Club" to share common interests & dine together usually twice a month or once every 3 weeks. Our next scheduled event is on Sunday, Jan. 12, 2025 @ 5:15 P.M. @ "Carmines Eatery Restaurant" located @ 3570 West Chester Pike, Newtown Sq., PA. 19073. More info call Barb (610) 896-6542. Memo: I do not TEXT! Catholic men are encouraged to participate. We enjoy restaurant events, house parties & special events.**

### **Cardinal O'Hara Class of 1975 – 50th Reunion SAVE THE DATE - October 11, 2025 – Llanerch Country Club**

**We Need Your Help!** Submit your contact information to [Oharaclassof75@gmail.com](mailto:Oharaclassof75@gmail.com)...follow us on Facebook at Cardinal O'Hara Class of '75...Let other classmates know too! See you next year!



# *Mass Intentions*

## Saturday, December 28—The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

8:30AM—Carole Petrokubi and Christine Petrokubi

Monroe

5:30PM (Sunday Vigil Mass) - Edna Soltanuk

## Sunday, December 29—The Holy Family of Jesus,

### Mary and Joseph

10AM—Claudia Viechweg

4:00PM—Marion Driscoll

## Tuesday, December 31—Seventh Day within the Oc-

### tave of the Nativity of the Lord

5:30PM Vigil—For the Living and Deceased Members

of St. Charles Borromeo Parish

9:00PM—Holy Hour (Not a Mass)

## Wednesday, January 1—Solemnity of Mary, Mother of

God  
10AM—The Living and Deceased Members of St.  
Charles Borromeo Parish

## Thursday, January 2—St. Basil the Great & Gregory

8:30AM—Joseph Blake

## Friday, January 3—Christmas Weekday (First Friday)

8:30 AM— Sister Carmen, P.V.M.I.

## Saturday, January 4—St. Elizabeth Ann Seton,

Religious  
8:30AM—The Living and Deceased Members of St.  
Charles Borromeo

## Sunday, January 5—Epiphany of the Lord

10AM—Rheanna English McGlensey and  
Eleanor McFadden

4:00PM—Anna Marie Jenks

*On Saturday, January 4th our First Saturday Devotions will begin with 8:30 AM Mass followed by recitation of the Rosary and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.*

*The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available following the 8:30 AM Mass.*

Mass Celebrants for December 28 and December 29, 2024  
(Subject to Change)

### Sacred Heart

4:00PM Vigil—Msgr. Majoros

7:30AM—Msgr. Majoros

### St. Charles Borromeo

5:30PM Vigil—Fr. Stenson

10:00AM—Fr. McGowan

4:00PM—Fr. Stenson

## Parish Clergy & Staff

Reverend Monsignor George A. Majoros,

M.Div., M.S. Pastor—[mmajoros@scbdh.org](mailto:mmajoros@scbdh.org)

Reverend Paul Stenson: Retired In Residence

[p\\_stenson@yahoo.com](mailto:p_stenson@yahoo.com)

Deacon John H. Farrell—610-202-2878

Director of Religious Education and RCIA:

Sister Mylene Rosemarie Lindo, PVMI—[dre@scbdh.org](mailto:dre@scbdh.org)

[scbdh](mailto:scbdh@scbdh.org)

Parish Secretary: 610-623-3800

Lori Farrell—[lfarrell@scbdh.org](mailto:lfarrell@scbdh.org)

Alice Ridgell—[aridgell@scbdh.org](mailto:aridgell@scbdh.org)

Music Ministry:

[stcharlesmusicgroup@gmail.com](mailto:stcharlesmusicgroup@gmail.com)

Patrick Hamlet ~ Matthew Rinaldi

### Parish Office Hours

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday -  
9:00AM—4:00PM

Tuesday and Thursday -  
10:00AM-3:00PM

Sunday -10:00AM-12Noon

### PLEASE NOTE THE NEW YEAR'S HOURS FOR ST. CHARLES RECTORY OFFICE

*Tuesday, December 31ST—10AM-12Noon*

*Wednesday, January 1st—the rectory  
office will be closed*

**Casseroles, toiletries and other items for  
St. John's Hospice will be collected next  
Sunday, January 5th from 9:30AM-10:30AM.**

**In addition to casseroles, toiletries and any  
usable MENS clothing will be collect-  
ed.**



Mass Celebrants for January 4 and January 5, 2024  
(Subject to Change)

### Sacred Heart

4:00PM Vigil—TBD

7:30AM—TBD

### St. Charles Borromeo

5:30PM Vigil—TBD

10:00AM—TBD

4:00PM—TBD

**RE-BOOTING: A DIFFERENT NEW YEAR RESOLUTION**—Hopefully, most of us have made it through the Christmas season without a nervous breakdown, with still a few dollars left in our wallets, and without a “Christmas Bah Humbug” attitude. We’ve enjoyed the Christmas celebrations at Church and hopefully felt the joy of Jesus’ birth and the hope in the angels’ plea for “Peace on earth and good will towards men” as Luke described in his Gospel.

Our Church liturgical calendar continues on January 1st with the Feast of the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God which is the oldest feast for Mary in the Western Church. Just a historical note for those of us old enough to remember, the Church moved this feast to January 1<sup>st</sup> back in 1969 in compliance with some reforms coming out of Vatican II. Before 1969 January 1<sup>st</sup> celebrated the Holy Name of Jesus and the circumcision of Jesus.

We will go to Church on the 1<sup>st</sup> and pray to the Blessed Mother. Yet for most of us, we will also be looking at the day not so much in terms of religious observances, but more as the beginning of a New Year. Part of this will be reflections on the past year and making some kind of promise to ourselves for the upcoming year to try to improve the way we live. We will make resolutions such as promising to exercise more, cut down on sweets, be a little more tolerant of relatives, especially Cousin Fred, and try to be a better person by trying to be more compassionate and caring for others. This last part we could translate into trying to be a better disciple of Jesus.

A different type of resolution that centers more on being a better disciple of Jesus, might have us take some pages from Church history and theology, by considering a teaching called “Purification of Memory.” This teaching has a long church history going back to St. John of the Cross in the 16<sup>th</sup> century and being echoed by many popes such as Benedict, John Paul II and Francis. How each used this teaching depended on the audience they were preaching to and to which memory they were trying to shed light on to purify.

Purification begins with looking at our memories, our motives, our actions, our feelings and trying to remove any illusions and self-deceptions we may have painted on some of our more serious mistakes, behaviors and attitudes. If we can remove from our memories these self-deceptions and self-deceits, we might come face to face with our own truth. In a way, it is like an examination of conscience.

Pope John Paul II wrote, “Examination of Conscience is one of the most decisive moments of life. It places each individual before the truth of his or her own life. Thus, we discover the distance which separates our deeds from the ideal which we had set for ourselves.”

This can be very difficult and can take courage and fortitude to accomplish. We must admit what we have done and realize that we have to live with that admittance. Like opening a closet door where we have stored all sorts of things, an examination of conscience helps us to come face to face with what we have done.

We might have failed in our responsibilities, in our fidelities, in our spirituality. We may have failed our families, friends, and even more importantly we might look back on our past, our sins and must accept that what we did failed

our own expectations. Something we must consider if we are looking at our own failed expectations, is the fact that the most damaging lies we have to face are not the ones that others spread about us, but the fabrications we told ourselves in order to justify our actions and behaviors, fabrications we want to believe maybe even now, fabrications that we have come to realize have left open wounds in our hearts and minds. This is why a “Purification of Memory” is so important.

Purification of Memory might just bring about a “RE-BOOT” like with a computer in the course of your life, habits, attitudes and actions. We cannot erase but we can put behind us what we have done, the desires or passions, feelings or poor judgments that drove us in the past, because our “RE-BOOT” will not allow them to drive us today. This “Purification of Memory” can allow us to look more coldly at the truth and say that we are in a different place, we have grown, changed, moved on. Facing the truth about our lives is a chance to open the wound, allow it to bleed out and then heal. Once done, our “RE—BOOT” will allow us to develop a new program, with new options, with greater peace in our souls.

There is another aspect to “Purification of Memory.” Unfortunately, it requires something that has often been too difficult to practice—letting things go. To “purify” our memories, we must take this second step and release the baggage of memories of what others have done to us. Otherwise, we can enter the New Year like Quasimodo, the Hunchback of Notre Dame, bent over, with the memories and angers we have towards others. To purify our memory, we must not only rid ourselves of delusions and self-deceptions, but also of resentments that have been such heavy burdens to carry.

This “Purification of Memory” must lead to something more positive for your future. This is where New Year Resolutions can be very important. Once you have recognized, clearly, truthfully, mistakes and sins of your past, you can “RE-BOOT” to do better from now on.

Purifying your memory, “RE-BOOTING” your priorities, your values, - might also bring you to an epiphany of trusting more in God. The longer you live, the more you experience, the larger your understandings of life’s ups and downs grow, the more you might see the window of God’s loving mercy in your life.

Trust in God in all things especially when we sense the need, to “RE-BOOT” and have the desire to strive to leave our past behind us and look to a brighter better future and becoming the person God calls you to be, —Deacon John



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### WINTER OPEN HOUSE

**Wednesday**  
**January 29, 2025**  
**9:00 – 11:00 am**



St. Aloysius Academy is the only private, Catholic, K-8 school for boys in the five county Philadelphia metro area committed to the spiritual, moral, and academic development of each student.

To register, please call us at 610-525-1670 or [admissions@staloyusiusacademy.org](mailto:admissions@staloyusiusacademy.org)  
[www.staloyusiusacademy.org](http://www.staloyusiusacademy.org)

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