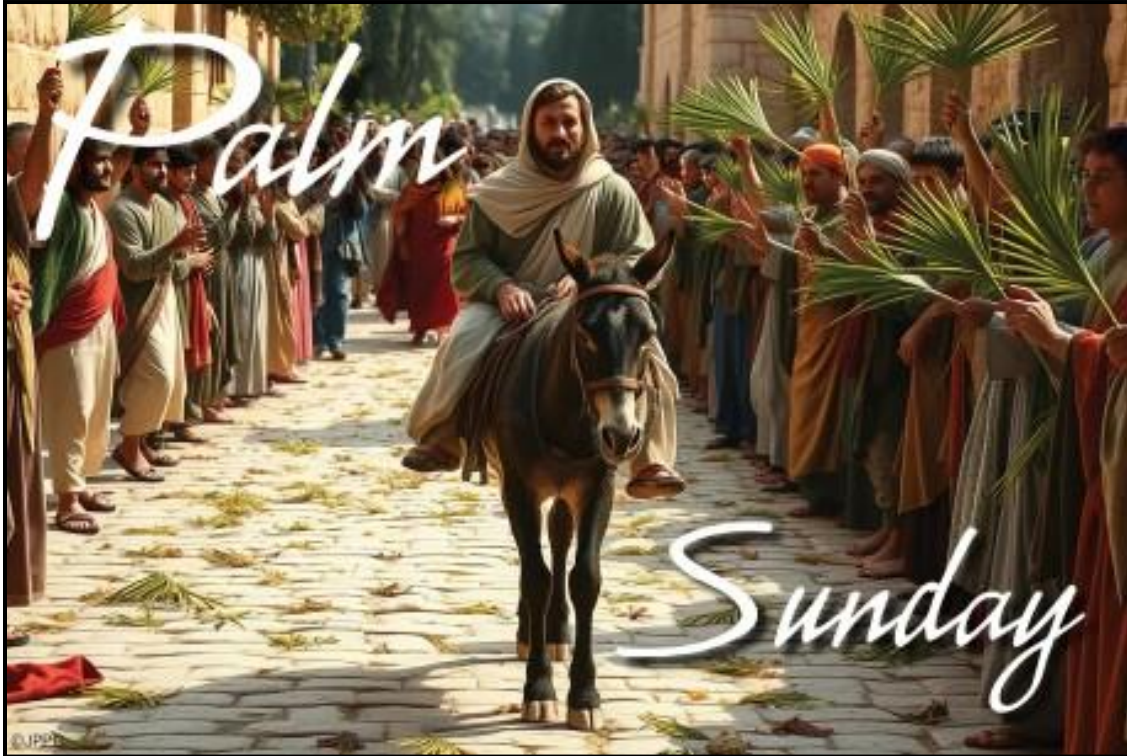


Palm Sunday ~ April 13, 2025



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

610-543-0848 (fax) 610-604-0283 www.sfaparish.org contactsfaparish@sfaparish.org
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI SCHOOL 610-543-0546

Rev. Matthew J. Tralies ~ Pastor
Deacon W. Timothy Baxter

Rev. Henry J. McKee ~ In Residence
Deacon James J. McGonigal



Interested in having your child
Baptized here at St. Francis?
Please contact Joan Curtis at the
Rector's Office 610-543-0848 or email us at:
BaptismsSFA@gmail.com



To inquire about scheduling your Wedding
Ceremony here at St. Francis,
please contact our Parish Wedding
Assistant, Joan Kane at
ParishWeddingsSFA@gmail.com

For Information regarding Upcoming
Funerals & Services,
Please visit our Parish Website at
www.sfaparish.org
and click on...



St. Francis of Assisi
Church Decorating



Anyone interested in helping to *Decorate*
the Church for Easter, please join us

Good Friday, April 18th 6:00PM

*All helping hands are welcome.
Come and share your talents!*



PALM SUNDAY



Palm Sunday, April 13, 2025

7:30AM Natalia Galie

9:30AM Mary Ann Calabrese

11:30AM Daniel Fahey

7:00PM Living Stations of the Cross

Monday, April 14, 2025

8:00AM Nelson Daniel Diaz

Tuesday, April 15, 2025

8:00AM Salvatore and Lina Costa

Wednesday, April 16, 2025

8:00AM Mary Ann Calabrese

ADORATION (Following 8AM Mass through 7PM Holy Hour)

Holy Thursday, April 17, 2025

7:00PM Mass of the Lord's Supper: livestreamed:

<https://www.facebook.com/sfaspingfield/live>

9:00PM Night Prayer following Mass

Good Friday, April 18, 2025

9:00AM Morning Prayer

12Noon Mid-Day Prayer

3:00PM Passion of the Lord

Holy Saturday, April 19, 2025

9:00AM Morning Prayer

7:00PM Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday, April 20, 2025

7:30AM

9:30AM: livestreamed:

<https://www.facebook.com/sfaspingfield/live>

11:30AM

†REMEMBER ALL THOSE WHO HAVE DIED†

*Especially Patricia Quirk, Virginia Lastowka and
Vincent DeSanctis*

May they rest in God's peace and may their families be comforted.



MEMORIAL FOR APRIL

Bread and Wine~ Kelly and Jacki Allen



THE SANCTUARY CANDLE

This candle burns to remind us of the sacramental presence of Jesus Christ. For the week of **April 13th**, the candle will burn for the intentions of **Catherine and Robert Cardie** as requested by the **McMenamin Family**.



My Dear Parishioners,

I wanted to write this short note to thank you for your continued support of St. Francis parish. It truly is a blessing to be here! When looking at the health of a parish, it goes beyond just finances; it's always good to look at the number of Baptisms, new family registrations, weddings and funerals. Here are last year's numbers for St. Francis:

Baptisms – 131 (which is an incredible number for the size of our parish).

New Family Registrations – 139

(again, showing we are a parish people want to be a part of).

Funerals – 43 (we always do our best to accommodate families, regardless of their parish affiliation, in their time of loss).

Weddings – 24 (Both at our church and some local venues).

Our parish is healthy! I wish I could give you a better update on the school, but it has been very stressful for the principal and I working with the Archdiocese and their lack of communication. I had an impromptu meeting with the Chief Financial Officer of the Archdiocese, along with the Chief Strategy Officer, the other week, and I wasn't too pleased. We are in a period of time where many people (rightly so) no longer trust the institutional church, therefore communication and transparency are key. We all deserve that. I promise I'll do my best to keep everyone in the loop. We love our Lord, and we love our faith and I'm confident things will work out in the big picture. There was a prayer composed in 1979 in honor of a hero of mine, Bishop Oscar Romero, and it's a prayer about "stepping back and taking the long view of things." I know the right thing, the moral thing, the ethical thing will be done to rebuild our school—a school that currently has a wait list and has been around for a century. I am confident the Archdiocese will do the right thing. God Bless all of you!

In Christ,

Rev. Matthew J. Tralies

+ Fr. Matthew Tralies

Weekly Comparison Financial Report

4/7/2024

Sunday Envelopes ~ \$12,383.24

Electronic Giving ~ \$11,225.69

\$23,608.93

4/6/2025

Sunday Envelopes ~ \$14,280.67

Electronic Giving ~ \$12,028.08

\$26,308.75



The rectory will be closed from noon on Wednesday, April 16th through Easter Monday, April 21st. (Regular business hours resume Tuesday, April 22nd).

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

ATTENTION PARISHIONERS!

Beginning this week, and moving forward, we will be reflecting on the current Sunday readings instead of the week ahead. (this weekend's readings are for Palm Sunday).

Palm Sunday ~ April 13th, 2025



Isaiah 50:4-7

"I gave my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who plucked my beard; my face I did not shield from buffets and spitting." Have you ever suffered for your faith? How did you respond?

Philippians 2:6-11

"Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave..." How can Christ's self-emptying inspire your discipleship?

Luke 22:14-23:56

Throughout the Gospel reading, Luke emphasizes Jesus' freedom in the face of betrayal, lynching, and an indifferent police state. In Luke's account, although several characters in the passion narrative make decisions that leads to Jesus' death, none of them has real power. Jesus, by contrast, uses his freedom in the service of others. When he offered up his will in the garden, proclaimed to the high priest that he was the Son of Man, or asked God to forgive his murderers and receive his Spirit, he freely chose what was right. He did this despite his suffering, and his choice to do so made this use of his freedom an example to us. How can Jesus' gift of freedom help you overcome whatever holds you captive?

ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY



If anyone is in need of assistance with utility bills, or other bills, or in need of food, or, if you know of someone who needs help, **call 610-212-4932** and someone from the St. Vincent will call you.

RIDE FOR MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

If you are in need of a ride to a doctor or test appointment, please call the Rectory 610-543-0848 and someone from the St. Vincent de Paul Society will call you back to coordinate a ride for you.

UPCOMING ST. VINCENT de PAUL EVENT:

April 26th - clothing drive truck pickup in SFA parking lot from 10 AM to 1:00 PM (clothing & small appliances).

HOLY ROSARY

Please consider joining us at 7:30am as we pray the Holy Rosary Weekdays and Saturdays before the 8:00am Mass.

WEEKLY DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

Please join us Wednesday mornings immediately following the 8AM Mass in front of the Sacred Heart statue in Church for the recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet.

PRAYER REQUESTS

TOGETHER WE WILL PRAY

Baby Daniel Ruszaj

Baby Margot Steindl	Emily Belfie	Evan Farrington
Baby DeSantis	Arthur LeTourneau	Michael Farley
Dominic Rosini	Lucretia Murphy	Bill Seavey
Andrew Colona	William Feindt	Dolores Govannicci
Monique Carpenter	Brian Marandola	Karen Hackett
Maria DiGiacinto	Amy Faulls	Joanne Marks
David Clemmer	Mary Benedetti	Veronica Suppa
Catherine Lindsey	Shealyn Mencil	Caroline Donovan
Danny Hynes	Kathy Fritz	Amy Travers
Robert W. Bollinger	Jeannie Brattini	Emily Meakim
Leslie Dougherty	Joanne DeSantis	Paula Bazela
Margaret Binetsky	Ron Fraatz	Patti Frost Cinko
Jack Braconnier, Sr.	Denise DeAngelis	Joe Calabrese
Maryann McCauley	Marie Martin	Beverly Scarani
Bob Buchanan	Greg Schmidt	Madelyn O'Keefe
Alicia Bona	Susan Lower	Hank McElwee
Mary Jean Grandizio	Inger Sexton	Colleen Fullerton
Natalie Berry	Gerald Berry	Eileen Bowdren
Carolina Longmore	Ann Farren	Brian Griffin
Maryann Murphy	Dan Bruno	Marsha Four
Cathy Baj	Malcolm Wills	Patricia Lafferty
Jenine Amato	Joe Mastalski	Kari Vecaro
Deacon Joe Gousie	Michelle Rodger	Ambrose Hummel
Sandy Keller	Sadie Keller	Patricia Lindsey
Chris Touchton	Mark McKinsey	Ian Regino
Paul Ansaldo	Jessica Eustache	Peggy Burke
Susan Aljets	Scott Aljets	Franny Devlin
Fox Family	Merkle Family	Dobbs Family
Kevin Fries	Bryan Treude	Neil Bohley, Sr.
Ray Binni	David Maxwell	Raysond Mills
Brittany Killen Howard	Ellen Ribbs	Jake Trimmer
Tina Farally	Joyce Johnson	Kathleen Fahey

For Our St. Francis of Assisi Parish Community

If you have someone you would like prayed for, OR have **REMOVED** from prayer list, please email Joan Curtis at sfabulletin@hotmail.com or call the Rectory at 610-543-0848. Thank you for your prayers.



CALLED TO SHARE BREAD FOR LIFE

Holy Week, a sacred time in the liturgical year, invites us to journey with Christ through His Passion, Death and Resurrection. As we witness the Last Supper and Jesus' gift of the Eucharist, we are reminded of our call to be bread broken for others. Let us draw strength from the Bread of Life and dedicate ourselves to serving our sisters and brothers who bear heavy crosses, bringing hope and the joy of the resurrection to the world. Visit www.crsricebowl.org/join to share your Lenten prayer intentions.



Join us as we pray the Novena of the Flame of Love of the Immaculate Heart of Mary **Wednesdays at 1:30PM** in the Church.



To Host the Pilgrim Queen Statue in your home for one week, (Sunday to Sunday), visit the Parish website at sfaparish.org and click on the link to **Sign Up** to reserve your week and Be Blessed by Our Lady and Our Lord. For more information, call Roseann Squitieri at 610-328-0635.

ST. FRANCIS IN ACTION!!

St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Springfield PA seeks to emulate our patron saint in service to others. We seek to encounter people in need through a variety of offerings that provide us with the opportunity to be Christ like and to meet Christ in those we serve.



NEW CITY TEAM EVENT

On **Thursday April 17 from 10AM -12PM**, SFA is offering our assistance at City Team Headquarters in packing Easter Food Boxes and Candy Baskets for families in need. The event will take place at their headquarters at 634 Sproul St., Chester. Children over the age of 6 may volunteer with an adult guardian present. There is Free Parking on-site.

In addition they are in need of help delivering these items to the families **on Saturday April 19 from 9AM -1PM**.

FYI- No one travels alone, all families receiving packages have been registered by City Team employees. This is a very rewarding task by all accounts! If interested in either of these ministries please visit the City Team website at:

<https://cityteam.volunteerhub.com>

Either Sign-in if you have volunteered before, or choose Create Account if you are new to City Team.

For assistance, questions or if you wish to Carpool from St. Francis, please contact Helengolden1@gmail.com or call 610-457-3702.

CARING FOR FRIENDS (CFF)

Prepared meals for *Caring for Friends* should be dropped off at St. Francis of Assisi Rectory during **NORMAL BUSINESS HOURS**. The Freezer is located in the Rectory basement. To Drop off on weekends or off hours contact Jill Hoffner or Cheryl Monkman.

Meal tins are located in the SFA rectory (during regular business hours) and the vestibule of the church.

If you are interested in this ministry or have any questions, please contact Cheryl Monkman (610)574-5541 or Jill Hoffner (610)733-1593.

SAINT FRANCIS OVER 50 CLUB



The next meeting is April 24th. Our entertainment will be "Bruce Copp."

Casino Trips: 5/14, 6/11, 7/9, 8/13, and 9/10. Cost is \$35 with return of \$15 in slot play. Bus leaves at 10am from the St. Kevin parking lot (200 W. Sproul Road). Park in spaces adjacent to the Springfield Country Club. **Call Joe Gowen at 610-739-8146.**

Membership to our Club is open to the entire community. Anyone who is 50 years of age or older may join the Club regardless of sex, religion, or race. For Membership information, call Cathy Randazzo at 610-328-0408 or 610-389-5225.

Our Lady, Queen of Peace Presidium Legion of Mary



Legion of Mary

The Saint Francis Chapter of the Legion of Mary (Our Lady, Queen of Peace Praesidium) invites you to become an active or auxiliary member of Mary's Legion. Active members attend a weekly meeting and commit to doing two hours of work each week for Mary and her Son. Auxiliary members pray the Legion prayers daily for the intentions of our Blessed Mother. **Our Legion meets on Monday afternoons at 1:30 P.M. in the Rectory Chapel.** We invite you to join us to learn more about our work. For more information, call Gus McClay at 610 544-7223.

SPRING BIBLE STUDY AT HOLY CROSS



For May, the month of Mary, we ask the question: who is Mary, the Mother of Jesus, and why is she so important to Catholics? In this series, **"MARY: The Bible and the Mother of God"** Dr Brant Pitre explores Sacred Scripture and the connections between the Old and New Testaments. As always, we study at your convenience, either Monday evenings or Wednesday mornings, so **PICK THE TIME** that is best for you. We have valuable group discussions after the videos, and light refreshments are provided.

When: Mondays, May 5 thru June 23 --- 7:00 – 8:30 PM
- in the Holy Cross Parish Center

Or: Wednesdays, May 7 thru June 25 ---9:15 – 10:45 AM
- in the Holy Cross Parish Center

Please join us and bring a friend! Come a few minutes early to meet others and to get your seat. If you attend the Wednesday morning session, please also join us for 8:30 Mass that morning.

It is always helpful to have a headcount. We have comprehensive workbooks available at a discounted group price of \$20. *To save a seat* or for more information, contact Jane Collins at elizabeth.collins3@verizon.net, or 610.623.3412.

THE THREE PARISH BOOK CLUB



The Parish Book Club will hold its April meeting in the Holy Cross Parish Center on **Wednesday, April 30th at 7:00pm**. If you would like to join the meeting or would like more information, please contact Terry Price at 610.506.6449 or via email at termpri@verizon.net.

April Book - Essentialism: The Disciplined Pursuit of Less by Greg McKeown.

The St Francis Players are pleased to announce our 2025 and 64th Annual SFP Production of



All Performances will be held at
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SATURDAY, APRIL 26th
FRIDAY, MAY 2nd
SATURDAY, MAY 3rd

MATINEE PERFORMANCES 2:00PM

SUNDAY, APRIL 27th
SUNDAY, MAY 4th

Doors Open 30 minutes prior to curtain.

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

To Purchase Tickets Online

Visit: www.stfrancisplayers.org

~or~ By Phone, Call 610-505-8874

SFA CYO is the recipient of the United Way under the Honor Option Plan. Your donation supports our activities for the youth of our parish. If you wish to support the CYO, please indicate:

CYO/ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI/SPRINGFIELD #7046 SFA CYO

Phillip Baumberger Pro-Life Scholarship

Do you know of any **high school Seniors** planning to attend one of these universities or any **current college students** at these schools?

- University of Pittsburgh
- Penn State University Park
- West Chester University of Pennsylvania
- Temple University
- University of Delaware
- Thomas Edison State University
- Rowan University

If so, we would like to share this scholarship opportunity with them.

Phillip Baumberger Scholars can earn \$2,000 per year while changing hearts and minds on abortion.

The Deadline to Apply is May 2, 2025.



Abortion Dialogue Academy

To Learn More, Visit:

<https://www.abortiondialogueacademy.org/scholarship/>



"PRO-LIFE" LINES"

Crisis Pregnancy Resource hotline: 610-626-4006.

Rachel's Vineyard Post-Abortion healing: 877-HOPE-4-ME

www.rachelsvineyard.org.

A Baby's Breath 24-hour hotline: 484-571-5540.

www.ababysbreath.org.

Delaware County Pregnancy Center: 610-872-2229, www.dcpcchester.org

Mother's Home: 610-583-HOME, www.mothershome.org.

Pro-Life Union of Delaware County: 610-789-LIFE.

ST. FRANCIS PARISH MEN'S GROUP



Parish Men's Group meets every Saturday morning virtually from 6:45~8:00AM to share the desire to follow Jesus more closely by being better husbands, fathers, grandfathers, leaders, followers, sons, and friends. All are welcome to join us! Please call in at 6:45AM at 646-558-8656 **Meeting ID:** 738 611 2876 **Passcode:** 111501.

HOPE IN CHRIST:

SPIRITUAL SUPPORT FOR ADDICTIONS

Seeking solace and spiritual support in the journey towards recovery? Many local parishes are offering ways to experience Christ's extended hand of love and mercy in your time of need. Find Catholic resources for addiction for you or your loved one at www.archphila.org/hope

Also available for support is Faith-based drug rehab website: www.AddictionCenter.com/Treatment/Faith-Based-Drug-and-Alcohol-Rehab



All women are invited to join us in fellowship, aimed at strengthening our faith and journeying closer to the heart of God. This year, we will be using Walking with Purpose's "Touching the Divine" bible study.

<https://walkingwithpurpose.com/bible-study/> for more info and to order the book. Meetings will take place in SFA's Library on select Saturday mornings at 8:30am, beginning September 14th. If you have questions or want more info, please reach out to: Jen Lorenz 610-333-3011.



ALL ARE INVITED!!! Come let your heart be soothed and experience the peace and serenity of our Parish Holy Hour on Wednesdays at 7pm in the Church. If you have questions or wish to volunteer and help reach out, please contact Rob Longo (Rob@LiveVertical.org) or Luke LeTourneau (Luke@LiveVertical.org) or call 610-986-6660. For more info, visit: www.livevertical.org



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SCRIP sales are held in the gym from 9:30–11am every Sunday (except holidays). If you have any questions, please contact Deb

Peterson or Amy Foran at sfascrripsales@gmail.com

call 484-432-1472 or: <https://www.sfaschool.com/scrrip/>

BE ENCOURAGED: CATHOLIC SUPPORT FOR MENTAL HEALTH WEBSITE

www.archphila.org/support.

Resources to assist with healing, accompaniment and flourishing. The Archdiocese of Philadelphia has launched a website with resources to support those who are experiencing mental health struggles and those who love them. The website offers links to find Catholic clinicians, local crisis response phone numbers and ministries that can assist with recovery and healing. In addition, there are tools to help parishes, schools and institutions cultivate a deeper awareness of and responsiveness to these realities, suffered by so many. Visit the Be Encouraged website at www.archphila.org/support

GOD BLESS ALL WHO SERVE OUR COUNTRY



Michael Armellini	Cale Amador	John Michael Bartivici
Christopher Baxter	Colin Butler	Jonathan Butterfield
Davidson Cox	Thomas Cresta	Anthony DelVecchio
Timothy Drabyak	Mike Froeter	Owen Galligan
Kevin Geiger	Jon Hylton	Jacob Johnson
Aidan Jones	Matthew Jones	Matthew Kauffman
Connor Lyons	Dan Marchini	Timothy McCanns
Shawn McConaghy	Bill McDermott	Emma McDonald
James McDonald	Nicholas McDonald	Michael McGarvey
Francis McGrail	Daniel McLee	Nicholas Peranteau
Stephen Peranteau	Ronan Plummer	Peter Quinn
Katherine Reider	Patrick J. Ryan, Jr.	Joseph Spence
Chase Stewart	Jesse Stewart	Sean Sweeney
Skip Turner	Weston Hayes	

Let us pray for those who SERVE and PROTECT...

Dear Heavenly Father, we lift our sailors, soldiers, marines, airmen, coast guard and families into Your loving care. Protect our Nation from all that is evil. Guide our way through these difficult times. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

ANNUAL FRANCISCAN NIGHT FUNDRAISER

The Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia invite you to join us for our Annual Franciscan Night Fundraiser! **Saturday, May 3, 6-10PM** at Neumann University, Thomas Bruder Life Center. Please visit the link below for more details and online ticketing. We look forward to celebrating with you!

[Franciscan Night Information](#)

TEA WITH THERESE: CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF SAINTHOOD

Join author and EWTN guest Susan Brinkmann, OCDS, of LiveCatholic for a Ladies Afternoon Tea to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the canonization of St. Therese of Lisieux on **Sunday, May 18, from 2-4 PM** in the Memorial Dining Hall at the Malvern Retreat House. The afternoon will feature an assortment of teas, treats, a video about the life of the Little Flower filmed on location in France, gift basket raffle, giveaways and resources for purchase. Seating is limited! Visit www.livecatholic.org to register.

"MAIN LINE SINGLES DINNER CLUB" (AGES 52-68)

Catholic single men & women are cordially invited to join "The Main Line Singles Dinner Club" (Ages 52-68) to share common interests & dine together 2 times a month or once every 3 weeks. Our next scheduled event is our "Post Easter/Mad Hatter House Party" on **Sunday, April 27, 2025 @ 5:00 P.M.** @ a member's home in Havertown, PA 19083. More info call Barb (610) 896-6542. Memo: I do not TEXT! Single men are encouraged to participate. We enjoy restaurant events, house parties & special events!

THE CALIX SOCIETY "A.A. restores your health and keeps you from an early grave. Calix saves your soul and puts you on the road to heaven." - William J. Montroy, a founder of the Calix Society. Are you in a 12-step recovery program? Do you have family or friends in recovery? Tell them about The Calix Society! **We meet the last Saturday of every month at St. Francis of Assisi after the 4:00pm Mass in the Church Library/basement.** For more information about the Calix Society please visit www.calixsociety.org. You can also contact Ken Johnston at 215-327-3236 or ken@notsaintsyet.org. For more info about our meeting at SFA: please contact Luke LeTourneau at 610-986-6660.

MARY MOTHER OF CAPTIVES is a Support Group for those coping with a loved one in prison. Meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at St. Charles Borromeo Church Hall, 3422 Dennison Avenue, Drexel Hill, Pa 19026. **Attendees remain confidential.** For more information, please call John or Sue at 610-259-3178 or email: marymotherofcaptives@augustinian.org.

Visit the Imprisoned. Become a Pen Pal... In prison, sometimes the only contact with the outside world is in the form of letters. Pen Pal writers are needed to write to the poorest of the poor. For more info, call John or Sue at 610-259-3178 or email: marymotherofcaptives@augustinian.org.

"MOTHERS' HOME IN DARBY, our area's only residential shelter for homeless pregnant women and their newborns, is seeking volunteers with skills in the areas of social media/networking, event planning/organization for our residents and donors, computer technology, and data entry to work with us approximately five hours per week. Interested individuals may contact Board Member Dennis McAndrews at dmcandrews@mcandrewslaw.com."

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PRAYER FOR PALM SUNDAY

Most glorious King, blessed are You Who continuously comes to us, leading the way to Heaven. Hosanna in the highest! As I begin this most Holy Week, commemorating Your gift of salvation, I pray that this commemoration will also be a real and transforming participation in Your life, death, and resurrection. Thank You for redeeming us, dear Lord. Please open my heart to receive Your grace fully. Jesus, I trust in You. Amen.

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www.staloysiusacademy.org

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