

## ***ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH***

610-543-0848 (fax) 610-604-0283 [www.sfaparish.org](http://www.sfaparish.org) [contactsfaparish@sfaparish.org](mailto: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

## THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT



**Sunday, March 3, 2024**

7:30AM Charlene Mettler

9:30AM Ida Kelly

11:30AM Charlene Mettler

**Monday, March 4, 2024**

8:00AM Joanne DiDio (15<sup>th</sup> Ann.)

**Tuesday, March 5, 2024**

8:00AM Laurie, Jim and Paul Braconnier

**Wednesday, March 6, 2024**

8:00AM Robert Herre

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

**Thursday, March 7, 2024**

8:00AM Deacon Art McGuire (6<sup>th</sup> Ann.)

**Friday, March 8, 2024**

8:00AM Colleen Minnis

**1:30PM Stations of the Cross**

**6:30PM Stations of the Cross**

**Saturday, March 9, 2024**

8:00AM Charlene Mettler

3:00PM Confessions

4:00PM For the People of the Parish

**Sunday, March 10, 2024**

7:30AM Sean Laughlin

9:30AM Barbara DiGuglielmo

11:30AM Charlene Mettler

**†REMEMBER ALL THOSE WHO HAVE DIED†**

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



### MEMORIAL FOR MARCH 2024

Bread ~ Available

Wine ~ Available



### THE SANCTUARY CANDLE

This candle burns to remind us of the sacramental presence of Jesus Christ. For the Week **March 3rd**, the candle will burn in loving memory of **Marie McGonigal** as requested by a friend.

### TO CONTACT FR. MATT:

Please feel free to contact Fr. Matt with any questions or comments through email: [frtralties@gmail.com](mailto:frtralties@gmail.com). You can always call the rectory at 610-543-0848 ext. 126. Thank you!

## Prayer Corner



Dean Segal

Baby DeSantis

Dominic Rosini

Colin Murray

Dolores Govannicci

Monique Carpenter

Anne McGlone

Maria DiGiacinto

David Clemmer

Catherine Lindsey

Danny Hynes

Robert W. Bollinger

Leslie Dougherty

Margaret Binetsky

Jack Braconnier, Sr.

Maryann McCauley

Bob Buchanan

Alicia Bona

Anita K. Pace

Natalie Berry

Carolina Longmore

Maryann Murphy

Cathy Baj

Francine Piccone

Ray Kenney, Sr.

Beverly Zink

Emily Belfie

Betsy Marcel

Bill Colgan

Brian Marandola

Carmen Salerno

Amy Faulls

Mary Benedetti

Shealyn Mencil

Kathy Fritz

Jeannie Brattini

Joanne DeSantis

Ron Fraatz

Denise DeAngelis

Marie Martin

Greg Schmidt

Albert Panebianco

Mary Jean Grandizio

Gerald Berry

Ann Farren

Dan Bruno

Malcolm Wills

Robert Ranieri

Joanne Marks

Ed Trombley

Evan Farrington

Michael Farley

Bill Seavey

Lou DeSantis

Arthur Le Tourneau

Ethel LeVasseur

Michael Costa

Daniel McTague

Veronica Suppa

Caroline Donovan

Fran Donnelly

Emily Meakim

Paula Bazela

Cathy Kenney

Joe Calabrese

Beverly Scarani

Vince Kelly

Hank McElwee

Inger Sexton

Eileen Bowdren

Brian Griffin

Mary Ann Calabrese

Patricia Lafferty

Jack Schultz

Michelle Rodger

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

## RCIA UPDATE FOR PARISHIONERS



Dominic Halle and Nate Palmer, who we now call the "elect" and who will be baptized, confirmed and receive the Eucharist for the first time on Holy Saturday evening, will take part in special rites called "**Scrutinies**" on the 3rd, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of Lent. The Scrutinies celebrate a deep mystery of our spiritual journey. Through these rites, Dominic and Nate, in preparation for baptism, will be turning over to God any hold sin has on them.

Along with Dominic and Nate, we are also invited to allow God's grace to scrutinize our hearts as we, once again and more fully this Lent, turn over to God any hold sin has on us.



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 [www.sfascrripsales@gmail.com](mailto:www.sfascrripsales@gmail.com) or call 484-432-1472.

## 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE FUNDRAISER T-SHIRT PICKUP

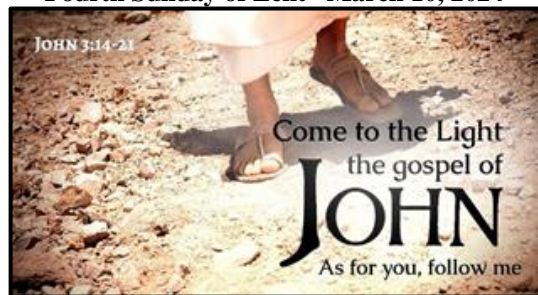
**Attention: Anyone who purchased the St. Patrick's T-shirt can pick up their shirts next weekend, March 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, in the Church Vestibule after all the Masses.**

## EASTER BULLETIN DEADLINE:

**Attention please: The Easter Bulletin deadline is Thursday, March 21st. Thank you!**



**BREAKING OPEN THE WORD**  
**Fourth Sunday of Lent ~March 10, 2024**



**2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23**

Our parish sign outside of the rectory reads: Lent is a time to examine your selfie. We certainly don't see that happening in our First Reading. "...But they mocked the messengers of God." How are you listening to the messengers of God this Lent (weekly homilies, Formed, Lenten practices, Catholic apps etc.) so that you can uncover sin in your life to experience Easter joy?

**Ephesians 2:4-10**

The word "grace" is mentioned three times in the Second Reading. Grace is God's very life within us. Although Jesus came to save the world, "people preferred darkness to light" and ultimately condemned God's Son, the Light of the world, to death. What have you said and done that you don't want brought to light? Bring these things before God and confess your need for God's grace.

**John 3:14-21**

Yes, Jesus is the light of the world. Compose a Prayers of Intercession asking for God's light to remain in you during certain situations or occasions in your life where there may be darkness. Example: For the times that my co-worker has been harsh to me, Lord, fill me with your light; For the times I find myself impatient with my elderly parent, Lord, fill me with your light.

**ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY**

**(ATTENTION: NEW NUMBER FOR ASSISTANCE)**



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, **please call 610-212-4932** and someone from the St. Vincent de Paul will call you back.

**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.

**ATTENTION SENIORS & VOLUNTEERS**

If you would be willing to pick up a senior on your way to Mass, please call Pat Brown & give her your name, phone number & your preference for what Mass you attend. Pat's phone number is **610-328-9831**.

**If you are a senior, who lives within the boundaries of St. Francis Parish** who would like a ride to Mass, please call Pat Brown & give her your name, telephone number, address & your preference for what Mass you would like to attend.

No volunteer would be asked to change the Mass time that they prefer to attend. But your "uber" would make a world of difference in the life of the senior you would be picking up. Please give this some thought and, hopefully, you'll decide to help out a senior! God Bless!!

*The Corner*

***Brought to you by your Evangelization Team***

Reflect on Jesus' love for us: **"The desire to sacrifice so another can be blessed is very much a part of what it means to truly love."**

--- Chris Padgett "I'm Not OK, You're Not OK, But It's OK"

**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.



**CITY TEAM IN CHESTER**

**Opportunities to help with preparing Easter food boxes for families in need.** We are offering to assist on several days with different duties. Feel free to sign up for whatever best fits your schedule. As before, we will try to arrange carpooling from SFA to City Team at 634 Sproul St., Chester. There is free parking right outside the building. Our shifts are Wednesday, 3/27, 1-3PM and Thursday 3/28, 9-12PM for packing the boxes. On Saturday, 3/30, 9-1PM they need help with delivery of packages to families' homes. Either driver or passenger spots are available.

On Easter Sunday, 3/31, 12-2:30PM, there will be a Holiday dinner called Hope Café for unhoused people in the area at their building. Volunteers will assist with set up, serving and companionship!

To sign up, visit: <https://cityteam.volunteerhub.com>. Scroll down to SIGN IN; if you've volunteered before, your account will come up. If not, CREATE AN ACCOUNT, very simple to do. (Feel free to return to this site at any time if there are other events you are interested in). Please notify Helen Golden for questions, or to carpool. Thanks for your willingness to serve!

[Helengolden1@gmail.com](mailto:Helengolden1@gmail.com)

**CARING FOR FRIENDS**

Please consider making meals in your home and bringing them to the CFF freezer located in Leonard Hall kitchen (back of Gym). **Fridays 3pm - 7:30pm, Saturdays 7:45am - 5pm, and Sundays 7:30am - 12:30pm.** You can also pick up tins and supplies in the rectory (*during regular business hours*) and the vestibule of the church.

**The program is looking for volunteers for delivering meals.** Most of our friends are elderly individuals who cannot otherwise remain in their homes without the support of the meals we provide at no charge. These friends have received the comfort of a meal, delivered by a volunteer who stays to share stories, laughter, and most importantly friendship. If you are interested in this ministry, you can reach out to one of us for information: Cheryl Monkman (610)574-5541/Jill Hoffner (610)733-1593.

**Caring For Friends:**

Our Caring for Friends program is up and running. There is a list of local senior citizens and veterans waiting for meals to be delivered in Clifton Heights, Drexel Hill, Media, and Broomall. If you are interested, please call Neci DeVore @ 215-464-0392 or email [neci.devore@caringforfriends.org](mailto:neci.devore@caringforfriends.org). Meals can be picked up from the SFA "Caring for Friends" freezer located in the kitchen or St. Kevin's freezer and delivered to the person in need. Your help is greatly appreciated.



**LENTEN ALMS GIVING**

Each Lent, Catholic families across the country unite to put their faith into action through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Through CRS Rice Bowl, we can help our sisters and brothers across the globe overcome hunger and malnutrition.

To Donate visit: <https://www.crsricebowl.org/>



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## Shop for Good: Give Back with Every Online Purchase

Support your school while you shop online with ShopRite of Drexeline and Brookhaven's online shopping campaign fundraiser!

### Here's how it works:

1. From February 18<sup>th</sup> thru March 30<sup>th</sup>, shop online at [shoprite.com](http://shoprite.com).
2. Enter below code in the promo code box at checkout.

**SFA5**

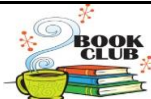
3. ShopRites of Drexeline and Brookhaven will donate 5% of your order total to

**St. Francis of Assisi School**

4. Complete your purchase knowing you've made a positive impact!
5. Spread the word! Share this campaign with your friends and family. The more people who participate, the greater the impact!



## THE THREE PARISH BOOK CLUB



The next meeting of the Book Club will be on **Wednesday, March 27 at 7:00 p.m.** at the Holy Cross Parish Center. At each meeting members and guests offer suggestions for spiritual reading as well as discussing the selected book. You need not have read the month's selection to attend the meeting. If you would like to join the discussion or if you would like more information, please contact Joy Van Berg at 610 328-2095 or at [joyvanberg@gmail.com](mailto:joyvanberg@gmail.com).

### March

On the Incarnation by St. Athanasius

### April

Carlo Acutis: The First Millennial Saint by Nicola Gori

### COME JOIN US...

The St Francis Family Rosary Group meets every Friday evening in the church at 7pm to say the rosary. For more information call Anita Galligan (610)585-0142.

**FLAME OF LOVE**  
OF THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY



To Host the Pilgrim Queen Statue in your home for one week, (Sunday to Sunday), visit the Parish website at [sfaparish.org](http://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.



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

## 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, please call Joy Van Berg at 610 328-2095 or Gus. McClay at 610 544-7223.

## SAINT FRANCIS OVER 50 CLUB



The meeting is this Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup>. We will be entertained by "JT." Tickets will also be on sale for "Hoagie Day", April 11<sup>th</sup>. The doors to Leonard Hall (gym) open 12:30pm and the meeting starts at 1:15pm. **REMINDER: "Irish Celebration" Trip is on Wednesday, March 6. Bus leaves at 9AM.**

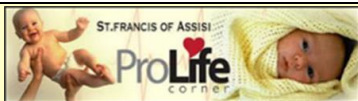
**Casino Trips:** 3/18, 4/10, & 5/8. Cost is \$30 with return of \$15 in slot play. Bus leaves at 10am from the St. Kevin parking lot (200 W. Sproul Road). Park in spaces adjacent to the Springfield Country Club. Call Joe Gowen at 610-739-8146.

**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.

## ATTENTION: BOYS GRADES 8-12

Boys in grades 8-12 are cordially invited to attend a weekly class on Prayer and Spirituality. Classes are led by many priests and deacons from the Archdiocese. Classes are on **Wednesdays 7-8pm** at St Francis of Assisi parish library. Classes have been going on since September, but each class is independent and requires no preparation, so boys can join anytime during the year. Parents are welcome to stay for the Holy Hour which runs from 7-8 upstairs from the library in the church. There is no cost, no preparation, no homework or tests. This is just a chance for the boys to learn more about their Catholic Faith, connect with other boys, and grow in their relationship with God. If you think your son may be interested, email Bob and Carol Cardie at [cbcardie@gmail.com](mailto:cbcardie@gmail.com) to be put on a weekly reminder list. You can view topics for discussion on the following website (more topics will soon be added for the second semester):

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1nSc1Izn440I-RMnIXcDKSOFRdrfst8VT/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=109186988252712656508&rtpof=true&sd=true>



### **"PRO-LIFE" LINES**

Crisis Pregnancy Resource hotline: 610-626-4006.

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

[www.rachelsvineyard.org](http://www.rachelsvineyard.org).

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

[www.ababysbreath.org](http://www.ababysbreath.org).

Delaware County Pregnancy Center: 610-872-2229, [www.dcpcchester.org](http://www.dcpcchester.org)

Mother's Home: 610-583-HOME, [www.mothershome.org](http://www.mothershome.org).

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



**Saturday, April 20, 2024, from 8:30am-4:00pm**, followed by Saturday Vigil Mass at St. Helena's Church, 1489 Dekalb Pike, Blue Bell, PA. Come with your spouse or fiancé and listen to nationally acclaimed Catholic speakers who will inspire you to live out your marriage with greater fervor, love and joy. For more information and to register, visit [bit.ly/MarriagesofGrace2024](http://bit.ly/MarriagesofGrace2024)

### **GOD BLESS ALL WHO SERVE OUR COUNTRY**



Davidson Cox ~ Skip Turner ~ Kevin Geiger ~ Jon Hylton

Connor Lyons ~ Michael McGarvey ~ Steven Ramoni

Mike Froeter ~ Daniel McLee ~ Bill McDermott

Dan Marchini ~ James McDonald ~ Timothy McCans

Patrick J. Ryan, Jr. ~ Anthony Del Vecchio

Sean Sweeney ~ Michael Jones ~ Peter Quinn

Katherine Rieder ~ Rick Kern, Jr. ~ Cale Amador

Timothy Drabyak ~ Daniel McGonigal

Brian J. McDermott ~ Jonathan Butterfield

Aidan Jones ~ Shawn McConaghy ~ Colin Butler

John-Michael Bartivic ~ Joseph Spence

Nicholas & Stephen Peranteau ~ Jesse and Chase Stewart

Matthew Kauffman ~ Christopher Baxter

Thomas Cresta ~ Michael Armellini ~ Francis McGrail

Christopher Johnson ~ Ronan Plummer

Nicholas and Emma McDonald ~ Owen Galligan

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.**

### **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](http://www.archphila.org/hope)

Also available for support is Faith-based drug rehab website:

[www.AddictionCenter.com/Treatment/Faith-Based-Drug-and-Alcohol-Rehab](http://www.AddictionCenter.com/Treatment/Faith-Based-Drug-and-Alcohol-Rehab)

### **Upcoming EVENTS**

**SACRED HEART CHURCH, CLIFTON HEIGHTS PIEROGI SALE** Made at St. Stephen's Church Hall, 199 W. Baltimore Ave. (Baltimore Pike & Church St), Clifton Heights, **March 11-22**, \$8.00 per dozen. Order by Calling Joanne Bidoli at 610-574-7077 or the Rectory at 610-623-0409 between 10AM and 3PM. Pick up times at St. Stephen's Church Hall (pierogi must be ordered first) **Weekdays Noon to 1:30PM or Special Evening Pickup Wednesday of both weeks 5:30 to 6:30PM.**

**CARDINAL O'HARA HIGH SCHOOL "MANE EVENT: AN EVENING IN PARIS"** Cardinal O'Hara High School invites you to the annual "Mane Event": 'An Evening in Paris', on **Saturday, April 6, 2024** - COHS Gymnasium - 7pm-11pm. Come out for a fun night that includes food, a four-hour open bar, casino games, and amazing auction items and raffle prizes. All proceeds directly impact student-focused initiatives. Purchase your tickets at [www.cohs.com](http://www.cohs.com)

**RACHEL'S VINEYARD** is an extraordinary healing opportunity for any person who struggles with emotional and spiritual pain of traumatic pregnancy loss, whether through abortion or miscarriage. Come to our Healing Weekend Retreat: **April 12-14**, in Doylestown, PA, at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa. To register, or for more information, call Evelyn at (215) 317-5752.

[www.rachelsvineyard.org](http://www.rachelsvineyard.org) <<http://www.rachelsvineyard.org>

**ST. KEVIN'S 2024 KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CRAB CAKE SALE/FUNDRAISER:** All proceeds will go to K of C Charitable efforts. We will be taking pre-paid orders after all the Masses **at St. Kevin's** on **SATURDAYS, MARCH 9 & 16 (4PM) AND SUNDAY, MARCH 10 & 17 (8, 11AM & 5:30PM)**. Orders can also be mailed to: Mike Diemidio, 627 Kennerly Road, Springfield, PA 19064. Please call Mike at 610-761-4007 with any questions. Please include payment with order. **Orders must be received by Sunday, March 17 and orders must be picked up on March 21 between 4:15pm & 7:00pm at the St. Kevin Parish Life Center.** Order forms can be obtained in throughout SFA Church

**ST. LAURENCE SCHOOL CLASS OF '73 - 50 YEAR REUNION** on **Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 7-10 pm** at The Yard Pub, Havertown. Tickets are \$45 through April 5<sup>th</sup>, \$55 after. Includes buffet and soft drinks; cash bar for alcohol. For info on ordering by check, email Terri Colgan at [cogs81@msn.com](mailto:cogs81@msn.com). For Venmo payment email Lori Hannon at [lmhannon26@gmail.com](mailto:lmhannon26@gmail.com).

### **ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK**

We salute the advertisers in our bulletin. This week we thank

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### **PRAYER FOR LENT**

Heavenly Father, As I enter another week of my Lenten journey, guide me to the path that leads to You. Fill my heart with gratitude, patience, strength, and peace as I strive to become the best-version-of-myself, honestly admitting my shortcomings and sins.

As I renew my resolve each day to become a better person, let me hear Your voice in the deepest reaches of my heart. Give me rest in You.

Help me to accept others, showing them Your great love instead of casting judgment.

Stay with me through the busy days this week and remind me that when I need comfort, solitude, wisdom, or guidance, I can always turn to You.

Help me develop discipline and generosity through fasting and almsgiving and come closer to You through prayer this Lent.

In Your name I pray, Amen.





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## Your Impact



**DID YOU KNOW**  
**1 IN 5 PEOPLE**

in the Greater Philadelphia area count on the Catholic Charities Appeal for help and hope? We may not notice them, but they are there in every county, town, parish, and neighborhood.

It's time we focus on the women and children looking for shelter, focus on those experiencing poverty and looking for a meal, and focus on individuals with special needs looking for opportunity.

**Every year, the Catholic Charities Appeal impacts nearly one million lives. But this is not possible without your help. Your gift matters more than you know.**

CATHOLICCHARITIESAPPEAL.ORG

## Ways to Give

The Catholic Charities Appeal is recognized as a non-profit institution. As such, all gifts are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. It has its own Employer Identification Number (EIN) and receives a separate financial audit. Besides gifts of cash, donors to the 2024 Catholic Charities Appeal may contribute in many other ways, each offering tax advantages according to their circumstances:

- Pledge Gift
- Gifts of Cash
- Matching Gifts
- Electronic Fund
- Transfer (EFT)
- Gifts of Securities
- Planned Gifts

For more information about any of the ways you can support the 2024 Catholic Charities Appeal, please call The Catholic Foundation of Greater Philadelphia at 215.587.5650 or email [cca@thecfpg.org](mailto:cca@thecfpg.org).



@catholiccharitiesappeal

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CATHOLICCHARITIESAPPEAL.ORG  
215.587.5650

## Social Services:

MARTHA'S CHOICE MARKETPLACE  
AND COMMUNITY FARM



"The person who waited on you at breakfast. The nurse who took care of your elderly mother. Your neighbor. All these people are clients at Martha's Choice Marketplace and Community Farm. These are people who are working every single day but need to decide between paying their rent or putting healthy, nutritious food on the table. That is where Martha's comes in. Martha's Choice Marketplace and Community Farm is the largest food pantry in Montgomery County. Last year, we distributed 2.3 million pounds of food to 4,000 different families. This equates to approximately 17,000 people – half of which are children. We recently acquired a farm, and we are now able to grow fresh produce for our clients. We have so many amazing volunteers who help us at the farm – growing food items we would normally not have available at the pantry. **A significant portion of our funding comes from the Catholic Charities Appeal, and we are so grateful to all the donors who have supported us. You make this vital work possible.**"

– Patrick Walsh, Director of Programs, and  
Eli Wenger, Director of Operations, Martha's  
Choice Marketplace and Community Farm





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**MARCH 13, 2024**



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[www.staloysiusacademy.org](http://www.staloysiusacademy.org)

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