

# ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

*The Beacon of Ambler—Where Faith and Family are One*

Main and Poplar Sts. Ambler, PA 19002

CONTACT: 215-646-0494 EMAIL: [stjoeambler@gmail.com](mailto:stjoeambler@gmail.com) [www.stjoeambler.org](http://www.stjoeambler.org)

Rectory Address: 16 S. Spring Garden St. Ambler, PA 19002 FAX 215-643-6389

Father James T. Mc Guinn- *Parochial Administrator*

Father Michael J. Saban- *Parochial Vicar*

Father Charles J. Mc Elroy- *Retired Resident*

Deacon Mark Kuhn (Spanish speaking contact - 484-746-3414)

Mrs. Lisa Gallagher- *Parish Secretary, Music Ministry Director*

Mrs. Suzanne Kuhn- *Director of Religious Education* ([stjosephamblerdre@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephamblerdre@gmail.com))



**“I am the good shepherd,  
and I know mine and mine know me,  
just as the Father knows me  
and I know the Father;  
and I will lay down my life for the sheep.”**

John 10:14–15

© Diocesan

**April 21, 2024**

## GENERAL

### Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil at 4:00 PM

Sunday 9:00 and 11:00 AM

Masses in Spanish on the First and Third of the month at 1:00 PM

Mondays Daily Communion Service at 6:30 AM

### Tuesday through Friday

6:30 AM AND 12:05 PM. The Miraculous Medal Novena Devotion takes place every Friday at the 6:30 AM mass and at the 12:05 Mass.

### Confession

Saturdays- 3:00 PM- 3:30 PM

### Holydays of Obligation

6:30 AM AND 12:05 PM

(No evening mass)

St. Anthony of Padua Church at 7:00 PM

### Rectory Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

(Closed for lunch from 12:30PM to 1:30PM )

Friday 9:00AM TO 12:00PM

Rectory Office is closed on all

Holydays and Holidays

### All those who are in need of our prayers,

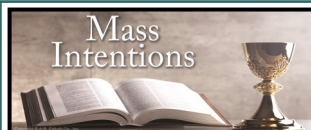
Victor Balten, Rachel Barboni, Jimmy Cowman, Anthony D'Acunto, Diane Camasso, Clare Di Donato, Kathleen Hart, Donna McMullan lives of the Unborn, all who have been killed by unnecessary violence, people of the Ukraine, people of Israel and all those in our hearts.

\*\*Please continue to pray all who are ill or in need of prayers. Names of the sick will be removed at the end of the month unless notified. If you know anyone who would like to be on our prayer list, due to privacy issues, they or a family member must call the rectory. Let us know if they can be removed from the list. It is so good to know that prayers are answered!

### Living Stewardship Now

*Are you living by the rules, but have no peace of heart? Are you looking at others—especially within the church community—and seeing them as misguided, incorrect, or deficient? Are you standing in judgment of others for their sinfulness? What would Jesus like you to do about this?*

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**St. Joseph Our Patron  
Pray for Us!  
April 21-22 2024**

### Saturday Vigil

4:00 PM Trudy Urban Anthony/Beth Minio & family

### Sunday

9:00 AM Most Rev. Keith J. Chylinski (living)  
Deacon Mark/Suzanne Kuhn

11:00 AM Most Rev. Christopher R. Cooke (living)  
Deacon Mark/Suzanne Kuhn

1:00 PM Mass in Spanish

### Weekday

**Monday** COMMUNION SERVICE at 6:30 AM  
(no intentions taken)

12:05 PM Marchellino Yun/Agata Chung Marianna Yun

### Tuesday

6:30AM Queen of Peace John Strong  
12:05 PM Donald Stieritz Sheila Stieritz

### Wednesday

6:30 AM All Religious John Strong  
12:05 PM Silvia Ciliberto Gerry/Teresa Araco

### Thursday

6:30 AM Nina Talese family  
12:05 PM Louis Junker (20th) Joanne Junker

### Friday

6:30 AM Barbara Rodgers Jim/Betty O'Brien  
12:05 PM Teresa/Nicola Paone family

### Candle Memorials/Intentions Remembering

*The Sanctuary Candle  
Father Tully*



*The Mary Candle  
Isabella Family*

*The St. Joseph Candle  
Michelle Adams and baby*



**Fourth Sunday of Easter**Reading 1 **Acts 4:8-12**

Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said:

"Leaders of the people and elders:

If we are being examined today about a good deed done to a cripple, namely, by what means he was saved, then all of you and all the people of Israel should know that it was in the name of Jesus Christ the Nazorean whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead;

in his name this man stands before you healed.

*He is the stone rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone.*

There is no salvation through anyone else, nor is there any other name under heaven given to the human race by which we are to be saved."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm **Ps 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29**

R. *The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone.*

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his mercy endures forever.

It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in man.

It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in princes.

R. *The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone.*

I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me and have been my savior.

The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

By the LORD has this been done; it is wonderful in our eyes.

R. *The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone.*

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD; we bless you from the house of the LORD.

I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me and have been my savior.

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his kindness endures forever.

R. *The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone.*

Reading 2 **1 Jn 3:1-2**

Beloved:

See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God.

Yet so we are.

The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed.

We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him,

for we shall see him as he is.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel **Jn 10:11-18**

Jesus said:

"I am the good shepherd.

A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

A hired man, who is not a shepherd and whose sheep are not his own,

sees a wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away,

and the wolf catches and scatters them.

This is because he works for pay and has no concern for the sheep.

I am the good shepherd,

and I know mine and mine know me,

just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I will lay down my life for the sheep.

I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold.

These also I must lead, and they will hear my voice, and there will be one flock, one shepherd.

This is why the Father loves me,

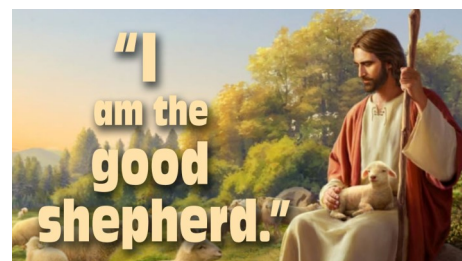
because I lay down my life in order to take it up again.

No one takes it from me, but I lay it down on my own.

I have power to lay it down, and power to take it up again.

This command I have received from my Father."

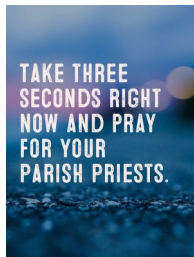
The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**



### From the Pastor Week 4 of Easter

In the Old Testament, the word “shepherd” came to be used to describe anyone who had some type of leadership responsibility. Kings and generals, priests and prophets, teachers and parents were all called shepherds. Jesus adopted this image of a shepherd for himself, and St. John explored it in chapter ten of his Gospel. In time, Jesus entrusted the responsibilities of being a shepherd to his disciples and called them to be good shepherds like he was. Jesus also expected them to personally take seriously their formation as leaders. Every parish is a school of formation and formation in the area of leadership is an important responsibility of your parish. This week, take practical steps to help your parish and yourself grow in the area of leadership.

In the Peace of Christ,  
Father Jim



### Liturgical Schedule for April 20-21 Celebrants: (subject to change)

**4:00 PM VIGIL**  
**FATHER McGuinn**

**9:00 AM FATHER McGuinn \*D**

**11:00 AM FATHER McGuinn**

**1:00 PM Mass in Spanish FATHER Flavio**

We are looking to have 3 Eucharistic Ministers on for Mass, especially the Vigil and the 11. Please step up if you see that a Eucharistic minister is needed.

<b>Liturgical Ministers</b>		<b>April 20-21</b>	
	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	
4PM	Theresa	Joan, Maria	
9AM	Robert	Robert, Elizabeth	
11AM	Sarah	Sharon, Sarah	

### CONTRIBUTIONS

#### Sunday collection:

April 14th \$18,737.00

A generous donation of \$15,000

We are blessed and so appreciative for all you continue to do for St. Joseph's.

### Shepherding Our Hearts to the Father's

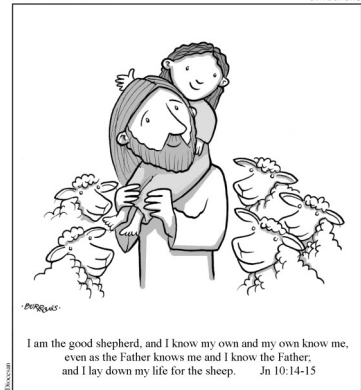
The Holy Spirit is burning within Peter, the first of the Apostles, as he proclaims the truth about Jesus to the leaders of the Jews in today's First Reading: Jesus Christ is the stone they rejected and executed, the cornerstone of the Church, in Whom all salvation and healing is found.

In Christ, the Son of God, we also become children of God. In Christ, who calls himself the Good Shepherd, we are known and healed and saved. This Good Shepherd has sacrificed everything for our sake, laying down His life willingly, and taking it back up again.

Jesus is always the one in control. No one forces him to do anything. The Father sent him into the world on a mission of salvation, and his whole life is dedicated to saving all of us. It is a struggle, but he is not struggling to protect or save himself; he is struggling to save all of us as he gives all of Himself. The enemy does not make him recoil or run away from his mission; the “wolf” will not make him anxious, because he cannot lose. Jesus is not worried. He does not need to recalculate his battle plan. The Plan is set from the beginning: He must take on all our fallenness and woundedness and sin and death itself, and carry it all the way to Golgotha in his own Perfect Heart – completely human and completely divine; he must sacrifice himself wholly by laying down his life, and then transform every darkness into light when he takes up his life again.

And His glorious promise to us is that ultimately, all will be drawn together so that there will be one flock without division, under the one Shepherd of love. The love of the Father has willed that we be called His children, as St. John tells us. God has created a world and a Heaven that would not be complete without us, because we are all members of one family in Christ, each of us beloved sons and daughters. Through Christ's rejection and death, we are redeemed, received, and given eternal life. In this freedom, we are called to accept this great gift and follow the commands of our Good Shepherd. By Kathryn Mulderink

The Little Ones Jim Burrows



**NOTHING  
COMPARES**  
*to Being There*



We are always happy to welcome new parishioners!  
If you are interested in joining our wonderful Parish family, please register after any of the masses or:

- register online at [stjoeambler@gmail.com](mailto:stjoeambler@gmail.com)
- visit our website at [stjoeambler.org](http://stjoeambler.org) or
- contact the rectory office at 215-646-0494.



### Saturday, April 27th

First Communion Retreat

Heritage Room

9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

All First Communion children must attend.

### Sunday, April 28th

11:00 Prep family mass

### SAINT ANSELM (1033-1109)

#### April 21

For anyone disheartened at how easily contemporary discussions of disputed Church-State issues escalate from civil discourse to shrill polemic, Anselm provides perspective. Grounded in the Benedictine Rule's balanced "prayer and work," this monk-scholar, called from his Abbey to become Archbishop of Canterbury, was thrust into firestorms of political intrigue, himself the target of warring bishops and nobles, kings and popes. Yet from depths of inner peace, Anselm wrote this moving exhortation by which today's *Liturgy of the Hours* celebrates him: "Rise up, insignificant man! From your preoccupations, flee a while. From your turbulent thoughts, hide for a time. Your crushing responsibilities cast aside. Your burdensome business lay down. Free a little space for God. Rest a little while in him!" "Faith seeking understanding" was his strikingly contemporary motto; and though renowned as an erudite philosopher-theologian, Anselm also left personal letters, profound for their insights on Christian friendship. Along with those, he composed "A Prayer for My Friends" and "A Prayer for My Enemies," reminding us that those who love God most passionately are also those who love others most humanly. —Peter Scagnelli

### Sunday Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:8-12; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29; 1 Jn 3:1-2; Jn 10:11-18

**Monday** Acts 11:1-18; Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4; Jn 10:1-10

**Tuesday** Acts 11:19-26; Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7; Jn 10:22-30

**Wednesday** Acts 12:24 — 13:5a; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8; Jn 12:44-50

### Thursday Feast of Saint Mark, Evangelist

1 Pt 5:5b-14; Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17; Mk 16:15-20

**Friday** Acts 13:26-33; Ps 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab; Jn 14:1-6

**Saturday** Acts 13:44-52; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Jn 14:7-14

### OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL

#### April 26

The image now known as Our Lady of Good Counsel is said to have been transported miraculously from Albania to the town of Genazzano, Italy, in 1467, where it has since remained in the church dedicated to her under that title.

### OUR LADY OF MONTSERRAT

#### April 27

The town of Montserrat, Spain, is home to a celebrated Black Madonna that dates from about the twelfth or thirteenth century. Ignatius of Loyola is said to have redirected his life after a night in prayer before the statue.

### TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

There are few openings for "Shepherds" in the classified ads today, but few occupations are as dear to the Christian heart. Most of us tenderly place shepherds by our Christmas cribs, name the Twenty-third Psalm as our favorite, and recognize "Good Shepherd" as a title of Jesus. Bishops carry a staff, called a crozier, modeled after the shepherd's walking staff. Long before Christian artists painted Jesus on the cross, they traced on the walls of their worship places images of a strong young shepherd, shouldering a lost sheep and bringing it to safety. Springtime is the season of lambing, a time when the shepherd not only learns the faces of the new arrivals, but also when the newborn sheep become attuned to the voice of the shepherd. This is exactly what we do as a community in Easter as we shelter and guide the newly received Christians, and also put our Lenten muscles to good use: listening more attentively to God's Word, and responding with springtime vigor to God's call. —Rev. James Field

**AROUND TOWN.....**

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**Hallahan - Class of '74 -**

**50th Reunion** - Sunday, May 19, 2024 - 12:00 pm - Brunch at Panache - for more Details email: HallahanClassof1974@[gmail.com](mailto:gmail.com)

**Cardinal O'Hara High School** is planning a 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion for the **Class of 1974**. The reunion is October 19, 2024 at Llanerch Country Club. For more information or to update your email and mailing address, contact John Caramanico at [jcaramanico56@gmail.com](mailto:jcaramanico56@gmail.com) or 610.633.0783.

**St. Mary Polish American Society** is accepting applications for the second annual Felicia Jemionek Rzeznik Memorial Scholarship, a \$1,500 scholarship to a qualified student of Polish ancestry residing within the Archdiocese of Philadelphia pursuing full-time undergraduate studies at an accredited college or university in the United States. For any questions, please call Dorothy Swedkowski at 610-630-0861.

**OVER 50'S CLUB**

We welcome **all seniors** to the meetings of St Luke Over 50's Club, held at 11:30am on the second Tuesday of most months, at the VFW Post 676, 2519 Jenkintown Road, Glenside. Lunch is available for purchase from the VFW at these meetings, or you may bring your own. Desserts are provided and members are encouraged to sign the circulated sheet for a turn to bring desserts during the year. All meetings except for the Christmas and May luncheons, take place at the Glenside VFW.

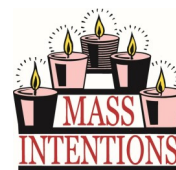
Next month, on Tuesday May 14, all are invited as we celebrate Spring with a luncheon at Sandy Run Country Club. Tickets (\$35.00) for the May luncheon will be available at the April 9 meeting. There will not be a regular meeting at the VFW in May. Good food in a beautiful setting, and wonderful friendly socialization. Gifts and prizes as well- who could ask for more? June 14 will have our unique Mardi Gras event- something totally different!! We can guarantee that no other club in town will be having their Mardi Gras on June 14!! Please call with any questions or concerns: Sheila Stieritz 267-468-5353

**Bishop McDevitt Class of 1974 - 50th High School Reunion**

We are looking for classmates for our 50th class reunion on October 19, 2024 at Sandy Run Country Club. If interested, please contact either Rita Cassidy Stapf ([rcstapf@verizon.net](mailto:rcstapf@verizon.net)) or Barb Mullen Butynskyi [b.butynskyi@comcast.net](mailto:b.butynskyi@comcast.net).

**\*\*Donut Sunday** will take place on Sunday, April 28th. After the 11:00 AM mass. Please join us in the Heritage Room for some light refreshments. This will be our last hospitality until the Fall.

**MASS BOOK FOR JULY 1ST TO DEC. 31ST, 2024 WILL OPEN UP ON MONDAY, APRIL 22ND AT 9 AM.**



**AS OF APRIL 22ND, ALL MASS OFFERINGS WILL BE \$15 FOR BOTH WEEKDAY AND WEEKENDS. CANDLE OFFERINGS WILL REMAIN \$10**

For your convenience, slips will be available on all the church tables for you to fill out.



**\*\*You may also submit your masses online to [stjoeambl@gmail.com](mailto:stjoeambl@gmail.com). Please note that these will be received after the opening day.**

**Gwynedd Mercy Academy High School: Get on Campus**

Interested in learning more about Gwynedd Mercy Academy High School? Girls in 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grades are invited to register for tours, our practice test, and summer camps! Learn more and register at [gmahs.org/admissions](http://gmahs.org/admissions).



**June 1, 2024: NUN RUN - A 5K Run / 3K Walk.** Early bird registration April 1-15<sup>th</sup>. Register by May 10th to be assured a t-shirt. Sponsored by the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary at Camilla Hall, 100 Maxis Drive, Malvern, PA

19355. Proceeds benefit Camilla Hall, the convent home and health care center for the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. For information or to register go to: [www.ihmnunrun.org](http://www.ihmnunrun.org). A fun family day and great opportunity for youth, young adults and all those who like to run or walk

**FOLLOW THE SHEPHERD**

In the passage prior to today's Gospel Jesus has healed a blind man on the Sabbath day and the Pharisees say he has broken the law, which forbids all work on the Lord's day—even healing! Jesus says that, as the Good Shepherd, he is not like hired hands who collect pay for watching the sheep but abandon them in time of need. Jewish scriptures frequently describe God as a shepherd. So the Pharisees know exactly what Jesus means: outrageously, he claims to be God, and contrasts himself with them—the hired hands who care less for God's people than rules and regulations. The Pharisees in their obsession with rules had lost sight of the living heart of Judaism (see Deuteronomy 10:12–20 and Micah 6:8). They also judged as unworthy those who followed the rules less devotedly. Any time we say others are less worthy or obedient or devout than we are, trouble follows. Let's keep our eyes on the Shepherd and follow him.

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM and CONFIRMATION  
ROLE OF SPONSORS**



A baptismal preparation evening class is mandatory for all parents who are requesting Baptism. The class is usually provided on the third Thursday of each month.

Baptisms are scheduled with the Deacon. Please contact the rectory office for more information.

Godparent or Sponsor Requirement- You must be a practicing Catholic, in good standing, and attend mass regularly, (married validly if married), at least 16 years of age, and have received the sacraments of initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist).

Eligibility Certificates for another Parish-

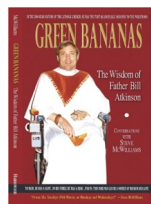
\*We cannot issue certificates of eligibility to any parish if a person is not regularly attending Sunday mass and/or isn't properly registered in St. Joseph Parish .



**SACRAMENT OF THE SICK** In case of serious illness, please contact the Rectory or call the emergency number if after office hours.

**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE**

Parishioners planning wedding dates must make an appointment to set a wedding date at least six months or more prior to that wedding date. They must also arrange for Marriage Preparation Class by contacting [www.philamarriageprep.com](http://www.philamarriageprep.com) or call 610-873-2017. Saturday weddings cannot be scheduled any later than 2PM. Non-parishioner weddings are up to the Pastor's discretion. If a couple is not a member of this parish, they should request a letter of permission from their 'home' parish.



**Father Bill Atkinson's Cause for Canonization:** Please continue to pray for his intercession.. **For favors received or for more information, write Fr. Bill's Cause -Augustinian Provincial Offices PO Box 340- Villanova, PA 19085 610-527-3330 [www.augustinian.org](http://www.augustinian.org)**

As you know we continue to remember and pray for Father William Atkinson's 'call to Sainthood". Father Atkinson has a beautiful story of his journey of faith and carrying his cross. Please continue to pray for Father Atkinson and all those whose lives were touched because of him.



Please continue to patronize all our advertisers who we recognize weekly and who supply our bulletins. Through their generosity we receive our paper and digital bulletin. Don't forget to also patronize all our local community stores and restaurants.



**Is God calling you to 'step out of your comfort zone'?**

Now is the time to ask yourself...how can I get more involved and help our church grow? Step up and consider being an usher, lector, Eucharistic minister, adult server or church sacristan?

Sing with your heart and become a leader of song. The work is easy, but the benefits are out of this world! Please contact the rectory office if you hear the call.

Our country, our military, police and first responders all need our prayers now!



Please continue to pray for all in harms way who help protect us and our country. God bless and protect them all. Many have returned home and need both physical and emotional care.

They cannot be forgotten. Pray for all those who have unselfishly given up their lives for our freedom. Jesus has said, "There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for a friend". May God give them strength and courage to continue to fight the battles they struggle with abroad and here at home!

**Universal Prayers for Peace in the Middle East**

We offer these special Universal Prayers for those affected by the violence in the Middle East: For an end to the tensions escalating in the Middle East, may they be transformed by the peace that comes from God; the peace that surpasses all human understanding, let us pray to the Lord. For those who have died in the violence in the Middle East, may they find perpetual peace and rest in the comforting arms of the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. For those who are mourning the deaths of friends or family members, and those whose loved ones are missing, may God console them in their pain and grief and grant them strength, let us pray to the Lord. For all innocent people in the Middle East harmed by violence or instability, may God's grace sustain and strengthen them and keep them from harm, let us pray to the Lord. Amen.

