

**PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD**  
**APRIL 14, 2019**



***A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR:***

**HOLY WEEK**

Going up to Jerusalem for Jesus meant putting himself in the bullseye of the target for those who wanted to get rid of him. He knew that he was negotiating dangerous territory, yet he willingly made his way to what would inevitably lead to the Cross. As we all know, the drama of salvation had to unfold by means of his suffering and death. Without the Cross there could be no Resurrection. Jesus knew that in order to accomplish his mission he had to put his life on the line, but as he expressed in the Garden of Gethsemane, he would rather not have to undergo the cruel misery that was a good possibility. He had been dodging the authorities who had been trying to trap and catch him so many times, but now he was walking into their clutches, and would have to face the consequences. They thought that killing him would snuff out this annoying new teaching. After all, they were only a small group, these supporters. But because his teachings were from God, not only did they not succeed in extinguishing this “new way” but his death seemed to fuel it to greater heights.

The events of this week we call Holy are familiar to us. Beginning with the triumphal entry into Jerusalem, we see Jesus confronting those who put economic gain ahead of their religious principles as he cleanses the Temple area, followed by the celebration of the Passover meal at which he teaches his followers how to carry on the meaning of his life and sacrifice in those memorable symbols. Enduring betrayal, denial, misjudgment, torture and death, he finally triumphs at his Resurrection.

Life for his disciples will follow the same journey all throughout history, beginning with the first group, most of whom will suffer martyrdom for their witness to his teachings. For ages afterwards, any who dare to defy violence and injustice in faithfulness to his teachings of forgiveness and love, will suffer similar fates. It is the way of the Christian to stand as a countersign to a world which puts power and gain ahead of justice and right, and it is the way of the world not only to resist it but to try to stamp it out, as they did to Jesus.

Holy Week reminds us of our call to continue the mission of Jesus Christ whose way has yet to prevail in our violent, greedy and unjust world. It did not deter him from going up to Jerusalem and facing the unavoidable. Despite the odds against him, he prevailed. As his followers, we are called to embrace the same attitude as we commemorate these high holy days, living in the hope that perhaps someday his “new way” will overcome the darkness of the powers who oppose it.

**Stewardship Thought for the Week**

*“I tell you, Peter, before the cock crows this day, you will deny three times that you know me.”* (Luke 22:34)

How many times have you heard someone make a disparaging comment about Jesus or our Catholic faith? How did you react? Do you remain quiet not to cause a disturbance? Or, do you remain quiet because you believe people will think negatively about you? Pray for the courage to speak up and enter into a respectful dialogue when the opportunity arises.

Thank you for your generosity for the weekend of April 6 and 7, 2019:

Number of Envelopes:	355
Envelope Amount:	\$14,113.00
Loose Cash:	\$1,343.83
Electronic Offerings:	\$7,403.10
Other	\$70.00
Total	\$22,939.93
10% Tithe	\$2,293.99
April 8, 2018	\$17,686.43

It was Easter weekend last year at this time.

## Holy Week and Easter Services



### *TRIDUUM 2019* *THE HOLIEST OF DAYS*

#### **HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 18TH**

8:00PM Mass of the Lord's Supper

Villanova Church

Solemn Adoration until 11:00PM

in Corr Hall Chapel

#### **GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 19TH**

3:00PM Celebration of the Lord's Passion

Villanova Church

#### **HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 20TH**

**EASTER VIGIL**

8:00PM Villanova Church

#### **EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 21ST**

7:30AM - Villanova Church

9:00AM - Rosemont Chapel

9:30AM - Villanova Church

11:00AM - Rosemont Chapel

11:30AM – Villanova Church

**There is no evening Mass on Easter Sunday.**

FOR SAFETY REASONS OCCUPANCY IS LIMITED IN THE VILLANOVA CHURCH  
TO 650 PERSONS AND IN THE ROSEMONT CHAPEL TO 550 PERSONS.

**This will be strictly observed.**

Parking for the Villanova Church is in the Main Lot on Lancaster Avenue EXCEPT  
for persons with Special Needs. For your safety and the safety of all, please  
follow the directions of the Public Safety Officers. Thank you!



**Mon., April 15th** 12:05PM-RMCH  
**Tues., April 16th** 12:05PM-RMCH  
**Wed., April 17th** 12:05PM-RMCH  
**Thurs., April 18th** 8:00PM-VNCH  
**Fri., April 19th** 3:00PM-VNCH  
**Sat., April 20th** 8:00PM-VNCH  
**Sun., April 21st**

**Monday of Holy Week**  
Harry Wolfington - Family  
**Tuesday of Holy Week**  
In Thanksgiving to SS. Michael & Raphael - Petrizzo Family  
**Wednesday of Holy Week**  
John & Margaret Gallagher  
**HOLY THURSDAY**  
Mass of the Lord's Supper  
**GOOD FRIDAY**  
Celebration of the Lord's Passion  
**HOLY SATURDAY**  
Easter Vigil  
**EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD**  
7:30AM-VNCH  
9:00AM-RMCH  
9:30AM-VNCH  
11:00AM-RMCH  
11:30AM-VNCH

There are no evening Masses at the Villanova Church on Easter Sunday.

## THE ALLELUIA! MINISTRY NEEDS YOU ON EASTER SUNDAY

In 2018, we welcomed over 2,500 parishioners, extended family and visitors to our Vigil and Easter Sunday Liturgies.

Would you be willing to share one hour before and 15 minutes after the Easter Liturgy you plan to attend to make sure that each person who joins us for Easter will feel.....

WARM WELCOMED WANTED WORTHY

### What is the job description of an Alleluia Minister?

Stand outside the doors of the church, opening the doors, and expressing a warm welcome. After Mass, you will stand outside doors, expressing a goodbye and asking our guests to "come back".

If you can be an Alleluia Minister to welcome all who will join us this Easter, please contact Cathy Van Kula at [service@stvparish.org](mailto:service@stvparish.org) or 610-525-4801, ext. 221.



## HOLY WEEK LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Please join us this Wednesday evening as we celebrate the Stations of the Cross in the Rosemont Chapel. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered at 6:30pm in the Rosemont Chapel.

April 17 - Stations of the Cross, sponsored by Mercy Ministry (Rosemont)

Please join us for Morning Prayer at 9:00am in the Rosemont Chapel on

Holy Thursday - April 18th  
Good Friday - April 19th  
Holy Saturday - April 20th

### FAST AND ABSTINENCE AND OTHER ACTS OF PENANCE FOR LENT 2019

As part of our penitential practice, Catholics who are 14 years of age and older are to abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent. In addition, Catholics from the age of 18 through 59 are to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. This means limiting oneself to a single full meal, while the other two meals on those days are to be light.

*This Easter Sunday, the Children's Choir and Handbells will participate at the 9:00am Mass and the Youth Choir will be participating at the 11:00am Mass. These are the two Masses in the St. Thomas of Villanova Rosemont Chapel.*

### Readings for the Week:

Monday: Is 42:1-7; Jn 12:1-11  
Tuesday: Is 49:1-6; Jn 13:21-33, 36-38  
Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a; Mt 26:14-25  
Thursday: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; 1 Cor 11:23-26; Jn 12:1-15  
Friday: Is 52:13-53:12; Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9; Jn 18:1-19:42  
Saturday: Gn 1:1-2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a; Rom 6:3-11; Lk 24:1-12  
Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8; Jn 20:1-9 or Lk 24:1-12

Archdiocese of Philadelphia  
Office of the Archbishop  
222 North 17th Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103-1299

April 14, 2019

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On Good Friday, April 19, 2019, we celebrate the mystery of the Lord's Passion, contemplating the sacrifice by which Jesus redeemed the human race from sin and death. It also has been our longstanding tradition as Catholics to offer alms in support of the Catholic Community in the Holy Land.

As directed by our Holy Father, Pope Francis, funds generated by this collection support programs and services in the Holy Land. Support is needed to maintain the sacred places, to provide educational and pastoral programs as well as outreach programs for the poor through established charitable institutions.

On behalf of those Christians and others in so much need, I seek your most generous and sacrificial support of the Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land on April 19, 2019. I know that God our Father will reward your generosity beyond all measure.

Gratefully and with best wishes in Jesus Christ,

+Most Reverend Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap.  
Archbishop of Philadelphia



## STEWARDSHIP

*Managing God's Gifts To Us*

### STEWARDSHIP:

Weekly Tip On Caring For Our Environment

To commemorate Earth Day (April 22), consider reading or re-reading Pope Francis' landmark Encyclical *Laudato Si* (On Care For Our Common Home) about our responsibility for the planet's environment. It can be accessed at [laudatosi.com](http://laudatosi.com).



### Schedule of Events for the week of: April 14, 2019 Recitation of the Rosary after the daily Liturgy.

#### Monday, April 15, 2019

Centering Prayer -RMCH	7:30AM
Rosemont Care Ministry	10:15AM
Mom's Playdate - Aud	10:30AM
Art Class - PC1	11:00AM

#### Tuesday, April 16, 2019

Preschool Stations of the Cross—Courtyard	9:30AM
Scripture Sharing - PC2	10:00AM
Staff Meeting	1:00PM

#### Wednesday, April 17, 2019

Women's 11th Step Spirituality Meeting—PC1	6:00AM
Food Addicts in Recovery - PC11	9:30AM
Exercise Program - Aud	10:00AM
Honickman Ministry	10:15AM
No Religious Education Classes	
Reconciliation - RMCH	6:30PM
Stations of the Cross (Mercy Ministry) — RMCH	7:00PM

#### Thurs., April 18th

9:00AM-RMCH

8:00PM-VNCH

#### HOLY THURSDAY

Morning Prayer

Mass of the Lord's Supper

#### Fri., April 19th

9:00AM-RMCH

3:00PM-VNCH

#### GOOD FRIDAY

Morning Prayer

Celebration of the Lord's Passion

#### Sat., April 20th

9:00AM-RMCH

8:00PM-VNCH

#### HOLY SATURDAY

Morning Prayer

Easter Vigil

#### Sun., April 21st

#### EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

7:30AM-VNCH

9:00AM-RMCH

9:30AM-VNCH

11:00AM-RMCH

11:30AM-VNCH



There are no evening Masses at the Villanova Church on Easter Sunday.

### Centering Prayer Silent Meditation

#### Would you like the gift of prayer?

Centering Prayer presents ancient Christian wisdom teachings in an updated form. It is not meant to replace other kinds of prayer; rather it casts a new light and depth of meaning on them. Centering Prayer is a relationship with God and a discipline to foster that relationship. This method of prayer is a movement beyond conversation with Christ to communion with him. Join us Mondays at 7:30am in the Rosemont Chapel.



**We wish a warm welcome to the newest members of our parish:**

Kevin & Kelly Corbett & Family of Bryn Mawr  
Timothy & Marcia Sullivan of Media

**Resting in Peace:**

Rev. Alfred J. Ellis, O.S.A.  
Rev. George P. Magee, O.S.A.  
Mrs. Jennifer Voiner

**Remember those in need of our prayers, especially:**

Katherine Breck, Brynn Busby, Austin DePetris, Martin Gollin, Patricia Ann Harley, Bridget Kelly, Sara Keohane, Pamela LaMonaca, Bert Rodgers, and Robert J. Wahl.

**Please pray for our soldiers assigned in Afghanistan and in other parts of the world. Please also pray for the soldiers who are returning from their assignments, especially the wounded.**

**ENCOUNTER  
OUR  
NEIGHBORS**



We encounter Jesus this week in Jerusalem, a community he knew well. We prayerfully enter our own communities too, encountering those who are hungry and thirsty and those who need our help. How does our Lenten journey motivate us to serve those we meet in our daily lives?

In just another week, our Lenten prayers, fasting and almsgiving will give way to the joy of the Easter Season, but that does not mean our Lenten journey of encounter is over.

It's time to **TURN IN YOUR CRS RICE BOWLS!** Please convert your money to a check payable to St. Thomas of Villanova with "CRS Rice Bowl" written on the memo line. Twenty-five percent of the funds collected will be used to purchase food to stock emergency food cupboards and soup kitchens throughout the Archdiocese.

If you do not use an actual CRS Rice Bowl but simply wish to give online to Catholic Relief Services, go to [csrricebowl.org/give](http://csrricebowl.org/give).

**CHRISTIAN SERVICE**

**PRAYERLINE**

The parish prayer line is waiting for your prayer request. Please contact [stvprayerline@gmail.com](mailto:stvprayerline@gmail.com) or Millie Seeds at 610-353-2025 to activate the parish prayerline. We have parish teams available for your special intentions.

**DINNERS TO THE DOORSTEP**

This ministry is for parish families who are in crisis or for parish couples welcoming a new baby. Homemade dinners are delivered. Two parish coordinators keep a list of volunteers who are called as needed. If you are in need of this delicious community support, please call Sarah Breck at 610-975-0444.

**ST. FRANCIS INN**

Volunteers are needed to serve the midday meal at the St. Francis Inn in Kensington on Sunday, April 21st. The Inn tries to meet the immediate daily needs of the poor and homeless people they serve with food, clothing and hospitality. This ministry is open to anyone 16 years or older. For more information and to sign up, contact our parish coordinator, Sheila Holst at 610-659-5828 or [hagan1126@verizon.net](mailto:hagan1126@verizon.net).

**MOTHER AND NEW FAMILY SUPPORT MINISTRY**

Parishioner and nurse practitioner volunteer offers support to new moms and their families who are navigating the complexities of motherhood and the addition of a new baby to the family. Contact Suzanne Foley at 610-952-0147 or [suzannefoley@yahoo.com](mailto:suzannefoley@yahoo.com) or Cathy Van Kula at [service@stvparish.org](mailto:service@stvparish.org).

**FEED THE HUNGRY MINISTRY**  
**MAY 4TH**

The Life Center of Delaware County is a residence for the homeless but it opens its doors every day to anyone who comes off the street in need of a meal. Our parish serves dinner six times a year on the first Saturday of the odd numbered month. As a general rule, STV fills between 150 to 200 dinner plates each time we go.

The next St. Thomas Night at the Life Center is on May 4th, so if you can provide any of the following: cooked meatloaf, roasted potatoes, green beans, dinner salad (greens, cherry tomatoes), and a bottle of Italian dressing, gallon jugs of lemonade, fruit punch, sweet tea (no soda), (10 gallons needed), and/or premade wrapped sandwiches (bologna and cheese, PBJ and cheese).

If you can help prepare an entrée or buy any of the above, and deliver it to the Steele's home in Villanova, we can truly use your help. Contact Dennis Steele — [steelecreativity@gmail.com](mailto:steelecreativity@gmail.com).

**St. Thomas of Villanova  
Women's Speaker Series**

**Featuring Annette John-Hall of WHYY  
Tuesday, May 7 at 7:00pm**



As cohost and producer of "The Why" on WHYY Radio, Annette John-Hall has a knack for making sense of complex issues. She digs deep into topics that affect the Philadelphia region, providing listeners with a chance to consider all sides.

Annette is an engaging speaker who draws on her experiences as a reporter at *The Philadelphia Inquirer* and now as a reporter, producer and co-host at WHYY. She is an engaging speaker who will both inspire you and make you laugh.

Come join in the conversation on Tuesday, May 7 at 7:00pm in the Rosemont Auditorium. There will be socializing and refreshments. Please RSVP to Kathy Roethlein at 610-525-4801.

All are Welcome.



Thank you to all who participated in the Electronics Recycling effort on Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup>. We partnered with PAR-RECYCLE WORKS, a local nonprofit that sells reusable materials collected from electronic devices to help pay for salaries and job skill development for formerly incarcerated men and women, in order to support their productive re-entry back into society. For more information or to further support PAR, please see [par-recycleworks.org](http://par-recycleworks.org).



**St. Thomas of Villanova Church  
Stewardship Summer Camps**

We would like to invite parishioners to register their student for the 2019 St. Thomas of Villanova Stewardship Summer Camps.

Camps begin each day in the Rosemont Auditorium & then campers travel by bus to other locations for team building, service & fun!

To register your child, please contact Maria Luby, Dir. Family Life & Youth Ministry: [fl-youth@stvparish.org](mailto:fl-youth@stvparish.org) or 610-525-4801 X225

**Camp Hours:** Monday-Friday, 10:00am-2:00pm

**Week of 6/24/19, Good Stewards:**

For rising 6th, 7th, 8th. Cost: \$125

**Week of 7/8/19, Kids Care:**

For rising 3rd, 4th, 5th. Cost: \$100

High School counselors needed!  
Please volunteer your time!



Parish Office will be closed on Good Friday, April 19th and Easter Monday, April 22nd.

The Daily Mass on Monday, April 22nd, is at 12:05pm in the Rosemont Chapel.

**GET READY FOR SOME  
SPRING CLEANING!!**



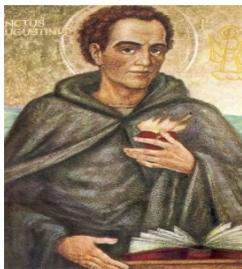
The Society of St. Vincent de Paul  
**CLOTHING DRIVE**  
[www.SVdPPickup.org](http://www.SVdPPickup.org)

St. Thomas of Villanova Parish will be hosting a clothing drive to benefit The Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

**Saturday, April 27th  
12:00pm-4:00pm**

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul will be using the services of GreenDrop to support their clothing drive. Look for the **GreenDrop** truck in the Rosemont Chapel parking lot where an attendant will be available to assist you with your donations. Please place your donations of usable men's, women's and children's clothing in plastic bags or boxes. Household items such as: kitchenware, games/toys, small appliances under 50 pounds, electronics, sporting goods, books, CDs & videos are also accepted. Unfortunately, furniture, large appliances, TVs or computer monitors cannot be accepted. For a full list of acceptable items visit [www.gogreendrop.com](http://www.gogreendrop.com).

To learn more about GreenDrop visit their website: [www.gogreendrop.com](http://www.gogreendrop.com)



**DISCOVERED  
ST. AUGUSTINE?**

**NOW MEET THE  
AUGUSTINIANS**

If you are interested in learning more about the Order of St. Augustine and what it means to be an Augustinian, please visit our website:

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



Active Mercy Opportunity  
Join our parish team on  
Saturday, May 18th  
from 8:30am-3:30pm

You must be 16 years of age. Philadelphia Build is building a new affordable housing community in the Sharswood neighborhood's Oxford Green at 23rd and Oxford Streets in Philadelphia.

Together with other faith communities, a group of St. Thomas volunteers will be participating in a "Faith Build", working on a variety of projects. If you would like to carpool, meet at St. Thomas in the rear parking lot of the Rosemont Chapel at 7:30am. You can also drive directly to the site and park on the street. RSVP is required.

Contact our Parish Coordinator, Bob Schreiber. RSVP email: [Robert.schreiber1@verizon.net](mailto:Robert.schreiber1@verizon.net) or call him at 610-649-7904 or cell: 610-357-2708



**MANNA BAGS will be distributed  
at all of our Masses on the weekend  
of May 11 & 12.**

**Kindly return your filled MANNA  
Bag (or your own grocery bags)  
to the Parish Center Lobby before  
Friday, May 17th or to the Rosemont  
Chapel the weekend of May 18—19, 2019.**

Nonperishable food items in greatest need are: canned macaroni, canned meats and tuna, peanut butter (small jars), white rice and cereal.

Your gift of food will be delivered to the Patrician Society's Emergency Food Cupboard in Norristown.

If you are not able to bring a filled bag, feel free to donate online instead:

<https://yougivegoods.com/mannadrive>

## PLEASE URGE YOUR LAWMAKERS TO SUPPORT AN INCREASE IN TAX CREDIT PROGRAMS

The EITC and the OSTC programs have always achieved bipartisan support and have been acclaimed as two of the best educational programs Pennsylvania offers to Catholic school students.

The tax credit scholarships have been a Godsend for students seeking a Catholic education in Pennsylvania. Each year more than 40,000 families get a scholarship that permits the parents to send their children to a Catholic School. It gives these families a true choice in the right educational path for their children.

The continuation and expansion of the EITC program is dependent on the state legislature. If your family received a scholarship through the EITC Program, be sure to personally thank your state legislators for their support. We also need you to urge your state Representative to invest in success and support the expansion of the Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) and Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC) programs by contacting your local representatives.

### Reach Out Today!

Visit the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference website at [www.pacatholic.org](http://www.pacatholic.org)  
Under current alerts click on to  
Expanding Educational Opportunities-Increase EITC & OSTC  
And let your voice be heard!

### You Can Redirect Your Tax Dollars to Support Catholic Education

Just follow these three easy steps:

1. Contact an approved scholarship organization, like BLOCS or the Foundation for Catholic Education, and complete the necessary forms to enroll in the program. All organizations are currently recruiting members.
2. Once you receive your approval, make a donation to the scholarship organization within 60 days. Make sure to designate your donation to one of the 104 Archdiocesan elementary schools, 17 Archdiocesan high schools, four special education schools or one of the 15 Independence Mission Schools.
3. Submit the paperwork provided by the state with your state taxes to receive your tax credit. You can even claim the donation on your federal taxes as a charitable deduction. Don't forget to consult your tax advisor so you can maximize your benefits. Get started today!

For more information about how you can redirect your tax dollars to support Catholic Education, call one of these designated scholarship organizations:

BLOCS  
484-704-2300  
[info@blocs.org](mailto:info@blocs.org)

Foundation for Catholic Education  
610-793-8503  
[jneeld@foundationforcatholiceducation.org](mailto:jneeld@foundationforcatholiceducation.org)

#### WELCOME VISITORS

Thank you for worshiping with us today. If you are visiting our beautiful church or chapel, please know you are most welcome!  
If you have questions or are interested in joining our parish community, please call the parish office at 610-525-4801.



Don't Let  
sexual violence silence you.  
Healing can start with a call.  
Dial 1-888-800-8780 or visit  
[www.pacrimevictims.com/healing](http://www.pacrimevictims.com/healing)

**HONESTY, HEALING & HOPE IN CHRIST**  
Confronting Sexual Violence in our Archdiocese

St. Thomas of Villanova is hosting a  
**FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP**  
every Wednesday Evening at 7:00pm  
in the Rosemont Auditorium.

Family Groups are designed to meet the needs of those with loved ones who are currently in treatment, are using alcohol and/or drugs in a problematic manner or are in recovery.

Our mission is to help ourselves and in turn help others whose loved ones are struggling with addiction.

The purpose of these groups is to provide family members a confidential, safe place to find support, education, encouragement and hope on their own path to Recovery for Life.

Those 18 years and older are welcome.

**WOMEN'S 11<sup>TH</sup> STEP MEDITATION –**  
each Wednesday from 6:00am to 6:45am in the Parish  
Center

**Step 11 – Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.**

Join us, even if you are not part of “program”, for a great way to start your day as “we ask God to direct our thinking, especially asking that it be divorced from self-pity, dishonest or self-seeking motives.”  
Page 86 of AA Big Book

### **Mercy Ministry – Collection**

First, THANK YOU for all of the amazing donations that we have received. You have donated more than the houses can hold! Right now we are trying to help a new house. The list of things needed are below.

### **Project Home – Maguire Residence**

A new residential project for those struggling with addiction will rise at the epicenter of the opioid crisis — Philadelphia's Kensington neighborhood. They are in need of **new or very gently used** twin bed sheet sets and bibles. Please drop off at the Parish Center if you are able to help. God Bless!

## **SCRIPTURE SHARING**

Fr. Michael is conducting a weekly scripture sharing on Tuesdays at 10:00am in the Parish Center. The sessions are approximately one hour long and consist of discussion and reflection on the Scripture readings for the following Sunday's Mass.

All are welcome! Although these sessions will be on a continuous weekly offering, you need not commit yourself to weekly attendance. Attend when you can. Once again, All Are Welcome!!

MERCY MINISTRY HAS JOINED AFIRE!!

## **A F I R E**

Active Faith Implementing Relief in the Epidemic

AFIRE is a faith-based movement designed to bring education, healing, hope, resources, advocacy and transformational action to families and communities struggling with addiction. As members of AFIRE, we strive to put our Christian faith in action by providing relief to the afflicted — specifically individuals and families who are struggling in the midst of the addiction and overdose epidemic.

**We believe** in the dignity of every human person as a child of God. **We seek** to be a compassionate presence to the suffering. **We strive** to be a voice for the voiceless and bring hope to the hopeless. **We act** to bring light into the darkness.

But we need you to help spread the light! Please join us as we organize and brainstorm to bring this important ministry to our community.

Contact: Karen Farley at [bizmgr@stvparish.org](mailto:bizmgr@stvparish.org) or call the Parish at 610-525-4801 x 202 to join this ministry.

## **In God's Hands**

is a parish ministry that provides support to families who are experiencing, or have experienced, loss of a child through miscarriage, stillbirth, or infant death.

We recognize the uniqueness of the loss of an unborn child or infant, and provide comfort to families through prayer, confidential family-to-family support, liturgy and sacraments, and practical information. In a culture which debates the value of life, we recognize and respect that precious life begins at conception, and that the loss of that life is real, painful, and deserving of healing and comfort. We seek to support others through our own losses of children and connections to loss.

If you wish to serve as a volunteer in this ministry, or if you are seeking our support, please contact Brian and Cayce Farina at [cayce.l.farina@gmail.com](mailto:cayce.l.farina@gmail.com) or 484-206-7975.

