

February 4, 2024
FIFTH SUNDAY
 IN ORDINARY TIME

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, February 3, 2024 <i>Memorial of Blessed Stephen Bellesini, O.S.A., Priest</i>	
8:00 a.m.	Rita & Alonzo Vargas
12:00 p.m.	† Peter Bilotti
5:00 p.m.	Lillian Harlett
Sunday, February 4, 2024 <i>Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	
10:00 a.m.	† Anna Innequale
Monday, February 5, 2024 <i>Memorial of Saint Agatha, Virgin and Martyr</i>	
8:00 a.m.	† Catherine Woodard
12:00 p.m.	† Elaina Michell
Tuesday, February 6, 2024 <i>Memorial of Saint Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs</i>	
8:00 a.m.	† Massanova Family
12:00 p.m.	† Marziale Varano
Wednesday, February 7, 2024 <i>Memorial of Blessed Anselm Polanco, O.S.A., Augustinian Bishop & Martyr</i>	
8:00 a.m.	Members & Benefactors of the Shrine
12:00 p.m.	† Joseph Scavola
Thursday, February 8, 2024 <i>Thursday of the Fifth Week in Ordinary Time</i>	
8:00 a.m.	Susan & Roger Gronert
12:00 p.m.	† Marie Masciantonio
Friday, February 9, 2024 <i>Friday of the Fifth Week in Ordinary Time</i>	
8:00 a.m.	† Charles & Rose Abbonizio
12:00 p.m.	† Marilyn Hagan
Saturday, February 10, 2024 <i>Memorial of Saint Scholastica, Virgin</i>	
8:00 a.m.	† Joseph Romolini
12:00 p.m.	† Louis Agnes
5:00 p.m.	Jeanie & Andi Iliya

Bread & Wine Offering	Sanctuary Candle
† = Deceased	

THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE:

	1 st Reading	2 nd Reading	Gospel Reading
Sun	Jb 7:1-4, 6-7	1 Cor 9:16-19,22-23	Mk 1:29-39
Mon	1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13		Mk 6:53-56
Tues	1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30		Mk 7:1-13
Wed	1 Kgs 10:1-10		Mk 7:14-23
Thurs	1 Kgs 11:4-13		Mk 7:24-30
Fri	1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19		Mk 7:31-37
Sat	1 Kgs 12:26-32;13:33-34		Mk 8:1-10



Healing Mass: February 18, 2024

12:00 p.m. Mass

11:30 a.m. Confessions

Do you find yourself mentally, physically, spiritually, socially, or emotionally burdened? We invite you to join us for our next Healing Mass! We will gather on Sunday, February 18, 2024 to pray for Saint Rita's healing intercession, and receive a special blessing with Saint Rita oil. All are welcome!

Each Monday evening for the past three years, men of various ages and backgrounds have gathered at Saint Rita's in faith and confidentiality to address their lives which became diminished by sexual compulsions and addictions. They gather for support, commitment, and accountability, striving to grow and make choices for chaste, balanced Christian living. **The Men's Group at the Shrine meets Monday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** in a private conference room at the Shrine. If you would like more information about this group, or are interested in joining, please call **Fr. Jim Paradis, O.S.A., D.Min. at 215-546-8333, ext. 1400.**

Liturgical Offerings are still Available

It's not too late! You can still schedule a Mass or purchase a Liturgical Offering for a loved one at the Shrine. To schedule a Mass intention, Bread and Wine Offering, or Sanctuary Candle Offering, please call the Office at **215-546-8333.**

Please pray for our sick:

Anthony Acchione, Steven E. Addeo, JoAnn Allessio, Judy Alonzo, Mia Andrilla, Cecilia Anguera, Carol Antonelli, Alene Avetian, Isaiah Baker, Marissa Biancaniello, Marie Bidy, Sarah Bidy, Bo Botto, Joseph Botto, Lula Bottoms, Samuel A. Bowlen, Elizabeth Boyer, Anna Boyle, Zack Bove, Kevin & Elizabeth Brennan, Deborah Brown, Kay Brown, Pat Bruno, Alice Butterworth, Mikey Calabretta, Frank Cammarata, Rose Campolongo, Katie Cassidy, Aurora Cassidy, Christine Castelli, Sonia Celia, Noah Checchia, Cindy Chen, Anthony Cimini, Lynn Costello, Robert Cox, III, Rosemary Crescitelli, Ralphal Curry, Jr., William D'Amato, April L. DeMatto, Dora Di Costanzo, Raymond DiPalma, Cecilia Dougherty, Ryan J. Dougherty, Madeline Farnese, Anthony Ferrara, Cristina Field, Nova A. Fields, Jeannette Forcina, Patricia Fueschlin, David Gavin, Jeanne Giaccia, Helen Glowacki, John Glowacki, Roger Gronert, Stella Gualtieri, Marie Guan, Eileen Hammel, Dean Hardwick, Gavin Horn, Christina Houser, Sister Mary Joan Huggard, Ray Huxen, Sr., Richard Iezzi, Carolyn Jenkins, Rosalie Jones, Ignation José, Mila José, Kathy Kelly, Sheila Kendall, Brian Kuran, Rose Marie Lattanzio, Dina Levine, Mikey Ludwig, Bill Maffucci, Catherine Mahoney, Alexis Makowiec, Jilian Mariutti, Bernadette Mastromarco, Rocco Mattio, Tara McCabe, Marie McKenna, Blaise Michaels, Greg Michaels, Jeanette Million, Lynn Minko, Robert Monroe, Natalie Deal Mullen, Josephine Neilson, Jack O'Connell, Dennis O'Hara, Elizabeth Paglia, James Papa, Kate Pepper, Courtney Pisano, Rita Pisano, Annamaria Ranieri, Joseph & Maureen Reihl, Michael Reihl, George Richardson, Robin Rosenfeld, Roberta Ruskowski, Joseph Russo, Carolyn Sabatina, Nicholas Salmieri, Maria Scocca, Martha Sechuck, Audrey Seebarath, Javon Welch Smith, Nancy Tatum, Andrea Wells, Sophia Haifa Zedan, Joanne, Phil & Renee.

Thank you for your continued generosity!

January 27 & 28, 2024 | \$2,789

A Few Simple Notes from the Director

There's something going around...

Over the past couple of weeks, different members of our staff and visiting Friars have experienced flu-like symptoms. I've heard that a few of our patrons have felt under the weather as well. With more and more people getting sick at this time of the year, I think it is helpful to restate the Church's policy and expectations for attending Mass when you are ill.

Anyone who is sick or experiencing symptoms is reminded to be prudent in their decision to be around others during Mass. If you are feeling unwell, consider wearing a mask or sitting away from others. Those who are seriously ill are excused from attending Mass and are even encouraged to stay home. Vulnerable populations – including older adults and anyone with chronic health issues – are also encouraged to stay home and watch Sunday Mass on TV or online and spend time in prayer individually or with family.

Please keep in mind that the health and well-being of all those who visit, pray with, and work at the Shrine is our highest concern. I invite you to join me as we pray for all people affected by illness and for their quick recovery.

Security Update

Last week, I submitted a proposal to the Province for a grant from the Riley Family Foundation Fund to support \$100,000 worth of security initiatives at the Shrine. In addition to the proposal, I asked each of the six Friars who minister at the Shrine to sign a letter supporting the request. All of the Friars were in total agreement that this is a necessary and worthwhile request. I'm sure each of you agrees as well. In short, if we were to receive the grant, we would invest in five new projects around the Shrine: (1) Hiring three part-time security guards to be present whenever the Shrine is open (including weddings, evening meetings, and weekend programs), (2) New internal and external cameras throughout the Shrine property, (3) Updated locks for the 1164 property (to match the new FOB system in the Cascia Center), (4) Fencing around our HVAC units on the north side of the church, and (5) Updated signage in our parking lots.

There is no guarantee that we will receive even a portion of this request, especially considering all the other worthy causes and needs throughout the Province. If we do receive it, however, these upgrades will solve a lot of the issues we have come to experience on a daily basis. Saint Rita, pray for us!

The Blessing of Throats



Rooted in the ministry of Christ and His apostles, it is an ancient custom of the Church to bless the sick. In the United States, the annual blessing of throats is a traditional sign of the struggle against illness in the life of the Christian. This blessing is ordinarily given during all Masses on February 3rd, the memorial of Saint Blaise.

Praise the Lord, who heals the brokenhearted.

Ash Wednesday Schedule

We invite you to join us on **Wednesday, February 14, 2024** for the start of the Lenten season with the commemoration of Ash Wednesday. Three opportunities to receive ashes will be offered in the **Upper Shrine**:

8:00 a.m. Mass with the distribution of Ashes

12:00 p.m. Mass with the distribution of Ashes

5:30 p.m. Mass with the distribution of Ashes

We hope to see you there! If you have any questions, please call the Shrine Office.



You're invited to join us **every Thursday between 8:30 a.m. and 4:45 p.m.** for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Whether you stay for a few moments, or you commit to a full hour, please prayerfully consider stopping by the Lower Shrine.

Millions of Monicas

Are you a mom who worries about your children because they have fallen away from their faith? In the Spring, the Shrine will begin hosting a weekly prayer group in collaboration with "Millions of Monicas," a national prayer ministry specifically for moms worried about their kids. There is hope. To learn more, visit: www.millionsofmonicas.com

Man Up Philly 2024

The 16th Annual Man Up Philly Men's Conference will be held on **Saturday, March 2, 2024** at Cardinal O'Hara High School. The day will include great talks, prayer, and Eucharistic Adoration. The conference will conclude with Mass celebrated by Archbishop Nelson Perez. Visit www.ManUpPhilly.com for more information and to register. **NB: The Shrine will have a table at the conference this year, so be sure to stop by and say hello!**

Save the Dates: Triduum 2024

We hope that you will make plans to join the Shrine for our commemoration of the Paschal Triduum this year:

Holy Thursday

Thursday, March 28, 2024 | 7:30 p.m. Mass

Good Friday

Friday, March 29, 2024 | 7:30 p.m. Service

Easter Vigil

Saturday, March 30, 2024 | 8:00 p.m. Mass

Easter Sunday

Sunday, March 31, 2024 | 10:00 a.m. Mass

To learn more about other local events and programs, visit: www.SaintRitaShrine.org/virtual-bulletin

The readings for the Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B), begin at **number 1048 in the hymnal.**

BATHROOM CODE: 1-2-5-6