

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

March 29, 2015

Saturday, March 28

4:30PM Joseph Pliszka
Robert Richardson (2nd Anniversary)

Sunday, March 29

7:30AM Msgr. Dan Murray
9:30AM Edward Sobon
11:30AM Irene Cichonsha

Monday, March 30

8:15AM Frank Minnick

Tuesday, March 31

8:15AM Stella Opiela

Wednesday, April 1

8:15AM Walter Lesniewski

Thursday, April 2 Holy Thursday

No morning Mass

7:00PM All Parishioners Living and Deceased

Friday, April 3 Good Friday

8:15AM Prayer Service
3:00PM Good Friday Service

Saturday, April 4 Easter Vigil

8:15AM Prayer Service
7:00PM All Parishioners Living and Deceased

Sunday, April 5 Easter Sunday

7:30AM Florence M. Bowe
9:30AM Michael F. Ryder Jr.
11:30AM Concenzio Puglielli

Say a Prayer for... Tom Tone, David Talone, JoAnn LaSorsa, Marie Carney, Greg Atkinson, Sophie Grabowski, Anthony Bonanno, Joanne Toth, Theresa Lenczewski, Rev. Msgr. Robert Grudowski, Florence Zapien, Luke Birkhead, Matthew Derfler, Rose Kiger, Erik Kozlowski, Edmund Opielski, Bozena Orzechowski, Marlene Salkowski, Ed Wachowski, Roselie Partenheimer, John Walski, Carl Reiff, Joseph Blaszczyk, Patrick Kelly, Sean McGonagle, Mary Pierce, Frank O'Rourke, Brian Dunlevy, Sr. Jean Streibig, Stephanie Hathaway, Ken Waszena, Charles Streibig, Theresa McGrath, Kylie Reiff, John McCann, Nikki Dolan, Joseph Rozecki, Betty DiCola, Brother James Riley, Shawn Gallen, Eduardo Gloria, Molly Glick, Deb Smith, Ann Campbell, Francina Capolingua, Cathy Pierlott, Lynn Bowman, Anne Gallagher, James Sousa, James Gauger, Emilia Bello Jones, Carol Tinneney, Rita Van Buskirk, Joan Nasielski, Stephen Greene, Caroline Smerecki, Joan Pierce, Kevin Miller, Mike Ancin, Alfred Zisk, Sammy Kavetski, Cynthia Allen, Matthew Waters, Vince Ruggiero, Rylan Borys.



Florence Bowe, Elizabeth Marion, Augustine Pettine, Mary Jane Bowe, Frank Charlesworth, Helen Gardocki, Kathryn Ryan



PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY: Staff Sgt Daniel Furtak, PFC Paul Waszena, Lt. Michelle R. McNally, SSKC Terence J. McNally Jr., Sgt. Robert Bonneau, Andrew Midgett, Jonathan Staats, Col. Shawn McGinley, 108th Wing McGuire AFB, Matthew Horning, 1st Lt. Stanley J. Reimer III, SR Brett Pellicciotti, PFC Thomas Mazzochetti, Staff Sgt. Michael Alfonse, Robert Catapano U.S. Army 101st Airborne, Paul Brown, Marines, Corporal Andrew Teitjen.

CELEBRANTS MASS SCHEDULE

3/28 4:30 Fr. Heron
3/29 7:30 Msgr. Owens 9:30 Fr. Ryan 11:30 Fr. Ames
4/4 7PM Fr. Ames
4/5 7:30 Fr. Ryan 9:30 Fr. Curry 11:30 Msgr. Owens
4/11 4:30 Fr. Ryan
4/12 7:30 Msgr. Owens 9:30 Fr. Heron 11:30 Fr. Ames
4/18 4:30 Fr. Heron
4/19 7:30 Fr. Curry 9:30 Msgr. Owens 11:30 Fr. Ames
4/25 4:30 Fr. Ames
4/26 7:30 Fr. Ryan 9:30 Fr. Heron 11:30 Fr. Curry

Pre-Jordan Instructions (Sacrament of Baptism)

The Sacrament of Baptism is administered in church on the first three Sundays of each month following the 11:30 A.M. Mass. In preparation for having a child Baptized, parents are required to attend "Pre-Jordan Instructions." (It was in the Jordan River that Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist.) These instructions are important information about having your child Baptized. Parents may attend these instructions anytime during the course of the pregnancy. Please notify the rectory of your intention to attend. The next class will be Tuesday, April 7 at 7PM. You will be required to attend a class if this is the Baptism of your first child. Please call the rectory at 610-828-0424 press 4 for the office to register for the class. Baptisms are held the **1st, 2nd and 3rd** Sundays of the month after the 11:30AM Mass. **(Both parents are expected to attend the class).**

PRAYER SERVICE: On Good Friday and Holy Saturday we will have a prayer service at 8:15 AM.



Monday, March 30 – 7PM Penance Service
Holy Thursday, April 2 – 7PM Mass of the Lord's Supper
Msgr. Owens
Good Friday, April 3 – 8:15AM Prayer Svc – Deacon Carr
Good Friday, April 3 – 3PM Good Friday Svc – Fr. Heron
Holy Saturday, April 4 – 8:15AM Prayer Svc – Deacon Carr
Holy Saturday, April 4 – 7PM Easter Vigil – Fr. Ames
Easter Sunday, April 5 – 7:30AM – Fr. Ryan
9:30AM – Fr. Curry - 11:30AM – Msgr. Owens

St. Matthew Parish Penance Candidates for 2015



We congratulate our parish children and rejoice with them in the forgiveness they received March 23. May they return many times to experience our Heavenly Father's favorite daily miracle, his merciful, forgiving love. Congratulations to:

*Jesus Aguirre
Mia Borusiewicz
Ian Brady
Thomas Brescia
Azzareya Crumpton
Alexa Earl
Keegan Flocco
Brendan Foy
Michael Foy
Gabriel Fullerton
Angelina Gallegos
Alexandra Gallo
Michael Graham
Joshua Johnson
Kasey Johnstone
Ava Latterner
Kathryn Lukens
Chloe Mamrosch
Aine McAleese
Tyler McLafferty
Matt McTamney
Taylor Monteleone
Kara Murray
Brady Olszewski
Kiera Pitner
Jordan Pizza
Chase Powderly
Bryan Preito
Diego Preito
Olivia Reilly
Isabella Scannapieco
Nicholas Schaubhut
Owen Sudders
Samantha Trovato
Shaylee Wertz
James Wolf
Shawn Zakrzewski*

ATTENTION PARENTS:

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: April 25, 2015 @11AM

First Eucharist Parents: If you were unable to be present for the Sacrament Meeting please call/stop in the rectory for needed information.

Let us remember! The celebration of the Eucharist is the summit of our identity as the People of God. We are transformed into the Body of Christ. Attendance at Sunday Mass is vital to the life of the community at St. Matthews. We must encourage a "sacramental culture"! Hope to see you there...Every Sunday!

PREP/CCD REGISTRATION:

Renew your registration for PREP/CCD for next year! It is time to begin to form the classes for next year. If you are already registered simply fill out a renewal form to save your place for next year. Renewal forms are being sent home with the children currently enrolled in the PREP/CCD program. They are also available in the vestibules of the church or the rectory. If your son or daughter will be beginning First Grade in 2015, go online to St. Matthew's website and click on the link to register and mail in your payment. Tuition fees will not change from last year and they may be electronically submitted. Classes are conducted Monday evenings from 6:30-7:45pm September thru March. Any questions please call the rectory at 610 828-0424 ext 6.

Liturgy of the Word for Children takes place every Sunday at the 9:30AM Mass. All children are invited from the altar to the sacristy to share in a child-like presentation of the Readings of the Day.



They return after the Prayer of the Faithful. Parents are permitted to accompany younger children. Help is needed to instruct the children if interested contact

stmatthewrectory@verizon.net

(No children's liturgy Palm Sunday, Easter Sunday and Divine Mercy Sunday.)

St. Matthew Prayer Shawl Ministry: We most 'warmly' invite you to be a part of this Ministry by meeting with us in the St. Vincent DePaul room the 2nd Tuesday of the month April 14. If you know of someone who might like to receive a shawl, please let us know-or make one yourself for someone special to you. For Information contact Alice O'Connor at 610-828-5992 or acaoc@verizon.net "God has no hands but ours to do His work and show His Love."



PRE-CANA: St. Matthew's Parish is now offering Marriage Preparation Sessions (Pre-Cana) We are offering a one day program on Saturday, April 18, 2015 from 8:30am – 4 pm Cost \$200. per couple. Couples from all parishes are welcomed. Contact Deacon Mike Kubiak: 610-828-0424 X 5 or deacon.mike.kubiak@comcast.net



Thank you to the people who volunteered their time and talent to help clean the church on Tuesday, March 24th. Our church looks beautiful thanks to all the extra help given to our loyal group of people that clean our church every Tuesday. ***If you do a good job for others, you heal yourself at the same time, because a dose of joy is a spiritual cure.***

God's Plan for Giving

March 22, 2015

WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL FOR YOUR OFFERTORY
GIFTS LAST WEEKEND:

Electronic giving \$1,305 + \$13,500 = \$14,805

Good Friday April 3: Holy Land Collection



ELECTRONIC GIVING: We invite you to consider our new **electronic giving program** as a way to automate your regular weekly or monthly offerings. **Parish Giving** is convenient for you and there is **NO COST** for you to participate. Contact Deacon Mike Kubiak at deacon.mike.kubiak@comcast.net or www.parishgiving.org or www.stmatthewparish.com to register. It's easy.

St. Matthew's Seniors Group will meet the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 12:30pm at the convent. Speaker, lunch (\$5), and conversation, we always enjoy meeting new people, so please join us!

ST. MARY'S GOLDEN AGE CLUB:

Meets every Thursday of the month at St. Mary's Church Hall. Three dollar fee. Play Cards 9:00 AM Snacks 10 AM

Lunch 11 AM Play Bingo 12 – 2:30 PM

Dues for members due 2015 is \$10.00 for the year.

GOLDEN AGE CLUB of St Mary's News: Casino

Trips are scheduled for the second Tuesday of each month: **April 14 & May 12**. Bus leaves 9:00 AM from 11th & Fayette, 9:15 AM from 3rd & Fayette, and at 9:30 AM from St. Mary's. Please call Joe (610-825-4596).

All are invited to an Easter themed dinner social on Saturday, April 11, 2015 @ 1:00 pm in St. Mary's Hall.

Cost: \$15.00 Adult, \$7.00 children, Under 6 free.

For tickets contact:

Felicia Jemionek Rzeznik 610-825-9027

Gloria Mastrocola 610-828-3014

Leah Hepler 610-834-8538

In order to know how much food to prepare, please purchase tickets by Wednesday, April 1st. Thank you.



A Baby's Breath: Please come and enjoy a Spring morning on Saturday, April 18, 2015 for A Baby's Breath Crisis Pregnancy Center's Run for Life 2015 at the Norristown Farm Park. 2500 Upper Farm Road, Norristown, PA. One Mile Fun Run/Walk starts at 9AM and 5K Run/Walk starts at 9:30AM. The Run for Life benefits our Jeffersonville Center serving moms and their babies for 15 years! Please register online at www.ababysbreath.org. For more info, please contact Dorothy Swedkowski, Race Director at 610-316-6281.



Walking with Purpose (WWP) is a Catholic women's bible study with the goal of enabling women to know Christ through Scripture. Our last meeting of this inaugural season is Wednesday April 8 at 6:30 PM and we invite all women of the parish and friends and family to join us for lite bites and to learn about the courses we'll be offering next September. Join us at SS Cosmas & Damian Church Hall; W. 5th Ave., Conshohocken PA 19428 from 6:30 to 8:15 PM. Casual attire. Feel free to come alone or bring a friend, we're a very welcoming group!

Contact Judy Kukowski at 610-331-2147 or JAKukowski@verizon.net for more information.

Cursillo Weekends: *Are you being called to a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ?*

Everyone wants to grow closer to our Lord, but we all live busy lives. We need to be honest with ourselves... "Yes, my life is very busy, but do I make time for what I want to do and for what I believe is important". Consider taking some time away from your hectic life to attend Spring Cursillo. Men and Women from the Archdiocese of Philadelphia have an opportunity to be part of a life changing experience. Cursillo Weekend consists of daily Mass, Adoration, a series of talks given by Clergy and lay people, and time to just be silent. Our **Men's Weekend is April 9th – 12th**. To learn more about this opportunity, please contact Victor or Janice Blusnavage at 215-886-9733 (home) or 267-718-3440 (cell).

Travel to Ireland: Travel this summer to Southern Ireland with Fr. Curry July 21 - August 1, 2015. For more information contact Fr. Curry at 610-519-8693 or frscurry@gmail.com.

Andrew Lanutti Post: Full service kitchen, bar, C/A, great for Christenings, Communions, Confirmations, birthday, family reunions, small weddings, holiday parties, funeral luncheons & any social event. Open for rent 365 days a year. Call Lou at 484-919-0612.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL food pantry is in need of: tuna fish, applesauce, tomatoes, tomato sauce cans or jars, pasta, canned spaghetti sauce, boxes of mashed potatoes, stew, Manwich, Sloppy Joes, canned soups, fruits, baked beans.

Register early for the World Meeting of Families!

Early registration pricing for the World Meeting of Families ends April 30. Register your family today! The Basic Package is the most affordable pricing option (\$125/adult; \$95/child for a 4-day ticket until April 30). Visit the website to learn more and register: WorldMeeting2015.org.

Fr. Tom Heron's Weekly Reflection

Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Lord Jesus,

Welcome!

I rejoice in your presence with the Saint Matthew faith worshipping community as we participate in the Divine Liturgy for The 6th Sunday of Lent. We are blessed by your desire to give thanks to Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, both parishioners and guests. May you be renewed in mind, heart and spirit through the Word and Eucharist we share. Thanks for joining us!

Isaiah 50:4-7 Psalm 22 Philippians 2:6-11 Mark 14:1-15:47

We call this week holy. It is a week of striking contrasts between the many weaknesses of man and the mighty strengths of God. Divine love transforms any and all of our weaknesses, whether it be fear, violence, rejection, jealousy, injustice, betrayal, abandonment, greed - arguing over money. Loyalty and friendship give way to boredom which turns into denial, into tears and finally into conversion. The innocent Son of God endures ridicule, humiliation, hatred, suffering and a violent death in order to free us from our sinful patterns of living.

We celebrate this week we call holy with modest earthly things: palm, fire, water, bread, wine, a cross, foot washing. How frail! Inept almost, the signs we use to express all the yearning that is in us. How needy our lives and our world! Expression, indeed, of both the tragedy and the glory of our human condition. How we all need the healing hope of Easter!

We are called to listen and remember again the story of Jesus' passionate love for us. We are called to come alive in a new birth as we celebrate the mystery of divine faithfulness, forgiveness and generosity.

May the grace of the feast which healed even death in the Lord's body heal us all within and without.
"Let Him Easter in us."

Reflections from my Rocking Chair

Dear Friends,

There has always been in the United States, expressed in the First Amendment to the Constitution, a healthy interaction between religious principles and the civil law: the state should not establish any particular religion, nor should she prevent the free exercise of religion by its adherents. In fact, however, some religious tenets found a place in the larger culture. The feast of Easter gives us an example of that dynamic. Consider: why does the Easter Bunny bring Easter eggs since bunny rabbits do not lay eggs? Without looking down at the rest of this column do you know the answer? Why is there a custom – or at least why was there a custom – of buying an Easter outfit? If you do know the answer to these questions, don't bother reading the rest of this column. If you don't know, pay close attention because as the culture becomes more increasingly distant from Christian practice, the meaning of these symbols may completely detach from their original sense.

Even though the Easter Bunny and the Easter egg are not a natural pair in the created order, they do have one thing in common. Bunny rabbits multiply quickly and, hence, are seen as a symbol for life. The chick emerging from the eggshell, with some degree of imagination, reminds us of Jesus breaking out of the tomb, again a symbol for life. And the Easter outfit, usually brightly colored, reminds us of the "new man" (or woman) remade by the grace of the Risen Christ who in His Resurrection conquers sin. And in my own mind, since I've never read this anywhere, candy is the favorite food of Easter because it is sweet and oh so sweet is Jesus risen from the dead showing us our true self – living in the here and now and bound for heaven. Given the above you might think that Easter is celebrated in the springtime because nature is giving birth to many beautiful flowers and fruits. However, we owe our Jewish heritage the credit for the springtime since Easter is celebrated in conjunction with the Passover. Southern hemisphere Catholics are celebrating Easter as nature moves towards winter. I think we got the better portion.

Parents and grandparents, priests, deacons, and catechists are charged with passing on the tradition. Teach your children well. They will not have as many reinforcements in the culture regarding religious faith as we older Catholics have enjoyed. We should not shrink from this responsibility because someone claims that there is a "wall of separation between church and state" embedded in the Constitution. It is not so. The "wall" phrase has been lifted out of the works of Thomas Jefferson. "Under God" – which to date survives in our Pledge of Allegiance – imagines a healthy interrelationship between church and state. And since the II Vatican Council urged our Catholic community to be respectful of the free exercise of all religions, we need not shrink from Christianity's unique contribution to the American way. This is not the sectarianism of the sort that plagues Islam.

Let the Easter message brighten your holiday: "Why are you looking for the living one among the dead? He is not here. He has been raised." Blessings upon you,
Msgr. Owens

Hosanna



Blessed is Jesus

End of Bulletin