



**7<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**May 17, 2015**

**Saturday, May 16**

4:30PM Dec'd Members Kelly & Burnatter Families

**Sunday, May 17**

7:30AM Charles & Margaret Williams

9:30AM Joseph Albanese

11:30AM Robert G. Templeton 8<sup>th</sup> Anniv

**Monday, May 18**

8:15AM Paul Donovan

**Tuesday, May 19**

8:15AM John F. Schank

Vincent Wolfrom

**Wednesday, May 20**

8:15AM John Lare

**Thursday, May 21**

8:15AM Dec'd Members of Carlino Family

**Friday, May 22**

8:15AM Anthony Timbario, Jr.

**Saturday, May 23**

4:30PM Joanne Schank Beeler

**Sunday, May 24**

7:30AM Joseph Albanese

Laura & Joe Koza (60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)

9:30AM James O'Connor

11:30AM Christopher Mastrocola (4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)

**Pray for the Sick:** 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, Rose Kiger, Erik Kozlowski, Edmund Opielski, Bozena Orzechowski, Marlene Salkowski, Roselie Partenheimer, John Walski, Carl Reiff, Joseph Blaszczyk, Patrick Kelly, Sean McGonagle, Mary Pierce, 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, Cynthia Allen, Matthew Waters, Vince Ruggiero, Rylan Borys, Susan Minnick, Ann Greco.



Rev. James W. Donlon,  
 Billy Freas, Linda Rodenbaugh

**PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY:** Staff Sgt Daniel Furtak, Lt. Michelle R. McNally, SSKC Terence J. McNally Jr., Sgt. Robert Bonneau, Andrew Midgett, Jonathan Staats, Col. Shawn McGinley, 108<sup>th</sup> 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 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne, Paul Brown, Marines, Corporal Andrew Teitjen.



**CELEBRANTS MASS SCHEDULE**

5/16 4:30 Msgr. Owens  
 5/17 7:30 Fr. Heron 9:30 Fr. Curry 11:30 Fr. Ames  
 5/23 4:30 Fr. Ames  
 5/24 7:30 Msgr. Owens 9:30 Fr. Heron 11:30 Fr. Ryan  
 5/30 4:30 Fr. Heron  
 5/31 7:30 Fr. Ryan 9:30 Fr. Heron 11:30 Msgr. Owens

**THE 6PM YOUNG ADULT EVENING MASS IS CANCELLED UNTIL AFTER THE POPE'S VISIT.**

**MASS BOOK 2016:** The 2016 Mass Book is open. To make it convenient for you we suggest coming to the rectory or you may call the rectory with your request (610-828-0424) #4 for the office or email [stmatthewrectory@verizon.net](mailto:stmatthewrectory@verizon.net)



**SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH RECEPTION:**

**Today** we will celebrate the 100 years of service that the Sisters of St. Joseph have given to our parish community. All are invited to attend the reception after the 11:30AM Mass in the Convent.

**MAY 23 & 24 CELEBRATE PENTECOST BY WEARING RED TO CHURCH!**



We invite you to **"WEAR RED"** as we celebrate the feast of Pentecost and the joyful conclusion to the season of Easter. On Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples in unimagined ways, with signs both simple and powerful. As the mural behind our altar shows, the disciples

with Mary were gathered and the Holy Spirit came with immense blessings, bringing new ideas into weary minds, new solutions to impossible problems, new healing for old hurts, new beginnings to a world grown cold and tired. We need the power of the Spirit in our world today. Join with us in prayer and worship on Pentecost. **"WEAR RED"** in solidarity as we welcome the Holy Spirit to rest upon us in St. Matthew Parish once again, to fill us with God's Spirit, to empower us to share God's love with everyone in our community.

**We invite you to "WEAR RED" as we celebrate the feast of Pentecost and the joyful conclusion to the season of Easter. Fr. Tom will release a dove at the 9:30 AM Mass.**

## Religious Education News

### 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 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.

**The First Communion and Confirmation videos can be picked up at the rectory after Mass on Sunday or during the week Monday thru Thursday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

**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 and older siblings are encouraged to accompany younger children. Help is needed to instruct the children. If interested contact [stmatthewrectory@verizon.net](mailto:stmatthewrectory@verizon.net)



**MEMORIAL DAY MASSES:** We will hold our annual Memorial Day Masses on **Monday, May 25** at **St. Benedict cemetery on Colwell Ln at 9AM** and **St. Matthew cemetery on North Lane, at 11AM.** You are invited to attend as we remember those who died in any war as well as those who are buried in both parish cemeteries. **No 8:15AM Mass on Memorial Day.**



### 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." The next class will be **Tuesday, June 2 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.



**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL** food bank 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.

**SUMMER BOOK CLUB:** Do you enjoy reading novels? Does Summer give you a bit more free time? Allow yourself some leisure! **NOVELS WITH A CHRISTIAN TWIST** kickoff meeting **June 2 at 7 PM** parish meeting room off the rectory parking area. **June 23** - To Kill a Mockingbird, **July 14** - The Power and the Glory, **August 11** - North of Hope For more detail consult the posters by the doors of the church.



### Gratitude from the Pro-Life Committee

*"As the Lord of Creation authored the existence of everything in the Universe, the most precious gift that He bestowed was the gift of Life."*; The Respect Life Collection was held at St. Matthew's parish over Mother's Day Weekend and your generosity has allowed us to donate **\$1,800** to support the initiatives of the Pro-Life Office. Thank you for your support against those things that compromise the dignity of human life and thank you very much for your financial sacrifice for this most important work.



**PRE-CANA:** St. Matthew's Parish is now offering Marriage Preparation Sessions (Pre-Cana). We are offering a one day program on **Saturday, June 27, 2015 from 8:30 AM – 4 PM.** The cost is \$200 per couple. Couples from all parishes are welcomed. Contact Deacon Mike Kubiak: 610-828-0424 X5 or [deacon.mike.kubiak@comcast.net](mailto:deacon.mike.kubiak@comcast.net)



**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 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month **June 9.** 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](mailto:acaoc@verizon.net) "God has no hands but ours to do His work and show His Love."



**Walking with Purpose** is a Catholic women's bible study that meets once a week to discuss Scripture as it relates to our everyday lives. The goal of WWP is to enable women to know Christ through Scripture. If you are at all curious or just interested in meeting an amazing diverse group of women with one thing in common, the love of Christ, please join us on **Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM.** Feel free to come alone or bring a friend, we're a very welcoming group! Please check out the website at <http://walkingwithpurpose.com>. Contact Judy Kukowski at 610-331-2147 or [JAKukowski@verizon.net](mailto:JAKukowski@verizon.net) for meeting address and details.

**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!

# God's Plan for Giving

May 10, 2015

**WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL FOR YOUR OFFERTORY  
GIFTS LAST WEEKEND: \$12,769.00**

**Electronic giving \$765 + \$12,004 = \$12,769**

**Catholic Charities Appeal:** In-Pew Pledge Cards and reply envelopes will be available May 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>.

**SECOND COLLECTION ON MAY 30 & 31 will be for Nepal Earthquake Recovery**



**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 and there is **NO COST** for you to participate. Contact Deacon Mike Kubiak at [deacon.mike.kubiak@comcast.net](mailto:deacon.mike.kubiak@comcast.net) to register [www.parishgiving.org](http://www.parishgiving.org) or [www.stmatthewparish.com](http://www.stmatthewparish.com)

Summer vacation time will be here soon and many of us will be away with our families to enjoy fun and relaxation. Unfortunately, the bills at St. Matthews never take a vacation. There are several ways you can continue to support your Parish even though you might be away: Mail your Sunday offering to the Rectory; Use Parish Giving at [www.stmatthewparish.com](http://www.stmatthewparish.com) to contribute via debit or credit card; Use your bank's online payment system to send your offering, or double-up on your offering before you go away or when you return. Thank you in advance, for your support. We hope everyone has a happy and healthy summer.

## **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: **June 9 & July 14**. 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).

**ST. MARY'S GOLDEN AGE CLUB PICNIC:** The Picnic is on **June 16, 2015** at Mermaid Lake from 11 AM to 7 PM. \$10 for members. \$17.00 for non-members. You must have a ticket to attend the picnic.

**OPUS DEI:** An Evening of Recollection for men will be offered on **Wednesday, May 27, 2015** at St. Matthew Parish from 7-9PM. The schedule includes Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary, the opportunity to go to Confession, a 30 minute meditation lead by a priest and a short talk given by a lay person. The focus is on practical ways to develop a personal relationship with God through prayer and work. All meetings will be held the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month. For more info contact [deacon.mike.kubiak@comcast.net](mailto:deacon.mike.kubiak@comcast.net)

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

## **REFLECTIONS FROM MY ROCKING CHAIR**

Dear friends,

I believe that in our new Holy Father we have a shooting star flashing across the dark sky. How long will we have him? Who can say? We need, as committed Catholics, to listen to his voice and watch what he does. Is it prophetic of him to have installed showers and other facilities for the homeless who sleep in the porticos of St. Peter's Basilica? He was quoted as saying early on in his papacy that he only truly understood what Thanksgiving meant when he looked at the faces of the poor in his diocese. Is this prophetic? A prophetic voice demands to be heard and to ignore such a voice is foolishness, damnable. He invites us to a deeper conversion to Jesus and understands that conversion to be fueled by love, our coming to know of God's love for us. He comes to visit us in September. Because of the wonder of the Internet his every word and action is presented to us, almost daily. I recently came across the following reflection which I pass along to you:

*Pope Francis is a once-in-a-generation combination of two qualities seldom found together: he has the political genius of the charismatic leader and the prophetic holiness of the desert Saint. When he rose to speak at the general congregation on the morning of March 7, both were in play. In a pithy but powerful address, he managed to freeze-frame the moment the Church was in and offer both diagnosis and cure. Pope Francis's radicalism is not to be confused with a progressive doctrine or ideology. It is radical because it is missionary and mystical. Francis is instinctively and viscerally opposed to "parties" in the Church: he roots the papacy in the traditional Catholicism of God's holy faithful people, above all, the poor. He will not compromise on the hot-button issues that divide the Church from the secular West – a gap liberals would like to close by modernizing doctrine. Yet he is also, just as obviously, not a Pope for the Catholic Right: he will not use the papacy to fight political and cultural battles he believes should be fought at the diocesan level, but to attract and teach; nor does he feel the need endlessly to repeat what is already well known, but wants to stress what has been obscured – God's loving kindness and forgiving mercy. And where the conservatives would like to speak more about morality than social issues, Francis is happy to do quite the opposite, to rescue Catholicism as a "seamless garment."*

*Francis is seeking to unite the universal Church, just as he did with the Jesuits in the 1970s, by anchoring it in the ordinary faithful and the poor while focusing the world's 1.2 billion Catholics on mission and evangelization. He is inviting the "parties" to renounce their faith in their own schemes and notions of Church. He offers the greatest chance in generations to heal the divisions between liberal and conservative Catholics: he is the first pope to be a product of, rather than part of, the Council; yet he spotted, early on, the temptation to take it down the wrong path, and resisted it boldly. Blessings, Msgr. Owens ([stmatt2014@gmail.com](mailto:stmatt2014@gmail.com))*

## **CURSILLO:**

Cursillo is a Christian movement within the Roman Catholic Church whose members are committed to having a relationship with Christ by bringing Christ into the everyday moments of their lives. If you are interested in obtaining more information regarding this movement, we invite you to contact Deacon Joe or Lynn Carr at [homesppun68@comcast.net](mailto:homesppun68@comcast.net)

This organization meets on a monthly basis September through June at St. Matthew's Church.

**Ultreya on Tuesday, June 16<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM.**



## 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  
worshiping community as we participate in the Divine  
Liturgy for the 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter. 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!*

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17 Peter 3: 15-18 John 14:15-21

Our reading today from the Acts of the Apostles gives us an insight on how the early Christian family got started.

Jesus is no longer present to them. His absence leaves them all with knots in their stomachs. They are on their own, in a kind of holding pattern, unsure of their destiny—even though Jesus had told them everything they needed to know. They are like us. They were afraid.

Fear is a reality in all our lives. Being afraid is a part of living. Many are fearful of the dark, of heights, of flying on a plane, of failure—but perhaps our greatest fear is like that of the disciples in the Upper Room—fear of the future, what's going to happen to us now that the One who gave us strength, the One who held us together is no longer here. Jesus is gone!

What now?

There are decisions to be made. What do we do about our relations with the Jewish authorities who had a hand in Jesus' death? What about the Gentiles? Who will succeed Judas?

They needed to ensure that the family would stay together and that the leadership would be strong, vital.

They were huddled together in the Upper Room waiting in faith and hope for direction about what they should do with their lives.

Surely, they received some consolation and peace by reflecting on the words of Jesus we heard in today's Gospel.

In the 17th Chapter of John's Gospel, we hear Jesus being clearly aware of how difficult it will be for His family to carry on without Him. In His prayer, He prayed that they not yield to escapism, or withdrawal

from the world. They were to live their lives in the rough and tumble of everyday life. They were His followers, He believed in them, and He tells them that following Him does not offer a release from life's problems; it offers a way to solve them.

A second thing Jesus prayed for is that His disciples would live not as individual units, but as a unity—no divisions, no exclusiveness, no competition among themselves.

Thirdly, Jesus prayed that His Father would protect them from the evil one; protect them from the allurements, temptations that might entice them to abandon His way and follow the world's way. Jesus was teaching them the power of prayer—because it is prayer in difficult times that will help them and us realize that we cannot meet life solely on our own strength. We need prayer, the sacraments, especially Eucharist. "Do this in memory of Me."

Finally, Jesus prays that His disciples be consecrated to the truth, that they be credible witnesses of all He taught them. The only real test for representing Him in the world is that they know Him firsthand and have a vital faith in His promises.

Jesus doesn't require that we be intellectual giants in order for God to use us to carry on Jesus' work. There is only that one requirement: Do I really know Jesus?

He isn't looking for superstars, for American Idols, but people who are willing to be servants.

And isn't that what we need from our Church leaders today? The world, our Church, is hungry for leaders who actually live what they believe. We can get cynical and suspicious if our leaders—if we—are not who we say we are. Because if our leaders, if we, are not, no one will listen to what we have to say.

The family of Christians to which we belong must hold together in a world that is often in rebellion against God.

We are disciples of Jesus Christ and we have nothing to fear as long as we have that vital faith that enables us to project Christ in our thoughts, words, and deeds.

Jesus is still looking for disciples who can say they know Him. People who can say His words sustain them. People in whom the Risen Lord is alive in their hearts.



End of Bulletin