

Mass Intentions for the Week



18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME August 2, 2015

Saturday, August 1

4:30PM John & Mary Tinneny

Sunday, August 2

7:30AM John & Frances DeFrancesco

9:30AM Angelo R. Bello (55th Anniversary)

11:30AM Ivo Salvi

Monday, August 3

8:15AM Joseph Schank (20th Anniversary)

Mark Pettine (1st Anniversary)

Tuesday, August 4

8:15AM James Lare

Wednesday, August 5

8:15AM Msgr. Alexander Palmieri

Thursday, August 6

8:15AM Thomas G. & Thomas J. Peacock

Friday, August 7

8:15AM Frances Johnson (1st Anniversary)

Richard Popiel

Saturday, August 8

4:30PM Edward Namiotkiewicz

Sunday, August 9

7:30AM Betty Bossard

9:30AM Jim & Mary Lepera

11:30AM Bill Freas

*Keep Them
in your
Prayers*



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 Blaszcak, 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, Rita Van Buskirk, Joan Nasielski, Stephen Greene, Caroline Smerecki, Joan Pierce, Kevin Miller, Mike Ancin, Alfred Zisk, Cynthia Allen, Rylan Borys, Susan Minnick, Ann Greco, Dorothy E. Lawler, Denise Kavanaugh



Pray for the Deceased: Barbara Burnett & Joseph DiCiurcio



Pray for the Military

Staff Sgt Daniel Furtak, 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, Tech Sgt Eric Zweiback

CELEBRANTS MASS SCHEDULE

8/1 4:30 Fr. Heron

8/2 7:30 Fr. Ryan 9:30 Msgr. Owens 11:30 Fr. Heron

8/8 4:30 Msgr. Owens

8/9 7:30 Fr. Heron 9:30 Msgr. Owens 11:30 Fr. Heron

8/15 4:30 Fr. Ryan

8/16 7:30 Fr. Heron 9:30 Fr. Ryan 11:30 Fr. Heron

8/22 4:30 Fr. Ryan

8/23 7:30 Msgr. Owens 9:30 Fr. Ryan 11:30 Msgr. Owens

8/29 4:30 Msgr. Owens

8/30 7:30 Fr. Heron 9:30 Fr. Ryan 11:30 Fr. Heron

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

Prepare for next Sunday

Scripture

I Kings: 4 – 8

Ephesians 4:30 – 5:2

John 6:41 – 51

Reflection

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jesus silences the murmurers, "No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me calls him." What does it mean to "listen to the Father"? It means being attentive to the needs and desires of our own humanity. If Elijah had not been brought to the point of starvation, he would not pray as he does today. What the doubters in the gospel find so far-fetched – "I am the bread that came down from heaven" – is, in fact, exactly what they need in order to be drawn to the Father's love. That is why "Christ loved us" by handing himself over for us "as a sacrificial offering."

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." Classes are the first Tuesday of each month. The next class will be **Tuesday, August 4 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.



ASSUMPTION OF MARY: The Feast of the Assumption is on Saturday, August 15, 2015 there will be a Mass at 12 noon. The Assumption is not a holy day of obligation this year because it falls on a Saturday.

Religious Education News

Children's Liturgy will be suspended for the summer months of July and August. Leisure time is important. Part of leisure is to pray! Bring the children to Mass every Sunday for some leisurely grace! Children's liturgy will resume in September.

ATTENTION PARENTS: REGISTER OR RENEW NOW FOR PREP/CCD CLASSES FOR THIS FALL. IT WILL SOON BE TIME TO ORDER TEXTBOOKS AND MATERIALS AND WE NEED A COUNT. If your child enters First Grade in 2015, go online to St. Matthew website and click on the link to register and mail in your payment or electronically submit it as you would your contribution. Classes are 6:30 – 7:45pm Monday evenings September thru March. Tuition fee: one child \$110.00, two children \$165.00, three or more \$195.00. Classes will be held again at Early Childhood School and SS Cosmas and Damian Hall. Any questions please call the rectory at 610-828-0424 ext6.

We Celebrate the Sacraments

St. Matthews will celebrate the sacraments of First Penance on March 14, 2016, and First Eucharist on April 30, 2016.

SUMMER BOOK CLUB: Do you enjoy reading novels? Does Summer give you a bit more free time? Allow yourself some leisure! **August 11** - North of Hope **at 7 PM** parish meeting room off the rectory parking area. For more detail consult the posters by the doors of the church. To register contact Msgr. Owens voice mail: 610-828-0424 ext 112 or stmatt2014@gmail.com"



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 **Tuesday, August 11th at 7PM.**

Sharing our time and our company, we knit/crochet shawls which are distributed to parishioners and community members as an expression of remembrance and support; a visible sign of God's comforting embrace. 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 acaoc@verizon.net

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL food bank is in need of: tuna fish, boxes of mashed potatoes, stew, canned fruits, peanut butter and jelly.

Summer Tutor: Any students going into grades 1st to 4th who would like to refresh their math and reading skills please contact Sabrina Smerecki. Rate: \$20 per hour. bebesmerecki@verizon.net (484)-802-3974.

ST. MARY'S GOLDEN AGE CLUB: Meets every Thursday 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.

Property Evaluation and Planning Update

As reported in a previous bulletin we are pursuing a lease/sale agreement with the Coptic Church and SS Cosmas and Damian. We thought it best to share with all of you some background of the Coptic Church.

Members of the [Coptic Christian Church](#) believe both God and man play roles in [salvation](#), God through the sacrificial death of [Jesus Christ](#) and humans through works of merit, such as [fasting](#), almsgiving, and receiving the sacraments.

Founded in the first century in Egypt, the [Coptic Christian Church](#) shares many beliefs and practices with the [Roman Catholic Church](#) and [Eastern Orthodox Church](#). "Coptic" is derived from a Greek term meaning "Egyptian."

The Coptic Orthodox Church claims apostolic succession through [John Mark](#), author of the [Gospel of Mark](#). Copts believe Mark was one of the 72 sent by Christ to evangelize ([Luke 10:1](#)).

However, Copts split from the [Catholic Church](#) in 451 A.D. and have their own pope and bishops. The church is steeped in ritual and tradition and places a heavy emphasis on [asceticism](#), or denying the self.

Coptic Church Beliefs and Practices:

Copts believe in seven [sacraments](#): [baptism](#), confirmation, confession ([penance](#)), Eucharist ([communion](#)), matrimony, ordination, and unction of the sick. Baptism is performed few weeks after birth by immersing the whole body of the newborn into especially consecrated water three times. Confirmation is performed immediately after Baptism. Regular confession with a personal priest, called the father of confession, is necessary to receive the Eucharist. It is customary for a whole family to pick the same priest as a father of confession, thus, making of that priest a family counselor. Of all seven sacraments, only Matrimony cannot be performed during a fasting season.

While the Coptic Church forbids worship of saints, it does teach that they intercede for the faithful. It teaches [salvation](#) through the [death and resurrection](#) of Jesus Christ. Copts practice [fasting](#); 210 days out of the year are considered [fast days](#). The church also relies heavily on tradition, and its members venerate [icons](#).

Copts and Roman Catholics share many beliefs. Both churches teach works of merit. Both celebrate the [mass](#).

The Coptic Orthodox Church's clergy is headed by the [Pope of Alexandria](#) and includes Bishops who oversee the priests ordained in their dioceses. Both the [Pope and the Bishops](#) must be monks; they are all members of the Coptic Orthodox Holy Synod (Council), which meets regularly to oversee matters of faith and pastoral care of the Church. The Pope of the Coptic Church, although highly regarded by all Copts, does not enjoy any state of supremacy or infallibility. Today, there are over [60 Coptic Bishops governing dioceses inside Egypt as well as dioceses outside Egypt](#), such as in Jerusalem, Sudan, Western Africa, France, England, and the United States. The direct pastoral responsibility of [Coptic congregations](#) in any of these dioceses falls on Priests, who must be married and must attend the Catechetical School before being ordained.

Daily, in all Coptic Churches all over the world, [Copts pray](#) for the reunion of all Christian Churches. They pray for the world's peace and for the well-being of the human race.

As of August 2, 2015 no sale or lease agreement has been signed for SS Cosmas and Damian.

God's Plan for Giving

July 26, 2015

WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL FOR
YOUR OFFERTORY
GIFTS LAST WEEKEND:

\$10,893.50

Electronic giving \$1,056.50 + \$9,837 = \$10,893.50



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 to register www.parishgiving.org or www.stmatthewparish.com

GOLDEN AGE CLUB of St Mary's News: Casino Trips are scheduled for the second Tuesday of each month: August 11 and September 8. 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).

The following forms and schedules can be found on our website at www.stmatthewparish.com

**CHECK
OUT
OUR
WEBSITE** 

Parish Registration
Prep/CCD Registration
Schedule a Baptism
Schedule a Wedding
Eucharistic Minister Schedules
Lector Schedules
Altar Servers Schedules

INDEPENDENCE MISSION SCHOOLS is proud to be a non-profit network of 15 elementary schools in Philadelphia offering high quality Catholic education. We have a few teaching positions left to fill in Elementary and Middle school grades, Technology, Music, Art and Physical Education. We have part-time and full-time opportunities with benefits. Visit our careers page to learn more about how you can support building our Catholic communities <https://independencemissionschools.org/about/careers/>

FIELD HOCKEY COACHES: Merion Mercy Academy, an independent, all girls Catholic High School sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy, is seeking to hire coaches for Field Hockey Head Varsity, JV and assistant coaches. Please contact Barbara Clarke, Athletic Director, at bclarke@merion-mercy.com.

POPE JOHN PAUL II HIGH SCHOOL – Maintenance/Custodial Position: There is currently a job opening for full time Maintenance/Custodial position available at Pope John Paul II High School located in Royersford, PA. The hours for the position are 2:00pm-10:00pm Monday through Friday with occasional weekend work. Please contact Ron Williams, Maintenance Supervisor, at 484-975-6500 ext. 3060 for further information and details. Please forward resume to the attention of Mr. Ron Williams, 181 Rittenhouse Road, Royersford, PA 19468 or via email at rwilliams@piphs.org.

REFLECTIONS FROM MY ROCKING CHAIR:

Dear friends,

When I was a seminarian Father Raymond Brown, SS, an outstanding Scripture scholar, gave our retreat one year. He was asked what the word "spirituality" meant? He said simply, "Taking God seriously". We are Christians living in the spirit of the risen Christ, hence, we embrace a Christian spirituality. What does living in the spirit of Christ look like? Consider if you will this short essay by Father Howard Gray, SJ. He captures the essence of what it means to live a Christian spirituality:

"Following the example of St. Ignatius, (Christian) life centers on the imitation of Jesus – focusing on those priorities which constitute Christ's mind, heart, values, priorities and loves. What are those values, priorities and loves? Ignatius would encourage us to consider what Jesus said and did. At the foundation of Jesus' life was prayer, a continuous search for how best to live as an authentic human being before a loving God. Jesus preached forgiveness of sins, healed the sick and possessed, and gave hope to the poor, to those socially and economically outcast. Jesus spoke of joy, peace, justice and love; he summoned men and women from all classes of society to continue to follow his way to God and his commitment to helping people become whole and holy. Being a companion with Jesus on his mission gave Ignatius of Loyola's life a sense of purpose and meaning. 'It is just such companionship that lies at the heart of (Christian) spirituality. The (Church) attempts to incorporate these same gospel values into all its works. (Christians) stress the need to take time to reflect and to pray, in order to find out how God wants us to serve in all our ministries.' This active commitment to seeking God's leadership is called discernment. It is at the heart of St. Ignatius' Spiritual Exercises.

The overriding characteristic we see in Jesus is loving obedience, an open-hearted desire to find and to pursue how God wants other men and women to be forgiven, to be free, and to utilize all their talents and opportunities in ways which build up this world as a place where faith, justice, peace and love can flourish. This kind of spirituality is incarnational. It views the world as a place where Christ walked, talked and embraced people. It views the world, therefore, as a place of grace, a place of being able to give life to others.

At the same time, Christian spirituality is realistic. The world Christ faced was also a world of cruelty, injustice and the abuse of power and authority. Consequently, (Christian) spirituality affirms our human potential but also is dedicated to the ongoing, day-in-day out struggle between good and evil. No one apostolic work exhausts how good can be done; therefore, (Christians) do all kinds of work. The (Christian) norm is: to find where God will best be served and where people will best be helped."

What a privilege it is to walk with Christ! The original title of the Jesuits, which they still use in some settings is, The Company of Jesus. Could there ever be a better companion? It I think!

Blessings,

Msgr. Tom Owens (stmatt2014@gmail.com)

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 Liturgy for the 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time. 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!

Exodus 16:2-4, 12-15 Psalm 78 Ephesians 4:17, 20-24 John 6:24-35

The reading from Exodus and from the Gospel of John teach us an important lesson. God had just delivered the Israelites from slavery with signs and wonders. He sent them on their way to the promised land and opened up the Red Sea. Yet, the first recorded act, once they got on the other side, was not gratitude. They never said, "Thank you, Lord, for all You did to set us free." No, instead they complained, grumbled, told God how dissatisfied they were that they didn't have enough to eat.



A similar pattern unfolds in the Gospel. Jesus has cured many people of sickness and disease: the blind, the lame, the deaf, the leper. He has just performed the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fish. He tries to get away for a period of rest so that He can restore His strength. The crowd follows Him. They will not let Him alone. Jesus knows their hearts. "You follow Me not because you believe but because you have eaten your fill of the loaves." You are interested in food and nothing else, not your salvation, not your neighbor's need, not your soul.

How do you explain this? Those who were privileged to see so many miracles end up thinking only of themselves? Ingratitude is a mystery. But let's look at our own lives. Parents work hard to make ends meet. How often do they hear a word of thanks? There is food, water, clothes, activities to do together. Do we take all this for granted? Do we just expect everything will be done for us, just the way we want and no other?

What about teachers? They prepare class, endure stress, take a vital interest in each student, invest time and self, try to be always there. How often do we

say thanks?

At the basis of ingratitude are selfishness and an empty life. Lives are empty because they are busy with futile things. These lives are like an old wash rag, wrung out and empty. If you have this feeling or know someone who does, then life is being wasted. The diseases (patterns) of grumbling, chronic complaining, belly-aching, whining are all too common and can easily become the petty poison of our spiritual life. If unchecked, they can exercise a corrosive effect on our perspective and on our relationships.

The Scriptures today ask us to take stock of ourselves. Pause and think of how much we have to be grateful for. Manna, what is it? It is the food on your table, the love you receive but never notice, the interest shown to you, the house in which you live, your parents, children, friends.



Receive the Lord in gratitude. In your thanksgiving after Communion say thanks in your heart and sometime today say thanks with your lips to all those who make your life so worthwhile.

Concentrate on what is essential in your life. Don't exaggerate your needs. Realize that you make life complex with inflated expectations, and complicate it by turning luxuries into necessities. Try making love the one rule for dealing with others. Trust that God loves you and cares for you with infinite compassion, even in the smallest details. If you can live with the essentials and not be intimidated by things that don't really matter in life, Jesus' claim that you will never hunger or thirst again is not simplistic at all.



End of Bulletin