

Mass Intentions for the Week



24th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME September 13, 2015

Saturday, September 12

4:30PM Dec'd Members of Fleming & Kelly Families

Sunday, September 13

7:30AM Ruth Vonkummer

9:30AM Matthew Derfler

11:30AM Pasquale & Rose Camaioni

Monday, September 14

8:15AM Brian Schank

Warren & Esther Patterson

Tuesday, September 15

8:15AM Rudy Lincul

Wednesday, September 16

8:15AM Lloyd Laskey & Hal Sweiback

Thursday, September 17

8:15AM Patricia O'Connor Trowbridge

Friday, September 18

8:15AM Eugene Bernsteil

Saturday, September 19


4:30PM Anthony, Louise, Francis & Dorothy Zinni

Sunday, September 20

7:30AM Nora Tiernan

9:30AM John Biehl Sr.

11:30AM Janet Sundermier

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, Denise Kavanaugh, Michael Fox, Anthony Frabezio, Nick Falcone.



Pray for the Deceased: Teresa Kaminski



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

9/12 4:30 Fr. Ryan

9/13 7:30 Msgr. Owens 9:30 Fr. Heron 11:30 Msgr. Owens

9/19 4:30 Fr. Heron

9/20 7:30 Fr. Ryan 9:30 Fr. Genovese 11:30 Msgr. Owens

9/26 4:30 Fr. Heron

9/27 7:30 Fr. Genovese 9:30 Msgr. Owens 11:30 Fr. Ryan

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

Prepare for next Sunday

Scripture

Wisdom 2:12, 17-20

James 3:16 – 4:3

Mark 9:30 - 37

Reflection

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Where jealousy and selfish ambition exist” there is the temptation to “beset the just one” with “revilement and torture.” This is what Jesus reveals to his disciples: he is to be “handed over to man and they will kill him.” The disciples staggering response is to squabble among themselves about “who was the greatest.” Were they not listening? Are they in denial about the suffering to come? “Where do the conflicts among you come from?” From “your passions that make war within,” spurring us to “kill and envy.” Yet, for all our coveting, we do not possess. So Jesus puts his arms around a child. In order to receive this little one the must be pure, peaceable, gentle, full of mercy – so much better than fighting and waging war. We “have proof of his gentleness” in the desire to be gentle that Jesus generates in us.

Parish Council Meeting: September 30, 2015 at 7PM in the Rectory.

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, October 6 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.



ATTENTION PARENTS!
**SEPTEMBER 14, 2015 IS OPENING NIGHT FOR
PREP/CCD CLASSES TO BEGIN.**

Any newly confirmed interested in assisting, learning more about our faith, and participate more fully in parish life please register for the Youth Ministry on the website.

A brief meeting will occur Sunday Sept. 13th after the 9:30 Mass for those who have signed up as aides for PREP/CCD as well as those interested in the youth group. Meet Ms. Mary Kay in the first couple of pews on the Sacred Heart side of church as soon as Mass is over. (20 minutes maybe).

2015-2016 PREP/CCD Calendar and other sacramental information is available on our website. Simply click the tab Parish Organizations and select PREP.

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**.

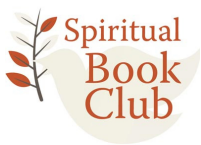


PREP/CCD is in need of a Nurse for Monday evenings. If you could volunteer some time, part-time, a little bit of time, please call the Rectory 610-828-0424 or email mckennamaryk@gmail.com

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.



SUMMER (FALL) BOOK CLUB:



The book club has decided to continue through the Fall months. We select good novels with a Christian twist. The first novel is ***The Nightingale*** by Kristen Hannah. We will gather for a book

discussion on **Wednesday, September 23 at 7 PM in the Rectory.** We have some room for new members. Contact Msgr. Owens at stmatt2014@gmail.com

Are you interested in learning more about the Catholic faith? Do you or does someone you know wish to become Catholic? Are you a baptized Catholic but never have been confirmed or received First Eucharist? Are you curious about some aspects of our faith or tradition? ***The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the place for you!*** Every year, adults are welcomed into the Catholic Community through RCIA. It is a learning and loving process in which conversion of the heart brings you to Jesus Christ! Interested?? Please call the rectory 610-828-0424 with any questions or for more information. (No obligation!) **First Session will begin Monday, September 28th at 6:30PM.**

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, October 13th at 7PM.**

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. MATTHEW SENIOR GROUP:

Our first meeting after summer break will be held on **September 16th at 12:30pm**, at the convent. We will have a short business meeting, a speaker, and lunch. All Seniors are welcome, please come and join us.

A FRIENDLY REMINDER: Members of the St. Matthew Senior Group who signed up for the Hunterdon Hills Play on Monday, **September 21st** the bus pickup is at 8:45 A.M. at the Park and Ride lot on Matsonford Rd, in West Conshohocken. Any questions call Anne Helenski at 610-331-5163. Thank you.

The 2015 Pro-Life Summer Raffle: The Pro-Life Summer Raffle offers a maximum of 2,500 tickets at \$25 each on ten prizes totaling \$7,500. 1st prize \$5,000, 2nd prize \$1,000, 3rd prize \$500, 4th prizes \$250, 5th prizes \$100. The drawing for this Raffle will occur on **Saturday, October 3, 2015** and the proceeds will benefit the Pro-Life Legal Fund for Southeast Pennsylvania. This Fund has served since 1986 by effectively advancing the interests of the pro-life movement in court cases and advocating for pro-life public policies at the local, state, and national levels. Please contact Diane at 610-828-8041 to purchase tickets. Please make checks payable to the "Pro-Life Legal Fund".

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: The Food Cupboard will only be open twice a month starting in September on the 2nd & 3rd Fridays of the month at 1 PM.

Food Pantry Needs: tuna fish, boxes of mashed potatoes, stew, canned fruits, peanut butter and jelly.

God's Plan for Giving

September 6, 2015
WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL FOR
YOUR OFFERTORY
GIFTS LAST WEEKEND:
\$13,708.00

Electronic giving \$1,000 + \$12,708.00 = \$13,708.00
Today the 2nd Collection: **Black & Indian Missions**

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

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
Youth Ministry Registration

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. **Ultreya on Tuesday, September 15 at 7 PM in the convent.**


Walking with Purpose™
to our everyday lives. Classes start Wednesday, **September 30th. The classes will be Wednesday evenings from 6:30 PM – 8:15 PM** at the St Matthews Convent. **REGISTRATION DEADLINE** is Monday, September 7th to allow time to order the materials. Please check out the website at <http://walkingwithpurpose.com>. Contact Judy Kukowski at 610-331-2147 or JAKukowski@verizon.net

Mass for Persons with Disabilities during WMOF: The annual Archdiocesan Mass honoring the lives and gifts of persons with disabilities will be celebrated during the historic World Meeting of Families. We are joining with National Catholic Organizations who serve the needs of persons with disabilities and the Deaf community at the Shrine of St. John Neumann, 1019 N. 5th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19123 on Thursday, **September 24, 2015 for Mass at 7 PM** followed by a reception. There are shrine parking lots on Girard Avenue and Lawrence Street. To RSVP on line go to: www.ncpd.org/events/wmof 2155873530 with number attending & accommodations.

REFLECTIONS FROM MY ROCKING CHAIR:

Dear friends, it's Labor Day

"Well, it's past Labor Day! It's back to work, the Summer's done". I've always thought that the feelings I had when I got back to work whether it was back to the seminary or back to my parish were important to recognize. It is important that we feel good about going to work. I felt fortunate myself to work at what I love. This is the good fortune of every priest that his work is a vocation not a job. Although I must confess when priest personnel policies list me as a "retired priest", I say "no", there is no such thing as a retired priest.



I hope you find meaning in your work. On a spiritual level all human work is best seen as a cooperative venture with God in the progress of humanity. All honest work is like that. We are coworkers in the vineyard of the Lord. In 1981 Pope St. John Paul II promulgated an encyclical, *Laborem Exercens*, a reflection on the dignity of work. He writes, "Through work humanity must earn its daily bread and contribute to the continual advance of science and technology and, above all, to elevating unceasingly the cultural and moral level of the society within which he or she lives, in cooperation with those who belong to the same family." For many of us our work is in the marketplace engaging in activity that challenges our intellect and creativity. Some of us work at jobs less stimulating but valued for its wages which provide income for our families. Some of us are surely happy with what we do. Some of us take pride in what we produce. Some of us understand the good things that we make possible by our honest daily work. Sometimes the work is not glamorous but is important for what enables us to do. When I was in college, in the summer, I worked for the Philadelphia Electric Company and cleaned shower rooms used by line crews during the day. Glamorous it wasn't but it did provide me with income for my tuition. I wish I could say that I did my work with pride in a job well done but I was 19 and not very reflective.

Sadly, sin corrupts. Scripture offers us the story of Cain and Abel. Cain kills Abel in a jealous rage when Abel's work tilling the soil appears more righteous (favored by God) than Cain's hunting. Around our world today some people's work is just toiling (in Genesis "by the sweat of your brow"), jobs burdened with low wages and unsafe working conditions. Some are unemployed and sickened by fear and in great need of new work skills. And some work unlawfully for ill-gotten gain.

And finally, there are situations where people work too much. A recent survey of people who worked 55 hours per week indicated that they are three times more likely to have a stroke than those who work 40 hours a week. Factors are thought to be many; the stress that long hours bring, the poor food choices when hurried and insufficient time for sleep.

God's work is the outpouring of grace upon us from Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit. God's work makes all our comings and goings graceful. Blessings, Msgr. Owens (stmatt2014@gmail.com)

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.

GOLDEN AGE CLUB of St Mary's News:

Casino Trips are scheduled for the second Tuesday of each month: **October 13 & November 10**. 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).

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 Liturgy for
the 24th 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!*

Isaiah 50:4c-9a Psalm 116 James 2:14-18 Mark 8:27-35

In the Gospel we just heard, Jesus turns to His disciples with a seemingly innocuous question. In reality, however, it is the central question of the Gospels and of human history as well.

This question is the dividing line that separates authentic faith from passing enchantment. The answer to this question will determine to a certain extent, the level of our commitment as followers of Jesus Christ.



Who do people say that I am?

The disciples give examples from what they have heard people say. Elijah, one of the prophets. But what about the disciples themselves? Who do you say I am?

Peter answers, "You are the Messiah!" Jesus acknowledges this as the right answer but tells the disciples to keep this a secret. Why? His reason is that the popular perception of the Messiah is that of a leader who will free the nation from Roman subjugation just as Moses freed them from bondage in Egypt.

Another reason is that Jesus had a very different, a very new way of looking at the Messiah that He knew would be unacceptable to people: a suffering Messiah.

Peter proves Jesus right. He cannot accept this new idea and takes Jesus aside to correct Him and talk Him out of this strange idea.

This is a crucial turning point in Mark's Gospel. From this point on, Jesus begins to teach what the role of the Messiah is and the way of life followers of Christ must expect.

It is not an easy message. Jesus, the Messiah, will die on a cross and His true followers also must take up their own crosses—not Jesus' cross; their own. What does that mean?

First of all, let's say what taking up a cross is not. It is not synonymous with poverty. It is not synonymous with persecution. It is not synonymous with pious living.

Well, what is it then? The cross means risk. To follow Jesus will cost us something. That's what the disciples did not understand, as evidenced by their talk of glory, places of honor, of being first.

The Christian's cross is a moral choice. There is nothing necessarily moral in poverty, persecution, or piety. Many a person's supposed cross-bearing is nothing more than a subtle form of narcissism.

Christ's cross was "moral" in that it was a free choice. He didn't have to carry it, die on it, but He chose to do it. It was "moral" in that He remained faithful to His Father: "not My will, but Yours be done!" It was "moral" because it was a decision to assume someone else's burden. The cross Jesus carried was ours. He took on Himself the sin of the world; and He did this by His own choice.

If our cross is to have a connection with Jesus' cross, then the crosses we are asked to carry as His disciples must be someone else's. There is nothing particularly "moral" about bearing our own burdens. Everyone does that. Our burdens are only crosses when they are the burdens of others that we have chosen to put on our shoulders. The burden becomes a cross only when a free moral decision has put it there and it is something from the shoulder of another person.

For the disciple then, to carry a cross means the most humble kind of service toward our brothers and sisters that we can imagine.

It is a willingness to embrace the ones who seem to count for little in the eyes of the world, those on the margins of society. It is a free choice to risk something of ourselves to follow the values and ideals of Jesus Who reached out to all and willingly carried the burdens and tragedies that life visited upon them.

There are many Christians today who want to live a Christian life but who do not want to risk the consequences involved in being a faithful follower of a suffering Messiah. They forget that, yes, God guarantees **eternal** life, not **this** life and that the only way to that eternal life is the loss of this one by carrying the cross.

How we do that will be different for each of us. It was one way for Mother Theresa; another way for the missionary priests, nuns, lay people who suffered martyrdom for the sake of the Gospel mandate to reach out to the marginalized. It was yet another way for Archbishop Oscar Romero who was assassinated simply because he preached the truth.

All would prefer "cheap grace"—the deadly enemy of the Church said Dietrich Bonhoeffer. We must all fight for "costly grace." "Cheap grace" is grace without the cross. "Costly grace" is willingly answering the call of Jesus to seek not glory, not places of honor, not always being first, but to be the humble servant of all.

We pray that we will have the courage to take the steps asked of us.

Who do you say I am? This is our crucial question. It is the dividing line in our lives depending on how we answer it.

We are recipients of God's amazing grace—it is not a cheap one. Jesus Christ laid down His life to obtain it for us. He calls us to live lives that honor the sacrifice He made for us—lives that are responsible, accountable, lives that bring honor to Christ.

That might mean we will sacrifice many things that are dear to us. So be it! That is just what Christ did for each one of us.

End of Bulletin