



3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time January 24, 2016

Saturday, January 23

4:30PM Joseph W. Bry Jr

Sunday, January 24

7:30AM John Streeper

9:30AM John R. Kopecky

11:30AM Margaret & Paul Walters

Monday, January 25

8:15AM Gus Cottone

Tuesday, January 26

8:15AM Jack Thistle

Wednesday, January 27

8:15AM John F. Schank

Thursday, January 28

8:15AM Richard Alexy

Friday, January 29

8:15AM David A. Elmo

Saturday, January 30

4:30PM James Dougherty Sr.

Sunday, January 31

7:30AM Ann Marie Clark

9:30AM Carol A. Tinneny

Theresa Kelly

11:30AM Teresa Flocco

Pray for the Sick

Tom Tone, David Talone, JoAnn LaSorsa, Marie Carney, Greg Atkinson, Sophie Grabowski, Msgr. Robert Grudowski, Anthony Bonanno, Joanne Toth, Theresa Lenczewski, Luke Birkhead, Erik Kozlowski, Marlene Salkowski, Roselie Partenheimer, John Walski, Carl Reiff, Joseph Blaszcak, Patrick Kelly, Sean McGonagle, Mary Pierce, Brian Dunlevy, Sr. Jean Streibig, Stephanie Hathaway, Charles Streibig, Theresa McGrath, Kylie Reiff, 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, James Sousa, James Gauger, Emilia Bello Jones, Rita Van Buskirk, Joan Nasielski, Stephen Greene, Caroline Smerecki, Joan Pierce, Kevin Miller, Mike Ancin, Cynthia Allen, Rylan Borys, Susan Minnick, Ann Greco, Ralph Manappello, Jessica Jara, Leanne Purcell, Joe Lotito, Matt McNamee, Kendall Soltys, Concezio Lelii, William McGrath, Madge Swift, Theresa Swetkowski, Carl Pierce, Ursula Kozlowski, Benedetto McDaniels, Carolyn Hogan, Rick Ales, Kevin Kelly, Emily Armstrong.



Deceased: Ludwik Kowalkowski,
Stephen Novitski, Jr.



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, LCPL Thomas Mazzochetti, Staff Sgt. Michael Alfonse, Robert Catapano U.S. Army 101st Airborne, Paul Brown, Marines, Corporal Andrew Teitjen, Michael Bondra.

CELEBRANTS MASS SCHEDULE

1/23 4:30 Fr. Genovese

1/24 7:30 Fr. Ryan 9:30 Fr. Heron 11:30 Msgr. Owens

1/30 4:30 Fr. Ryan

1/31 7:30 Fr. Ryan 9:30 Msgr. Owens 11:30 Fr. Heron



Pre-Jordan Instructions: 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 1st Tuesday of each month. **The next class will be Tuesday, February 2 at 7PM in church.** You will be required to attend a class if this is the Baptism of your first child. To schedule your Baptism go to www.stmatthewparish.com or call the rectory 610-828-0424 press 4 for the office to register.



St. Matthew Book Club: Our book selections are works of fiction with a "Christian twist". On **February 24** we will discuss the novel *This House of Brede* by Rumer Godden; and on March 23 the discussion will center on *The Heart of the Matter* by Graham Greene. New members are welcome as we begin the year 2016. To register contact Msgr. Owens (stmatt2014@gmail.com). If you need assistance in purchasing books, Monsignor will do that for you through amazon.com.

save the date

Parish Retreat:

All are invited to participate in a Parish Lenten Retreat with Father Dennis O'Donnell, **February 20 - 23, 2016**. The theme of the retreat is Jesus, the Face of God's Mercy.

FOOD CUPBOARD WILL BE OPEN EVERY WEEK STARTING IN JANUARY ON FRIDAYS AT 1PM.

Religious Education

PREP

PREP Classes resume January 25 at 6:30. Parents if you have not already responded, please return the letter with your response this week with your children. Thanks so much.

Should inclement weather approach we will notify KYW and send out an email blast. Closing number is 1395, also posted on website.

Parents of children receiving First Penance and First Holy Communion:

CHANGE IN PARENT SACRAMENT MEETING. THE MEETING SCHEDULED FOR FEB 22ND IS CHANGED TO FEB 29TH AT 6:45PM IN SS COSMAS & DAMIAN CHURCH.



Mother Teresa Regional Catholic School in King of Prussia invites you to learn more about our school! Our mission at MTC, rooted by a deep and active Catholic Faith, is to shape our students' hands, hearts and minds. Please come for a visit and learn more about our Early Childhood Program, featuring PreK 3, PreK 4, and Kindergarten, as well as our Elementary Program for grades 1st through 8th. MTC's Open House dates are: January 31st 10:30AM to 1PM and February 1st 9AM to 11AM. If these dates are not convenient, please contact Patsy Swope (patsy.swope@mtcschool.org), Director of Enrollment Management, to schedule a tour or visit us online at: www.mtcschool.org

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, February 9 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. Contact Alice O'Connor acaoc@verizon.net



St. Matthew's Young Adult Group, The Mustard Seeds:

Please join the new young adult group of St. Matthews --*The Mustard Seeds*-- On **January 26, 2016** we will have a Holy Hour

with Deacon Joe Carr at 7PM in Church. Join our Facebook group The Mustard Seeds for updates!



A group of volunteers keep our church in good order. If anyone has some free time on Tuesday mornings, after the 8:15AM Mass for about two hours once a month to help clean the church please call the rectory at 610-828-0424 press 4 for the office.

43rd Year of the Supreme Court Decision Roe vs. Wade

Legal abortion will never rest easy on this nation's conscience. It will continue to haunt the consciences of men and women everywhere. The plain facts of biology, the profound appeals of the heart are far too unsettling to ever fade away.

We need leadership, certainly, but we also need commitment on the part of all believing Christians as well, to present the protections of the unborn child for what it truly is – an imperative that flows from Sacred Scripture and from the social justice mission of our country – The United States of America.

ST MATTHEW'S SENIORS will meet every third Wednesday of the month.

February meeting will take place on **February 17**, in the convent at 12:30pm. Also, Membership dues (\$10) will be collected for 2016.

ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND!

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 2016 is \$10.00 for the year.

Casino Trips: are scheduled for the second Tuesday of each month: **February 9 & March 8**. Bus leaves 9:00 AM from 11th & Fayette, 9:15 AM from 3rd & Fayette, and at 9:30 AM from St. Mary's. Call Joe (610-825-4596).

Art Show 2016 at Malvern Retreat House

More than 100 of the region's best artists are preparing their works for Art Show 2016 at Malvern Retreat House. This year the juried fine art show will be held from Wednesday, February 3 to Sunday, February 7 and will include a special focus on glass art, along with art forms ranging from painting and photography to jewelry and sculpture. Overall, more than 2000 fine art pieces will be for sale. The event will include a complimentary wine and cheese social on Thursday, February 4 from 5pm-8pm when attendees can meet the artists. Regular show hours are 10am-7pm on Wednesday through Saturday and 10am-4pm on Sunday. There is no admission fee. The event will be held in the beautiful McShain-Horstmann Family Life Center that can be accessed through Malvern Retreat House's Entrance B at 315 S. Warren Avenue in Malvern, PA. For more information, visit malvernretreat.com/artshow or call 610-644-0400. All proceeds from the show benefit Malvern Retreat House.

God's Plan for Giving

January 17, 2016

WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL FOR
YOUR OFFERTORY
GIFTS LAST WEEKEND:

\$11,603.95

Electronic giving \$1,579.00 + \$10,024.95 = \$11,603.95

Second Collection: Today is for Catholic Relief Service
Special Collection: Jan 30 & 31 Storm Relief Collection

Storm Relief:

In response to the major storms and severe flooding that have hit the South and Midwest regions of our country, and hearing that similar storm patterns might well continue in these and other parts of the country, the USCCB has asked that we take up a collection to help address humanitarian and Church needs caused by the severe weather. **The Storm Relief collection will be taken up on January 30 and 31st. Thank you.**



ELECTRONIC GIVING: 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

Part-Time Job Opportunity - Housekeeping Position

A part-time (19 hours a week) position is available at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary. Responsibilities include washing, ironing and general cleaning of residence rooms. Interested parties should contact Randy Rushton, 610-785-6239, or e-mail rrushton@scs.edu. Pastor's reference requested.

22nd Annual MOM-Heart of the Home Day of Renewal



Registration is OPEN! Calling moms of all ages and types: new moms, seasoned moms, grandmothers, stepmothers. Even if you're not a mom, you are still welcome! Start your Lenten

season by replenishing your spirit. Come listen to two amazing, inspirational morning and afternoon speakers Renee Eells and Kathi Clapham. **February 13, 2016 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.** Sts. Simon and Jude Meehan Center, West Chester. See our registration form for all details at www.mom-heartofthehome.org/events.html or call 484-798-7368.

MOM registration form: <http://www.phillyevang.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/Feb-13-MOM-Heart-of-Home.pdf>

Mount Saint Joseph Academy

The Mount, a catholic college preparatory school for girls, invites all interested 7th grade girls to register for The **Pre-HSPT** to be given on **Saturday, March 19, 2016 8:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**

The Pre-HSPT is a 7th grade edition of the actual Scholarship/Entrance Exam given to eighth grade applicants. Registration is available **online only**. You will receive registration confirmation via email.

Register at: www.msacad.org/practicetest

REFLECTIONS FROM MY ROCKING CHAIR:

Dear friends,

It does seem a bit incongruous, at first glance, to position spiritual things in the context of the secular culture. The reverse ought to be more often the case, placing the secular culture into the context of spiritual things: first things first. However, I'm thinking about the custom of making New Year's resolutions. Since Pope Francis has proclaimed a Jubilee Year of Mercy, it would be well to make Jubilee Year's resolutions regarding "mercy". My favorite definition for mercy is "Mercy is the form that love takes when it encounters misery". "Compassionate" is derived from the Latin, to "suffer with" someone. A compelling examination of one's capacity for compassion is found in the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. Each of these "works" is a response to misery both spiritual and physical. Often times the best of us will think about doing good but never move into action regarding that good thing we might do. Saint Ignatius of Loyola puts it this way: There are three stages in spiritual development; doing evil, thinking about doing good and actually doing good. Let's not stumble before stage III!

A vital Christianity engages both body and soul. Are you mindful of these activities and their place in your life?



to feed the hungry;
to give drink to the thirsty;
to cloth the naked;
to welcome the stranger;
to heal the sick,
to visit the imprisoned and to bury the dead.

In terms of refashioning your soul to be more in the image of Christ, the Holy Spirit awakens within us a desire to be immersed more deeply in the Spiritual Works of Mercy:

to counsel the doubtful,
to instruct the ignorant,
to admonish sinners,
to comfort the afflicted,
to forgive offenses,
to bear wrongs patiently and to pray for the living and the dead.

At first it appears to be overwhelming: Dare I open my heart to the needs of my brothers and sisters both close at hand and far away. Children go to sleep hungry – even in our own country. Our teens are bombarded with false information regarding relationships and human sexuality. Families suffer conflicts deemed unforgivable. Refugees wander Europe and others in Central America displaced by war and violence. Dare we welcome the stranger? What does God want of us? Will we allow terrorists to break down the solidarity that should exist in the human family? Is there someone in your family you need to forgive? Everything is a grace. God makes good things happen in us. These good works will find their way into your life if you let God into your life – in ways different and beautiful in each of us.

Mercy is the visible face of God! When you understand that, it is cause for jubilation.

Blessings, Monsignor Tom Owens

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 3rd 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!

Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10 Psalm 19 1 Corinthians 12:12-30
Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21



St. Luke depicts a dramatic scene in the Gospel. Jesus is in His home town of Nazareth. He was handed a scroll of the book of Isaiah—66 chapters. He didn't have to flip around for a while to find the passage He wanted. He went straight to Chapter 61, a passage of great hope, of universal justice, of total freedom.

He read the passage. All eyes were intently fixed on Him and He said: "Today this passage is being fulfilled in your hearing."

They were stunned. How could this passage be fulfilled in a poor no-name carpenter who claims to be the Messiah?

Let's look at the life of Jesus and see how correct He was that Chapter 61 of Isaiah was indeed being fulfilled in His Public Ministry. I mentioned it was a passage full of hope, justice, freedom.

A) Wherever Jesus went He brought hope. It was His calling card. He brought hope to the leper exiled from His home and community. He brought hope to the paralyzed man unable to care for His family. He brought hope to people who felt worthless, lost, broken, rejected, beyond saving.

Jesus brought the message that God loved them, that they had a purpose in life. Even in His last moments, dying in agony on the Cross, He offered the hope of eternal salvation to the thief dying beside Him.



In Dante's Inferno—sign over the entrance to Hell—"Abandon hope all you who enter here."

Where God is, there is hope.

Where God is absent, there is no hope.

B) Jesus preached the need for universal justice for all.

He told us that God loves the poor, the blind, the sick, and the oppressed because of their humble state. These are rejected members of the world community in many places and nations—but Jesus turns such a world view upside down.

There are no rejects in God's economy. Jesus taught that riches on earth are meaningless; it is treasure in heaven for which we should be striving. Jesus said that a healthy body is worthless if one's soul is dead in sin. He taught that a person can have 20/20 vision and still be blind.

C) Jesus told us that God is a God of freedom. During his Public Ministry Jesus rebuked the power structures that oppressed or enslaved people. He made it regular practice to set people free.

He freed the sick of their diseases.

He freed the disabled from their handicaps.

He freed the sinners from the burden of their sins.

He freed the demon-possessed from their torment.

He broke the chains of fear, confusion, and anxiety in the lives of people He touched.

Many today are prisoners of addictions, anxiety, low self-esteem, anger, fear, guilt, and misconceptions about God. They have blank expressions on their faces. They say that they are just lucky to make it through the day without collapsing from the weight of all these chains that bind them.

St. Luke says that after the crowd heard Jesus read Chapter 61 of Isaiah, they were loud in His praise. That being so, did you ever wonder why so few responded to what they heard? Why wasn't there a groundswell of people ready to walk with Jesus and get on with the task of proclaiming liberty to captives, release to prisoners, restoring sight to the blind, and freedom to the oppressed?



End of Bulletin