



**2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER  
April 3, 2016**

**Saturday, April 2**

4:30PM Matthew Derfler

**Sunday, April 3**

7:30AM Lorraine Charlesworth

9:30AM Anne Price

11:30AM Joan Prendergast

**Monday, April 4**

8:15AM John S. DeGideo

**Tuesday, April 5**

8:15AM Joseph Pacifico

**Wednesday, April 6**

8:15AM Stephen Bussell

Rita O'Donnell

**Thursday, April 7**

8:15AM Rose B. Kiger

Richard Torretta

**Friday, April 8**

8:15AM Frances Cottone

**Saturday, April 9**

4:30PM Joseph & Rose Cardamone & their Dec'd Family Members

**Sunday, April 10**

7:30AM Walter Lesniewski (4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)

9:30AM Ann & Sam Minnick

11:30AM Rose, Ernest & John Angelilli

*Please Pray for the Sick of the Parish*

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 VanBuskirk, Joan Nasielski, Caroline Smerecki,

*Please Pray for the Sick of the Parish*

Joan Pierce, Kevin Miller, Mike Ancin, Rylan Borys, Susan Minnick, Ann Greco, Jessica Jara, Leanne Purcell, Joe Lotito, Matt McNamee, Kendall Soltys, Concezio Lelii, William McGrath, Carl Pierce, Ursula Kozlowski, Benedetto McDaniels, Carolyn Hogan, Kevin Kelly, Emily Armstrong, Charles Lare, Rita Borkowski, Joanne Kalacinski, Marie DiMedio, Margaret Palmer, Sue Stephan, Anna Marie Ferrier, Mary Stoffel, Jeri McClennen, Marie Bowman, Marie Paris.



Kay Matusik, Steven Banfield



Staff Sgt Daniel Furtak, Lt. Michelle R. McNally, SSKC Terence J. McNally Jr., Sgt. Robert Bonneau, Andrew Midgett, Jonathan Staats, Col. Shawn McGinley, Lt. Col Evah McGinley, The 108<sup>th</sup> 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 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne, Paul Brown, Marines, Corporal Andrew Teitjen, Michael Bondra.

**CELEBRANTS MASS SCHEDULE**

4/2 4:30 Msgr. Owens  
4/3 7:30 Fr. Genovese 9:30 Fr. Ryan 11:30 Fr, Heron  
4/9 4:30 Fr. Genovese  
4/10 7:30 Fr. Ryan 9:30 Fr. Heron 11:30 Msgr. Owens  
4/16 4:30 Fr. Ryan  
4/17 7:30 Msgr. Owens 9:30 Fr. Genovese 11:30 Fr. Heron  
4/23 4:30 Fr. Genovese  
4/24 7:30 Fr. Heron 9:30 Msgr. Owens 11:30 Fr. Ryan  
4/30 4:30 Fr. Ryan  
5/1 7:30 Fr. Genovese 9:30 Fr. Heron 11:30 Msgr. Owens

**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 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month. **The next class will be Tuesday, April 5 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](http://www.stmatthewparish.com) or call the rectory 610-828-0424 press 4 for the office to register.



**MASS BOOK 2017:** The 2017 Mass Book will open on Tuesday, **April 12th.** 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)



**The Pastoral Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 13, 2016 at 7PM in the rectory.**

# Religious Education

PREP

## PREP/CCD Closing Mass April 4 - 6:30pm St. Matthew Church.

Parents and family invited.

Reports cards distributed.

## Holy Communion sessions Apr 11,18,25 at St. Matthew Church.

6:30-7:30pm

**April 30** First Holy Communion Ceremony 11am

**The Parish Religious Education Program (PREP)** (also known as CCD) will change from Monday evening to Sunday morning. The parents and staff voted this change into being. Beginning Sept. 11, 2016 Classes from Grades 1 – 7 will be held in the Parish Center from 10:25 am – 11:25 am.

**Registrations are being accepted now.** The online form has been streamlined so you need only fill out a family form and list the names of each child. **The weekend of April 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> we will hold Registration Sunday** in the back of church after all the Masses. The fee has NOT changed from last year. One child \$110. Two \$165. Three or more \$195. This provides for all supplies and textbooks. Any concerns or questions contact Miss Mary Kay 610 828-0424 ext. 6 or [mckennamaryk@gmail.com](mailto:mckennamaryk@gmail.com).

### **ST. MATTHEW BOOK CLUB:**

Fiction with a Christian Twist - Do you enjoy a good story and some fine literature? The Christian "twist" is that some element of the tale involves faith or morals, belief or unbelief, God or no god. This is a good time to join the group. We had just selected three more titles for Wednesdays in April, May and June. On April 13 we will discuss *The Children Act* by Ian McEwan; on May 11, *The Painter of Silence* by Georgina Harding; and *Stones from the River* by Ursula Hagi will be the subject of discussion on June 8. To join contact Monsignor Tom Owens at [stmatt2014@gmail.com](mailto:stmatt2014@gmail.com) or 610 – 828 – 0424 ext. 112



Dear friends,  
Clinton, Cruz, Kasich, Sanders, Trump. Do I have your attention? Every 4 years the American Bishops publish a reflection "Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship". Msgr. Owens will present the core ideas of the essay followed by discussion. We will meet on Wednesday, April 20 from 7PM till 8:15. We will meet in St Matt's Convent. The purpose is not to endorse a candidate but to bring to bear our Christian conviction to social issues. You don't leave your conscience outside the poll.  
Join me.  
Blessings, Msgr. Owens

### **JOB OPPORTUNITY**

**FULL TIME LEAD TEACHER:** Conshohocken Catholic Early Childhood Center is seeking a full time lead teacher for the Toddler Room in our newly formed Daycare center. A Bachelor's or Associate's Degree in Education is required. Previous daycare experience is preferred. Candidate must be loving, nurturing, and possess good leadership skills. For more information call Carol Kearney at 610-828-0755 or email [cceccdaycare@gmail.com](mailto:cceccdaycare@gmail.com)

**PART TIME CARES TEACHER:** Conshohocken Catholic Early Childhood Center is seeking a part time teacher to assist with supervising preschoolers in our After School CARES program from 2:30pm-6:00pm daily. Candidate must have previous experience caring for and managing young children. Please call Carol Kearney at 610-828-0755 or email [cceccdaycare@gmail.com](mailto:cceccdaycare@gmail.com) for more information.

### **Are You Called to Be a Deacon?**

While all of the baptized are called to share in the mission of Jesus Christ according to the gifts of the Holy Spirit, those who are ordained also offer service in a way proper to the Sacrament of Holy Orders. A deacon's ministry entails proclaiming, preaching and teaching God's Word, assisting the bishop and priest at the Liturgy, assisting at funerals, ministering to the sick and dying, leading the community in prayer and in sacramental liturgies, baptizing, witnessing marriages, and exercising administrative leadership in the Church. **A permanent deacon, who may be married, is a member of the clergy and shares in the hierarchy of the Sacrament of Holy Orders.** Through the Sacrament of Holy Orders, the deacon is configured to Christ the Servant. It is Christ the Servant who acts through the ministry of the deacon.

2016 Permanent Diaconate Information Night Thursday, April 21, 2016 - 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM - Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary Vianney Auditorium - 100 East Wynnewood Road Wynnewood, PA 19096. To register or for more information, email Laura Nimmons at [lnimmons@archphila.org](mailto:lnimmons@archphila.org)

## God's Plan for Giving

March 27, 2016 Easter Sunday  
WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL FOR  
YOUR OFFERTORY  
GIFTS LAST WEEKEND:  
**\$31,876.00**

Electronic giving \$2,159.00 + \$29,717.00 = \$31,876.00



**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](mailto:deacon.mike.kubiak@comcast.net) to register [www.parishgiving.org](http://www.parishgiving.org) or [www.stmatthewparish.com](http://www.stmatthewparish.com)

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

The next meeting will take place on **April 20<sup>th</sup>**, in the convent at 12:30pm. Also, Membership dues (\$10) will be collected for 2016. ALL ARE WELCOME!

**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: **April 12 & May 10.** Bus leaves 9:00 AM from 11<sup>th</sup> & Fayette, 9:15 AM from 3rd & Fayette, and at 9:30 AM from St. Mary's. Call Joe (610-825-4596).



We most 'warmly' invite you to be a part of this Ministry by meeting with us in the St. Vincent DePaul room **Tuesday, April 12 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](mailto:acaoc@verizon.net)

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD CUPBOARD:** We are in need of cereal, cans of fruit – peaches, pears, fruit cocktail, chunky soups, peanut butter & jelly. Donations can be left in the vestibules of the church. The food cupboard is open every Friday at 1PM it is located between the church and the convent the second door in the driveway.

**The St. Vincent de Paul Society:** visits Towne Manor East & West, Brandywine Senior Suites, Regina Nursing Home, Powerback Rehabilitation and Suburban Woods every week -- if someone in your family or a friend is in one of these facilities and you would like the St. Vincent Group to stop in and say "hello" please contact Alice O'Connor at 610-828-5992 or [acaoc@verizon.net](mailto:acaoc@verizon.net). If you would like to volunteer to help us visit the sick please contact Alice.



**St. Matthew Cemetery:** A recent survey of the cemetery property revealed enough unused land to accommodate 133 burial lots.

This land was originally a tract identified as St. Patrick's Road. It will remain titled as the "St. Patrick Section". For any information on securing one of these lots please contact: Deacon Mike Kubiak at 610-828-0424 or email [deacon.mike.kubiak@comcast.net](mailto:deacon.mike.kubiak@comcast.net).

### **Chosen Fathers: A Retreat for Fathers of Children with Disabilities:**

Saturday, April 30, 2016 at St. Charles Seminary, the Office for Life and Family and the Office for Persons with Disabilities will host a retreat for fathers and grandfathers of children with disabilities. The retreat will be led by Doug Keck, a *Chosen Father*, who is the president of EWTN and an award winning TV/Radio host. To register online go to [www.opdarchphilly.org](http://www.opdarchphilly.org). For more information call 215-587-3530 or email [mcullinan@archphila.org](mailto:mcullinan@archphila.org).

### **Mothers of Children with Disabilities Retreat:**

Tuesday, May 3, 2016 at Malvern Retreat House, Fr. Dennis O'Donnell will direct a retreat for mothers and grandmothers who are raising children with disabilities and also those who have adult children with disabilities. There will be time to pray, reflect, and chat with other mothers. To register online go to [www.opdarchphilly.com](http://www.opdarchphilly.com). For more information please contact Malvern Retreat House at 610-644-0400 or the Office for Persons with Disabilities at 215-587-3530.

### **WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS**

Are you celebrating a special anniversary this year? The annual Archdiocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass will take place on Saturday, May 7, 2016 at the Cathedral Basilica of SS. Peter and Paul at the 5:15 pm Vigil Mass with Archbishop Charles Chaput presiding. This mass is to pray for and with all married couples who are newlyweds, or who have been married 25 years or more, or 50 years or more. Friends and family are welcome and encouraged to attend. REGISTRATION REQUIRED To register visit: [www.phillycatholiclife.org](http://www.phillycatholiclife.org) or call: 215-587-0500

### **SAVE THE DATE! 2016 Catholic Women's**

**Conference:** Plan to join us for a day of friendship, prayer, and growth in your faith at the Archdiocese of Philadelphia Catholic Women's Conference! This year's theme "Mother of Mercy, Make Our Hearts Like Yours!" is in honor of the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy called by Pope Francis. Mark your calendars: Saturday, October 29, 2016, 8:30am-4pm, National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, Doylestown, PA. Four tracks: adult track in English, adult track in Spanish, presentations in American Sign Language, and a youth track for teens. For more info: [catholicwomensconference.org](http://catholicwomensconference.org)



Boy Scout Troop 140 was chartered in 1928. The Troop has 80 years of service to scouting and the youth of Conshohocken. We meet Monday nights from 7 to 8:30 PM at St. Mark's Lutheran Church at 5<sup>th</sup> and Harry St., Conshohocken. Any boy interested in joining please stop by and check us out!

## Fr. Tom Heron's Weekly Reflection

*Acts 5: 12-16 Psalm 118 Revelation 1: 9-11a,12-13,17-19  
John 20: 19-31*

The spotlight today falls on Thomas - he, the supreme doubter. He is not with the others when Jesus first appeared to them after the resurrection.

They were huddled together in what Scripture tells us was the Upper Room. It would better be described as a "panic room"; doors locked, and, like the doors, these Apostles were locked in fear.

Thomas' fear was driving him to be a skeptic, a cynic. He wandered off to be alone with himself wondering why he had ever believed in the Man from Nazareth, Jesus, son of Joseph and Mary.

To his credit, he wandered back to meet with the others, only to be surprised by their joy-filled message that they had seen Jesus alive.

I will not believe unless...

Suddenly Jesus appears and shows Thomas his scars—all of them. Now Jesus is no longer just the Man from Nazareth. "My Lord and my God," says Thomas, who would never be the same again—no more the skeptic, no more cynicism—now a fearless proclaimer of the Good News.

Thomas' name means 'twin'—and this is true not only biologically, but in a true way, spiritually. He is our twin when fears and doubts overwhelm us as we go through life. We become victims of our fears; we doubt ourselves.

We worry about finances, health and our children. We worry about what people think of us or whether they think of us at all. We even get to a point, sometimes, when we fear that God has forgotten us.

If Thomas is our twin, let us be one with him, not only in his doubt and fears but in his living faith. He and the others saw their fear turned to trusting. They left the panic room to proclaim the Gospel in every corner of the world.

Rollo May, a famous therapist who wrote a number of books—was not a believer. He was recovering from a nervous breakdown when he visited Mt. Athos just as the monks were celebrating Greek Orthodox Easter—a ceremony rich in symbolism, beauty, icons, and incense.

The priest proclaims *Christos anesti* ("Christ is risen") and the people respond "He is risen indeed."

May wrote in his book, *My Quest for Beauty*, that he was seized by a moment of spiritual reality: what would it mean for our world, he asks, if Christ had truly risen?

What difference has it made in our lives? Do we live any differently from those who do not believe in Christ's resurrection? Are we less prejudiced, less greedy, more honest because we believe? Are we still overly anxious about various things? Do we still fear death? Are we good faithful Christians on Sunday but come Monday we fall back into routines, habits that do not bespeak the resurrection of Christ?

Thomas was a doubter but he had reason to be. It took the wounds of Christ to convince him that the Jesus he saw die on the Cross was now risen. For Thomas, the real risen Jesus must still bear the marks of His earthly life, a life marked by suffering as well as miracles.

Jesus' wounds remind us that we are capable of inflicting spiritual and physical wounds on others and also to remind us that His wounds are the source of our healing.

Today is Divine Mercy Sunday when we proclaim a singular truth: i.e., God's love and mercy are greater than any sin.

Some today ignore the reality of sin because they think that when Jesus died He took away all sin forever and poured out His grace on everyone.

But they forget that God gave us free will, a gift that we can misuse by rejecting the grace that Christ won for us on the Cross. We can choose to embrace a sinful way of living. It is only through God's gift of grace and our acceptance of it that we can continue to fight against evil in the world and in our lives.

The mystery of iniquity reveals itself—  
in those who live as though God and sin do not exist;  
in those who put themselves in God's place, deciding on their own when life begins and when it should end;  
in those who wish to determine human life through genetic manipulation;  
in those who reject divine law and moral principles and who openly attack the family as a cornerstone of our society;  
in those who try to silence the voice of God in human hearts and in public discourse and who wish to make God the "great absence" in our culture and in the conscience of each human being.

This mystery of iniquity instills fear of the future and brings about feelings of emptiness and despair in many.

The source of relief and hope from all this is found in the eternal mercy of God. We are Christ's followers and as such are charged to bring this message to all those who seem lost in this mystery of iniquity.

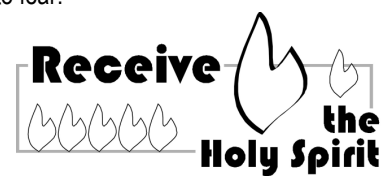
Jesus showed Thomas His wounds, the scars of His death on the Cross. As a result, Thomas became a believer. The marks of Jesus' woundedness became a pivotal part of the Gospel message of Christ's resurrection.

We are all called to preach this message but we will really never know other people until we know something of their scars, until we know the story of their woundedness, and our own as well.

The scarred, weak places in our lives have more potential to bless others than all the strength and intelligence we possess.

By His wounds we are healed and from those wounds mercy pours forth. How can any of us refuse this gift?

The Disciples, including Thomas, came out of their panic room. So must we. Christ can enter the room of our hearts if we let Him. He is risen and we have nothing to fear.



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