



3rd SUNDAY OF EASTER April 10, 2016

Saturday, April 9

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

Sunday, April 10

7:30AM Walter Lesniewski (4th Anniversary)
9:30AM Ann & Sam Minnick
11:30AM Rose, Ernest & John Angelilli

Monday, April 11

8:15AM Richard Alexy

Tuesday, April 12

8:15AM Katherine & James Morley

Wednesday, April 13

8:15AM Joseph and Helen Schank

Thursday, April 14

8:15AM Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Evans

Friday, April 15

8:15AM Loretta Gaurdino

Saturday, April 16

4:30PM Joseph Pliszka (5th Anniversary)

Sunday, April 17

7:30AM John J. Kelly & Debbie Wills
9:30AM Joseph Fritz
11:30AM Dessie Laska



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, 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, Kevin Kelly, Emily Armstrong, Charles Lare, Rita Marie Borkowski, Joanne Kalacinski, Mary DiMedio, Margaret Palmer, Sue Stephan, Anna Marie Ferrier, Mary Stoffel, Jeri McClennen, Marie Bowman, Marie Paris, Clarie Giordano.



Carolyn Hogan



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 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

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

Prepare for Next Sunday

Acts of the Apostles 13:14, 43 – 52 Revelation 7:9, 14 – 17 John 10:27 – 30
On this Good Shepherd Sunday, the risen Christ consoles us: "My sheep hear my voice; they follow me." With the nineteenth century German theologian Johan A. Mohler, we confess, "I don't believe I could go on living where I no longer hear Him speak." What fills Christ's disciples with joy and the Holy Spirit is this voice which is identical with life. Like the converts whom Paul and Barnabas urged "to remain faithful to the grace of God," our happiness depends on our fidelity to the grace that keeps us sensitive, aware, and disposed to attend the voice of the Shepherd. For this Shepherd is also the lamb who lives to wipe every tear from our eyes.

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 except in May the class will be the 3rd Monday. **The next class will be Monday, May 16 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.

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



PRE-CANA: St. Matthew Parish is offering a one day pre-Cana program on Saturday, July 16, 2016 from 8:30am – 4 pm followed by Mass. Cost \$200 per couple. Couples from all parishes are welcomed. Contact Deacon Mike Kubiak: 610-828-0424 X 5 or deacon.mike.kubiak@comcast.net

Religious Education

PREP

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 16th and 17th 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.

Calling for believers to volunteer.

Come “echo” your faith with the growing number of children in this growing community. With the move to the new parish center we will have more room, which means smaller and more personalized classroom settings and the need for more staff. To be a catechist requires only one thing...a willingness to be a witness and share your faith with the littlest among us. We are also moving to Sunday morning between the Masses, which should be more accommodating for all.

Think about it! Please help this program which is the future of our church. Any questions please call Mary Kay 610-828-0424.

Let's us recognize and thank catechists **Jay Kunaszek**, 20 years of service, **Amey Hogan** for 15 years of service, **Marie McMonagle** for 10 years of service. Each received diocesan awards for their dedication and years of service to the Religious Education of our children.

St. Matthews YOUTH GROUP

The following truly splendid young people were recognized at the closing of PREP/CCD Mass Monday. They have formed the first Youth Group of the merged parish, making a commitment to serve the Religious Education Program, living out their Confirmation grace. They are trailblazers and trendsetters of St. Matthews.

This group has graced us with what can become two new traditions...turkey praying hands, and a prayerful, and pantomimed living stations of the cross. They participated in the foot-washing at the Mass on Holy Thursday, serve on the altar, and function as classroom aides to the delight of the catechists they assist.

Their energy, enthusiasm, endurance and commitment have uplifted this community and me! I encourage this next Confirmation class to follow in their footsteps and return to become leaders in this parish.

We are truly blessed! (If interested register at www.stmatthewparish.com)

*Madison Bakula
John Baranowski
Leah Ingram
Claudia Kunf
Emalita Marcucci
Colin Mash*

*Bobby McGuire
Ainsley Morasco
Allison Ruck
Mia Ruggiero
Kerri Thomas
Nikki Tier*

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

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

ST. MATTHEW SENIORS TRIP INFORMATION:

The Seniors trip to Doolan's is on Wednesday, May 4th. The cost for members is \$64 and is due on April 20. If you have any questions please contact Anne Helenski at 610-279-3617.

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 11th & 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

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 stmat2014@gmail.com or 610 – 828 – 0424 ext. 112



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

God's Plan for Giving

April 3, 2016

WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL FOR
YOUR OFFERTORY
GIFTS LAST WEEKEND:
\$13,158.00

Electronic giving \$1,080.00 + \$12,078.00 = \$13,158.00



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

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



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.

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 cccdaycare@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 cccdaycare@gmail.com for more information.

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.

REFLECTIONS FROM MY ROCKING CHAIR:



Dear friends,

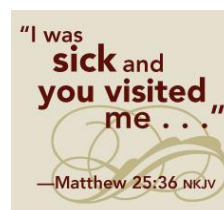
In the last few weeks Mr. Trump took exception to the Holy Father's intervention on behalf of refugees and migrants. He complained that the Pope was being "political". The Pope had observed that some are satisfied with building walls when we ought to be building bridges. This exchange serves as a good prelude to our evening of reflection and discussion on the document "*Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*" (FCFC). We will meet on Wednesday, April 20, Wednesday, from 7 PM – 8:15 PM in St. Matthew Convent.

This document is published every four years in a revised form by the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops (USCCB). The relationship between politics and religion will be explored with attention being paid to those principles of the Gospel and church teaching which ought to impact in the civil arena as our democracy fashions what is to be hoped for, a just society. Important questions raised here: Why does the Church teach about issues affecting public policy? Who in the Church should participate in political life? How does the Church help the Catholic faithful to speak about political and social questions? What does the Church say about her Catholic social teachings in the public square?

FCFC then goes on to summarize policy positions taken by the USCCB. They fall into four major categories; Human Life, Family Life, Social Justice, Global Solidarity. The Catholic Church the United States has gone to great lengths in avoiding endorsements of particular candidates. She has done so for two reasons, I believe; one, no particular candidate perfectly mirrors church teachings and, two, the church cannot be perceived as a handmaid to a certain political party. Bishops are teachers of the faith and are concerned that citizens forming policy and entering polling booths do so with a well-formed conscience. This is the purpose of the FCFC. Gospel principles must be foremost in our decision making, even political ones. An example is the attack on religious freedom presently before the Supreme Court. The Little Sisters of the Poor cannot in conscience pay for health insurance to its employees that includes the purchase of abortion inducing medication. Incredibly, the government has decided that the Little Sisters work is distinct from the work of a particular church or parish. The danger is that now the government is deciding what is or is not religious activity. The Sisters should not have to choose between following their faith and working with the elderly poor. Government action in this regard is an affront to the Constitution. Judicial activism has caused great crises in the nation over the last few decades. Issues such as the legality of abortion, and same-sex marriages were never left in the hands of the people through its legislature. Efforts in legislation in these matters were struck down by the Supreme Court. This is no way to run a nation with hopes to preserve the dignity of all.

Join me April 20. Blessings, Monsignor Owens

FCFC can be obtained at the website of the USCCB.



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. If you would like to volunteer to help us visit the sick please contact Alice.

Fr. Tom Heron's Weekly Reflection for the 3rd Sunday of Easter

Acts 5: 27b-32, 40b-41 Psalm 30 Revelation 5: 11-14 John 21:1- 19

Our Gospel today gives us a partial look into the mind of Simon Peter. He was plagued with his failure to acknowledge Jesus when given the opportunity to do so in the courtyard of the high priest. Three times he denied even knowing Jesus. He was living with this failure even after he saw the Risen Jesus but he simply could not figure out how he could ever redeem this failure.

Personal or moral failure can bring about the destruction of a life. Something we intended, or promised to do, we fail to do. Peter said he would never deny Jesus. But he did. He failed the test of loyalty. This Gospel is food for thought for all of us.

We live in a success-oriented society. It is not as important what you do, as that you are successful in doing it. In our culture, the unpardonable sin is failure. For many, as a result, it is thought to be better not to make the attempt than to fail. Yet God's most grace-filled work involves the redeeming of failures.

Peter is about to experience this. Following His Resurrection, Jesus had already appeared to His Apostles twice. They were now awaiting His further instructions. Anxiously Peter was waiting for the next appearance of Jesus but he couldn't let go of his failure.

Impulsive and impetuous, Peter says, "I'm going fishing. Maybe that will take my mind off my failure."

An evening at sea will help Peter and the others to clear their heads and get focused once again. A return to their normal routines just might bring order to their lives and rekindle their spirits.

Led by Peter, they failed again. They caught nothing, throughout the entire night.

At daybreak someone on the shore calls to them saying they should cast their nets on the right side of the boat. They did this and caught more fish than they could haul into the boat. One of the Apostles suddenly realizes that the person on the shore is Jesus. "**It is the Lord!**" The Risen Jesus is there preparing a breakfast of fish and bread for them.

Most important of all, however, this scene becomes the setting of some unfinished business between Peter and Jesus. Ever since Peter denied knowing Jesus, his intense guilt over such an unspeakable failure consumed him night and day. How would he face Jesus? What would he say?

Jesus took the initiative. He asked Peter three times, "**Do you love Me?**" Each time Peter answered, "**Yes, Lord, You know that I love You.**" Three times the question was asked and three times the same answer was given. This litany of redemption in

three exchanges was to cover Peter's three denials. But Jesus didn't stop there. Three times Jesus gave the redeemed Peter a commission: "**Feed My lambs; tend My sheep; feed My sheep.**" In redeeming Peter, Jesus gives him more than an opportunity to reaffirm His love. He gives him a challenge, a calling, a mission. The remainder of Peter's life is more than ample evidence of his transformation.

So much for Peter. What about us? We have all experienced failure. It can confuse us, make us weary. It is as though everything we worked for was futile, without meaning. Like the Apostles and Peter, we need a break and we go fishing. But the Risen Lord will have none of this.

The Risen Lord comes to us to pull us out of our despondency and grief and into a whole new dimension of life, Risen Life!

Living in the shadows simply will not be acceptable to the Risen Lord. He wants all of us to walk in the sunlight of Resurrection Life.

It is so easy to throw in the towel as Peter was doing, especially when life visits us with unwelcome, unforeseen suffering or tragedy. The Risen Lord says, 'get focused. I have work for you to do.'

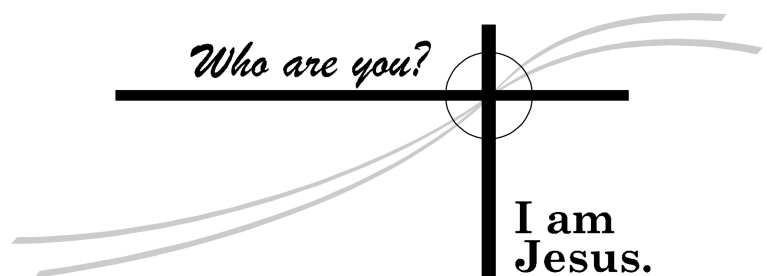
Jesus tells us that suffering, misunderstanding, even death, are the risks of Discipleship. The true Disciple knows that suffering love is redemptive, that is, a love that accepts defeat, hardship and little deaths that come with love. If Jesus put to us the question He put to Peter, "**Do you love Me?**," how would we answer?

If we say, as Peter said, "**Lord, You know that I love You,**" then we will never run away from our calling. We will never shrink from courage when asked to stand up for what we believe.

Jesus asks each of us today: What are you doing with your life? Where are you going with your life? Heaven-ward or Hell-ward?

The Risen Lord does not want us to be guilt-ridden. He invites us to confess our failures and sins, but then to put these burdens down knowing that it is not necessary to bear them any longer.

We are called to live forgiven lives, one of the greatest freedoms we can experience. Let us learn from Peter and live the New Risen Life to which we are all called.



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