



# Mass Intentions

## 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time January 29, 2017

### Saturday, January 28

4:30PM James Dougherty Sr.  
Richard Alexy  
Jack Heron

### Sunday, January 29

7:30AM John Baranowski  
9:30AM Ruth Dobry  
11:30AM Teresa L. Bello

### Monday, January 30

8:15AM George R. DiCiurcio

### Tuesday, January 31

8:15AM Gus Cottone

### Wednesday, February 1

8:15AM Roseann M. McCormick

### Thursday, February 2

8:15AM Joseph William Bry, Jr.

### Friday, February 3

8:15AM Linda Lesser

### Saturday, February 4

4:30PM James Graham

### Sunday, February 5

7:30AM Elizabeth Brugger  
9:30AM John Ondik (6<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)  
11:30AM Michael, Tony & William A. Moore Jr.

*Say a Prayer for...* 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 Blaszczyk, Patrick Kelly, Sean McGonagle, Mary Pierce, Brian Dunlevy, Sr. Jean Streibig, Stephanie Hathaway, Charles Streibig, Kylie Reiff, Nikki Dolan, Joseph Rozecki, Betty DiCola, 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, 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, Joanne Kalacinski, Mary DiMedio, Sue Stephan, Anna Marie Ferrier, Mary Stoffel, Jeri McClennen, John Boccella, Jim Bokoski, Hans Pawling, Margie Burghart, Jack Susskind, Kristen Lafferty, Thomas Waszena, Debbie Miller Hannon, Barbara Laranko, Robert Berk, Irene Barnes, Anna Marie Berry, Emma Forlini, Paul & Family, John Dalton, Edward Clinton, Joseph Januzelli, Barbara Clement, John DiDonato, Derek Dean, Baby Noah Marchetti, Richard Wolfrom, Peg Schultz, James Simpson, Roseann Sirianni Lare, Theresa Steinhauser



**Pray for the deceased: Edward Pilcicki, John Kliamovich, L. John Cullen**

**PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY:** Staff Sgt Daniel Furtak, Lt. Michelle R. McNally, SSKC Terence J. McNally Jr., Sgt. Robert Bonneau, Andrew Midgett, Jonathan Stats, Lt. Col Evah McGinley, The 108<sup>th</sup> Wing McGuire



AFB, Matthew Horning, 1st Lt. Stanley J. Reimer III, SR Brett Pellicciotti, Corporal Thomas Mazzochetti, Robert Catapano U.S. Army 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne, Michael Bondra, Senior Airman Jacob Shoemaker.

### CELEBRANTS MASS SCHEDULE

1/28 4:30 Fr. Ryan  
1/29 7:30 Msgr. Owens 9:30 Fr. McGuinn 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 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month. **The next class is Tuesday, February 7 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)

### Prepare for next Sunday

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today the prophet Isaiah speaks to people steeped in anguish – those "in the darkness," stuck in "the gloom." His advice? "Share your bread with the hungry." His point: no matter how bleak our present state, the fact is, "you are the salt of the earth." In other words, despite crushing distress, we always have bread to bestow on the hungry. So, too, we are "the light of the world," and our "light shall break forth like the dawn" if we proact to "satisfy the afflicted." "Then light shall rise for you in the darkness"; our wounded "shall quickly be healed." Which is why we make our own St. Paul's stunning resolve "to know nothing except Jesus Christ crucified." For actively sharing in the misery of others is the sure way out of our own.

### St. Matthew Book Club



#### "Fiction with a Christian twist"

Now is a good time to join the group. On Wednesday, **February 22** we will gather to discuss *The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead; on Wednesday, **March 29** we will gather to discuss *Wheat that Springeth Green* by J. F. Powers. Meetings are held in the Parish Center, enter in the door across from the Rectory at 7 PM. Please register your interest at [stmatt2014@gmail.com](mailto:stmatt2014@gmail.com) or call the Parish Office at 610-828-0424.



We will be making changes to the landscape in front of the Church. Trees will be removed and replaced with other trees and shrubbery. This is necessary to illuminate the front of the Church.

# Religious Education

## CCD

### Confirmation Parent Meeting Monday January 30, 2017 6:30pm St. Matthew Church.

At least one parent must attend this meeting. Necessary information will be distributed for the reception of the sacrament, April 2, 2017 at 3pm. The following will be collected at the meeting:

1. CHOSEN SAINT NAME (one side of 3x 5 card)
2. HEIGHT IN FEET AND INCHES, CONSIDER SHOE/HEEL (other side of 3 x 5 card) cards will be made available at meeting.
3. LETTER TO SPONSOR FROM CANDIDATE. SEALED IN ENVELOPE WITH CANDIDATE AND SPONSOR NAME ON OUTSIDE.
4. LETTER TO FATHER HERON, NO ENVELOPE. SIGNED BY CANDIDATE (Instructions for the letters were in the first handout information)
5. SPONSOR ELIGIBILITY FORM/LETTER IF NECESSARY
6. FEE: \$80.00

**First Penance will be on March 13, 2017 at 6:30PM**

**First Holy Communion will be on Saturday, April 29, 2017 at 11AM**

**Confirmation will be on Sunday, April 2, 2017 at 3PM**



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.

#### **ALTAR SERVERS:**

Are you 10 years old or older? Do you want to help in the parish? Join the St. Matthew's Altar Servers. If you are interested email [stmatthewrectory@verizon.net](mailto:stmatthewrectory@verizon.net).



#### **Valentines Babysitting**

Looking to enjoy a couple's night? Sign up your children (ages 3-10) for free babysitting at the Parish Center **on Saturday, Feb. 11<sup>th</sup> 5-9 PM**, organized by the St. Matt's Young Adults Group. (\$10 donation requested for pizza, snacks, and drinks.) Interested in helping? All volunteers from the Parish welcome. To register or volunteer, email [elyseeasson@gmail.com](mailto:elyseeasson@gmail.com).



**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 **Wednesday, February 15 at 7PM in the SVDP Rm.** 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. 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.

**Casino Trips:** scheduled for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month: **February 14 & March 14.** Bus leaves 9:00 AM from 11<sup>th</sup> & Fayette, 9:15 AM from 3rd & Fayette, 9:30 AM from St. Mary's. Call Joe (610-825-4596).



#### **St. Matthew's Young Adult Group**

**The Mustard Seeds:** Are you age 22-35 and interested in meeting other Catholics your age? Do you yearn for more community? Are you interested in service work? If you have any questions, email Tony Moral [tony.moral2@gmail.com](mailto:tony.moral2@gmail.com) or 215-715-2115. Join our Facebook group The Mustard Seeds

for updates!



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

February meeting will take place on **February 15**, in the Parish Community Center at **12:30pm**. We will have a short business meeting, lunch (\$5). **Membership dues (\$10) will be collected for 2017. ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND!**

#### **9th Annual Archdiocesan Men's Spirituality Conference - March 4**

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN FOR **MAN UP PHILLY 2017!** On **Saturday, March 4, 2017** at St Joseph University Hagan Arena, Catholic men are invited to the 9th Annual Archdiocesan Men's Spirituality Conference. Speakers include EWTN's Dr. Marcellino D'Ambrosio, inspirational speaker and Kevin Reilly, former Philadelphia Eagle whose career was ended by a rare cancer. Acclaimed Irish tenor, Mark Forrest, will sing during Eucharistic Adoration. Register now at [manupphilly.com](http://manupphilly.com).

#### **Physical Therapy Education Event**

Jim Fagnani and his team from The Physical Therapy & Wellness Institute will join us in the Holy Saviour Church Hall at 407 E. Main St. in Norristown on **Thursday, February 9, 2017 at 1:00PM** to discuss **ways to maintain a healthy heart** in time for Valentine's Day. This event is for adults of all ages and is free. Contact Jennifer Rose at (610) 270-2821 or email at [jrose@chs-adphila.org](mailto:jrose@chs-adphila.org) to reserve your seat.

# God's Plan for Giving

January 22, 2017

WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL FOR YOUR OFFERTORY GIFTS LAST WEEKEND:

**\$12,437.00**

Electronic giving \$2,010 + \$10,427 = \$12,437.00



**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)



## Super Bowl Hoagie Sale:

Conshohocken Knights of Columbus Council #1603 is having a hoagie sale on **Saturday, February 4 and Sunday, February 5**. The cost is \$6.50 per hoagie. Order forms are in the back of the church. **Please pre-order your hoagies this weekend leave your order form in the back of the church.** You can pick up the hoagies after all the Masses on Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> make sure you pick up after the requested Mass on your order form. All proceeds will benefit St. Vincent de Paul and Colonial Food Cupboard.



**The Conshohocken Art League**, Mary Wood Park House, 120 E. Fifth Ave. Conshohocken, is forming its 2017

semester of classes as follows:

ADULT DRAWING PAINTING INDEPENDENT

PROJECTS: Tuesday, **February 7**, 9:30 to 11:30 AM

ADULT BASIC DRAWING: Thursday, February 9, 9:30

to 11:30 AM - \$150 for 10 weeks plus \$10 yearly

membership fee

YOUTH CLASS – INTRODUCTION TO FINE ART

Ages 9 to 18 (class size limited) - Saturday **February 4**,

10 AM to 12 noon - \$100 for 10 weeks

For all classes, please pre-register at

[conshohockenartleague.org](http://conshohockenartleague.org)

You are invited to attend a presentation by artist Stanley

Bielen on Sunday, **February 19** at the Mary Wood Park

House from 1 to 3 PM. Snow date will be **February 26**.



**All are invited to Ostatki: A Polish Mardi Gras Celebration** to support St. Mary Polish American Society at the TK Club at 500 East Hector Street in Conshohocken on **Sunday**

**February 26th** from Noon to 6 pm. St. Mary Polish American Society is a non-profit organization working to promote Polish heritage and culture in and around Montgomery County, PA. This event will feature Polka music from the Naturalistix Polka Band, Polish food, a full cash bar, a 50/50 drawing, a basket raffle, and baked goods for sale. Tickets are \$10 advance sales, \$15 day of event. Tickets include the price of admission, with food not included. Advance tickets are on sale until Tuesday February 14th. We are also taking advance orders for pączki (Polish doughnuts) and frozen pierogi. For tickets, pączki, and pierogi pre-orders, please email [stmaryconshy@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryconshy@gmail.com) or call Dorothy Swedkowski at [610-630-0861](tel:610-630-0861).

## Charismatic Mass

St. Paul's charismatic prayer group will be having a mass on February 15, 2017 at 11am in St. Paul's Convent chapel located at 353 East Johnson Highway, East Norriton, PA. The celebrant will be Father Edward Hamilton.

## MOM Heart of the Home Day of Renewal March 18

Registration is OPEN for our 23rd Annual MOM-Heart of the Home Day of Renewal

March 18, 2017 • 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Sts. Simon and Jude Meehan Center, West Chester. Calling moms of all ages and types: new moms, seasoned moms, grandmothers, step-mothers. Even if you're not a mom, you are still welcome! Continue your Lenten season by replenishing your spirit. Come listen to two amazing, inspirational morning and afternoon speakers Lisa Mladinich and Eleanor Farzetta. See our registration form for all details at [www.mom-heartofthehome.org/events.html](http://www.mom-heartofthehome.org/events.html) or call 484-798-7368 or 610-384-4933 for more information.



**Merion Mercy Academy:** We welcome all seventh grade students, both girls and boys, to take the practice High School Placement Test at Merion Mercy on Saturday, February 25, 2017 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Parents

are offered a school tour at 9:15 a.m. on the test day. The cost is \$40 and includes lunch for students. For more information and to register, please visit our website at [www.merion-mercy.com](http://www.merion-mercy.com) and click on the link for the practice test, listed on the homepage.

## Busy Young Men's Retreat



The Malvern Retreat House is again conducting a 24 hour retreat experience for men 40 years old and under. It will be held **Friday and Saturday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>**, beginning Friday evening and

closing with the 4:30 PM Vigil mass on Saturday. Retreat directors will be Monsignor Joseph T Marino, Rector of the retreat house and Bill Donahee, a layman who has worked in the field of evangelization since 1999. In October, 2000, he was commissioned, along with 11 other lay missionaries, by Pope St. John Paul II to "bring Jesus back to your country." He has given hundreds of talks on the Catholic faith to young people throughout the greater Philadelphia area and beyond. He and his wife, Rebecca, live just outside of Philadelphia PA with their four children. The focus of the retreat will be *Encountering the Divine Physician*. The cost of the retreat is \$125, which includes three meals and an overnight stay. To register, please visit [malvernretreat.com/register](http://malvernretreat.com/register) or call 610 – 644 – 0400.



**Save the Date  
Ladies' Bingo**

Friday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>

Doors open at 6pm - Bingo begins at 7pm  
Holy Rosary Regional Catholic School  
3040 Walton Road  
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462

# Fr. Tom Heron's Weekly Reflection

Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13 Psalm 146 I Corinthians 1:26-31  
Matthew 5:1-12

“The people who sit in darkness have seen a great Light.” We hear these words in St. Matthew’s Gospel. The evangelist was speaking of Jesus, our Light and our Salvation, Who came to be for us, young and old, the Light who would lead us through the many darknesses of this world to the brightness of life in heaven.

Today we begin Catholic Schools Week. We celebrate and proudly proclaim the value of a Catholic education where students and teachers can actually mention God in the classroom and pray in the name of Jesus Christ.

Catholic schools play an essential role in the life of the Church and in the life of our country.

Many years ago, in 1925 to be exact, Bruce Barton wrote a book entitled *The Man Nobody Knows*. It became a best seller and sold 750,000 copies. The book was about Jesus, the Man Barton felt nobody really knows.

His point was valid then and is still valid today. Sure, we all know a lot about Jesus, more than our forebearers knew in 1925, but do we really know Jesus?

This was a question that led our 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century Bishops, Priests, Religious Sisters, and, above all, our parents and grandparents to come up with the bold vision of establishing Catholic schools in parishes. It was for these schools that the immigrant people made the enormous sacrifices that built the school system in the hope that in the Catholic schools their children would find comfort and light in the darkness of a hostile culture. The success of this vision is evident for all to see. Catholics in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries brought the light of Christ into the workplace and families nurtured vocations to the Priesthood and Religious life. Catholics were gradually welcomed into the mainstream of American life.

Today, however, change is taking place. There are challenges external to our Catholic schools that we must face—demographic shifts, the changing role of religion in the lives of American Catholics, the increasing options for parents’ educational choices for their children.

Catholic schooling is grounded in the belief that parents are the primary educators of their children. The awesome responsibility of parents is to strive to make their children not just students and scholars, but saints. An authentically Catholic school assists parents in their charge to prepare children for life on earth as well as life in heaven. Nothing can be more important!

A few years ago I met with a college student who was baptized, raised a Catholic, and educated in Catholic schools. He now felt lost in life, searching for answers. So I

asked him if he ever read the teachings of Jesus. He remembered teachers who taught him about Jesus but he never was encouraged by his parents or his teachers to read the entire New Testament to find out not what preachers or teachers said about Jesus, but what Jesus Himself actually said about life, faith, sin, death and life after death.

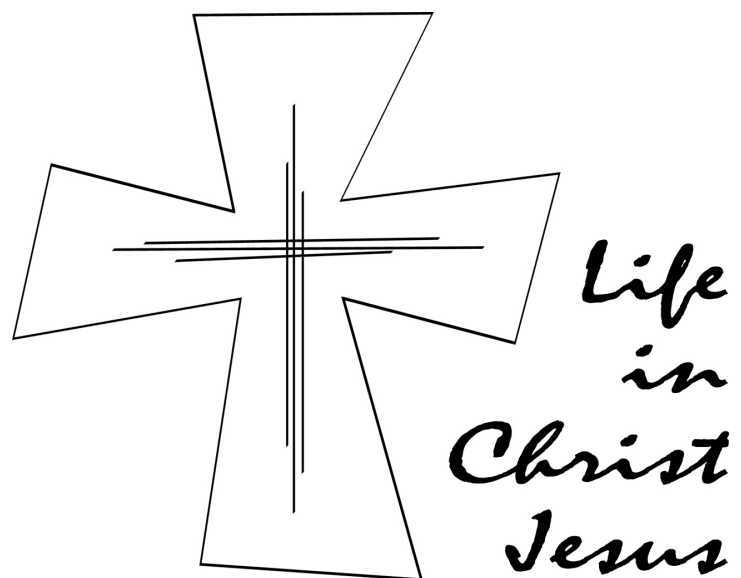
This young student is just one of many today who, in the midst of the secularizing pressures of modern life, find the stirrings of spiritual restlessness, signs of a dawning realization of the emptiness of worldly success.

All of us, as committed Catholics, are engaged in a cultural war today. Christian values are on the decline and we all have to make the sacrifices necessary to ensure that the Catholic faith survives and is strong in an increasingly secular world.

Today we salute those parents who make the sacrifice of time and money to provide a religious education in the faith. We salute the teachers and administrators who dedicate themselves to this most noble profession of bringing light to the minds of children whether that be in the field of history, literature, science, or math—but, above all, in the knowledge of all that God has done for us in His Son, Jesus.

I am convinced that if children do not learn the basics of their Catholic faith at the elementary school level, they will be part of a generation whose faith will be weak. They will no longer be a light to the dark corners of our society but will, almost by a process of osmosis, mix secular values with Gospel values and in the end we will all live in a state of confusion. Catholic schools, then, are the responsibility of the entire Catholic community.

We salute today our Catholic schools and our teachers who dedicate themselves to this most important task of bringing light to our children. We pray that teachers and parents will show their children the face of Christ and that working as a team they will continue to touch and enrich our children’s lives.



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