



# MASS INTENTIONS

## 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time February 5, 2017

### 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.

### Monday, February 6

8:15AM Bernie Murray III

### Tuesday, February 7

8:15AM Bill & Sandy Garbacz

### Wednesday, February 8

8:15AM Robert Neumedorff

### Thursday, February 9

8:15AM Thomas M. Coyne

### Friday, February 10

8:15AM Theresa Forsythe

### Saturday, February 11

4:30PM Anthony Capolingua

### Sunday, February 12

7:30AM Charles J. Lare

9:30AM Michael Cabibbo

11:30AM Andrew Donovan

*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, 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, Joanne Kalacinski, Mary DiMedio, Anna Marie Ferrier, Mary Stoffel, Jeri McClennen, John Boccella, Jim Bokoski, Hans Pawling, Margie Burghart, Jack Susskind, Kristen Lafferty, Debbie Miller Hannon, Barbara Laranko, Robert Berk, Irene Barnes, Anna Marie Berry, Emma Forlini, Paul & Family, Edward Clinton, Barbara Clement, John DiDonato, Derek Dean, Baby Noah Marchetti, Richard Wolfrom, James Simpson, Roseann Sirianni Lare, Theresa Steinhauser, Angelo D'Orazio



**Thomas J. Waszena, Rosanne Piergrossi & Margaret "Peggy" Storti**

### 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

2/4 4:30 Fr. McGuinn  
 2/5 7:30 Msgr. Owens 9:30 Fr. Ryan 11:30 Fr. Heron  
 2/11 4:30 Fr. Ryan  
 2/12 7:30 Fr. McGuinn 9:30 Fr. Heron 11:30 Msgr. Owens  
 2/18 4:30 Msgr. Owens  
 2/19 7:30 Fr. Heron 9:30 Fr. Ryan 11:30 Fr. McGuinn  
 2/25 4:30 Fr. Heron  
 2/26 7:30 Fr. Ryan 9:30 Msgr. Owens 11:30 Fr. McGuinn



**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

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

How God loves our freedom! As if singing a hymn, he says through Sirach: "If you choose you can keep the commandments. If you trust in God, you too shall live. To whichever you choose fire or water, stretch forth your hand!" This is the righteousness that "surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees." "God's wisdom mysterious, hidden" has revealed it to us. "Whoever obeys and teaches these commandments will be called greatest in the kingdom of heaven." We long to be counted among them, even to the point of tearing out our right eye, cutting off our right hand. For heaven must be rife with one-eyed, one-armed Saints who reconciled with offending brothers and sisters... who refused to let lust master them. We stretch forth our one remaining hand to the fire of the Holy Spirit, to the water of our baptism, letting our Yes means Yes.



# LENT

### SAVE THE DATE

**Wednesday March 22,  
2017, 6:30 PM in the St**

### Matthew Parish Center.

St. Matthew Parish will be having a Lenten Prayer Service and Poor Person Dinner. Please come and join us. Your free will offering for the dinner will be donated to the needy.

# Religious Education

## CCD/PREP Updates

February dates to remember:

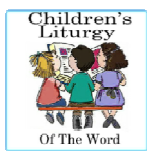
Feb 5, 12, 26 regular Sunday morning classes are held. **Feb. 19 there is NO CCD CLASS!**

Sacrament Parent Meeting for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist on February 27 at 6:30 St. Matthews church.

**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).



### 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 [stmat2014@gmail.com](mailto:stmat2014@gmail.com) or call the Parish Office at 610-828-0424.



**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)

# VALENTINE'S DAY

**RENEWAL OF VOWS:** As part of our Valentine tradition we will have "renewal of vows," at all the Masses on February 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>.

**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).



## YOUNG ADULTS

Join St. Matthew's Conshohocken Young Adult group focused on social, spiritual, and service. Upcoming events include:

**Feb. 11** Valentine's Day Babysitting 5 PM St. Matthew's Parish Hall

**Feb. 19** Post Mass Brunch 12:30 PM at Guppy's

**Feb. 21** Cradles to Crayons and El Limon 6 PM

To sign up for these events and more please join the St. Matthew Conshohocken Young Adult Facebook group.

If you have any questions, please contact Tony Moral at [tony.moral2@gmail.com](mailto:tony.moral2@gmail.com) or Erin Garrett at [erin.garret@gmail.com](mailto:erin.garret@gmail.com).



**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). **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.

**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).

**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.

# God's Plan for Giving

January 29, 2017

WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL FOR YOUR OFFERTORY  
GIFTS LAST WEEKEND:

**\$14,355.00**

Electronic giving \$1,911.00 + \$12,444.00 = \$14,355.00

**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection February 18 & 19 Care of the Aging  
and Infirm Priests of the Archdiocese.**



**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)



**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).



**Ladies' Bingo: Friday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> - Doors open at 6pm - Bingo begins at 7pm** Holy Rosary Regional Catholic School 3040

Walton Rd, Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462

**The Conshohocken Art League**, Mary Wood Park House, 120 E.



Fifth Ave. Conshohocken, is forming its 2017 semester of classes: 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

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 26<sup>th</sup>** 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 14<sup>th</sup>. 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.

## REFLECTIONS FROM MY ROCKING CHAIR

*A Bride Married to Amazement*

*"... When it's over, I want to say all my life  
I was a bride married to amazement,  
I was the bridegroom, taking the world into my arms.*

*When it's over, I don't want to wonder  
If I have made of my life something particular, and real.*

*I don't want to find myself sighing and frightened,  
Or full of argument.  
I don't want to end up simply having visited this world."*  
Mary Oliver

*I stand with Mary Oliver in being amazed at the mystery of the incarnation. It sets apart Christianity from the other major religions of the world. There is sometimes confusion between the respect we owe people of all faiths – preserving in this country the free exercise of religion. Respecting all religious traditions does not mean that all religions are the same, or have the same worth. Christianity proclaims an intimate relationship between God and humanity that is, the person of Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of Man. It is the finer revelation of God. No other faith weaves in a single fabric the human with the divine. The kingdom of God is already present and demands a just society as a prelude to the kingdom of heaven.*

*While other sincere religious traditions shed some light on life's purpose, truth in its fullness abides in Christianity, especially in Catholicism. This is not arrogance, or some excuse for bigotry, nor is it an argument for proclaiming the United States as a "Christian nation". We are a nation founded by men and women who were mostly Christian and we have struggled not to exclude others who journey to our shores – as our ancestors did – with backgrounds different than our own.*

*Buddhism has some notion of meditation and the moral life with little sense of a personal God. Hinduism, and its principle of reincarnation, supports a social structure that validates the rich and pacifies the poor (the untouchables), who should be content with their state in life as a prelude to the next life, hopefully, and advancement to a more perfect state. Islam, founded by the prophet Mohammed in the 7<sup>th</sup> century AD, stopped short of embracing that union of God and man in the person of Jesus. This is a difficult time for Muslims who are wrongly identified with the terrorists that have distorted their faith. We must be careful not to be bigoted. (Were all Irish Catholics members of the violent IRA? Were they violent because they were Catholics?)*

*As we seek to secure our country – as best we can – from the threat posed by terrorists, let us not succumb to that temptation to be inward looking at the expense of our participation in the human family, all created by God, that knows no borders. As Mary Oliver suggests, don't just settle for having passed through this life. Take a stand and make a difference so that others might be "married to amazement".*



*When next I write I'll offer some direction  
that comes to us as Roman Catholics from  
Pope Francis and the United States  
Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). Go  
to those places yourself on the Internet. Why  
wait for me? Blessings, Monsignor Owens*

[\(stmat2014@gmail.com\)](mailto:stmat2014@gmail.com)

## 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 5<sup>th</sup> 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!*

*Charles Dickens' A Tale of Two Cities begins: "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times."*

*Perhaps these words describe the economic boom of the 1990s that the United States enjoyed. As you know, many Americans suddenly got rich on the stock market and the number of millionaires in the country soared. For them it was indeed the best of times.*

*Social studies showed that the bottom 20 percent of the population did not share in that prosperity and the gap between the very rich and the very poor widened. For the poor, mere observers of and not participants in the economic boom, it was the worst of times because they felt excluded.*

*One of the major themes of the Bible – both in the Old Testament and the New Testament – is the suffering of the poor. The choice of the Sunday scripture readings deliberately reflects this theme. Biblical passages about the poor were not written to make us unhappy but to make us uncomfortable. A Christian cannot be totally happy with an abundance of goods knowing about those who are deprived of the basic necessities of life – food, clothing, shelter.*

*Since concern for the poor is a major biblical theme, Jesus, as expected, makes it His own dominant message. Nothing arouses the anger of Jesus as much as injustices that increase the suffering of the poor. Jesus' choice of metaphors to describe His disciples leaves no doubt that He wants His followers to have an impact on society.*

*In today's Gospel Jesus tells us that we are the salt of the earth. Yet salt gets a bad rap in our health-conscious society because of its association with heart problems. But in the time*

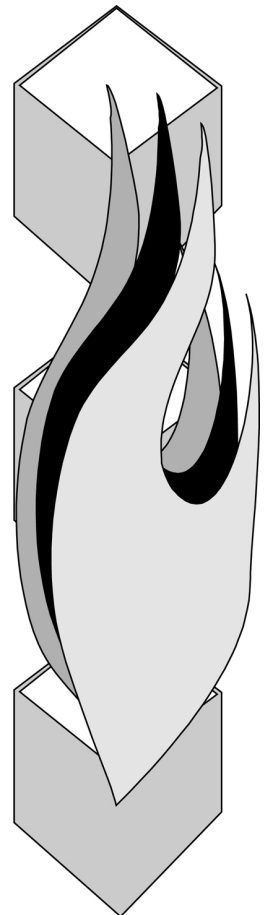
*of Jesus, when refrigeration was unheard of, salt was an important factor as a preservative. Laborers were often paid with a number of portions of salt, from which practice we get the term "salary." Likewise, while electricity has made it possible for us to turn day into night, light sources were of a meager kind in Jesus' time. A shining light caught people's attention and made them sit up and take notice. We are to be the light of the world.*

*The message that Jesus wants to bring to the world's attention is the message of Isaiah in today's first reading: "Share your bread with the hungry, shelter the oppressed and the homeless. ... Then light shall rise for you in the darkness, and the gloom shall become for you like midday."*

*Jesus said it succinctly, "we are the salt and the light of the world." Salt spices the dull and melts the frozen. Salt causes us to be thirsty. Hopefully, thirsty for truth, peace, justice, holiness. Light illuminates the darkness. May we be like Saint Paul, resolved to share the crucified Christ, always anticipating a share in His resurrection.*

# Salt of the earth

# Light of the world



END OF BULLETIN