

3rd Sunday of Lent

March 19, 2017

Saturday, March 18

4:30PM Joseph Romano
Thomas J. Waszena

Sunday, March 19

7:30AM Mary Garbacz
9:30AM Theresa McGrath
11:30AM Lorraine G. Sirianni

Monday, March 20

8:15AM Ann Marino

Tuesday, March 21

8:15AM Bob Knox
Margaret Munley

Wednesday, March 22

8:15AM Margo Volpe

Thursday, March 23

8:15AM John Donnelly

Friday, March 24

8:15AM Anthony Capolingua

Saturday, March 25

4:30PM Florence & Francis Bowe
Cecelia Lare

Sunday, March 26

7:30AM Martin Clifford
9:30AM Harry Connor
Robert Leister
11:30AM Margaret McKeon

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 Blaszczak, Patrick Kelly, Sean McGonagle, Mary Pierce, Brian Dunlevy, Sr. Jean Streibig, Stephanie Hathaway, Charles Streibig, Kylie Reiff, Nikki Dolan, Joseph Rozecki, 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, Kristen Lafferty, Debbie Miller Hannon, Barbara Laranko, Robert Berk, Irene Barnes, Emma Forlini, Paul & Family, Edward Clinton, Barbara Clement, John DiDonato, Derek Dean, Baby Noah Marchetti, Richard Wolfrom, James Simpson, Roseann Sirianni Lare, Theresa Steinhauser, John Palmer, Rachel Minnick

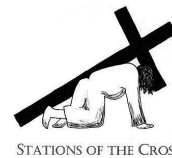


Jack Susskind

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 108th Wing McGuire AFB, Petty Officer George Horning Jr., 1st Lt. Stanley J. Reimer III, SR Brett Pellicciotti, Corporal Thomas Mazzochetti, Robert Catapano U.S. Army 101st Airborne, Michael Bondra, Senior Airman Jacob Shoemaker, Master Sgt. Curt W. Zeiders III.



CELEBRANTS MASS SCHEDULE	
3/18 4:30	Msgr. Owens
3/19 7:30	Fr. McGuinn 9:30 Fr. Ryan 11:30 Fr. Heron
3/25 4:30	Fr. McGuinn
3/26 7:30	Fr. Heron 9:30 Fr. Ryan 11:30 Msgr. Owens



Stations of the Cross are every Friday during Lent at 7PM in Church.

holy week

Monday, April 10 – 7PM Penance Service
Holy Thursday, April 13 – 7PM Mass of the Lord's Supper
Good Friday, April 14 – 8:15AM Prayer Svc
Good Friday, April 14 – 3PM
Holy Saturday, April 15 – 8:15AM Prayer Svc
Holy Saturday, April 15 – 7PM Easter Vigil
Easter Sunday, April 16 – 7:30 – 9:30 - 11:30 AM

<p>Prepare for next Sunday 4th Sunday of Lent March 26, 2017 Sacred Scripture I Samuel 16:1, 6 – 7, 10-13 – Ephesians 5:8 - 14 – John 9:1 – 41</p> <p>When Jesus sees the blind man, he says, "While I am in the world, I am the light of the world. Once the blind man is healed, the people ask, "Isn't this the one who used to sit and beg?" They betray their own blindness: "Man sees the appearance but the Lord looks into the heart." The blind man answers using words that Christ uses of himself; he says, "I am." The light who is Christ produces a goodness in us by which we come to resemble Christ himself. We beg for the ability to look into the heart of each person we meet and to see reality the way God does.</p>
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Religious Education

CCD/PREP UDATES

Please continue to keep in your prayers the candidates, their families and sponsors of those preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation this April with Bishop Joseph F. Martino. We will confirm 68 disciples of the faith. In March we celebrated our heavenly Father's favorite daily miracle, his merciful forgiving love in the Sacrament of Reconciliation with 39 children of the parish. They will celebrate First Eucharist in April. So much grace! Keep these little ones and their families in your prayers as well.

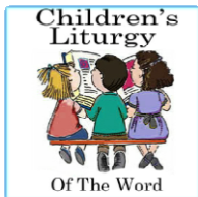
The Confirmation retreat will be held on Sunday, March 19 starting with 11:30 Mass until 3PM.



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 siblings.

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 interested email stmatthewrectory@verizon.net.



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 is April 4 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



St. Matthew Book Club: "Fiction with a Christian twist"

Now is a good time to join the group. 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 stlatt2014@gmail.com or call the Parish Office at 610-828-0424



LENTEN PRAYER SERVICE/POOR PERSON DINNER:



Wednesday March 22, 2017, 6:30 PM in St. Matthew Parish Center.

St. Matthew Parish will be having a Lenten Prayer Service and Poor Person Dinner, which consist of a bowl of soup, bread and a beverage. Please come and join us. Your free will offering for the dinner will be donated to the needy. Please **RSVP to Helene if you plan to attend at hclegg100@aol.com by March 15th.**

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, April 12 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



YOUNG ADULTS

Join St. Matthew's Conshohocken Young Adult group focused on providing fellowship through social, spiritual and service opportunities for those in their 20s and 30s and the young at heart. Upcoming events include:
Mar 19 Post Mass Brunch at TBD 12:30 PM (We will meet in the back of the church after 11:30 mass)
Mar 21 Trivia Night at Lucky Dog 7:30 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 or Erin Garrett at erin.garret@gmail.com.



ARE YOU BEING CALLED TO A DEEPER RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS? Often times our busy lives keep us from growing closer to our Lord. Prayerfully consider taking time

away from your hectic life to attend a Cursillo Weekend. Cursillo is a lay movement started in the Catholic Church over 50 years ago. Cursillo de Cristianidad means, 'little course' in Christianity. The weekend consists of a series of talks given by clergy and lay people, daily Mass, Adoration and time to just be still. If you are looking for something more...look at Cursillo. Weekends are held twice a year, one for women – **September 7-10, 2017, one for men – November 16-20, 2017.** To learn more about this opportunity contact Deacon Joe Carr at rosehigh1@comcast.net, Maria DiMarco at 484-888-5368.

PRE-CANA: St. Matthew Parish is offering a one day pre-Cana program on **Saturday, May 13, 2017** from 8:30am – 4 pm followed by Mass at 4:30PM. 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



God's Plan for Giving

March 12, 2017

WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL FOR YOUR OFFERTORY GIFTS LAST WEEKEND:

\$10,015.00

Electronic giving \$1,541.00 + \$8,474.00 = \$10,015.00



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



ST MATTHEW'S SENIORS will meet every third Wednesday of the month. April meeting will take place on **April 19**, 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 2nd Tuesday of each month: **April 11 & May 9**. Bus leaves 9:00 AM from 11th & Fayette, 9:15 AM from 3rd & Fayette, 9:30 AM from St. Mary's. Call Joe (610-825-4596).

Don't Give Up Chocolate for Lent

Join Dynamic Catholic for Best Lent Ever, a FREE email program designed to help you have a life-changing Lent. You will get short inspirational videos and practical tips from Ash Wednesday to Easter.



Sign up for FREE at: BestLentEver.com/Lent

THE CATHOLIC STANDARD & TIMES

Newspaper for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia

The Archdiocese is considering resuming a print publication containing local Church news that would come out every other week. The subscription rate would be \$40 to \$50 annually. If you think you would subscribe to a regular archdiocesan publication, please email the rectory to say you are interested in a print publication at stmatthewrectory@verizon.net

PASTA NIGHT:

Enjoy a night out without cooking! 5-8 PM on Saturday, **April 1, 2017** at Holy Rosary Regional Catholic School, 3040 Walton Road. Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462. Tickets: \$12 for adults, \$10 for kids 4-11, and kids under 3 free! For more information/tickets contact: Patsy Morrone @ [610.659.2300](tel:610.659.2300). Menu includes pasta,



meatballs, salad, rolls, soda/water/tea/coffee, and dessert. B.Y.O.B. Also sponsoring a 50-50 and basket raffles. Sponsored by Holy Rosary Regional Class of 2017.

On February 21, 2017 the Parish Pastoral and Finance Councils voted unanimously to renew our request for the relevation of St. Mary's church. Both councils emphasized the need of having all parishioners worship at St. Matthew's to enhance unity and help parishioners focus on the future of the parish community. The relevation will provide more effectively for the pastoral needs of the faithful, assure the vitality of parish life, provide for a better stewardship of resources and optimum use of clergy, and lay personnel. Fr. Heron, the Parish Pastoral and Finance Councils welcome your input and comments.

FULL TIME CHILDCARE ASSISTANT: Conshohocken Catholic Early Childhood Center is seeking full time caregivers for infants and toddlers in our newly formed Daycare center. Experience caring for infants and/or toddlers is required. Previous daycare experience is preferred. Candidate must be loving, nurturing, and possess good leadership skills. For more information call Carol Kearney at 610-825-4823 or email cceccdaycare@gmail.com

FULL TIME PRESCHOOL AIDE: Conshohocken Catholic Early Childhood Center is seeking an energetic classroom aide for our PreK Program. Candidate must have previous experience working with young children. Associate Degree or Bachelor's Degree in Education is preferred. For more information call Michelle Borkowski at 610-828-0755.

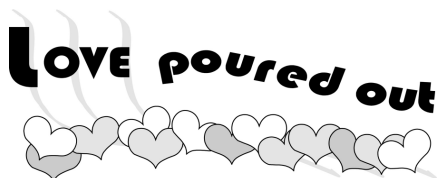
SHORT TERM MATH TEACHER: Gwynedd Mercy Academy High School, an independent, all-girls Catholic college preparatory school sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy, has an opening for a short-term substitute position in mathematics from April 24 – June 9, 2017. Courses to be taught are Algebra 2, Intermediate Algebra, and Honors Calculus. Qualified applicants with teaching experience and a degree in mathematics are asked to submit their resume and PA clearances to Cindy DeCandido at careers@gmahs.org by **March 24, 2017**.

Intellectual Disabilities and Autism Help-Line: Do you need help accessing services and supports for someone with an intellectual disability or Autism? Through a collaborative effort of Catholic Social Services Developmental Programs, the Archdiocesan Office for Persons with Disabilities, and the Archdiocesan Schools of Special Education, this help-line can assist families and caregivers to connect to services and programs provided by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, as well as other community resources available to provide needed help and support. **To reach the Help-Line call: 484-472-5041** or email: IDDhelp@chs-adphila.org.

The Annual Archdiocesan Mass Honoring the Gifts of Persons with Disabilities, The Deaf Community, Family, Friends and Caregivers is Saturday, April 1, 2017 at 10:30 a.m. at the Cathedral Basilica of SS. Peter and Paul at 18th & Parkway. Archbishop Charles J. Chaput, will be the principal celebrant and homilist. There will be a light reception immediately following the Mass. All are Welcome. To RSVP go to www.opdarchphilly.org, or call the Office for Persons with Disabilities at 215-587-3530.

Fr. Tom Heron's Weekly Reflection

Today's Gospel begins with Jesus' request: "Give Me a drink." Millions of thirsty, parched and dying people are saying these same words every day. Jesus once said, "And I promise you that whoever gives a cup of cold water to one of these lowly ones because he is a disciple will not want for his reward." (Matt 10:42)

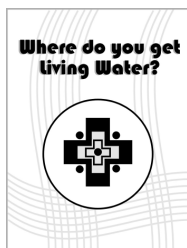


If the people of our first reading had lived in our time, they probably would not have had to grumble against Moses in their thirst for water. If Moses had lived in our day and age, he probably would not have had to strike the rock to have water flow from it for the people to drink. If today's Gospel story had happened today, Jesus would not have had to ask the Samaritan woman, "Give Me a drink."

Why not? Because now we seem to have found a simple solution for this need for a handy supply of drinking water, namely, the ever-present bottle that accompanies so many people wherever they go.

Students bring their water bottles to sip during class. The teacher has a water bottle on the podium for a quick gulp during a lecture or discussion. Hikers, bikers, and joggers carry their supply of water. Outdoor and indoor workers are never far from their personal water bottle that seems to have replaced the traditional water cooler. The water bottle has become as ubiquitous as a wallet and car keys.

The water in these bottles, moreover, is no ordinary, run-out-of-the-faucet liquid. This bottled water is natural spring water – fresh, pure, cool, and bubbly. This natural spring water comes under a variety of brand names. Walk through a supermarket and you will see shelf after shelf of these brand name bottles.



The children of Israel were out in the wilderness. They were thirsty and they were afraid. And they murmured against Moses: "Why did you bring us out of Egypt – to kill us and our children and our cattle with thirst?" It must be a terrible feeling to worry about dying from thirst. It is a reminder to us how vital water is in our lives. Of course, in our affluent culture, we can afford to pay a premium price, not just for drinkable water, but for specially bottled water.

REFLECTIONS FROM MY ROCKING CHAIR

Dear friends,

The Lenten season is a good time to prepare ourselves for the reception of the Sacrament of Penance. Like all the other sacraments it is an outward sign of Christ's desire to forgive and to restore us to the beauty of a graceful life. It is the ordinary means for the forgiveness of mortal (serious) sin. The Eucharist itself is the forgiveness of venial sin. The Catechism of the Catholic Church, #1393 states that "Holy Communion separates us from sin". Regular reception of Holy Communion offers protection from future sin. We are fortified to be Christ-like and peaceful. Serious (mortal) sin necessitates the Sacrament of Penance to repair our relationship with God. It is a good and wholesome thing that we are required to face our misdeeds, stand in lines of penitent parishioners, and share our most private failings not only with God but with the priests in the confessional. Remember the axiom: confession is good for the soul. Such an experience fosters humility and allows us to understand "in outward sign" that God surely loves me when serious sin tempts me to self-loathing and hopelessness.

By seeking absolution from a priest, we affirm and respect the gift that Jesus gave us in conveying the powers of absolution to his apostles. "Since Christ entrusted to his apostles the ministry of reconciliation, bishops who are their successors, and priests, the bishop's collaborators, continue to exercise this ministry. By virtue of the sacrament of Holy Orders, bishops and priests have the power to forgive all sins 'in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit'" (CCC 1461).

Even for venial sins, a regular reception of reconciliation is recommended. We can run the risk of falling victim to tepidity (having a lukewarm faith). You can begin to convince yourself that little things don't matter or telling yourself, "that's just the way I am." God expects a more honest assessment of oneself. Patterns of venial sin are not "the way you are" but rather what you are becoming. We were created to be more than average. Some people, I think, simply stop coming because they find themselves saying the same thing over and over again. You wouldn't stop taking showers because you're only going to get dirty later anyway.

About the sacrament of penance I'm reminded of the story of Michelangelo who every day went into his studio to confront the great block of marble. Each day a little boy sits in the corner of the studio and each day he sees more and more of the beautiful statue of David. When he swings his hammer for the last time and steps back to consider the finished work, the little boy says to him, "how did you know that that man was in there?" In the Sacrament of Penance God's grace is fashioning us into the beautiful form that he intends us to be.

Go to confession! Enjoy the spiritual springtime. It makes for a happy



Easter.
Blessings, Monsignor Tom Owens

END OF BULLETIN