

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

April 9, 2017

Saturday, April 8

4:30PM Joseph Pliszka (6th Anniversary)

Sunday, April 9

7:30AM Michael & Anna Brown

9:30AM Ann & Sam Minnick

11:30AM Richard Alexy

Monday, April 10

8:15AM Special Intention

Tuesday, April 11

8:15AM Karen Purcell

Wednesday, April 12

8:15AM Helen & Joseph Schank

Thursday, April 13 Holy Thursday

8:15AM **NO 8:15 AM MASS**

7:00PM Dorothy Heron

Samantha McKenna

Friday, April 14 Good Friday

8:15AM Prayer Service

3:00PM Good Friday Service

Saturday, April 15 Easter Vigil

8:15AM Prayer Service

7:00PM For Parishioners of St. Matthew Parish

Sunday, April 16

7:30AM William Tidd (10th Anniversary)

9:30AM Michael Cabibbo

11:30AM Dec'd members of the Agnes Donovan Family



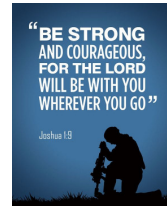
Tom Tone, David Talone, JoAnn LaSorsa, Marie Carney, Greg Atkinson, Sophie Grabowski, Msgr. Robert Grudowski, Anthony Bonanno, Joanne Toth, Theresa Lenczewski, Luke Birkhead, Erik Kozlowski, Marlene Salkowski, Roselie Partenheimer, John Walski, Carl Reiff, Joseph Blaszczyk, Patrick Kelly, Sean McGonagle, Mary Pierce, Brian Dunlevy, Sr. Jean Streibig, Stephanie Hathaway, Charles Streibig, Kylie Reiff, Nikki Dolan, Joseph Rozecki, 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, 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, Barbara Clement, John DiDonato, Derek Dean, Baby Noah Marchetti, Richard Wolfrom, James Simpson, Roseann Sirianni Lare, Theresa Steinhauer, John Palmer, Rachel Minnick, Ted McGonagle, Ed McGlinchey, Mark Hogan, Gregory Mazzochetti



Return to God

Dorothy & Edward Pierce
Patricia Hawk

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

4/8 4:30 Fr. Ryan

4/9 7:30 Msgr. Owens 9:30 Fr. Heron 11:30 Fr. McGuinn

4/15 7:00 PM Easter Vigil – Fr. Heron

4/16 7:30 Fr. McGuinn 9:30 Fr. Ryan 11:30 Msgr. Owens

4/22 4:30 Fr. Ryan

4/23 7:30 Msgr. Owens 9:30 Fr. Heron 11:30 Fr. McGuinn

4/29 4:30 Fr. McGuinn

4/30 7:30 Fr. Ryan 9:30 Fr. Heron 11:30 Msgr. Owens



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

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

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

Prepare for Holy Thursday

Exodus 12:1 – 8, 11 – 14, Corinthians 11:23 – 26, John 13:1 – 15

"When the Lord of the world comes and undertakes the slave's task of foot washing – which is an illustration of the way he washes our feet all through our lives – we have a totally different picture. The mystery of the greatness of God is seen precisely in the fact that he can be small." (Pope Benedict)

Prepare for Good Friday

Isaiah 52:13 – 53:12, Hebrews 4:14 – 16; 5:7 – 9, John 18:1 – 19:4
Christian faith holds Jesus to be the Christ: as the crucified criminal this Jesus is the Christ, the King. His crucifixion is his coronation; his coronation or kingship is his surrender of himself to men and women. He always already is what he says." (Pope Benedict)

Prepare for Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday

Acts of the Apostles 10:34, 37 – 43, Colossians 3:1 – 4, John 20:1 – 9
Faith in the Resurrection of Jesus says that there is a future for every human being; the cry for unending life which is a part of the person is indeed answered. God exists: that is the real message of Easter. Anyone who even begins to grasp what this means also knows what it means to be redeemed." (Pope Benedict)

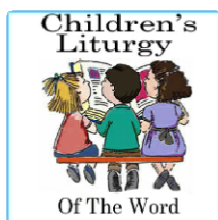
Religious Education

CCD/PREP DATES

Please continue to keep in your prayers the candidates of those preparing for the Sacraments. We confirmed 68 disciples of the faith in April. 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.



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



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.

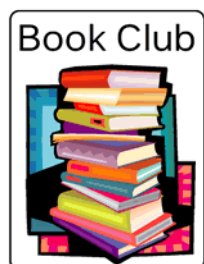
ALTAR SERVERS: Are you 10 years old or older? Do you want to help in the parish? Join the St. Matthew's Altar Servers. If interested email stmatthewrectory@verizon.net.



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 May 2 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"

Msr. Owens will publish the next set of dates after the Wednesday meeting. Next week these dates and books will be published in the church bulletin.

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 or call the Parish Office at 610-828-0424.

The Parish Center will be closed on Easter Sunday, April 16 and Easter Monday, April 17. Thank you.



Blessing of Easter Food: Please call the rectory at 610-828-0424 press 4 or email Helene at hcllegg100@aol.com if you would like to have your Easter Food blessed by the priests or deacons of the parish on Holy Saturday.

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



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. To sign up for 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 and one for men. To learn more about this opportunity contact Deacon Joe Carr at rosehigh1@comcast.net, Maria DiMarco at 484-888-5368.

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



CEMETERY: All Palm, Easter decorations and flowers will be removed from the cemetery grounds beginning **May 1st through May 5th**. Thank you.

God's Plan for Giving

April 2, 2017

WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL FOR YOUR OFFERTORY GIFTS LAST WEEKEND:

\$14,526.00

Electronic giving \$1,671.00 + \$12,855.00 = \$14,526.00



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: **May 9 & June 13**. 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).

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.

Young Adult Video Competition

Young adults (ages 18-25) are invited to create and submit a short video about communicating hope and trust on social media. (See the promotional video at <https://vimeo.com/198348230>) Award-winning videos will be celebrated at the John Cardinal Foley Symposium for the World Day of Social Communications, which takes place at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary on **May 24, 2017**. For details about the competition and the symposium, go to <http://www.scs.edu/cardinal-foley-symposium>



Month of May

In honor of Mary we will say the Rosary and have Benediction **every Monday evening in the month of May** at 6:30PM with Deacon Joe Carr. Please join us!

2018 Mass Book: The 2018 Mass Book will open on Wednesday, **April 26th**. For your convenience, there are Mass Intention forms in the back of church on the tables. Follow the instructions on the form and place in the collection basket. You can also email your request to stmatthewrectory@verizon.net or 610-828-0424 X4.



We will honor all your requests or the date closest to your request as we receive them. We hope you will take advantage of using the forms in Church and email. This will make it a lot easier for people who have a hard time getting to the Parish Center.

Wedding Anniversary Mass – May 6, 2017

Are you celebrating a special anniversary this year? The annual Archdiocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass will take place on Saturday, **May 6, 2017**, 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** at www.phillycatholiclife.org or call: 215-587-0500

Parish Mission with Msgr. Eduardo Chavez Sanchez

Join us for a powerful mission in either English or Spanish by Msgr. Eduardo Chavez Sanchez from the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City. The theme will be "Do Whatever He Tells You" **April 25, 26, 27 2017- 7:00** English - 8:00pm Spanish; Saint Anthony of Padua, 259 Forest Ave, Ambler, PA, More info: saintanthonyparish.org

Annual Feast Day Mass for Saint Gianna Beretta Molla:

Join us as we honor St. Gianna Molla at the Shrine of Saint Gianna on **Friday, April 28, 2017!** 6:30 p.m. Rosary recitation, followed by Feast Day Mass at 7 p.m. After mass, veneration of Saint Gianna's first-class and second-class relics by all; ending with fellowship and light refreshments in the Church Hall. Nativity of Our Lord Parish, 625 West Street Road, Warminster, PA.

Intellectual Disabilities and Autism Help-Line: Do you need help accessing services and supports for someone with an intellectual disability or Autism? A collaboration of Catholic Social Services-Developmental Programs, The Office for Persons with Disabilities and the Schools of Special Education of the Archdiocese is offering this convenient help-line to assist families connect to disabilities services provided by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. To reach the Help-Line call: 484-472-5041 or email: IDDhelp@chs-adphila.org.

Fr. Tom Heron's Weekly Reflection

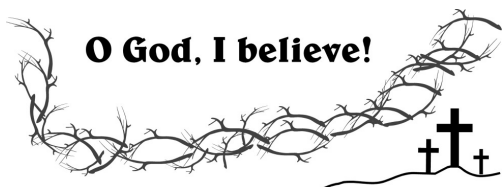
We call this week "holy." It is a week of striking contrasts between the many weaknesses of man and the mighty strengths of God. Divine love transforms any and all of our weaknesses, whether it be fear, violence, rejection, jealousy, injustice, betrayal, abandonment, greed - arguing over money. Loyalty and friendship gives way to denial which turns into tears and, finally, into conversion. The innocent Son of God endures ridicule, humiliation, hatred, suffering and a violent death in order to free us from our sinful patterns of living.

We celebrate this week we call holy with modest earthly things: palm, fire, water, bread, wine, a cross, foot-washing. How frail! Inept, almost, are the signs we use to express all the yearning that is in us. How needy our lives and our world! They are an expression, indeed, of both the tragedy and the glory of our human condition. How we all need the healing hope of Easter!

We are called to listen and remember again the story of Jesus' passionate love for us. We are called to come alive in a new birth as we celebrate the mystery of divine faithfulness, forgiveness and generosity.

May the grace of the feast, which healed even death in the Lord's Body, heal us all within and without. "Let Him Easter in us."

The Passion accounts, which bracket Palm Sunday and Good Friday and culminate in the resurrection proclamation, are invitations to engagement and contemplation. Holy Week engages the whole community in bodily movement. People solemnly process on Palm Sunday, have their feet washed on Holy Thursday, move silently and reverently to venerate the cross on Good Friday and walk behind lighted candles at the Easter Vigil. A people on the move through history is caught up, flesh and spirit, in the unfolding drama of the cross and resurrection.



O God, I believe!

Reflections from my Rocking Chair

There has always been in the United States, expressed in the First Amendment to the Constitution, a healthy interaction between religious principles and the civil law: the state should not establish any particular religion, nor should she prevent the free exercise of religion by its adherents. In fact, however, some religious tenets found a place in the larger culture. The feast of Easter gives us an example of that dynamic. Consider: why does the Easter Bunny bring Easter eggs since bunny rabbits do not lay eggs? Without looking down at the rest of this column do you know the answer? Why is there a custom - or at least why was there a custom - of buying an Easter outfit? Why is it called Easter? If you do know the answer to these questions, don't bother reading the rest of this column. If you don't know, pay close attention because as the culture becomes more increasingly distant from Christian practice, the meaning of these symbols may completely detach from their original sense.

Even though the Easter Bunny and the Easter egg are not a natural pair in the created order, they do have one thing in common. Bunny rabbits multiply quickly and, hence, are seen as a symbol for life. The chick emerging from the eggshell, with some degree of imagination, reminds us of Jesus breaking out of the tomb, again a symbol for life. And the Easter outfit, usually brightly colored, reminds us of the "new man" (or woman) remade by the grace of the Risen Christ who in His Resurrection conquers sin. It is called Easter because the sun rises in the east offering us a visible representation of Christ rising from the tomb, overwhelming the darkness. And in my own mind, (since I've never read this anywhere) and, candy is the favorite food of Easter because it is sweet and oh so sweet is Jesus risen from the dead showing us our true self - living in the here and now and bound for heaven. Given the above you might think that Easter is celebrated in the springtime because nature is giving birth to many beautiful flowers and fruits. Where does that leave the southern hemisphere that is greeting the onset of winter? In fact, we owe our Jewish heritage the credit for the springtime since Easter is celebrated in conjunction with the Passover. Southern hemisphere Catholics are celebrating Easter as nature moves towards winter. I think we got the better portion.

Parents and grandparents, priests, deacons, and catechists are charged with passing on the tradition. Teach your children well. They will not have as many reinforcements in the culture regarding religious faith as we older Catholics enjoyed. Let the Easter message brighten your holiday: "Why are you looking for the living one among the dead? He is not here. He has been raised."

With warm regards, Msgr. Tom Owens

END OF BULLETIN