

# Mass Intentions for the Week



## 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time July 16, 2017

### Saturday, July 15

4:30PM Mary Agnes O'Donnell  
Maureen Herninko

### Sunday, July 16

7:30AM Martin Brady  
9:30AM Intentions of Louis Matregrano  
11:30AM Adam Pagliaro

### Monday, July 17

8:15AM Martha Jane Major

### Tuesday, July 18

8:15AM Elizabeth L. Bowe

### Wednesday, July 19

8:15AM Martin Brady

### Thursday, July 20

8:15AM John R. Kopecky

### Friday, July 21

8:15AM Edward Pilcicki

### Saturday, July 22

4:30PM Andrew Donovan

### Sunday, July 23

7:30AM Eugene Alphonsus McGonagle  
9:30AM John Rossi  
11:30AM William J. Donovan Jr. (3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary)



Tom Tone, David Talone, JoAnn LaSorsa, Marie Carney, Greg Atkinson, Msgr. Robert Grudowski, Anthony Bonanno, Joanne Toth, Theresa Lenczewski, Luke Birkhead, Erik Kozlowski, Marlene Salkowski, Rosalie 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, Eduardo Gloria, Molly Glick, Deb Smith, Ann Campbell, Francina Capolingua, Cathy Pierlott, Lynn Bowman, James Gauger, Emilia Bello Jones, Rita VanBuskirk, Caroline Smerecki, Joan Pierce, Kevin Miller, Rylan Borys, Susan Minnick, Ann Greco, Jessica Jara, 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, Robert Berk, Emma Forlini, Paul & Family, Derek Dean, Baby Noah Marchetti, James Simpson, Roseann Sirianni Lare, Theresa Steinhauer, John Palmer, Rachel Minnick, Mark Hogan, Gregory Mazzochetti, Teresa Sensinger, Theresa Rozecki, Minnie Olearsky, Kimberly Moyer, Sal Spera.



Fr. Daniel Devine

### PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY: Staff

Sgt Daniel Furtak, Lt. Michelle R. McNally, SSKC Terence J. McNally Jr., Sgt. Robert Bonneau, Andrew Midgett, Lt. Col Evah McGinley, The 108<sup>th</sup> 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 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne, Michael Bondra, Senior Airman Jacob Shoemaker, Master Sgt. Curt W. Zeiders III, Edward Sobek

### CELEBRANTS MASS SCHEDULE

7/15 4:30 Fr. McKeaney  
7/16 7:30 Fr. McKeaney 9:30 Msgr. Owens 11:30 Fr. Heron  
7/22 4:30 Msgr. Owens  
7/23 7:30 Fr. Heron 9:30 Fr. Ryan 11:30 Fr. McKeaney  
7/29 4:30 Fr. Ryan  
7/30 7:30 Fr. Cooke 9:30 Fr. McKeaney 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 August 1 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

16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 23, 2017 Sacred Scripture

Wisdom 12:13, 16 – 19 Romans 8:26 – 27 Matthew 13:24 – 43

Christ's parables today make this common point: God in his providence will use even the apparent evil that attends us in life to some perfecting purpose; out of our littleness, our emptiness, our nothingness God's greatness will flower in an astonishing way. "The Spirit comes to the aid of our weakness." We can cave-in to our wickedness out of despair ... or we can pray with faith, "Power, whenever you will, attends you."

### ST. MATTHEW STUDENTS EXCEL:

Our parish recently received notification of the performance of our high school students. We are particularly proud of those who demonstrated academic excellence.

#### Mount St. Joseph Academy:

First Honors: **Lillian Kennedy**

Second Honors: **Ainsley Morasco**

**Kathleen Timerlake**

**Congratulations to all of our students!**



St. Matthew Parish is offering a one day pre-Cana program on **Saturday, October 21, 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](mailto:deacon.mike.kubiak@comcast.net)



**PREP/CCD REGISTRATION FOR 2017-2018.** Now is the time for parents to plan for next year. Please take a few minutes to register your children online for religious education classes. Fees will remain the same.

One child \$110.00 Two children \$165.00 Three or more children \$195.00  
Classes are offered Sunday Mornings between masses. Classes are held in the Parish Center 10:25-11:25 am.



**Archdiocese of Philadelphia  
Policy for Place of the Celebration  
First Penance and First Holy  
Communion**

The Parish Church is the proper place for the celebration of First Penance and

First Holy Communion in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Therefore, Candidates for First Penance and First Holy Communion are to receive these sacraments in their own parish. This policy includes but is not limited to candidates who attend:

- A parish, regional, consolidated, neighboring or independent mission Catholic school
- A parish religious education program (which includes parishioners who have been granted permission for home-based catechesis)
- A neighboring religious education program

If there is a compelling reason to consider an exception the parents or guardians are to present in writing to their pastor the reason for requesting an exception for their child. This request should include where and when it is proposed that the child receive the Sacrament (s) in question. That pastor, after giving serious consideration to the request, responds to the parents. If permission is granted then the pastor of the home parish must express his permission in writing to the pastor where the Sacrament(s) is/are to be celebrated. Upon the reception of the Sacrament (s) notification of this fact is to be sent to the home parish of the child.

**Those families whose students attend Catholic Regional Elementary Schools and are candidates for First Sacraments are asked to please call Ms. Mary Kay at the Parish Center. 610- 828-0424 ext. 6.**

**Announcing a wonderful opportunity** to get involved...Enriching the lives of our young children.

**TEACH, AIDE, VOLUNTEER FOR PREP/CCD  
St. Matthew Religious Education Program**

We are in need of a few **male** role models as catechists and or aides in the classroom. Please contact: Mary Kay McKenna at the Parish Office 610-828-0424 or email [mckennamaryk@gmail.com](mailto:mckennamaryk@gmail.com).

**YOUTH GROUP:** Please register online for Parish Youth Ministry. All 7th, 8th, 9th graders are welcome. Group will meet once a month in the evening. Day and Time TBA. No fee.



*A heartfelt thank you to Kathy and Lou Hegyes for beautifying the flower boxes in front of the Rectory and the urns in front of the Church. Thank you for your time and artistic talent. Great job!*

**LITURGY OF THE WORD FOR CHILDREN:**



**WILL "GO ON VACATION" FOR JULY & AUGUST.** It will return to the 9:30 Mass in September. Enjoy the leisure of summer.



**ALTAR SERVERS:** Are you 10 years old or older? Do you want to help in the parish? Join the St. Matthew's Altar Servers. Training will begin after 9:30 Mass on Sunday. E-mail [stmatthewrectory@verizon.net](mailto:stmatthewrectory@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: **August 8 & September 12.** 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).



**FOOD BANK NEEDS:**

Our parish food bank is in need of: Applesauce, Jars of Spaghetti Sauce. Donations can be placed in the vestibules of the church. Thanks!



**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 Tuesday, **August 8** 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](mailto:acaoc@verizon.net)



**YOUNG ADULTS**

St. Matthew's Conshohocken Young Adult group aims to provide 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](mailto:tony.moral2@gmail.com) or Erin Garrett at [erin.garret@gmail.com](mailto:erin.garret@gmail.com).



## God's Plan for Giving

July 9, 2017

**WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL FOR YOUR OFFERTORY GIFTS LAST WEEKEND:**  
**\$12,166.00**

Electronic giving \$2,010.00 + \$10,156.00 = \$12,166.00  
Campaign for Human Development: \$1,251.00



**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)

### Leaving a Legacy:

#### Remembering St. Matthew Parish in Your Will...

For many charitable giving is an act of faith, grounded in confidence in God's abundance and motivated by a desire to create additional resources for accomplishing God's work.

Leaving a legacy gift to St. Matthew Parish offers the opportunity to pass on not only your assets, but also the values that have guided your life.

Remembering St. Matthew Parish in your estate planning is a wonderful way to put your values into action, ensuring that our parish is maintained for future generations, as a center of worship and devotion as your personal legacy.

To remember St. Matthew Parish in your will, you may contact your attorney or financial advisor for assistance in making a bequest, or you may simply include the following in your will:

"I give, devise and bequeath to St. Matthew Parish (the sum of \_\_\_\_\_) or (\_\_\_\_\_% of rest residue and remainder of my estate) or (\_\_\_\_ shares of \_\_\_\_\_). Or all my right, title and interest in the following described property \_\_\_\_\_."

Please feel free to contact Deacon Mike Kubiak at his office 610-828-0424 X5 or via email at [deacon.mike.kubiak@comcast.net](mailto:deacon.mike.kubiak@comcast.net) if we can provide you with further information or assistance.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration and continued Support of St. Matthew Parish.

### 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](mailto: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.



### SUFFERING FROM ADDICTION:

Join us in a Mass for those suffering from addiction. All are invited. Reaching out to our veterans.

St. Ann Roman Catholic Church, 502 Main St., Phoenixville, PA 19460 on Saturday, September 9, 2017 at 11:00 AM the Celebrant is Fr. John Newns, Pastor  
Addiction has touched far too many families and taken far too many of our loved ones. Join us that we may draw strength from one another in the power of our faith.

***I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.***  
Philippians 4:13

### Reboot Life! With Chris Stefanick – Save the Date!

St. Philip Neri in Lafayette Hill, PA is pleased to announce that internationally-renowned Catholic family man, speaker and author, Chris Stefanick and his life-changing event, Reboot Live!, will be held this **October 5th, 2017** from 7PM to 9:30 PM in the parish church located on 437 Ridge Pike in Lafayette Hill. Reboot Live! is the fun, inspiring and practical experience for all (ages 12 and up) of applying the beauty and genius of the Gospel to every aspect of your life, from prayer and spirituality, to work, dating, marriage, parenting, health and more! Tickets are \$20. Register today at [www.reallifecatholic.com/reboot](http://www.reallifecatholic.com/reboot). (Look for October 5th and St. Philip Neri to purchase online.)



### Director of Music job opportunity:

Merion Mercy Academy, an independent, all girls Catholic High School sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy, seeks a dynamic and energetic Director of Music to lead, develop and manage an established, reputable music program for both instrumental and vocal students. The successful candidate, in addition to having a passion for the performing arts, should have a music education background or at least five years of experience with high school students. Responsibilities include teaching music majors, assuming extracurricular work with singing and instrumental groups, and supervising other music teachers. Candidates should submit electronically a letter of intent, resume, a copy of all transcripts, and clearances to Mary Ann Danovich, Assistant Head for Academic Affairs ([madanovich@merion-mercy.com](mailto:madanovich@merion-mercy.com)). Interviews will be scheduled immediately with the intent that the position is filled by **August 11, 2017**

### St. Lucy Parish Anniversary Celebration



Saint Lucy Parish, Manayunk, if it were still open, would be celebrating its 90th anniversary this year. In thanksgiving for the many blessings God has continued to bestow on this community of faith, a celebration will be held on **Sunday, October 22, 2017**. A Solemn Mass of Thanksgiving will be celebrated at 3:00 P.M. at Holy Saviour Church, Norristown, PA. A dinner will follow Mass at 5:00 P.M. at the Presidential Caterers, East Norriton. Dinner is \$50 per person, cash bar. Checks may be sent Saint Timothy Church, c/o Father Michael Olivere, 3001 Levick Street, Philadelphia, PA 19149. Please make checks payable to Saint Timothy Church. Any questions please call St. Timothy Rectory at 215.624.6188.

## Fr. Tom Heron's Weekly Reflection



The parable was simple enough! Jesus always spoke in language ordinary folks could understand. Why then was there so much confusion over what He said? Let's look back to our own experience to try to understand some of the frustration Jesus must surely have felt when He taught the people of His Kingdom.

Have you ever tried to talk to someone who will not listen? For example, you telephone a friend and you know by their distracted voice and wandering attention that the noise in the background is the TV, claiming half their concentration. Have you ever asked someone how they were only to switch off before they begin to tell you? Distracted. Have you ever shut your eyes and ears to the things we do not want to trouble us? Do we refuse to listen to an explanation in case we have to change our mind and give or accept an apology? Jesus speaks to each of us today. He is the sower. He asks us what kind of soil we are.

Here is a remarkable story. A young man made an application to the Seminary. He received a glowing recommendation from his pastor, but the Seminary authorities noticed there was no college transcript. The authorities called the college to inquire and were told no such name or records existed. The Seminary authorities called the applicant. He confessed that he had taken his parents' money but only audited the classes. He had been simply an observer for his entire college career. He wanted an identity as a college graduate without any of the hard work or sacrifice. What kind of soil are we when it comes to listening to God's Word? Do we simply "audit" our faith life? Do we want to be known as a Christian but at the same time are unwilling to put up with any sacrifice involved, pretending to be what we are not? Do we have lazy minds, drifting along unthinkingly, rather than giving serious thought to the kind of life we are living. Mental laziness is a social disease of epidemic proportions that has spread throughout our world.

What kind of soil are we? Each of us in turn has the grave responsibility to try to be open and receptive soil. Every day we meet "sowers" who can offer us unique seeds. We must treat them with warmth, understanding and respect. Most of all, we must strive to be receptive soil for the Word of God. At each Mass Jesus, Himself, is the sower. The harvest depends on us. Jesus offers a catalog of symptoms of spiritual deafness. There is a busyness about our lives. We keep God at arm's length. He is in our house but we are not home. If our lives are lived superficially, God is only an acquaintance but not a friend. Our relationship with Jesus has no roots and, therefore, is on rocky ground. We can easily allow every day cares and anxieties to suffocate us and imprison us and we can succumb to apathy and cynicism and use both as a mask to keep us "protected." Finally we can procrastinate: 'not now Lord, I'm not ready.' This is a subtle form of selfishness whereby everyone, including God, must fit into my schedule. Finally, we can become mere spectators in life watching others struggle to be disciples of the Lord.

There is a difference between a farmer sowing seed and Jesus sowing His Word. Nature does not give seeds a choice about where they are planted. A plant will suffer malnutrition if it happens to fall onto rocky soil. It will be bruised and broken by a passerby if it falls on the road. A plant does not have the ability to move to a more favorable spot. Unlike plants, we can make choices that affect our spiritual growth. We have the power to choose whether we will allow the weeds of worldly concerns to choke off the Word of God. Jesus today invites us to choose to root ourselves as deeply as possible in the Word of God, in the faith we have received.

## Reflections From My Rocking Chair

Dear friends,

We have been asked to circulate excerpts of a talk given at the National Convocation of Catholic Leaders by Archbishop Chaput entitled "The Questions We Face".

Back in the year 2000, the Harvard scholar Robert Putnam wrote a book called "Bowling Alone: The Collapse and Revival of American Community." It was a huge bestseller. In his text, Putnam argued that over the last six decades, Americans had become more and more isolated from each other. We've also become more and more disconnected from our families, friends, churches and neighbors. As a result, he said, America's social fabric is unraveling. We have plenty of material success, but more and more of us struggle with anxiety, frustration and loneliness. It was a bleak portrait of American life. So bleak that in 2003 Putnam wrote another book, a sequel called "Better Together: Restoring the American Community," with a lot of good ideas about how to fix our problems. Clearly too few of us listened because in 2017 – 14 years later – we are still a people with deep feelings of isolation and division and our politics are a perfect snapshot of our resentments and confusion.

How did we get to where we are? From the start, our country has been a mixed marriage of biblical and enlightenment thought. Our moral roots are Protestant. Meaning that in the mind of America's founders, each of us has a unique personal dignity. That dignity cannot be lost or taken away. It is guaranteed by an authority higher than the state. In other words, it is guaranteed by our Creator.

The individual human person is the building block of American political thought. As a result, Americans have always put a heavy emphasis on the importance of individual conscience, individual rights and individual responsibility. These are very good things. Together they form a tripod that supports our shared public life with a high degree of personal freedom and opportunity.

If we take away any one of those legs from the tripod, the whole structure starts to collapse. If a Creator does not exist, or if people stop believing in a God who takes an active interest in human affairs, the purpose and duties that define us as human beings become confused.

A common belief in the God of the Bible shaped our national conscience and sense of responsibility for 200 years. Even when we sinned as a nation through racism or wrongful wars, we could not escape the judgment of that commonly held moral framework. As the religious faith of Americans weakens, two of the commonly shared legs of the tripod begins to fracture – i.e., conscience and responsibility. Our sense of individual rights becomes exaggerated. It gets mixed up with our personal appetites. Obviously, a great deal of good remains in our country.

Democracy has many great strengths but it also tends to ensure the rights of the individual by separating individuals from each other. By its nature, and without the glue of commonly held religious beliefs and purpose, simple democracy gradually breaks down the bonds that obligate people to one another – including even the bonds of church communities and families. As St. Augustine said so long ago, our hearts will always be restless until they rest in God. So my question for all of us is what practical things can we do for and with each other as Christians to rebuild a sense of community in our parishes, our dioceses and in our nation? Pray for the chief Shepherd of our flock in Philadelphia.

Blessings, Monsignor Owens ([Stmatt2014@gmail.com](mailto:Stmatt2014@gmail.com))

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