



MASS
INTENTIONS



Lorraine E. Pezzano

Staff Sgt Daniel Furtak, Lt. Michelle R. McNally, SSKC Terence J. McNally Jr., Sgt. Robert Bonneau, Andrew Midgett, 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, Edward Sobeck, 2nd Lt. Ryan D'Ambrosio, 2nd Lt. Eraina D'Ambrosio.*

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time July 23, 2017

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. (3rd Anniversary)

Monday, July 24

8:15AM Ethel & Silvia Forlini & Family

Tuesday, July 25

8:15AM Joanne Schank Beeler
Audrey DeFrancesco

Wednesday, July 26

8:15AM Andrew J. Donovan IV

Thursday, July 27

8:15AM Henry Kuczynski

Friday, July 28

8:15AM Helen Kozak

Saturday, July 29

4:30PM Margaret Daywalt
Margaret Storti

Sunday, July 30

7:30AM Caroline Carroll

9:30AM Vince Ruggiero

11:30AM Sr. Antoinette Bosak IHM



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, Roselie Partenheimer, John Walski, Carl Reiff, Joseph Blaszcak, 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, Veronica Lilick

CELEBRANTS MASS SCHEDULE

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 1st 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



Prepare for next Sunday

Scripture I Kings 3: 5, 7 – 12 Romans 8:28 – 30
Matthew 13:44 – 52

God says to Solomon, "Ask something of me and I will give it to you." The Lord was pleased Solomon asked for an understanding heart instead of a long life or riches. The desire of Solomon is what sets apart the merchant who risks his whole livelihood to buy what he judges to be the "pearl of great price." He risks everything in pursuit of an "understanding heart", for it is Christ himself he finds there.



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

Interested in actively participating in the Sunday Liturgy? Consider becoming a lector who proclaims the Scripture Readings at Mass. Contact Mary Kay 610-828-0424 x 6.

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.

Roman Catholic High School:

First Honors: **Cole Francis Wittman**



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.

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.

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.



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 or Erin Garrett at erin.garret@gmail.com.

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: **August 8 & September 12.** 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).



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



Walking with Purpose is a Catholic women's bible study that meets once a week to discuss Scripture as it relates to our everyday lives. This Fall, at St. Matthews Parish in Conshohocken, we will be studying the women of the bible using the WWP "Discovering Your Dignity" workbook. If you want to learn more about WWP, please join us on **Wednesday, September 6th at 6:30 PM.** Please contact Judy Kukowski at 610-331-2147 or JAKukowski@verizon.net with questions and for meeting details.

God's Plan for Giving

July 16, 2017

WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL FOR YOUR OFFERTORY GIFTS LAST WEEKEND:

\$10,726.00

Electronic giving \$1,156.00 + \$9,570.00 = \$10,726.00



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

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 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

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 610-828-0755.

The disciples asked,
"Teacher, where do you live?"

Jesus answered,
"Come and see."

Are you considering
Becoming a Catholic?

Or, were you once baptized into the
Catholic Church but have not received the
Sacrament of Confirmation

We are presently gathering a group of people interested in full communion with the Church as described above. The formal title of this program is Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). We will begin our gatherings on the last Monday of September at 6:30 PM in the new Parish Center (using the entrance nearest the front door of the Rectory). To indicate your interest, please call the Rectory office and leave your name and phone number or contact us at Stmatt2014@gmail.com. Catholicism is a wonderful life lived close to Jesus and his Sacraments and comforted by the charity of its members, one for another – and even toward the stranger.

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 Saint Timothy Rectory at 215.624.6188.



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.

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. (Look for October 5th and St. Philip Neri to purchase online.)

Fr. Tom Heron's Weekly Reflection

Do you find that it bothers you that sometimes evil people seem to prosper and come out on top, becoming rich and famous, while virtuous people may be ridiculed and have a hard time in life? If it does trouble you, if it makes you doubt God's justice, look carefully at this Gospel again. Jesus says most emphatically that there will be a time of judgment when sinners who have not repented and reformed will be punished. Jesus's imagery is powerful. He says the **weeds will be tied in bundles for burning**. Later to His disciples He further elaborates that **all who cause others to sin and all evildoers will be thrown into the fiery furnace where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth**. God is lenient, as we heard, in giving sinners time to repent, but if they fail to do so the eventual punishment is quite hard. Leniency and mercy must not be confused with or mistaken for laxity or indifference to evil. Jesus concludes His explanation of this parable to His disciples with the rousing cry, **"Whoever has ears ought to hear."**

The picture Jesus paints for us of the Son of Man sending His angel to snatch away the evil ones from among the good is not much in vogue in our day. But it was quite prominent in medieval Christianity where many murals, frescoes, paintings and mosaics, some covering the whole facades of great cathedrals, depicted in vivid detail the so-called "Last Judgment." On one side angels were shown assisting the good to rise to glory, while on the other side hideous demons were dragging the wicked down to terrifying punishments. Churches and the art in and on them were like catechisms for the often illiterate faithful of those times. The reminder of the judgment to come and the only two possibilities thereafter was a constant theme then.

Our little passage from St. Paul's Letter to the Romans tells us that even those who are very weak spiritually can count on the help of the Holy Spirit to free them or save them from sin. In a remarkable turn of phrase, Paul says that when we do not know how to pray as we ought, the Spirit intercedes for us as is God's will.

Today, let us draw on God's leniency that gives us the time and grace to repent if necessary. And if we are not in need ourselves, let us encourage others to repent so that after the day of judgment, having to avoid the fiery furnace, we may all shine, as Jesus says, like the sun, the warm sun of summer.



Reflections from my rocking chair

Dear friends,

The history of the Catholic Church in the United States can be told from various perspectives: from the theology of the first (d.1871) and second (d.1965) Vatican Councils, from the constitutional issues surrounding the separation of church and state, from the great waves of immigrants entering the country beginning in the late 19th century even until the present day, from the lives of prominent Catholic clerics and from the ministry of great lay men and women of faith.

In the weeks ahead I will feature brief summaries of the contributions made by fifteen noteworthy figures: Archbishop John Carroll, Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Archbishop John Hughes, Orestes Brownson, Father Isaac Hecker, Father Michael McGivney, James Cardinal Gibbons, St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, Al Smith, Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop Fulton Sheen, John F. Kennedy, Dorothy Day, Father John Courtney Murray and Flannery O'Connor. Only two are canonized Saints, six are archbishops, three are priests, four are women of which two are vowed religious. They represent different time periods in American church history but share a common purpose, fostering the growth in holiness of the Catholic Church in the United States. An expanded biography of these men and women is found in *Catholics in America* by Russell Shaw.

In most Catholic churches two flags are prominently displayed; the flag of the United States and that of the Vatican City. Their presence together inside the church (though not permitted in the sanctuary) suggests a careful yes to this question, "Can you be a good Catholic and a good American?" One need not be in conflict with the other, however, we are first of all "citizens of heaven".

In the first half of the twentieth century the American Catholic Church devoted much of its energy in assisting its immigrant members in their desire to be good American citizens. To be assimilated into the American culture was considered a good thing. Sadly, this is not the case today. Secular culture is often inhospitable to Catholic beliefs and values. Recent public opinion polls indicate that many Catholics are no different from their fellow citizens in regard to issues contrary to church teaching. In these matters assimilation into the culture is a detriment to growth in the Christian faith. Abortion and same-sex marriage are two examples of this tendency. There is, however, a faithful remnant of believing, practicing Catholics who are increasingly alienated from secular society. The temptation for these folks is simply to criticize and remain apart from the great debates on important issues. Our biblical faith gives witness to a prophetic tradition. The prophets of the Old Testament were very vocal in challenging the larger community to a greater righteousness. The climax, of course, is the life and teaching of Jesus Christ who immersed himself in the culture of his day calling all of us to place love where love is not.

The recently deceased Archbishop of Chicago, Francis Cardinal George, wrote in his diocesan newspaper, "Throughout history, when Catholics and other believers in revealed religion have been forced to choose between being taught by God or instructed by politicians, professors, editors of major newspapers and entertainers, many have opted to go along with the powers to be. It takes no moral courage to conform to government and social pressure. It takes a deep faith to "swim against the tide". The stories these fifteen women and men offer us is food for thought as to how to be both a faithful citizen and, first of all, a citizen of heaven.

Blessings, Monsignor Tom Owens (Stmatt2014@gmail.com)

End of Bulletin