

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 4, 2018

Saturday, February 3

8:15AM St. Matthew Parishioners
4:30PM James Graham
Garry Cohen

Sunday, February 4

7:30AM Rev. James E. McVeigh
9:30AM William Friel
11:30AM Michael, Tony & William A. Moore Jr.
Angelo R. Bello

Monday, February 5

8:15AM Mary Vesey

Tuesday, February 6

8:15AM Jim & Rose Watson

Wednesday, February 7

8:15AM Vincent Pastorius

Thursday, February 8

8:15AM Thomas M. Coyne

Friday, February 9

8:15AM Helen Addis

Saturday, February 10

4:30PM Catherine DeFusco
Megan Mikalonis

Sunday, February 11

7:30AM Michael & Mary Sojkowski
9:30AM Jack Cowley
11:30AM John Ondik
Dorisanne Falzone



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
Blaszczak, Patrick Kelly, Sean McGonagle, Mary Pierce, Brian Dunlevy,
Stephanie Hathaway, Charles Streibig, Kylie Reiff, 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, Jessica Jara, 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, Derek Dean, Baby Noah Marchetti, Roseann
Sirianni Lare, Theresa Steinhauer, Rachel Minnick, Mark Hogan,
Gregory Mazzochetti, Teresa Sensinger, Theresa Rozecki, Minnie
Olearsky, Sal Spera, Veronica Lilick, Jessie Bonkowski, Marlin
McCarthy, Angeline Williams, Grace McCracken, Joe Lipinski, David
Foults, David Smerecki Sr., A Blind Woman, Debbie Adams, Joe
Januzelli, Owen Reichner, Patty Tomczak, Bob Manning, Joe Spence,
Charles Gehringer, Tom Mattia, Walter J. Lasota Jr., Theresa Wagner



**Pray
for the
Military**

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, Lt. Col Jeffrey Matthew

CELEBRANTS MASS SCHEDULE

2/3 4:30 Fr. Ryan
2/4 7:30 Msgr. Owens 9:30 Fr. Ryan 11:30 Msgr. Ricci
2/10 4:30 Fr. Heron
2/11 7:30 Msgr. Ricci 9:30 Fr. Ryan 11:30 Msgr. Owens
2/17 4:30 Msgr. Owens
2/18 7:30 Fr. Ryan 9:30 Fr. Heron 11:30 Msgr. Ricci
2/24 4:30 Msgr. Ricci
2/25 7:30 Msgr. Owens 9:30 Fr. Ryan 11:30 Fr. Heron

A request from the Pastor

As Pastor, my primary responsibility is to help you grow as disciples of Jesus and to equip you to go and make disciples of others. I am excited to share with you that our parish is participating in a parish survey conducted by the Catholic Leadership Institute. The ***Disciple Maker Index (DMI) Survey*** allows parishioners to reflect on their own spiritual growth and faith life and identify the ways in which the parish effectively supports that growth. The web-based survey will be accessible online and in paper form from **Feb 5 to March 5, 2018**. At the completion of the survey, **our parish will receive an aggregate report of the results. We will NOT have access to individual survey responses.** This survey offers us a unique and important opportunity to learn about issues of importance to families in a confidential and professional manner. We will use these results to 1) look at opportunities to support parishioner growth in discipleship and 2) create goals and action plans to achieve that growth.

Once the survey link is open and the paper copies are available, I am encouraging you to respond as soon as you can. We hope to hear from as many people as possible. Your assistance is greatly appreciated and I thank you in advance for your help with this!

Gratefully,
Father Tom Heron

**GO
EAGLES**





Food Bank: Our food bank is in need of peanut butter, jelly, jars of applesauce, baked beans, tuna and canned fruit. Please leave items in the vestibules of the church.

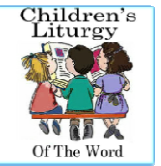


POOR MAN'S SUPPER:

We will have a Poor Man's Supper in our Parish Center on Wednesday, **February 21 at 6:30 pm.** A simple meal of soup and bread will be served. There is no cost – however, all those attending will be asked for a free will donation. Hoping you will join us for this annual Lenten event.



Youth Group News: The Youth Group will meet again on **Monday, February 5th, 2018 at 6:30pm** in the Parish Center to begin our plans for the Lenten Season. We are still getting a lot of positive feedback for performing a Living Stations this Easter Season, work will begin in February.



LITURGY OF THE WORD FOR CHILDREN is held every Sunday at the **9:30AM** Mass. All children (ages 3 – 9) 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. **10 year olds and up are encouraged to become altar servers.**



ALTAR SERVERS: Are you 10 years old or older? Do you want to help in the parish? Join the St. Matthew's Altar Servers. E-mail 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 February 6 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



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, **February 13** 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



St. Matthew Parish is offering a one day pre-Cana program on **Saturday, March 3, 2018** from 8:30am – 4 pm followed by Mass at 4:30PM. Cost \$200 per couple. Couples from all parishes are welcomed. Contact Helene at hlegg100@aol.com to register for the class.

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Pastoral Council will meet **Tuesday, February 20, at 7PM** in the Parish Center Conference Room.

2017 Annual Contributions Statements are available to request a statement please email stmatthewrectory@verizon.net or call 610-828-0424 X4.



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.

"The Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head" (Matthew 8:20) For many, the line between having their need for shelter met and being homeless is a thin one. Next Spring, the Young Adults of Saint Matthew plan to team up with Habitat for Humanity in a home build project in Bridgeport. There is no experience required, no minimum hours of building, no minimum monetary donation. If you are interested in joining the team, please reach out to Tony. The team is open to adults of all ages.

ST MATTHEW'S SENIORS will meet every *third Wednesday of the month.* February's meeting will take place on **February 21st**, in the Parish Community Center **at 12:30pm.** We will have a short business meeting and lunch (\$5). ***Also, Membership dues (\$10) will be collected for 2018. ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND!*** Any questions, please call Pat Hanna@ 610-272-3610 or Kitty McNally@ 610-825-9291.

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: **February 13 & March 13, 2018.** 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).



Super Bowl Hoagie Sale: Conshohocken Knights of Columbus Council #1603 is having a hoagie sale on **Saturday, February 3 and Sunday, February 4.** The cost is \$7.00 per hoagie. You can pick up the hoagies after all the Masses on Feb. 3 & 4 make sure you pick up after the requested Mass on your order form. All proceeds will benefit church restoration.

We are a Stewardship Parish

January 28, 2018

Collections

Offertory.....	\$9,316.00
E-Giving.....	\$1,995.00
R & D.....	\$725.00
Care of Aging.....	\$10.00
Catholic Relief.....	\$203.00
Ash Wednesday.....	\$30.00
Total.....	\$12,279.00

Thank you for your generosity!

Upcoming 2nd Collections:

Feb. 4-5 Catholic Charities - envelopes sent home

Feb. 14 - Ash Wednesday

Feb. 17-18 - Care of Aging Priests



ELECTRONIC GIVING: Parish Giving is convenient for you and there is **NO COST** for you to participate. To register

www.parishgiving.org or www.stmatthewparish.com



LEAVE A LIVING LEGACY...
PLEASE REMEMBER ST. MATTHEW PARISH IN YOUR WILL.

PARISH STATISTICS FROM 2017

During the past year. Our parish has grown in quality and quantity through the outpouring of Sacramental grace and our cooperation with the Holy Spirit. Here are the statistics for St. Matthew's for 2017:

New Families Registered: 196

Baptisms: 113

Weddings: 31

First Communions: 35

Confirmed: 68

Funerals: 82

There are other signs of the growth of our parish the many organizations, works of charity, social activities, including the Spaghetti Dinner and prayer life that abound. All these events give a broad picture of the vibrant life of our parish. May the Lord continue the good work He has begun in us!

MARDI GRAS & VALENTINE POLKA DANCE

All are invited to a Mardi Gras and Valentine's Polka Dance Party at the TK Club at 521 East Hector Street in Conshohocken on **Sunday February 11th** from Noon to 5 pm to support St. Mary Polish American Society. This event will feature live Polka music, delicious Polish food, a 50/50 drawing and other games of chance, a basket raffle, and baked goods for sale. Families are welcome, as there will be games for children with plenty of prizes! Admission is \$10 in advance and \$15 on the day of the event. Admission for children is \$7 each and free for children under the age of 6. For tickets, email stmaryconshy@gmail.com or call Dorothy Swedkowski at 610-630-0861.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE™
life is precious -defend it



40 Days for Life –February 14– March 25 Help Save Lives in Philadelphia! You can protect mothers and children by joining this worldwide mobilization! Through prayer and fasting, peaceful vigils and community outreach, 40 Days for Life has inspired 750,000 volunteers! With God's help, here are the proven results in 21 coordinated campaigns:

- 13,998 babies saved from abortion
- 170 abortion workers converted
- 90 abortion centers closed

ST. MATTHEW'S SCHEDULED DAY IS FEBRUARY 27TH 8AM – 5PM at Planned Parenthood – 12th & Locust Sts. – Philadelphia. Signup sheets are in back of Church. One hour of your help we can make this a successful campaign for St. Matthew Parish.

Young Adult Retreat: Young adults aged 22-35, single or married, are invited to take time to examine your relationship with God and others on the weekend of **Feb. 9-11** at the Marianist Family Retreat Center, Cape May Point, N.J. Cost is \$130 /person. Register at capemaymarianists.org or call (609)884-3829.



WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

Are you celebrating a special anniversary this year? The annual Archdiocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass will take place on **Saturday, April 28, 2018** at the Cathedral Basilica of SS. Peter and Paul at the 5:15 pm Vigil Mass with Archbishop Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M., Cap. 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** To register visit: www.phillycatholiclife.org or call: 215-587-0500

LENT: A Journey to Limitless Joy, An Evening with Fr John Bartunek:

On Saturday, **February 10th** at St. Katharine of Siena Church in Wayne, renowned speaker and author of *The Better Part*, Fr. John Bartunek will provide encouraging words designed to touch the hearts of men and women preparing for the season of Lent. The evening begins at 6:45 pm with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres; book signing and meet & greet in the Parish Center. At 8 pm Fr. Bartunek's talk will be held in the church. Register at: Lent.RCPhilly.com Cocktail reception space is limited. Please email PatellenCorr@gmail.com with questions.

FR. TOM HERON'S WEEKLY REFLECTION

The reading from the Book of Job strikes home to many people today. Job is tired of life. Nights drag on. During the day he is restless. What was the cause of all this? He had raised seven sons and three daughters. He had owned a large estate, 7,000 sheep, 3,000 camels, 500 yoke of oxen, and 500 work animals. And all this wealth vanished in the blink of an eye.

Many people at one time or another have felt as Job did. Nothing seems to be going right. You can't sleep. The days are unproductive. Peace and contentment appear out of reach. Job lost a lot – children, house, possessions, money. The worst loss of all, however, was hope. Job lost all hope in God. He challenged God. Job complained how unjust life is. Job became listless, uncaring, thinking only of self. He was trapped in a prison of his own making, consumed by anger and bitterness.

In contrast to this picture of Job, there is another picture represented by Saint Paul and Jesus. Saint Paul's Jewish world was collapsing because of the rise of Christianity. He was angry at what he saw happening. Jewish values, a Jewish way of life and culture, were being threatened by this new movement. Saint Paul's anger changed once he met the Risen Lord on the road to Damascus. Now he was moved to preach the Gospel with intensity. Life was exciting. His anger was transformed into zeal.

The image of Jesus is that He was a man on the move. His life was getting busier and busier. The more He preached and the more He cured people of their sicknesses, the more people there were who made demands on Him. From morning to night, people came to Him and demanded more of His time. Now, if we did all that much work, we probably would be tempted to call in sick the next day. Not Jesus! He got up early in the morning and went to an out of the way place to pray and to gather His strength for another day in the marketplace. There were certainly days when Jesus must have felt like throwing in the towel. People criticized Him, betrayed Him, misunderstood Him. What did He do? He prayed all the more.

What about us? When we look in the mirror what do we see? The image of Job? Or do we see the image of Saint Paul or Jesus? If, like Job, we turn in on ourselves, consumed by anger, bitterness, and laziness, we stay where we are with a weak faith and a nominal commitment to Jesus. But if challenged to live heroic lives for Jesus, we have the capability to grow and make something of ourselves and our lives.

All of us are in constant need of healing, whether it be physical, mental, emotional, social or spiritual. Job eventually met God, like Saint Paul did. Both became transformed men. You and I meet Jesus every time we celebrate the Eucharist. Let Jesus heal whatever ails you. Spend some time with Jesus in prayer no matter how busy you are. He will change your life if you give Him the chance.



Jesus heals
the broken hearted

REFLECTIONS FROM MY ROCKING CHAIR

Dear friends,

You may remember in October the parish conducted "Stewardship Sunday" when some among you offered your time and talent to support various parish projects. It was suggested later that I devote some time in this column to help parishioners better understand the word "stewardship". I will do this in three phases; the secular understanding of the word as it comes to us through the Google dictionary, then, to the use of that term in sacred Scripture, and finally, to venture an explanation as to what we mean when we say "Stewardship Sunday".

The Google dictionary offers this definition, Stewardship is "the responsible overseeing and protection of something considered worth caring for and preserving". An example would be the proper supervision of lands that are crucial for both economic development and protection of open space and wildlife habitat. A steward is a person charged with managing the financial affairs of another.

In the Bible the word steward is used 22 times, most frequently to describe a member of Pharaoh's court. The steward will is charged to be sure that the Pharaoh's household is managed efficiently – the chief butler of Downton Abbey is a good example of the role the steward plays. In the gospel of Luke, chapter 12, after the parable of the watchful servant, Peter wonders aloud to whom the parable is addressed. Jesus answers, "Who, then, is the faithful and wise steward? He is the one that his master will put in charge to run the household and give the other servants their share of the food at the proper time". Later in the New Testament, the letter of Paul to Titus (1:7) tells us that the Bishop as God's steward must be blameless. He must not be arrogant or quick-tempered, or a drunkard or violent or greedy for money. He must be hospitable, self-controlled, holy, and disciplined. He must hold firmly to the message that can be trusted. In this way he will be able to encourage others with the true teaching.

We can conclude from the biblical understanding of stewardship that each of us in our own way must take responsibility for sharing the faith. God has given us his Word and we baptized are charged with keeping watch over it as it is passed from one generation to the next. God has given each of us gifts that when offered to the community enable us to exercise our stewardship. If you can sing, join the choir. If you can teach the faith, join the RCIA team. If you can help in the classroom, join the CCD program.

Let us revisit our Google definition. With baptism we assume responsibility for the gifts of this good earth. The gospel is that way of life "considered worth caring for and preserving". We offer what gifts we have and allow God to make use of them. If you are tempted to think you have nothing to offer, let God make that decision.

Blessings,

Monsignor Tom Owens stmatt2014@gmail.com



Jesus cured
many who suffered

End of Bulletin