

# Mass Intentions for the Week



**April 26, 2015**

**Saturday, April 25**

4:30PM Edward Namiotkiewicz

**Sunday, April 26**

7:30AM Michael & Anna Brown

9:30AM Anthony, Louise, Francis, & Dorothy Zinni

11:30AM Nancy Clemens 13<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

**Monday, April 27**

8:15AM Joseph Dorsey

**Tuesday, April 28**

8:15AM Frank Charlesworth

**Wednesday, April 29**

8:15AM Alicia Minnick

**Thursday, April 30**

8:15AM John Miles Jr.

**Friday, May 1**

8:15AM Joseph Dorsey

**Saturday, May 2**

4:30PM Betty & Edward Pruskowski  
Lana & Jim Craven

**Sunday, May 3**

7:30AM Mary Jane Bowe

9:30AM Ann & Sam Minnick

11:30AM Elizabeth & Robert Janifer



Tom Tone, David Talone, JoAnn LaSorsa, Marie Carney, Greg Atkinson, Sophie Grabowski, Anthony Bonanno, Joanne Toth, Theresa Lenczewski, Rev. Msgr. Robert Grudowski, Florence Zapien, Luke Birkhead, Rose Kiger, Erik Kozlowski, Edmund Opielski, Bozena Orzechowski, Marlene Salkowski, Ed Wachowski, Roselie Partenheimer, John Walski, Carl Reiff, Joseph Blaszczyk, Patrick Kelly, Sean McGonagle, Mary Pierce, Brian Dunlevy, Sr. Jean Streibig, Stephanie Hathaway, Ken Waszena, Charles Streibig, Theresa McGrath, Kylie Reiff, John McCann, Nikki Dolan, Joseph Rozecki, Betty DiCola, Brother James Riley, Shawn Gallen, Eduardo Gloria, Molly Glick, Deb Smith, Ann Campbell, Francina Capolingua, Cathy Pierlott, Lynn Bowman, Anne Gallagher, James Sousa, James Gauger, Emilia Bello Jones, Carol Tinneny, Rita Van Buskirk, Joan Nasielski, Stephen Greene, Caroline Smerecki, Joan Pierce, Kevin Miller, Mike Ancin, Alfred Zisk, Cynthia Allen, Matthew Waters, Vince Ruggiero, Rylan Borys.



Frank McGinty & Kazimierz Jaworowski

**PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY:** Staff Sgt Daniel Furtak, PFC Paul Waszena, Lt. Michelle R. McNally, SSKC Terence J. McNally Jr., Sgt. Robert Bonneau, Andrew Midgett, Jonathan Staats, Col. Shawn McGinley, 108<sup>th</sup> Wing McGuire AFB, Matthew Horning, 1st Lt. Stanley J. Reimer III, SR Brett Pellicciotti, PFC Thomas Mazzochetti, Staff Sgt. Michael Alfonse, Robert Catapano U.S. Army 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne, Paul Brown, Marines, Corporal Andrew Teitjen.



**CELEBRANTS MASS SCHEDULE**

4/25 4:30 Fr. Ames  
4/26 7:30 Fr. Ryan 9:30 Fr. Heron 11:30 Fr. Curry  
5/2 4:30 Fr. Heron  
5/3 7:30 Fr. Ryan 9:30 Fr. Curry 11:30 Fr. Ames  
5/9 4:30 Fr. Ryan  
5/10 7:30 Fr. Ames 9:30 Fr. Curry 11:30 Msgr. Owens  
5/16 4:30 Msgr. Owens  
5/17 7:30 Fr. Heron 9:30 Fr. Curry 11:30 Fr. Ames  
5/23 4:30 Fr. Ames  
5/24 7:30 Msgr. Owens 9:30 Fr. Ryan 11:30 Fr. Heron  
5/30 4:30 Fr. Ames  
5/31 7:30 Fr. Ryan 9:30 Fr. Heron 11:30 Msgr. Owens

**Pre-Jordan Instructions (Sacrament of Baptism)**

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." Parents may attend these instructions anytime during the course of the pregnancy. The next class will be **Tuesday, May 5 at 7PM**. You will be required to attend a class if this is the Baptism of your first child. Please call the rectory at 610-828-0424 press 4 for the office to register for the class.

**MASS BOOK 2016:** On **Wednesday, April 29<sup>th</sup>** announced Masses will be available for the 2016 year. To make it convenient for you we suggest coming to the rectory on **Wednesday, April 29<sup>th</sup> at 9:30AM – 2PM**, or you may call the rectory with your request (610-828-0424) #4 for the office or email [stmatthewrectory@verizon.net](mailto:stmatthewrectory@verizon.net)

**SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH RECEPTION:**

On May 17<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate the 100 years of service that the Sisters of St. Joseph have given to our parish community. The Sisters will be leaving us in June. If you cannot attend the reception and would like to write a farewell message or a fond memory of the Sisters a basket has been placed in the back of the church for your convenience. Paper, pens and envelopes are provided. We will gather all your well wishes and present them to the Sisters the day of the reception. Thank you so much.

**PICTURES:** If you plan to take pictures during Mass or at the reception we would like to have a copy of your pictures if you are willing to send them electronically or by drop box. We would like to make a lasting memory for the Sister's with pictures of the people who love them. Send to [stmatthewrectory@verizon.net](mailto:stmatthewrectory@verizon.net)

*“Let us rejoice and be glad.”*



*The following children received Our Risen Lord in First Holy Communion*

*April 25, 2015*

*Jesus Aguirre  
Mia Borusiewicz  
Ian Brady  
Thomas Brescia  
Azzareya Crumpton  
Alexa Earl  
Keegan Flocco  
Brendan Foy  
Michael Foy  
Gabriel Fullerton  
Angelina Gallegos  
Alexandra Gallo  
Michael Graham  
Joshua Johnson  
Kasey Johnstone  
Ava Latterner  
Kathryn Lukens  
Chloe Mamrosch  
Malina Marcucci  
Aine McAleese  
Tyler McLafferty  
Taylor Monteleone  
Kara Murray  
Brady Olszeswski  
Kiera Pitner  
Jordan Pizza  
Chase Powderly  
Bryan Preto  
Diego Preto  
Olivia Reilly  
Isabella Scannapieco  
Nicholas Schaubhut*

*Owen Sudders  
Samantha Trovato  
Shaylee Wertz  
James Wolf  
Shawn Zakrzewski*

**Parish Religious Education Program (P.R.E.P.)  
And Operation Rice Bowl**

During the Lenten season the children, families and catechists of the Parish Religious Education Program (P.R.E.P) lived out the gospel message of loving God and loving their neighbor through participation in **Operation Rice Bowl**.

As part of the Lenten practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving the PREP community donated a total of \$416.00 to help the needy in our area as well as in various part of the world. Through God's grace and their generous donations, many in need will sense His loving care.

**PREP/CCD REGISTRATION:** Renew your registration for PREP/CCD for next year! It is time to begin to form the classes for next year. If you are already registered simply fill out a renewal form to save your place for next year. Renewal forms are available in the vestibules of the church or the rectory. If your son or daughter will be beginning First Grade in 2015, go online to St. Matthew's website and click on the link to register and mail in your payment. Tuition fees will not change from last year and they may be electronically submitted. Classes are conducted Monday evenings from 6:30-7:45pm September thru March. Any questions please call the rectory at 610 828-0424 ext 6.

**Liturgy of the Word for Children** 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 are permitted to accompany younger children. Help is needed to instruct the children. If interested contact [stmatthewrectory@verizon.net](mailto:stmatthewrectory@verizon.net)



**OPUS DEI:** An Evening of Recollection for men will be offered on Wednesday, April 29, 2015 at St. Matthew Parish from 7-9PM. The schedule includes Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary, the opportunity to go to Confession, a 30 minute meditation lead by a priest and a short talk given by a lay person. The focus is on practical ways to develop a personal relationship with God through prayer and work. All meetings will be held the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month. For more info contact [deacon.mike.kubiak@comcast.net](mailto:deacon.mike.kubiak@comcast.net) .

**St. Matthew 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 the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month May 12. 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. For Information contact Alice O'Connor at 610-828-5992 or [acaoc@verizon.net](mailto:acaoc@verizon.net) "God has no hands but ours to do His work and show His Love."

## God's Plan for Giving

APRIL 19, 2015

WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL FOR YOUR OFFERTORY

GIFTS LAST WEEKEND: \$12,596.31

Electronic giving \$671.31 + \$11,925 = \$12,596.31



**ELECTRONIC GIVING:** We invite you to consider our new **electronic giving program** as a way to automate your regular weekly or monthly offerings. **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)

### RESPECT LIFE:

Mother's Day Weekend: The Pro-Life Union is dedicated to building a Culture of Life by promoting respect for all human life. This critical mission is possible only with your help and support. Your contributions allow for outreach and prayers for mothers in need and for education, alternate services, and public policy activities. The generosity of our parish has always been outstanding, and as such, please be as generous as possible so we can achieve the best collection ever! As our Pro-Life Committee prepares for Respect Life Sunday, to be held Mother's Day weekend, we ask your support for this important parish event and appeal to the generosity of our parish community. The Respect Life Collection will be held before and after each Mass on May 9 - 10, 2015. We will offer red roses and carnations. Let us pray and ask Our Lady to bless our nation and the weakest among us. Thank you.



**St. Matthew's Seniors Group** will meet the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 12:30pm at the convent. Speaker, lunch (\$5), and conversation, we always enjoy meeting new people, so please join us!

### ST. MARY'S GOLDEN AGE CLUB:

Meets every Thursday of the month 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 Dues for members due 2015 is \$10.00 for the year.

**GOLDEN AGE CLUB of St Mary's News:** Casino Trips are scheduled for the second Tuesday of each month: **May 12 & June 9.** Bus leaves 9:00 AM from 11th & Fayette, 9:15 AM from 3rd & Fayette, and at 9:30 AM from St. Mary's. Please call Joe (610-825-4596).

**Andrew Lanutti Post:** Full service kitchen, bar, C/A, great for Christenings, Communions, Confirmations, birthday, family reunions, small weddings, holiday parties, funeral luncheons & any social event. Open for rent 365 days a year. Call Lou at 484-919-0612.

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL** food pantry is in need of: tuna fish, applesauce, tomatoes, tomato sauce cans or jars, pasta, canned spaghetti sauce, boxes of mashed potatoes,

stew, Manwich, Sloppy Joes, canned soups, fruits, baked beans.

### REFLECTIONS FROM MY ROCKING CHAIR

Dear friends,

The Church universal is marking the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Second Vatican Council and among the many areas of renewal in the life of the Church, of special note, was the reintroduction of sacred Scripture into the daily life of the Catholic community. The Church Fathers of the Council encouraged the faithful to make the reading of the Bible part of their daily prayer. Catechisms arranging the teachings of the Bible in a format more easily understood were most prominent in the years after the Reformation. Individual interpretation of sacred Scripture was one factor in the fracturing of our church with the establishment of numerous Protestant churches. There's a point here: reading the Bible is not like reading a novel or a history book. It is the revealed word of God through which our faith is animated. It is important that we use a "Catholic edition" of the Bible because it contains a complete list of the sacred books with proper commentary. Look for an imprimatur tour, a Catholic declaration that a translation is consistent with Catholic doctrine.

In a sense the Bible is not one book but rather a library of 73 books written over the course of many centuries; from the 8<sup>th</sup> BC, in the Old Testament, until approximately 120 A.D. with the writing of the book of Revelations. The books of the Bible are written with various literary styles; poetry and historical narrative are two examples. It is not read as one would read a science book or history text. The sacred writings contain that which we need to understand for our salvation. It should not be used, for example, to date the age of the earth. It should also be read in context; that is, in relation to other books in the Bible. Single sentences are easily misused. Also, we read the Old Testament in the context of the New Testament. The death and resurrection of Jesus is the context for all the Scripture. The Bible is not the only source of God's revelation to us. We identified two sources of revelation, Scripture and Tradition. The teaching community (tradition) precedes the written word (Scripture), then, is guided into the present day with Scripture as normative. Finally, the sacred writings bring into the world and into the hearts of all who read this text prayerfully a powerful Spirit that can transform us and through us the world in which we live. It is an act of faith to believe that God speaks to you by your name and invites you into conversation with him. Calling God "father" is not shameful patriarchy. It does not speak of God's gender – as pure spirit he has none – but of his personhood (all words falter in describing an infinite being). If Scripture remains just words on a page, we should be saddened that we've missed the point. Annie Dillard once remarked, (I paraphrase) that if we really knew what we were doing when the Scriptures are being proclaimed in church, ushers would pass out seatbelts and crash helmets for the Word of God can turn our world upside down. When reading Scripture dare to ask yourself: what does God want to say to me in these Scripture passages? When prayerfully considered, the Word proclaimed at Mass causes the Liturgy to become more compelling.

May he Easter in us. Hallelujah!

Msgr. Owens

(Questions or observations can be sent along to

[stmatt2014@gmail.com](mailto:stmatt2014@gmail.com) or 610-828-0424 x112

## Fr. Tom Heron's Weekly Reflection

*Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Lord Jesus,*

*Welcome!*

*I rejoice in your presence with the Saint Matthew faith worshipping community as we participate in the Divine Liturgy for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter.*

*We are blessed by your desire to give thanks to Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, both parishioners and guests.*

*May you be renewed in mind, heart and spirit through the Word and Eucharist we share. Thanks for joining us!*

Acts of the Apostles 4:8-12 Psalm 118 1 John 3:1-2  
John 10:11-18

The readings from Sacred Scripture today proclaim confidently that each of us, individually or as a community of believers, contains hidden resources that will eventually transform our whole existence in a wonderful way. What are these hidden resources? Why are they hidden? The resources that we have are: a capacity for love, an ability to express love in thought, word and deed, a desire to be generous and open-minded. Why are they hidden? We hide these resources because of a fear of ridicule, a fear that if I let my faith show it will hurt me. If I trust someone, he or she will take advantage of me. If I reach out to the poor, the disadvantaged, the person of another faith, I don't know the consequences of all this. So what do we do? We suppress these God-given qualities which, if they blossom in us, would transform our lives in a wonderful way.

The message today is that Jesus summons these hidden qualities back to life. He calls us to see great possibilities in ourselves and in others. He asks us to cure the spiritually crippled in our midst, to accept everyone despite fear or prejudice, to assure them they have great potential for good. Isn't this what Jesus did? Isn't this what being a "Good Shepherd" is all about?

Jesus knew all about sheep and He knows all about us. Sheep are generally known to be obstinate. So are we. Sheep are finicky and yet playful. Independent yet often follow the herd. Not unlike ourselves. Sheep are easily frightened, vulnerable and easy to love. They are easily tracked down, trapped and killed by predators. Again, not unlike ourselves.

The Good Shepherd knows all this about us. The Good Shepherd cares about us when we are sick, searches for us when we are lost, protects us with His very life. In a

word, Jesus, the model Shepherd, loves us with all our weaknesses and vulnerabilities.

Jesus turned to all people, especially those on the fringe of society - the uneducated shepherds, the unwelcomed foreigners, traitorous tax collectors, lowly prostitutes, and unclean lepers. To them He bestowed the love that belongs to members of the family. Jesus snatched them from the grasp of the wolf. He lay down His life for them. He gave them new dignity. He called each one of them by name and they rose to new life.

No one is wealthy if he or she is not wealthy with the gifts of the Holy Spirit which the Risen Lord gives to all of us. We take the gift and put it on a shelf never to be opened. Today we must hear the voice of the Good Shepherd and be healed in His name of all those fears that keep our God-given resources and talents hidden so that once healed we, too, might experience the newness and exhilaration of Resurrection life. Then we can continue in this Easter season with joy.

Jesus, in today's Gospel, offers us a review of His job description as the Good Shepherd. At the top of His list is this awesome aspect: "a Good Shepherd lays down his life for the sheep...I will lay down my life for the sheep." What care, what commitment, what love, what generosity, indeed, even what foolishness a Good Shepherd must have to give his or her own life for the life, not of a husband or wife, not of a child or a friend, not of a relative or an acquaintance, not of a co-worker, but for a sheep.

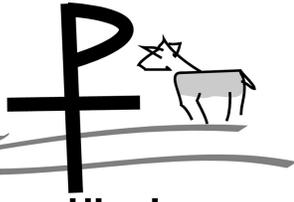
- role of the Good Shepherd is sacrificial
- love of the Good Shepherd is individual
- the care of the Good Shepherd is unconditional

Our major work as Christians is to be a Good Shepherd to the flock which we are given. Each one of us has a flock to lead and feed, to direct and protect. Each one of us has a family-flock, a friends-flock, a workers-flock, a schoolmates-flock, and a worshipper-flock. Each of us has the responsibility and the privilege of looking after and caring for someone else: an elderly parent, a husband or wife, a classmate at school, people we pray with and pray for Sunday after Sunday.

Let's all promise to make the good Lord proud of us. We are His children. He asks us to love one another, especially that person who is unpopular, has wronged us, is socially awkward, has no friends.

Let us thank God today for the gifts of life, family, and faith.

**I am the Good Shepherd**



**I know my sheep and they know me**

End of Bulletin