



## November 22, 2015

### Saturday, November 21

4:30PM Joseph Kozeniewski (17<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)

### Sunday, November 22

7:30AM David A. Elmo

9:30AM Marie L. Kilgallon

11:30AM Sam Januzelli

### Monday, November 23

8:15AM John & Johanna Matsco

### Tuesday, November 24

8:15AM Matthew Lincul

### Wednesday, November 25

8:15AM Stephen Opiela (3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary)

### Thursday, November 26 Thanksgiving Day

9:00AM Marrion W. G. Jones (45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)

### Friday, November 27

8:15AM Rev. Daniel Murray

### Saturday, November 28

4:30PM Ernest Allen

### Sunday, November 29

7:30AM Gus De Lucus

9:30AM Harvey & Gertrude Keenan

Charles & Annie Maher

11:30AM Linda Rodenbaugh

Pray for the Sick Tom Tone, David Talone, JoAnn LaSorsa, Marie Carney, Greg Atkinson, Sophie Grabowski, Msgr. Robert Grudowski, Anthony Bonanno, Joanne Toth, Theresa Lenczewski, Florence Zapien, Luke Birkhead, Erik Kozlowski, Bozena Orzechowski, Marlene Salkowski, Roselie Partenheimer, John Walski, Carl Reiff, Joseph Blaszczak, Patrick Kelly, Sean McGonagle, Mary Pierce, Brian Dunlevy, Sr. Jean Streibig, Stephanie Hathaway, Charles Streibig, Theresa McGrath, Kylie Reiff, 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, James Sousa, James Gauger, Emilia Bello Jones, Rita Van Buskirk, Joan Nasielski, Stephen Greene, Caroline Smerecki, Joan Pierce, Kevin Miller, Mike Ancin, Alfred Zisk, Cynthia Allen, Rylan Borys, Susan Minnick, Ann Greco, Denise Kavanaugh, Greg Falcone, Ralph Manappello, Jessica Jara, Leanne Purcell, Joe Lotito, Matt McNamee, Kendall Soltys, Lee Vonseldeneck.



**Edmund Opielski, Richard Tornetta, Eleanor Haus**



Staff Sgt Daniel Furtak, 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, Tech Sgt Eric Zweiback

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### CELEBRANTS MASS SCHEDULE

11/21 4:30 Fr. Heron  
11/22 7:30 Fr. Ryan 9:30 Msgr. Owens 11:30 Fr. Heron  
11/26 9:00 Thanksgiving Day – Fr. Heron  
11/28 4:30 Msgr. Owens  
11/29 7:30 Msgr. Owens 9:30 Fr. Heron 11:30 Fr. Ryan



**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 first Tuesday of each month. **The next class will be Tuesday, December 1<sup>st</sup> 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 [www.stmatthewparish.com](http://www.stmatthewparish.com) or call the rectory 610-828-0424 press 4 for the office to register.

### Prepare for Next Sunday

First Sunday of Advent November 29, 2015  
Jeremiah 33:14 – 16 Thessalonians 3:12 – 4:2  
Luke 21:25 – 28, 34 – 36

Jesus warns of terrifying signs to come. Nonetheless, we are not among the people who "will die of fright in anticipation of what is coming upon the world." Why? Because we are united with the One who has come into the world and dwells among us. All our vigilance is a response to a personal Presence that strengthens our hearts to "be blameless in holiness before our God." We spend our Advent with the desire to conduct ourselves in a way that pleases God because "the friendship of the Lord" moves us to want to rise above "the anxieties of daily life" so as to remain in peaceful certainty "before the Son of Man."



**On Thanksgiving Day, November 26, there will be "Blessing of Bread" or any item you will use at your Thanksgiving table at the 9:00 AM Mass.**



**SAVE THE DATE:** Our Advent Christmas Tree Lighting will be held on **Saturday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at the 4:30 Mass.** All are invited to this very special event.



**Due to flu season we will discontinue consumption of the precious Blood during the months of December, January & February.**

**PREP/CCD** is in need of a few willing **volunteers to sub** for when a catechist has to be absent. A lesson plan would be provided. Please contact Mary Kay at the rectory. 610-828-0424 press 6.



**THANKSGIVING DAY:**

Please **join all the children of St. Matthews** for a Eucharistic Celebration at **9am Mass on Thanksgiving Morning**

Before we all gather at the table in our homes, let us gather at the table of the Lord, the altar in St. Matthew Church.

**As a Communion Meditation the children will lead us in Grace through song and prayer.**

One of the earliest lessons we learn as children is to say please and thank you! The root to generosity is gratitude...we share because we believe we are blessed.

Jesus says "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will not enter the Kingdom of Heaven." "Whoever then humbles himself as a child, he is the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven" Mt. 18:3-4

**ST. MATTHEW SENIOR GROUP:**

Our next meeting will be held on **December 16 at 12:30pm**, at the convent. We will have a short business meeting and lunch. All Seniors are welcome, please come and join us.

**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. 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:

**December 8 & January 12.** Bus leaves 9:00 AM from 11<sup>th</sup> & Fayette, 9:15 AM from 3rd & Fayette, and at 9:30 AM from St. Mary's. Please call Joe (610-825-4596).



**The Food Cupboard** is open 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays of the month at 1 PM. **Food Pantry Needs:** tuna fish, boxes of mashed potatoes, stew, canned fruits, Turkey stuffing, Cranberry sauce, Turkey gravy.

**REFLECTIONS FROM MY ROCKING CHAIR:**

Be alert! Commercial Christmas would once more want to crush the Advent season. Why wait? The moguls of commerce would have you believe that waiting is a waste of time. My first glimpse of commercial Christmas was on September 20 at one of our retail stores. I'll spare them the embarrassment of being identified by name. The sad thing is they probably would not be embarrassed. Why wait? Buy your gifts early and often – especially often. Have you ever sat down at the Thanksgiving table already full? Junk food! The cook has every right to be disappointed. Do not allow commercial Christmas to dull your spiritual sensitivity. Liturgically, the church celebrates four weeks of the Advent season to quiet our senses and grow hungry spiritually for the coming of the Christ child.

"Advent is a time of waiting, longing, and begging. It is a time to pray "Come, Lord Jesus." We look back to celebrate the first coming of Jesus at Christmas twenty centuries ago. We look forward with hope to the second coming of Jesus in glory. We seek out Jesus here and now in the Mass, when he comes to us in the Eucharist. We seek out Jesus in the people and events of our lives, when he comes to us in ordinary ways." (Taken from the Magnificat Advent Companion)

Consider some Advent strategies.

Be sure to send Christmas cards that picture the coming of Christ or some aspect of his Nativity. A recent family photo with Seasons Greetings, or chestnuts roasting on an open fire just don't cut it. A real Christmas card is a way of evangelizing.

Somewhere in your decorations should be an honored place for the crèche – the birth scene in Bethlehem. An Advent wreath can be placed on the dinner table, one candle for each Sunday of Advent. Light it at each meal. At least on the inside of your home wait until December 17 to put out Christmas decorations. On that day the readings from Scripture at Mass turn toward contemplating the events leading up to his birth. Prior to that Advent has dwelt upon the prophets and their expectations of the Messiah to come. Having a quiet atmosphere inside the home makes the Christmas decorations, the Christmas prayer, and the Christmas meal all the more festive.

Find a way to broaden your gift-giving by sending food to a hospice facility or by wrapping toys for deserving children. Make a donation to Catholic Relief Services to assist them in their work for families in places far away in Syria, Iraq and sadly too many other parts of the world. "Peace on earth" should not become a vacant catchphrase.

While I recommend decorating inside only after December 17, I encourage outdoor lights as soon as possible in Advent. The lights soften the winter darkness and signal hopefulness. Take time for spiritual reading and plan to attend Mass during the week wherever and whenever possible. Peace on earth might well cause us to look within – at the restlessness, at our sins. The child to be born is the very reconciliation of God – and that is a wonderful peace on earth. Be sure to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance that God's peace might reign in your heart.

May our four-week Advent season be fruitful that the coming of the Lord will inspire in us good cheer. God bless, Msgr. Owens

## God's Plan for Giving

November 15, 2015

WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL FOR  
YOUR OFFERTORY  
GIFTS LAST WEEKEND:

**\$11,284.00**

Electronic giving \$999.00 + \$10,285.00 = \$11,284.00

On behalf of the St. Charles Borromeo Seminary Appeal, Oscar Hernandez, a Seminarian, will speak at all the Masses today.

### 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)



All are invited to a Christmas themed dinner social featuring Polish & Italian Christmas Eve foods.

**Saturday, December 12, 2015 @ 1:00 pm in St. Mary's Hall. Cost: \$15.00 Adult, \$7.00 children, Under 6 free.**

For tickets contact:

Felicia Jemionek Rzezniak 610-825-9027

Gloria Mastrocola 610-828-3014

Leah Hepler 610-834-8538 [stmaryconshy@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryconshy@gmail.com)

In order to know how much food to prepare, please purchase tickets by **Tuesday, Dec 8.** Thank you.



### Calling All Young Adults at St. Matthews!

Are you age 22-35 and interested in meeting other Catholics your age? Do you yearn for more

community? Are you interested in service work? Sarah Burchell and Chris Farley are starting a Young Adults Group and would love for you to join!

If you have any questions, feel free to email Sarah at [svarga27@yahoo.com](mailto:svarga27@yahoo.com) or Chris at [farleyfilms@gmail.com](mailto:farleyfilms@gmail.com) and Joe Boccella.



**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 **Tuesday,**

**December 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. For Information contact Alice O'Connor [acaoc@verizon.net](mailto:acaoc@verizon.net)



**OPLATEK:** will be available starting the 1<sup>st</sup> week of Advent **Nov. 28<sup>th</sup> & Nov 29<sup>th</sup>** on the table in back of the Church, and at the Rectory. Donation \$2.00



This year during Advent we will be collecting for Dawn's Place in place of our Cradle of Giving. Dawn's Place is a residential program located in Philadelphia for

women who have been exploited and abused; a ministry very close to Pope Francis' heart. If you could donate gift cards for the women it would provide a dignified way for the women to purchase personal things without putting a stress on our limited resources. Gift cards to Target, CVS, Rite Aid, Staples, Walgreens etc. are most useful. Containers will be placed around the church on the First Sunday of Advent, November 29<sup>th</sup>. Thanks so much, Sister Terry Shields, mshr, President.



**PRE-CANA:** St. Matthew Parish is offering a one day pre-Cana program on **Saturday, January 23, 2016** (snow date January 30) 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)



**Walking with Purpose:** Please join us for coffee and dessert on **Wednesday, December 9th** at St. Matthews Convent (51 E 3rd Ave, Conshohocken, PA 19428) 6:30 – 8:15 PM. Feel free to come alone or bring a friend. We're a very welcoming group. No RSVP necessary, please contact Judy at [JAKukowski@verizon.net](mailto:JAKukowski@verizon.net) if you have any questions.



**Holy Rosary Regional Catholic School's Annual Craft Show** located at **3040 Walton Rd, Ply Mtg** is going to take

place on **December 5th from 9-4 and December 6<sup>th</sup> from 8-2.** Voted BEST OF MONTCO, this year's Craft Show is sure to be a fun shopping event for the whole family. Free Admission to shop over 100 crafters, try your luck at our fabulous Raffles and enjoy breakfast or lunch from our delicious kitchen. We look forward to seeing you there.



### **STATEMENT OF ARCHBISHOP CHARLES J. CHAPUT, O.F.M. CAP. REGARDING THE TRAGEDY IN PARIS:**

God is the source of love and life. People who kill in his name are not martyrs or saints, but murderers. Pilgrims from Paris and across France traveled thousands of miles in September to take part in the joy of World Meeting of Families. Their presence graced us all. We join with the Church in France in this moment of national suffering. I ask the clergy and people of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia to pray in a special way in the coming days for the families of all those killed in Paris.



**SENIOR LUNCHEON:** Join the Community Center at the Fel for the Holiday Senior Luncheon on **Monday, December 14th!** This is a free event for community members, and will be held from 12pm to 2pm. To register for the Holiday Luncheon, call the Community Center at 610-828-3266.

## 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 Liturgy for Our Lord Jesus Christ the King. 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!*

Daniel 7:13-14 Psalm 93 Revelation 1:5-8 John 18:33b-37



*"God is of no importance unless He is of supreme importance."* The feast of Christ the King is placed at the end of the church's year to offer us a clear statement of our belief that Christ is both the beginning and the end of time, **the alpha and the omega**. All creation flows to and from him. The Kingdom of Jesus is everlasting, and we and all the world will hopefully one day be brought under his dominion. Understanding the nature of Christ's Kingdom has always been problematic. More often than not, we think of Jesus in less regal terms. He was born in a stable. He did not have a place to lay his head. He was harassed by respectable folks. In the end he was crucified, forsaken by friends and laid in a borrowed tomb. None of these facts lends themselves to thoughts of regal splendor.

Jesus is not a king who loves power, but a king who rules with the power of love and truth. Jesus gives an example to all in authority that leadership is best expressed through service. Jesus requires service from the community of disciples. True disciples of Jesus will look for the lost of our society. They will bring back the stray and attend to those who are alienated. They will care for those who are physically, emotionally, socially or spiritually ill. They will not abandon the weak who have fallen along the way. This is how Christ the King will judge us. Did we feed the hungry, clothe the naked, welcome the stranger, visit the sick and imprisoned. By serving the least of our brothers and sisters, we serve Christ and his Kingdom. Jesus calls us to testify to the truth by continuing to struggle against the forces of evil. We must strive to overcome injustice, greed, violence and ignorance and not succumb to being overwhelmed and discouraged by the evils of this world that are constantly at war with the Kingdom of God.

*(A Kingdom of truth and life, of holiness and grace, of justice, peace and love." PREFACE 51)*

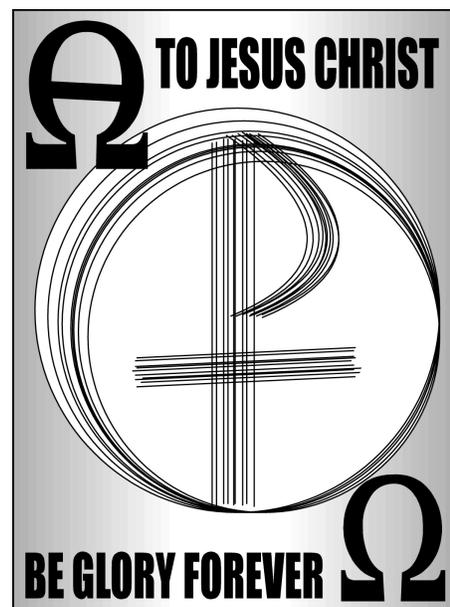
At baptism, the priest anoints our heads with chrism and prays: *"As Christ was anointed priest, prophet and king, so may {we} live as a member of his body sharing everlasting life."* Each of us, by baptism, shares in the kingship of Christ, our head. We are Christ's hands; we are his feet; we are his heart.

On this feast of Christ the King, we need to ask ourselves a few questions. Is Christ the King of my life? Does Jesus rule and govern my thoughts, my words, my actions?

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Soren Kierkegaard was a philosopher and theologian who lived in Denmark 150 years ago. In one of his books there is a story about a king who fell in love with a peasant girl. The king knew it was impossible for him to marry the girl. Kings never married peasants. But this king was so powerful that he knew he could get away with it. However, he realized that the gap between them would be too great. She would always be conscious of the fact that he was royalty and she was a lowly peasant. So the king decided on another plan. He would resign his kingship and become a lowly peasant himself and offer his love to her. He realized this plan could backfire. He could lose not only his kingship but the girl as well. What should he do? The king finally decided he loved the peasant girl so much that he would risk everything.

Kierkegaard never told how the story ended for two reasons. One, that's not the point of the story and two, because the story is not yet ended. It is still going on. It is a true story of God's love for each of us. The king in the story is Jesus and the girl is each one of us. Jesus could have kept his divine status but that would have made the gap between us too great. He decided to become a human being and declare his love for us in a way that we could understand perfectly and respond to freely.



End of Bulletin