

Land of the FREE Home of the BRAVE God Bless America!

**14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY
TIME
July 3, 2016**

Saturday, July 2

4:30PM James Bowe Sr.

Sunday, July 3

7:30AM Charles & Charlotte Kelly

9:30AM James Peter Love

John J. Williams Sr.

11:30AM Maryflor Horn

Monday, July 4 Independence Day

8:15AM Louis & Geraldine Puche



Tuesday, July 5

8:15AM Rita McAvoy

Wednesday, July 6

8:15AM James & Rose Watson

Thursday, July 7

8:15AM James Love

Friday, July 8

8:15AM Eugene & Helen Ledger

Geraldine Prestia

Saturday, July 9

4:30PM Carl Schultz

Sunday, July 10

7:30AM Eileen Kelliher

9:30AM James Davidson

11:30AM Marcy Wolfington



Tom Tone, David Talone, JoAnn LaSorsa, Marie Carney, Greg Atkinson, Sophie Grabowski, 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, 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 VanBuskirk, Joan Nasielski, Caroline Smerecki, Joan Pierce, Kevin

Miller, Mike Ancin, Rylan Borys, Susan Minnick, Ann Greco, Jessica Jara, Leanne Purcell, Joe Lotito, Matt McNamee, Kendall Soltys, Concezio Lelii, William McGrath, Carl Pierce, Ursula Kozlowski, Benedetto, McDaniels, Kevin Kelly, Emily Armstrong, Charles Lare, Joanne Kalacinski, Mary DiMedio, Sue Stephan, Anna Marie Ferrier, Mary Stoffel, Jeri McClennen, John Boccella, Felicia Rzeznik, Pat Rowe, Jim Bokoski, Hans Pawling, Margie Burghart, Jack Susskind, Kristen Lafferty, Claudia Geppert.



Rev. Francis Lendacky

PRAY FOR THE MILITARY: Staff Sgt Daniel Furtak, Lt.



Michelle R. McNally, SSKC Terence J. McNally Jr., Sgt. Robert Bonneau, Andrew Midgett, Jonathan Staats, Col. Shawn McGinley, Lt. Col Evah McGinley, The 108th Wing McGuire AFB, Matthew Horning, 1st Lt. Stanley J. Reimer III, SR Brett Pellicciotti,

LCPL Thomas Mazzochetti, Robert Catapano U.S. Army 101st Airborne, Paul Brown, Marines, Corporal Andrew Teitjen, Michael Bondra.

CELEBRANTS MASS SCHEDULE

7/2 4:30 Msgr. Owens

7/3 7:30 Fr. Capizzi 9:30 Fr. Ryan 11:30 Fr. Heron

7/9 4:30 Fr. Capizzi

7/10 7:30 Fr. Ryan 9:30 Fr. Heron 11:30 Msgr. Owens

7/16 4:30 Msgr. Owens

7/17 7:30 Fr. Heron 9:30 Fr. Capizzi 11:30 Fr. Genovese

7/23 4:30 Fr. Genovese

7/24 7:30 Fr. Genovese 9:30 Fr. Heron 11:30 Fr. Capizzi

7/30 4:30 Fr. Capizzi

7/31 7:30 Fr. Heron 9:30 Fr. Genovese 11:30 Msgr. Owens

Prepare for Next Sunday

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time July 10, 2016

Deuteronomy 30:10 – 14 Colossians 1:15 – 20 Luke 10:25 – 37

When is it that we are most moved with compassion? Whenever we come across someone engulfed in a suffering that we ourselves have suffered. Perhaps it was this memory that moved the Good Samaritan to approach the victim, refusing to accept that the beaten person on the road was already dead. The commandment to love our neighbor is "something very near to you, already in your hearts" – that is, in the experience of the compassion that others have shown us. Once we have experienced the compassion of Christ Jesus, "the firstborn from the dead," it makes us eager to reach out to the half dead waiting for us on our path.

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 Tuesday, July 5 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 or call the rectory 610-828-0424 press 4 for the office to register.

Religious Education

PREP

PLEASE REGISTER FOR FALL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES NOW!

THIS YEAR WE WILL CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION. TBA

(Pending Bishops calendar schedules coming soon)

The Parish Religious Education Program (PREP)

(known as CCD) Beginning **Sept. 11, 2016** Classes from Grades 1 – 7 will be held in the Parish Center from 10:25 am – 11:25 am on Sunday mornings.

Summer is here! Don't forget! Please take a moment to renew your registration for PREP/CCD for next year. Tuition remains the same. \$110.00 for one, \$165.00 for two, \$195.00 for three or more.

You can register online at the website, click on Religious Education/CCD registration on the left. The form has been streamlined. Payment can follow either in the mail, drop in collection basket, or mailbox on the rectory door. Checks made out to St. Matthews

If you wish to pay online,

- Click up on the right Parish giving. It will take you to a page with the choice to create an account or make a donation or payment
- If you select the one time payment. It will take you to a page where you select contribution type (drop down, choose St. Matthew CCD), amount, & email and payment information
- Click pay now.

A report gets sent directly to my email

Please register soon. Thank you!

Any questions or concerns contact Miss Mary Kay at mckennamaryk@gmail.com or call the rectory 610-828-0424 ext. 6.



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



PRE-CANA: St. Matthew Parish is offering a one day pre-Cana program on **Saturday, July 16, 2016** from 8:30am – 4 pm followed by Mass. 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



REFLECTIONS FROM MY ROCKING CHAIR

On September 4 Pope Francis will issue a proclamation declaring definitively that Mother Teresa of Calcutta is to be numbered among the Saints in Heaven. In so doing we recognize her as a worthy intercessor on our behalf and a model of Christian life, deserving of imitation.

I'm old enough as a priest to remember Mother Teresa's visit to Philadelphia during the Eucharistic Congress in 1976. Mother stayed at the Cathedral Convent and asked that Mass be celebrated there at 6 AM on the mornings she was in town. There was a stampede of priests hoping to say that 6 AM Mass. Being a youngster in the presbyterate, I didn't have a chance. In the mid-1980s, Mother Teresa stopped in Norristown to come to the aid of her sisters who were having trouble getting zoning permits for their convent's work of feeding the poor. Mother went to the Council meeting and left a bit later with all permissions granted. Opponents on the Borough Council changed their minds. One member was quoted in the newspaper saying, "How can you say no to a Saint?"

Mother Teresa was born Agnes Bojaxhiu in Albania in 1910. At the age of eighteen she answered God's call to the missionary life and joined the Sisters of Loretto in Ireland. Soon after her profession she was sent to India. At first she taught in St. Mary's School and became its principal. But she could not dismiss from her heart the dire sufferings of the poor in the streets of Calcutta. In September 1946 on what she would later call her "Inspiration Day", she heard God call her to serve the destitute that were lying on the roadsides. She put it this way, "I was called to quench the thirst of Jesus on the cross for love and for souls by laboring for the salvation and sanctification of the poorest of the poor."

When Mother Teresa received permission to leave the convent in August 1948, she dressed simply in the now iconic white sari with a blue border to represent the Indian people she would go forth to serve. The principle which guided her apostolic work was simple: "Everything starts from prayer." Others soon joined her and in 1950 she founded the Missionaries of Charity. By the 1960s her community had grown large. It expanded its work to other parts of India and then to around the world. In 1979 she was named recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize, which she accepted "for the glory of God and in the name of the poor." Incredibly, in a book written recently by her spiritual director, Mother Teresa experienced for years a "spiritual darkness" in her prayer life. "I want to speak in prayer yet nothing comes. I find no words to express the depths of the darkness. In spite of it all – I am his little one – I love Him." In the lives of many of the church's mystical Saints there is a higher stage of prayer: One prays without consolation. One writer puts it this way, "Her faith was so foundational that even a spiritual separation from God would not cause her to forsake her belief in the work to which she'd been called." Such a love for God should inspire us all.

Blessings, Monsignor Owens (stmatt2014@gmail.com)

NB In the interest of journalistic integrity I drew heavily from the Catholic Update issue, July 2016, on Mother Teresa. You can find it by going to www.Liguori.org. This is a worthy monthly newsletter reflecting on the beauty of the Catholic faith.

God's Plan for Giving

June 26, 2016

WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL FOR
YOUR OFFERTORY GIFTS LAST WEEKEND:

\$11,922.00

Electronic giving \$1,624.00 + \$10,298.00 = \$11,922.00



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

Summer vacation time is here many of us will be away with our families to enjoy fun and relaxation. There are several ways you can continue to support your Parish even though you might be away: Mail your Sunday offering to the Rectory; Use Parish Giving at www.stmatthewparish.com to contribute via debit or credit card; Use your bank's online payment system to send your offering, or double-up on your offering before you go away or when you return. Thanks to everyone, in advance, for your support. We hope everyone has a happy and healthy summer.

Full Time School Counselor:

Gwynedd Mercy Academy High School, an independent, all-girls Catholic college preparatory school sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy, has an opening for a full-time School Counselor for the 2016-2017 school year. Qualified applicants with a Master's degree in Counseling are asked to submit a cover letter and resume to Anne Casavecchia at acasavecchia@gmahs.org by July 11. Experience in School Counseling preferred.

ST. MATTHEW STUDENT EXCEL:

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

Merion Mercy Academy:

Distinguished Honors: **Gemma C. Del Buono**

Pope John Paul II:

First Honors: **Alyssa G. Garcia**

St. Matthew Cemetery: A recent survey of the cemetery property revealed enough unused land to accommodate 133 burial lots. This land was originally a tract identified as St. Patrick's Road. It will remain titled as the "St. Patrick Section". For any information on securing one of these lots please contact: Deacon Mike Kubiak at 610-828-0424 or email deacon.mike.kubiak@comcast.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. Dues for members due 2016 is \$10.00 for the year.

Casino Trips: scheduled for the 2nd Tuesday of each month: **July 12 & August 9**. Bus leaves 9:00 AM from 11th & Fayette, 9:15 AM from 3rd & Fayette, and at 9:30 AM from St. Mary's. Call Joe (610-825-4596).

COMPANIONS NEEDED: A non-medical homecare agency, Caring Hearts is looking to hire companions for our seniors. No experience needed except a caring heart. Companionship, driving to doctors appointments, shopping. A perfect job for empty nesters looking for something to do and some extra money. Call 484-580-8157 ask for Jeff.



RCIA

A JOURNEY IN FAITH

Are you a baptized Protestant and worshipping with us here at St. Matthew's on a regular basis? Have you not been baptized at all? The Holy Spirit may be prompting you to join the Catholic Church. She offers a rich tradition of prayer, Scripture and Sacrament – and a community marked by charity. (*"A church without charity does not exist"*, Pope Francis). The parish is now forming a gathering of people who would like to consider membership in the Catholic Church. The formal process is called the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). It will begin meeting toward the end of September. Most gatherings will occur on Monday evenings and some selected Sundays. We begin without any final commitment made. It is a time for asking oneself, "Is this for me". To indicate your interest, please leave your name at the Rectory (610 – 828 –0424 ext. 112) in the voicemail of Monsignor Owens or on line at stmatt2014@gmail.com.

Parishioner Support

The difficult experiences one has in life can serve as the very reason one can be extraordinary. These challenges can make one feel alone in a confusing and sometimes overwhelming journey. I would be honored to have the opportunity to assist you in moving through challenge without judgment and with a sensitivity to your individuality.

- Trained in Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT)
- Focused training in grief, trauma, and crisis intervention.
- DMVA certified to work with veterans of all ages and their family members.
- Over fifteen years of experience working with anxiety, depression, couples, parenting, pre- and post- natal concerns, and chronic and terminal diagnoses.
- Facilitate bereavement support / education groups specialized to specific types of loss with a focus on peer support as well as facilitator provided education about common grief reactions, coping, and expectations that can sometimes be placed on the grieving individual.
- Saint Matthew's parishioner.

For further information please contact me, **Carolyn Fortenberry LCSW, at 610-915-8524.**

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 the 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time. 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!

FOURTH OF JULY



We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their

creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We celebrate the birth of our nation, the proclamation of the Declaration of Independence, and freedom from all who would like to take away the God-given rights we share.

Life

Life is a great gift given to us all—but life not only in this world; rather, life that will last forever in the next world. Where that will be for each of us, heaven or hell, depends on how we live life here, right now. A sobering thought.

Liberty/Freedom

It is very easy for anyone to confuse freedom with license. God gave each of us the gift of free will. But freedom carries with it responsibilities. Pampered people rarely develop a sense of responsibility. Without a sense of responsibility to our families, to our communities, to God, we waste away emotionally, morally, spiritually.

But freedom also carries with it consequences. We reap what we sow. If we sow a good life, we reap a good life. If we sow an indulgent life, we reap accordingly. It is our choice. Many people lose the things most precious to them because they cannot handle the gift of freedom. One of the consistent themes of St. Paul's letter to the Galatians is the precarious balance between freedom and license. The great Apostle knew that what often seems to be freedom leads not to wholeness and health but to disintegration and death. Our freedom should lead us to live lives of service to God and others. Freedom is a precious gift.

The pursuit of happiness

When St. Paul talked about true happiness, he said: "May I never glory in anything but the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. Through it the world has been crucified to me and I to the world."

That was St. Paul's dream for all of us, as we pursue true happiness.

It can be said with some accuracy that our nation started out as a dream. The signers of the Declaration of Independence bet their lives on a dream. Their dream is our inheritance. Our task, our chief responsibility as citizens, is to recapture St. Paul's dream and the dream of our founders; to recapture its content, keep it alive and work hard so that St. Paul's dream and that of the founders of our nation will be fulfilled.

Today's Gospel teaches that we are all called to prepare the way for Christ by how we live and witness to our faith. It reminds us that sometimes material things can get in the way of doing that. And, on occasion, no matter what our personal resources are, we come to the realization that there are certain basic things that really matter in life; not the least among these is faith.

The call Jesus gives us today requires courage. Our world doesn't always admire people who profess their faith with courage. Yet, it is certainly true that people of faith have inspired the world by doing bold and courageous things. It is important for us to appreciate today, more than ever, the backbone, the bedrock of God's presence.

This is how we can make America what it was meant to be insuring that we will never lose this country founded and preserved by the shedding of so much blood.

It is also the way we can make ourselves spiritually free, obedient to Christ's call—Christ who won our freedom for us by shedding His Precious Blood.

Let us give thanks to God for this free land in which we live and let us lay claim to that freedom which is our birthright in Christ.

Only then, when we are joined with Christ, can we ever say we are truly free.

One nation under God with liberty and justice for all.

Let no one take away our dream.

The American Dream
life, liberty, pursuit of happiness

END OF BULLETIN