



MASS
INTENTIONS



Angela Yacovelli, Mary J. Costigan

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.



17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME July 24, 2016

Saturday, July 23

4:30PM Catherine Devlin

Sunday, July 24

7:30AM Carmen Piccirilli

9:30AM Martin Brady

11:30AM Jean Karalis

Monday, July 25

8:15AM Joanne Schank Beeler

Tuesday, July 26

8:15AM Lorraine Charlesworth

Wednesday, July 27

8:15AM Gaetano Ferraro

Thursday, July 28

8:15AM Lorraine Charlesworth

Friday, July 29

8:15AM Robert Preston (3rd Anniversary)

Saturday, July 30

4:30PM Edward Namiotkiewicz

Sunday, July 31

7:30AM Monica Casciano

9:30AM Louis Hegyes Sr. (26th Anniversary)

11:30AM Sunny Maria Flocco
Roman Bieganski

Prepare for Next Sunday

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time July 31, 2016

Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21 – 23 Colossians 3:1 – 5, 9 – 11 Luke 12:13 – 21
The Lord hands down the sternest warning to those who would store up treasure for themselves but who “are not rich in what matters to God.” What does matter to God?” Qoheleth readily recognizes the vanity of laboring, toiling, and acquiring. Sorrow, grief, and restlessness persist, nonetheless, in plaguing such a person. What matters to God is that, through baptism, we have died and our life is hidden with Christ in God. Life’s richness consists in seeking the One who is above, and claiming the New Self offered to us through him. Christ is all. Our treasure lies in claiming Christ our life, who has appeared.

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, August 2 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.



Spiritual Reading – Food for the Soul



There is a saying in the spiritual life that goes like this, “To know Him is to love Him”. Reading a book about the spiritual life is to know something more about God, so to love Him all the more and to grow in your understanding of how the Lord works in the lives of people who have gone before you in faith. There is a small spiritual library in the lobby of the church (“back left lobby”) that opens toward the Rectory. There are books about the Bible, about prayer, about the church, and spiritual memoirs, such as The Story of the Soul by the Little Flower, St. Therese of Lisieux. You are welcome to borrow from the library. Take a look!

Charismatic Mass: St. Paul's charismatic prayer group will be having a mass on August 9, 2016 at 11am in St. Paul's Convent chapel located at 353 East Johnson Highway, East Norriton, PA. The celebrant will be Father Edward Hamilton.



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 Blaszcak, 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 Rzezniak, Pat Rowe, Jim Bokoski, Hans Pawling, Margie Burghart, Jack Susskind, Kristen Lafferty, Claudia Geppert, Thomas Waszena.

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.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD CUPBOARD: We are in need of cans of baked beans, peas, tomatoes, tomato sauce, applesauce and chunky soups. Donations can be left in the vestibules of the church. The food cupboard is open every other Friday at 1PM. It is located between the church and the convent, the second door in the driveway.



Reflections from my Rocking Chair
Dear friends,

As a confessor I've noticed in recent years an increase in the number of people confessing an attachment to pornography. It does not take a rocket scientist to understand the reason why: the personal computer. No longer do you have to go "public" – an unpaved parking lot and seedy shack with the word "adult" on it. Now in the privacy of your home there is little chance that someone will see you, or know what you are doing. "The devil loves a secret" is an axiom in spiritual direction. Pornography has terrible consequences; children whose innocence is stolen; men and women who feel great guilt and shame for viewing pornography occasionally or habitually; spouses who feel betrayed and traumatized; and man, women and children exploited by the pornographic industry. In some way everyone is affected as a distorted view of the human person and our sexual nature seeps into the mainstream culture by way of music, movies, social media and television.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church defines pornography this way: *"Pornography consists in removing real or simulated sexual acts from the intimacy of the partners, in order to display them deliberately to third parties. It offends against chastity because it perverts the conjugal act, the intimate giving of spouses to each other. It does grave injury to the dignity of its participants (actors, vendors, the public), since each one becomes an object of base pleasure and illicit profit for others. It immerses all who are involved in the illusion of a fantasy world."* Therefore, producing or using pornography is gravely wrong. It is a grave matter by its object. It is a mortal sin if it is committed with full knowledge and deliberate consent. There are some factors that compromise the voluntary and free character of the act. Pornography's addictive quality can erode the soul's natural inclination toward goodness. Self-loathing is a sad byproduct of this destructive behavior. Occasional use can turn into more frequent use that can then lead to a deeper addiction. The chaste life is finally the most satisfying. The bishops of the United States writing on this topic encourage all to understand that human sexuality is a beautiful gift from God. They write, "Sexual intimacy and the pleasure that derives from it are gifts from God and should remain personal and private, enjoyed within the sacred bond of marriage alone."

Pope Francis frequently reminds the church of her calling to become a "field hospital" for the wounded of the world. The bishops write, "In the wake of the so-called sexual revolution, many have been hurt by their own sins, the sins of others, confusion, and broken relationships and families. In particular, the effects of pornography on the soul can be deep, and the use of pornography itself can be a sign of other emotional wounds. No wound is so deep, however, as to be out of the reach of Christ's redeeming grace." In this Jubilee Year of Mercy we reflect on God, the most loving of Fathers, who waits to meet us with joy; we who are repentant sinners joy. Don't let shame keep you away from Him. He wants to give us the grace to combat temptation. He invites us to draw strength from the Eucharist, and through the Sacrament of Penance. Do not be discouraged. God never tires of forgiving us. If you fall, get up again. Believe in the power of God

Blessings, Msgr. Tom Owens stlatt2014@gmail.com

PS The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (usccb.org) issued a document entitled, "Create in Me a Clean Heart" – a fuller treatment of the pastoral concerns regarding pornography.

God's Plan for Giving

July 17, 2016

WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL FOR
YOUR OFFERTORY GIFTS LAST WEEKEND:

\$14,226.00

Electronic giving \$1,858.00 + \$12,368.00 = \$14,226.00



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



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. The goal of WWP is to enable women to know Christ through Scripture. We are hoping to offer both a morning and evening schedule. If you are at all curious or just interested in meeting an amazing diverse group of women with one thing in common, the love of Christ, please join us for lite bites and coffee on **Wednesday, August 24th at 6:30 PM**. Feel free to come alone or bring a friend, we're a very welcoming group! Please contact Judy Kukowski at 610-331-2147 or JAKukowski@verizon.net with questions and for meeting details.

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 9 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



Short Term Substitute Teacher: Merion Mercy Academy, a Catholic independent all girls high school sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy, is seeking a short term substitute teacher of theology from the opening of school until mid to late October 2016. Degree required. Experience in teaching theology on a secondary level preferred. Qualified applicants are asked to email a cover letter and resume by Wednesday, August 3rd to Mary Ann Danovich, Assistant Head for Academic Affairs, at madanovich@merion-mercy.com.

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.



Catholic Family Fun Club (CFFC)

Want to find Catholic activities for the whole family to do together? Want to meet other families that share your values? Look no further! The Catholic Family Fun Club (CFFC) and the Archdiocese of Philadelphia invite you to **join the Catholic Family Fun Club** to network with other families and to attend—and create—local Catholic catechetical and social activities. to <http://www.meetup.com/Catholic-Family-Fun-Club/> to join. Please direct questions to Mary Beth at catholicfamilyfun@gmail.com



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 stmat2014@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.
- DMAVA 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.

Please contact me, **Carolyn Fortenberry LCSW, at 610-915-8524.**

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 9 & September 13**. 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).

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.

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 17th 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!

Genesis 18:20-32 Psalm 138 Colossians 2:12-14 Luke 11:1-13

Some of you might be familiar with a wonderful story of a pastor who happened to see a shabbily dressed man enter the church. The pastor was concerned because the church was located in a rough neighborhood.

The man looked around to be sure no one was watching him as he entered the church. This made the pastor even more uneasy, especially when it happened again the next day and then again the following day.

The pastor finally decided to find out what this man was up to.

The next day, at his usual hour, the man appeared on the steps of the church, again looked around to make sure no one was watching, and stepped into the church.

This time the pastor went up to the choir loft where he could watch him.

The first thing the man did was take off his hat reverently, and hold it over his heart, put his hand on the communion rail and said, "Jesus, it's Jim."

That was his whole prayer. He said nothing else out loud. He just wanted to touch base.

It turned out that he worked in one of the nearby factories and was coming there on his lunch hour to pray for strength to serve God in what was a very rough and crime-ridden environment. He sat quietly for half an hour.

This man shows us the essence of prayer—not a lot of words, not asking for a lot of favors like money or material things. By touching base with Jesus, he brought his mind into alignment with the mind of God. In doing so, he imitated Jesus Who so often snuck away from the crowds to touch base with His Father.

Like the pastor in the story who noticed the routine of the shabbily dressed man, the disciples noticed how often Jesus went off by Himself to pray in order to gain new strength to carry on with His daily work. They wanted to have Jesus teach them how to pray and Jesus gave them the Our Father. A simple prayer—only 27 words in the Greek text—but a prayer that says it all.

We could all do an examination of conscience before confession by meditating on it and by asking ourselves if we live up to all its challenges.

Some people today have given up on prayer—"Why should I pray?" they ask. "What good will it do?"

Let's not forget the story of Abraham in our first reading today. 50-40-30-20-10 – for the sake of 10 just people, God would spare Sodom and Gomorrah.

Our world is in need of being spared. Will we find ourselves among those 50?

We live in dangerous times. The misuse of freedom for moral violence against the young, pornography, suicide bombings, car explosions, genocide, terrorism in many forms, 9/11, Orlando — what's next?

Our world is in need of being spared.

Many years ago, Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, in a speech at Harvard, said that a decline in courage may be the most striking feature which an outside observer notices in the West. He was speaking of moral courage and the unwillingness to recognize truth when we see it.

Moral courage is a fighting virtue, the virtue that fights against all that is wrong and easy and for all that is right and hard.

Why should we pray? We need an Abraham to bargain with God that He spare our world, our way of living if He can find 50 just people. Hopefully, we all want to be counted among them. Pray for moral courage.

There is an old Calvin and Hobbes cartoon in which Calvin is getting ready for bed and he says to Hobbes: "Any time when you don't finish the day with grass stains on your knees, you ought to seriously reexamine your priorities."

So it is with us, followers of Christ. Any time we don't finish a day without some time spent on our knees to touch base with Jesus, an encounter that keeps us on the right moral path, we ought to seriously examine our priorities.

Pray for courage—the moral courage we need more than ever in this, our time.

**GIVE
US
OUR
DAILY
BREAD**



END OF BULLETIN