

Mass Intentions for the Week

**14th Sunday in Ordinary Time
July 9, 2017**

Saturday, July 8

4:30PM Carl Schultz

Sunday, July 9

7:30AM Charles & Charlotte Kelly

9:30AM Carol Tinneney

11:30AM Charles Lare

Monday, July 10

8:15AM Helen & Joseph Schank

Tuesday, July 11

8:15AM Audrey DeFrancesco

Wednesday, July 12

8:15AM Carol Tinneney

Thursday, July 13

8:15AM Elizabeth Bowe

Friday, July 14

8:15AM Joseph Speranza

Saturday, July 15

4:30PM Mary Agnes O'Donnell
Maureen Herninko

Sunday, July 16

7:30AM Martin Brady

9:30AM Intentions of Louis Matregrano

11:30AM Adam Pagliaro



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, Sr. Jean Streibig, Stephanie Hathaway, Charles Streibig, Kylie Reiff, Nikki Dolan, 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, Ann Greco, Jessica Jara, Joe Lotito, 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, Paul & Family, Derek Dean, Baby Noah Marchetti, James Simpson, Roseann Sirianni Lare, Theresa Steinhauer, John Palmer, Rachel Minnick, Mark Hogan, Gregory Mazzochetti, Teresa Sensinger, Theresa Rozecki, Minnie Olearsky, Kimberly Moyer, Sal Spera.



Sophie Grabowski

PRAY FOR OUR 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



CELEBRANTS MASS SCHEDULE

7/8 4:30 Fr. Heron
7/9 7:30 Fr. Ryan 9:30 Fr. McKeaney 11:30 Msgr. Owens
7/15 4:30 Fr. McKeaney
7/16 7:30 Fr. McKeaney 9:30 Msgr. Owens 11:30 Fr. Heron
7/22 4:30 Msgr. Owens
7/23 7:30 Fr. Heron 9:30 Fr. Ryan 11:30 Fr. McKeaney
7/29 4:30 Fr. Ryan
7/30 7:30 Fr. Cooke 9:30 Fr. McKeaney 11:30 Fr. Heron

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 (except for July because of the holiday). **The next class is July 11 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

Prepare for next Sunday

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time July 16, 2017

Isaiah 55:10 – 11 Romans 8:18 – 23 Matthew 13:1 – 23
The Lord proclaims: "My words shall not return to me void, but shall do my will "achieving the end for which I sent it." The Word is the Son of God. "Creation waits with eager expectation" to "be set free from slavery and corruption and share in the glorious freedom of the children of God." That is why Jesus speaks to us in a way that reminds us of the moment of creation: as if we are soil. "The Lord God formed man out of the clay of the ground and blew into his nostrils the breath of life" (Genesis 2:7). We have the potential, the freedom to be good, rich, productive soil. We beg that the Word will return to us again and again so that we can do his will, achieving the end for which God sends his Word to us.



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, **July 11** 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



PREP/CCD REGISTRATION FOR 2017-2018. Now is the time for parents to plan for next year. Please take a few minutes to register your children online for religious education

classes.

No payment until after July 1st. Fees will remain the same.

One child \$110.00 Two children \$165.00 Three or more children \$195.00

Classes are offered Sunday Mornings between masses. Classes are held in the Parish Center 10:25-11:25 am.

YOUTH GROUP: Please register online for Parish Youth Ministry. All 7th, 8th, 9th graders are welcome. Group will meet once a month in the evening. Day and Time TBA. No fee.

Announcing a wonderful opportunity to get involved...Enriching the lives of our young children.
TEACH, AIDE, VOLUNTEER FOR PREP/CCD St. Matthew Religious Education Program

We are in need of a few **male** role models as catechists and or aides in the classroom.

Please contact: Mary Kay McKenna at the Parish Office 610-828-0424 or email mckennamaryk@gmail.com.

LITURGY OF THE WORD FOR CHILDREN:



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



ALTAR SERVERS: Are you 10 years old or older? Do you want to help in the parish? Join the St. Matthew's Altar Servers. Training will begin after 9:30 Mass on Sunday. E-mail stmatthewrectory@verizon.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

Casino Trips:

scheduled for the 2nd Tuesday of each month: **July 11 & August 8.** 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).



FOOD BANK NEEDS:

Our parish food bank is in need of: Applesauce, Jars of Spaghetti Sauce. Donations can be placed in the vestibules of the church. Thanks!



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.

Reboot Life! With Chris Stefanick – Save the Date!

St. Philip Neri in Lafayette Hill, PA is pleased to announce that internationally-renowned Catholic family man, speaker and author, Chris Stefanick and his life-changing event, Reboot Live!, will be held this **October 5th, 2017** from 7PM to 9:30 PM in the parish church located on 437 Ridge Pike in Lafayette Hill. Reboot Live! is the fun, inspiring and practical experience for all (ages 12 and up) of applying the beauty and genius of the Gospel to every aspect of your life, from prayer and spirituality, to work, dating, marriage, parenting, health and more! Tickets are \$20. Register today at www.reallifecatholic.com/reboot. (Look for October 5th and St. Philip Neri to purchase online.)

Director of Music job opportunity:

Merion Mercy Academy, an independent, all girls Catholic High School sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy, seeks a dynamic and energetic Director of Music to lead, develop and manage an established, reputable music program for both instrumental and vocal students. The successful candidate, in addition to having a passion for the performing arts, should have a music education



background or at least five years of experience with high school students. Responsibilities include teaching music majors, assuming extracurricular work with singing and instrumental groups, and supervising other music teachers. Candidates should submit electronically a letter of intent, resume, a copy of all transcripts, and clearances to Mary Ann Danovich, Assistant Head for Academic Affairs (madanovich@merion-mercy.com). Interviews will be scheduled immediately with the intent that the position is filled by **August 11, 2017.**

Merion Mercy Academy, an independent, all girls Catholic High School sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy, has an opening for a **full time teaching position** in the Mathematics department for the 2017-2018 school year. The schedule includes teaching AP Calculus AB. Qualified applicants with a Mathematics degree and secondary certification are asked to submit a cover letter and resume by Thursday, **July 13th** to Mary Ann Danovich, Assistant Head of School for Academic Affairs, madanovich@merion-mercy.com.



The Spirit of God dwells in you



The Spirit of God dwells in you

God's Plan for Giving

July 2, 2017

WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL FOR YOUR OFFERTORY GIFTS LAST WEEKEND:

\$12,618.00

Electronic giving \$1,691.00 + \$10,927.00 = \$12,618.00

Today 2nd Collection is for Campaign for Human Dev



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 VACATIONS: Please remember your parish church in the summer. You may be away for one week, one month, or have a vacation home which takes you away from the parish every weekend. We are asking that you remember your contribution to the church during this time.

Thank you for your generosity in the past. We have a very caring, generous parish and we ask that you do not forget about us in the coming months.

BUS TRIP



Join us for a bus trip to the National Centre for Padre Pio on Sunday, **July 16, 2017** for a day dedicated to Our Lady of Fatima and the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. The cost of the trip is \$45.00 per person with a box lunch. For more information contact:
Bette Cianci – 610-828-0289 or
Louisa Sutera – 610-828-8374

FULL TIME CHILDCARE ASSISTANT:



Conshohocken Catholic Early Childhood Center is seeking full time caregivers for infants and toddlers in our newly formed Daycare center. Experience caring for infants and/or toddlers is required. Previous daycare experience is preferred. Candidate must be loving, nurturing, and possess good leadership skills. For more information call Carol Kearney at 610-825-4823 or email cceccdaycare@gmail.com

FULL TIME PRESCHOOL AIDE: Conshohocken Catholic Early Childhood Center is seeking an energetic classroom aide for our PreK Program. Candidate must have previous experience working with young children. Associate Degree or Bachelor's Degree in Education is preferred. For more information call Michelle Borkowski at 610-828-0755.

Stop Worrying & Start Living Retreat
Malvern Retreat House will host this retreat **August 4-6** for both men and women. Retreat Director Gary Zimak will help retreatants find practical ways to achieve peace in their lives. Zimak is a well-known Catholic author and speaker, and his retreat topics will include "You CAN stop Worrying!," "Unleashing the Spirit," and "Jesus - Your BEST Best Friend." For more information, please visit malvernretreat.com or call 610-644-0400.

Reflections from my Rocking Chair

Dear friends,

Take a moment to consider this prayer of thanksgiving composed by the spiritual writer, Thomas Merton:

In all manner of things we are grateful, O God of love, and for our discovery that all is your gift to us. Every breath we draw is a gift of your love, every moment; a grace, for it brings with it an abundance of love. Grant me a grateful heart that takes nothing for granted, is never unresponsive, and is constantly awakened to new wonder. For the grateful person knows that you, Lord, are good, not by hearsay but by experience. Oh, such a difference! We ask this through Christ our Savior. Amen.

When I applied to the seminary in 1969 I took a series of psychological examinations (as did every applicant). In one test that required a yes or no answer to 100 statements, I was confronted by this question: "Do you hear voices that no one else hears?" My answer was quick and untrue! I checked no! After all this was a psychological test. But the truth is; I did hear "a voice" causing me to begin preparation for the priesthood. It was clear that my friends at St. Joseph's University did not hear that voice. I was the only one to apply to St. Charles Seminary.

Looking back I believe that I experienced what Thomas Merton described as knowing the good God "not by hearsay but by experience". It made all the difference in the world to this spiritually intoxicated 20 year old to know in a heartfelt way that God loves me more than I love myself. I became a priest to assist others in making that same discovery, or more likely strengthening the faith of those who have experienced God in an intimate way already. While I do not claim to be a mystic, I do believe that a committed Christian has moments that are mystical. Pope Francis defines a mystic as one who "experiences the intimate connection between God and all beings." For a few months God was perched on my shoulder as I transitioned into the new life at St. Charles Seminary. Just as a marriage is not always magical, the disciple of Jesus does not always experience God's closeness. God comes close when he chooses, not when we try to conjure him up. A mystic like Saint Teresa of Avila experienced the pain of imitating Christ crucified along with the sweetness of Christ risen.

Our first temptation is to run away from the notion that God makes his presence felt. It seems like too much to expect or perhaps his presence may ask too much from me. The psalmist seems to understand, "On the day I cried out, you answered; you strengthen my spirit." (Psalm 138) In another place we read, "From your presence, where can I flee?" (Psalm 139) Why would we want to flee? Perhaps when he comes close, he asks me to forgive someone who does not deserve to be forgiven or to speak the truth when a lie would be more convenient.

The blessing – the sweetness – that graces the soul of the believer who experiences God in their particular life far outweighs the painful sacrifices required of a disciple. Consider if you will the experience of God that moved Saint Clare of Assisi to write,

His affection holds one fast.

His contemplation is like the breath of new life.

His kindness fills one to the brim.

His sweetness is in overflowing measure.

The recollection of him shines with a soft light.

His fragrance revives the dead.

The theologian, Father Karl Rahner SJ, sensing the secular breeze which blows through our society, once wrote, "The Christians of the future will be mystics or they will not be Christians at all".

Blessings, Monsignor Tom Owens (stmat2014@gmail.com)

Fr. Tom Heron's Weekly Reflection

Last weekend in the United States we celebrated the independence of our country and the many freedoms that we enjoy. There were picnics and celebrations with fireworks displays in every state. By and large it was a time to enjoy family and friends; to remember years past and share hopes for the future.

Let's try to tie themes of the national celebration to the themes of this day's readings from Scripture. There is a line in the Battle Hymn of the Republic that begins our meditation: "as He died to make men holy let us die to make men free."

This verse prompts a question or two.

Is there anything in my life which I value so much that I would die for it?

Do we appreciate the sacrifices of our ancestors to make this nation extraordinary?

Many of them endured extreme hardships and deprived themselves of comforts as they involved themselves in the struggle of our nation's noble experiment of democracy.

Many of them gave their lives that we might be free as a people just as many people gave their lives that we might have our faith.

Now it is our turn to maintain and to improve what they have passed on to us.

How shall we do that? St. Paul has an answer - Jesus gives us an invitation.

St. Paul gives us a suggestion and a reminder: "We are not debtors to the flesh." Another way of saying that is "We are not enslaved by our sins. We have freedom of choice and we can resist temptation to sin." How? We have God's Spirit in us, alive in us. That means that even in the midst of our sinfulness, there is cause for great hope.

Perhaps there was a time when we felt overwhelmed with grief because of our sin. This held a tight grip on us and led us to believe we would never wrestle free from it.

But the power of God is much greater than our worst offense. We have been freed from sin and given the gift of the Holy Spirit. That's why Paul asks us to remember that if we live according to the flesh we will die, but if we live by the Spirit we will have life. It is the Holy Spirit who gives freedom, hope and peace, enabling us to accomplish great things.

Jesus, in today's Gospel, gives us an invitation: "Come to Me, all you grown weary with labor and heavily burdened, and I will refresh you. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me; My yoke is easy and My burden light."

In other words, freedom and joy spring precisely from entering into a new relationship with Christ. Jesus is not here speaking about a temporary lifting of life's burdens. He is giving us a chance to share in the very joy and strength that are His that come from His relationship with His Father. Real rest and relief will come to us only if we accept His invitation.

What is strange is that this freedom, rest and repose come to us if we bear a yoke. But a yoke is not just any kind of burden, but a burden intended to produce a work. A yoke always pulls something, a plough or a wagon. But a yoke also means two bodies are linked in the performance of a common task. The person bearing a yoke is never alone, particularly in this invitation of Jesus who exhorts us to take His yoke upon us and no other.

Life need not be purposeless exhaustion, sterile striving, and frightful solitude. A yoke connotes a pair.

Jesus yoked Himself to us by becoming one of us. Now He is inviting us to yoke ourselves to Him and His divinity. Our burdens are not only temporarily eased, they are permanent abolished by the invasion into our souls of the very life of the Divine Persons. We are so yoked to Them that together with Them we can shed light and truth as one in freedom and love.

We can do this through Jesus if we are permanently linked to Him, Whose exclusive company we desire and with Whom we wish to accomplish a single, fruitful task: our own and the world's salvation. We take Jesus' yoke upon us, His cross; which is the plough upturning the soil of men's hearts to render them fruitful and receptive to divine grace.

In inviting us to be yoked to Him, Jesus is saying that together we can easily distribute the weight of life's burden. Together we will be able to pull far greater a load than either one could pull alone.

When we, as citizens, are yoked to Christ, we are better able to stand up for all we believe in. We are never alone. Jesus is never alone. A powerful team indeed!

Yoked to Christ we are better able to repay the sacrifices made on our behalf.

We thank God for the blessings we have received and for the dedicated people who made it possible for us to come to church in freedom each day.

As followers of Christ we are first and foremost citizens of the Kingdom of God; secondly, citizens of our country.

We can wave the flag of our country proudly and pray that our one nation, under God, will always stand for the freedom and dignity purchased at great price for all people by Jesus Christ.

We have a choice: to live life apart from Christ or to be yoked to Christ, allowing us to live powerful and purposeful lives in and for our country.

Freedom is like air. You breathe and don't think about it. But as soon as that air is taken away, you realize how precious it is and you will never take it for granted again.

END OF BULLETIN