

Prosper the Work of our Hands, Lord!

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time September 3, 2017

Saturday, September 2

4:30PM Alice Aspera

Sunday, September 3

7:30AM Kristina Lynn Morris

9:30AM Anthony Rio

11:30AM Raymond & Margaret Beswick

Monday, September 4 Labor Day

8:15AM Margaret Beswick (21st Anniversary)

Dec'd Members of Alan Wood Steel

Tuesday, September 5

8:15AM Peggy Storti

Wednesday, September 6

8:15AM Nick Mastrocola

Marilu Uriostegui

Thursday, September 7

8:15AM Joseph Speranza

Friday, September 8

8:15AM Joseph & Helen Schank

Saturday, September 9

4:30PM Dec'd Members of St. Matthew Class of 64

Sunday, September 10

7:30AM Ann & Cy Marinari

9:30AM Vince Ruggiero

11:30AM The Camaioni Family



Prayer
Requests

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 Blaszcak, Patrick Kelly, Sean McGonagle, Mary Pierce, Brian Dunlevy, Sr. Jean Streibig, Stephanie Hathaway, Charles Streibig, Kylie Reiff, 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, Derek Dean, Baby Noah Marchetti, James Simpson, Roseann Sirianni Lare, Theresa Steinhauser, John Palmer, Rachel Minnick, Mark Hogan, Gregory Mazzochetti, Teresa Sensinger, Theresa Rozecki, Minnie Olearsky, Kimberly Moyer, Sal Spera, Veronica Lilick, Jessie Bonkowski, Marlin McCarthy, Angeline Williams, Jack & Grace McCracken, Joe Lipinski, Marty Murray, Jack Ashton Sr., David Folts, David Lewis, Vince Defruscio



Return to God

Patricia Bolger, David Wosczyzna,
Mary Kehoe, Ron Klutts



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 Soback, 2nd Lt. Ryan D'Ambrosio, 2nd Lt. Eraina D'Ambrosio, Lt. Col Jeffrey Matthew

CELEBRANTS MASS SCHEDULE

9/2 4:30 Fr. Heron

9/3 7:30 Fr. Ryan 9:30 Msgr. Owens 11:30 Msgr. Ricci

9/9 4:30 Fr. McKeaney

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

9/16 4:30 Msgr. Owens

9/17 7:30 Fr. McKeaney 9:30 Fr. Ryan 11:30 Msgr. Owens

9/23 4:30 Fr. Ryan

9/24 7:30 Msgr. Owens 9:30 Fr. McKeaney 11:30 Msgr. Ricci

9/30 4:30 Msgr. Ricci

10/1 7:30 Fr. McKeaney 9:30 Fr. Heron 11:30 Msgr. Owens

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 September 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



St. Matthew Parish is offering a one day pre-Cana program on **Saturday, October 21, 2017** 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

Prepare for Next Sunday

September 10, 2017

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ezekiel 33:7 – 9 Romans 13:8 – 10 Matthew 18:15 – 20

When St. Paul says that we are to "owe nothing to anyone except to love one another," he is not referring to something sentimental. The love that the Apostle wishes us to embrace is summed up by the Prophet Ezekiel: "if you do not speak out to discourage the wicked from his way, I will hold you responsible for his death." Our love must extend to those attitudes and actions that would prevent our neighbors from truly loving themselves and their own destiny. "If your brother listens to you, you have won him over" because Jesus himself is in the midst of such love.



PREP/CCD REGISTRATION FOR 2017-2018. Please take a few minutes to register your children online for religious education classes.

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.

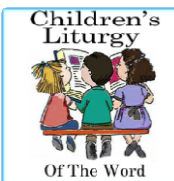
Opening Day for Prep/CCD Sunday September 10, 2017. 9:30 Mass in church, classes to follow in Parish Center.

Catechist and Staff Meeting **September 6th** at 6:30 pm or **September 9th** at 1:30PM in Parish Center. Enter through Harry St.

Parent Meeting **September 5th** 6:30 pm in Parish Center. Enter through Harry Street. (one parent from each family, if you are unable to attend ask someone to pick up the folder for you.)

Those families whose students attend Catholic Regional Elementary Schools and are candidates for First Sacraments are asked to please call Ms. Mary Kay at the Parish Center. 610- 828-0424 ext. 6.

An urgent need has arisen and could use some help. Because CCD shares the building with the Early Childhood School and Daycare, some adjustments to accommodate over 170 children on Sunday has to occur for ease of movement of CCD and safety of the little ones throughout the week. A job description follows: Help with CCD set up Friday evening after 5pm or Saturday afternoon (Time to be determined). Then take down Sunday after 11:30 am. Or early Monday morning. One person maybe two hours, two or more less time. Only involves 25 Sundays from Sept 10 – March 18. Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years weekends off. Job description: Set up 186 chairs in hall auditorium style. This is 7 rows of 13 chairs across on left and right side with aisle created in the middle. Set up 4 tables next to kitchen wall. These may be permanently set so they would not need to be taken down every session. Set up tables and chairs in one/ two classrooms. Break down chairs in hall and tables in classrooms. Possible set up of chairs in First Grade classroom. A Stipend is included. Call Mary Kay at 610-828-0424 ext 6 Or email mckennamaryk@gmail.com



LITURGY OF THE WORD FOR CHILDREN starts **September 10** and continues every Sunday at the **9:30AM** Mass. All children (**ages 3 – 9**) 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 and older siblings are encouraged to accompany younger siblings. **10 year olds and up are encouraged to become altar servers.**

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.

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.



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.



SAVE THE DATE: Donations Appreciated! **Sunday September 24th**, we will be having our annual Healing Service in Honor of SS. Cosmas and Damian. This year we will have a 3 day

Triduum, (A triduum is a three-day period of prayer, usually in preparation for an important feast or in celebration of that feast) beginning on Friday September 22nd at 7:00 PM – Prayer Service – Deacon Joseph Carr, Saturday 8:15 AM - Mass – Celebrant and Homilist – Father Gasper Genuardi, the ending on Sunday with a Healing Service after the 11:30 Mass. At the close of our Triduum we will be hosting refreshments, finger foods and desserts so we can enjoy one another's company. (We are still in need of donations of appetizers, desserts, beverages, and time to help out where needed, please consider making a dessert or an appetizer. Any questions, contact: hclegg100@aol.com)



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. Our next social events:
9/10 Brunch after 9:30 Mass. Please meet in the back of the church
9/26 Volunteer at Cradles to Crayons. Sign up on our facebook page or email Tony or Erin for the information. 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.

Interested in actively participating in the Sunday Liturgy? Consider becoming a lector who proclaims the Scripture Readings at Mass or a Eucharistic Minister. Contact Mary Kay 610-828-0424 x 6.

God's Plan for Giving

August 27, 2017

WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL FOR YOUR OFFERTORY GIFTS LAST WEEKEND:

\$11,729.00

Electronic giving \$2,055.00 + \$9,674.00 = \$11,729.00



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. This Fall, at St. Matthews Parish in Conshohocken, we will be studying the women of the bible using the WWP "Discovering Your Dignity" workbook. If you want to learn more about WWP, please join us on **Wednesday, September 6th at 6:30 PM and Friday mornings.** Please contact Judy Kukowski at 610-331-2147 or JAKukowski@verizon.net with questions and for meeting details.



Parish Book Club

Now is a good time to join our parish book club – "Fiction with a Christian twist". We select novels both contemporary and classic. We will be meeting on October 4 to discuss "The Old Man and the Sea" by Ernest Hemingway. Past novels include *All the Light We Cannot See*, *The Children of Men*, *In the Garden of Beasts*, *The Little Prince*, *A Man Called Ove*, *Stones from the River*. Novels are chosen for their themes dealing with faith, religion, sin and redemption, etc. If you are interested please leave your name with the parish office or by email (stmatt2014@gmail.com).



The Conshohocken Art League, Mary Wood Park House, 120 E. Fifth Ave. Conshohocken, is forming its fall schedule of classes. For class descriptions and registration: conshohockenartleague.org. Incremental

payment arrangements welcome on first day of class.
Junior/Teen Saturday class: Introduction to Fine Art 10 weeks: 10AM -noon - \$130 (\$120 if registered before September 30); October 7-December 9 – Adult classes/sessions (Tuesdays and Thursdays) Independent Projects: Tuesdays, 10 weeks: 9:30-11:30 AM - \$175 (\$165 if registered before September 26); October 3 - December 5 - Basic Drawing - Thursdays, 10 weeks: 9:30-11:30 - \$175 (\$165 if registered before September 28); October 5-December 14 - Essential Skills - Thursdays, 5 weeks: 6:30-8:30PM - \$89 - October 5-November 2 - Clothed Figure Drawing/Open Studio -Third Tuesdays (September-December): 6-8:30 PM - \$12 (pay at door) - First session: September 19 Open Studio Figure Drawing - First Tuesdays - September-December) 6-8:30PM - \$12 (pay at door) First session: September 5 - Fall 2017 Visiting Artist Series: Sunday, October 22, 1-3PM - Featured Artist: Stuart Shils



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, **September 12** 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

The disciples asked,
"Teacher, where do you live?"

Jesus answered,
"Come and see."

Are you considering
Becoming a Catholic?

Or, were you once baptized into the
Catholic Church but have not received the
Sacrament of Confirmation

We are presently gathering a group of people interested in full communion with the Church as described above. The formal title of this program is **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)**. We will begin our gatherings on the last Monday of September at 6:30 PM in the new Parish Center (using the entrance nearest the front door of the Rectory). To indicate your interest, please call the Rectory office and leave your name and phone number or contact us at Stmatt2014@gmail.com. Catholicism is a wonderful life lived close to Jesus and his Sacraments and comforted by the charity of its members, one for another – and even toward the stranger.



PRO-LIFE SUMMER RAFFLE

Please take a \$25 Chance for Life and support the Pro-Life Summer Raffle. A maximum of 2,500 tickets will be sold at \$25 each for ten prizes totaling \$7,500: 1st Prize \$5,000, 2nd Prize \$1,000, 3rd Prize \$500, two 4th Prizes \$250, and five 5th Prizes \$100. This Raffle supports the Pro-Life Legal Fund, which has served the pro-life movement since 1986 by effectively advancing interests in court cases and advocating for pro-life policies at the local, state, and national levels. Please make checks payable to "Pro-Life Legal Fund". Please contact **Diane at 610-828-8041** for tickets. The drawing for the Raffle will occur on **Saturday, September 23, 2017**. Thank you very much!

COMMUNION BREAKFAST: Saint Matthew & Archbishop Kennedy HS Football Alumni Association is holding a COMMUNION BREAKFAST. Mass will be held Sunday, 9:30 AM **October 1, 2017** at St. Matthew Church, 219 Fayette Street, Conshohocken. Breakfast buffet will follow at approximately 10:30 AM. The Fellowship House is located at 515 Harry Street, Conshohocken. This event is a "family affair." Spouses, parents and children are encouraged. Cost of the event is \$20 per adult and \$10 for children under 12. Please indicate # of adults and children attending. As usual, we ask that you prepay. It allows you to avoid lines at the door. It gives us a good estimate of attendance to order food and set-up tables. Send checks payable to "AKHS Football" to: Tom Connor '72 - 7007 Oriole Court -Audubon, PA 19403. Call 610-296-4828 or contact akhsfootballalumni@gmail.com.

Fr. Tom Heron's Weekly Reflection

In today's reading from Saint Paul's letter to the Romans, the great apostle is asking all of us an important question: What do we bring to Mass today? Some bring their tired bodies and an envelope. Others speak prayers they want to offer for family and friends. But what Saint Paul is speaking about is far deeper. It involves the words of integrity and truth. These are interconnected because we live lives of integrity when we live truthful lives. In other words, Saint Paul's question is this — how can we say we are offering God true worship if we are living dishonestly?

"Do not conform yourselves to this age," cries Saint Paul. Saint Paul knows human nature. He knows that conformity is a deep-seated need within each of us. As young children, we conform to the values of our parents as set in the home. As teenagers, however, another set of values are presented to us and there is a strong need to conform to the values of our peers. Sadly, this involves experimentation with alcohol, drugs and promiscuity that are activities completely against the Gospel. No one wants to be left out of the "in-crowd" and so we conform to this age. Young adults conform, too. We live in a culture that casually accepts living together without commitment. Marriage, which in Christ's view means being faithful to one's spouse in good times and in bad, in sickness and in health, until death, is no longer viewed by many as the sacred institution it is. It is not easy to resist the many temptations that come our way today. The father of lies, the great deceiver, the seducer of souls, is going about trying to get us to conform to the values of this age. A living person in a mother's womb is called "protoplasm" and so it is easier to remove this life when we call it by some other name. Only wanted children survive in the present age. Putting an elderly parent to death is called mercy killing or assisted suicide. We hear much these days about values — family values, personal values, national values. We have to be careful because, all too often truth, decency, morality, these essential pillars of society, can decay from within. It happened in ancient Rome. Saint Paul was an eye-witness to the decline. He watched the Roman Empire collapse upon itself. That's why he pleaded with the Christian community in Rome not to conform to this age. It can happen again in our society, in our country, if we are not vigilant.

*Life calls for vigilance. There are temptations out there that would destroy us if we would let them. But the greatest temptation we face is the temptation to be less than what Jesus has called us to be. We are called to be men and women of integrity and truth. We are urged not to **"conform ourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of our minds so that we may discern what is God's Will. What is good and pleasing and perfect."** In God's Will is our peace. Today we pray with the psalmist "O God, you are my God Whom I seek, not the world."*

There is
in my heart
a burning fire



Reflections from my Rocking Chair

Dear friends,

Let me continue my thumbnail descriptions of significant Catholics in the life of the Catholic Church in the United States. I begin with a woman tackling an issue relevant to our story today; that is, the ministry of St. Francis Xavier Cabrini, sent on a mission to serve the needs of Italian immigrants entering the United States in the early 1900s. Historians, commonly point to these periods of immigration: the Irish in the 1850s, the Germans in the 1880s, the Italians in the early 1900s and the Poles and other Slavic peoples in the 1920s. Between 1880 and 1920 as many as 4 million Italians came to America from poverty ridden southern Italy. Early in her life at a meeting with Pope Leo XIII he commissioned her to send her young religious community to the United States. The immigrants faced poverty, a critical shortage of Italian-speaking priests, habits of anti-clericalism, and spotty religious practice. Mother Cabrini arrived in the United States on March 31, 1889. Within a month she and her companions were running an orphanage. In less than three years they had a hospital. By the time she died 34 years after her arrival in America, the 2300 Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart were serving in the United States and throughout the Western Hemisphere having established 67 institutions devoted to the physical, moral and spiritual welfare of Italian immigrants. After her death in December, 1917, she was canonized by Pope Pius XII in 1946. In 1950 the Holy Father designated her "Patroness of the Immigrants". To this day the Church in the United States takes an active role in meeting the physical and spiritual needs of immigrants arriving on our shores.

Another perspective on the immigration of Catholics into the United States can be seen in the light of the presidential aspirations of New York Governor Al Smith, a Catholic and a major candidate for the presidency in 1928. Even though Smith was a four-time governor of New York, his race for the White House laid bare the anti-Catholicism of the day. To suspicious Protestants he was attacked as a pawn of the Pope. His parents were of Italian and Irish heritage. He was a rarity in New York politics, free of any taint of scandal. In response to dark speculation that Rome would rule the country with a Catholic president, he noted that his long experience as a public official presented no conflicts between his faith and his official duties. While he made headway in some parts of the country, there were other forces at work virulently anti-Catholic. In 1915 the Ku Klux Klan was reestablished with its hatred directed at Blacks, Jews, and Catholics. Smith remained faithful both to his Church and to his country, even though he was advised to remain silent on the issue of church and state. In Oklahoma City he spoke eloquently and honestly to an audience disposed to think poorly of Catholicism. There in a speech he said, "I can think of no greater disaster to this country, then to have the voters ... divide upon religious lines. It is contrary to the spirit, not only of the Declaration of Independence, but of the Constitution itself. Our forefathers, in their wisdom, wrote into the Constitution of the United States that no religious test shall ever be applied for public office." This was "not a mere form of words" but "the most vital principle that ever was given to any people". His eloquence was not enough. A month and a half later he lost to Herbert Hoover in a landslide, collecting 41% of the popular vote to Hoover's 58%. Though there were other reasons for the Republican victory, traditionally Democratic states such as Texas, Oklahoma, and Florida all going to the Republican Party. The New York Times concluded that countless votes were cast against Smith because he was a Catholic.

It took 32 years for another Catholic to win the presidency, John F. Kennedy. There has not been another president who was Catholic since.

Blessings, Monsignor Tom Owens (stmatt2014@gmail.com)

End of Bulletin