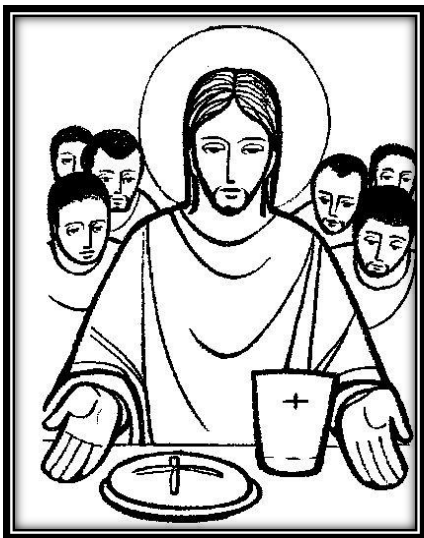


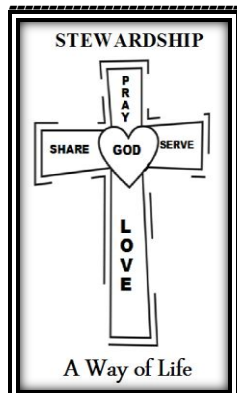
**THE TWENTIETH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
AUGUST 19, 2018**

GOSPEL FOCUS – REAL PRESENCE: The Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist is a central doctrine of the Catholic faith. It is regarded as a revealed truth proved by both scripture and tradition. This week's gospel, indeed the entire "Bread of Life" discourse (Jn 6:26-72), is an essential passage of scripture that supports the teaching of Christ present in the Eucharist. Along with scripture, the other proof of the doctrine is tradition. Since the first century, only a brief time after the death of Jesus, Christians linked their celebration of Eucharist with the words of Jesus at the last supper—they celebrated Eucharist as a memorial of Jesus.



DIFFERENT VIEW - CANNIBALISM?: One of the criticisms leveled against Catholicism since the days of the early Church—and continuing even today—is the claim that Catholics perform an act of cannibalism in the Eucharist! The critics seize on the "body and blood of Christ" that are consumed in the Eucharist. Transubstantiation is a difficult concept for many people to comprehend (including many Catholics). Whilst the "substance" of bread and wine—the essence of their bread-ness and wine-ness—are changed to the body and blood of Christ, the "form" of the bread and wine remains the same.

LIVING THE GOSPEL – YOU ARE WHAT YOU EAT: In a world that is obsessed with health and fitness and yet, ironically, also experiencing an ever-increasing overweight and obese population, what we eat has come under greater scrutiny than ever before. You are what you eat" has become a catchcry for healthy eating but Catholics have known the truth of this statement for centuries. When we participate in the Eucharist, we not only receive the body of Christ; we become the body of Christ. The people who make up the Church in the world are indeed the body of Christ. In the words of St Teresa, "Christ has no body now but yours!"



"Watch carefully then how you live, not as foolish persons but as wise..." (EPHESIANS 5:15) A wise person recognizes that all we have and all we are comes from God. A wise person thanks God continually throughout the day for all His many blessings. A wise person realizes that God has blessed us for a reason and that He wants us to help Him build His kingdom of

earth. Last Week You Contributed: Sunday: \$2,914; H. Day: \$444; Insurance: \$352; Expenses: \$4,601.75 (Salaries, Utilities, Taxes). Thank you to those who attended mass (271 out of 861 parishioners). **Pray that all Parishioners will attend Mass and receive the Sacraments weekly!**

**ST. MATTHEW THE EVANGELIST PARISH
MINERSVILLE, PA**

www.StMatthewTheEvangelistParish.org

Rectory Office Hours: Monday to Friday 10:00 AM to 3:30 PM
Phone: (570) 544-2211 Fax: (570) 544-2317 E-Mail: ssk1905@verizon.net

SAINT MATTHEW THE EVANGELIST WELCOMES ALL

No matter what your present status in the Catholic Church; no matter what your current family or marital situation; no matter what your past or present religious affiliation; no matter what your personal history, age, background, race, ethnicity, etc.; you are Invited, Welcomed, Accepted, Loved and Respected at Saint Matthew the Evangelist Parish!

SAFE ENVIRONMENT COORDINATOR: Sr. Meg Cole (610-332-0442 x2019)
VICTIM ASSISTANCE COORDINATOR: Wendy S. Krisak (Direct: 1-800-791-9209)

WEEKDAY MASS AT 8:00 AM (unless indicated otherwise)

- MON – Lucinda and Ambrose Ganly by Joe and Theresa Gleason
- TUE – Intentions of Kara and Shane Ryan by Barbara Vivic
- WED – Joseph M. Maletz, Sr. by Nephew, Father Leo
- THU – Mary and William Barton by Jerry and Al
- FRI – Mary Shemansky by Rita Skavinsky
- SAT – 4:00 PM – Joseph Botek by Mother, Joan
- SUN – 8:30 AM (Recited)—M/M Joseph Gauntlett and Son, Gene by M/M Edward Palokas
10:30 AM – Living and Deceased Parishioners

III BANS OF MARRIAGE: Brandon Aucker (SMTE) and Aleksandra Johnson

**2018
Bishop's
Annual
Appeal**
Faith-Hope-Charity

155 parishioners (32.36% of our 478 households) have donated \$20,505. It would be great to increase our participation rate to show that our parish cares! Thanks to all who have already contributed! Your gifts allow our diocese to address the needs of the disadvantaged within its five counties. EVERY GIFT COUNTS, NO MATTER HOW SMALL. Gifts can be made anytime by placing your pledge form in our Sunday collection basket, dropping it off at the Rectory, or by using the Appeal's Donation site at FaithHopeCharityGives.org. THANKS!

THE WEEKLY CALENDAR: Turn your eyes, O God, our shield; and look on the face of your anointed one; one day within your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. (Ps 84 (83): 10-11)

THE TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, AUGUST 19 – SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: 8:00 AM and 10:15 AM.

FAMILY PRAYER CHALICE FOR VOCATIONS (FPC): Jesus told us to ask the Harvest Master to send laborers into his harvest. May the prayers of our participating families bear fruit. Thanks to FRANK KUCHTA (4:00 PM) for hosting the FPC for vocations. Sign up for November and December in Church.

FAMILY PERSPECTIVE: In today's Gospel Jesus speaks of eating his flesh and blood. Parents can identify with this, for they often feel devoured by all the demands of family life. This is unavoidable for children grow in the soil of sacrificial love. Parenting is not part time work. It is a consuming lifetime commitment.

PRO-LIFE REFLECTION: Enlist in the fight against abortion today! Help to end the war against the unborn children. Hasn't Satan been sacrificing our children long enough? Abortion is the execution of our brothers and sisters and is destroying the future of our nation.. Pray to end abortion. Join pro-life today!

FRATERNAL CHARITY: ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD PANTRY: We need all types of CANNED BABY FOODS for our SVDP Society's outreach and God's Bountiful Table. Call 570-544-2739 to volunteer.

VOTIVES: (1) **SANCTUARY:** IMO Elizabeth Scarbinsky by Family. (2) **ALTARS:** BVM: IMO Mary and William Barton by Jerry and Al; Health of Mary Regina Mundy by Theresa Schoffstall; Special intention by Stan and Sally Gober; IMO Aldona Butler by Edward. **DIVINE MERCY:** IMO Joseph M. Maletz, Sr. by Nephew, Father Leo; Health of Carl and Toni Wiest by Theresa Schoffstall; Special Intention by Mary Grabusky; IMO Maria Bartush Groff by E.M.B. (3) **BEFORE: ST. ANTHONY:** For the healing of the Church by a parishioner. **ST. JOSEPH:** Special Intention; For the healing of the Church by a parishioner. **ST. LUCY:** Special intention by Father Leo. **ST. ANNE:** IMO Thomas and Leona Donlen by Family. **SAINT POPE JOHN PAUL II:** Intentions of Adele Grabusky by Mary Grabusky. **ST. BARBARA:** Intentions of Maria and Chester Bartush by E.M.B.; For the Health of Jack Purcell by Schoffstall Family. **ST. FRANCIS:** IMO Rev. Francis Opps. **SACRED HEART:** For the healing of the Church by a parishioner. Call the Rectory (570-544-2211) to memorialize Vigils.

SUMMER FOOD FEST: 12:00 Noon to 6:00 PM, Parish Center. Bean soup, bleenies, golabki (halupki), haluski, kielbasa, pickles, and baked goods (Your baked goods donations can be brought to our Parish Center beginning at 8:00 AM today). Eat-in or take-out. We really could use a few hours of your volunteer time. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!! SEE YOU THERE!!

MONDAY, AUGUST 20 – ST. MATTHEW'S TRAVELERS' MOHEGAN SUN CASINO
BUS TRIP: Cost \$25; Rebate \$30. Leaves R&J 8:00 AM; Leaves Minersville Quandel's 8:30 AM; Departs Casino 4:00 PM. Call 570-544-5231 or 570-628-5413 for information.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 21 – ASSUMPTION BVM BACK TO SCHOOL ICE CREAM
SOCIAL: 6:00 PM Kindergarten; 6:30 PM Grades 1 to 3; 7:00 PM Grades 4 to 8. Meet your teachers and friends! Call 570-622-01060. First day of school, Monday, August 27.

ST. MATTHEW RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM: 1) Classes resume September 11. 2) **2018-2019 REGISTRATION:** Cost: First Child \$65.00; Second Child \$50.00; Third Child \$40.00; Fourth Child Free. There will be a \$10.00 late fee

A LETTER FROM OUR BISHOP:

Dear brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As many of you are aware, a state-wide Grand Jury has been investigating clergy sexual abuse of minors in six Pennsylvania dioceses. This past week, the Report was released, and it includes incidents of past abuse in the Diocese of Allentown. // Abuse is abhorrent and has no place in the Church, or anywhere in society. Most of the incidents date back decades. The offending priests are no longer in active ministry, are laicized (defrocked), or are deceased. // Since 2002, our Diocese has taken strong and decisive actions to address abuse. Our goal is to prevent it from happening again, but that does not change the fact that the abuse of children is terrible and sinful. The abuse was devastating and tragic for the victims and survivors, and continues to cause pain and anger to this very day. I ask forgiveness of victims and their families who have lived with this burden, sometimes for many years. // As your Bishop, I am deeply saddened by these incidents. I sincerely apologize for the past sins and crimes committed by some members of the clergy. I apologize to the survivors of abuse and their loved ones. For the times when those in the Church did not live up to Christ's call to holiness, and did not do what needed to be done, I apologize. // I also apologize to you, the faithful of the Diocese, for the toll this issue has taken over the years: the sadness, the anger, the doubts, and the embarrassment it may have brought you as a Catholic. I ask for your forgiveness, and I thank you for your perseverance and for your courageous witness to our faith. // I want to ensure you that as a Church, we will learn from the Report of the Grand Jury and use it to further improve our protections for children and young people. // Sadly, abuse still is part of the society in which we live. We acknowledge our past failures, and we are determined to do what is necessary to protect the innocent, now and in the future. // **AS YOUR BISHOP, MY FIRST PRIORITY IS KEEPING OUR CHILDREN SAFE.** // For the past sixteen years, the Diocese of Allentown has had a policy of zero tolerance. We report cases of abuse of minors to the authorities, and perpetrators are no longer in active ministry. We require rigorous background checks. We have 123 designated Safe Environment Coordinators in our parishes, schools, and ministries. We have trained more than 38,000 adults on how to recognize and respond to abuse. More than 5,000 people have taken Mandated Reported Training. Children in our schools and religious education programs receive age-appropriate abuse-prevention training every year. // We are focused on re-establishing trust among all those who rely on the Catholic Church for help, for spiritual guidance, and for strength. // We are thankful for the vast majority of our Clergy and Religious who had absolutely no involvement in the unholy behavior of the past, and who continue to work every day for you, the People of God, in the Diocese of Allentown. // And so, my message to you today is one of hope, that the work we are doing will ensure that our precious children are protected, and that the sins of the few will not dilute your faith in our Church today. // Every time we celebrate Sunday Mass, we recite the Nicene Creed, which includes these words: "I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic church." // Our Church is indeed holy. It nurtures us and offers us the necessary means to salvation. Because it was founded by our Savior, Jesus Christ, the Church remains holy in its mission, even when some of its people are sinful. In spite of this human sinfulness, our Church is still here for all of us. It always will be, just as Christ promised. The Church will remain our foundation and our source of grace. // So I ask you today to join me as we pray for the victims and survivors of these reprehensible acts. Through the intercession of Mary, Mother of the Church, we ask God for the strength to heal and for the grace to walk together as one family of faith. // **Sincerely yours in Christ, Most Reverend Alfred A. Schlert, Bishop of Allentown.**

per family for payments received after August 31, 2018. 3) **MASS ATTENDANCE CARDS:** are in the Church Vestibule. They are used all year long! Parents, remember to bring your children to Mass (only 3 children were at Holy Day Mass); see that they receive the Sacraments before summer ends! 4) We are in need of a caring person to teach first grade. Contact our CRE, Miss Novack (570-544-2211). **WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22 – DEVOTIONS TO ST. PEREGRINE:** 8:00 AM Mass. St. Peregrine, help cancer patients and their caregivers! **GOD'S BOUNTIFUL TABLE:** 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM, Annex Building (570-544-6484). **THURSDAY, AUGUST 23 – "SOUNDS OF THE SPIRIT" CONTEMPORARY CHOIR REHEARSAL:** Call Greg (570-544-2355) to join or for rehearsal times. **FRIDAY, AUGUST 24 – SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** 7:45 AM.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY: May Jesus, who blessed the Wedding Feast at Cana with the performance of His first Public Miracle, abundantly bless **BRANDON AUCKER** of our Parish and **ALEKSANDRA JOHNSON**, who will be married here at 5:30 PM today! **MAY GOD BE WITH YOU AS YOU ASSUME YOUR NEW VOCATION!**

SATURDAY, AUGUST 25 – SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: 3:30 PM. **YOUNG ADULT PILGRIMAGE TO PHILADELPHIA:** 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM. Cost \$20 (lunch is on your own). Explore the Catholic History of Philadelphia with other young adults! Call 610-289-8900 ext. 2021 for information.

THE TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, AUGUST 26 – SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: 8:00 AM and 10:15 AM. **THE FAMILY PRAYER CHALICE FOR VOCATIONS (FPC):** ALICIA POSLOSKY (8:30 AM) will host the FPC this week. Call 570-399-5056 or sign-up in the Church Vestibule. We need volunteers for October and November. **SECOND COLLECTION ENVELOPE: (1) PARISH MAINTENANCE:** Your contribution will help defray the cost of improvements for all Parish Buildings and Grounds. **(2) Please catch up with any missed envelopes.** Consistent and generous support helps your church meet its financial obligations and better serve you!

MINISTERS AT MASS FOR 21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

	OFF. PROC.	LECTORS	E.M.	SERVERS
SAT 4:00 PM	Botek Family	N. Forney	G. Paltanavage	Nathan Tropp
SUN 8:30 AM	Palokas Family	A. Adams	J. Ruscavage	Brady Eisenhart
10:30 AM	Parishioners	T. Mundy	B. Tropp	Kaitlyn Koury

COMING EVENTS: PLEASE BE SURE TO MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

SEPTEMBER 1, 2 – MISSION APPEAL COLLECTION: Rev. Avitus Kazi Siriwa, AJ (Apostles of Jesus), will be speaking at all weekend Masses. The Apostles of Jesus is the first Religious Missionary Institute of Priests and Brothers founded in Moroto, Uganda (East Africa) in 1968 by two Italian Missionaries for the evangelization of Africa and the World. Currently, over 400 Apostles of Jesus members are serving in different countries all over the World. Some of the mission territories are: Botswana, Cuba, Ethiopia, Kenya, Papua New Guinea, Sudan, South Sudan, South Africa, Tanzania and Uganda. Some Ministries that could benefit from your support are: Education of orphans and disadvantaged children, formation of Priests and Brothers, Pastoral Ministry, health care initiatives, self-sustaining agricultural projects. To learn more about the Apostles of Jesus, visit: www.apostlesofjesusmissionaries.com. **Please support the Mission Appeal by placing the Envelope found in the back of your Sunday Envelope Box in the Second Collection.**

SEPTEMBER 3 – CASTLE GREEN GROTTO ANNUAL LABOR DAY MASS: 10:00 AM, 950 Valley Road, Minersville/Heckscherville Highway. Refreshments will be served after Mass. Plenty of parking. Bring your lawn chairs. Call Mary Anne (570-544-3658) with questions.

SEPTEMBER 9 - CYO BASKETBALL: Open to St. Matthew students in grades 3-8 (first and second graders MAY be eligible if necessary) Parochial school enrollment or religious education classes (R.E.) along with weekly mass attendance is required for eligibility. **You and your children's participation is necessary to keep our parish youth organization functioning!** Please call Jodi (570-640-9015) or email your interest to jmk827@hotmail.com to register. No registration fee. **DEADLINE IS TODAY!**

SEPTEMBER 10 – OFFICE OF SENIOR SERVICES' ATLANTIC CITY RESORTS CASINO BUS TRIP: BENEFITS SPECIAL NEEDS FUND! Cost \$35; Rebate \$25. Departs Quandels Lot 8:00 AM; Departs Atlantic City 6:00 PM. Call 570-544-523 or 570-628-5413.

SEPTEMBER 11 – DIOCESAN RED, WHITE, AND BLUE MASS: All Police, Firefighters, First Responders, Legal Professionals, Health Care Workers, and their Families are invited to join Bishop Alfred A. Schlert as he celebrates the First Red, White and Blue Mass 6:30 PM at the Cathedral of Saint Catharine of Siena. Please wear your uniforms.

SEPTEMBER 12 – GOD'S BOUNTIFUL TABLE: Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday, the Parish St. Vincent De Paul Society prepares and serves a walk-in meal from 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM at the Fr. Anthony J. Ricapito Annex for those who are in need. **Delivered meals are available for people with disabilities ONLY.** For additional information call Edward Butler (570-544-2739) or the Annex (570-544-6484).

SEPTEMBER 13 – MONTHLY ROSARY: 6:15 PM in our Church. Rosary is second Thursday of each month.

SEPTEMBER 16 – BASKET RAFFLE: Shop and Drop September 15. More information to follow.

SEPTEMBER 16, 17, 18 – ST. MATTHEW THE EVANGELIST ANNUAL 40 HOURS DEVOTIONS: Vigil (\$5 each) and Floral Memorializations (\$10 each) can be made by contacting the Rectory (570-544-2211). We would appreciate your help in adorning our Church's Altars with Vigils and Flowers during this special time when Jesus is present on our Altar.

OCTOBER 7 – NATIONAL PIEROGI DAY: More information is upcoming.

NOVEMBER 20 – THANKSGIVING FOOD SALE: More information to follow.

DECEMBER 19 – HOLIDAY KIELBASA AND PIEROGI SALE: Details coming soon.

ST. MATTHEW'S TRAVELERS' ADVENTURES! N.B. YOUR PAYMENT IS YOUR RESERVATION! CALL: JULIE (570-544-5231), MILLIE (570-628-5413).
SEPTEMBER 17, OCTOBER 15, NOVEMBER 19: MOHEGAN SUN CASINO. Cost \$25; Rebate \$30. Leaves R&J 8:00 AM; Leaves Minersville Quandel's 8:30 AM; Departs Casino 4:00 PM.
SEPTEMBER 24 – 27, 2018 – WILDWOOD ITALIAN STYLE: A TOUCH OF ITALY AT THE JERSEY SHORE: \$439 per person, 4 days, 3 nights. Package includes: 3 nights motel, 3 full breakfasts, 3 dinners including one dinner at Pasta Pesto Italian Restaurant, one \$20 meal voucher at an AC Casino, one special Italian buffet dinner at Duffinetti's Restaurant with entertainment, visit to an Atlantic City Casino with bonus package, visit to Smithville Village, visit to Cape May, visit to Wildwood's Boardwalk, Tasting Tour of Cape May Winery. Baggage handling, hotel taxes, and meal gratuities included.
DECEMBER 10 – SANDS-BETHLEHEM CASINO: Cost \$25. More information to follow.