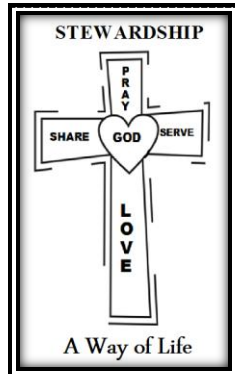


**THE SEVENTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME
FEBRUARY 24, 2019**



GOSPEL REFLECTION: The radical teaching that was begun in last week's gospel as the beatitudes and woes is continued in this week's challenge to be forgiving, compassionate, and generous in the same way that God expresses abundant love. As with the blessings and curses of the Beatitudes passage, this teaching continues the challenge to act against cultural and social expectations. Who would be surprised if you were to express hatred for an enemy or for someone who hates you or treats you badly? But Jesus tells his disciples to *love* their enemies and to *do good* to those who hate them. His instruction is contrary to the 'normal' way of doing things—and that's exactly the message Jesus wanted to convey! Rather than a spiteful, vengeful God who keeps score and punishes wrongdoing, Jesus presents a compelling image of a God of unbounded compassion and abundant generosity. // In this passage we find one version of the Golden Rule that appears repeatedly throughout the gospels (as well as most other religious traditions): "Treat others as you would like them to treat you." It is followed up with a comment that it takes no effort to treat well people whom you like—anybody can do that. The challenge is to treat people you don't like as you would like to be treated yourself. In a society that had very strict rules about the way to treat different people and clearly established boundaries between different groups, 'this was a tough ask by Jesus'. Bear in mind also that there was an occupying army in the country and Jesus was encouraging the people to treat even their enemies, the Romans, with love, compassion, and forgiveness. This was a radical and challenging teaching!



"But rather, love your enemies and do good to them, and lend without expecting anything back." (Luke 6:35) Easier said than done, right? But, if we are to imitate Christ, most of us need to practice mercy and compassion more frequently. Start with the little daily annoyances that we experience, the unkind word or hateful

glance we receive. Instead of plotting revenge on that person, try saying a quick prayer for that person. Mercy and compassion will put us on the path to holiness. Last Week You contributed: Sunday: \$2,602.50; General Repair: \$336 (294 Parishioners attended Sunday Mass). Thank You! Expenses: \$4,283.71 (Salaries, Utilities, Main. Supplies, Repair Work). **Please pray that all Parishioners will attend Mass regularly 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** – Alex Miliuskas and Frank Melusky by Ann Weismiller
10:30 AM – Funeral Mass for Helen Melusky
- TUE** – Patricia Consugar by Eugene Maley
- WED** – Amy Martin Heffner by Mother, Teri Martin
- THU** – Elizabeth Holland by Family
- FRI** – Living and Deceased Members of Parish Memorial Society
10:30 AM – Funeral Mass for Lawrence Terway
- SAT** – 10:30 AM – Funeral Mass for Rita Paulosky
4:00 PM – Michael Botek by Tom and Mary Ann Kline
- SUN** – 8:30 AM – Charles and Pauline Butensky by Family
10:30 AM – Living and Deceased Parishioners

PASTORAL NOTE: The following Mass dates are open: March 29, April 8, 9, 10, 15, 17, 29, 30, May 1, 28, 29, 30, 31, June 3, 4, 5, 30. Call the Rectory (570-544-2211).

REQUIESCAT IN PACE: May Jesus, the Divine Physician, take unto Himself: **HELEN MELUSKY**, a former member of the former St. Stanislaus Kostka Church, and a member of our parish family, who died Thursday, February 21, and who will be buried from our Church Monday, February 25; and **LAWRENCE TERWAY**, a former member of the former St. Francis of Assisi Church, who died Thursday, February 21, and who will be buried from our Church Friday, March 1. May Mary, Mother of Our Savior, comfort their families and friends.

THE WEEKLY CALENDAR: O Lord, I trust in your merciful love. My heart will rejoice in your salvation. I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me. (Ps 13 (12): 6)

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, FEBRUARY 24 – SACRAMENT OF

RECONCILIATION: 8:00 AM and 10:15 AM. Make Confession a regular part of your life!

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. **SCOTT AND PATRICE SCHWALM** will host the FPC for vocations this week. Sign up for May 19th and June in Church vestibule.

FAMILY PERSPECTIVE: In studying the effects of religion upon family relationships, researchers inform us hostility and prayer can't coexist. You cannot be hostile toward someone for whom you are praying. Today's gospel encourages us: "Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who treat you badly."

FRATERNAL CHARITIES: ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD PANTRY: We need ALL TYPES OF CANNED MEATS ANDS FISH to feed the needy of our area. Call 570-544-2739. Volunteers, especially men, are needed for God's Bountiful Table.

PRO-LIFE REFLECTION: The question is not "When can a baby live outside the womb?" – the question is "When can a baby be allowed to live inside the womb?" Join pro-life today and pray to end abortion and euthanasia.

VOTIVES: (1) SANCTUARY: IMO Mary and Stiney Skavinsky by Family. (Sanctuary Vigil open dates: June 30, July 7, 28, August 4, 11, 18, 25, September 1, 8, 15, 29, October 6, November 24, December 8) **(2) ALTARS: BLESSED VIRGIN MARY:** IMO Dorothy Maletz by Family; For the Health of CoCo by Helen; Special Intention by Stan and Sally Gober; IMO Donald and Aldona Butler by Edward. **DIVINE MERCY:** Special Intention for Kathy. **(3) BEFORE: ST. JOSEPH:** Special Intention. **ST. FRANCIS:** Special Intention. **ST. BARBARA:** IMO Dante and Jean Cola by Jeanine Cola. **SACRED HEART:** Special Intention. Call the Rectory (570-544-2211) to memorialize votives.

BREAKFAST BUFFET: 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM, St. Nicholas Hall, Primrose. Adults: \$9; Children under 12: Free. Sponsored by St. Nicholas Holy Name Society. Call 570-544-6807 for more information.

MEATLOAF DINNER: 11:00 PM to 2:00 PM, Saints Peter and Paul Church Dining Room, Minersville. Cost: Adults: \$10; Children 12 and under \$5. Dinner includes: Homemade meatloaf, real mashed potatoes/gravy, string beans, roll and butter, dessert (beverage with eat-in). Eat-in or take-out. Advanced tickets only. Call 570-544-6987.

NEW TEEN MINISTRY FOR SCHUYLKILL COUNTY: 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM, Sunday's through March 24.

St. Clare Parish Hall. *Schuylkill Catholic Young Church* is the new Schuylkill County regional youth ministry of the Diocese of Allentown. Teens are invited to participate in the upcoming "Alpha" series, which includes free dinner. Have questions about faith? Want to discuss the meaning of life, Jesus, spirituality and so much more? Want to plug into a community? Dinner; watch an ALPHA video, and have small group discussion each night in a fun and engaging way for youth.

RSVP to Annie Sarlo: annie@allentowndiocese.org.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25 – MARCH VISITATION OF THE SICK: Continues today until completed. Call the Rectory (570-544-2211) to add someone to our sick-list.

THE HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS: 5:00 PM, Our Lady's Chapel of St. Patrick Church, Pottsville. Veneration of a First-Class Relic of Saint Pauline Visintainer, Patron Saint of Diabetics, to follow. Call 570-622-1802 for more information.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26 – ST. MATTHEW RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM: 1) 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM, Good Shepherd Building 2) Parents, remember to bring your children to Mass; take them to Confession! 3) Mass attendance cards are in the Church Vestibule. 4) Our CRE is Miss Novack (570-544-2211).

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27 – DEVOTIONS TO ST. PEREGRINE: 8:00 AM Mass. St. Peregrine, help cancer patients and caregivers!
GOD'S BOUNTIFUL TABLE: 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM, Fr. Anthony J. Ricipito Annex. Call 570-544-6484 today for more information.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28 – THANK YOU: Msgr. Handges will be saying 8:00 AM Mass today.
“SOUNDS OF THE SPIRIT” CONTEMPORARY CHOIR REHEARSAL: Call Greg (570-544-2355) to join.

FRIDAY, MARCH 1 – SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: 7:45 AM. **IS CONFESSION A PART OF YOUR SPIRITUAL LIFE?**
EUCCHARISTIC HOLY HOUR: Immediately following today's 8:00 AM Mass, there will be Eucharistic Exposition, Adoration, and Benediction. Come and pray for vocations to the Priesthood and Consecrated Life from our Parish and Diocese.

SATURDAY, MARCH 2 – SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: 3:30 PM. **WHEN DID YOU LAST GO TO CONFESSION?**
MARDI GRAS MOO-LA MADNESS: 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM (doors open 6:30 PM), St. Nicholas Catering Hall. \$25 ticket includes 4 chances for all 9 cash drawings and light buffet. \$100 cash prize drawn every 20 minutes; \$500 grand prize drawn at 10:00 PM. Drink specials, 50/50 drawing, music. For tickets call 570-624-6425, 570-527-0899, 570-544-3852. Proceeds benefit St. Nicholas School.

THE EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, MARCH 3 – SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: 8:00 AM and 10:15 AM.
THE FAMILY PRAYER CHALICE FOR VOCATIONS (FPC): GENE AND JEAN WALACAVAGE (10: 30 AM) will host the FPC this week. Call 570-399-5056 or the Rectory (570-544-2211). We also need volunteers for May 19th and June.

CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL INCLUDING BLACK AND INDIAN MISSIONS: Support the Catholic Home Missions Appeal today! Right now, over 40 percent of dioceses in the United States are considered home mission territory because they are unable to fund the essential pastoral work needed in their communities. Your support funds programs, such as religious education, seminary formation, and lay ministry training, to build vibrant faith communities right here in the USA. **Please be generous!** www.usccb.org/homemissions. **KINDLY USE THE HOME MISSION ENVELOPE FOUND IN YOUR ENVELOPE BOXES DATED MARCH 10 TODAY!**

SECOND COLLECTION ENVELOPE: (1) UTILITIES: Your donation will help pay for light, water, sewer, heating tapes, and the maintenance of all parish heating units, etc.. **(2) Please catch up with any missed envelopes.** Consistent/generous support helps your church meet its financial obligations and serve you!

MINISTERS AT MASS FOR 8th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

	<u>OFF. PROC.</u>	<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS</u>	<u>SERVERS</u>
SAT 4:00 PM	Botek Family	Al Boris	Deacon Henninger	Olivia Osborne Erica Osborne
SUN 8:30 AM	Butensky Family	Abigail Adams	Teresa Miller	Scott Schwalm Connor Schwalm
10:30 AM	Parishioners	Sharon Kolenick	Jamie Kuehn	Kieran Plesnarski Jude Plesnarski

COMING EVENTS: PLEASE BE SURE TO MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

MARCH 8, 22, APRIL 5 – LENTEN FOOD SALES: Parish Center. Traditional Lenten Fare (Pierogi, Haluski, Bleenies, Meatless Soups). Eat-in or take-out: 12:00 Noon to 3:00 PM. *Your donation of home baked goods would be appreciated for our dessert table and can be brought to the Parish Center (570-544-5485) between 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM.* We need servers, deliverers, and clean-up crew. **PLEASE VOLUNTEER A FEW HOURS OF YOUR TIME TO HELP OUR PARISH!**

- MARCH 8 – FISH OR CRAB DINNER:** 3:30 PM to 6:30 PM, St. Michael, Minersville. Cost \$10 includes: Haddock or crab, french fries, green beans, coleslaw, roll, beverage and dessert. Eat-in or take-out. Advanced tickets only by calling Jean (570-544-6853)..
- ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST LENTEN DINNERS:** Russell Building. New England Clam Chowder, Salad Bar, Macaroni and Cheese, or Baked or Mashed Potatoes, Vegetables, Homemade Dessert, Beverage, and your choice of Fish or Crab Cake. \$8 to \$17. 570-622-5470.
- MARCH 9 – MEN'S LENTEN MORNING OF REFLECTION:** 8:30 AM, Cathedral of St. Catherine of Siena (Parish Activity Center), Allentown. Presentations by the Most Reverend Alfred A. Schlert and Rev. Bernard Ezaki will begin at 9:15 AM, ending by 11:30 AM. The Sacrament of Confession will be offered as well. To register for this free event visit www.allentowndiocese.org/cfm-spirituality.
- SPRING BAZAAR:** 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM, St. Charles Borromeo Parish Hall, Ashland. Bake sale, huge white elephant sale, homemade soups, pigeons, halushki, barbeque, sausages, door prizes, and more!
- MARCH 10 – ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT HOMEMADE SPAGHETTI DINNER:** 11:30 AM to 2:30 PM, St. Patrick Parish Center. Cost: Adults \$8; Children \$3.50. Eat-in or take-out. Call 570-622-1802 for more information.
- MARCH 13 – GOD'S BOUNTIFUL TABLE:** 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. Ricipito 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).
- LUNCH AND LEARN SERIES:** 12:00 Noon, Luther Ridge, Pottsville. Speaker: Ashley Securda, Esq., Williamson, Friedberg and Jones. Topic: The importance of estate planning. Call Stacie (570-621-7200) for information and to RSVP.
- MARCH 14 – MONTHLY ROSARY:** 6:15 PM in our Church. Rosary is second Thursday of each month.
- MARCH 15 – BAKED FISH DINNER:** Pick up from 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM in the church hall at Ss. Peter and Paul Church, 131 N. Beech Street, Mount Carmel, PA. Dinner includes baked haddock, our own Pyrohy, homemade coleslaw, green beans, and roll and butter. **Advance sale tickets and take out only.** Tickets are \$10 per person and must be purchased by Monday, March 11, 2019. Contact the rectory office at 570-339-0650 for tickets. Tickets also available in the church vestibule before Divine Liturgies
- MARCH 21 – SPRING SOUP SALE:** 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM, Providence Place, Pottsville. Lobster bisque, potato leek, chili, split pea. \$5 per quart. All proceeds benefit the Alzheimers Association.
- APRIL 25 – CONFIRMATION:** Bishop Alfred A. Schlert will Confirm the Confirmation Candidates of the Parishes of Most Blessed Trinity, Tremont, St. Matthew the Evangelist and St. Michael the Archangel, Minersville at 4:30 PM in our Church.

ST. MATTHEW'S TRAVELERS' ADVENTURES! YOUR PAYMENT IS YOUR RESERVATION! JULIE(570-544-5231), MILLIE(570-628-5413).

MARCH 18 – SANDS-BETHLEHEM CASINO: Cost \$25; Rebate \$35. Leaves Minersville Quandel's 8:15 AM; Giant in Cressona 8:30 AM.

APRIL 15, MAY 6, JUNE 17, JULY 15, AUGUST 19, SEPTEMBER 16, OCTOBER 21, NOVEMBER 18, DECEMBER 9 –

MOHEGAN SUN CASINO: Cost \$25; Rebate \$30. Leaves Minersville Quandel's 8:30 AM; Giant in Cressona 8:00 AM.

MAY 13-17 – CAPE COD AND BOSTON: 5 days, 4 nights, \$659 per person, double occupancy includes: 4 Nights lodging, 4 breakfasts, 3 dinners, National Shrine of Divine Mercy, evening of entertainment, Tours of Provincetown, Chatham, Boston and Quincy Market, Plymouth and Plymouth Rock, Historic Sandwich, Hyannis area, including Kennedy Memorial and Main Street, Hyannis Harbor Cruise with view of Kennedy Compound, Cape Cod Canal visitor's center, Foxwoods Casino, Souvenir Gift, Luggage Handling,
All taxes and meal gratuities, motorcoach transportation.

JUNE 10 – ATLANTIC CITY RESORTS CASINO BUS TRIP: Cost \$35; Rebate \$25. Departs Quandels Lot 8:00 AM; Giant in Cressona 8:15 AM; Departs Atlantic City 6:00 PM. *(By the sea, by the sea, by the beautiful sea, you and me, how happy we can be!)*

EASTER FLOWERS AND VIGILS: We would appreciate your help in decorating our Church and its Altars with flowers (\$10 donation would be helpful) and vigils (\$5 offering per candle) for Holy Week and Easter. Remember to write your intention(s) on the flower envelope. Vigil arrangements can be made by calling the Rectory (570-544-2211).

FYI: All Mass Intentions found in the logs of the former St. Barbara, St. Francis of Assisi, St. Mary Star of the Sea, and St. Stanislaus Kostka Churches have been fulfilled.

SIGN UP FOR "HEALING OUR CHURCH" DISCUSSION GROUPS: Small-group discussions moderated by fellow parishioners, in conjunction with St. Michael the Archangel Parish, will be held during the six weeks of Lent beginning the week of March 4. All are welcome to attend. The program is intended to encourage prayerful reflection and conversation about the clergy sexual abuse crisis. It was designed by RENEW International, a Catholic nonprofit organization, in response to a request from Bishop Schlert. To register on-line for the 90-minute weekly sessions, visit www.allentowndiocese.org/HealingOurChurch.