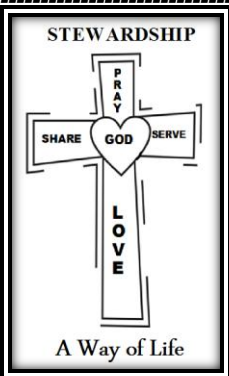


**THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME
FEBRUARY 3, 2019**



GOSPEL REFLECTION: This week's gospel completes the event in Nazareth that began last week with Jesus' declaration of mission. The initial response of the crowd is one of astonishment and approval. However, the people have largely missed the point of Jesus' teaching. When he declared that he had come to proclaim liberty to captives and to set the downtrodden free, Jesus probably didn't expect his audience to just say, "Oh, that's nice!" The message he preached, and the message that flows throughout the Gospel of Luke, calls for a fundamental conversion of heart; a change to a life motivated by compassion for the lowly. When the people so obviously missed his point, Jesus virtually dismisses them by saying that "no prophet is ever accepted in his own country." // To make his point even further, Jesus then cites instances where two of the great prophets of Jewish tradition responded to the needs of pagans from Sidon and Syria rather than the needs of Israel. The two people helped are also very significant. Widows held a special place in Jewish tradition: God entrusted all widows to the care of the whole town. Whenever widows are named as being in need, it is a comment on the society as a whole neglecting its duty of care. Lepers were regarded as absolutely unclean and outcast by virtue of their condition (something that perhaps has never really changed). For Jesus to remind the people of these events is a great reprimand to them. He is, in effect, saying to them, "if you can't accept my message I will take it to the pagans; the gentiles; and the socially unacceptable." Is it any wonder that they tried to lynch him on the spot?



"Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, it is not pompous." (1 Corinthians 13:4) Do you get jealous? Do you focus more on the things that other people have than on the gifts that God has given to you? Are you pompous? Do you acquire more possessions to impress others? At times we are all guilty of these things. Pray for more humility. Pray to become less "self-centered" and become more "God-centered". Last Week You contributed: Sunday: \$3,770.50; Parish Maintenance: \$523 (311 Parishioners attended Sunday Mass). Thank You! Expenses: \$6,960.16 (Salaries, Utilities, Oil, Office Supplies, Taxes). **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 – Catherine and Michael Gober by Daughter, Katherine Chelak

TUE – Joseph Holland by Family

WED – Josephine Jones by Anna Siminitus and Family (Log Book)

THU – Stephen Chelak by Wife, Katherine

FRI – Francis Leister (1st Anny) by Wife, Dolores

SAT – 4:00 PM – Madeline and Milan Barber by Family

SUN – 8:30 AM – George V. and Doris Yanniccone by Daughter, Cheryl and Family

10:30 AM – Living and Deceased Parishioners

WE ARE NOW ACCEPTING MASSES FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2019

THE WEEKLY CALENDAR: Save us, O Lord our God! And gather us from the nations, to give thanks to your holy name, and make it our glory to praise you. (Ps 106 (105): 47)

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, FEBRUARY 3 – SACRAMENT OF

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

THE FEAST OF ST. BLAISE: St. Blaise enjoyed widespread veneration in the Eastern and Western Churches due to many cures attributed to him.

According to tradition, he was Bishop of Sebaste in Armenia and was martyred by the Roman Emperor Licinius. From the 8th century, he has been invoked on behalf of the sick, especially those afflicted with the illnesses of the throat. On this day it is customary to bless the throats of the faithful with two candles tied together with a red ribbon to form a cross. The Rite of Blessing of Throats takes place at mass. The priest places the candles around the throat of whoever seeks the blessing, using the formula: "Through the intercession of St. Blaise, Bishop and Martyr, may God deliver you from every disease of the throat and from every other illness: in the name of the Father, the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen." In honor of St. Blaise, the blessing of throats will replace the final blessing at today's Masses!

HAND ON THIS TRADITION TO YOUR FAMILYS' CHILDREN!

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. **MARGE WALASAVAGE (10:30 AM)** will host the FPC for vocations this week. Sign up for March, April and May in Church vestibule.

FAMILY PERSPECTIVE: Mary and Joseph must have been proud when their village "all spoke well of Jesus and were amazed at his words." But they probably felt shame when the same people drove him out of town. Like Mary and Joseph, the highs and lows of parenting are our path to being a Holy Family.

FRATERNAL CHARITIES: 1) ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD PANTRY: We need ALL TYPES OF CANNED HEARTY SOUPS to feed the needy of our area. Call 570-544-2739. **Volunteers, especially men, are needed for God's Bountiful Table. 2) ANNUAL MINERSVILLE AREA HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE:** Donations, both monetary and non-perishable goods, can be made in care of: Ed Butler, 529 Lytle Street, Minersville. Call Ed (570-449-2739) for more information. **RUNS UNTIL FEBRUARY 23. Helping the disadvantaged is truly the spirit of every season of the year! THANK YOU!**

PRO-LIFE REFLECTION: The real war on women: 44% increased risk of breast cancer after abortion 60 % increased risk of miscarriage in future pregnancies after abortion, 6 times greater risk of suicide after abortion, and 65% increased risk of long-term clinical depression after abortion. Stop the war on women now, end abortion.

VOTIVES: (1) SANCTUARY: IMO Anna Kanapitski by Daughter, Millie. (Sanctuary Vigil open dates: April 21, May 26, June 30, July 7, 14, 28, August 4, 11, 18, 25, September 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, October 6, 27, November 24, December 8, 15, 22, 29) **(2) ALTARS: BLESSED VIRGIN MARY:** Special Intention for CoCo by Helen; IMO Donald and Aldona Butler by Edward; Special Intention by Stan and Sally Gober. **DIVINE MERCY:** IMO Ann Huntzinger by Daughter, Denise and Family. **(3) BEFORE: ST. JOSEPH:** Special Intention. **ST. FRANCIS:** Special Intention; For the Health of Jessica by NaNa and Pop-Pop (2). Call 570-544-2211 to memorialize votives.

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 4 – FEBRUARY VISITATION OF THE SICK: Continuing this week until completed – weather permitting. All shut-in parishioners will be brought Holy Communion and receive the Anointing of the Sick. Call the Rectory (570-544-2211) to add someone to our sick-call list.

BIBLE STUDY MEETING: 2:00 PM, Parish Center. The study will include: Isaiah: 6: 1-2a, 3-8; 1 Corinthians 15: 1-11 or 15: 3-8;11; Luke 5: 1-11. Call Arlene (570-385-0248) for information.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5 – 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 Coordinator of Religious Education is Miss Novack (570-544-2211).

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6 – DEVOTIONS TO ST. PEREGRINE: 8:00 AM Mass. St. Peregrine, help cancer patients and caregivers!

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7 – “SOUNDS OF THE SPIRIT” CONTEMPORARY CHOIR REHEARSAL: Call Greg (570-544-2355) to join.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8 – SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: 7:45 AM. IS CONFESSION A PART OF YOUR SPIRITUAL LIFE?

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9 – SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: 3:30 PM. WHEN DID YOU LAST GO TO CONFESSION?

THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, FEBRUARY 10 – SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: 8:00 AM and 10:15 AM.

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT SPAGHETTI DINNER: 11:30 AM to 2:30 PM, St. Patrick Church. Cost: Adults \$8; Children \$3.50. Eat-in or take-out. Call 570-622-1802 for more information.

NATIVITY BVM HIGH SCHOOL DESIGNER PURSE BINGO: Doors open 11:30 AM; Bingo begins 1:00 PM. \$25 entrance fee. Homemade foods and desserts. BYOB. Call Diane (570-294-0551) for more information.

THE FAMILY PRAYER CHALICE FOR VOCATIONS (FPC): ALICIA POSLOSKY will host the FPC this week. Call 570-399-5056 or the Rectory (570-544-2211). We also need volunteers for March (10, 24), April (14, 21), and May (19). **THANK YOU!**

SECOND COLLECTION ENVELOPE: (1) **FUEL:** Your contribution will help defray the cost of heating oil for all parish buildings. (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 5th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME				
	OFF. PROC.	LECTORS	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	SERVERS
SAT 4:00 PM	Barber Family	Al Boris	Deacon Henninger	Skylar Land Nathan Tropp
SUN 8:30 AM	Yanniccone Family	Jack Hudock	Deacon Henninger	Logan Perzel Brady Eisenhart
10:30 AM	Parisioners	Brandon Aucker	Deacon Henninger	Carter Melochick Jade Stickell

COMING EVENTS: PLEASE BE SURE TO MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

FEBRUARY 11 – WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE SICK: In commemoration of The Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, there will be **Communal Anointing of the Sick** within today's 11:00 AM Mass. **REQUIREMENTS FOR RECEIVING THE SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK:** (1) You must be a **baptized** Catholic in the **state of grace** who has attained the use of reason (children who have not made their first Communion and infants are generally not anointed). (2) Your health must be **impaired** by sickness or advancing age. Practically speaking, you can and should be anointed: (a) If you are suffering from a chronic (long lasting) illness. (b) If you are about to undergo major surgery. (c) If you are suffering from depression or any form of mental illness. **Call 570-544-2211 to register.** Mass and Communal Anointing will also be celebrated at 2:00 PM for the Catholic residents of The Meadows at York Terrace Nursing Home.

FEBRUARY 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).

FEBRUARY 14 – MONTHLY ROSARY: 6:15 PM in our Church. Rosary is second Thursday of each month.

FEBRUARY 22 – BISHOP'S SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM: The Diocese of Allentown will again be awarding Catholic High School Scholarships to students who wish to attend Nativity BVM High School for the 2019-2020 school year. The Catholic High School Scholarship Program will award a one-year, partial scholarship of \$1000 to the recipient's school. Eighth grade students **MUST** be registered parishioners in the Diocese of Allentown and enrolled in a Catholic, public or private school. Applications available at our Rectory and are **due today.**

MARCH 8, 22, APRIL 5 – LENTEN FOOD SALES: Parish Center. Eat-in or take-out: 12:00 Noon to 3:00 PM. We need servers, deliverers, and clean-up crew. PLEASE VOLUNTEER A FEW HOURS OF YOUR TIME TO HELP OUR PARISH!

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.

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

APRIL 25 – CONFIRMATION: Bishop Alfred A. Schlert will Confirm the Confirmandi 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.

HEALING OUR CHURCH DISCUSSION GROUPS COMING IN LENT: Catholics throughout the Diocese of Allentown are invited to attend small-group discussions, moderated by fellow parishioners, and designed to encourage reflection and conversation about the clergy abuse crisis. *Healing Our Church* is a program from RENEW International, a Catholic nonprofit organization. Bishop Alfred Schlert has called the parish-based small-group discussions "an opportunity for all of us to prayerfully reflect on scripture, on the abuse crisis, and on our path forward as a Roman Catholic Family of Faith." **Discussions [Topics: Facing the Truth and the hurt caused; Healing our wounds; Rebuilding the Church; Why do I remain Catholic? (participants will be encouraged to read a short book which Father Leo will provide); What we believe; We are the Church] will take place during the six weeks of Lent.**
PARISH COORDINATING TEAM: We need 3 to 6 members ASAP, assuming a 3-month commitment (February-April). Training session provided. Call the Rectory (570-544-2211) if you are interested.

PARISH MEMORIAL SOCIETY: We gratefully acknowledge the following donations: **IMO ANTHONY MOCCIO** : \$25 from Rev. Leo J. Maletz. **IMO CHARLES KELLER:** \$100 from Theresa M. Smith and Keller Family. **IMO ANNA SABADISH:** \$50 from Family. **IMO JOANNE ZULA:** \$25 from Katherine Chelak. **IMO GREGORY MOTUK, SR.:** \$10 from Katherine Chelak. **IMO CHRISTOPHER WAMELING:** \$100 from Wife, Linda. **IMO DOLORES CHEWCASKIE:** \$25 from Robert and Kathryn Tebin. **IMO JOSEPH GOBER:** \$10 from Katherine. **IMO JOSEPHINE DRAZENOVICH:** \$10 from Katherine Chelak. **IMO ANDREW MESSAROS:** \$50 from Reilly Twp. High School Class of 1952. **IMO ANGIE LAUDEMANN:** \$10 from Joe and Andrea Gayeski. **IMO CATHERINE AND MICHAEL GOBER:** \$10 from Katherine. **IMO JOSEPH SKIBIEL:** \$25 each from Don and Peggy Butler, Mary Ann Sninski; \$20 each from Joe Stabinsky and Family, Ron Stabinsky and Family; \$10 each from Lucy Barnetsky, Theresa and Frank Grigalonis, Anna Petinka. **IMO ARLENE LETKO:** \$25 each from Dr. and Mrs. Augustine Moffitt, Don and Peggy Butler; \$10 from Helen and CoCo Droskinis Family. **IMO MARIA BARTUSH GROFF:** \$50 from Marilyn, Kim and Jared Homa; \$25 from Joyce Holohan. **IMO PAT CONSUGAR:** \$50 from Arlene Quesada; \$25 from Robert and Eleanore Scarbinsky; \$15 from Katherine Chelak; \$10 from Alicia Poslosky. **IMO SCOTT J. WENNER:** \$100 from Mark and Shelia Conville and Family; \$50 each from Lawrence and Joan Bonk, Marilyn Condrack, Kim Hashin and B.J. Evans; \$25 each from Alvin Beretsky, Camille and Todd Yoder, Mike and Sally Houseknecht; \$20 each from Lynn Dudash and Family, M/M Al Vessotskie, Catherine Bosack; \$10 each from Jeanine Cola, John and Debbie Kukta, Joseph Ganly, Joyce Holohan, Gloria Paltanavage, Teresa Miller, Bob and Sandy Arner, Lynn Barber, Mary Ann Strenkoski, Tom and Karen Pavlick, Diane Sinkovich, Friends from Gym. **IMO ANNA SIMINITUS:** \$50 from Ed and Connie Siminitus; \$20 each from Katherine Chelak, M/M Eugene Nitka, Frank and Marianne Kuchta; \$10 each from Dolores Leister, Maria Ruscavage, Joyce Devaney. **IMO ANNA T. WARHOLA:** \$150 from Upstate Operating Engineers; \$100 each from Joan Warhola and Family, Jack and Kalina Makara; \$50 each from Andrew and Charlene Makara, Fenton and Elaine Stine, Mary and Patricia Makara, Anthony and Nancy Makara; \$40 from Tom and Judi Deane; \$30 from Paul and Lorraine Lucas; \$25 each from Margaret Oler, Kenneth and Joan Gall, M/M Craig Witman, Teresa Witman; \$20 each from Citizens Fire Company Branchdale, Joseph and Beth Karmazin and Family, Ronald and Dolores Kramer, Mrs. Evelyn Moore and Family, George and Rose Smith, Julie Holige, Robert and Luana Butensky; \$10 each from Joe and Irene Rada, Jack Hudock, Joe and Ann Oler.

ANNOUNCED MASSES: The following Mass Intentions to be said were given to: **BISHOP RONALD GAINER:** **IMO MARY CONSUGAR** requested by Viola and Patsy DiRenzo, Agnes Scarbinsky and Veronica Setlock, Birgilla Hazzard; **IMO ELIZABETH KOLTURA** requested by Carol and Robert Callaghan, John and Adrienne Kurtak, Jim and Lynn Devlin, Ray and Karen Stabinsky, Irene Mistysyn and Sweat Family, Andrew and Elizabeth Honnag; **IMO JOSEPH JANOWSKI** requested by Leonard Gorda, Robert and Helen Altomose and Anita Elison, Josephine Yonosky, Rich and Eileen DeStefano, Barbara and John Hudec; **IMO CAROL HUNTZINGER** requested by Gail and Jack Brennan, Joseph and Linda Butcavage, Edward Walasavage, Dorothy and Andy Butsko, Thomas and Maureen Fitzpatrick, Joe and Louise Buehler. **REV. JAMES TORPEY:** **IMO KATHRYN MULLOCK** requested by Ceily, Jerry, and Albert (2), Joe Shulkitas, Helen Chelak; **IMO HELEN BRENNAN** requested by Dave and Carol Dinich; **IMO DOROTHY PAHIRA** requested by Ed and Connie Siminitus and Family, Ed and Jack Zavatsky and Families, Debbie Mitchell, Mary Ann Ondisco and Steve Platko, Jim and Ann Yacobacci and Family