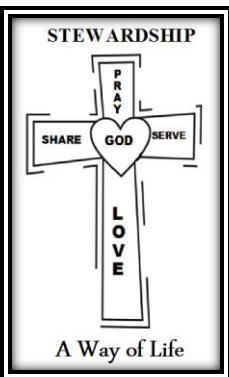


**SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
MARCH 17, 2019**



GOSPEL REFLECTION: In all three versions of this Transfiguration event that appear in the gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke, the context in which the event occurs is identical. That's a little unusual with these three gospel writers who like to put their own spin on events and often play with the chronology or settings of events. However, in this case, all three writers report the Transfiguration event as taking place immediately after a particular sequence of events. Jesus has asked the disciples who they think he is and Peter has made his confession of faith by declaring that Jesus is the Messiah. This declaration is followed by Jesus teaching about the demands of discipleship and then the account of the Transfiguration. Furthermore, all three versions are directly followed by an account of a man who brings his possessed son to Jesus for healing after the disciples have tried and failed to cast out the demon. // When all three of the synoptic gospels use the same story with little variation and all three retain the same context around the event then there are some pretty clear signals that this was a commonly accepted sequence of events and their sequence holds significance. The core message of this sequence of stories is about the faith of the disciples. While Peter declares Jesus to be the Messiah, he and the others don't really yet know what this means. In the Transfiguration, they are given the clearest possible indication of Jesus' identity and yet they're half asleep and we're told Peter doesn't know what he's saying when he starts talking about building tents. The following failure by the disciples to cast out a demon shows that they still haven't understood fully who and what Jesus is. What a great reading for the season of Lent!



"I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land as a possession." (Genesis 15:7) Just as the Lord gave Abraham, Moses and the Israelites a land to possess, He has also given each of us a home. Whether your home is grand or humble, it is a gift from God. Abraham prepared a great

sacrifice to the Lord in gratitude for the home God gave him. How do you show your gratitude to God for the home He has given you? Do you make a sacrifice of any kind? Do you return any of your finances to God, investing equally in your eternal home just as you invest in your earthly home? Last Week You contributed: Sunday: \$2,758.30; Fuel: \$355 (Attendance: 246 Parishioners). Thanks! Expenses: \$4,172.13 (Salaries, Utilities, Propane, Maint. Repairs); \$25,000 (Past Due Diocesan Assessments). **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 – 7:00 AM – Intentions of R. Richard Bowers by Alicia Poslosky
- TUE – Intentions of Francis Poslosky by Sister, Alicia
- WED – Catherine Drazenovich (Estate)
- THU – Special Intention
9:30 AM (ABVM School Mass at St. Patricks) – Dr. William Shipton by Patient, Fr. Leo
- FRI – Anna Holley by Family
- SAT – 4:00 PM – Joseph and Thelma Bonk by Granddaughter, Shelia
- SUN – 8:30 AM – Patricia Wiscount by Husband, Harry
10:30 AM – Living and Deceased Parishioners

The following Mass dates are open: **June 4, 5.** Call the Rectory (570-544-2211).

REQUIESCAT IN PACE: May Jesus, who suffered and died on the cross, take unto Himself: **ELIZABETH A. STINE**, who died Tuesday, March 12, and whose funeral service is Tuesday, March 19. May Mary, Mother of Divine Mercy, comfort Elizabeth's family and friends.

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THE WEEKLY CALENDAR: Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;/ hide not your face from me. (Cf. Ps 27 (26): 8-9)

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT, MARCH 17 – SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:
8:00 AM and 10:15 AM. Make Confession a part of your Lenten devotions!

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. **LINDA ROTHERMEL (8:30 AM)** will host the FPC for vocations this week. Sign up for June in Church vestibule.

LENTEN CHARITIES: 1) ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD PANTRY: Your donation of **ALL TYPES OF CEREAL** will allow the **SVDP Society** to aid the needy of our area. Volunteer to help our **SVDP Society Out-reach and God's Bountiful Table.** Call Edward Butler at 570-544-2739 to volunteer. **2) CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES RICE BOWL: ENCOUNTER ANNET** – In Uganda, we encounter Annet and her family, children forced to flee violence, searching for stability. How are we called to welcome the stranger in our midst? How can you support those, worldwide, who are forced to flee their homes to find safety or better opportunities? Visit csrsrcericebowl.org for more. Our Parish's **CRSRB contribution: First Sunday of Lent: \$530.57.** **3) MARY'S SHELTER BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN: All bottles for Lenten Sacrifice have been taken and are due by April 28, Divine Mercy Sunday. Proceeds benefit pregnant, homeless young women and their children at Mary's Shelter, Reading and Bethlehem. THANKS FOR CARING ABOUT MOTHERS IN NEED!** **4) SISTERS' LENTEN GIVING TREE: Select a cross and please donate the suggested item for the benefit of retired women religious who have given their lives to God in service to His church. RETURNS DUE PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 14.**

FAMILY PERSPECTIVE: Jesus "went up the mountain to pray" and he was "changed." Prayer has the power to change us. This Lent set aside a few minutes each day to pray for members of your family. Pray before each meal and if you are married, spend five minutes in prayer together.

PRO-LIFE REFLECTION: Ultrasounds reveal the lies of those who claim that the baby is not a person, not a human being. This is the time for a new abolitionism, the time to abolish the barbaric and inhumane practice of abortion. We must insist for the right to life, for the born and the unborn.

LENTEN 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:** Special Intention by Stan and Sally Gober; IMO Donald and Aldona Butler by Edward; IMO Russ Rothermel, Jr. (Birthday) by Linda, Mitra and Meggi. **DIVINE MERCY:** Special Intention for Kathy; IMO Donald and Aldona Butler by Edward. **(3) BEFORE: ST. JOSEPH:** Special Intention; In honor of Sr. Mary Jane Dunleavy, S.S.J. by Friend, Father Leo; IMO Donald and Aldona Butler by Edward. **ST. FRANCIS:** Special Intention. **ST. ANNE:** IMO Thomas and Leona Donlen by Family. **REREDOS NICHE:** Special Intention. 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, MARCH 18 – LENTEN FOOD SALES PREPARATION: All times 9:00 AM in our Parish Center: Prepare vegetables for soups; Also, Wednesday – Make halushki; Thursday – Make bleenie batter. PLEASE VOLUNTEER! WE NEED DELIVERY DRIVERS!

MONDAY, MARCH 18 – ST. MATTHEW’S TRAVELERS’ SANDS-BETHEHEM CASINO BUS TRIP: Cost \$25; Rebate \$35. Leaves Minersville Quandel’s 8:15 AM; Giant in Cressona 8:30 AM. Call 570-544-5231 or 570-628-5413 ASAP for information.

N.B: Today’s Lenten Mass is at 7:00 AM.

TUESDAY, MARCH 19 – SOLEMNITY OF ST. JOSEPH: At today’s 8:00 AM Mass, we honor the Husband of Mary, the Foster Father of Jesus, the Patron Saint of a Happy Death, and the Protector of the Universal Church. We also remember him for the protection and care he gave to Jesus and Mary by providing food for the poor. So please bring canned food items for the poor to Mass as your Offertory Gift. St. Joseph’s Bread will be blessed and distributed at the end of Mass. *May Saint Joseph intercede for SISTER MARY JANE DUNLEAVY, S.S.J., (who helps our parish by being Confirmation Class Teacher, Lector, and Eucharistic Minister) who will renew her religious vows at Mass.* **N.B. We will be serving coffee and donuts in honor of St. Joseph after morning Mass in the Parish Center. You are invited!**

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, MARCH 20 – LENTEN DEVOTIONS: EUCHARISTIC HOLY HOUR AND CONFESSIONS FOLLOWED BY STATIONS OF THE CROSS AND BENEDICTION: Exposition and Confessions begin at 4:00 PM. Stations of the Cross at 6:00 PM. Do something for God this Lent: *Spend some time with your Eucharistic Lord!*

THURSDAY, MARCH 21 – “SOUNDS OF THE SPIRIT” CONTEMPORARY CHOIR REHEARSAL: Call Greg (570-544-2355) to join.

SIGN UP FOR “HEALING OUR CHURCH” DISCUSSION GROUPS: Bishop Schlert has requested that each Parish in the Diocese conduct small group discussions to prayerfully reflect on Scripture, on the abuse crisis, and on our journey forward as true followers of Christ. Therefore, in keeping with this goal, St. Matthew the Evangelist Parish and St. Michael the Archangel Parish are recruiting parishioners to attend these discussion sessions during Lent. The sessions will be held in the St. Michael the Archangel Parish Meeting Room on the following dates: **Today, 6:30 PM; Wednesday, March 27, 7:00 PM; Thursday, April 4, 6:30 PM; Wednesday, April 10, 6:30 PM; Wednesday, April 17, 6:30 PM.** You are invited to attend any or all of the remaining sessions as your schedule permits. Please consider becoming part of our discussion groups and bring a friend. **Late registrations can be made by calling Sister Catherine Therese (570-544-4741).** Thank you and may the Holy Spirit guide us and direct us in the path of Easter peace and joy!

FRIDAY, MARCH 22 – SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: 7:45 AM. Prepare spiritually for Easter by making a good Confession! **DAY OF ABSTINENCE:** All who have reached their 14th year are bound to abstain totally from eating meat today and every Friday of Lent. *You are encouraged to do some Voluntary fasting today as well!*

LENTEN FOOD SALE: Parish Center. Eat-in or take-out: 12:00 Noon to 3:00 PM. PLEASE VOLUNTEER A FEW HOURS OF YOUR TIME FOR THE BENEFIT OF YOUR PARISH! HELP IS NEEDED TO FRY BLEENIES, COOK PIEROGI, SERVE CUSTOMERS, PACK ORDERS, DELIVER BUSINESS ORDERS AND CLEAN UP. 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. **LAST SALE: APRIL 5. HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE! THANKS!**

SATURDAY, MARCH 23 – SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: 3:30 PM. WHEN DID YOU LAST GO TO CONFESSION?

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT, MARCH 24 – SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: 8:00 AM and 10:15 AM. Repent!

THE FAMILY PRAYER CHALICE FOR VOCATIONS (FPC): ALICIA POSLOSKY (8: 30 AM) will host the FPC this week. Call 570-399-5056 or the Rectory (570-544-2211). We also need volunteers for June. Please sign up in the Church vestibule.

SECOND COLLECTION: (1) PARISH MAINTENANCE: Your contribution will help defray the cost of improvements for all Parish Buildings and Grounds. (2) CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES’ RICE BOWL: Please place your Catholic Relief Services’ Rice Bowl envelope in the Second Collection all Lenten Sundays including Easter Sunday. All other Parish and Diocesan envelopes should be placed in the First Collection. Thank you! (3) Please help your parish by catching up with any missed envelopes. **THANK YOU!**

MINISTERS AT MASS FOR THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

	<u>OFF. PROC.</u>	<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS</u>	<u>SERVERS</u>
SAT 4:00 PM	Bonk Family	Rosalie Novack	Gloria Paltanavage	Olivia Osborne Erica Osborne
SUN 8:30 AM	Wiscount Family	John Hudock	Deacon Henninger	Scott Schwalm Connor Schwalm
10:30 AM	Parishioners	Marge Walasavage	Alicia Poslosky	Kieran Schwalm Kieran Plesnarski Jude Plesnarski

COMING EVENTS: PLEASE BE SURE TO MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

MARCH 25 – 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.

MARCH 27 – GOD’S BOUNTIFUL TABLE: Every other 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 also available for people with disabilities.** For additional information call Edward Butler (570-544-2739) or the Annex (570-544-6484) every other Wednesday.

APRIL 7 – COMMUNITY CONFESSIONS: 3:30 PM, St. Matthew the Evangelist Church. Prepare spiritually for Easter by making a good Confession! Four Priests should be available.

APRIL 7 – ST. MATTHEW THE EVANGELIST HAM BINGO: Doors open 11:00 AM; Bingo starts 1:00 PM, Good Shepherd Building Cafeteria. Tickets \$5.00. 20 games, specials and raffles! Food and beverages will be available. Call Theresa Schoffstall (570-544-4316) or Tina Souchak (570-544-3370). PLEASE HELP WITH A \$25 DONATION TO PURCHASE HAMS. Non-perishable Grocery Items (canned goods, paper products, household cleaning items, etc.) are needed and can be dropped off in the boxes in the Church Vestibule. Volunteer workers are also needed!

APRIL 11 – MONTHLY ROSARY: 6:15 PM in our Church. Rosary is second Thursday of each month. Please join us!

APRIL 14 – ST. MATTHEW’S TRAVELERS’ CAPE COD BUS TRIP MEETING: 1:30 PM in our Church.

APRIL 25 – CONFIRMATION: Bishop Alfred A. Schlert will administer Confirmation to the 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). 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 Quandel’s 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).