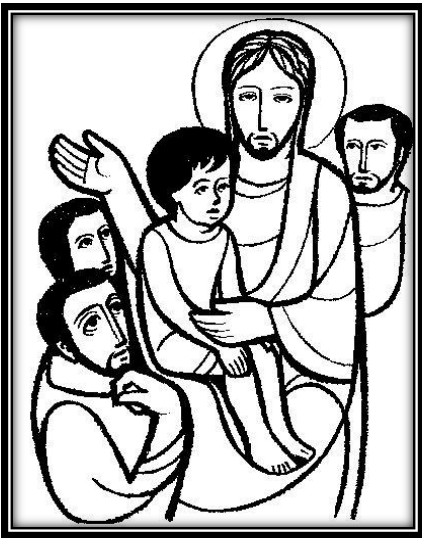
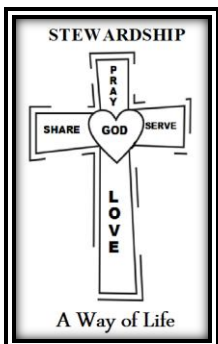


**THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
SEPTEMBER 23, 2018**



GOSPEL REFLECTION: Last week's gospel, in which Jesus asked his disciples, "Who do you say I am?" marked a turning point in the gospel of Mark. Having established in the minds of the disciples that he is indeed the Messiah, Jesus now begins to explore with them what that really means and also what it means to be a follower—a disciple—of the Messiah who must be put to death. Having finally come to some level of understanding that Jesus is the Messiah, the disciples have latched on to a very limited understanding of Jesus' Messiahship. They have assumed that being Messiah meant that Jesus was going to lead a triumphant victory over all the woes of the Jews—it was a common understanding and expectation of what the Messiah would do. With this in mind, the disciples begin to argue amongst themselves about who will hold positions of respect and power in the aftermath of Jesus' great triumph. Despite what Jesus had just said about being put to death and rising again, the disciples simply couldn't grasp what he was saying and fell back onto a familiar picture of the Messiah. // To really shake up the disciples and try to make them pay attention to what he was saying to them, Jesus put his arms around a small child and told the disciples they had to welcome little children in his name. Like so many gospel images there is more going on here than meets the eye. Children were regarded as complete nobodies in the culture of the time. They had no status and absolutely no authority. Jesus is saying to the disciples, don't argue about who will be the greatest; this child—this nobody—is greater than anyone who lords it over others. If you treat a nobody like this with respect, you treat me with respect.



"If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all." (MARK 9:35) Jesus teaches us that we are called to serve one another. Sacrifice is not a word that many people like to hear. We think it means that we must give up something that we want. However, the literal meaning of sacrifice is "to make holy," from the words "sacer" =sacred and "facere" = to make. In other words, we make our lives holy by sharing our gifts in the service of God. Last Week You Contributed: Sunday: \$2,738; General Repair: \$312. Thanks! Expenses: \$5,331.38 (Salaries, Utilities, Equipment Repair, Propane, Taxes); \$10,915.77 (school subsidy). 253 Parishioners attended mass.

Pray that all Parishioners Will attend Mass and receive the Sacraments!

**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 – Sr. M. Lucretia by Joe and Theresa Gleason
- TUE – Walter Weismiller by Anna Weismiller
- WED – Seminary Purgatorial Society Members
- THU – John and Louise Kishel by Daughter, Joan Roberts
- FRI – Rev. Ignatius Szal (Estate)
- SAT – 4:00 PM – Rev. Ignatius Szal for his service to the Church
- SUN – 8:30 AM – Living and Deceased Parishioners
10:30 AM – Cynthia and Daniel Jaglas by Family

REQUIESCAT IN PACE: May the angels lead into paradise **ELAINE LANDERS**, a former member of the former St. Stanislaus Kostka Church, who died Saturday, September 15, and whose burial service was held Saturday, September 22. May Mary, Mother of Mercy, obtain comfort from Jesus, her son, for Elaine's family and friends.

THE WEEKLY CALENDAR: I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord. Should they cry for me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, SEPTEMBER 23 –

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 **HELENE O'CONNOR (8:30 AM)** for hosting the FPC for vocations. Sign up for November and December in Church.

FAMILY PERSPECTIVE: Disagreements are common in families. But what would you say if Jesus posed the same question "What are you arguing about?" Is it silly and petty? Is it an attempt to impose your will and control on another? Today Jesus tells us and his disciples to give it up. We are meant to serve each other, not control.

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

PRO-LIFE REFLECTION: St. Theresa of Calcutta once said: "The greatest destroyer of peace today is ABORTION ... because it is war against the child. When we die, we will come face to face with God, the Author of Life. Who will give an account to God for the millions and millions of babies who were not allowed a chance to live, to experience loving and being loved?" Join pro-life today and offer to help at a local pregnancy care center.

VOTIVES: (1) SANCTUARY: IMO Steve and Mary Fedeles by Mary Ann Sokola and Family. **(2) ALTARS: BLESSED VIRGIN MARY:** Special Intention by Stan and Sally Gober; IMO Aldona Butler by Edward. **(3) BEFORE: REREDOS NICHE:** For the Health of Tom and Mary Regina Mundy by Theresa Schoffstall and Family. **ST. LUCY:** Special Intention by Father Leo. **ST. JOSEPH:** Special Intention. **ST. THERESA:** Special Intention. **POPE SAINT JOHN PAUL II:** Special Intention. **ST. FRANCIS:** Special Intention. Call 570-544-2211 to memorialize votives.

BELATED FORTY HOURS VOTIVES: (1) ALTARS: BLESSED VIRGIN MARY: IMO Leister and Pytko Families by Dolores Leister (2). **DIVINE MERCY:** Special Intention by Jean; IMO Frank Kuchta by Family; IMO Sophie Kuchta by Family. **(2) BEFORE: ST. ANTHONY, ST. ANNE, ST. THERESA, ST. BARBARA:** In honor of Saints Anthony, Jude and Padre Pio by Gloria Dutcavich (5). **ST. JOSEPH:** IMO Jozef Wojcik (27th Annv) by Granddaughter, Maryann Weachock. Call the Rectory (570-544-2211) to memorialize votives.

BELATED FORTY HOURS FLOWERS: We gratefully acknowledge these Floral Memorializations (\$10 unless noted): IMO deceased members of my family by Gloria Dutcavich (\$50); Intentions of Leon and Arlene Disarro Families (\$100); IMO Frank and Sophie Kuchta by Family (\$25); IMO Jozef Wojcik (27th Annv) by Granddaughter, Maryann Weachock. Call the Rectory (570-544-2211) for floral memorializations.

ST. PATRICK CHURCH THEME BASKET AND PRIZE AUCTION: Doors open 10:00 AM; drawing starts 2:00 PM, Parish Center, Pottsville. Call 570-622-1802.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 – ST. MATTHEW'S TRAVELERS' "WILDWOOD ITALIAN STYLE: A TOUCH OF ITALY AT THE JERSEY SHORE: BUS TRIP: Call Julie (570-544-5231) or Millie (570-628-5413) for last minute information.

FYI: TODAY'S MASS IS AT 7:00 AM.

DEANERY MASS FOR HEALING: 6:30 PM, St. Clare of Assisi Church, St. Clair. Bishop Alfred A. Schiert will celebrate Mass. Parish Priests will be available for Confession following Mass until 8:00 PM. 570-429-0701. **Everyone is invited to attend!**

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 – THANK YOU: Thanks to Msgr. William Handges who will be saying Mass today through Thursday this week while Father Leo is away. **ST. MATTHEW RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM:** 1) 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM, Good Shepherd Building. 2) **MASS ATTENDANCE CARDS:** are in the Church Vestibule. They are used all year long! Parents, bring your children to Mass; see that they receive Confession regularly! 3) Contact our CRE, Miss Novack (570-544-2211).



Faith-Hope-Charity

You can make a gift anytime by placing your pledge form in the collection basket or by visiting the Appeal website at FaithHopeCharity Gives.org. EVERY GIFT COUNTS, NO MATTER HOW SMALL. 163 parishioners (34.03% of our 478 households) have given \$20,865 (Over 100% of our goal, \$20,388.78!). Thanks to all who supported the 2018 BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL. Your gift allows our diocese to help the disadvantaged in our midst. We encourage everyone's support! The greater our participation, the more we demonstrate that we are a parish that cares!

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 – 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, Fr. Anthony J. Ricapito Annex (570-544-6484).

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 – "SOUNDS OF THE SPIRIT" CONTEMPORARY CHOIR REHEARSAL:

Call Greg (570-544-2355) to join or for rehearsal times. New members welcome!

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN WORKSHOP: 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM, St. Patrick Parish Center, Pottsville. Call Debbie at 570-622-1802 to register.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 – SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: 7:45 AM.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 – SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: 3:30 PM.

3RD ANNUAL SPIRITUALITY DAY: 9:15 AM to 1:00 PM, St. Michael the Archangel Parish. Cost \$10. Mini-retreat day with theme: "Who Are We; What Shall We Do?". Presenter: Rev. Eric J. Gruber, Pastor, St. John Fisher Church, Catasaqua. Pre-registration required by calling Jean (570-544-6853).

THE TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, SEPTEMBER 30 – SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: 8:00, 10:15 AM.

THE FAMILY PRAYER CHALICE FOR VOCATIONS (FPC): Linda and Joe Butcavage (8:30 AM) will host the FPC this week. Call 570-399-5056 or sign-up in the Church Vestibule. We need volunteers for November and December!

SECOND COLLECTION ENVELOPE: There is no second collection envelope for today. Please check your Sunday Church Envelope Boxes for the envelopes you might have missed. Kindly catch up! **THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**

QUESTIONS FOR THE BISHOP: As Bishop Schlert has been visiting parishes around the Diocese in the weeks following the release of the Grand Jury Report, many people have stayed to ask him questions. Now we are being given the same opportunity, anyone with questions about the clergy sexual abuse issue is invited to e-mail them to abusequestions@allentowndiocese.org. The Diocese will edit questions for clarity, length and appropriateness. Please include your name and hometown. On the website, we will identify questioners by their first name and hometown, unless you want that information withheld. We will not reveal your e-mail address or last name.

MINISTERS AT MASS FOR 26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

	<u>OFF. PROC.</u>	<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS</u>	<u>SERVERS</u>
SAT 4:00 PM	Volunteers	Nicole Forney	Theresa Kroznuski	Volunteer Needed
SUN 8:30 AM	Parishioners	John Andruchek	Al Boris	Schwalm Fam.
10:30 AM	Jaglas Family	Mary Ann Harrison	Sharon Kolenick	Kuehn Fam.

COMING EVENTS: PLEASE BE SURE TO MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

OCTOBER 1 – DIOCESE OF ALLENTOWN FIRST ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT: Saucon Valley Country Club. Proceeds benefit Seminarian and Catholic School Education. Contact Michele Mullikin (610-871-5200 x2282 or mmullikin@allentowndiocese.org) for info.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4 – FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI: 1) **MASS:** 8:00 AM at the former St. Francis of Assisi Church. After Mass we will venerate the relic of St. Francis of Assisi, who is Patron: against fire; of animals; Catholic Action; dying alone; ecology; environment; families; lacemakers; merchants; peace; zoos. **Pastoral Note:** The Church will open at 7:15 AM. 2) **ANNUAL BLESSING OF PETS:** 5:30 PM, former St. Francis of Assisi Church to honor St. Francis of Assisi. **Small pets and animals should be hand-held; large animals should be leashed and held in the center aisle. Everyone is welcome. There will also be an opportunity to venerate the relic of St. Francis. (COME PREPARED FOR ANY "PRESENTS" YOUR PETS MIGHT DONATE!) ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PRAY FOR US!**

OCTOBER 6-15 – ST. CLARE OF ASSISI PARISH 10 DAY PILGRIMAGE TO ASSISI AND ROME: \$4,300 per double occupancy. Includes: air fare, hotels, group transportation in Italy, 8 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 6 dinners. **On October 14th at St. Peter's Square in Rome, Pope Francis will Canonize Blessed Pope Paul VI and Blessed Oscar Romero!** For information call 570-429-0701. Flyers are in Vestibule.

OCTOBER 7 – PIEROGI FEST: In celebration of National Pierogi Day (October 8) we will be selling **OUR OWN HOMEMADE PIEROGI**, cooked or frozen (\$7 per dozen), eat-in or take-out, after today's Masses **ONLY** in our Parish Center. Baked goods will also be available. We ask donations of your pastry creations. They can be brought to the Parish Center beginning at 8:00 AM. **COME CELEBRATE NATIONAL PIEROGI DAY IN ADVANCE!**

OCTOBER 10 – 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).

OCTOBER 11 – MONTHLY ROSARY: 6:15 PM in our Church. Rosary is second Thursday of each month.

OCTOBER 13 – ROSARY RALLY: 12:00 Noon; assemble at St. Michael the Archangel Parish Center, Sunbury Street, Minersville. Join with other churches of Schuylkill County in praying the Rosary and asking Our Lady of Fatima for solutions to today's problems. There is strength in numbers as we beg Our Lady for guidance and protection. Call Sr. Catherine (570-544-4741) for more information.

OCTOBER 14 – FIRST PENANCE/FIRST COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION ENROLLMENT MASS: 10:30 AM (grades 3 and 8).

OCTOBER 14, 15, 21, 22 – PIEROGI PREPARATION: Sunday: 9:30 AM; Monday: 9:00 AM. Parish Center. Please help!

NOVEMBER 4 – ANNUAL TURKEY BINGO: Doors open at 12:00 Noon; Bingo starts at 1:00 PM. Good Shepherd Cafeteria. Admission \$5.00. Donations of baked goods would be appreciated and should be brought directly to the Cafeteria today. Just place your name on these items. Food and refreshments will be available. **NON-PERISHABLE GROCERY ITEMS (CANNED GOODS, PAPER PRODUCTS, HOUSEHOLD CLEANING ITEMS, etc.) are needed for the Bingo Prizes and can be left in the specially marked bins in the Church Vestibule. Place your name on the items. You will receive a letter in the mail with more information. Questions, call Theresa (570-544-4316).**

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

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

DECEMBER 5 – FREE DAY IN NEW YORK CITY: Cost \$45. Departs: Quandel's Minersville 6:30 AM; Giant in Cressona 6:45 AM; New York City 6:00 PM. Enjoy a Broadway Show or check out Central Park!

DECEMBER 10 – SANDS-BETHLEHEM CASINO: Cost \$25. There will be an opportunity to see the Christmas City's Lights in its glory!

THANK YOU!: Thank you to everyone who contributed, supported or worked at our Parish Basket Raffle/Chinese Auction and food sale. A special thank you to the many area businesses for their monetary or gift contributions. All baskets /prizes have been claimed. Please watch the bulletin board at the ramp exit of the Church for the next two weekends, for a complete list of winners. Again, thank you for making this event the success that it was! *Gratefully, The Kitchen Krew and Basket Committee of St. Matthew's.*