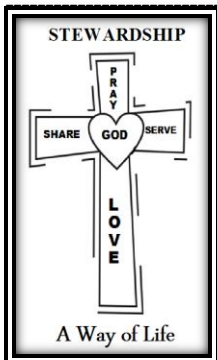


**THE TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
SEPTEMBER 9, 2018**



GOSPEL REFLECTION by Tom Conry: If you look at a map you'll immediately realize that the route that Jesus is supposed to have taken here is nonsensical. It's like going from Seattle to Portland by way of Boise and Yellowstone National Park. The place names are simply meant to tell us that now the reign of heaven is being proclaimed in Gentile territory. // The background of this story is undoubtedly Isaiah 35:5: "Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped." This verse exists as a kind of recurring subtext in Mark; it is referred to over and over in order to raise the question exactly who it is that really cannot hear and see. Is it people who simply cannot perceive sound, like the man in today's reading? Or is it those who lack understanding like the disciples, to whom Jesus cries out "Having eyes, do you not see? Having ears, do you not hear?" (Mk 8:18). // In an oral culture, of course, the ability to hear and to speak occupies quite a different and more important place than it does in modern Western culture. In the intensely oral Mediterranean society, hearing mediated all interpretation, and the ability to speak represented the ability to be a member of society, which is why in popular literature of that time those who take a vow of silence generally moved out into the desert alone. This is not the story of a cure so much as it is the story of the restoration of a man to his community.



*"Did not God choose those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom that he promised to those who love him?" (JAMES 2:5) What is more important – being rich in faith or rich in possessions? Society teaches us that possessions are most important. God teaches a different lesson. When we are rich in faith, we keep God first in all things and realize that material things really don't matter and that it's more important to share with those who have less. Last Week You Contributed: Sunday: \$2,530; Utilities: \$436; Expenses: \$6,162.36 (Salaries, Utilities, Maint. Supplies, Propane, Insurance, Maint. Contracts). 247 Parishioners attended mass. Thanks! **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 – Albert and Helen Papada by Joseph and Rose Skibiel
- TUE – Deceased of Owsinski Family by Tom and Mary
- WED – Sophie Gallo by Phyllis Rada and Family
- THU – Francis O'Connor by Molly and Helene
- FRI – Lenny Kostek by Wife and Family
- SAT – 8:00 AM – For victims, their families, and survivors of clergy sexual abuse
4:00 PM – Bernard and Edith Lescavage by Daughters, Cindy and Lynn Ann
- SUN – 8:30 AM – Living and Deceased Parishioners
10:30 AM – James and Phyllis McNamara by Barbara, Mary Beth, Evelyn, and Maureen

THE WEEKLY CALENDAR: You are just, O Lord, and your judgment is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

**THE TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, SEPTEMBER 9 –
SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: 8:00 AM and 10:15 AM.**

SPECIAL VOLUNTARY DIOCESAN SECOND COLLECTION:

MARY'S SHELTER: Mary's Shelter was founded as a viable alternative to abortion by women and men who believe that every living person, including the unborn, are children of one Heavenly Father who creates all in his infinite goodness and wisdom. If you forgot your envelope this week, you can place the "Mary's Shelter" envelope in next week's collection. Please be Generous. BE PRO-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. Thanks to LINDA ROTHERMEL (8:30 AM) for hosting the FPC for vocations. Sign up for November in Church.

FAMILY PERSPECTIVE: Because the deaf man in today's gospel recognized his disability, he could seek help from Jesus. Deafness abounds in families: in our children ("Oh dad, not that again"), parents ("It is just a stage"), and spouses ("Are you listening?"). Before Jesus can enter your home and heal, you must first recognize your deafness.

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

PRO-LIFE REFLECTION: "The hottest places in hell are reserved for those who, having the power and responsibility to oppose evil, did nothing to extinguish it." Work and pray to end abortion and euthanasia. Join pro-life today!

VOTIVES: (1) **SANCTUARY:** IMO Sister M. Alphonse, S.S.C. by Gloria Dutcavich. (2) **ALTARS:** BVM: Special Intention; Special Intention by Stan and Sally Gober; IMO Aldona Butler by Edward. **DIVINE MERCY:** IMO Jan and Julia Malec and Jan and Jozefa Smiszik by grandson, Father Leo; IMO Peter Ferenchick; IMO John Andruchek, Sr. (3) **BEFORE: ST. JOSEPH:** Special Intention; In Thanksgiving. **ST. LUCY:** Special intention by Father Leo. **ST. FRANCIS:** Special Intention; Deceased of Botek Family by Tom and Mary Ann Kline. **SAINT POPE JOHN PAUL II:** Special Intention. Call the Rectory (570-544-2211) to memorialize Vigils.

FLOWERS: We gratefully acknowledge the flowers adorning the BVM Altar IMO Russell Rothermel (Annv) by wife, Linda, and daughters, Mitra, and Meggi.

MINERSVILLE SPIRIT DAY: St. Matthew the Evangelist's God's Bountiful Table will have a stand on North Street for this annual event. Haluski, Kielbasa, and Kielbasa Cheese Steaks will be sold. In the event of rain, food will be sold from the Good Shepherd Cafeteria. SEE YOU THERE!!

ST. MATTHEW'S WILDWOOD BUS TRIP MEETING: 1:30 PM in Church.
BASKET RAFFLE DROP-OFF: After Masses until 1:00 PM Parish Center.

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 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 jmk827@hotmail.com to register. No registration fee. **Deadline today!**

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 – OFFICE OF SENIOR SERVICES' ATLANTIC CITY RESORTS CASINO BUS TRIP: BENEFITS SENIOR SERVICES' SPECIAL NEEDS FUND! Call 570-544-523 or 570-628-5413. N.B. MORNING MASS TODAY IS AT 7:00 AM.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 – ST. MATTHEW RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM: 1) Classes resume today, 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM, Good Shepherd Building. 2) **2018-2019 REGISTRATION:** Cost: First Child \$65.00; Second Child \$50.00; Third Child \$40.00; Fourth Child Free. **A late fee of \$10.00 per family is now in effect!** 3) **MASS ATTENDANCE CARDS:** are in the Church Vestibule. They are used all year long! Parents, please bring your children to Mass; see that they receive Confession regularly! Contact our Coordinator of Religious Education 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. 155 parishioners (33.36% of our 478 households) have given \$20,550 (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!

TUESDAY, 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. Visit AllentownDiocese.org for more information.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 – 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).

BASKET RAFFLE DROP-OFF: 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM, Parish Center.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 – MONTHLY ROSARY: 6:15 PM in our Church. Rosary is second Thursday of each month. Please join us!

RED CROSS BLOODMOBILE: 1:00 PM to 6:00 PM, Good Shepherd Cafeteria. DONATE BLOOD!

BASKET RAFFLE DROP-OFF: 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM, Parish Center.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 – SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: 7:45 AM.

BASKET RAFFLE DROP-OFF: 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon, Parish Center.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 – SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: 3:30 PM.

THE FEAST OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS: A DIOCESAN DAY OF PRAYER AND REPARATION: All 84 Parishes of the Diocese, including our own, will be open today from 8:00AM to 8:00 PM for silent prayer and Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament. The Day will begin with Mass and Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament and conclude with Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament. All Catholics are encouraged to make quiet visits to pray for the victims, their families, and survivors of clergy sexual abuse. **MAY GOD HEAL ALL THOSE SO WRONGFULLY ABUSED BY THEIR SHEPHERDS!**

BASKET RAFFLE SHOP AND DROP: 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM.

THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, SEPTEMBER 16 – SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: 8:00,10:15 AM. **THE FAMILY PRAYER CHALICE FOR VOCATIONS (FPC):** RAY AND KAREN STABINSKI (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!

BASKET RAFFLE: Doors open 9:30 AM; Auction starts 2:00 PM, Parish Center. Food will be available for purchase both days: Beef Barbeque sandwich/chips; Pulled Pork sandwich/chips; and Potato Kugel (Babka). Pierogi (already cooked but frozen) will be available for purchase \$7/dozen. Call Arlene Quesada (570-385-0248 or 570-640-4730) if you need any help and for information regarding your gifts and donations. Baskets can also be dropped off at the Rectory from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Monday thru Friday.

ANNUAL FORTY HOURS CELEBRATION DAY I: (1) Eucharistic Exposition immediately after 10:30 Mass to 7:00 PM. Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament At 7:00 PM. (2) Late Memorializations of Vigils (\$5 each) and Flowers (\$10 each) can still be made to help defray the cost by contacting the Rectory (570-544-2211). We would be grateful for your help in adorning our Church's Altars with Vigils and Flowers. They will be acknowledged in next week's bulletin. Thanks for caring! (3) Eucharistic Adoration Sign-Up Sheets are in the Vestibule of the Church. Please select a convenient time. We need at least 2 people for each half-hour interval of Adoration. Please honor our Eucharistic Lord by your presence! (4) The Parish Forty Hours Offering Envelope can be found with your September envelopes. We would be grateful for your support of this spiritual endeavor. Thank you!

SECOND COLLECTION ENVELOPE: (1) GENERAL REPAIR: Your contribution will help defray the cost of general maintenance.

(2) Please catch up with any missed envelopes. Consistent and generous support helps your church meet its financial obligations and better serve you! **THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**

MINISTERS AT MASS FOR 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

	<u>OFF. PROC.</u>	<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER</u>	<u>SERVERS</u>
SAT 4:00 PM	Lescavage Family	Mary Ann Harrison	Deacon Henninger	Osborne Family
SUN 8:30 AM	Parishioners	Jack Hudock	Deacon Henninger	Schwalm Family
10:30 AM	McNamara Family	Sharon Kolenick	Deacon Henninger	Kuehn Family

COMING EVENTS: PLEASE BE SURE TO MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 – ANNUAL FORTY HOURS CELEBRATION DAY II: Adoration from 9:00 AM until 6:00 PM. Mass at 6:00 PM. Confessions at 7:45 AM and 5:30 PM and after Mass if needed.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 – ANNUAL FORTY HOURS CELEBRATION DAY III: Adoration from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM. Benediction at 6:15 PM followed by Mass attended by our Religious Education children (Students report to Parish Center at 6:00 PM; Pick-up after Mass at Church). Any questions, contact our Coordinator of Religious Education, Rosalie Novack (570-544-2211). Confessions 7:45 AM and 5:30 PM and after Mass if needed.

SEPTEMBER 19, 21, 22 – EMBER DAYS OF FASTING AFTER THE FEAST OF THE HOLY CROSS: Bishop Schlert has encouraged all Catholics within the Diocese of Allentown to observe these traditional Ember Days by partial abstinence (eating meat only at the principal meal) and fasting (at the principal meal and the two smaller meals) for the intentions of victims, their families, and survivors of clergy sexual abuse. **MAY GOD HEAL THEM!**

SEPTEMBER 26 – 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 7 – NATIONAL PIEROGI DAY: More information is upcoming.

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

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

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).

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.