

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

SATURDAY, February 17
5 PM
Robbie Lundberg
Rosaleen Fiocca

SUNDAY, February 18
8 AM
Leonard Swell
9:30AM
Diane Schork
11 AM
Grace Caffrey

MONDAY, February 19
8AM
Anita Grabarits

TUESDAY, February 20
8AM
Fanny Ingressi

WEDNESDAY, February 21
8 AM
Florence Capasso

THURSDAY, February 22
8 AM
Ralph Loveys
Elizabeth Boyer

SATURDAY, February 24
5 PM
Anne Fritchman

SUNDAY, February 25
8 AM
Mary Keegan
9:30AM
Benito Lupo
11 AM
Marion Cafaro

OUR PARISH PRAYERS

"For everything there is a season and a time for every purpose under heaven..."

A time to be born...We pray for all those who will be baptized this weekend:

****A time to heal...***We pray for all the sick of our parish and especially for : ***Ina Balash, Anne Baldi, , Filomena Bocchino, Fran Brooks, Michael Boughton, Gina Ceva, Jerimiah Crowley, Joseph Enders, Martene Errico, Nicolas Finck, Joe Fusco, Mary Gordon, Don Heil, Eri Keegan, Jim Klucharits, Mary J. Meehan, Carol Robinson, Sal Sacco, Christopher Torney, Nicholas Vacca and Scott Wilson.***

****Names will remain on our sick list for three months after which time, unless we are notified to keep them on the list, they will be removed.***

A time to die...please pray for our recently deceased: Carolyn McGinley niece/cousin of Bob & Tim Aubato.



OFFICE IS CLOSED FOR PRESIDENTS DAY FEBRUARY 19, 2018

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday February 19th in observance of Presidents Day. Regular hours resume on Tuesday, February 20th 9:00AM to 4:00PM. Thank you!

| | Nov. | # | Dec. | # |
|-------------------------------|----------|-----|-----------|-----|
| Envelopes & Loose Cash | \$17,669 | 124 | \$25,399 | 140 |
| WeShare | \$19,212 | 150 | \$17,780 | 149 |
| Total | \$36,881 | | \$43,179 | |
| YTD Budget | | | \$221,920 | |
| YTD Offering | | | \$228,446 | |
| YTD Deficit | | | \$6,526 | |
| SPECIAL COLLECTIONS | | | | |
| Christmas | | | \$30,825 | |
| Building & Maintenance | | | \$1,972 | |
| Retirement Fund for Religious | | | \$2,670 | |
| Haiti MOP Education Fund | | | \$1,320 | |

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

February 18, 2018—1st Sunday of Lent

"After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God..." - MARK 1:14 Do you ever think about how difficult it must have been for Jesus to come into Galilee, knowing that John had just been arrested for teaching the same message that Jesus was proclaiming. It must have taken great love and trust for Jesus to do what the Father had sent Him here on earth to do. In the same way, following a life of stewardship takes great love and trust from us. We must be willing to surrender completely to God, trusting that God will always give us all that we need to fulfill His plan for us.



ONLINE GIVING – WeShare It's safe. It's simple. It's convenient.

Please prayerfully consider giving to our parish family online as it does benefit our parish in many important ways. The practice of Christian stewardship in doing online giving provides the opportunity for planned giving in what we offer back to God. It benefits our parish by helping to streamline our administrative process and at the same time provides more accurate budgeting. Anyone who would like to join online giving can use the link provided on our website.

First Sunday of Lent

Sunday: Gn 9:8-15; 1 Pt 3:18-22; Mk 1:12-15

Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11; Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10; Lk 11:29-32

Thursday: 1 Pt 5:1-4; Mt 16:13-19

Friday: Ez 18:21-28; Mt 5:20-26

Saturday: Dt 26:16-19; Mt 5:43-48

Sunday: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Rom 8:31b-34; Mk 9:2-10



Thru the Pastor's Desk—By Fr. Martin McDonnell

We have just begun our Lenten journey in the cold of winter-but, seven weeks from now, when we come to the empty tomb on Easter morning, the earth will greet the risen Christ with the first buds of spring.

At this time of year nature undergoes quite a transformation. As the earth turns towards the warmth of the sun, winter is transformed into spring. Despite the darkness and cold of these days, we know that spring will come. We are all aware that this parish is now experiencing a certain amount of winter, pain and struggle with the departure of Fr. Sean.

It is important for you to know that in the past week the leadership of our diocese was informed that certain comments over time and patters of behavior on the part of Fr. Sean created anxiety and fear among our staff. To be clear, these incidents did not involve any physical abuse. It is also important to note that this has nothing to do with anything involving a minor.

Fr. Sean and officials from our diocese discussed the matter in depth and all agreed it was in the best interest of our community and Fr. Sean that he remove himself immediately for treatment. Please remember in your prayers our parish community and Fr. Sean.

Bishop Serratelli has appointed me as TEMPORARY administrator of the parish. I accept this challenge , and pledge my commitment to serve the people of St. Matthew with loving compassion to the best of my ability. As we journey through this Lenten season my prayer for all of us is -

O God, give us the wisdom to realize your presence in every moment of our lives and the joy of gratitude so that we may transform difficult times into experiences of grace and painful times into moments of light.
May God bless you and may your Lent be peaceful.

Fr. Martin

WELCOME HOME TO HEALING

Each parish in the Diocese of Paterson (Passaic, Morris & Sussex Counties) will offer the opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)
Monday evenings: February 19th & 26th and
March 5, 12 & 19 from 7:00PM to 8:30PM.

EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

SUN., Feb 18...Faith Kitchen Cooking 10:30AM.
MON., Feb 19...Presidents' Day-Parish Office Closed, AA Meeting 9:30AM, Rosary 6:30PM, Bible Study 7PM, Reconciliation 7:PM, RCIA 7:30PM.
TUES., Feb. 20...AA Meeting 9:30 AM, Finance Committee 7PM, Boy Scouts 7PM.
WED., Feb. 21...AA Mtg 9:30 AM, Prayer Shawl 10AM, Men's Cornerstone 7:30PM, Adoration 2-8PM, Yoga 4:30, 5:30 & 7PM,
THUR., Feb. 22...AA Mtg 9:30 AM, All Choirs.
FRI., Feb. 23...AA Mtg 9:30 AM, Men's Cornerstone Weekend, Healthy Bones 10:30AM.
SAT., Feb. 24...Men's Cornerstone Weekend.
SUN., Feb 25...Faith Formation Weekend.

MATTHEW'S MEN

SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 2018

8:00 AM

RECONCILIATION

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated each Saturday at 4:30 PM before the evening Liturgy or by appointment at another time.

FAST AND ABSTINENCE GUIDELINES

Abstinence from meat is to be observed by all Catholics 14 years and older on all Fridays during Lent. Fasting is to be observed on Good Friday by all Catholics who are 18 years of age but not yet 59. Those who are bound by this may fast on one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid food between meals is not permitted.

HAITI HOPE AND PROMISE THANK YOU

Haiti Hope and Promise would like to send a huge **Thank You** to the parishioners of St. Matthew's for their generous support for the Valentine's Dinner Dance. We surpassed our expectations in fund raising, and are sending Dr. Maklin home with enough to help many people. It was a fun night for all. He was also able to meet with some medical interns who may do rounds at New Hope Hospital. A successful trip all around for Dr. Maklin. Thank you!



FAITH FORMATION IS SEEKING HOST FAMILIES

Our 7th and 8th graders will be having a retreat day here at St. Matthew's on March 11th, put on by the NET Team. The NET Team is comprised of young adult Catholics who are proud to profess their Catholic faith. They are wonderful role models who give up a year in between employment or studies to travel throughout the country sharing their faith with young people. They are creative, prayerful, committed and have a wonderful sense of inner joy in preaching the Gospel. As a parish we find that bringing in "outsiders" to share the faith with our youth is quite effective.

Each parish that has a retreat is asked to have host families provide housing and meals during the teams stay in Randolph, which will be Sunday and Monday, March 11th and 12th. To this end we are asking our parish family to please prayerfully consider being a host family. If you are interested please call Moira at your earliest convenience. 862-251-4129. Thank you.

Morristown, NJ – The Center for Holocaust and Genocide Education at the College of Saint Elizabeth is sponsoring a film screening of "No Asylum: The Untold Chapter of Anne Frank's Story" on Sunday, February 25 at 6:00PM in the Annunciation Center on campus. The film covers the stunning discovery of Otto Frank's lost letters that chronicle his unsuccessful attempt to gain asylum for the Frank family in the United States.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Wednesday, February 21, 2018 2:00-8:00 PM

The Risen Lord is asking you: Could you not spend one hour with me? (Matthew 26:40). We welcome you to spend some quality time with the Lord. Our next date of Eucharistic Adoration is Wednesday, February 21st from 2-8PM. The sign-up book is in the Gathering Space. Walk-ins are welcome. Any questions, please call Trudy Dancsecs at 973-584-1317.

THIRD ANNUAL OWL

A SPECIAL EVENT FOR OUR SENIOR CITIZENS

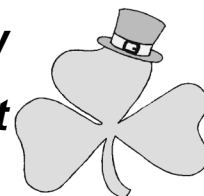
As part of their discipleship training, the Confirmation Candidates for the Class of 2019 will be hosting "OWL" for the senior members of our parish, on March 24th. OWL stands for "Our Wise Leaders"! Our day begins with a Mass of Anointing at 11AM, followed by a luncheon and fun activities with the teens. The mission of our Confirmation Candidates is to honor their elders who have walked the path of faith before them and promote mutual respect between the younger and elder generations.

VOLUNTEER NEEDED!

We thank Betty Forward for the hours of volunteer time she gave each month in helping with the Ministry Schedule. St. Matthew's is in need of a volunteer to take over the Ministry Schedule. Training would be provided for as long as needed. Some computer and excel experience/knowledge is needed. If you are interested please call Terry at 973-584-1101 Ext. 2 or email terry.shaw@stmatthewsrandolph.org. Thank you for your consideration!



HOLD ON TO YOUR SHAMROCKS AND SAVE THE DATE! *We're bringing back the St Patty's Day party to St. Matt's on Saturday, March 17 from 7 to 11 PM! Join us for Corned Beef & Cabbage, Chicken Murphy, Guinness Cheddar Irish Mac & Cheese, Irish Soda Bread, dessert, dancing, friends and fun! It's BYOB and The Potters will be making their famous Irish Coffee. Tickets will be \$30 per person and include some "Irish Swag" for partygoers. Tickets go on sale after all weekend Masses beginning February 17-18th!! Get your tickets now as they'll be going fast. If not sold out, last chance to get tickets will be March 11! Hope to see you there! ...*



+++ To the Family of St. Matthew +++

During the week I received a Memorandum from the Vicar General of Our Diocese, Msgr. James T. Mahoney regarding the **Revised Liturgical Guidelines to Address the Massive Outbreak of Flu in our Country.**

The Memorandum notes that this flu season is one of the worst in 15 years. Therefore, Bishop Serratelli has issued the following guidelines for all liturgies in the diocese until further notice: Weekday and Weekend Liturgies.

A widespread outbreak of flu requires precautions that lessen its transmission. Nothing can absolutely prevent the spread of the flu virus but a few common sense recommendations can help to lessen the possibility.

If you don't feel well and suspect that you may have the flu: **Remain at home.**

- **Wash your hands frequently** with soap and water or an alcohol based hand cleanser.
- **Sign of Peace:** If you feel uncomfortable with the exchange of the sign of peace through a handshake you are under no obligation to do so. You may extend the sign of peace to your neighbors by a nod of the head.
- **Distributing of the Eucharist:** Priests, deacons, and extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist must thoroughly wash their hands with soap and water or an alcohol based hand cleanser both before and after the distribution of the Eucharist.
- **Receiving Holy Communion in the hand** is the most practical means to distribute the Blessed Eucharist in a sanitary way.
- **Receiving the Eucharist** by also drinking the **Precious Blood** from the chalice is **discontinued** until the level of flu cases is dramatically decreased.

So, I would just like to add a blessing for all of us during this time of Flu Season. Hope all stay well and healthy.

Love and Prayers...Fr. Martin

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!
SAVE THE DATE!**



**WOMEN'S CORNERSTONE
RETREAT
March 9th & 10th**

MEN'S CORNERSTONE

As our Lenten journey begins, we invite all men to join us on a wonderful retreat here at St. Matthews. Cornerstone is a refreshing break from everyday life. Please come and be renewed. This is your time! The retreat begins on Friday, 2/23/18 at 6PM and concludes on Saturday, 2/24/18 at 7PM.

If you have any questions, please contact Mark Williams at mjwill@aol.com or 973-270-7840. All are welcome.

CELEBRATION OF FIRST RECONCILIATION

Children who have been preparing for the **Sacrament of Reconciliation** will celebrate the Sacrament for the first time on **Saturday, March 3rd at 10:00AM.** Please remember these children and their families in your prayers as they celebrate God's love and forgiveness together.

**THE KINGDOM OF HAPPINESS: LIVING THE
BEATITUDES IN EVERY DAY LIFE**

We will use Scripture, the Catechism, small group discussion, video teaching and real life profiles to explore what Christ himself has set out for us to be truly happy. This is a new approach. There is **NO REQUIRED HOMEWORK.** You can read ahead if you'd like. We are a great group of faithful people who like to laugh and learn together. If you haven't joined us or it's been awhile, please consider trying this program. Lent is always a good time for a fresh look at your spiritual life.

We meet on Tuesdays at either 9:30 AM OR 7:00 PM. You can come to whichever fits your schedule each week.

All participants will have access to video lessons online in case you cannot make a session.

Sessions begin on Feb 20 and end on April 17.

BUT WAIT - THERE IS MORE - As a bonus, our own Jean Mindingall will give a presentation on the Beatitudes and the Last Words of Christ on the Tuesday of Holy Week (Mar 27). All are welcome, regardless of registration to the program.

The flyer is attached, on the website, stuffed in the bulletin and on tables in the Narthex. Please RSVP via this email ASAP if you plan to attend so I can purchase materials. Then send in the registration form/fee of \$25 when you can.

Invite a friend...Shannon Civetta 973-979-7864

SAVE THE DATE

Msgr. Martin McDonnell will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of his ordination with a 12:00 PM Mass on June 3rd at Good Shepherd Church, Andover and on June 10th at Saint Ann Church, Parsippany, should anyone wish to attend. Celebrations at both parishes are now in the planning stages.

SISTERS AGAINST TRAFFICKING

U.S. Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking is a collaborative, faith-based national network that offers education, supports access to survivor services, and engages in advocacy in an effort to eradicate modern-day slavery. Flyers can be found in the Gathering Space with more information.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE is Prayer and Fasting, Peaceful Vigil, and Community Outreach. Take part with Morris County Right To Life at Planned Parenthood, 196 Speedwell Avenue, Morristown, NJ 07960, 7AM to 7PM seven days a week from Ash Wednesday February 14 through Palm Sunday March 25. We invite pro-lifers as individuals or groups to participate. Bring signs to hold (except graphic type) or will supply as needed. Please register at <https://40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/morristown/>. Alternatively you may email: 44LifeUS@gmail.com or call 973-933-2800.

MORRIS CATHOLIC

ST. PATRICK'S DAY 5K RUN

Morris Catholic High School is holding its 7th Annual Crusader Challenge 5k Run on Saturday, March 17 at 9:00 AM at its Denville, NJ campus. Doors open at 7:30 AM. Proceeds benefit the Morris Catholic scholarship and athletic programs and the Denville Public Assistance Fund. \$25 registration fee up to March 9, 2017. \$30 registration fee after March 9 and day of race. For more information, visit <https://runsignup.com/Race/NJ/Denville/CrusaderChallenge5K> or contact MC5KRace@gmail.com.

Pizza Night with Bishop will be held on Tuesday, February 27, 2018 at Pope John XXIII High School in Sparta from 7 to 9 PM. I ask your assistance in promoting the event among the young men in your parish by way of bulletin and pulpit announcements as well as personal invitation. Pizza Night with Bishop is a night of adoration followed by a talk by Bishop, fellowship; and of course, delicious pizza.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: The Sisters of Christian Charity in Mendham, NJ are looking for qualified candidates for the positions of CNA's and HHA's for the care of Sisters in their new Motherhouse. All shifts available; for more information please contact Lori Vernachio, administrator at 973-543-6528 ext. 268 or email administrator@sceast.org.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

BAPTISM: Families are requested to contact the Parish Office for details on pre-baptismal instruction and date of Baptism.

FAITH FORMATION: Faith Formation for children Kindergarten thru 11th grade takes place on Sundays, Confirmation Sunday evenings Please contact Moira Dziomba at 862-251-4129 with any questions.

LOW GLUTEN EUCHARIST: As a reminder, for those parishioners or visitors who have Celiac Disease or have an allergy to gluten in food products, we offer gluten-free hosts for Eucharist. *If you desire to receive this host, we ask that you notify the Deacon at least 5 minutes before Mass in order that we can prepare for the special host for the Mass.*

HAITI RELIEF SERVICES: To help support relief services in Haiti you can reach out to Catholic Relief Services by calling 888-277-7575 or info@crs.org. Catholic Relief Services can be found at 228 W. Lexington St., Baltimore, Maryland, 21203-7090.

HOSPITAL BOUND-MINISTRY TO THE SICK: If you or any of your family members are currently in the hospital or will be going into the hospital, please let the parish know so we can visit. Because of the privacy laws, the hospitals cannot notify parishes of incoming patients.

MARRIAGE: Arrangements are usually made one year in advance. Please contact the Parish Office for an appointment.

NEW PARISHIONERS: If you are new to St. Matthew's or have been coming to Mass for a while now, we ask that you stop by and speak to Fr. Sean, or our Deacons to talk about becoming part of our parish family. Registration forms can be found in the Gathering Space; and can be filled out and put in the gold mailbox outside the office door—or better yet, you can call Terry Shaw at 973-584-1101 ext. 2 and she will mail you a registration form. There are many wonderful happenings going on at St. Matthew's and we want to make sure all our parishioners are in the know!

RECONCILIATION: The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated each Saturday at 4:30 PM before the evening Liturgy or by appointment at another time.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION (RCIA): RCIA prepares adolescents and adults for Baptism and full Communion into the Catholic Church. Please call the office for more information.

THE EUCHARIST AT HOME: Holy Communion may be brought to the home of any person permanently or temporarily homebound. For the confined, the elderly and/or shut-in, be they at home or in the hospital, the staff of our parish makes calls to homes and hospitals each month. Please inform the office, 973-584-1101, to have your name added to the list.

VISITATION: Do you know someone who needs a visit, a phone call or just a kind note from his/her parish priest? Maybe it's someone who has been away from the Church for a while or someone that has been turned off or offended by the Church? Email or call the parish office, 973-584-1101, so we can extend the healing hand of the Lord to them! All information will be kept confidential.



AXIS YOUTH GROUP

Text @axisyouth to 81010 to get text message reminders of events! Follow us on social media for more information, pictures, and updates! Instagram: @Axis_Youth_Group, Facebook: @AxisYouth.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

Please consider using the services of our advertisers. Their support of St. Matthew the Apostle Parish is greatly appreciated!

ST. MATTHEW'S NEEDS HELPERS WITH THE SACRED LINENS!

We are in need of people to help each week washing and ironing the Sacred Linens. This only takes about one hour of your time once a month. At this time we have a team of four people. Please consider joining this wonderful ministry. If you have questions or are interested, call Terry at 973-584-1101 #2.

PARISH MINISTRIES & CONTACT PERSONS

AA CONTACT INFORMATION

Bill 973-876-1365
Fran 973-784-3521

AXIS YOUTH GROUP

Stephanie Toledo 973-407-9811

ALTAR SERVERS

Parish Office 973-584-1101

BIBLE STUDY

Suzanne Johnson 973-361-1028

BODY, MIND AND SOUL

Shirley Kraft 973-252-7393

BUILDING & SITES

Tom & Donna Weber 973-366-2809

CHURCH ENVIRONMENT

Celeste DiGisco 973-970-9653

CORNERSTONE –Men's/Women's

Mark Williams 973-270-7840
Nara Gregg 602-740-0883

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Tom & Peggy Ann Meola 973-895-4437

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Andy & Doreen Guzo 973-451-0814

EVANGELIZATION

Janeen Sharp 973-219-1346

FAITH SHARING

Ro Peach 973-584-1041

FINANCE COUNCIL

Tom Dowis 973-927-8554

FOOD PANTRY

Jeff Mantell 201-274-3925

FUND RAISING

Major: Bob Sciarelo 973-584-3983
Other: Winifred Swiss 973-584-9499

FUNERAL

Chris & John Groh 973-328-3203

GREETERS

Darcy & Michael Ronchi 973-328-4573

INTERFAITH FURNISHINGS

Mary Jo Welch 973-361-1666

LECTORS

Ro Peach 973-584-1041

LITURGY

Fr. Sean 973-584-1101

MAINTENANCE

Jeff Mantell 201-274-3925

MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Sandie & Ed Keegan 973-927-1146

MEALS ON WHEELS

Gene Cottrell 973- 584-0758

MUSIC

Kathy Burke 973-610-5654
David Southerland 862-686-2869

OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENT

Tom & Peggy Ann Meola 973-895-4437

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM

Kathy Dowis 973- 927-8554

PRAYER CHAIN

Susan Matos 973-989-0157

PRAYER SHAWL

Chris Groh 973-328-3203

PREGNANCY CRISIS HOTLINE

973-538-0967

RCIA

Ed & Sandie Keegan 973-927-1146

SAMARITANS

Jeff Mantell 201-274-3925

SCOUTS

Andre Chabanel (Boy Scouts) 862-266-1136
Allen Barnett (Cub Scouts) 973-820-6389

TECHNOLOGY & COMMUNICATIONS

Janeen Sharp 973-219-1346

USHERS

Joe Venezia 973-895-4669

WOMEN OF FAITH

Moira A. Dziomba 973-584-3788