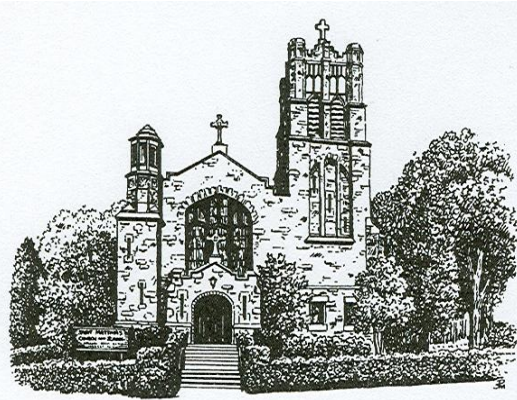


# Saint Matthias Parish



128 Bryn Mawr Avenue

Bala-Cynwyd, Pennsylvania 19004

Website: [www.saintmatthias.org](http://www.saintmatthias.org)

Email: [matthias@saintmatthias.org](mailto:matthias@saintmatthias.org)

Rectory: 610-664-0207 ☒ Fax: 610-664-3559

## Mass Schedule:

Saturday Vigil Mass ..... 5:00 p.m.    Sunday Masses ..... 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 7:00 p.m.  
Monday – Friday ..... 7:30 a.m. ; Saturday ..... 8:00 a.m.

Reverend Monsignor Michael T. McCulken ..... *Pastor*

Reverend J. A. Grant ..... *Parochial Vicar/Senior Priest*

Reverend Charles E. Gormley ..... *Retired Priest*

Parish Business Manager ..... John J. Yura

Director of Parish Services ..... Brandon M. Artman

Coordinator of Religious Education ..... Peggy Haley    *Religious Education Office: 610-664-1942*

Director of Parish Outreach ..... Peggy Haley

Director of Music & Organist ..... Brandon M. Artman

**RECTORY OFFICE HOURS:** The office staff is available for business matters Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Mass Cards may be obtained at the Rectory during business hours, or until 6:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

**NEW PARISHIONERS:** *Welcome to Saint Matthias Parish!* Please register at the Rectory after any weekend Mass. A person arranging for Marriage or seeking a certificate of eligibility to act as a sponsor at Baptism or Confirmation must be registered and be an active member of the Parish.

**APPOINTMENTS:** The Parish Priests are most willing to be of service to all. You are asked to arrange an appointment in advance with the Priest you wish to see.

**SICK CALLS:** Emergencies – Please call the Rectory. Hospital Visitation – The Parish Priests will be happy to visit any Parishioner who is hospitalized. Please contact the Rectory, since no hospital contacts the Rectory.

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:** The Sacrament of Baptism is administered Sundays at 11:30 a.m. Arrangements are to be made in advance at the Rectory. Sponsors must be approved by a letter from their respective Pastors.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** Confessions are heard on Saturdays at 4:15 p.m., or any time by appointment.

**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:** Arrangements must be made with one of the Parish Priests at least six months before the date of the Wedding. Pre-Cana instructions are required. Weddings may be scheduled on Saturdays between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., or on Friday evenings.

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:** The Parish Pastoral Council ordinarily meets on the first Wednesday of the month. *Members: Brandon Artman (ex-officio), Bryan DeSouza, Missy Dougherty, Andrew Gerardi, Peggy Haley (ex-officio), Joann Leonard, Peggy Saeger (Secretary), Mariellen Smith, Anthony Taghione, Fran Blase Utkus, John Yura (ex-officio), Dennis Zak, Therese Trainer (Finance Council representative).*

**JANUARY 29, 2012 – FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**JANUARY 29, 2012**  
**Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**



**Saturday, January 28, 2012** – *Vigil, Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
5:00 Intentions of the Pepperney Family

**Sunday, January 29, 2012** – *Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
8:30 Annie McKee  
**\*10:30 In Memory of Elizabeth Lloyd-Tocci**  
7:00 For Our Parishioners

**Monday, January 30, 2012** – *Weekday*  
7:30 Virginia A. Torrasi

**Tuesday, January 31, 2012** – *St. John Bosco*  
7:30 Intentions of the Algeri Family

**Wednesday, February 1, 2012** – *Weekday*  
7:30 Sarah Morella

**Thursday, February 2, 2012** – *The Presentation of the Lord*  
7:30 For the Soul of Mary Schneider McGonnell

**Friday, February 3, 2012** – *Weekday / St. Blaise / St. Ansgar*  
7:30 For Our Parishioners

**Saturday, February 4, 2012** – *Weekday / BVM*  
8:00 Lisa Mastrocola – 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary  
5:00 Arnold Garabedian

**Sunday, February 5, 2012** – *Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
**\*8:30 In Loving Memory of Isabelle Ragan**  
10:30 John Dugery, Sr.  
7:00 For Our Parishioners

\* Extraordinary support through the **Saint Matthias Day** Program.

**Priest-Celebrant Schedule: February 4 / 5**

5:00 Father Grant  
8:30 Father Gormley  
10:30 Father Grant (choir)  
7:00 Monsignor McCulken

**January 21 / 22 Collection: \$ 5,605**

**Thank You**

***For Your Continued Sacrificial  
Generosity! It is deeply appreciated!***

**H.O.P.E. – Helping Other People in Emergencies**

The H.O.P.E. Captain for January 29 – February 4 is **Peggy Haley: 610-664-0207**. Please call Monday if you need a ride or shopping help during the week.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK:** Elsie Wade, Tom Hennessey, Jr., Ernesto Betancourt, Marie D. Fratini, Martha Eckert, Mary Yura Seleples, Kristen and Louise Hockel, Carmel Bane, Richard Knorr, Stephen Williams, Ryan Williams, Wyn Marino, Thomas Liciardella, Jeanne Glick, Nita Dransfield, Anthony Massini, Louise Rascioli, Carlstein Passarelli, Paul Snyder, Ellie McDonald, Antoinette Butler, Rita D’Andrea, Joe Casino, Bob Pelicata, Irma Bates, Angelina Ciarllo, Bill Walsh, Anna Horton, Mary Takacs, John Lynch, Dorothy Rubincam, Shaleah & Baby Lorenzo Zambino, Mary Block, Jim Bonde, Bill Grant, Eugene Scotti, Catherine O’Connor, Dee Gannon, Tom Klemick and Andy Kennedy. We also pray for those who are served by our Parish in Bala Nursing Home and Inglis House. *If you wish to have someone’s name added to our prayer list, please call the Rectory. Kindly notify the Rectory when a name should be removed from the Sick List.*

**LIVING LIGHTS:** On the side of the Sanctuary near the statue of the Sacred Heart is a place where three candles burn for special intentions. If you wish to have one of these candles burning for your intention you may ask one of the Priests to put your name on the list in the Sacristy. The Donation for these candles is \$10. This week’s candles are lit for: Our Youth, Marriage & Family, and Thomas Massari (birthday).

**UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTION**

**NEXT WEEKEND – CARE OF AGING PRIESTS**

This is a special opportunity to express your gratitude for the many blessings received through the ministry of our priests. Thank you for your sacrificial generosity to this collection, which helps subsidize the care of aging and ill priests in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

**Blood Pressure Screenings** will take place **next Sunday** in the Rectory after the 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Masses.

*Life is changed, not ended.*

We pray for the happy repose of the soul of **Maria Kent**.  
*May her soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed,  
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

**The Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Confessions are heard in Church each Saturday at 4:15 p.m. as well as **NEXT SUNDAY** (and the first Sunday of each month) at 9:30 a.m., or by appointment.



Dear Friends,

During my Seminary years, I remember February being the duller of times. It was not that we had nothing to do, for the schedule kept us quite busy. It was more that the usually beautiful trees and flowers around the property were barren and bare; it was cold and the winter doldrums had settled in.

February is upon us this week. In the years since ordination, I do not have the same sense of the month any more. Perhaps it is due to age, perhaps to the quickened pace of life generally in our modern world. February is full of events here in our parish, beginning with the blessing of throats on this Friday and after the weekend Masses next week. Also, a week being the first Sunday of the month, Confessions will be heard in Church at 9:30 a.m. We hope that you will take advantage of this additional availability.

On Saturday, February 11, we will have our annual Spaghetti Supper for all to enjoy. What a great social event as we enjoy the warmth of friendship while sharing in a wonderful meal. This year we are adding a special Mass for Married Couples which will be held at the 5 p.m. Vigil Mass on February 11. There will be a special blessing for all married couples in attendance.

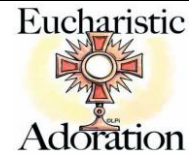
Our monthly Mass for Healing will take place Tuesday, February 14, 7 p.m. Our candidate for full communion with the Catholic Church, Matthew Betz, will participate in the Call to Continuing Conversion ceremony at the Cathedral Basilica with Archbishop Chaput on February 25.

And before the month is over several of our students will begin their practices for First Penance and others will begin their Confirmation interviews with "yours truly" in preparation for the reception of their respective sacraments.

How blessed we are by the good Lord in so many ways, especially with so many wonderful and faith-filled Parishioners here at Saint Matthias!

God bless you, God love you,  
*Monsignor McCulken*

***Mass for Married Couples*** All married couples are invited to attend the 5 PM Mass on Saturday, February 11. A special blessing for married couples will take place during Mass. Then, enjoy a great dinner together at our annual Spaghetti Supper!



*"In a world where there is so much noise, so much bewilderment, there is a need for silent adoration of Jesus concealed in the Host. Be assiduous in the prayer of adoration. It is a source of comfort and light, particularly to those who are suffering."* ~ Pope Benedict XVI

**First Wednesday All-Day Eucharistic Adoration** will take place **this Wednesday, February 1**. The Most Blessed Sacrament will be exposed at the end of the 7:30 a.m. Mass. The Rosary will be prayed after Mass as usual, then the Church will be open the entire day for personal, private, quiet prayer in the presence of Jesus on our Altar. Adoration will conclude with Benediction at 7:00 p.m.

*How does one spend time before Jesus exposed in the Blessed Sacrament? This time Jesus wants you to spend with Him is spent any way you want. You may bring your own prayer books, read the Bible, pray the rosary, or just sit and relax and enjoy the peace that comes from simply being in the presence of the Lord. You may feel that you can't pray well; don't let this discourage you. The mere fact that you take time out of your hectic day to spend some time with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is in itself a prayer of great faith that results in many blessings in your life.*

You are most cordially asked to spend some time in prayer with Jesus. A sign-up sheet is available in the back of Church and we extend a special invitation to the members of our **Rosary and Knitters** groups this month.

*"The Church draws her life from the Eucharist. This truth does not simply express a daily experience of faith, but recapitulates the heart of the mystery of the Church."*

~*Ecclesia de Eucharistia*, Pope John Paul II

### **Diapers for Babies Campaign**

The Alexandra Pierce Angel Foundation is sponsoring a baby diaper drive will take place here at Saint Matthias through February 12. All disposable diapers collected in the baskets in the Church vestibules will be distributed to local diaper banks and social service groups, including Catholic Social Services. For more information, please contact Bill Pierce at 610-405-3725.

## Monthly Mass for Healing

Our first two *Masses for Healing* were exceptionally well attended and were very special evenings. We will continue our monthly *Mass for Healing* on **Tuesday, February 14, 7 p.m.**

What is a *Mass for Healing*? Every Mass involves us with the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ our Lord. At every Mass, the Lord Jesus offers us the very gift of Himself. He becomes truly, really, fully present in the Eucharist. Much of Jesus' public ministry involved healing and forgiveness in addition to His teaching and preaching. The Gospels are filled with the stories of both. God loves us beyond all human understanding and wants to draw us ever closer to Himself. While *every* Mass brings to us Jesus' healing and even forgiveness of our venial sins, it seems proper to offer periodically an opportunity for all in attendance at Mass to have this as the intention of the Mass, to ask specifically for God's healing for ourselves and for others.

We will gather together to worship and praise God, our Almighty Father, Jesus Christ our Lord and brother and the Holy Spirit. In this act of worship, joining our personal sacrifices and ourselves to the Sacrifice of the Cross, we will open up ourselves and those for whom we pray, to the healing and reconciling gifts of Jesus. We never leave Church or Mass, the same way as when we came in. God always touches us in the way He knows best and in the way we need for our salvation.

So come and experience God's mercy and healing with your brothers and sisters. Come for yourself, for another you are praying for, for all those intentions you are praying for. Come and pray for healing for those who have suffered abuse, for those who have left the Church, for those confused or angry with the Church, for those experiencing change in parish and school structures, for our priests, our country, our society. Come and abandon yourself and our world to the power of God. When we surrender to God and to His ways, He always surprises us by His greatness and the depth of His love for us.

## Blessing of Throats

In commemoration of the Feast of Saint Blaise, which is this Friday, throats will be blessed on Friday and after all Masses next weekend. Saint Blaise saved a child who was choking on a fish bone. It is a long-standing tradition to bless throats on his feast day.

## Archbishop Chaput's Letter to Religious

January, 2012

During the weekend of **February 4-5, 2012**, the Church in the United States will join with the Universal Church in marking the "Sixteenth World Day for Consecrated Life." Initiated by our late beloved Blessed John Paul II, this remembrance was designed to focus attention on the various charisms and ministries embodied in the lives of those responding to this special calling of the Holy Spirit. The Church's commemoration also enables all the faithful to thank the Lord for His many gifts and to renew each one's own personal commitment whatever that may be.

Our Archdiocese of Philadelphia has been remarkably blessed and enriched by the personal dedication and response of so many men and women who have given themselves so totally, in not only attempting to live out the traditional ecclesial vows, but also in ministering with genuine openness of heart and soul. Pope John Paul II characterized such total generous oblation as truly a *servitium caritatis* (Vita Consecrata, III). In various apostolates and bold initiatives consecrated persons have enlivened our local Church. One need only think of the *servitium caritatis* of Saint John Neumann and Saint Katharine Drexel in sharing the Gospel message, especially with the marginalized and those often overlooked. Such models continue to inspire and uplift.

This "World Day for Consecrated Life" also enables us to appreciate the quiet service of those in contemplative settings. In addition, the Church recognizes and embraces persons called to live in perpetual virginity and eremitical solitude within contemporary society, a witness which today's world cannot grasp, but which leads us to ponder the Gospel's radical challenge.

Joining with the clergy and laity of the Archdiocese, I personally rejoice in each of you and pray that your fidelity to the consecrated life may bring you fulfillment and peace. Likewise, I ask for your prayers that I may be blessed to live out my own life of consecration, begun years ago and continuing, as I serve you as Archbishop, brother and friend.

Gratefully yours in Christ,  
Most Reverend Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap.  
Archbishop of Philadelphia

## *Saint Matthias Spaghetti Supper*



**Saturday, February 11**

*(snow date: February 18)*

**In the Gym after the 5:00 p.m.  
Mass for Married Couples**

**Dinner includes salad, bread,  
spaghetti & meatballs,  
beverages\* and dessert.**

*\*lemonade, iced tea, hot coffee or tea.  
Feel free to bring your own "beverage"*

Reservations are appreciated, but not mandatory.

*\$8 per person*

*\$30 a family of four*

*\$35 a family of five or more*

*If you are able, please bring a dessert to share. Please  
mark the bottom of your plate so you get it back.*

**DJ Tommy Tunes** will be providing our music!

**Information or reservations:**

**Patty Miller @ 610-543-1124**

**The Saint Matthias Book Club** will meet on Monday, February 13 at 7:30 PM in the Parish Center. The group will read "Year of Wonders" by Geraldine Brooks. Hope you can join us!

**Welcome** to our newly-registered parishioners:

The Danish-Welgs Family: Matthew, Lyndsey, Christian and Ryan; Adam Kachurak; Karen Shemanski.

**Congratulations** to Marcello and Dana Giordano on the baptism of their son, **Luciano Daniel Giordano**, at Saint Matthias Church on January 8, 2012.

## *2011 Church Contributions Receipts*

If you would like an official receipt of your contributions to Saint Matthias Church for your tax records, please call the Rectory with your name and Church envelope number. You may also email requests to [secretary@saintmatthias.org](mailto:secretary@saintmatthias.org). This receipt will serve as our formal acknowledgment of your contributions. Charitable contributions are limited to the excess, if any, of your contribution over the value of the goods or services provided to you.

Dear Monsignor McCulken,

We wish to thank you and the members of Saint Matthias Church for the generous gift of clothes, blankets and other baby items given to Birthright of West Chester. We understand that this collection formerly went to Birthright of Bala Cynwyd. Our moms are so grateful for the help that kind and caring people like you afford them in their time of need. Your support for these pregnant women and new mothers makes a positive difference in their lives and in the lives of their babies.

Birthright of West Chester helps over 240 women every year. We do more than 160 pregnancy tests each year. And we happily provide over 100 layettes for the newborn babies filled with clothes, diapers and other needed items.

Once again, we appreciate your donation to Birthright as we continue our work to protect the unborn. May God continue to bless you all through the year.

Gratefully,

Peggy Gottschall

Co-director, Birthright of West Chester



**We will be burning old palm to be used for ashes on Ash Wednesday, which is Wednesday, February 22. Please deposit your old palm into the basket which is near Saint Joseph's altar through February 19. Thank you.**

## SAVE THE DATE! APRIL 14 – PARISH GALA > PARISH PARTY

This year, besides celebrating our Ministry Award Honorees and welcoming our new parishioners, we are expanding our yearly gathering of our parish family into a fundraiser for the Parish. You know that the economy has affected everyone including our Parish. We need additional revenue to pay our bills and to keep our buildings in good repair. The annual event has been held the Saturday after Easter Sunday, so please Save the Date of April 14<sup>th</sup> for this year's event.

There will be a planning meeting on Wednesday, February 8, 7 PM in the Parish Center. We are in need of volunteers for various committees, such as Silent Auction, gift baskets, 50/50, raffle tickets, catering, decorating, etc.

Please come out and join us and fellow parishioners to make our fundraising effort a huge success! Thanks and God bless!

The Archdiocesan Family Life Office presents a special conference: ***“Humanae Vitae as seen through the lens of Theology of the Body.”***  
**Saturday, March 24 – 9 AM to 3:30 PM at Our Lady of Good Counsel, 611 Knowles Ave. in Southampton. Information: [www.pnfpn.org](http://www.pnfpn.org)**  
Registration forms are at the Church doors.

### Aid for Friends: Meals for Shut-ins

Help serve the isolated homebound of our community by providing home cooked meals. Volunteer cooks should have the willingness to prepare meals or even just cook an extra serving of what you are already preparing for dinner. Please pick up trays (found in the Church vestibules) and return filled trays that have been frozen to the freezer on the back porch of the Rectory. Volunteers from Aid for Friends take the meals from the freezer and deliver them to needy shut-ins and spend a few minutes visiting with the person receiving meals. Thank you for brightening the day of a homebound person with a nutritious, delicious home cooked meal!

### Open Houses at Catholic Schools

**John W. Hallahan Catholic Girl's High School** in Philadelphia – TODAY, January 29 (Noon – 3 PM). Information: 215-563-8930.

**Saint Katherine Day School**, 930 Bowman Ave. in Wynnewood on January 31 from 9:30-11:30 AM. Saint Katherine Day School provides a Special Education Program for children 5-21. Information: 610-667-3958 or [www.stkatherinedayschool.org](http://www.stkatherinedayschool.org).

**The Country Day School of the Sacred Heart**, 480 S. Bryn Mawr Ave. in Bryn Mawr on February 4 from 11 AM to 1 PM. Information: 610-527-3915, ext. 227.

### **We Value the Gift of Life**

*Seventeen Weeks after Conception*

*This weekly series follows the gift of one of God's little ones from conception to birth with weekly developmental updates and scripture verses. It is a popular column in parish bulletins. We began the series on Respect Life Sunday, October 2.*

Hello Spiritual Friends, thank you for your continued prayers. My life started at my conception seventeen weeks ago and I weigh 7 ounces. I am about six inches long and move around a lot, especially when my mom is resting. My mom is taking good care of us by eating several small, healthy meals a day. Please pray to Our Lady of Guadalupe the Protectress of the Unborn for my mom and me. *Preserve my life and rescue me; do not let me be disgraced, for I trust in you.* (Psalms 25:20)

### News From Outside the Parish

**Main Line Singles Dinner Club** (ages 52-64). Catholic men & woman are cordially invited to join The Main Line Singles Dinner Club to share common interests & dine together 3 times a month. The next scheduled event is a February 5 Super Bowl Sunday House Party at a member's home in Ardmore, PA. Also once a month Friday night Bowling/Lite Bite. Information: 610-896-6542.

**The Black Pearl Chamber Orchestra** will present a concert at 8 PM on February 18 at the Cathedral Basilica of SS. Peter and Paul. Join this exceptional new chamber orchestra as they make their debut at the Cathedral, with the music of Afro-French composer Chevalier de Saint Georges, as well as Haydn and Mozart. Tickets \$25 and \$35. Information: 215-587-3696.

**Little Sisters of the Poor Spring Concert – Dervish.** Enjoy traditional Irish tunes while supporting the needy elderly of Holy Family Home, 5300 Chester Ave. in Philadelphia! March 4 with a reception at 3 PM and concert at 6 PM at Holy Family Home. Tickets are \$45. Information: 215-729-5153.