



ST. MATTHEW — PARISH —

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March 22, 2020 ✕ The Fourth Sunday of Lent



REV. PATRICK J. WELSH, S.L.L., M.A., M.Div. *Pastor*

REV. BRANDON M. ARTMAN, M.A., M.Div. *Parochial Vicar*

REV. STEVEN P. WETZEL, O.S.F.S. *In Residence*

DEACON ROBERT C. BURNS *Permanent Deacon*

A Message from Father Welsh:

During these trying times as we confront the isolation brought about by the COVID-19 virus, please be assured of our oneness in Faith. While our buildings may be closed at this time, our hearts remain open to the Lord and to each other. This will be a different sort of Lent for all of us, but also perhaps one of the most spiritually profitable as we bear this cross together. Please be assured that Masses will continued to be offered for you and your intentions on a daily basis. Know that you all remain in our prayers and that we are available to you by phone, and certainly in case of any emergency. Please do not hesitate to call us if you have any concerns, questions, or simply need to talk at 215-333-0585.

– Father Welsh

Saint Matthew Parish

March 22, 2020

The Fourth Sunday of Lent

Children of the Light

The future king, David, in today's first reading, is an example of a type of character present throughout the Hebrew scriptures. He is the child born out of place (not the eldest or most favored) who ends up receiving the promise of the covenant. The spirit of God's anointing rushes upon him. In this way, he is similar to the man born blind from today's Gospel. David's family and the blind man's community did not expect the miraculous grace of God's love to work through them. Perhaps they, too, were "blinded" by the expectations and assumptions of those around them. Yet, after being touched by God, they both came to "see" the presence of God's will for them. Both became messengers of God's will. That same Spirit of God's anointing rushed upon us at our baptism; we were given a candle as a sign of our membership in the Body of Christ, the Light from Light. Our vocation, then, is to fulfill that enlightenment, that anointing, as Ephesians tells us, by living as "children of the light."

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Mass Intentions

While the public celebration of Mass has been suspended indefinitely by the Archdiocese, please be assured the Priests of the Parish continue to celebrate private Masses daily for the intentions listed below, as well as for the health and safety of all our parish families.

Monday, March 23, 2020

Lenten Weekday / St. Turibius

- Charles Haggerty
- Mary K. Sell

Tuesday, March 24, 2020

Lenten Weekday/St. Oscar Romero

- Bob Curley
- Peter Gozzi

Wednesday, March 25, 2020

The Annunciation of the Lord

- Lillian Trumbette
- William Brophy

Thursday, March 26, 2020

Lenten Weekday

- Larry Tamaccio
- Stephen Wojcik (10th Anniversary)

Friday, March 27, 2020

Lenten Weekday

- Winifred Chadwick
- Edward Shank

Saturday, March 28, 2020

Lenten Weekday

- Stanislaw Chescney



Pray For The Sick

Please remember in your prayers all the sick of the parish, our homebound parishioners, as well as all our deceased benefactors, and those in need of special prayers, especially:

Martin Bednarek
Bill Bresnahan
Danielle Decker
Sue Dickson
David DiRenzo
Nancy Michels Fain
Rev. Robert Feeney
Theodore Fluehr
Dolores Gill
Baby Taytum Gray Grimes
Margaret Haag
Catherine (Kathleen) Hauck
Catherine Huml
Michael Huml
Sharon Keen
Irena Kozuchowski
Matthew Kresz
Mary Ellen Lavelle

Colin Lucas
Judy McDonald
Daniel McHale
Matthew Muldowney
Ann Nolen
Joseph W. Perry
Elizabeth Potter
Joseph Santoro
Louis Santoro
Barbara Sroka
Joseph Sroka
Jake Stefano (5 years old)
Gabriella Szekely
John Tardino
Nancy Trasatti
Pete Tschlis
Brother Jim Williams, OSFS

Please help us keep our Sick List current!

If you know of a name/names that should be added or deleted from the sick list above, please call the Rectory at 215-333-0585 or send an email to SaintMatthewBulletin@gmail.com.

Life is Changed, Not Ended.

Please pray for the happy repose of the soul of **Marie Smart** and **Monsignor Charles E. McGroarty**. May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Have you considered...

Parish Giving
 simple. secure. convenient.

Saint Matthew Parish has enlisted **Parish Giving** to provide its members with the opportunity to use Electronic Funds Transfer as an alternative method for giving.

Parish Giving is being offered to you free of charge. On this giving site, you will be able to select from the various opportunities to contribute to our parish and other initiatives. **Please consider signing up for Parish Giving, especially during these uncertain times. That way, we can continue to pay the bills of the parish.**

Thank you for your consideration and generosity!

Visit www.stmattsparish.com for more info!

Rest in Peace

Monsignor Charles E. McGroarty

February 26, 1934 - March 17, 2020

Pastor of Saint Matthew Parish: 1987-2014

We pray for the happy repose of the soul of our Pastor Emeritus, Monsignor McGroarty. Funeral arrangements are pending at this time. Complete information will be posted on our Parish Website (www.StMattsParish.org) and Facebook Page (@StMattsMayfair) as soon as we receive it.



In conjunction with Archdiocesan and Centers for Disease Control guidelines for controlling the spread of the COVID-19 virus, we have made the following decisions for Saint Matthew Parish:

- All Parish, School, and CYO classes, activities, and meetings are suspended until further notice.
 - Weekday and weekend Masses, devotions, confessions, etc. are suspended.
 - The obligation to attend Mass has been lifted by Archbishop Perez until further notice.
 - Please know that all Masses with intentions will be offered privately by the Priests of the Parish.
 - See below for more information about participating in Daily and Sunday Mass via TV or internet.
 - At this time, no decision has been made regarding the public celebration of the Liturgies of Holy Week, the Triduum, and Easter Sunday.
- The Rectory Office is closed to the public for business matters. Parish staff are not in the office.
- Sacramental Emergencies will be handled on a case-by-case basis. Please call the Rectory and follow the prompts.
- To sign up for secure, online Parish Giving, please visit our parish website at StMattsParish.org. Your continued support is greatly appreciated, especially during these times.

A Message from Archbishop Perez:



“While things may look and feel different during these uncertain times, I want to be very clear that the Catholic Church in Philadelphia is not closing down. It is NOT disappearing and it will not abandon those who rely on it.

God is always by our side. He never abandons us. I invite you to join me in prayerful solidarity during this uncertain time. I remind you to keep your eyes fixed on the outstretched arms of Christ the crucified and Christ the merciful and to encounter others with charity and understanding.

Let us pray for the sick, suffering, and their caregivers as well as government and health officials. With God’s grace and blessing, we will navigate the difficult waters of this challenge as a united human family, for after all is said and done, we are people of Hope!”

HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN SUNDAY MASS FROM HOME...

While we cannot gather together as a Parish family due to social distancing concerns, we most certainly can gather through modern technology!

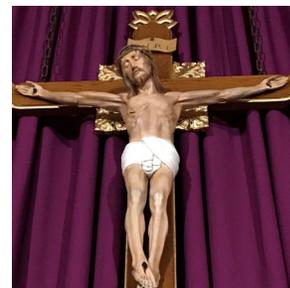
We are planning to livestream an 11:00 AM Mass using **Facebook Live** this Sunday, March 22. After it is streamed live, it will be available for viewing as a post on our page. Search for our Parish Facebook page by searching **@StMattsMayfair**. As time goes on, we are planning to livestream other Masses and liturgies, such as Benediction and Stations of the Cross. **Like and Follow our Facebook page for updated information!**

Fr. Artman pre-recorded Masses for the Archdiocese to be aired on **Channel 6** at 5:30 AM this Sunday, March 22, and next Sunday, March 29. They will also be available for viewing on 6abc.com.

The Archdiocese will livestream the 11:00 AM Mass from the **Cathedral Basilica of Ss. Peter and Paul** on the Archdiocesan website: www.archphila.org, and on Archbishop Perez’s Facebook page.

Visit our parish website at www.StMattsParish.org for a listing of other Daily and Sunday Masses available on air and the internet.

Please know that your priests continue to pray for you and your families during the extraordinary times. Let us all keep each other in prayer.



The Last Word: “In faith there is enough light for those who want to believe, and enough shadows to blind those who don’t.” — Blaise Pascal

Celebrating Mary's Yes

**March 25, 2020
7:00 PM**

**Solemnity of the
Annunciation of The Lord**

Join **Archbishop Nelson Perez** for an
Archdiocesan-Wide
VIRTUAL ROSARY RALLY
and unveiling of a new Vocation Initiative!

GATHER ONLINE AT:

HeedTheCall.org
OR
[Philly Vocations Facebook Page](https://www.facebook.com/PhillyVocations)
(@PhillyPriest)