Families and the Gospel Mark 13:33-37

Today's gospel tells us to "Be watchful." This comes natural to families. Parents are watchful of their children's health, grades and friends. Children are watchful of parental moods. Today's gospel encourages us to use this ability to see God acting in the innocence, tenderness, love and forgiveness of your family. "Be watchful," the Lord is already with you.

Pro-Life Christmas Cards Available from Citizens Concerned for Human Life, Blair County Chapter. Two beautiful designs are available: Madonna and Child and Emmanuel, Prince of Peace. Both can be viewed on the bulletin board in the vestibule. Both designs are available for $7 per package of 11 cards. Your purchase helps support the pro-life work of CCHL in Blair County. To order, call Pat 814-946-0681 or Dorothy 814-505-2886.

Saint Joseph's Catholic Academy – The OPEN HOSE has been scheduled for Wednesday, December 6, at 6:00 PM beginning in the Student Life Center (to the right of the main building). Please come and learn about this amazing academy that has expanded and flourished over these past seven years. For additional information, please call 814-808-6118 or visit the website at www.stjoeacad.org.

Funeral Committee Meeting – will be held on Tuesday December 5th after daily mass (8:45 am). All interested in working with the Funeral Committee are welcome to attend.

ADVENT *– The parish office has several advent wreaths and candles for the upcoming Advent Season.* Cost of a set of candles is $3.00, advent wreath is $7.00. Please inquire in the parish office regarding these items.

A Great Christmas Gift: The Trip of a Lifetime - From October 1-10 2018 join us on a journey to the heart of our Catholic faith in Rome and Assisi. Visit the seven churches of Rome central to our pilgrimage to the city as well as the Vatican. In Assisi, visit the places central to the ministry of Saint Francis and Saint Claire. We will celebrate Mass each day at one of the holy sites on our tour. Visit two St. Benedict monasteries: Subiaco and Monte Cassino. The tour includes all inclusive pricing, entrance and program fees, gratuities, breakfast and dinner each day, first class hotels, guided tours, deluxe air conditioned motor coaches, fuel surcharges and government taxes, and international airfare from New York. Transportation to and from New York is extra and will leave and return from St. Benedict's upper parking lot. Cost of the pilgrimage is $3,548. Space is limited - Only 14 spaces left. Contact Deacon Michael for more information: michael.russo@atlanticbb.net or 288-3036.

Rest in Peace Please pray for the repose of the soul of Kaleb Woomer, grandson of Anita Sprankle-Wilson. May all who mourn his passing find comfort and consolation in God's eternal love.

The Foster Grandparent and the Senior Companion programs at Blair Senior Services provide financial assistance for Blair County residents 55 years and older who serve as a Foster Grandparent or Senior Companion, they can earn a TAX-FREE stipend that CANNOT and WILL NOT affect any other assistance they may receive. Contact Susan Sommers at 814-946-1235 Ext. 1096.

Celebration Choir will be rehearsing for Midnight Mass on Monday, December 4th and Monday, December 18th from 7:00 to 7:45 in the choir loft. Anyone in 9th grade or older who would like to sing with the choir is welcome to join us.

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ALERT TO THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES

"What I say to you, I say to all: 'Watch!'"

Mark 13: 37

THOUGHTS ON STEWARDSHIP AS A WAY OF LIFE

"Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time will come." Mark 13: 33

We all take things for granted. In particular, we take time for granted. Our lives are so busy, many of us are planning our time - our days, weeks, months, even years in advance. Remember, our time on earth is a gift. None of us knows how long we will be here. Start today and begin thanking God for each and every day. Take time in silence, every day, and listen to what God is saying to you.

SAINT MATTHEW ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

1105 Cameron Avenue
Tyrone, PA 16686

Pastor: Reverend Jozef Kovacik

Phone: (814) 684-1480 (Parish Office & Rectory)
Fax: (814) 684-7969
Website: www.stmatthewtyrone.org
Email: stmatthewtyrone@gmail.com

Parish Office Staff:
Administrative Assistant: **Rose Long**
Financial Administrator: **Debbie Zakrzwski**

Office Hours: **Monday, Wednesday, Friday 8:30 AM - 2:30 PM**

Pastoral Ministry: Sister Karen Duddy, C.C.W.
Cell: (814) 935-2934 Convent: (814) 684-3553
E-mail: kseashored@msn.com
Sister Jane Miller (814) 931-1120
Email: jmseashell@msn.com
CCW Website: www.ccwsisters.org

Director of Religious Education: Gia Patton
Call (814) 682-9108 or email smspatton@gmail.com
Coordinator: Elementary & Middle School: Mark Raffetto
Phone: (814) 934-2936 Email: psufanmark@gmail.com

Elementary Classes : (Grades K-6): Sunday mornings 9:00 AM to 10:15 AM (weekly during the school year)

Middle/High School: (Gr. 7-11): Sunday: 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM (twice a month during the school year)

RCIA*:* Susan Burkholder (814) 684-0352

Ministry to the Homebound: Paula Lambert (814) 932-0651
Pastoral Council - Jack Chambers (814) 632-3339
Finance Council - Dennis Rozick (814) 684-5511
School Council - Lawrence McKernan (814) 632-7767
Cemetery Committee - Michael Feller (814) 932-1788

Saint Matthew Catholic School
Principal: Mrs. Debbie St. Pierre
Principal's email: dstpierre@stmatthew-school.org
Phone: (814) 684-3510
School web-site: www.stmatthew-school.org

We welcome all visitors. If you live in the area please call the Parish Office to register and become an active member of our parish family.

December 3, 2017

1st Sunday of Advent

Weekend Mass Schedule:
- Saturday at 5:00 PM
- Sunday at 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

Weekday Mass Schedule:
- Monday through Friday - 8:00 AM

Holy Day of Obligation Mass Schedule:
- Vigil - 7:00 PM
- 9:00 AM & 7:00 PM

Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated on Saturday from 4:00 PM till 4:30 PM or anytime upon request

Mass Schedule & Intentions:
December 2 – 10, 2017

Sat.	5:00 PM	John Molnar – Wife, Helen
Sun.	8:00 AM	Francis Hagg – Wife, Martha
	10;30 AM	For the People of the Parish - Pastor
Mon	8:00 AM	Sandy Hagg (Health) – Stoner Family
Tues.	8:00 AM	Dec'd Mbrs. Gurekovich Fam – J.R.
Wed.	8:00 AM	Jill Rodgers – Zakrzwski Family
Thurs.	**7:00 PM**	Pete Getz – Wife, Judy
Fri.	**9:00 AM**	For the People of the Parish – Pastor
	7:00 PM	Cody Belin - Family
Sat.	5:00 PM	Ralph & Emma Hagg - Family
Sun	8:00 AM	Salvatore & Rosalie Cannistraci– Children
	10:30 AM	For the People of the Parish – Pastor

If you would like to have a MASS celebrated for the deceased members of your family, or friends, or for special intentions, please stop by or call the parish office.

LITUGICAL MINISTRIES SCHEDULE

Dec. 4th thru Dec. 10th – Lectors
Weekdays – 8:00 AM – R. Long
Thurs. – 7:00 PM – S. Friday, B. Markel, A. Markel
Fri. - 9:00 AM – SMS Students
7:00 PM – M. Raffetto, D. Murray, H. Quinn
Sat.- 5:00 PM – T. Jeffries, S. Friday, T. Jeffries
Sun. – 8:00 AM – A. Searer, A. Lynn, B. Hiergeist
10:30 AM – R. Long, S. Gavazzi, Sr. Karen

Dec. 7/8 and 9/10 – Altar Servers
Thurs.- 7:00 PM – B. Daniels, M. Abernethy
Fri. - 7:00 PM - L. McKernan, R. McKernan
Sat. – 5:00 PM – J. Lewis, R. Lewis
Sun. - 8:00 AM - E. Vipond, D. Vipond
10:30 AM – K. Friday, A. Fernandes

Dec. 4th thru Dec. 10th
Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist
Weekdays – 8:00 AM – C. Golden
Thurs. – 7:00 PM - L. Morrison+, P. Lambert, J. Zeigler
Fri. - 9:00 AM - SMS Teachers
7:00 PM - M. Raffetto+, C. Gurekovich, K. Raffetto
Sat. – 5:00 PM - P. DelBaggio+, M. DelBaggio, G. Ray
Sun. – 8:00 AM - L. Grove+, B/S Hall, S. Toney
10:30 AM – ME Jones+, D. Panasiti, S. Thomas

Children's Liturgy – December 3rd - Erin & Sarah
December 10th - Nicole

Dec. 7/8 and 9/10 - Music Ministers
Thurs. 7:00 PM – Laura/Erin
Fri. 7:00 PM - Aye/Lori
Sat– 5:00 PM – Aye/Lori
Sun.– 8:00 AM – Aye/Leslie
10:30 AM – Aye/Erin

December $ Counters - B. Long+, C. Golden, S. Hall

Church Cleaners – Nov. 26th thru Dec. 9th
P. DelBaggio, Sue Feller, M & J Storm, S. Loose

Activities for the Week of December 4th

Mon. 7-7:45 PM – Celebration Choir
7:30 PM – K of C (H)
Tues. 7:00 PM – Scouts (H)
7:00 PM - Allegheny Chorale
Wed. 3:30 PM - Rosary
6:00 PM – CDA Mtg. & Christmas Party (Bull Pen)
6:30 PM – RCIA (GS)
Thurs. 6:30 PM – Bingo
7:00 PM – Vigil Mass Holy Day
Fri. **9:00 AM & 7:00 PM Masses Holy Day**
Sat. 10:00 AM – 1st Reconciliation Service (Church)
Refreshment Weekend
Sun. 9-10:15 AM – K-5 Christmas Play Rehearsal
11:30 AM – Santa Visit

Financial Report – November 26, 2017

Regular Weekly Collection	$5,133; $43(children)
My E Offering	$ 40
Weekly Collection Goal	$5,961
Beginning July 1, 2017 and Ending June 30, 2018	
Year to date Sunday Collection Income	$ 118,048
Year to date Sunday Collection Goal	$ 131,142
Collection Goal for Sundays	$ 310,000
Year to Date Bingo Net Income	$ 12,042
Catholic School Second Collection	$ 214
Catholic School Envelopes	$ 242
Religious Education Envelopes	$
Good Samaritan	$
2017 *Catholic Ministries Drive* **TARGET**	$32,145
Donations for 2017 as of Nov.26, 2017	$46,896

Consider using My E-Offering (see link on the website) and please make the processing fee part of your donation.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND GENEROSITY!

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES DRIVE You can choose to participate through the Diocese, online giving, or using your "yellow envelope." All contributions received over our parish goal will be used for the upgrades on the parish hall and the organ.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR ILL AND HOMEBOUND!

Elizabeth Adler, Larry Albright, Margaret Baker, ***Dick Barr***, Nina Biddle, Clinton Bisenger, Matt Bland, Larry Brisbin, Michael Brown, Sara Castagnola, Sue Chambers, Colleen Cecere, Baby Edwin Coltabaugh, Bobbi Damico, George Damico, *Ryan DelBaggio*, Sharon Dick, Gail Dietze, ***Jim Domenick,*** Kathleen Eckley, ***Margaret Fink***, Christina Flanagan, Caylee Folckemer, Mary Friday, Catherine Garland, Perry Glace, Bernice Gorman, Bob Grimarml, ***Vince Hagg***, Dan Hahn, Sharon Hahn, ***Bev Hampton***, Dorothy & Jim Heaton, Deborah Heaton, Barb & John Herist, Peggy Hickman, ***Carolyn Hoover,*** Rob Hughes, Bill Hunter, Peg Irvin, Kitty Johnston, Corrine Jones, *Alexis Kensinger*, Mary Jane Korman, ***Avery Lake, John Lewis***, Bob Macie, Suzan Martindale, Toni Martinez, Donald Miller, Donna Miller, Sarah Miller, Helen Molnar, John and Vickie Molnar, Robert Molnar, ***Joyce Moyer***, ***Joseph Narehood***, ***Angie Nicklow,*** Sarah Payne, Adam Perry, ***Bob Perry,*** Chris Phillippe, Glace Rider, Halee Ridgeway, Gary Ritchey, Amy Rizzo, John Romano, Leonard Romano, Mae Romano, Pauline Scalia, Janice Hahn Schmidt, Maxine Schoch, Dorothy Sharer, Josephine Shope, Jerry Spangler, George & Evelyn Stever, ***Mike Stack***, Chris Stoner, Molly Sturniolo, Brenda Sweitzer, Evelyn Toney, Norm Tubo, Crystal Wright, Ann Yaniello, Mary Ward, Linda Webb, ***Fran Wertz***, Sam Whitesill, ***Barbara Wilgosz***, ***Kimberly Hovis-Williams***, Lorin Woodring, Mary Margaret Zang.

Stewardship Reflection – 1st Sun. of Advent (Dec. 3rd)
As the Church begins a new liturgical year, we are reminded in today's Gospel that we are nothing more than servants, stewards of our Master's possessions, but who do not know when our Master will return. We have been given the responsibility of sharing our gifts in order to build up the Master's kingdom. May we be awake and alive in our faith when He comes again in glory!

Communal Penance Services – During the season of Advent, Catholics are encouraged to seek God's healing and forgiveness through the Sacrament of reconciliation. The following is a schedule of Communal Penance Services at various parishes throughout the Diocese. Please consult individual parishes for other Reconciliation opportunities leading up to Christmas.
December 3 @ 4 pm Saint John the Evangelist Parish Altoona
December 4 @ 6:30pm Holy Rosary Parish, Altoona
December 11 @ 7pm Saint Matthew Parish and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Altoona
December 14 @ 5:30 pm Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Altoona and @ 7pm Most Holy Trinity Parish, Huntingdon
December 16 @ 10am Saint Therese of the Child Jesus Parish, Altoona
December 17 @ 2 pm Our Lady of Victory Parish, State College and 4 pm Saint Mary Parish Hollidaysburg
December 18 @ 7 pm – Saint Rose of Lima Parish, Altoona
December 20 @ 6:30 Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, Altoona
December 21 @ 5:30 pm Sacred Heart Parish, Altoona

ANGEL TREE GIFTS DUE NEXT MONDAY, DECEMBER 11! Thank you for your generosity to the youth and families served by Altoona's Catholic Charities. As usual, Angels were claimed quickly. Reminders: Gifts are due under the tree (gift certificates to the Parish Office) by Monday, December 11; they will be taken to Altoona at 8:30 am Tuesday. Gift receipts should be placed inside wrapped packages and Angels should be firmly attached to the outside of packages.

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION – this Friday, December 8! Masses for this Holy Day of Obligation/Opportunity are scheduled for 7PM Thursday, 9AM and 7PM Friday.

JANUARY LOTTERY TICKETS IN SUPPORT OF CCW HAITI HEARTS AND HANDS MISSON will be available before and after all December weekend Masses by Sisters Karen and Jane. Tickets are $5 each and good for $25-$100 prizes throughout the month of January. These are great stocking stuffers and are easy to mail!

ADVENT PERFORMANCES WITH PARISHIONER INVOLVEMENT Support our youth and adults who are leading us in prayer and joy as we prepare for Christmas!
--Best Christmas Pageant Ever: this weekend, Dec. 2-3, 7:30PM Saturday and 2:30PM Sunday.
--Allegheny Chorale: this Tuesday, Dec. 7, 7PM at Tyrone's Presbyterian Church
--TAHS POPS Concerts: High School at 2PM Sunday, Dec. 10; 7th/8th Grades 7PM Monday, Dec. 11
--St. Matthew School Christmas Program: next Wednesday, Dec. 13, 6:30PM
--Also mark your calendars for Wednesday, Dec. 20, when THREE FOUR ONE will perform here in our church. Posters at church entrance.

CHURCH CHRISTMAS DECORATING FOLLOWED BY LUNCH—SUNDAY, Dec. 17! Everyone is invited to participate in the decorating which will begin at 11:30AM under the direction of Steve Stoner and Linda Grove. With many hands making light—and quick—work, lunch will be arranged by Sr. Karen and served around 12:45PM for all participants. You will be home in plenty of time to see the 4:25PM Steelers-Patriots game!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS – December 6th is the feast day of Saint Nicholas, the patron saint of children, which appropriately falls during the Advent Season. Bring the kids to church **December 10th for a visit with Santa after the 10:30 mass**. Children may visit with Santa and let him know their wish list; receive a treat; and be told that Christmas is about giving and not receiving. December 10th is also donut Sunday, so stick around and relax after Church. Bring your cameras too!

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING—FAMILIES NEEDED! We are beginning the new church year and our 4-week Christmas vigil. Families are asked to participate in the Advent Wreath Candle Lighting at the start of each of our weekend Masses. A sign-up list is found in the Gathering Space.

ANNAUL COLLECTION FOR RETIRED RELIGIOUS is scheduled for the weekend of December 9-10. These men and women gave so generously of themselves over the years to assist the Church and are now in need of your assistance in their golden years. They served the Church with generous hearts labored for the love of God and their fellow man. Many religious communities are not able to supply for the needs of their members and this Annual Collection assist them. Please open your hearts (and your wallets and pocketbooks) to these men and women who opened their hearts in loving service to you.

~ Very Rev. Anthony Francis Spilka OFM Conv. Vicar for Religous