



**ST. ATHANASIUS PARISH**

St. Athanasius Church, 2050 E. Walnut Lane Philadelphia PA 19138,  
 Rectory 215-548-2700, fax-215-5487453 www.stathanasiuschurch.us  
 Masses - Saturday 4PM, Sunday 10AM & 6PM, Daily Mass: 8:30AM Convent Chapel,  
 7040 Limekiln Pk., enter at St. Joseph statue.

Holy Days: 7AM (Convent) 10AM & 7PM (Church)

St. Benedict Church, 1940 E. Cheltenham Avenue Philadelphia PA 19138 Mass - Sunday 10AM

Reverend Joseph F. Okonski, Pastor, Reverend Anayo Nna, C.S.S.R. In Residence

Reverend Saji G. Mukkoot, In Residence Pastor @St. Jude Syro-Malankara Catholic Church

Permanent Deacons Mr. James Mahoney, Mr. Fred Poellnitz, Mr. Stephen Hopkins, retired

**St. Athanasius Parish Staff:**

Mr. Ted Travis Jr.  
 rectory@stathanasiuschurch.us

**St. Athanasius School: 7105 Limekiln Pike**  
 25-424-5045

Ms. Andrea Tomaino, Principal  
 www.saschool.org

**St. Benedict Church Ministries:**

Family Social Services  
 Mrs. Barbara Roberts  
 Food Cupboard 215-924-4401  
 Food Distribution Monday & Friday 10a-12p  
 Zip 19126 - 19138 - 19141  
**Guiding Star Ministry**  
 215-924-2876

**ST. ATHANASIUS MASS SCHEDULE: 8/19 - 8/27**

|       |                   |   |
|-------|-------------------|---|
| Sat.  | 4:00pm            | Laura Macaro (decd.) req. by<br>Eleanor Macaro                    |
| Sun.  | 10:00am<br>St. A. | Cheryl Chapman (decd.) req. by<br>Bereavement Ministry            |
|       | 10:00am<br>St. B  | Jonathan Savage(decd.) req. by<br>Marlene Major                   |
| Sun.  | 6:00pm            | People of the Parish  |
| Mon   | 8:30am            | Joseph & Jacqueline Givnggo (decd.)                               |
| Tues  | 8:30am            | Intentions of Carol Johnson<br>req. by<br>Mary & Eileen Gallagher |
| Wed   | 8:30am            | Rev. Charles D. Smith (decd.)                                     |
| Thur. | 8:30am            | Rev. Joseph Lyons (decd.)   |
| Fri.  | 8:30am            | Charles Repper (decd.)  |
| Sat.  | 4:00pm            | Marion Collins (decd.) req. by<br>Lillian Eaddy                   |
| Sun.  | 10:00am<br>St. A. | Father Bill McGeown (decd.)                                       |

**This Week at St. Athanasius Parish**

|       |        |   |         |
|-------|--------|---|---------|
| Tues. | Aug 22 | Adoration St. Athanasius                                      | 9:00am  |
|       |        | Divine Mercy Chaplet  | 6:30pm  |
|       |        | Bible Study St. A Rectory                                     | 9:45am  |
|       |        | Senior Social<br>St. Athanasius Rectory<br>Basement Mtg. Room | 12-3pm  |
|       |        | Legion of Mary  | 7:15pm  |
| Wed.  | Aug 23 | Adoration St. Benedict  | 12:00pm |
|       |        | Divine Mercy Chaplet  | 6:30pm  |
|       |        | Bible Study   | 7:00pm  |

**Turn your eyes, O God, our shield;  
 and look on the face of your anointed one;  
 one day with in your court is better than a  
 thousand elsewhere.**

Isaiah 56:1, 6-7

**St. Athanasius Ministries Schedule Aug 19 – Aug 27**

|      |        |          |                                  |                                |
|------|--------|----------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Sat. | Aug 19 | 4:00 pm  | Marlene Matthews                 | Lector<br>Comm.                |
|      |        |          | Deacon Mahoney                   | Ordinary<br>Minister           |
| Sun. | Aug 20 | 10:00 am | Youth<br>Sunday                  | Lector<br>Comm.                |
|      |        |          | Maurita Brice<br>Richard Mshomba | Extra-<br>Ordinary<br>Minister |
|      |        | 6:00pm   | Angela Fairbanks                 | Lector<br>Comm.                |
| Sat. | Aug 26 | 4:00 pm  | Mary Gallagher                   | Lector<br>Comm                 |
|      |        |          | Eileen Gallagher                 | Extra<br>Ordinary<br>Minister  |
| Sun  | Aug 27 | 10:00am  | MarcAnthony<br>Pamela Morrison   | Lector<br>Comm.                |
|      |        |          | Louise Frasier<br>Theresa Allen  | Extra<br>Ordinary<br>Minister  |
|      |        | 6:00pm   | Betty Jo Robinson                | Lector<br>Comm.                |

**St. Benedict Ministries**

**Sunday, August 20, 10AM**

*Commentator* Audrey Patrick  
*1st reading* Melvis Dunbar  
*2nd reading* Gwen Watson  
*Extraordinary Ministers* D. Berry / C. Mills

**Sunday, August 27, 10AM**

*Commentator* Louise Hill  
*1st reading* Unachukwu Family  
*2nd reading* Unachukwu Family  
*Extraordinary Ministers* M. Barnes / T. Epps

**SACRAMENTS at ST. ATHANASIUS CHURCH**

*Baptism & Confirmation:* Please contact the Rectory.

*Confession:* Available after Mass

**Mass Intention Offerings**

\$10 Mass Card. (Regular Mass Card)

\$15 Memorial Leatherette Mass Folder.

Contact the Rectory.



**TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**AUGUST 27, 2017**

**First Reading** Isaiah 56:1, 6-7  
**Responsorial Psalm** Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8  
**Second Reading** Romans 11:13-15, 29-32  
**Gospel** Matthews 15:21-28

The following members of St. Athanasius Parish will be remembered in prayer by the **Sisters of Saint Joseph**

Sunday Ann Montchyk  
 Monday Bobby Morris  
 Tuesday MarcAnthony Morrison  
 Wednesday Pamela Morrison  
 Thursday Veronica Morris-Pleasant  
 Friday Richard & Elaine Mshomba  
 Saturday Charles & Barbara Murray

**PRAY FOR OUR SICK:** At each mass, we pray for **all** our sick, whether their **name** is **on** the sick list or **not**. The **list** of names below is for those **in the hospital** or **seriously ill**. Thanks for **letting us know** whose names can be **removed** from the list.

Jared Stukes, Donald Nash, Benjamin Jackson, Donald Sigler, James Marshall, Ayana Lacey, Patricia McDione, Winnie Cannon, Deacon Stephen Hopkins, Rosabell Williams, MaryEllen Gibson, Gwendolyn Slaughter, Pricilla Werner, Gregory McGhee, Dolores Fields, Maketa Robinson, Dorothy Jenkins, Charles Oettle, Doris Blue, Marge Walker, Joseph Temple, Juanita Hartwell, Allison Rogers, David Bindley-Taylor, John Pompey, Leda Reeves, Edith Roberts, Mrs. Dennis James, James Jones, Justin Graves, Henry Jackson, Gwen Jackson, William Lee & Linda Jean Mc Seed, Owen Human, Christine Human, Edna Poole, Marjorie Pace, Robert Garnett, Lillian & William Scott, Lunell Mobley, Jessie Harrell, Joanne McCoy, Katrina Smith, Theotis Holmes, Cheryl Cobette, Anthony Pettis, Bobby Roberts, Louise Johnson, Ruben Johnson, Clyde Carroll, Arthur Poole, Liz Pileggi, Paxson Nash, Harmon Philips, Louise Hughes, Willie Love, Carol Patton, Jeanette Brown, Danielle Clemens, Lashae Thomas, Gertrude Lawrence, Eleanor Jeffries, Geraldine Mitchell, William Fairfax, June Robinson, Robby Thompson, Edwin Walker, Matthew La Smith, Anthony McClendon, Elsie Gardner, Jean Love, C. MacFarland, Gloria Gaston, Jerome Johnson, Ethel Mabry, Alicia Dolly Johnson, Kevin Bell, Theotis Warfield, Eddie Allen, Linda Heard, Anna Gibson, Noah Goldman, Perry March, Marilyn Scott, Angela Turner, Jeanette Perkins, Keith Surfin, Shirley Brown, Sylvia Greene, Mattie Spradley, Janet Hardt, Theresa Mitchell, Sandra Parrott, Andrew Doffus, Makayla Kenner, Yvonne Minter, Beatrice Hardison, Helen Staron, James Burley

For those in homes: M. Tiley, L. Gaskins, M. Hill.

**St. Athanasius Women's Club  
Prayer Breakfast  
"Women In Times Like This "  
Guest Speaker:  
Paula Manchester**



Saturday, September 23, 2017  
9:00 am  
St. Athanasius School Hall  
Limekiln Pike & Middleton Street  
Philadelphia, Pa. 19138  
Donation: \$16.00

For ticket information contact a member of the Women's Club

Arnesta Waller  
(215) 927-4534

Diane Poellintz  
(215) 570-9517

Saint Athanasius Catholic Church  
Limekiln Pike & Walnut Lane,  
Philadelphia, PA (215)548-2700



Dear Supporter:

Saint Athanasius Parish will celebrate Woman's Day on Sunday, September 24, 2017 at the 10:00 a.m. Mass. The Women's Club asks all members, families and community businesses to support this annual fundraising event by purchasing an ad(s) and or a patron's list in the special Women's Day booklet.

(Patron's list can be found in church)

We appreciate your support and hope to see you at our annual Women's Day Mass.



Join the Knights if Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary  
St. Benedict Court 368

As we Play

\*The Price Is Right\*

Saturday September 9, 2017

2:00 PM

St. Benedict's

Father George B. Moore Hall

Lunch 2:00PM to 3:00PM

Tickets.....\$15.00

For ticket information Contact:

Grand Lady Vanessa Doughty 215-906-4356

Vice Grand Lady Colessie Mills 215-88-4332

Or any Lady St. Benedict CT 368

Come & join the  
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Monday & Tuesday, September 25 & 26, 2017

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Join us for two nights of lively and inspiring Preaching, "get on your feet and worship" Music, and spirit lifting Praise Dance

Choir Prelude starts at 6:30 PM - Revival at 7:00 PM sharp

All are welcome!  
Invite your family, friends and neighbors!

\*On night two please bring a canned goods to benefit the Food Banks of Catholic Social Services\*

For information contact the Office for Black Catholics at  
215-587-3541  
or your local Parish

**Dear Parishioners,** It has come to my attention that cell phone usage is on the rise in Church during Mass. Certainly there may be individuals who use their smart phones to follow the Scripture Readings or the Mass Prayers, but others are using their phones for communication, to check emails, or to text. Many of us rely on our technology for communication but unless a person is an emergency care worker, Doctor, Police officer etc. Our phones should be put away. Let us remember if there is quiet time in Church, like at the offertory or after Communion, those times should not be treated like an intermission at a play or game but they should be times to quietly reflect, pray or join in singing. Let us work to realize that our only conversation at Mass should be with God. Thank you. Fr. Okonski

**PRAYER TO SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL**

**Saint Michael the Archangel,** defend us in the battle.

Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil.

May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do Thou O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the Divine Power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who roam throughout the world...seeking the ruin of souls. Amen. Pope Leo XIII

## Twentieth Sunday In Ordinary Time

### Today's Focus: Finish Feuds

*When we open our hearts to let in the reconciling power of God, we can discover how petty and useless many of our squabbles can be..*

#### + **Understanding the Word**

The theme of justice, righteousness, and salvation sound throughout the entire book of Isaiah, and serve to open the third section of the book (Isaiah 56:1), written by an unknown prophet referred to as Third Isaiah. The universalism indicated in Isaiah 49:6 ("I will make you a light to the nations") is further developed here. Foreigners who desire to join themselves to the LORD, love the name of the LORD, keep the Sabbath, and hold to the covenant will be brought to God's holy mountain.

It is not foreigners who are Paul's concern in the second reading, but his own people. Israel's rejection allowed for the mission to the Gentiles. Paul glories in this mission, hoping to stir jealousy among his own people and thus draw them into the faith. (Romans 11:14). But he warns the Gentile believers not to be "wise in their estimation" (Romans 11:25). Israel remains beloved of God, "for the gifts and call of God are irrevocable" (Romans 11:29).

The Gospel reading presents an interesting narrative about a "foreigner" who does not wish to join herself to the Lord but nonetheless seeks out Jesus. Matthew edits Mark's original story about a Syro-Phoenician mother so that the woman is now a Canaanite, Israel's dreaded enemy. Matthew has the Canaanite women come out to meet Jesus, presumably on the road in Gentile territory. She acknowledges Jesus' Jewish identity by calling him "Son of David" (Matthew 15:22). When Jesus announces, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.... It is not right to take the food of children and throw it to the dogs" (Matthew 15:24-26), the women's clever response wins Jesus over. "Even the dogs eat the scraps" (Matthew 15:27). In the two encounters with Gentiles in Matthew's Gospel, Jesus has commended their great faith (Matthew 8:10; 15:28), foreshadowing that Gentiles would later join the Christian Community.

#### + **Reflecting on the Word**

I remember what "breaking news" it was when the Hatfields and McCoys, long time bitter enemies, reconciled. It was also "breaking news" when we learned that Pope Francis would meet with Patriarch Kirill of the Russian Orthodox Church after a thousand-year split. Who are the bitter and age-old

enemies that would surprise you if they finally met and began a journey to reconciliation? That is the power of the meeting between the Canaanite woman and Jesus. We hear his resistance: "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel... It is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs." How would you respond if you were called a dog, whether directly or indirectly? But the women's faith lead her to persist respectfully "Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters." Jesus is moved by her great faith and her daughter is healed.

Isaiah tells us that God's holy mountain is a house of prayer for all people. That includes even that "so-and-so who done me dirt," as my Aunt Sophia would say. God cannot be hemmed in by our littleness and our limitations. WE pray in Eucharistic Prayer for Reconciliation II: "By your Spirit you move human hearts that enemies may speak to each other again, adversaries join hands, and peoples seek to meet together." Just as it took a while for Jesus to be moved by the Canaanite women, meeting reconciling take time. But the "breaking news" is that such meeting and reconciliation is possible, for "God delivered all to disobedience, that he might have mercy upon all" (Romans 11:32).

#### + **Living and Praying with the Word**

Almighty God, creator of all, too often we divide what you unite and are blind to the breadth of your merciful love. Open the eyes of our hearts that we might see you in those we least expect. Please give us the persistent, respectful, and powerful faith of the Canaanite women.

### PRAYER FOR THE CAUSE OF FATHER AUGUSTUS TOLTON

O God, we give you thanks for your servant and priest, Father Augustus Tolton, who labored among us in times of contradiction, times that were both beautiful and paradoxical. His ministry helped lay the foundation for a truly Catholic gathering in faith in our time. We stand in the shadow of his ministry. May his life continue to inspire us and imbue us with that confidence and hope that will forge a new evangelization for the Church we love. Father in heaven, Father Tolton's suffering service sheds light upon our sorrows; we see them through the prism of your Son's passion and death. If it be your will, O God, glorify your servant, Father Tolton, by granting the favor I now ask through his intercession, (*mention your request in silence*), so that all may know the goodness of this priest whose memory looms large in the Church he loved.

Complete what you have begun in us that we might work for the fulfillment of your kingdom. Not to us the glory, but glory to you O God, through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord. Father, son and Holy Spirit, you are God, living and reigning forever and ever.

Amen.

## Parish Pastoral Council

Dear Parishioners

On July 2, 2017, Archbishop Chaput reestablished the Parish of Saint Athanasius, to include Saint Athanasius Church, Saint Benedict Church and Saint Athanasius School.

During that time a Transition team was established as both Pastoral Councils were suppressed. At this time I am happy to announce the creation of a Parish Pastoral Council. This Council is made up of ex-officio members, Fr, Anayo Nna C.ss.R., Deacon Mahoney, Andrea Tomaino, our principal, and Ted Travis Jr., the parish Administrative Assistant, and appointed members: Pamela Morrison, Bernadine Adankon, Eleasa DeNair Dash, Mary Gallagher, Jackie Williams, Calvin Rayfield, Jerome Tananibe, Sharmain Wilson, Jackie Stokes Thompson, James Stitt, Clifford Bryant, and Alicia Thompson,

In the Archdiocese of Philadelphia every parish is to have one Parish Pastoral Council which is to foster full participation of the entire parish - clergy, religious, laity - in the pastoral life and mission of the parish and of the Universal Church. The following **principles** guide the formation of Parish Pastoral Councils:

1. Every Parish Pastoral Council is to develop a statement of purpose which reflects the identity and mission of the parish in light of the Gospel, Church teachings and the specific realities of the parish.

2. The Parish Pastoral Council is solely a consultative body with the role of advising and assisting the Pastor in areas of pastoral concerns.

3. The Parish Pastoral Council develops and recommends parish pastoral plans and directions through a consensus process and prayerful reflection.

4. Every Parish Pastoral Council in its membership should be representative of the entire parish, recognizing and reflecting the parish's rich diversity.

5. The Parish Pastoral Council is to cooperate with parish committees which address such areas of parish life as worship, spirituality, community, evangelization, education, and service.

6. It is the responsibility of the Pastor to convoke the Parish Pastoral Council, to preside

over it, and to determine the issues to be treated by it or to receive proposals from its members.

The general **function** of the Parish Pastoral Council is to advise the Pastor in those pastoral matters presented to it by the Pastor. It carries out its function by:

1. Informing the Pastor of the needs and concerns, gifts and resources of the whole parish and its members;
2. Developing and reviewing a parish mission statement (which will always contain the name of Jesus) and periodically re-evaluating and revising it;
3. Developing a parish pastoral plan;
4. Participating in ongoing pastoral planning;
5. Recommending policies, procedures and programs which would assist in the implementation of the mission statement and the parish pastoral plan;
6. Reviewing and evaluating the effectiveness of existing programs;
7. Reflecting on Archdiocesan pastoral priorities and recommending how they can be implemented in the parish.

The purpose of the Parish Pastoral Council is to foster full participation of the entire parish in the life and mission of the parish and of the Universal Church. The parish faith community participates in this mission by:

- Worshiping God
- Creating and nurturing Christian Community;
- Growing in Faith and Holiness;
- Serving those in need, especially the poor.

Let us continue to pray for our Parish and our newly appointed Pastoral Council.

Fr. Joseph Okonski

| <b>ST. ATHANASIUS PARISH</b>          |         |
|---------------------------------------|---------|
| <b>St. Athanasius</b> August 13, 2017 |         |
| Saturday - Sunday envelopes 135       | \$ 3429 |
| Additional Offerings                  | \$ 306  |
| Total**                               | \$ 3735 |
| <b>St. Benedict</b> August 13, 2017   |         |
| Sunday envelopes 77 count 100         | \$ 1519 |
| Additional Offerings                  | \$ 285  |
| Total**                               | \$ 1804 |

**Thank You for your Kindness  
and Generosity to the Parish  
May God Bless You**



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