St. Matthew Parish



Website: www.stmatthewrc.org

Pastoral Staff

Pastor

Fr. Frank Black

Priests

Fr. Thaddeus J. Abraham Msgr. Pierre Andre Pierre Fr. Ralph Theodat

Deacon

Nickie Colon



St. Gregory the Great

224 Brooklyn Ave. Brooklyn, NY 11213 Tel 718-773-0100 Fax 718- 773-4198 Email: faithcommstgreg@aol.com

Mass Schedule:

First Friday 10:00am Saturday-5pm Sunday 11:30am

Saturday: Reconciliation-4:30 pm

Office Staff

Secretary: Rosanne Barber Ext. 100 D.R.E: Monica Flemmings

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday: 9:00am-5:00pm

St. Matthew

1123 Eastern Pkwy., Brooklyn, NY 11213 Tel 718-774-6747 Fax 718- 953-4895 Email: stmatthew1123@aol.com

Mass Schedule:

Monday-Friday 7:30am & 9:00am **Saturday** 8:00am & 8:00pm Saturday: Reconciliation-7:30 pm or by appointment

Sunday:

English-7:30am & 11:30am Spanish 9:30am; Kreyol 1:30pm

Office Staff

Secretary: Sharon Andrews **D.R.E.:** Charmaine Noel

Office Hours:

Monday:10:00am-4:00pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday Friday & Saturday: 10:00am-6:00pm Sunday: 9:00am-4:00pm Monday - Saturday-Closed for lunch 1-2 P.M.

Our Lady Of Charity

1669 Dean St., Brooklyn, NY 11213 Tel 718-774-5100 Fax 718-778-3335 Email: Olc1669@aol.com

Mass Schedule:

Sunday: Rosary 9:00am 9:30am-Praise & Worship 10am-Mass

Office Staff:

Secretary: Patricia Romain

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday:10am-6pm

Catholic Cemeteries—

80-01 Metropolitan Ave. Middle Village, NY 11379 Tel:718 - 894-4888



6th Sunday in Ordinary Time: Hearts Enlarged by Christ

This Sunday's first reading from the Book of Leviticus gives just a few of the horrible rules established by the Mosaic community to protect itself from leprosy. In the ancient times leprosy was believed to be deforming, incurable and contagious.

Leprosy included most skin disorders: Hanson's disease which is leprosy proper, psoriasis, skin cancer, impetigo, boils and even serious acne. Lepers were ostracized by their families and neighbors, and forced to live outside the villages and towns. They were referred to as the Living Dead. Lepers had to wear ragged clothes. They had to let their hair go uncombed and uncut. As today's reading says, they had to cover their mouths with one hand and call out "Unclean, unclean" as they walked. Anyone who came into any contact whatsoever with a leper was considered to be unclean like the leper.

And Jesus, moved with pity, stretched out his hand, touched the leper, and said to him, "Be made clean." Jesus did not see the unclean leper, or his disease. He was not concerned with the strict prohibitions of Jewish society. Jesus did not see a leper at all; he saw a human soul in desperate need.

He stretched out his hand and touched him. He healed him with his touch

Jesus gave this power to his disciples. At the conclusion of the Gospel of Mark, Jesus proclaims the signs of the members of his people. Among these signs is this one: they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover.

We possess the wonderful capacity to be instruments of the healing power of Christ. Therefore, we have the duty not only to pray for the sick and to help them get effective medical help, but also to pray over them and extend the touch of Christ to them. In the second reading for today Paul challenges us to imitate Christ. We are to be ministers of healing. We are to touch not just the physically sick, but all those whose lives are hurting and need healing in any way possible.

It is simply not Christian to ostracize anyone for any reason whatsoever. In the Christian society, even those with the most contagious diseases are cared for in a way that gives them dignity and love.

How about those who are spiritually sick? How about those who have left the Church, left Christianity? Are they to be cared for as those who are very sick? Absolutely. Those who have left Christian society are always welcomed back into the society when they seek to return. For example, even in the extremely rare cases of excommunication, such as when someone performs or assists in abortions, that person can always seek forgiveness and re-entry into the community.

And yet, many people throw children or relatives out of their lives. "You are no longer my son, my daughter," a parent hisses. Is there ever a situation where there is no longer any possibility of healing, of mercy, of extending the hand of Christ to those who seek reconciliation? Not in Christianity. The Forgiving Father may not have been able to give his Prodigal Son the remainder of the farm. That belonged to the Elder Brother. But he was able to welcome the prodigal back into the family. The person who has hurt his or her spouse and children may not be able to resume his or her place in the marriage, but that person still can receive the forgiveness, the healing he or she longs for. The convicted murderer may never be able to re-assume a place in free society, but he can be forgiven and given an opportunity to turn to God while incarcerated.

When we allow ourselves to be so overcome by hurt and hatred that we refuse to extend the healing hand of the Lord to others, we take upon ourselves the sickness of the other person. Hatred kills. When we allow hatred to be part of our lives, we commit spiritual suicide. We cannot allow hatred to destroy us. Even faced with the reality that there are many people in the world who hate us and who want us dead simply because we are Americans, we cannot allow hatred to destroy our humanity. Yes, we have to take measures to protect ourselves from those who would destroy us. Still, we do not have the right to hate anyone or any people and at the same time call ourselves Christian.

The Gospels often note that Jesus was moved with pity for the people as he preached the Kingdom of God. When he faced the troubled, the abandoned, the sick, when stirred by the blind, when crossing paths with the widow of Nain, and today, when face to face with a leper, Jesus was moved not by disgust, not by antagonism, but by compassion. Having compassion and showing mercy are the Christian qualities of great minds and large hearts.

Today we are called to allow our hearts to be enlarged by Christianity.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS



Join us in Church every Friday @ 7:30 pm to journey to Calvary with Jesus

WEEKLY READINGS			
Sun Feb 11	Lv 13:1-2, 44-46; 1 Cor 10:31—11:1 Mk 1:40–45		
Mon Feb 12	Jas 1:1-11 ; Mk 8:11-13		
Tue Feb 13	Jas 1:12-18 ; Mk 8:14-21		
Wed Feb 14	Jl 2:12-18;2 Cor 5:20—6:2; Mt 6:1-6,16-18		
Thu Feb 15	Dt 30:15–20 ; Lk 9:22-25		
Fri Feb 16	Is 58:1-9; Mt 9:14-15		
Sat Feb 17	Is 58: 9-14 ; Lk 5:27-32		

OUR LADY OF CHARITY: MASS INTENTIONS

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS: Judy Antoine, Mario Lopez, Rosalee Jackson, Francis Guerra, Jennifer Antoine, Louisa Frame, Mary Hill, Carlyn Johnson, Tayasha Cadore, Sean Bynoe, Kevin Carter, Lamont Robinson, Caniyah Chillious, Lelitza Ford, Caleb Cadore, Kayla Inniss,

We pray to the Lord

PARISH PRAYER: For our parish, that the three communities of St. Matthew, St. Gregory the Great and Our Lady of Charity, learn how to merge and grow together spiritually and become financially sound as three and yet one,

We pray to the Lord.

TODAY'S MASS: We pray to the Lord.

ALTAR BREAD: We pray to the Lord.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY: Mr. & Mrs. Laird Daniel, Mr. & Mrs. Alfonso Heslop, Mr. & Mrs. Nathan Ford Sr. We pray to the Lord.

ST. GREGORY : MASS INTENTIONS				
Saturday,	5PM Vigil Mass of Birthday Blessings			
Feb. 10 th	& Thanksgiving for Life for Lorna			
	Gilkes			
Sunday,	11:30AM Mass for Maria & Emmathuel			
Feb. 11 th	Sultan, Requested by			
	Antonio Sultan			
Ash Wednes-	9AM Ash Wednesday Mass For Scott			
day	Mejias, Requested by			
Feb. 14 th	His mother Gemma Mejias			
	&			
	7PM Ash Wednesday Mass			
Saturday,	5PM Vigil Mass for John B. Casey, Jr.,			
Feb. 17 th	R.I.P., Requested by Margaret Mary			
	Casey			

ST. MATTHEW: MASS INTENTIONS				
Saturday February 10	8:00pm – I.L.M. of Ronald Jules by Marie A. George			
Sunday	7:30am-Holy Name Society			
February 11 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time	9:30am – 8 yr. anniversary for Maria Marcelina Lopez by Minerva Lopez			
	11:30am—Thanksgiving for Aari Charles Munro by Bernadette Charles			
	1:30pm –a. I.L.M. of Immacula Michel by Marie Coeur Altidor			
	b. Blessings for Lise Bozil			
	c. R.I.P. Azelita Jose by Rudy Almonor			
Monday February 12	7:30am – Good behavior for Kamaia Farray by Jasician Farray			
	9:00am – For Lincoln Lee Chee & Makaio Lee Chee Wharwood by Janelle Lee Chee			
Tuesday February 13	7:30am –Good behavior for Kamaia Farray by Jasician Farray			
	9:00am –Birthday blessings for Petula Luke			
Wednesday February 14	7:30am – B'day blessings Mila Boye by aunt, Myrna Mendez			
	9:00am – R.I.P. Eleza Henrietta Smith by family			
	7:30pm – I.L.M. of Jose Isidro Vasquez by Maura Lora			
Thursday February 15	7:30am – God's healing & blessings for Lesmore Willis Jr. by Ruby Hall			
	9:00am –The Johnson family			
Friday February 16	7:30am – B'day blessings Joachim Surage by mom, Lucresca			
	9:00am – R.I.P. Alejandro Gonzalez by his wife			
Saturday February 17	8:00am – B' day blessings Agustin H. Mendez II by sister, Myrna Mendez			
CANDLE	FOR February 11– February 17			
In loving memory of Elizabeth & Kole Ramos by Mr. & Mrs. Paul & Anna Ramos & family				



BREAD & WINE FOR FEBRUARY



Birthday blessings for Helena O'Brien

REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

For the homebound, hospitalized and sick

Judith Adams, Rita Antomez, Armelle Amilcar, Loraine Quash-Antoine, Marie Augustin, Al Barnett, Monica Belfon, Marque & Yael Barber-LaFon, Melona Barber, Jason Bascom, Silvestre Brathwaite, Ismay Brewster, Recy Brown, Patricia Burrowes, Yolande Cadet, Diana Codogan, Cathleen Charles, Catilda Charles, Delcia Charles, Marcel Charles, Maria Clouden Cecilia Clovie, Nelia Collins, Marilyn Coates, Virginia Cox, Daphne Critchlow, Theresa Cudjoe, Veronica Dale, Angela Daniels, Shirley Daniels, Joseph Drew, Stephen Duncan, Dorothy Edwards, Una Europe, Stella Emmanuel, Elardo Flemmings, Carrie Frasier, John Gale, Ryan Gee, Sybil Geoffroy, Catherine & Deacon Roy George, Bernadette Gilbert, Muriel Gomez, Trina Gonzalez, Kellon Hagley, Kelly Hagley, Gwendolyn Harding, Pat Harris, Bruno Henry, Beverly Hillyer, Pierre & Elreta Hinds, Florence Holder, Danielle Huie, Janice & Orson Hutchings, Kerlyne Hyppolite, Anasha Inniss, Carlyn Jabouin, Donna James, Nellie James, Diane John, Alsie Johnson, Nicole Johnson, Magdalena Joseph, Ian Kellman, Lucy King, Albert Kirton, Kanelle Lang, Rhoda Lewis, Sampson Lewis, Marjorie Lopez, Luis Manuel Lorenzo, Madelin Lorenzo, Vivian Boykin Lott, Norberto Lovell, Jean Lubin, Gloria Lynch, Hubert Lynch, Mamita, Barbara Manuel, Judith Matthew, Tom McCafferty, Laura McDonald, Mavis McDonald, Leticia McDowell, Vernita McDowell, Gemma Mejias, Isai Munoz, Marta Munoz, Nelson Munoz, Suzanne Neil, Ronald Nethersole, Claudette Norde, Mother Dolores Olff, Keena Ollivierre, Ronaldo Nano Paul, Sharon Perry, Andre Perry, Chung Peters, Mary James Peterson, Marie Pierre, Melody Pink, Sonia Prescot, Ann Primo, Val Quash, Len Quash, Dorothy Irons Reid, Catherine Richards, Melissa Richards, Elizabeth Rivera, Cornelia Robergeau, Carlos Rudas, Lidia Saunders, Pamela Smith, Pema Smith, Lisa Scott Spencer, Delores Sykes, Kevin Maynard, Basil Suarez, Antonio Sultan, Violet Sylvester, Brenda & Javier Talango, Angela & Edris Thomas, Lyonette Tribie, Janet Throne, Amparo Torres, Malik Wellington, Hazel Williams, Karen Williams, Terrance Williams, Octavio Willis, Leandro Wilson, Reynold Williams, Christine Wright, Joan Wright, Natasha Wright, James P. Young

SPECIAL PRAYERS FOR: Yvonne Lacy, Dean Jackson, Wendy Romain, Vaughn Haynes, Georgeann Campbell, Maura Chisam, Danielle Huie, Cotilda Charles, Anthony Hepburn Jr., Lawrence Latimer & family, La Mar Mc Nabb, Conrad Lord, Christine Hudson & family, Glenda Hunter, Livingston Holloway, Jaden Bell, Nathan Ford Sr. & family, Isabella Bugett, Sabrinia Guess, Gwen & Helena Pugh, Golda & Daphne Crithlow, Hannah Penny, Kendall Wilson, Almarie Mc Coy, Raymond Jorsling, Judith Prosper, all families represented here today.

All students, teachers and principals, President Joseph Biden & his family, Vice President Kamala Harris & her family, our Government, prayers and petitions in our prayer basket, for the all Priest especially those who serve here at Charity, Religious Vocations, and an increase in Religious Vocations, all men and women serving our country, the elders, all who are incarcerated, and unexpressed prayers, for immigrants, a successful solution to the pandemic, the mentally sick, the unemployed and under employed, end to gun violence and for world peace,

We pray to the Lord.

WEEKLY MEETINGS ~ St. Matthew

St. Matthew weekly meetings have commenced. Please contact your ministry to find out the time and date of the meetings.

WEEK OF SUNDAY 02/11/2024 @ ST. GREGORY

- + 9:30 AM Sunday school- In Session
- + 10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal
- + 11:30 AM Sunday Mass (Live Stream)
- + CREDIT UNION-OPEN

MONDAY 02/12/24

+ 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal-Church

ASH WEDNESDAY 02/14/24

9 AM Distribution of Ashes 7PM Distribution of Ashes

FRIDAY 02/16/24

+ 7:30 PM Bible Study via zoom

SATURDAY 02/17/24

- + 4 PM Confession
- + 4 PM Vigil Choir Rehearsals
- + 4 PM Light Fest Prayer Group-via zoom https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82362442148? pwd=MGVNMWFQcVdrQktXeTh0YjRadC9Mdz09
- + 5 PM Vigil Mass Church- (Live Stream)

COLLECTION 02/03-02/04/2024						
	ST. MATTHEW					
Mass	Enve- lopes	Envelope Collection	Loose money	Totals		
8 PM	27	1,250.00	175.00	1,425.00		
7:30 AM	110	3,237.00	396.00	3,633.00		
9:30 AM	70	1,362.00	375.67	1,737.67		
11:30 PM	68	1,851.00	524.00	2,375.00		
1:30 PM	38	614.00	101.80	715.80		
L.I.R.	50	1,572.00	_	1,572.00		
Total	363	9,886.00	1,572.47	11458.47		
	ST. GREGORY					

Mass	Enve- lopes	Envelope Collection	Loose money	Totals
5 PM	14	359.00	186.00	545.00
10:00AM	35	1,350.00	221.00	1,571.00
Total	49	1,709.00	407.00	2,116.00

OUR LADY OF CHARITY

Mass	Enve- lopes	Envelope Collection	Loose money	Totals
10:00AM	45	2,074.00		2,074.00
Total	45	2,074.00	_	2,074.00

FAITH DIRECT:

January 1st – 30th, 2024 ~\$1,499.00

ST. MATTHEW EXPENSES

	Apr - Jul 20	Apr - Jul 19	% Change
Income			
Collections	168,288.50	344,182.28	-51.11%
Rent	199,829.29	217,167.84	-7.98%
Programs	0.00	10,369.20	-100.0%
Donations/Fundraising	1,366.00	18,115.47	-92.46%
Other	25,491.52	24,792.07	2.82%
Total Income	394,975.31	614,626.86	-35.74%
Expense			
Employee Compensation	302,582.87	291,549.37	3.78%
Maintenance	69,276.57	33,706.71	105.53%
Office Expenses	28,460.39	19,601.93	45.19%
Programs	3,351.36	6,028.70	-44.41%
Altar Supplies	6,099.33	16,602.28	-63.26%
Utilities	28,261.46	27,878.02	1.38%
Miscellaneous Expense	2,032.03	3,230.79	-37.1%
Total Expense	440,064.01	398,597.80	10.4%
Net Income	(45,088.70)	216,029.06	-120.87%

ST. GREGORY THE GREAT

St. Gregory the Great **BIBLE STUDY** with Catherine Abdullah @ 7:30PM Eastern Time (US and Canada) every week on FRI-DAYS

Bible Study is beginning The Gospel of John

Link for Bible Study https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85498875775? pwd=Nk4zY3BVOUFmVzRUSDJodllWSDArUT09

To Join Zoom Meeting please use Meeting ID: 854 9887 5775 Passcode: 374738

On tap mobile

Dial 929 205 6099 using Meeting ID and the passcode Bible Study (All Are Invited) Meets on zoom every Friday from 7:30PM to 8:30PM A Book of the Bible is picked (By the Group) alternatively, from the Old Testament, followed by The New Testament.

<u>LIGHT FEST PRAYER GROUP</u> (ALL ARE WELCOME!)

Meet-In-Person at St. Gregory R.C. Church every FIRST SAT-URDAYS of the month in the Church's dining room. The remaining Saturdays of the month, Light Fest Prayer Group meets on zoom in the Light Fest Reading Room from 8PM to 9PM. The zoom link is

mentioned above. Please contact any member for information for telephone number and pin number to access this prayer line. (This enables us to discuss confidentiality protocols to New Participants)

UPCOMING MTGS. & EVENTS @ ST. GREGORY MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MARCUS GARVEY SERVICE ONCE A MONTH ON THE SECOND SUNDAY AT 2PM

St. Gregory the Great – Religious Education

Sunday school is in session. Time: 9:30am. Registration fee: \$60 per candidate *****

RECTORY OFFICE CLOSED FOR BUSINESS ON PRESIDENT'S DAY, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH. 2024

HERITAGE COMMITTEE CELEBRATES BLACK HIS-TORY MONTH DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY. SOLOISTS FEATURED ALONG WITHH "TEACHABLE MOMENTS" STARTING FIRST SATURDAY, FEBRU-ARY 3RD THRU SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH, 2024.

SPECIAL EVENTS SCHEDULE FOR BLACK HISTORY **MONTH**

AT ST. GREGORY'S CHURCH

Sunday, February 11th @ 11:30 AM - Children's Day Mass

St. Gregory the Great Heritage Committee Presents 28th Annual Cultural Extravaganza

Sunday, February 18th @ 4 PM SHARP!

@ 563 Sterling Place, corner of Classon Avenue (St. Theresa of Avila Hall)

There will be Fashion, Dance, Musical Selections and Poetry Tickets are available for purchase at \$30 for adults and \$15 for children 12 years and under.

See any member of the Heritage Committee after Mass.

Saturday, February 24th @ 5PM Vigil and Sunday, February 25th @ 11:30AM Dedication Masses for the deceased members of The Heritage Committee.

SACRAMENTS & REGISTRATION

PARISH REGISTRATION:

All are welcome! Any letter concerning sponsorship for the sacraments or testimonial letters will only be issued to registered parishioners of 6+ months. Please register in the rectory.

BAPTISM:.

To have your child baptized in the Diocese of Brooklyn and Queens, you must show:

- 1. Proof that you live in the geographical boundaries of the Church you wish to have the baby baptized.(e.g. electric bill). If you live outside the boundaries of the Church you wish to have your baby baptized, you must get a permission letter from the Catholic church closest to where you live granting you permission to have your baby baptized outside of the geographical area.
 - 2. Your baby is allowed <u>one</u> God mother and <u>one</u> God father, one must be Catholic, practicing their faith (letter from the Church stating this), and have their confirmation certificate. The baby can be baptized with one Catholic god parent.
 - 3. One parent must be baptized Catholic and have their baptism certificate, First Communion or Confirmation as proof.
 - 4. Once these requirements are fulfilled, we encourage you to call and set a date. Children 7 & under can be baptized w/o CCD classes.

RCIA

RCIA stands for RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS and is composed of a series of sessions bringing people together to experience the prayer life of the church as well as learn about its doctrines and teachings. Using the readings from the Bible which we hear daily at Mass, the Sacred Liturgy as well as the Catechism of the Catholic Church, teens and adults who have not yet done so prepare themselves to receive the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation & Holy Eucharist.

RCIA is offered in Spanish, Kreyol & English and is for people who:

- Were baptized in the Catholic Church but have not received the sacrament of Confirmation, First Holy Communion or First Confession
- Were baptized in another Christian denomination and wish to join the Catholic Church
- Were never baptized & wish to fully worship in the Catholic Church
 - Wants to know more about what it means to be Catholic?

The sessions begin in October. If you are interested in knowing more, please contact the rectory.

SACRAMENTS & REGISTRATION

School of Religion @ St. Matthew

After receiving First Holy Communion, It is
essential for your child to continue each year in
our program, until they complete their initiation with the
reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation.

For more information about registration requirements or other questions you might have, contact us: Phone: 215-576-4124; email: stmatthew-brooklyn.org

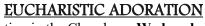
<u>Después de recibir la Primera Comunión,</u> es esencial que su hijo continúe en nuestro programa cada año, hasta que complete la iniciación con la recepción del Sacramento de la Confirmación.

Para más información acerca los requisitos para registración u otras preguntas que usted pueda tener, comuníquese al Tel: 215-576-4124; email: stmatthew-brooklyn.org

ENSKRIPSYON YO AP FÈT KOUNYE A BATÊM, PREMYE SENT KOMINYON AK KONFI-MASYON.

Pouplisenfòmasyonsoukondisyonenskripsyonoswalòtkeksyonou ta genyenkontaktenounan: Phone:215-576-4124; email:stmatthewreledu@stmatthew-brooklyn.org

ST. MATTHEW EVENTS





Adoration in the Church on Wednesdays and Fridays after 9:00 am Mass until 12:00 noon. Fridays from 7 P.M. to 9 P.M.

VOCATIONS

"Do everything for the glory of God." Jesus the Eternal Word continues to call many to lives of holiness as priests, deacons and in the consecrated life. Could you be one of them? Contact the Vocation Office at 718-827-2454 or email: vocations@diobrook.org

FREE TAX PREPARATION

Free Tax Preparation is once again being offered. In order to qualify for this service, your yearly income cannot exceed \$73,000.To schedule an appointment call or stop by the rectory and leave your telephone number.

REHEARSAL DATES FOR THE DRAMATIZED STATIONS ON GOOD FRIDAY:

Friday February 16th at 8:00 P.M.

Tuesday February 20th at 7:30 P.M.

Sunday February 25th at 4:00 P.M.

Sunday March 3rd at 4:00 P.M.

Sunday March 10th at 4:00 P.M.

Tuesday March 26th at 7:30 P.M. (Dress Rehearsal)

YOUTH GROUP

The Youth Group will be hosting a Black History Month celebration /talent show on Saturday, February 17th in the Parish Center after the 5 P.M. Mass. Everyone is invited.

ENGLISH LENTEN MISSION

Monday March 4th - St Gregory the Great, 224 Brooklyn Avenue.

Tuesday March 5th - Our Lady of Charity, 1669 Dean Street .

Wednesday & Thursday (March 6th & March 7th) - St. Matthew Parish, 1123 Eastern Parkway

Mission begins at 6:45 pm with the Rosary.

Fr. Trevor Nathasingh will be the celebrant of the

Lenten mission

Black History Month Trivia

- 1. William Tucker, son of indentured servants from Great Britain, was the first recorded African child to be born in the colonies in 1624.
- 2. Vermont was the first colony to ban slavery in 1777.
- 3. In the 1770s, a Quaker named Anthony Benezet created the first school for African American children.
- 4. Between 1810-1850, an estimated 100,000 slaves used the Underground Railroad to escape to the North.
- 5. William Wells Brown's novel, Clotel; or The President's Daughter, is the first written by an African American to be published in 1853.
- 6. Hattie McDaniel became the first Black person to win an Oscar for her supporting role in Gone With the Wind in 1940. Sidney Poitier was the first Black man to win, 24 years later, for his leading role in Lilies of the Field.
- 7. In 1864, Rebecca Lee Crumpler graduated from the New England Female Medical College as the first Black woman to receive a medical degree in the U.S.
- 8. Baseball legend Jackie Robinson had an older brother, Matthew "Mack" Robinson, who broke the Olympic record in 1936 in the 200-meter dash. However, he took home the silver medal because he finished behind Jesse Owens.
- 9. Before becoming a professional musician, Chuck Berry studied to become a hairdresser and has a degree in cosmetology.
- 10. Nat King Cole was the first African American to host a TV show when The Nat King Cole Show debuted on NBC in 1956.
- 11.In 1973, Stevie Wonder was the first Black artist to win a Grammy for Album of the Year for Innervisions.
- 12. Founded in 1984, the Bill Pickett Invitational Rodeo celebrates Black cowboys and cowgirls and is the only touring African American rodeo in the world.
- 13. The theme song to public television's popular children's program, Reading Rainbow, is sung by Chaka Kahn.
- 14. The oldest living Buffalo Soldier, Sergeant Mark Matthews, died at the age of 111 in 2005 and is buried at Arlington National Cemetery.
- 15. Gabby Douglas became the first Black gymnast to win the Individual All Around in the 2012 London Olympics.