

EASTER SUNDAY
THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD
APRIL 12, 2020

ALLELUIA

THIS IS
THE DAY THE *Lord*
HAS MADE; LET US
rejoice
AND BE GLAD.

PSALM 118

LETTER FROM FR. SILL

Dear St. Matthew Family,

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! Our most unusual Lent has finally passed! Christ has conquered death so that we all might have eternal life with him that begins even now.

Even though we are celebrating Easter Sunday separately in our homes this year, we are also celebrating together as the universal Church in our domestic churches. While the news surrounding the pandemic threatens to darken our days, Christ offers us light, peace, and joy. In November 1986, Pope St. John Paul II spoke these words in an Angelus address:

We do not pretend that life is all beauty. We are aware of darkness and sin, of poverty and pain. But we know Jesus has conquered sin and passed through his own pain to the glory of the Resurrection. And we live in the light of his Paschal Mystery - the mystery of his Death and Resurrection...We are not looking for a shallow joy but rather a joy that comes from faith, that grows through unselfish love...We realize that joy is demanding; it demands unselfishness; it demands a readiness to say with Mary: "Be it done unto me according to thy word."

A lot is being asked of us during this Easter season, but we look toward these challenges with joy. For by staying home, we are acting with the unselfishness that Easter joy demands. We are demonstrating love for our neighbor, as Jesus calls us to do. And we can still share joy with others amidst the call to observe social distancing. Many have been very creative in their reaching out to others during this pandemic while being safe about it.

Above all, we should remember that Easter is not a day, but a season. In the Church, we are blessed to be able to celebrate Easter for 50 days, until Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit came to send the disciples out to the world to share the Good News. As our Easter gift to you, the parish has prayer books, *Rejoice and Be Glad: Daily Reflections from Easter to Pentecost*, to help you reflect on the joy of the season. It is my great hope that, like the disciples, we will be able to go back into the world by Pentecost so that you can pick up these books in person. In the meantime, however, we are pleased to be able to offer you a PDF e-book version so that you can pray with us at home. You can find a link to it on our website.

I am grateful for your love and support of Fr. Peter and me, and of our parish family, during our time apart. May the Risen Christ's peace and joy be with you during this Easter Season and beyond!

Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. Ted

STEWARDSHIP

2019-2020 Through	April 5, 2020	Year to Date
Parish Budgeted Expenses	\$42,115.00	\$1,726,715.00
Contributions	\$35,379.50	\$1,682,303.49
Surplus (Shortage)	(\$6,735.50)	(\$ 44,411.51)

Note: Saint Matthew's fiscal year is July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020. Contributions include offertory and mortgage payment donations.

STEWARDSHIP: HOW CAN WE HELP YOU?

As good stewards of our Parish, we are called to care for and look after St. Matthew Parish and its parishioners. We want to know how our parishioners are doing in this time of struggle and fear. How can we help you? How can we pray for you? Please remember to check on your neighbors, check on your family, and check on those who are at risk, while practicing social distancing. If you have specific needs or prayers, please email Brooke Warren at bwarren@stmatthew.net and she will make sure to add you to the prayer list or find a way to get your needs met.

We know there are a lot of people struggling financially right now and we want to help, but to do that we need the support of our parishioners who are still able to donate. If you usually give via offertory envelopes, please consider using online giving during our time away from the church. Visit www.stmatthew.net/giving for more information. You can also call the parish and leave a message; someone will call you back with more information. Thank you!



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ST. JUDE COUNCIL 5801

KNIGHT OF THE MONTH – Congratulations to John Sherman, Knight of the Month for April!

KNIGHT FAMILY OF THE MONTH – Congratulations to Allen & Regina Perk, Knight Family of the month for April!

IN OUR PARISH

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Easter Sunday, April 12: *Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23; Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8; Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10*

Monday, April 13: *Acts 2:14, 22-33; Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11; Mt 28:8-15*

Tuesday, April 14: *Acts 2:36-41; Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20 and 22; Jn 20:11-18*

Wednesday, April 15: *Acts 3:1-10; Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9; Lk 24:13-35*

Thursday, April 16: *Acts 3:11-26; Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9; Lk 24:35-48*

Friday, April 17: *Acts 4:1-12; Ps 118:1-2 and 4, 22-24, 25-27a; Jn 21:1-14*

Saturday, April 18: *Acts 4:13-21; Ps 118:1 and 14-15ab, 16-18, 19-21; Mk 16:9-15*

Sunday, April 19: *Acts 2:42-47; Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24; 1 Pt 1:3-9; Jn 20:19-31*

NEW TO THE PARISH? YOU CAN NOW REGISTER

ONLINE - Through at least the end of April, we will only be registering new parishioners online. Please visit <http://www.stmatthew.net/new-parishioners> and we will contact you with more information.

SAVE THE DATE FOR TENTATIVE RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE ON SATURDAY, MAY 9

– Please set aside time on **Saturday, May 9** for our annual Danny's Day Blood Drive. Our drive is currently scheduled for **Saturday, May 9** from **7:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.** in the Hutta Gym. We know this is a very difficult and unusual time for all of us right now but the need for blood is greater than ever! As always, we appreciate our blood donors and all you do to save lives in our community. We will always put your safety first! For now, keep your calendar open for a donation time. As we get closer to our Blood Drive, we will let you know what our concrete plan is. Thank you all, stay safe and well! Kathy Arnold & Teresa Baird

FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION ABOUT OUR PARISH'S RESPONSE TO THE CORONAVIRUS

please visit our website at stmatthew.net and follow our social media accounts – Facebook: @StMatthewGahanna; Twitter: @GahannaStMatts; Instagram: @stmatthewapostle.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED – Monsignor Carl Claggett; and Doris Mayer, grandmother of Heather Wesseling.

PARISH PROJECTS

As good stewards of your generosity and curiosity during this closure, the Facilities Team is pleased to provide you updates on St. Matthew's campus pursuits.

"In the middle of difficulty lies opportunity." —Albert Einstein. Thank you, Jim Gernetzke, for sharing this quote. These are words to live by as individuals, as organizations and as a community, worthy of contemplation and action.

Two months ago, we were working, going to school, attending Mass, socializing with friends and starting our Lenten journey. I think our current situation more than qualifies as difficult times; what opportunities have you found? Your Facilities Team has found plenty of opportunities to help our parishioners and improve our church and school.

Last week was our first ever live streamed event, Palm Sunday Mass. With the help of several experienced volunteer consultants, we made it happen. These broadcasts and video postings will continue as long as the church and school are closed.

As activity around the school increased with the exchange of homework assignments between teachers and students, the Facilities Team is taking this opportunity to focus on church projects. The largest project we have undertaken so far is the refinishing of the Sanctuary floors under the pews. The kneelers were removed to scrub, strip and wax the floors. While the kneelers were off, we took this opportunity to tighten pads and check hardware.

During this closure we have also taken the opportunity to check some of our church mechanical systems. All HVAC systems had their filters checked with new filters being ordered where necessary. We also conducted a 5-year elevator inspection testing operation at 150% of weight capacity (3,000 lbs); we passed.

We will continue to post pictures and videos on Facebook and YouTube in addition to streaming live Masses. Please check us out!

We appreciate this opportunity to provide updates on what we are doing in preparation of resuming Masses and activities. Please don't hesitate to text or e-mail suggestions on how we can better serve you in these difficult times. Contact George Harvey at gharvey@stmatthew.net or text 330-904-1083. Stay healthy and God Bless.

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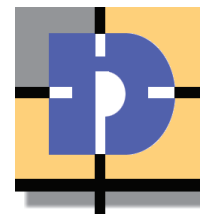


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