BAPTISMS

All Baptism inquiries must begin by filling out a Baptism form on our website at www.stmatthew.net/baptism. Mandatory preparation sessions are held the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Baptisms are celebrated on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays of each month at 1:00 p.m. For more information, please contact Katie Ryzenga at 614-557-2739 or kryzenga@stmatthew.net.

MARRIAGE

Marriage preparation must begin at least 6 months before a desired wedding date. All inquiries begin on the Parish website at www.stmatthew.net/marriage.

ANOINTING & VISITATION OF THE SICK

Contact the Parish Office to schedule an anointing and/or to arrange a visit from our pastoral staff. Please notify the Parish Office regarding any aged or ill who are confined.

PARISH CLERGY - 614-471-0212

Fr. Theodore K. Sill, Pastor

Fr. Peter Asantebwana, Parochial Vicar

Fr. Michael Nimocks, Retired & In Holy Service

Fr. Stan Benecki, Retired & In Holy Service

Deacons: Rev. Mr. Joseph Meyer Christopher Walsh, Candidate

PARISH STAFF - 614-471-0212

Business Manager: Leo Grimes

Director of Athletics: Eileen Buzenski – 614-478-8533 Director of Music: Dawn Shininger – 614-532-0627

Facilities Superintendent: George Harvey

Office & Ministry Coordinator: Michelle Dougherty

Safe Environment: Michelle Lantz

FAMILY LIFE OFFICE

Catholic Inquiry/Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA): Jennifer Cabe – 614-532-0626, <u>icabe@stmatthew.net</u>

Parish School of Religion (PSR) and Evangelization Director: Ashley Allwein – 614-471-2067, <u>aallwein@stmatthew.net</u>

Preschool Sunday School Coordinator & Family Life Coordinator:
Julie Ratliff – <u>iratliff@stmatthew.net</u>

Baptism Coordinator:

Katie Ryzenga – 614-557-2739, <u>kryzenga@stmatthew.net</u> Youth and Young Adult Ministry/Confirmation Coordinator: Maggie Smith – 614-532-0622, <u>msmith@stmatthew.net</u>

PARISH SCHOOL - PRE-K-GRADE 8 - 614-471-4930

www.cdstmatthew.org

Principal: John Rathburn, jrathburn1@cdeducation.org

CHARITABLE WORKS MINISTRY - 614-471-5320

Monday-Friday, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

PARISH REGISTRATION

To register as a parish member, go to www.stmatthew.net/online-parishioner-registration.

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Announcements must be submitted to Hillarie Michaels by email to hmichaels@stmatthew.net by 12:00 noon on Monday.



ST. MATTHEW

THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC PARISH

WORSHIP + SERVE + EVANGELIZE

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As a community of believers who know, love, and serve Jesus Christ, we celebrate the sacramental life of the Church, proclaim the saving message of Christ, and share the love of the Lord, especially with the least, the poor, and the suffering.

MASSES

Weekends

Saturday – 5:00 p.m. Vigil Sunday – 8:00 & 10:00 a.m., 12:00 noon & 5:00 p.m.

Holy Days

Please consult the bulletin or website.

Weekdays

Monday thru Friday, 6:30 & 8:30 a.m. Saturday – 8:30 a.m.

CONFESSIONS

Wednesday 7:00-7:30 a.m. Saturday 4:00-4:45 p.m. Sunday 11:00-11:45 a.m. Or by appointment

Office Hours

Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

ST. MATTHEW CHURCH GAHANNA, OHIO

MASS INTENTIONS AND SCRIPTURES

MONDAY, AUGUST 10 - 2 Cor 9:6-10; Jn 12:24-26

6:30 a.m. Bill McFadden/McFadden Family 8:30 a.m. Lucy Fernandes/Felix Fernandes

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11 - Ez 2:8-3:4; Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14

6:30 a.m. Thomas Williams/Carol Ann Lombardi 8:30 a.m. Dominic Schirripa/Sheila Schirripa

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12 – *Ez 9:1-7; 10:18-22; Mt 18:15-20*

6:30 a.m. Michael McKenzie/Rosemary & Patrick Whitt

8:30 a.m. John Stephen & Mary Ann McGeorge/ Elise Geig & Stephen McGeorge

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13 - Ez 12:1-12; Mt 18:21-19:1

6:30 a.m. Noreen Carstens/Frank & Judeen Hartge 8:30 a.m. Deceased Members of the Ulrich Family

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14 – Ez 16:1-15, 60, 63 or 16:59-63; Mt 19:3-12

6:30 a.m. Keith Russell/Larry & Lisa White 8:30 a.m. John Kirkland/Kirkland Family

VIGIL - THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

7:00 p.m. Joseph & Catherine Biega/Family

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15 - THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED

VIRGIN MARY – *Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; 1 Cor 15:20-27; Lk 1:39-56*

9:00 a.m. For Saint Matthew Parishioners/Fr. Theodore K. Sill

11:00 a.m. James A. Crum/Family

5:00 p.m. Philip & Lucy Fernandes/Felix Fernandes

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16 – *Is 56:1, 6-7; Rom 11:13-15, 29-32; Mt 15:21-28*

8:00 a.m. For Saint Matthew Parishioners/Fr. Theodore K. Sill

10:00 a.m. Warren Prenzlin/Hanby Family12:00 p.m. Joseph McNellis/Dennis McNellis5:00 p.m. Tom Williams/Family Friends

STEWARDSHIP						
2020-2021 Through	August 2, 2020	Year to Date				
Parish Budgeted Expenses	\$42,115.00	\$210,575.00				
Contributions	\$38,932.54	\$177,913.87				
Surplus (Shortage)	(\$ 3,182.46)	(\$ 32,661.13)				

Note: Saint Matthew's fiscal year is July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. Contributions include offertory and mortgage payment donations.

WAYS TO MAKE YOUR OFFERTORY DONATION

- 1) Online: Go to www.stmatthew.net/giving.
- Text-to-give: Simply text the amount of your donation to 614-412-3694. (Example: For a \$25 gift, text "25" to (614-412-3694.)
- 3) By cash or check: Mail your donation to our office or drop it in the mailbox outside the exterior office door.

We are grateful for every gift, no matter how you make it!

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES							
	SATURDAY, AUGUST 15 5:00 P.M.	SUNDAY, AUGUST 16 8.00 A.M.	SUNDAY, AUGUST 16 10:00 A.M.	SUNDAY, AUGUST 16 12:00 P.M.	SUNDAY, AUGUST 16 5:00 P.M.		
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	Max Maksimoski, rmaksimo@stmatthew.net - 614-607-4799 (Extraordinary Ministers, Lectors) Vicki Wengert, vwengert@icloud.com - 614-270-2118 (Sacristans)						
OF HOLY COMMUNION	Mindy Mays	Michael Wodarcyk	Abbey Morante	Tom Mignery	Denise Maksimoski		
LECTORS	Angel Rice	Mary Humphrey	Kyle Gleich	Kristin Williams	Max Maksimoski		
SACRISTANS	Deacon Joe	Deacon Joe	Chris Walsh	Deacon Joe	Chris Walsh		
SERVERS	MC – Jack Burgan Landon Miller	MC – Austin Paulus Emma Hahn	Mia Lantz Carter Lantz	MC – Thomas Williams Joseph Williams	Conner Norman		

ESTATE PLANNING SERIES STARTS AUGUST 25 – We know that end-of-life decisions are not easy to make, especially at the time when they need to be made. In an effort to help our parishioners understand their options, we are happy to partner with The Catholic Foundation to offer a 4-part series called "Finishing the Race." These sessions are free, but registration is required. Initially, we will be offering these sessions over Zoom. Our first session on Funeral Planning will be Tuesday, August 25 at 7:00 p.m. and will feature presentations from Fr. Sill, Bob Ryan of Egan-Ryan Funeral Service, and Scott Hartman from The Catholic Foundation as they walk you through the process of planning a funeral in the Catholic Church and at the funeral home. For more information about all the sessions and to register, please go to stmatthew.net/estateplanning.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 22 – Make a difference in someone's life! The need is constant. The gratification is instant. Every unit of blood has the potential to save three lives in Central Ohio. Remember, "To whom much is given much is expected." Anyone who is 17 years or older, weighs at least 110 pounds, and is in general good health can be a blood donor. Eligible blood donors must have made their last donation on or before, June 27, 2020. Our next Blood Drive will be on Saturday, August 22 in the Hutta Gym at St. Matthew School from 7:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Schedule an appointment today by calling 1-800-REDCROSS; visiting www.redcrossblood.org (sponsor code: MatthewApChurch); signing up at the table in the Gathering Space; or by calling Teresa Baird at 614-404-3130/email tbaird@insight.rr.com. Your donation is always appreciated!

IN OUR PARISH

DEAR ST. MATTHEW FAMILY,

What am I convicted of for this upcoming year of youth ministry? I'll begin with a guick statistic. According to current research, if 100 babies are baptized, how many remain practicing Catholics by age 21? 9. We are at less than a 10% retention rate. If young people stay in the Church, what is the number one reason for their persistence and conviction? The reason is: because they have found community, and they have fallen in love with the sacraments, namely, Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. Research also shows that only one third of Catholics who regularly go to Mass believe that Jesus is truly present in the Eucharist. The other two-thirds only see the Eucharist as a symbol. I don't think we need more teaching on the matter. Some teaching yes, but not as a solution to the problem. The solution is Jesus. Only Jesus can make a heart believe that He truly is the Eucharist. If the Eucharist is true, why is a person able to receive God week after week and still only believe the Eucharist is a symbol? Isn't God greater than our senses? How can the body and blood of Jesus rest in someone's stomach without utterly convicting them of the truth? Well, because God paid a price when He made Himself accessible to us. Before Jesus, no one could truly experience God. No one could touch Him or even look at Him without dying. Now we can touch Him. Now we can swallow Him whole without so much as a second thought. In choosing to become man and then remaining here with us on earth as bread and wine. God made Himself available to our human bodies, but He also made Himself subject to our human intellects. The mind sees bread, so it must be bread.

"I want to believe in the Eucharist, but how?" How does one's heart and spirit overcome the surface experience of the body and the mind? By an encounter with a Heart and a Spirit. Heart of Jesus, make our hearts burn for the Eucharist. Holy Spirit of Jesus, be our Advocate, testify to us about the love of Jesus who waits for us in the tabernacle, even when we all go home at night. Will you pray this prayer with me: "I do believe Lord, help my unbelief!" Mark 9:24.

In Christ, Maggie Smith Coordinator of Youth and Young Adult Ministry

PARISH PROJECTS

As good stewards of your generosity, the Facilities Team is pleased to provide you regular updates on St. Matthew campus projects, improvements, and ongoing initiatives.

A little over a week ago, Principal John Rathburn unveiled our plan to reopen St. Matthew School, all grades, 5-days a week, beginning Tuesday, September 8. Mr. Rathburn recorded a general introduction on our YouTube Channel; it can be found with our Live Streamed Masses. School families also received a letter and slide presentation providing additional details. This plan was the result of countless volunteer hours from a task force made up of teachers, parents, health care professionals and administrators with guidance from CDC, ODH and the Diocese. The Facilities Team actively participated in the safety and logistical aspects of the plan.

After successfully reopening our church a couple months ago, we hope to emulate that success at school. Our plan is built on a few simple principles; wear a mask, social distancing, wash hands, sanitize and monitor for symptoms.

The school's reopening is going to affect us all. Over the next few weeks, you will start seeing new signage and lines in our parking lots. We are expecting more car riders and with reduced bus capacity, more buses. To manage the additional traffic, we are adding car drop-off /pick-up lines to the main parking lot between the church and school, as well as the upper PAC parking lot. There will be an express lane for buses and one-way traffic through the Rectory parking lot for Pre-K drop-offs. All routes will be color coded with pavement lines, arrows, and signs.

The school traffic should not conflict with church traffic. Drop off is scheduled between daily Masses from 7:30-8:00 a.m. Our intent is to minimize parking space confusion by using colors other than white and yellow. More details to follow.

We appreciate this opportunity to provide updates on what we are doing on campus. Please don't hesitate to text or email 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.

RETIRED PARISHIONERS - WE NEED YOU!

Friends / Across Time

Friends Across Time Returns, With a New Format for this Year of Distancing!

The popular *Friends Across Time* program returns to St. Matthew School for our 17th year! Students from both Mrs. Hartge's and Mrs. Wnek's Fourth Grade classrooms participate. This well-established intergenerational group enables our students and older parishioners to learn from, and better appreciate, each other's experiences. This year, rather than meeting in person, we will resurrect the concept of "**pen-pals**," exchanging actual written letters through the U.S Mail with the Fourth Graders each month. Each adult will be assigned at least one Fourth Grade "buddy" for the year.

Long-time participant Sue Lawhead says, "This program has enriched my life ten-fold! I receive more from the children than I would have ever imagined!"

We are eagerly seeking at least seventy (70) retired parishioners to be buddies with Fourth Grade students. **Returning participants** are encouraged to invite interested friends!

We would like to have our roster of adults solidified by <u>September 1</u>. Please contact Mrs. Judeen Hartge at 614-477-9678 or jhartge@cdeducation.org with any questions, and to provide your contact information.

ST. MATTHEW CHURCH GAHANNA, OHIO

SIGN UP TO RECEIVE Email or Text Messages

Join Evangelus, our new communication system!
Go to eva.us/stmatthew or text "stmatthew" to 55321.

STAY CONNECTED TO ST. MATTHEW THE APOSTLE! Many of you should have received an email or text from us about our new communication program, Evangelus. If not, we invite you to join! Visit eva.us/stmatthew to sign up and let us know if you prefer to receive emails or text messages from us. You can also join by text message! Simply text "stmatthew" to 55321. Follow the response to update your profile and select email or text message as your prefered form of contact. You can also find and join the groups from which you'd like to receive communication. If you have questions, please contact Michelle Dougherty at mdougherty@stmatthew.net.



HOLY HOUR FOR REPARATION, PURIFICATION AND SANCTIFICATION OF THE CHURCH — Please join our clergy and fellow parishioners in the church on the Fourth Friday of the month for Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and an hour of prayer for the universal Church. The next Holy

Hour will be held **Friday**, **August 28 at 7:00 p.m.** Everyone is welcome.

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN ZOOM SESSION ON AUGUST 11 AND AUGUST 19 – Our next *Protecting God's Children* sessions will be Zoom sessions (not in-person) on Tuesday, August 11 & Wednesday, August 19 from 6:00-9:00 p.m. Once you register, the Diocese will contact you with the Zoom login information. Please see this page for the details: https://www.stmatthew.net/protectinggods-children. Attendees will need to go have background checks performed AFTER the class. Please make sure the checks are performed correctly and sent to the right place. If you have any questions, please contact Michelle Lantz at mlantz@stmatthew.net.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THOSE AFFECTED BY COVID-19

We know that many parishioners are struggling financially because of the economic impact of COVID-19, so we are happy to share that our parish has received an Emergency Response Grant from The Catholic Foundation to assist our parishioners during the COVID-19 outbreak. This fund is only available to St. Matthew parishioners. Guidelines given by the Catholic Foundation, as well as the discretion of our Pastor, will be used when determining eligibility and amount awarded. All applications are kept in strict confidence and are considered on the basis of need and eligibility. For more information and to apply, please go to our website, stmatthew.net, and click "COVID-19 Financial Assistance."

CHARITABLE WORKS MINISTRY NEEDS YOUR HELP! Charitable Works is in need of volunteers on Thursday evenings, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings, and the first Saturday of each month. Families are welcome to volunteer on Thursdays or Saturdays. If you are interested, please see the sign up genius link at https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040945AEAA2AA5F94-charitable.

SACRED HEART ENTHRONEMENT – We invite everyone in the parish to learn more about enthroning their homes to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. You can learn more about Enthronement on the website www.WelcomeHisHeart.com. On this website, there are free videos which describe the Enthronement process and information about how parishioners can order a self-Enthronement package that will be delivered to their homes. Parishioners can also pick up a kit at the St. Gabriel Catholic Radio station. A donation for the materials is requested, but not required.

PLEASE HELP US KEEP YOUR RECORDS CURRENT! In an effort to ensure that our Parish database stays current, we are requesting that you update the <u>Parish Roster form</u> when you have a life event change such as change of address, marital status, birth of a child, etc. The form can be accessed via http://www.stmatthew.net/parishroster-update or under *Quick Links* on Saint Matthew's main page. If you have questions, please call the Parish Office at 614-471-0212. We appreciate your time, cooperation and commitment to the parish.

CHARITABLE WORKS MINISTRY NEWS

Recap of July 2020 – The Saint Matthew Charitable Works Ministry provided an estimated **6,210** meals to **146** households within the Gahanna community during the month of July. Thank you for your continued support to those families who are experiencing difficult times.

2020	FOOD REQUESTS	INDIVIDUALS SERVED	EST. MEALS PROVIDED*
EOY 2019	1,549	4,244	63,660
January	189	567	8,760
February	146	399	5,985
March	106	205	3,075
April-May	0	0	0
June	87	203	3,045
July	146	414	6,210
Year to Date	674	1,788	27,075

*3 meals/day x 5 days

Our normal hours of operation are from 10:00 a.m.-noon, Monday-Friday and now 6:00-8:00 p.m. on Thursday. We are located within the PSR building (the old convent). All are welcome to visit the location to observe what we do and, if the Spirit moves you, become a part of our Ministry. You can sign up to volunteer at https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040945aeaa2aa5f94-charitable.

Courageous Conversations on Racism Identifying and Dismantling Racism in our Community

Please join us for an online conversation about racial justice in the Catholic Church and in our parish, led by Pamela Harris, Director of the Catholic Ethnic Ministries Office for the Diocese of Columbus.



Tuesday, August 18 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Registration is encouraged, but not required. Please see stmatthew.net/events for more information and the Zoom link.

Pamela Harris is Director of Ethnic Ministries Office in the Diocese of Columbus. Prior to working at the Diocese of Columbus, Pam was Director of the Office for Black Catholics and Asian Ministry for the Diocese of Richmond. She is a native of Richmond, Virginia and spent her formative years being schooled on military bases in Europe. Pam currently serves as President for the National Association of Black Catholic Administrators (NABCA), a membership comprised of directors of diocesan offices of black Catholic ministries and multi-cultural ministries. She served on the National Advisory Council to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2012-2015. Pam has a Master of Arts in Theology, Bachelor of Science in Accounting and is a certified Lay Ecclesial Minister for the Diocese of Richmond. Pam has two children and four living grandchildren.

ST. MATTHEW CHURCH GAHANNA, OHIO

IN OUR PARISH

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!

IF A FAMILY MEMBER IS SICK OR SERIOUSLY ILL, consider contacting the Parish Office at 614-471-0212 for one of the priests to administer the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist and the Anointing of the Sick. Due to HIPAA privacy laws, hospitals no longer notify church offices when parishioners are admitted. As well, in the case of serious illness, families are encouraged to contact us early allowing the priest and patient to talk about any spiritual needs they may have including receiving the Sacrament of Penance.

WE WELCOME INTO OUR FAMILY OF FAITH the following child who was baptized on Sunday, August 2: Ethan Joel-Xavier Ugiomah.



BBQ SMOKER EVENT – The Knights of Columbus BBQ Smoker Event is back! The Knights will be serving up delicious food for take-out on Sunday, August 16 after the 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. (Noon) Masses only. The Knights will be adhering strictly to CDC guidelines and Diocesan guidelines to make this event as safe as possible. Orders are due the Wednesday before the event. For more information, see the Knights' Events page at https://www.kofc5801.org/events-list.

KNIGHT OF THE MONTH – Congratulations to Tom Mignery, Knight of the Month for August.

NEW TO THE PARISH? YOU CAN NOW REGISTER ONLINE Through at least the end of August, we will only be registering new parishioners online. Please visit http://www.stmatthew.net/new-parishioners and we will contact you with more information.

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.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

CHANGE A LIFE AND INSPIRE YOUR OWN – Tutors are needed for adults seeking Basic Education skills, GED preparation, or English as a Second Language. The Dominican Learning Center will hold its next Tutor Training Workshop on **Saturday, August 22** from **9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.** by way of a Zoom Meeting. Volunteers must be at least 18 years of age and hold a high school diploma. Materials are free to tutors. To register, please call 614-444-7330, ext. 1, or email dlccolumbus@oppeace.org. To find out more, visit www.domlearningcenter.org.

PART-TIME JOBS AVAILABLE AT ST. VINCENT DE PAUL THRIFT STORE – Your St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store is hiring! If you would like a job with a purpose, please think about joining the Thrift Store team! We are looking for part-time employees who are available to work 12–28 hours a week, with flexible 4–8 hour shifts as merchandise processors, register operators, and filling counters on the sales floor. If you like working with the public – our customers – we are looking for you to join our team! Stop by the Thrift Store (5969 East Main Street, in Columbus, 43213) at the intersection of East Main and I-270 on the East Side. We're located in the Carnaby Shopping Center on the corner of East Main and McNaughten. You can fill out an application while you check out our store, or call 614-377-1065 for more information. You can also download an application from our web site at https://www.svdpthriftstores.com. After you fill it out, you can scan it and send your application to our email address: colssvdpthriftstores@gmail.com. If you haven't visited the Thrift Store yet, please come by and take a look. We think you'll be pleasantly surprised at the store and the merchandise we carry. And we know there's an excellent chance you will find a bargain! Most importantly, all profits will stay in the Columbus Diocese to support the work of St. Vincent de Paul.

ST. JOHN LEARNING CENTER – The St. John Learning Center is again offering Start Your Own Business Workshops on Wednesdays (August 5-September 2) from **5:30-7:00 p.m**. All workshops are taught on Zoom. You can register for any of these workshops through the St. John Learning Center Eventbrite page: eventbrite.com/o/st-john-learning-center-22982702594 (bookmark it for future small business, health and other workshops!). Call Dan at 614-547-2171 or email him at sjlc.coordinator@gmail.com for more information.

SAVE THE DATE for the Stallion Golf Outing on **Sunday, August 23** at New Albany Links. The Stallion Golf Outing supports St. Francis DeSales High School's athletic programs. Visit www.sfdstallions.org/stallion-golf-outing to sign up for your spot and to learn more about the great sponsorship opportunities!

BEWARE OF PHONY EMAILS AND TEXTS STILL CIRCULATING – During the past few weeks, there have again been numerous phony emails sent to unsuspecting persons (clergy, teachers, parishioners, others) from alleged priests of the Diocese requesting funds to purchase various gift cards for alleged charitable and pastoral reasons. Please be aware that there is a new scam using text messages to convey similar requests. If you receive any kind of communication, please contact the person directly to verify the authenticity of the solicitation or, at least to notify the person that a scam is underway using their identity. Thank you.

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