BAPTISMS

All Baptism inquiries must begin by filling out a Baptism form on our website at www.stmatthew.net/baptism. 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.

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

Rev. Mr. Christopher Walsh

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, jcabe@stmatthew.net

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>jratliff@stmatthew.net</u>

Baptism Coordinator:

Katie Ryzenga – 614-557-2739, kryzenga@stmatthew.net

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

Marriage Formation & Stewardship Coordinator:

Brooke Warren - bwarren@stmatthew.net

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; Thursday, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

PARISH REGISTRATION

To register as a parish member, stop by the office or register online at 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.-2:00 p.m.

MASS INTENTIONS AND SCRIPTURES

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30 - Rom 10:9-18; Mt 4:18-22

6:30 a.m. Donald Furry/Dan & Kristine Ross 8:30 a.m. Richard Berger/Lisa Quinlan

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1 - Is 11:1-10; Lk 10:21-24

6:30 a.m. Michael Fuller/David Nelson Family

8:30 a.m. Glenn Cooper/Jerry Brown

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2 – *Is 25:6-10a; Mt 15:29-37*

6:30 a.m. Christopher Finkel/Christie & Mark Finkel & Family

8:30 a.m. Sheila Eldridge/Dave Eldridge

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3 - Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21, 24-27

6:30 a.m. John Stephen McGeorge/

Elise Geig & Stephen McGeorge

8:30 a.m. Daniel Smith/Monica Smith

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4 - Is 29:17-24; Mt 9:27-31

6:30 a.m. Fred Hoffman/Pancake Family

8:30 a.m. Carinda Polilli/Adolfo & Roberta Gastaldo

7:00 p.m. Pam Kushmeider/Joe B.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5 – Is 30:19-21, 23-26;

Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

8:30 a.m. Intentions of Tom & Jean Ross/Family

5:00 p.m. Richard Lang/Monica Smith

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6 – *Is* 40:1-5, 9-11; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8

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

10:00 a.m. Ralph Pyatt/Dawn Shininger

12:00 p.m. Kaiden Paul Riesenberg/Riesenberg Family

5:00 p.m. Jim Hess/Joan Hess

STEWARDSHIP						
2020-2021 Through	November 22, 2020	Year to Date				
Parish Budgeted Expenses	\$42,115.00	\$884,415.00				
Contributions	\$31,805.59	\$776,075.19				
Surplus (Shortage)	(\$10,309.41)	(\$108,339.81)				

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.
- 2) 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, DECEMBER 5 5:00 P.M.	SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6 8.00 A.M.	SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6 10:00 A.M.	SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6 12:00 P.M.	SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6 5:00 P.M.		
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY	Max Maksimoski, rmaksimo@stmatthew.net - 614-607-4799 (Extraordinary Ministers, Lectors) Vicki Wengert, vwengert@icloud.com - 614-270-2118 (Sacristans)						
COMMUNION	Angel Rice	Mary Humphrey	Karen Lackey	Tom Mignery	Andy Prociuk		
IN HOME	Lorraine Curtin (2), Kristin Figliola (4), Jenna Zins (6)						
LECTORS	Angel Rice	Mary Humphrey	Michael Springer Kristen McSweeny	Bill Blashill	Andy Prociuk		
SACRISTANS	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD		
SERVERS	MC – Jack Burgan Dustin Burgan Landon Miller	MC – Luke Eschmeyer Donovan McGovern Augie Schmitt	MC – Brendan Lackey Audrey Lackey Trevor Lackey	Gabby Dages Josie Dages Liam Schmidt	MC – Nick Blausey Porter Lacey		



CALL TO PRAYER FOR OUR NATION – We can help our country turn back to God through prayer. It can change hearts, our families, our communities, our country and our world. Please join us for an hour of prayer for our nation, our leaders and journalists. It will be held in the church on **Sunday, December 6 at 3:00 p.m.** Everyone is welcome.

IN OUR PARISH

ADVENT: GOD'S LOVE FOR US

By Ashley Allwein, PSR and Evangelization Director

Sunday, November 29 begins our journey through the season of Advent! With the hustle and bustle before Christmas, I think that Advent often gets forgotten or lost in our culture today. But the older I've gotten, the more I have come to love Advent; I love the anticipation and preparation we get to do before Christ's coming at Christmas! I never used to understand that Advent is actually meant to be a time to reflect and pray about our great need for a Savior. I typically like to reflect on how God, whose greatest desire is for us to be in relationship with Him, sent His son into mankind to show me (a big ol' sinner human) what it means to love and know Him! The depth of love God had to humble Himself into mankind... as a BABY, well that is truly overwhelming when you think about it. I encourage you to dive deeper into this love that God has for you this Advent - to ponder the humility and authentic love of our Lord who entered the world as a baby, as we all did, in order to live among us as God-man and open up a path to eternal life.

To help you do this, I invite you to check out our Family Life Office Advent & Christmas Calendar for 2020-2021. This calendar is a great resource for you and your family to enter into this season of the Church. The calendar gives you things like crafts, games, lessons, videos, family activities, and more! Check out the St. Matthew Advent website at https://www.stmatthew.net/advent to find this calendar. You can also hear more about our Advent calendar and this Advent season by listening to our St. Matthew Moments Podcast! Check it out on our St. Matthew website, Apple Podcasts, or Spotify!

CWM CHRISTMAS SHOPPE TO BE HELD SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19 - For Christmas, the Charitable Works Ministry will set up a "Santa Shoppe" where families can obtain gifts for their children. We are asking for donations of GENTLY USED items that would make great gifts for boys and girls. Gifts could be anything from a gently used football, ball cap with team logos or baseball glove to jewelry, scarves, belts and headbands your children have outgrown. For some of our clients, these may be the only gifts their children receive. Please place your donations in the portico entrance of the church by Monday, December 14.

CHRISTMAS MASS PLANNING SURVEY - We will be celebrating Christmas Mass on Christmas Eve at 4:00 p.m., 6:30 p.m., and 9:00 p.m. and Christmas morning at 10:00 a.m. We will not be requiring sign-ups or reservations for Mass, but we would appreciate it if you could help us plan by filling out a brief survey. The survey and the details of our Christmas plans are on our website at https://www.stmatthew.net/christmas.

POINSETTIAS, DECORATIONS AND MUSIC – It has been a tradition in our Parish to remember a loved one by making a contribution to our Christmas flowers, decorations, and music (suggested donation is \$10.00). For your convenience, an envelope has been provided in our monthly and quarterly packet of offertory envelopes. Envelopes are also available at the Ushers' Station in the Gathering Space. On the envelope, please print the name of the person(s) you wish to remember, and drop the envelope in the collection basket by next Sunday, December 6. We can also accept contributions via Online Giving. Please use the "Christmas Flowers" fund and note your intention in the Special Intentions" box. Thank you.

ADVENT CANDLES AND BRASS HOLDERS will be available for purchase in the Gathering Space or in the Parish Office while supplies last. If you would like to purchase either item, please place your donation in an envelope marked "Advent candles" and add it to the collection or stop by the Office. Checks can be made out to St. Matthew. We can also accept payment via Online Giving. Simply make a donation to the "Offertory" fund and note "Advent candles" in the Special Intentions box. We are asking for a minimum donation of \$8.00 for a set of four candles and \$7.00 for the brass candle holder.

CONFESSION TIMES during Advent (starting November 29) are: Wednesdays, 7:00-7:30 a.m.; Saturdays, 4:00-4:45 p.m.; Sundays, 9:00-9:45 a.m., 11:00-11:45 a.m. and 4:00-4:45 p.m.; and Parish Confessions on **Monday, December 21, Tuesday, December 22** and **Wednesday, December 23** from **6:00-7:00 p.m.**

HELP A HOMELESS TEENAGER! St. Matthew Parish is partnering with the Youth Empowerment Program to host a COVID compliant Christmas party for homeless teens, ages 11-18 years, and as in past years, we are also putting together survival packs for teenagers living on the streets. Each pack will include fast food gift cards, a grocery gift card, hand sanitizers, face masks, hand warmers, gloves, toothbrush, toothpaste, chapstick, deodorant and healthy snacks. Your help is needed to purchase these items and no donation is too small! Please make checks payable to Saint Matthew Church and place in an envelope marked "Homeless Teen Gifts" or you can make a donation via Online Giving by using the fund "Homeless Teen Christmas Gift." For more information, contact Mary Thompson at marythompson.200@gmail.com. Any additional monies will be used to make "to go meals" for delivery to homeless youth over the winter months. Thank you for your generosity!

PRO-LIFE CORNER

Prayer is the foundation for changing hearts to a culture of life, followed naturally by service. One organization that is on the "front lines" of service to mothers who are uncertain about



giving birth to their child, is the Women's Care Center. They are solidly based on Catholic Social Teaching and have had great success in guiding women to choose life – 90% of the women they meet with choose life. This is a national organization that has 32 centers in 12 states, and two of these centers are located in the Columbus area. Their mission is to help pregnant women choose life for their babies, have healthier pregnancies, become better parents, and take the first steps to self-sufficiency. They do this by providing pregnancy tests, ultrasounds, counseling, initial material support, and parenting classes – along with other services.

If you know of a mother who is considering terminating her pregnancy, please visit https://www.womenscarecenter.org/columbus-ohio for the contact information for the local Women's Care Centers. The mother will feel truly welcomed and safe in their "homelike" setting and will get sound advice, tailored to her needs, on how to choose life.

If you are interested in learning more about St. Matthew's Pro-Life group, please contact Jeff Solinger at jksolinger@aol.com or 614-506-2382. ST. MATTHEW CHURCH GAHANNA, OHIO

SPOTLIGHT MINISTRY – Every two weeks, we will be featuring two ministries from our parish in a Ministry Spotlight. This will allow parishioners to explore different ministry opportunities in the parish and find the right activities to use their time, talents, and treasures. We hope this will show parishioners that St. Matthew is an active parish, thriving in our faith lives, and helping our community. If you have questions about the ministry opportunities, please visit https://www.stmatthew.net/ministry-and-activity-information or email bwarren@stmatthew.net.

This Week's Spotlight Ministries are:

- Golden Mustangs and Book Club

For more information about these ministries or to get involved, please visit https://www.stmatthew.net/spotlight-ministry.

INVITE SOMEONE TO COME HOME DURING ADVENT – Now is the time of year when people make plans to connect with their families at Christmas; what better time than Advent to invite people to come home to their Church family here at St. Matthew. Postcard invitations to reconnect with the Church during Advent are available by the Advent Candle table in the Gathering Space. If you know someone who has been away from the Church, or if you know of a community bulletin board where you could post an invitation to return, please take a postcard.

PARISH OUTREACH PROJECT – Our parish is currently making plans to reach out to our parishioners to offer a warm greeting and support. If you are interested in helping us with logistics or with making brief (1-2 minute) visits to people in our parish (socially distanced, with masks), please let us know! For more information, or to get involved, please contact Brian Gatch at 614-499-4836 or bgatch@hotmail.com.

DEMENTIA SUPPORT GROUP FOR DECEMBER HAS BEEN CANCELLED – The meeting previously scheduled for **Saturday**, **December 5** at **10:00** a.m. has been cancelled due to the recent stay-at-home advisory issued for the city of Columbus and Franklin County. Contact Gene Poirier at 614-615-4111 or genepoirier779@gmail.com if you have any questions.

ST. MATTHEW SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE – Our parish has formed a new Social Concerns Committee that will advocate for multiple aspects of Catholic Social Teaching, including pro-life work, advocacy for the poor, and other social issues. If you are interested in learning more about this group or would like to be involved, please contact Jim Gernetzke at jimgernetzke@noslumine.com. November is Black Catholic History month, visit our website at https://www.stmatthew.net/social-concerns for more information.

HONORS AT ST. MATTHEW PARISH PEACE MEMORIAL -Located on a small site between the Rectory and Helmbright Drive is the Parish Peace Memorial. Beside the "peace pole" and two benches you will find carved in stone the names of two sons of the parish who died in 2005 in the War Against Terrorism: Army Private First Class Nick Messmer, son of Richard and Shirley Messmer, and Marine Lance Corporal Ryan E. Miller, son of Ed and Mary Miller. Also, our memories include Army Private First Class Harrison James Meyer, nephew of our Deacon Joe Meyer (Maureen) who died in 2003 and Army Specialist Donald "DJ" Wheeler, brother of St. Matthew Cub Scout mom Mrs. Bernadette McNeil (Paul) who also died in 2003. Our Marine and three Soldiers were killed in Iraq. We remember their sacrifice. Though the St. Matthew Boy Scout Troop 317 and Cub Scout Pack 317 were not able to hold their annual November ceremony this year at the Peace Memorial due to the virus, we honor their memory. Pray for peace.

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 providing a safe, healthy, and prayerful environment.

As we all try to focus on the coming Christmas season during this first week of Advent, the health of our community becomes the top concern of the Facilities Team. Last week, Franklin County went purple, the school experienced their third case of COVID-19, the church was closed to all non-liturgical activities, and we celebrated Thanksgiving. Interesting times.

Our team has been working tirelessly this year on countless projects, parish improvements, maintenance issues, and disinfecting – disinfecting – disinfecting. As the year ends and team members are taking some time off, the remaining team members have one job – making our campus as safe as possible for our students, staff and parishioners. We will be doubling our cleaning and disinfecting processes. Because school access is limited to students and staff, we welcome anyone wishing to volunteer to help in the church.

Last week, we started upgrading the locks in the school enabling our teachers and staff to lock down the school without leaving their classrooms or offices. After routine maintenance issues are addressed, we will be working down a list of electrical upgrades in the school.

Christmas planning continues. We want to safely accommodate all those wishing to celebrate Mass with us in person. As the spread of COVID-19 continues to escalate, we plan to live stream all Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses. When we reach capacity in the Sanctuary on Christmas Eve, the Parish Activity Center will be set up to stream the Masses live and offer Communion of Consecrated Hosts from the Sanctuary Masses. Details can be found on our website and in the bulletin.

We appreciate this opportunity to provide updates on our dynamic campus. Please don't hesitate to text or email suggestions on how we can better serve you. Contact George Harvey at gharvey@stmatthew.net or text 330-904-1083. Stay healthy and God Bless.

FIVE FIRST SATURDAY ROSARY – Act of Reparation to the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Please join us in this prayerful dedication to honor Our Lady and the devotion to her Immaculate Heart after the 8:30 a.m. Mass on **Saturday, December 5** in the church.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO DECORATE THE CHURCH – The Arts & Environment Committee is looking for some help during the holiday season. Please let us know if you can help! Please send a message to Jennifer Motter at jenmotter@yahoo.com or 614-352-8435 if you are able to assist and to get details about the tasks.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ST. JUDE COUNCIL 5801

KNIGHT OF THE MONTH – Congratulations to Steve Davis, Knight of the Month for November.

Together we give.

OUR COMMUNITY IS STRONG

Let's help it grow even stronger.

Join us in giving back for GivingTuesday on

December 1. Give to St. Matthew, volunteer, or do
an act of kindness. All funds raised will go
towards the Walking with Moms in Need Initiative
at St. Matthew. Every act of generosity counts and
each means more when we give together.





Questions? Call the parish office at 614-471-0212 or email Brooke Warren at bwarren@stmatthew.net

#GivingTuesday
GivingTuesday.org
stmatthew.net/giving-tuesday

ST. MATTHEW CHURCH GAHANNA, OHIO

BIBLE STUDIES AT A GLANCE

We have several Bible Studies currently running or starting soon; we'd love for you to join us!

One hour mini-lessons (via Zoom conference):

The Bible in an Hour – an overview of salvation history, which began on November 16

Why Sola Scriptura Can Never Work – clear teaching on why we need the Scriptures, the Magisterium of the Church and Sacred Tradition, beginning **December 7**

Sunday Mass Readings Explained – get the most out of reading the Sunday Scriptures, every Thursday morning (via Zoom conference)

Genesis to Jesus – a 12-week Bible Study of salvation history, for people new to Scripture study or for those who would like a review, beginning **January 5** (via Zoom conference)

You can visit https://www.stmatthew.net/bible-study for more information about all our studies! If you have questions, please contact Lorraine Curtin at lorraine.curtin@icloud.com or 614-946-7585.

CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT – Thank you for your generous support last week for the collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development! If you missed the collection, it's not too late to give! Visit www.usccb.org/nationalcollections.

NEW TO THE PARISH? YOU CAN NOW REGISTER ONLINE – To register as a parish member, you can stop in the office or register online at http://www.stmatthew.net/new-parishioners and we will contact you with more information.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12 Make a difference in someone's life! The need is constant and 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, October 17, 2020. Our next Blood Drive is on Saturday, December 12 in the Hutta Gym from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Schedule an appointment today by calling 1-800-REDCROSS, or visiting www. redcrossblood.org (Sponsor Code: MatthewApChurch), or sign up at the table in Gathering Space; or call Teresa Baird at 614-404-3130/email tbaird@insight.rr.com. Your donation is always appreciated!

ATTENTION, MEN! Do you want to develop a closer relationship with God? Do you like to snow ski or snowboard? If so, please consider joining Wilderness Outreach on its 4th annual Wilderness Outreach ski trip to Summit County, Colorado, February 7-13, 2021. Fr. Matthew Hoover of Immaculate Conception will be our chaplain. This outing will include Liturgy of the Hours, Daily Mass, and as much skiing as your legs can handle. We will also read a book on masculine spirituality or related topic prior to arrival and discuss that book each night after dinner. A rough estimate of costs is around \$1,600.00 for condo, airfare, lift tickets, rental car, and food. If you are interested or need more information, please contact Christopher Walsh at cwalsh5358@gmail.com or 614-580-7059. Space is extremely limited.

WE WELCOME INTO OUR FAMILY OF FAITH the following children who were baptized on Saturday, November 21 and Sunday, November 22: Emmanuella Menta, Rosemary Tilson and Callum Tilson.

CHARITABLE WORKS MINISTRY NEWS

Recap of October 2020 – The St. Matthew Charitable Works Ministry provided an estimated **8,160** meals to **217** households within the Gahanna community during the month of October. 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
1st Quarter	441	1,203	18,045
2nd Quarter	87	203	3,045
3rd Quarter	496	1,267	19,005
October	217	544	8,160
Year to Date	1,241	3,217	48,255

*3 meals/day x 5 days

Our normal hours of operation are from 10:00 a.m.-noon, Monday-Friday and <u>now</u> 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.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE DIOCESAN CELEBRATION – A diocesan-wide celebration in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe will take place on Saturday, December 12 from 10:00 a.m.-noon at St. Joseph Cathedral. There will be songs, dance, a keynote speaker, and Rosary. The event will culminate with Mass with Archbishop Christophe Pierre, the Apostolic Nuncio to the United States. Due to the pandemic, there will be a limited number of invited guests in the Cathedral that day. However, everyone is encouraged to participate virtually via television (NBC4), radio (103.1 La Mega), and social media (YouTube). The event will be in Spanish, with English translation available. If you have any questions regarding this celebration, please email Lisset Mendoza at Imendoza@ columbuscatholic.org.

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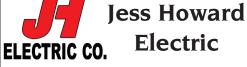


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