

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 614-532-0620 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. Stephen Carmody, OP, Parochial Vicar
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 Shining – 614-532-0627
Facilities Superintendent: George Harvey
Office & Ministry Coordinator: Michelle Dougherty
Safe Environment: Michelle Lantz

FAMILY LIFE OFFICE – 614-532-0620

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

Religious Education Coordinator:
Ashley Allwein – aallwein@stmatthew.net

Family Life and Marriage Formation Coordinator:
Julie Ratliff – jratliff@stmatthew.net

Baptism Coordinator:
Katie Ryzenga – kryzenga@stmatthew.net

Youth and Young Adult Ministry:
Maggie Allwein – mallwein@stmatthew.net

Confirmation Coordinator:
Jacob Wilson – jwilson@stmatthew.net

Discipleship Coordinator:
Mark Hale – mhale@stmatthew.net

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

www.cdstmatthew.org
Principal: John Rathburn, jrathburn1@cdeeducation.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

807 Havens Corners Road
Gahanna, Ohio 43230
614-471-0212 • www.stmatthew.net

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

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 and Friday, 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Tuesday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

MASS INTENTIONS AND SCRIPTURES**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27** – *Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Mt 25:31-46*

6:30 a.m. David Schwartz/Paul & Joan Rovnak

8:30 a.m. Art Ulrich/Jeanne Favret

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28 – *Is 55:10-11; Mt 6:7-15*

6:30 a.m. Joseph & Jackie Tiberio/Family

8:30 a.m. Martha Torres/Family

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1 – *Jon 3:1-10; Lk 11:29-32*

6:30 a.m. John & Margaret Holtz/Terry Magyar

8:30 a.m. Marjorie Walsh/Dcn. Chris Walsh

THURSDAY, MARCH 2 – *Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Mt 7:7-12*

6:30 a.m. Cyriel Dheygere/James Victor

8:30 a.m. Alex Gray/Patti Maietta

FRIDAY, MARCH 3 – *Ez 18:21-28; Mt 5:20-26*

6:30 a.m. Bob Hobart/Ann Hobart

8:30 a.m. Joe T. Biega/Family

7:00 p.m. Intentions of William & Portia McConnell/
Erin McConnell**SATURDAY, MARCH 4** – *Dt 26:16-19; Mt 5:43-48*

8:30 a.m. Larry Lager/Family

5:00 p.m. John Susil, Sr./Family

SUNDAY, MARCH 5 – *Gn 12:1-4; 2 Tim 1:8-10; Mt 17:1-9*

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

10:00 a.m. Mary Held/Dcn. Joe & Maureen Meyer

12:00 p.m. Estrella Turiaga/Vaccaro Family

STEWARDSHIP

2022-2023 Through	February 19, 2023	Year to Date
Parish Budgeted Expenses	\$42,957.00	\$1,460,538.00
Contributions	\$28,481.22	\$1,393,644.62
Surplus (Shortage)	(\$14,475.78)	(\$66,893.38)

Note: St. Matthew's fiscal year is July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023.
Contributions include offertory and parish facilities fund donations.

DISCIPLESHIP**How can I begin my Journey? It's as simple as 1-2-3:**

1. Participate *1 hour* per week in community prayer (Sunday Mass).
2. Devote *1 hour* per week volunteering in a parish ministry.
3. Contribute *1 hour* of weekly income (2.5%) for financial support.

WORSHIP + SERVE + EVANGELIZE**UPCOMING SPECIAL ENVELOPES**

Whether you donate through Online Giving or use envelopes, we are grateful for your support for the upcoming collections: St. Matthew School Support and Parish Facilities Fund. If you use Online Giving, simply log in to your account at <https://www.osvhub.com/stmatthew> and select the fund to which you'd like to donate. Thank you!

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

	SATURDAY, MARCH 4 5:00 P.M.	SUNDAY, MARCH 5 8:00 A.M.	SUNDAY, MARCH 5 10:00 A.M.	SUNDAY, MARCH 5 12:00 P.M.
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	Max Maksimoski, rmaksimo@stmatthew.net – 614-607-4799 (<i>Extraordinary Ministers, Lectors</i>) Vicki Wengert, vwengert@icloud.com – 614-270-2118 (<i>Sacristans</i>)			
	Jim Gernetzke Paul Koors Brooke Warren Wayne Stertzner	Alan Ratliff Mary Anne Frazee Mary Jedlicka Gary Frazee	Maria Alfaro Michelle Lantz Lauren Whitlatch Brian Whitlatch	Andy Prociuk Kristin Williams Beth Huddy Heather Thompson
IN HOME	Angela McNair (2); Mary Anne Frazee (4); Karen Lackey (5); Rhea Neugebauer (6); Tom & Teresa Ozarzak (7)			
LECTORS	Emily DeArdo Jim Gernetzke	Mary Anne Frazee Alan Ratliff	Maria Alfaro Bryan Ghiloni	Kristin Williams Andy Prociuk
SACRISTANS	Vicki Wengert	Corinne Miller	Cathy Buzenski	Tom Minser
SERVERS	MC – Adam Buerger Austin Buerger Bailey Buerger Ryan Folian Owen Gibson Kaleb Kitzmiller	MC – Conner Norman Natalie Dinovo Mackenzie Norman Ben Prier Zoey Thompson	MC – Thomas Dougherty Cecilia Dougherty Anissa McSweeney Allison Schmitt Molly See Finn Shirey	MC – Teddy Williams Gabby Dages Jackson Montgomery Ava Navarro Claire Navarro

MUSIC MINISTRY

The Music Ministries assist the priests of our parish in liturgical celebration. Music serves the expression of faith and forms a necessary and integral part of the solemn liturgy. It imparts a sense of unity during worship and sets the appropriate tone for a particular celebration. The following choirs are part of the music ministry: Adult Choir, Funeral Choir, Handbell Choir, and Youth and Teen Choir. **For more information, visit <https://www.stmatthew.net/music-ministries> or contact Dawn Shining at dshining@stmatthew.net.**

IN OUR PARISH

DEAR ST. MATTHEW FAMILY,

May the love of God and the peace of Jesus Christ be with you as we enter Lent. I wish you a faith-filled Lent that brings you more closely to the Lord, so that on Easter we can experience the joy of the Resurrection in all its fullness.

Jesus teaches us in the Gospel of Mark, "The kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel" (1:15). This combination of repentance and belief succinctly describes the message of Lent: we must give up what harms us to make room for the belief in God's love that heals us.

However, simply making room for belief is not enough. We must cultivate belief and grow in the habits that bring us closer to God, who loves us and wants us to embrace our identity as His sons and daughters.

Part of that cultivation involves habit; only by practicing our faith can we build the habit of faith, which is so important for those moments of struggle that we all experience from time to time. No matter where you are in your faith journey, this Lent, I invite you to combine three practices that can lead to life-giving conversion and to a habit of faith: frequent reception of the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist and making a Holy Hour before the Real Presence of Jesus Christ.

First, the Sacrament of Reconciliation is a gift to our faith life because it allows us to start over and to tell God that, no matter how we have struggled, we are ready to start again with His help. I hope that everyone will take advantage of the graces of this sacrament. We offer additional Confession times during Lent, but you are also welcome to receive the sacrament by appointment or at any other parish. This sacrament is a sacrament of healing, and I pray you will come and ask God to heal you.

Second, consider attending Mass more than just on Sunday - maybe mid-week. We offer Mass every weekday at 6:30 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. and on Saturday mornings at 8:30 a.m. Daily Masses are generally shorter than Sunday Masses, and I think you'll be surprised by how dramatically taking a few extra minutes to start your day with Mass can strengthen your spiritual life.

Finally, I invite everyone to make a Holy Hour each week before the Blessed Sacrament. Our parish offers the Divine Mercy Perpetual Adoration Chapel so that we can spend time with Jesus at any time, day or night, building a strong relationship with Him and strengthening the habit of faith that I spoke of earlier.

I, myself, am committed to a Holy Hour each week, and I can testify to the way that hour has changed my life and has helped with decision-making, stress-relief, and discerning God's path for my life and in my leadership. Because time in Adoration is such a strongly positive part of my life, I want you to experience it as well.

When we come to Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament, we come to know Him better. We build the habit of faith. We know that we are not alone, and we grow in seeing God's will for our lives. Please consider building a Holy Hour into your life. You can learn more or sign up for an hour on our website, <https://stmatthew.net/dmc>.

Sincerely in Christ,
Fr. Ted

PARISH LENTEN ACTIVITY – Household items are being collected for St. Matthew Charitable Works Ministry, St. Philip Food Pantry and JOIN, the emergency aid office for the inner-city. **Laundry soap** and **dish detergent** are items that are greatly needed by our Charitable Works (*please, no dishwasher soap*). Drop off boxes are located in the School and the vestibule at the south entrance to the Church.

DIVINE MERCY PERPETUAL ADORATION – *"As Lent is the time for greater love, listen to Jesus' thirst...He knows your weakness. He wants only your love, wants only the chance to love you."* – St. Teresa of Calcutta. Make part of your Lenten commitment a weekly hour with Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration, welcoming our Lord's love and peace into your heart. Please prayerfully consider signing up for a Holy Hour in the Gathering Space or online at <https://stmatthew.net/dmc> if you are not already a regularly scheduled adoror.

LENT CONFESSION SCHEDULE – Confession times for Lent are as follows: Saturday, 4:00-4:45 p.m., Sunday, 9:00-9:45 a.m., and 11:00-11:45 a.m.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS – Stations of the Cross will be held on: **March 3** – 1:30 p.m.; **March 10** – 1:30 p.m., 7:00 p.m.; **March 17** – 1:30 p.m., 7:00 p.m.; **March 24** – 1:30 p.m., 7:00 p.m.; and **March 31** – 1:30 p.m., 7:00 p.m.

SAINT MATTHEW CHARITABLE WORKS COLLECTION is this weekend, **February 25-26**, after all Masses. Your kindness is appreciated.

CHILDREN'S BULLETINS are available in the Gathering Space. These activity pages for Catholic kids are published weekly and they correspond with each Sunday's readings. Pick one up to help your child participate more fully in the liturgy.

LENTEN REGULATIONS

All Fridays in Lent are days of abstinence from meat for those who are 14 years of age and older.

Weekdays of Lent – There is no obligation to fast. However, voluntary acts of self-denial are recommended.

Easter Duty – All the faithful, after they have been initiated into the Most Holy Eucharist, are bound by the obligation of receiving Communion at least once a year. This precept must be fulfilled during the Easter season, from the first Sunday of Lent (February 26) to Trinity Sunday (June 4), unless it is fulfilled for a just cause at some other time during the year. After having attained the age of discretion, each of the faithful is bound by an obligation faithfully to confess serious sins at least once a year.

Good Friday is a day of both fast and abstinence from meat. There is a limit of one full meal and two lesser meals or all who have completed their 18th year and have not yet reached their 60th year.

MONTHLY DEMENTIA/ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP – Are you a caregiver for a dementia patient or have you lost a loved one to dementia? An Alzheimer's/dementia support group is offered the first Saturday of every month at **10:00 a.m.** in the St. Gabriel Room (**Saturday, March 4**). There is no cost, but registration is required. Call or text Gene Poirier at 614-615-4111 or genepoirier779@gmail.com to register.

DISPENSATION FOR ST. PATRICK'S DAY – The obligation to abstain from meat on the Fridays of Lent is an important element of the Church's observance of the penitential nature of this holy season. This year, March 17, the Friday of the Third Week of Lent, corresponds with Saint Patrick's Day, traditionally an occasion for joy-filled celebrations in this diocese, especially among those of Irish heritage. Bishop Fernandes has granted to the faithful of the Diocese of Columbus, as well as to any visitors or travelers who may be physically present within the territory of this diocese, a dispensation from the obligation of abstinence from meat on March 17, 2023, provided that the member of the faithful taking advantage of this dispensation, undertakes one of the following works: 1) makes a pilgrimage or visit to any church in the Diocese of Columbus named in honor of St. Patrick (Columbus, London, Junction City); 2) assists at Mass at any church, chapel, or oratory on March 17th; 3) prays the "Breastplate of St. Patrick," attributed to St. Patrick; 4) engages in some pious devotion such as the Rosary, the Stations of the Cross, or Eucharistic Adoration; or 5) performs an act of comparable penance (such as abstinence from meat) on some other occasion during the Third Week of Lent.


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 next **Saturday, March 4** in the church.

THE SAINT MATTHEW ROSARY GUILD – The next meeting is **Monday, March 6** at **7:00 p.m.** in the Saint Gabriel Room. Have you ever wanted to know how to make a rosary, or wanted to be a member of a group that makes them? The Rosary Guild at Saint Matthew will provide the instruction, and together as a group, we will make rosaries for our parish community and for others. **If you would like to join, please contact Judy Sater at 614-477-8323 or judy_nagorski@yahoo.com prior to the meeting.**

BAA TAX STATEMENT FROM THE DIOCESE – Due to software upgrades, the parish no longer received BAA amounts to include on the individual parish tax statements. Thus, any donors giving \$250 or more to the 2022 BAA received their statement this week in the mail directly from the diocese. However, software glitches have created incomplete giving information on some of these statements. Anyone needing a correct tax statement should call the diocesan finance office at 614-224-1221 or email baa@columbuscatholic.org to request a new one. Please contact Dawn Shiningar at dshiningar@stmatthew.net or call 614-532-0627 (direct extension) for this or any other related BAA questions.

COMPUTER AND ONLINE SAFETY SEMINAR – Learn how to protect yourself in the online world. Fellow parishioners and IT experts Allen and Anthony Perk will explain how to use stronger passwords, how to secure your online finances, and how to recognize and avoid email and phone SCAMS. This free educational lecture was requested by Fr. Sill to benefit all parishioners and will be held in the St. Anthony Room on **Thursday, March 23** from **7:00-8:15 p.m.** RSVP to support@XLNsystems.com.

YOU CAN STILL COME TO FIRST STEPS IN FAITH! Please join us for our monthly gatherings of little ones and their parents growing in faith together. To find out more details and to register, visit www.stmatthew.net/first-steps-in-faith.



Word of Life

Praying as we live. Living as we pray.

Monday nights at 6:30 PM
February 27th-April 3rd

Introducing "Word of Life School of Prayer!" Join us this Lenten season every Monday from **6:30-8:00 p.m.** beginning **February 27-April 3** for a school of prayer! We will be diving into the meaning of prayer and how to walk with the Lord on a daily basis. Learn more and register online at stmatthew.net/prayer.

**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, journalists and social media. It will be held in the church on **Sunday, March 5 at 3:00 p.m.** Everyone is welcome.

EASTER FLOWERS – It has been a tradition in our parish to remember a loved one by making a contribution to our Easter flowers. (Suggested donation is \$10.00.) An envelope for Easter Flowers is included in our monthly and quarterly packet of offertory envelopes or you can give electronically through Online Giving. Please clearly print the name of the person(s) you wish to remember and drop the envelope in the collection basket, or submit the names through Online Giving no later than **Monday, March 27.** Thank you.

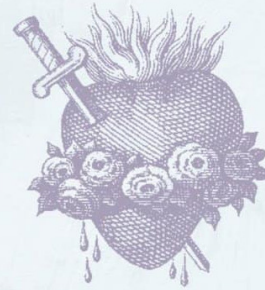
STATIONS OF THE CROSS FOR A WOUNDED WORLD – The way of the cross, “Via Dolorosa” in Jerusalem, is God’s Passion, His walk to the Crucifixion. It is commonly used during the Lenten season, however, walking once a month throughout the year is one of the most beautiful prayers to our Maker next to the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Join the growing crowd on the 4th Wednesday of the month to experience, sense, and even become emotional for God’s Passion. Please join us on **Wednesday, March 22 at 6:30 p.m.** in the Church.

MAGNIFICAT SUBSCRIPTIONS – The time is now to renew or start a subscription to the *Magnificat* for the June 2023-May 2024 subscription year. The *Magnificat* is a monthly publication that provides not only the daily Mass readings, daily morning and evening prayers, a daily meditation, but also short essays from both church leaders and lay Catholic writers. There are also stories of popular, well known saints as well as life lessons from “ordinary people” who became saints. If you subscribe through our group, the discounted price is \$29.00. This is a savings of \$20.00 from an individual annual subscription. To renew or place a new order, please contact Joan Rovnak at pjrovnak@msn.com or 614-475-4785 or 614-205-9396 (cell) by **March 15.** Payment is due before we place the order on March 22. Please make check out to Joan Rovnak and send to 600 Jonsol Court, Gahanna 43230. Current subscribers, if we have a valid email, you should have already received notification and instructions.

Give Your Heart to Jesus this Lent!



40 DAYS OF EMAIL REFLECTIONS TO
BRING YOU CLOSER TO JESUS.



I M M A C U L A T E

St. Matthew's Women's Retreat

Save the date for the St. Matthew's Women's Retreat coming **March 10 and 11** here at St. Matthew! The retreat runs Friday evening and all day Saturday, but not overnight. The theme for the year is "Immaculate." Together, we will be diving into the heart of Mary and what it looks like to have a heart devoted to Christ united to our Blessed Mother. Learn more and register at stmatthew.net/immaculate.

ST. MATTHEW SCHOOL SEEKING PRE-K TEACHER ASSISTANT

St. Matthew Catholic Pre-K, has an immediate opening available for a Pre-K teacher assistant. Full-time (7:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m.) or Part-time (Tu., Wed., Th. from 7:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m.). Requirements: High School Diploma/equivalent; previous childcare experience preferred; recent satisfactory FBI and BCI background check; CPR training; and must participate in a VIRTUS *Protecting God's Children* training safe environment seminar. Interested candidates should send a letter of interest and resume to Sr. Paulina, Pre-K Director at sr.paulina@stmatthew.net.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR TOAST TO THE IRISH – We hope you plan to join us for a Toast to the Irish on **Saturday, March 4.** Want to get involved? There are simple, low-time commitment ways to help with this important fellowship and fundraising event. Please visit <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0948a5aa2aa6fbce9-toast#/> to sign up.

TOAST TO THE IRISH IS NEXT SATURDAY – Celebrate St. Paddy's Day with our parish-wide "Toast to the Irish" event on **Saturday, March 4!** Enjoy heavy appetizers, beer, wine, a live band, Richens Timm Irish dancers, bagpipers and more! \$50.00/ticket includes 1 drink ticket, food, entertainment and fun and supports tuition assistance and Special People in Catholic Education (SPICE) programs at St. Matthew School.

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.

PLEASE JOIN US IN THE NEW YEAR! Our 2023 Bible Studies are open for registration. Scripture 102 (the study of the New Testament) will be offered beginning this Lent. Scripture 101 (the study of the Old Testament) will again be offered this fall due to popularity. If you are new to reading the Bible, this is a perfect place to start. Notice that we have started a study for our young adults (ages 20-40). To register for any class, please email Julia Hoenig at juliemayhoenig@reagan.com or for questions, call Lorraine Curtin at 614-946-7585. **Scripture 102 – Thursdays, now through July 20** (excluding 4/6 & 7/6) from **6:30-8:30 p.m.** in the St. Raphael Room; **Sunday Mass Readings Explained – Thursdays, every week**, from **9:15-10:45 a.m.** in the Parish Library; and **Sunday Mass Readings Explained (Young Adult Group – under 40) – Thursdays, May 4-August 24** from **6:30-8:00 p.m.** in the Parish Library. More information can be found on our website at <https://www.stmatthew.net/bible-study>.

LAST WEEKEND TO ORDER BOY SCOUT MULCH! Boy Scout Troop 317 chartered by St. Matthew Parish is holding its annual mulch sale to raise funds to support our scouting program. We have FREE delivery right to your home. We offer the following 2 cubic foot (cf) bags of premium quality mulch from Ohio Mulch: Premium Dark Hardwood, Estate Cypress, and Absolute Black Ultra Hardwood for \$4.75 which is our same price and product volume as the past three years. We also offer \$25.00, \$50.00, and \$100.00 gift cards which can be used to purchase bulk delivery or any product at Ohio Mulch. Sales are pre-pay only. Orders and checks (made out to "Troop 317 BSA") must be received by **February 27**. Delivery will begin on March 17 and continue until done. To place your order, please send your request to Assistant Scoutmaster, Tom Liskay, 457 Tresham Road, Gahanna, OH 43230, or via tom.liskay@yahoo.com. Please mail checks to Tom Liskay. Please provide your name, phone number, address, where you want the bags stacked, and your specific mulch order. Questions may be directed to Tom Liskay at 614-476-2044. Please leave a message speaking slowly and clearly. Save time, keep your car clean and avoid stress on your back. Thank you for supporting Boy Scout Troop 317!

CAFETERIA VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! Are you interested in volunteering in a great environment? Please come help us in the St. Matthew School cafeteria as we serve the children lunches every school day from 10:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m. We are in need of six volunteers each day to serve and then light clean up from 12:45-1:15 p.m. If you would prefer morning, we are in need of one volunteer from 8:30-10:30 a.m. to help with getting set and ready for the day. We would really appreciate the help. To sign up to volunteer, please go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b4da4a62ba1fa7-stmatthew>. If you have any questions or would like more details, please email Jeanne Daniels at jdaniels@cducation.org.

ST. MATTHEW SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE – Our parish has formed a 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.

FOLLOW ST. MATTHEW ON SOCIAL MEDIA! Follow our social media accounts for updates on Parish events, worship times, and more! Facebook: @StMatthewGahanna; Twitter: @GahannaStMatts; Instagram: @stmatthewapostle.

BOOK CLUB – The next meeting will be on **Wednesday, March 22 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Saint Michael Room. We will be discussing parts 1 and 2 of *The Spear* by Louis deWohl. All are welcome!

WE WELCOME INTO OUR FAMILY OF FAITH the following child who was baptized on Sunday, February 19: Peter Abraham Wilson.

TMIY – A SPECIAL ROSARY SERIES – Beginning Saturday morning, **March 4**, and each week thereafter, our *That Man Is You* gathering will be viewing a series of videos the TMIY staff created and filmed in the Holy Land that will help us learn more about the Rosary and the history behind this unique treasure. If you have not been "schooled" in how to pray the Rosary or its spiritual effects, this series of 30 minute videos is a great opportunity to learn a few things from the videos, and perhaps more importantly, hear from other St. Matthew men about how, when, and why they pray the Rosary, and from others who may only occasionally do so their how, when and why. The mornings always begin with a breakfast and casual discussion, followed by the video of the day, then the always enjoyable group discussion. No RSVPs needed. Feel free to join in the discussion or just listen in while the group gathered talks about the video message and how we may apply what we learn to our everyday lives. Here is a short video about the upcoming Rosary program: <https://paradisusdei.org/the-power-of-personal-invitation-2-2/>. Any questions, text/call Brian Gatch at 614-499-4836.

Live the
Gospel of Life

PRO-LIFE CORNER

Two abortion advocacy groups have decided to unite their efforts to amend the Ohio constitution to guarantee the right to abortion, targeting the 2023 November ballot. The two groups are "Ohioans for Reproductive Freedom" and "Ohio Physicians for Reproductive Rights," a consortium of 2000+ physicians. Their efforts will be supported by a consulting firm that was successful in defeating pro-life constitutional efforts in Kentucky and Kansas. They will model their campaign and amendment language on the abortion amendment passed in Michigan last November, Proposal 3 "Reproductive Freedom for All." Prop 3 passed with 57% voting for the amendment and 43% against. Many people voted for this because they thought there should be some access to abortion, but with limits.

However, Prop 3 allows abortion from conception to birth and disguised this fact by allowing a mother's "mental health" as a reason for an abortion at any time. Prop 3 also eliminated the need for parental consent, the licensing and inspection of abortion facilities, and allows non-physicians to perform abortions. The pro-abortion groups in Michigan had twice the funding of the pro-life groups and advertised many false claims and half-truths about the amendment – leveraging the fact that many people don't carefully read an amendment and vote on "what they had heard."

We need to pray and support the effort to stop this amendment to change our Ohio constitution. For more information on the efforts already underway to thwart this initiative, and what each of us can do, visit this link on the Greater Columbus Right to Life website at <https://www.gctrl.org/stop.html>.

Upcoming Events:

- **February 28 at 7:00 p.m.**, Pro-Life Rosary in the main Church.
- **March 4** – First Saturday prayer vigil outside of Planned Parenthood on 3255 E. Main Street at 10:30 a.m.
- **March 24** – St. Matthew Parish Day, 40 Days for Life, details to follow.

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.

CHARITABLE WORKS MINISTRY NEWS

Recap of January 2023 – Another record month for CWM! The St. Matthew Charitable Works Ministry provided an estimated **11,055** meals to 737 individuals (record high) in **249** households (also record high) within the greater Gahanna community during the month of January. We continue to see increasing demand from large families. Our food costs continue to be high as inventories at the Mid-Ohio Food Bank decline and we purchase more at retail. Thank you for your continued support to those families who are experiencing difficult times through your financial support and volunteer efforts.

2022	FAMILIES SERVED	INDIVIDUALS SERVED	AVERAGE FAMILY SIZE	EST. MEALS PROVIDED*	AVG. COST PER INDIVIDUAL	AVG. COST PER MEAL
EOY 2021	2,291	5,283	2.31	79,245	\$5.11	\$0.34
December 2022	208	633	3.04	9,495	\$5.94	\$0.40
EOY 2022	2,534	6,780	2.68	101,700	\$8.98	\$0.60
January 2023	249 (<i>record</i>)	737 (<i>record</i>)	2.96	11,055	\$10.10	\$0.67

***3 meals/day x 5 days**

Our normal hours of operation are from **10:00 a.m.-noon, Monday-Friday and 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 through the first half of 2023 at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040945aeaa2aa5f94-charitable>.

PARISH PROJECTS

Given the generosity of our parishioners, the Facilities Team is pleased to provide regular updates on St. Matthew campus projects, improvements, and ongoing initiatives to provide a safe, healthy, and prayerful environment for you and our children.

Apologies for not getting the big lift out of the church prior to Easter season (aka Ash Wednesday). We had some difficulties matching the aged white ceiling color after repairing the access holes. On a positive note, all lights and spots are installed and working. We also took time to carefully clean the large crucifix over the Altar and oil the wood cross; thank you Renee. Now on to the variance application for the new electronic sign in progress.

After eight weeks of ceiling dust and dirt, we will be thoroughly cleaning pews, mopping Sanctuary floors, and scrubbing all the church carpets as we prepare for Holy Week and Easter. Have a prayerful and meaningful Lent.

The last couple weekends, the Facilities Team has been quietly supporting a multitude of activities in the school including Father/Daughter Dance, K of C Pancake Breakfasts, basketball tournaments, Blood Drive, class parties, a movie night, parent nights, K of C Lenten Fish Fries and the 8th Grade Spaghetti Dinner. With the grateful help of countless volunteers, all these events have been getting great attendance. Thank you for your support of our school.

We have another team determining the next steps on the Sanctuary repairs from the frozen sprinkler system over Christmas. All systems are operational. Their focus is on proper insulation and construction.

As always, do not hesitate to email suggestions on how we can better serve you. Send requests to gharvey@stmatthew.net. Be safe, stay healthy, and God Bless.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ST. JUDE COUNCIL 5801

Knights are the right arm of the Church and involved in charitable works in our Parish.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FREE THROW CONTEST – Congratulations to both Lucas Klein and Owen Minster for advancing to the Regionals of the Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest. Each is scheduled to compete at Bishop Ready on March 4. Good Luck!

FRIDAY LENTEN FISH FRY CONTINUES WITH DINE-IN AND DRIVE-THRU OPTIONS every Friday through **Friday, March 31** from **4:30-7:30 p.m.** Dine-in will be all-you-can-eat with deep fried and baked cod loin, Arkansas green beans, mac & cheese, baked potato, french fries, coleslaw, beverages and dessert. Dine-in will also include live entertainment. The drive-thru location for ordering and pickup will now be at the PAC entrance on the eastside of the rectory. This is to ensure the safety of our Latchkey children after school hours. All proceeds go towards scholarships for 8th graders that are going to a Catholic High School. These young women and men are the future of the Catholic Church. Thank you and God bless!

KNIGHT OF THE MONTH – Congratulations to Greg Schmiedebusch, Knight of the Month for February.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

SPRING CEMETERY CLEANUP – St. Joseph, Resurrection, Holy Cross and Mt. Calvary Catholic Cemeteries will begin removing wintertime decorations beginning March 1, weather permitting. Families are advised to remove any personal keepsakes they wish to retain as soon as possible.

CATHOLIC MEN'S LUNCHEON IS ON FRIDAY, MARCH 3

Please join us on **Friday, March 3** at St. Patrick Church in downtown Columbus for a luncheon featuring a talk by Doug Stein, Vice President for Advancement from the Pontifical College of the Josephinum on the State of the Seminary. The luncheon is sponsored by Realize Your Calling, whose mission is to help Christians discover their God-given gifts, serve in their communities, experience the joy of service, and grow as disciples with technology, tools, and consulting resources for ministries. More information about Realize Your Calling is available at www.realizeyourcalling.com. Holy Mass (optional) begins at 11:45 a.m. followed by lunch at 12:10 p.m. and Mr. Stein's presentation. No reservations are necessary and \$12.00 covers the lunch and meeting. Bring a friend! Our next luncheon is Friday, April 14 and will feature a talk by Shawn Kenney, Director of the Museum of Catholic Art and History.

OHIO DOMINICAN ANNOUNCES SPRING PREVIEW DAY ON SATURDAY, MARCH 18

– Ohio Dominican University invites all future Panthers to attend its Preview Day from **9:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.** on **Saturday, March 18**. The free event will take place in the Bishop James A. Griffin Student Center, located on ODU's campus at 1215 Sunbury Road, Columbus, 43219. During Preview Day, students can take a tour of campus, explore available majors, discuss financial aid options, enjoy a complimentary meal, learn about student clubs and honors programs, meet with professors, and talk with current students about what life is like as a Panther. Interested high school students and their families can register for the event by visiting ohiodominican.edu/PreviewDay.

PONTIFICAL COLLEGE JOSEPHINUM GOOD SHEPHERD DINNER HONOREES & KEYNOTE ANNOUNCED

– The Pontifical College Josephinum is honored to announce the recipients of the two highest honors it bestows annually. The 2023 Good Shepherd Award recipient is **Reverend Jeffrey Rimelspach**, a 1979 Josephinum alumnus, former member of its Board of Trustees, and current pastor of Saint Margaret of Cortona Parish, with previous ministry at: Saint Mary, Marion; Saint Agatha; Saint Mary, Bremen; and Saint Joan of Arc, Powell. The Pope Leo XIII recipient is Columbus Saint Patrick parishioner **Ms. Ginger West**, a longtime member of the Serra Club of North Columbus and of the Friends of the Josephinum. Awards will be presented during the Good Shepherd Dinner at the Josephinum on **April 17** at which The Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes, Bishop of Columbus and Josephinum Vice-Chancellor, will give the keynote. The dinner is the Josephinum's signature fundraising event; proceeds support the seminary's programs for the young men discerning a priestly vocation. Many levels of sponsorship and advertising opportunities are available; please join in congratulating these honorees and supporting the Josephinum's mission! Full announcement and more information available at pcj.edu/goodshepherd.

START THE NEW YEAR RIGHT! Give the gift of time to each other this year. Experience a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend where married couples can get away from jobs, kids, chores, and phones and focus only on each other. Make 2023 the best year of your marriage by applying today! The next weekend is **March 10-12** in the Central Ohio area. For more information or to apply, visit our website at WWMEcolumbus.org or contact Paul and Marilou Clouse at 614-834-6880. Early registration is highly recommended.

BETHESDA HEALING MINISTRY – Do you know someone who is suffering from a past abortion experience? Abortion changes everything... mood swings, intimacy issues, isolation and depression. Find compassion and understanding at Bethesda Healing Ministry. Please call: 614-309-0157.

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