

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, MARCH 27 – Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62
or Dn 13:41c-62; Jn 8:1-11

6:30 a.m. Kenneth Schmidt/Chip Hirn
8:30 a.m. Art Ulrich/Newcomb Family

TUESDAY, MARCH 28 – Nm 21:4-9; Jn 8:21-30

6:30 a.m. Ginny Dailey/Catherine & Ray LeMaster
8:30 a.m. Jennifer McCloskey/Maureen & Greg Schubert

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29 – Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Jn 8:31-42

6:30 a.m. Scott Walton/Yvonne D'Onofrio
8:30 a.m. Nicholas Bachhuber/Gary & Cheri Harmon

THURSDAY, MARCH 30 – Gn 17:3-9; Jn 8:51-59

6:30 a.m. Dan Covietz/Hank & Tess Thibaut
8:30 a.m. Marjorie Walsh/Dcn. Chris Walsh

FRIDAY, MARCH 31 – Jer 20:10-13; Jn 10:31-42

6:30 a.m. Valerie Wiggins/Vallee Wiggins
8:30 a.m. James "Buzz" Cockerell/Family

SATURDAY, APRIL 1 – Ez 37:21-28; Jn 11:45-56

8:30 a.m. Martin Cangialosi/Jenkins Family
5:00 p.m. For Saint Matthew Parishioners/Fr. Theodore K. Sill

SUNDAY, APRIL 2 – Mt 21:1-11; Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11;

Mt 26:14–27:66 or Mt 27:11-54

8:00 a.m. Clarence Winters/Family
10:00 a.m. Jack Benson/Benson Family
12:00 p.m. Dana Butler/Maureen Schubert

STEWARDSHIP

2022-2023 Through	March 19, 2023	Year to Date
Parish Budgeted Expenses	\$42,957.00	\$1,632,366.00
Contributions	\$46,936.22	\$1,577,916.90
Surplus (Shortage)	\$3,979.22	(\$54,449.10)

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, APRIL 1 5:00 P.M.	SUNDAY, APRIL 2 8:00 A.M.	SUNDAY, APRIL 2 10:00 A.M.	SUNDAY, APRIL 2 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>)			
	Jennifer McConnell Erin McConnell Paul Koors Brooke Warren	Paul Rovnak Joan Rovnak Nancy Nelson Mary Humphrey	Linda Strapp Cheryl Harmon Maria Alfaro Gary Strapp	Kristin Williams Beth Huddy Darlene Doody Tom Mignery
IN HOME	Lorraine Curtin (2), Nancy Nelson (4), Mary Burkett (5), Jilleen Bastian (6), Tom & Teresa Ozarzak (7)			
LECTORS	Emily DeArdo Dylan Drugan	Mary Humphrey Phil Mullin	Heather Rush Shawn Miller	Kat Graham Mark Huddy
SACRISTANS	Jane Linville	Kristin Paulus	Eileen Masoni	Beth Escudero
SERVERS	MC – Adam Buerger Austin Buerger Bailey Buerger Devin Canter Kaleb Kitzmiller	MC – Landon Miller Natalie Dinovo Ben Prier Zoey Thompson	MC – Thomas Dougherty Cecilia Dougherty Owen Gibson Anissa McSweeney Allison Schmitt Molly See Finn Shirey	MC – Teddy Williams Gabby Dages Jackson Montgomery Ava Navarro Claire Navarro

FAMILY OF FAITH

FAMILIES WITH FIRST COMMUNICANTS! Please remember your child's First Communion Retreat is next **Saturday, April 1** either from **9:15-10:45 a.m.** OR **11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.** (this is based on what time you signed up for!). Please contact Ashley Allwein (aallwein@stmatthew.net) with any questions.

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 Shiningier at dshiningier@stmatthew.net.**

IN OUR PARISH

WHY ARE THE STATUES VEILED?

Today on the Fifth Sunday of Lent, you will notice purple cloths draped over crucifixes, statues, and images of saints in the Church. In some Churches, these items are actually removed from the sanctuary altogether.

This custom of veiling religious images is a way of focusing on the penitential aspect of this liturgical season. As churches veil their statues, it is a reminder for all of us to withdraw/retreat from the world in order to devote more time, penance, and prayer to the Lord in the closing weeks of Lent. It demonstrates, in a visual way, that our faith is made possible only through the work of Christ in His suffering and death.

The tradition is practiced during the last two weeks before Easter, starting on Passion Sunday (the Sunday prior to Palm Sunday) and ending on Good Friday. This time period was originally called Passiontide. Even though it is no longer called by this name as often, the tradition is still practiced in many places.

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

LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS performed by the St. Matthew School 8th graders, will be on **Tuesday, April 4** at **10:30 a.m., 1:00 p.m.** and **7:00 p.m.** in the PAC.

DIVINE MERCY PERPETUAL ADORATION – “Behold, the Lamb of God!” – St. John the Baptist. Time spent with Christ in Eucharistic Adoration allows us to be in awe of His love and mercy. Please prayerfully consider signing up for a Holy Hour online at <https://stmatthew.net/dmc> if you are not already a regularly scheduled adoror.

PLEASE NOTE – If you have a child who has not yet made their First Communion or if you are an adult who will not be receiving the Eucharist, please know that you (or your children) are invited to process forward in the Communion line with your arms folded across your chest in an X. When you are before the Eucharistic minister, please simply bow to reverence the Eucharist and continue back to your pew. (Note that ministers of Communion, including clergy, have been instructed by the Bishop’s office not to give blessings during Communion.)

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 innercity. **Canned soup, canned vegetables and canned fruit** are items that are greatly needed by our Charitable Works. Dropoff boxes are located in the School and the vestibule at the south entrance to the Church.

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, April 1** in the church.

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, April 1**). There is no cost, but registration is required. Call or text Gene Poirier at 614-615-4111, or genepoirier779@gmail.com to register.

LENT CONFESSION SCHEDULE – Confession times for Lent are as follows: Saturday, 4:00-4:45 p.m., Wednesday, 7:00-7:30 a.m., Sunday, 9:00-9:45 a.m., and 11:00-11:45 a.m.; and Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week from 6:00-7:00 p.m.

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 for all who have completed their 18th year and have not yet reached their 60th year.

ST. MATTHEW AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM IS HIRING – St. Matthew School is looking for individuals who enjoy working with children and are interested in working part-time. It is a great opportunity for college students and retirees. The program is open from 2:00-6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, as long as school is in session. Please email Robin Kuhns, Program Director, at rkuhns1@cducation.org if you are interested and/or would like more information.

TOTAL CONSECRATION TO JESUS THROUGH MARY – St. Matthew's Wednesday night men's prayer group has been reading *True Devotion to Mary* by St. Louis de Montfort, as they are preparing for Total Consecration to Jesus through Mary, which began back in February with a 33-day period of prayer. The 33-day period will end on March 25, the Feast of the Annunciation, and the consecration will take place this **Wednesday, March 29 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Church. Anyone is welcome to attend the consecration service. For more information, please contact Jeff Bernard at jbernard@ohiocat.com.

EASTER FLOWERS – DEADLINE IS TOMORROW – 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 **tomorrow, Monday, March 27.** Thank you.

EASTER EGG HUNT ON SATURDAY, APRIL 15 – Remember, after 40 days of Lenten sacrifices come 50 days of Easter rejoicing. Please mark your calendars and plan to participate in our parish Easter Egg Hunt on **Saturday, April 15.** We will begin gathering on the parish playground after Mass (around 9:00 a.m.). The hunt will kick off at 9:30 a.m. All children are welcome to participate. We are looking for some adult and teen helpers for hiding eggs and serving refreshments. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Katie Ryzenga at kryzenga@stmatthew.net. **Also, we will gladly accept donations of Easter eggs and candy. Please drop off donations inside the portico doors of the church by April 12.** Thank you!

MARY GARDEN ENGRAVED PAVERS – The next order for engraved brick pavers will be placed in mid-April. Consider this for a Mother's Day or Father's Day gift or a memorial. If interested in this permanent remembrance, please submit your donation and paver information to the parish office by **Tuesday, April 11.** For your convenience, brochures are available in the church Gathering Space or Parish Office. Wording on a paver can be one to three lines, and a total of 13 characters and spaces per line. *Thank you! –Mary Garden Committee*

CATHOLIC INQUIRY/RCIA – Interested in learning more about the Catholic faith or about becoming Catholic? Please contact Jennifer Cabe at jcabe@stmatthew.net or 614-532-0626 or check out the RCIA page on the St. Matthew website. A new Period of Inquiry will begin **Tuesday, May 2.**

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.



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, April 2 at 3:00 p.m.** Everyone is welcome.

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

WORD OF LIFE CONTINUES – Introducing "Word of Life School of Prayer!" Join us this Lenten season every Monday from **6:30-8:00 p.m.** through **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.

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.

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, April 26 at 6:30 p.m.** in the Church.



CONVERGING ROADS™
WHERE HEALTH CARE ETHICS AND MEDICINE CONVERGE



CATHOLIC MEDICINE IN A SECULAR SOCIETY

APRIL 22, 2023 | 8:00 AM – 7:00 PM | IN PERSON AND ONLINE

PONTIFICAL COLLEGE JOSEPHINUM
7625 N HIGH ST. COLUMBUS, OH 43235

PRESENTATIONS

Christian Anthropology as a Foundation for Ethical Medicine
Ashley K. Fernandes, MD, PhD and Roland Millare, STD

Catholic Social Doctrine and its Implications for Health Care
Dominique J. Monlezun, MD, PhD, MPH

Infertility and Artificial Reproductive Technologies
Alicia W. Thompson, DO, MPH, FACOG

Vocation of the Catholic Medical Professional
Paul Day, MD and Amber Day, MD

End of Life Decision Making and Palliative Care
Natalie King, MD, MA

A Catholic Response to the Mental Health Crisis
Teresa Durbak Sipos, DMin, RN

**The Ethical Challenges in Accompanying Women with
Holistic Medical Care**
Michele Faehle, BSN, RN, LSN; Natalie King, MD, MA; and
Alicia W. Thompson, DO, MPH, FACOG

Continuing education credits for healthcare professionals will be offered.

REGISTER
HERE



For more information, contact the
conference coordinator
CR@forlifeandfamily.org
832-779-1070

PRESENTED BY




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Converging Roads™ is an initiative of the St. John Paul II Foundation.

Holy Week

April 2 - 9, 2023

Palm Sunday

Regular Mass schedule
Palms available at all Masses

**Monday,
Tuesday,
and Wednesday**

Regular morning Masses, 6:30 am and 8:30 am
Confessions, 6 pm - 7 pm

Tuesday

Living Stations (in the Noble Center/PAC)
10:30 am, 1 pm, and 7 pm

Holy Thursday

No morning Masses; Morning prayer at 8:30 am
Mass at 7 pm (also live streamed)

Good Friday

No morning Masses; Morning prayer at 8:30 am
Liturgy at 3 pm (also live streamed) and 7 pm

Holy Saturday

No morning Masses; Morning prayer at 8:30 am
Blessing of Easter Food, 2:30 pm
Easter Vigil, 8 pm (also live streamed)

Easter Sunday

Masses at 8 am, 10 am (also live streamed), Noon
Our nursery will not be open.

ST. MATTHEW PARISH

Easter Egg Hunt

SATURDAY, APRIL 15TH AT 9:30AM
MEET AT ST. MATTHEW PLAYGROUND
ALL CHILDREN ARE WELCOME

Donations of plastic eggs and candy are much appreciated! Please drop them off in portico entrance anytime between now and April 12th. Thanks!

TMIY – A SPECIAL ROSARY SERIES – Our *That Man Is You* gathering will continue 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 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.

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.

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.

YOU'RE AMAZING EXPERIENCE
BREAKTHROUGH

STEVE SIMEONE JUSTIN FATICA DAMASCUS WORSHIP

COMEDY CENTRAL HBO EWTV dW

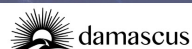
MARCH 29, 2023

Doors Open at 5:45pm Greater Columbus Convention Center Exhibit Hall D **\$12**

Are you looking for a **breakthrough** moment in your life? Do you know someone who needs to encounter Christ a new way? Join the Founder of Hard as Nails Ministries Justin Fatica, Comedy Central Comedian Steve Simeone, and Damascus Worship for an **unforgettable night!**

The **You're Amazing Experience** is an active, dynamic, encouraging event for people of all ages. This is not your average event and will be a **BREAKTHROUGH** moment in your life and the lives of all attendees. Experience Christ in a new way and get your tickets today!

LIMITED TICKETS AVAILABLE
AmazingBismarck.Eventbrite.com



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 cleanup 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@cdeeducation.org.

BOOK CLUB – The next meeting will be **Wednesday, April 26 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Saint Michael Room. We will be discussing parts 3 and 4 of *The Spear* by Louis deWohl. All are welcome!

NEW TO THE PARISH? YOU CAN 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.

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.

WE WELCOME INTO OUR FAMILY OF FAITH the following children who were baptized on Saturday, March 18 and Sunday, March 19: Ruth Patricia Meves and Hailey Rose DeArdo.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED: Nancy Dilullo.

PARISH PROJECTS

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

Last week, Facilities focused their attention back on the church, cleaning statues and floors as Easter nears. The sound quality has been improved in the Sanctuary and is being locked into place. The quality of our Mass streaming system has also improved, now broadcasting a true high-definition video stream. The difference in picture is amazing and timely as we again plan on streaming the entire Easter Vigil starting with the new fire outside the church. We are grateful to those who have made this vast improvement possible with their contributions to our new system and camera. We could use a little more help for a second camera, further enhancing our Mass presentation. Thank you.

As Lent gives way to Holy Week and anticipation of Easter, the Facilities Team has covered Sanctuary Crucifixes and other images to heighten our senses and build within us a yearning for Easter. This time also provides an opportunity for us to focus our attention on the words being said at Mass, particularly when we listen to the Passion narrative, focusing on the words from the Gospel and truly entering into the scene. Please take advantage of the serenity of our Sanctuary as we prepare for the unveiling during the Easter Vigil Mass.

Please do not hesitate to email suggestions on how we can better serve you and move our current projects forward. Send requests to gharvey@stmatthew.net. Be safe, stay healthy, and God Bless.

PRO-LIFE CORNER

Live the
Gospel of Life

A proposed amendment to the Ohio constitution which would legalize abortion to the moment of birth and sanction gender identity medical procedures, is now in the signature gathering phase of the amendment process. Between March 17 and July 5, the pro-abortion groups who are spearheading this effort need to gather 415,000 signatures from 44 of the 88 Ohio counties to get the amendment on the ballot for this November 7 election. The ground campaign to secure these signatures has already started and seen early success.

This amendment is cleverly worded, and the proponents claim it is only trying to enshrine in the constitution the current, active Ohio law allowing abortion up to 22 weeks – the 6-week Heartbeat Law is not active due to a court injunction, which will probably be overturned later this summer. The amendment allows an abortion after viability for “health” reasons, which has legally been defined to include many factors beyond physical health, such as emotional well-being. The amendment would also negate laws regarding parental consent or notification of abortions or sex-change operations for minors. The amendment is ironically entitled “The Right to Reproductive Freedom with Protections for Health and Safety,” but “freedom” means the state cannot restrict any type of reproductive surgery, and “safety” means the state cannot restrict non-physicians performing medical procedures. This proposed amendment is extreme and effectively would turn Ohio into a “sanctuary” state for unlimited abortion and gender changing surgery.

A pro-life coalition group has been formed to combat the misleading statements that will be used by the pro-abortion lobby to gather signatures. This group, Protect Women Ohio, will launch a \$5 million dollar campaign to better inform the public. Visit their website at <https://protectwomenohio.com> to learn more about this amendment and what can be done to prevent its passage.

Upcoming Events:

- **March 28** – Pro-Life Rosary in the main Church, at **7:00 p.m.**
- **April 1** – Prayer vigil at Planned Parenthood building on 3255 E. Main Street at **10:30 a.m.**

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.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ST. JUDE COUNCIL 5801

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

LAST FRIDAY LENTEN FISH FRY IS THIS 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. All proceeds go towards scholarships for 8th graders that are going to a Catholic High School. Thank you and God bless!

KNIGHT OF THE MONTH – Congratulations to Tony Satira, Knight of the Month for March.

CHARITABLE WORKS MINISTRY NEWS

Recap of February 2023 – Another busy month for CWM! The St. Matthew Charitable Works Ministry provided an estimated **10,230** meals to 682 individuals in **231** households within the greater Gahanna community during the month of February. 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. Although, our costs were lower this month due to the generosity of the **St. Matthew School** and families, who donated about 2,000 pounds of canned goods as part of their “Super Bowl Collection” effort. **THANK YOU!** 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 (record)	737 (record)	2.96	11,055	\$10.10	\$0.67
February 2023	231	682	2.95	10,230	\$5.65	\$0.38

***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>.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

WOMEN'S CARE CENTER IS HIRING! To help advance our mission, Women's Care Center is seeking compassionate counselors for our pro-life pregnancy center in Columbus. Full-time & part-time positions available. If interested, please send your resume to kwccolumbus@gmail.com. Qualifications include: Full-time counselor must be bilingual--English and Spanish; Part-time counselor--bilingual preferred but not required; Bachelor's preferred but not required; and be passionate about the pro-life mission.

MARY POPPINS – The St. Francis DeSales High School Performing Arts Department presents *Mary Poppins* this spring! *Mary Poppins* is an enchanting mixture of irresistible story, unforgettable songs, breathtaking dance numbers and astonishing stagecraft. We hope you will join the cast and crew for this exciting show on **March 31, April 1** and **April 2** in the St. Francis DeSales High School Little Theater. Visit the school's website at www.sfdstallions.org for tickets.

EVENING OF EXCELLENCE – Please join us for Bishop Hartley's 32nd Annual Evening of Excellence on **Saturday, April 15**. The Evening of Excellence is our single-largest school fundraiser and provides the primary funding for Hartley's merit-based scholarship and need-based tuition assistance programs. The evening features dinner and live and silent auctions. Visit the Bishop Hartley Evening of Excellence website, bishop-hartley.org/eveningofexcellence to donate or purchase tickets.

VOLUNTEER WITH MOMMIES MATTER – Mommies Matter is a charitable organization that provides group and one-on-one mentoring support, as well as housing, educational, employment and financial assistance to brave, single, pregnant moms. Mommies Matter is built on the principle that life is better when we do it together. Join us **Thursday, April 13 at 7:00 p.m.** for our Volunteer Orientation to learn more about our mission and how you can join us in doing life with single moms. The orientation will take place in Westerville. More information will be provided upon registration. For more information or to RSVP, visit www.mommiesmatter.org/volunteer.

CATHOLIC MEN'S LUNCHEON ON FRIDAY, APRIL 14 – Join us on **Friday, April 14** at St. Patrick Church in downtown Columbus for a luncheon featuring a talk by Shawn Kenney, Director of the Museum of Catholic Art & History, about the Museum. *Please note that because the First Friday of April is Good Friday, April's luncheon is on the second Friday of the Month.* If you are interested in sponsoring this luncheon or another luncheon, contact Jim Gernetzke at jimgernetzke@noslumine.com. Holy Mass (optional) begins at 11:45 a.m. followed by lunch at 12:10 p.m. and Mr. Kenney's presentation. No reservations are necessary and \$12.00 covers the lunch and meeting. Bring a friend! Our next luncheon is Friday, May 5 and will feature a talk by Fr. Ty Tomson about the Traditional Latin Mass.

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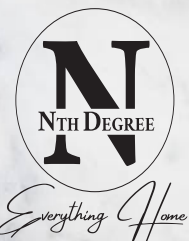
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