

## BAPTISMS

All Baptism inquiries must begin by filling out a Baptism form on our website at [www.stmatthew.net/baptism](http://www.stmatthew.net/baptism). For more information, please contact Katie Ryzenga at 614-532-0620 or [kryzenga@stmatthew.net](mailto: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](http://www.stmatthew.net/marriage) or by contacting Julie Ratliff at [jratliff@stmatthew.net](mailto:jratliff@stmatthew.net).

## 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. PeterClaver Kasasa Kiviiri, 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](mailto:jcabe@stmatthew.net)  
Religious Education Coordinator:  
Dorothy Allwein – [dallwein@stmatthew.net](mailto:dallwein@stmatthew.net)  
Director of Family Life Ministries:  
Julie Ratliff – [jratliff@stmatthew.net](mailto:jratliff@stmatthew.net)  
Baptism Coordinator:  
Katie Ryzenga – [kryzenga@stmatthew.net](mailto:kryzenga@stmatthew.net)  
Youth and Young Adult Ministry:  
Maggie Allwein – [mallwein@stmatthew.net](mailto:mallwein@stmatthew.net)

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

[www.cdmatthew.org](http://www.cdmatthew.org)  
Principal: John Rathburn, [jrathburn1@cdeeducation.org](mailto: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](http://www.stmatthew.net/online-parishioner-registration).

## BULLETIN DEADLINE

Announcements must be submitted to Hillarie Michaels by email to [hmichaels@stmatthew.net](mailto: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](http://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, NOVEMBER 27** – Dn 1:1-6, 8-20; Lk 21:1-46:30 a.m. Judie Blubaugh Buffington/  
Steve & Gayle Blubaugh8:30 a.m. Deceased Members of Legion of Mary/  
Immaculate Heart of Mary Presidium**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28** – Dn 2:31-45; Lk 21:5-11

6:30 a.m. Margaret Fielders/Mary Rita Simpson

8:30 a.m. Jose Nerida/Peter Nerida

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29** – Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28;  
Lk 21:12-19

6:30 a.m. Mary Vallee &amp; Jerome Wiggins/Vallee Wiggins

8:30 a.m. Creta Purpura/Tony Purpura

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30** – Rom 10:9-18; Mt 4:18-22

6:30 a.m. Mary Sue Malone/Friends &amp; Family

8:30 a.m. Trudi Willingham/Gary &amp; Tama Bloch

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1** – Dn 7:2-14; Lk 21:29-33

6:30 a.m. Ken Schmidt/Greger Family

8:30 a.m. Michael Fuller/Nelson Family

7:00 p.m. Ken &amp; Ruby Schmidt/Mark &amp; Mary Thompson

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2** – Dn 7:15-27; Lk 21:34-36

8:30 a.m. Christopher Finkel/Christie &amp; Mark Finkel

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

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3** – Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7;

1 Cor 1:3-9; Mk 13:33-37

8:00 a.m. Carinda Civiello Pollili/Gus &amp; Roberta Gastaldo

10:00 a.m. For Saint Matthew Parishioners/  
Fr. Theodore K. Sill

12:00 p.m. Jim Gillilan, Jr./Joanne Mangia

**STEWARDSHIP**

2023-2024 Through	November 19, 2023	Year to Date
Parish Budgeted Expenses	\$42,957.00	\$902,097.00
Contributions	\$29,350.77	\$877,080.51
Surplus (Shortage)	(\$13,606.23)	(\$25,016.49)

Note: St. Matthew's fiscal year is July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.  
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**

	<b>SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2 5:00 P.M.</b>	<b>SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3 8:00 A.M.</b>	<b>SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3 10:00 A.M.</b>	<b>SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3 12:00 P.M.</b>
<b>EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION</b>	Max Maksimoski – rmaksimo@stmatthew.net – 614-607-4799 ( <i>Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Lectors</i> ); Vicki Wengert – vwengert@icloud.com – 614-270-2118 ( <i>Sacristans</i> )			
	Jim Gernetzke Molly Fanning Mickie Zaino Paul Koors	Nancy Nelson Gary Frazee Mary Anne Frazee Karen Hogan	Nick Miller Chris Vonau Michael Springer Erica Gleich	Mary Thompson Crystal Cockerell Eric Thompson Angel Rice
<b>IN HOME</b>	Lorraine Curtin (2); Mary Anne Frazee (4); Mary Campanelli (5); Jilleen Bastian (6); John Howard (7)			
<b>LECTORS</b>	Jim Gernetzke Therese Eppler	Phil Mullin Mary Anne Frazee	Kyle Gleich Michael Bogutz	Angel Rice Eric Thompson
<b>SACRISTANS</b>	Kathy Wodarczyk	Kat Graham	Teresa Altman-Ozarszak	Tom Minser
<b>SERVERS</b>	MC – Luke Aaron Lucy Aaron Austin Buerger Bailey Buerger Devin Canter	MC – Conner Norman Caleb Lemle Ethan Lemle Mackenzie Norman	MC – Thomas Dougherty Claire Blake Miles Blake Will Blake Cecilia Dougherty Adison Esser Anissa McSweeny	Gabby Dages Myron Kobson Claire Navarro Trae Rogers Andrew Uzomba

## IN OUR PARISH

**YOUTH CHOIR** – All students of the parish in grades 2-6 are invited to participate in the Parish Youth Choir. A schedule is available at <https://stmatthew.net/music-ministries> or by contacting Dawn Shining, Director of Music, at [dshining@stmatthew.net](mailto:dshining@stmatthew.net).

**ADVENT CANDLES AND BRASS HOLDERS** are available for purchase in the Gathering Space or in the Parish Office. We have two kinds of candles this year – standard and beeswax enhanced – and they are at different price points, but both are appropriate for an Advent wreath. 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 “Votive Light Offering” fund and note “Advent candles” in the Special Intentions box. The suggested donation is \$5.00 for standard candles; \$10.00 for beeswax enhanced candles and \$10.00 for the brass ring candleholder.

**POINSETTIAS** – It has been a tradition in our Parish to remember a loved one by making a contribution to our Christmas flowers (suggested donation is \$10.00). For your convenience, an envelope has been provided in our monthly and quarterly packet of offertory envelopes. On the envelope, please print the name of the person(s) you wish to remember, and drop the envelope in the collection basket, or in the Parish Office by **Wednesday, 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.

**CONFESSION TIMES** during Advent (starting **December 3**) are: Wednesdays, 7:00-7:30 a.m.; Saturdays, 4:00-4:45 p.m.; Sundays, 9:00-9:45 a.m., and 11:00-11:45 a.m. and Parish Confessions on **Thursday, December 21** and **Friday, December 22** from 6:00-7:00 p.m.

**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, December 2** in the church.

**CWM CHRISTMAS SHOPPE TO BE HELD SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16** – For Christmas, the Charitable Works Ministry will set up a “Christmas 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, headbands, toys and games 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 Wednesday, December 13.**



PRAY EVERY DAY THIS  
**ADVENT**  
WITH C. S. LEWIS

**Hallow**

JOIN THE ADVENT PRAY25 CHALLENGE

Deepen your prayer life this Advent with Hallow, a Catholic prayer and meditation app that helps us all find peace in God.



We are excited to gift our parishioners Hallow access through Easter for only \$1!

**HALLOW.COM/HOLYDAY**

Download on the App Store | Get it on Google Play

#### COMING SOON: HALLOW SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR ONLY \$1.00

We're excited to announce a partnership with Hallow this Advent. Hallow is a Catholic prayer and meditation app that helps people deepen their relationship with God and create a daily habit of prayer through audio-guided prayer sessions ranging from 1-to-60 minutes long – there are over 10,000 prayer sessions available on the app!

This Advent, Hallow will be offering their annual Advent Pray 25 Challenge. This year's Advent Pray 25 Challenge incorporates the work of C.S. Lewis, and we're very excited to be able to pray together as a parish by reflecting on Lewis' work and by using the many other prayer methods available on Hallow. The app makes it easy to set and achieve a goal of daily prayer this Advent. You can even set reminders on your phone so you don't forget and create prayer groups with your family and friends so that you can support each other in prayer!

Our partnership with Hallow includes Hallow subscriptions for only \$1.00 for all parishioners through Easter! We hope you'll take advantage of this gift from the parish. As we get closer to Advent, we will share more information about how to subscribe to Hallow for only \$1.00 through our parish membership.

#### ANNUAL SUPPORT FOR VULNERABLE TEENS AND ADULTS

St. Matthew Parish is taking on a new partnership this year with a Catholic ministry on the westside of Columbus called Urban Encounter. Urban Encounter works to return neighborhoods back to the heart of Jesus through proclamation, demonstration, and discipleship. There is currently a missionary house of five men who are devoted to bringing Jesus to the Hilltop area where homelessness and poverty are the norm. Every Saturday morning, the men go out on a “street walk” to give resources to people on the street as well as develop friendships with them and pray with them. Our high school youth ministry program, The Flame, is partnering with Urban Encounter for the “Hilltop Mission Retreat” which is the first weekend of December. The teens and missionaries will go out and hand out backpacks to vulnerable people on the street and offer to pray with them. Each backpack will include a Kroger gift card, a fast food gift card, a day bus pass, socks, hand warmers, hand sanitizer, lip balm, deodorant, toothbrush, toothpaste, and nonperishable snacks. No donation is too small. Please join us in the mission to bring Jesus to those in need in our very own city! Checks can be made payable to Saint Matthew Church and placed in an envelope labeled “Hilltop Mission Retreat.” For more information, contact Maggie Allwein at [mallwein@stmatthew.net](mailto:mallwein@stmatthew.net). To sign your high schooler up for the retreat, scan the QR code.





## PRO-LIFE CORNER

At the USCCB plenary meeting this month, the US Bishops reaffirmed that the threat of abortion is the preeminent issue in their guidance for Catholic voters in 2024. This guidance is presented in the document "Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship." The purpose of this document is to summarize the principles of Catholic social teaching that should be considered when voting. It does not tell Catholics how to vote, or advocate for a particular candidate or political party, but establishes a framework for voting with a conscience formed by Church teaching. While abortion is considered the preeminent issue that violates "the infinite worth and dignity of every human life" it is not the only concern. The bishops stated that human trafficking, euthanasia, physician assisted suicide, gun violence, and the death penalty are also serious violations of the dignity of life.

The bishops noted that "the threat of abortion remains our preeminent priority because it directly attacks life itself, it takes place within the sanctuary of the family, and because of the number of lives destroyed." The current state of abortion in the US reflects the Bishops' concern. In the one year after the overturning of *Roe vs. Wade*, the number of abortions has increased from the previous annual rate of 930,000 to over one million. A large part of this increase has been driven by the FDA allowing chemical abortions via telehealth sessions and the dispensing of abortion pills through the mail or at local pharmacies. For the 2024 election, there are nine states where abortion will potentially be on the ballot as an amendment to their constitution to guarantee access. Four of these states already allow abortion and want to codify access in their constitution: Colorado, Maryland, Nevada, and New York. The other five states currently restrict or ban abortion: Arizona, Florida, Missouri, Nebraska, and South Dakota.

The bishops' conclusion is that we need to make our position on abortion clear, pray for the conversion of those committing abortion, walk with moms in need both before and after birth, and remind those who have participated in an abortion of God's desire to extend His mercy and forgiveness. They have not committed an unpardonable sin and God lovingly awaits their repentance.

### Upcoming Events

- **November 28** – Pro-life Rosary in the main Church at **7:00 p.m.**, followed by the Pro-life meeting in the Parish Library.
- **December 2** – First Saturday 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](mailto:jksolinger@aol.com) or at 614-506-2382.

**DIVINE MERCY PERPETUAL ADORATION** – "The Eucharist is the supreme proof of the love of Jesus. After this, there is nothing more but Heaven itself." – St. Peter Julian Eymard. Learn more of our Divine Mercy Perpetual Adoration Chapel online at <https://stmatthew.net/dmc>.

**FAMILY ROSARY GROUP** – All are invited to join other families in praying the Rosary at **4:00 p.m.** on Saturdays downstairs in the parish nursery. Little ones are welcome to play as we pray. Parents will have the opportunity to go upstairs for Confession after the Rosary before 5:00 p.m. Mass begins. All are welcome, even if you don't have children.

**ST. MATTHEW BOOK CLUB** will meet this **Wednesday, November 29** at **7:00 p.m.** in the Saint Michael Room. We will be reading the book, *The True Meaning of Christmas* by Dr. Michael Barber. (Please note the date change to the 5th Wednesday of the month due to the Thanksgiving holiday.) All are welcome! Also, there will be no book club meeting in December.

**CURIOUS ABOUT WALKING WITH PURPOSE?** The morning session of Walking with Purpose will be starting a new Bible Study (*Discovering Our Dignity*) on **Wednesday, December 6**. We invite you to join us in learning from women in the Old Testament. You can find out more about Walking with Purpose and register online at <https://www.stmatthew.net/wwp>. The sessions will be held on Wednesdays from **9:30-11:00 a.m.** in the St. Anthony Room. For more information, contact Pat Shields at [p2shields@sbcglobal.net](mailto:p2shields@sbcglobal.net) or Marty Huss at [Martha.Huss@gmail.com](mailto:Martha.Huss@gmail.com).

**PROTECT YOURSELF IN TODAY'S DIGITAL WORLD** – XLN SYSTEMS will show you how to recognize a variety of digital scams particularly from fraudulent emails and texts and what to do to protect your finances and identity. This free seminar will give you the confidence to enjoy your online experiences while drastically reducing the possibility of being scammed. The one-hour presentation will be held at the **Gahanna Library** on **Wednesday, December 6** from **12:00-1:00 p.m.** Please RSVP to [Support@XLNsystems](mailto:Support@XLNsystems) and simply include the number of seats requested.

## PARISH PROJECTS

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

We hope everyone had a joyful Thanksgiving. With the holiday last week and a light crew, your Facilities Team focused on routine cleaning and floor care with many of the regularly scheduled activities being canceled.

Last week, the remaining Sanctuary speakers were connected and the task of balancing and equalizing the sound started. Over the past couple weekends, we have been walking around during the different Masses to get a feel for weak areas and some lack of clarity. We were surprised at the large differences between when we set the system up with an empty church and when 300 or over 500 people occupy the pews. Many of you have been giving us feedback, good and bad, thank you. When we know what Mass you attended and where you were seated, that information is referred to when making adjustments. Not sure if we will ever get to the point where one setting will work for all Masses. Our goal is to get down to minor adjustments based on attendance.

Planning has started for Christmas decorating. We are tentatively looking at Friday, December 22, as our decorating day starting at 10:00 a.m. We continue to use anyone willing to help. We need guys for trees and Nativity assembly and involvement of entire families in decorating. It is fun to watch the spaces transform into the Christmas season. This year, will be particularly special with the completion of the Sanctuary renovations. Thank you for your involvement and support.

Suggestions on how we can better serve you and the parish are always welcome. Send requests and suggestions to [gharvey@stmatthew.net](mailto:gharvey@stmatthew.net). Be safe, stay healthy, and God Bless.



**SATURDAY MORNING MEN'S GROUP** – Our *That Man Is You* program resumes Saturday morning, **December 2** and will conclude the fall series on December 16. If you haven't attended for a while or would like to for the first time, please do. We begin at 7:15 a.m. in the St. Anthony Room downstairs with breakfast, followed by a *TMIY* video and group discussion. The morning ends at 8:25 a.m. for those wishing to attend 8:30 a.m. Mass or for those needing to get on with their day. No homework, preparation or RSVPs needed. Simply spending time enjoying the company of other St. Matthew men. As for the last two Saturday mornings in December and the first one in January, we will continue to meet beginning around 7:15 a.m. with a more informal program, usually a short video about our Catholic church and its teachings and/or current events we are experiencing. Please text or call Brian Gatch at 614-499-4836 with any questions.

**BLOOD DRIVE ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2** – 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 7, 2023. Our next Blood Drive is on **Saturday, December 2** 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](http://www.redcrossblood.org) (Sponsor Code: MatthewApChurch), or sign up at the table in the Gathering Space; or call Teresa Baird at 614-404-3130/email [tburkebaird@gmail.com](mailto:tburkebaird@gmail.com). All who come to donate from December 1-17 will receive a \$10.00 Amazon.com Gift Card by email. Visit [RedCrossBlood.org/Amazon](http://RedCrossBlood.org/Amazon) for details. Your donation is always appreciated!

**SUPPORT ST. MATTHEW & LOWER YOUR TAXES** – St. Matthew has an endowment fund that The Catholic Foundation manages. This fund is a longer-term, sustained investment designed to provide a perpetual source of income to our parish. Contributing cash, appreciated stocks, IRA rollovers, and other forms of assets to the Fund can lower your tax exposure and provide a lasting impact on St. Matthew and the future of our Catholic faith. For more information on end-of-the-year giving to benefit St. Matthew, please contact Jim Hahn at [jhahn@catholic-foundation.org](mailto:jhahn@catholic-foundation.org) or 614-443-8893, ext. 112.

**REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR THE COLUMBUS CATHOLIC WOMEN'S & MEN'S CONFERENCES BEING HELD FEBRUARY 17 AND 24** – This year, both Conferences are dedicated to the Glory and Beauty of the Eucharist. The Women's Conference features a day of inspired speakers like Heather Khym, Archbishop Timothy Broglio, Father John Burns, Claire Dwyer, and Father Timothy Anastos. The Men's Conference features speakers Chris Stefanick, John Edwards, and Father Burke Masters (Chaplain for the Chicago Cubs). Both events will include Mass by Bishop Fernandes, religious organizations, Adoration, and plenty of food and fellowship. You truly don't want to miss this incredible opportunity, guaranteed to ignite your faith and take you even further along your personal journey with Christ. Please visit <https://stmatthew.net/conferences> for more information and to register.

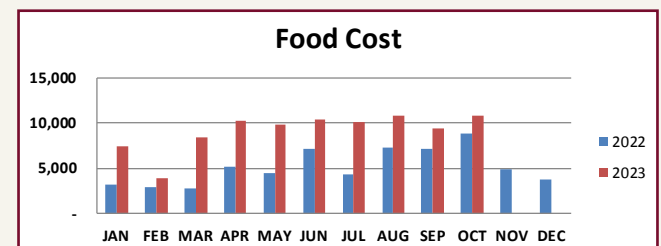
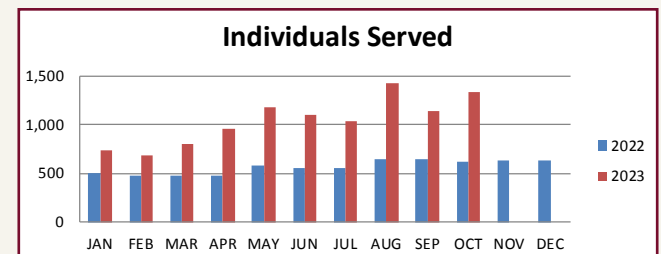
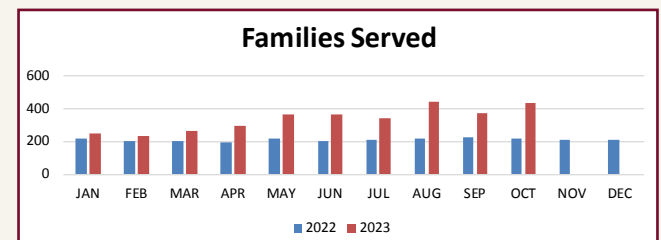
**ST. MATTHEW SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE** – Our parish has formed a Social Concerns Committee that will advocate for multiple aspects of Catholic Social Teaching, including pro-life work, advocacy for the poor, and other social issues. If you are interested in learning more about this group or would like to be involved, please contact Jim Gernetzke at [jimgernetzke@noslumine.com](mailto:jimgernetzke@noslumine.com).

## CHARITABLE WORKS MINISTRY NEWS

~ **Recap of October 2023** – Another busy month for CWM.

- 431 families served (Nearly double what we did in October 2022.)
- 1,331 individuals served in those families
- 3,357 families served to date in 2023 (on track to hit 4,000 for all of 2023)

We continue to strive to control food costs, but with the effect of inflation and less free/low cost food from Mid-Ohio Food Bank, this is an ongoing challenge. The graphs below provide a view of the trends and increases dating back to January 2022. Thank you for your continued support to those families who are experiencing difficult times through your financial support and volunteer efforts.



**VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT** – Every Monday morning, there is a group of volunteers who arrive early to re-stock the pantry, identify inventory needs, and help us to unload the truck that delivers from Mid-Ohio. The efforts of this esteemed group greatly helps the smooth flow of our pantry efforts through the week. This group includes Sharon Hinkel, Glenda Neely, Paul Rovnak, Kathleen Schilling, Pat Shields and Tess Thibaut. Thanks so much for all of your efforts!

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 end of 2023 at: [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040945aeaa2aa5f94-charitable#](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040945aeaa2aa5f94-charitable#/).

# GIVING TUESDAY

Tuesday, November 28

You can't put a  
price on safety.

(But you can on the things  
that make us safer.)

This Giving Tuesday, we ask for donations  
toward new automatic gates to close off the  
back parking lot during recess, parish events,  
and overnight. Our goal is \$15,000.



For more information and to donate,  
see our website,  
<https://stmatthew.net/giving-tuesday>.





**Blood Drive**  
**St Matthew the Apostle Church**  
Hutta Gym  
795 Havens Corners Rd.  
Gahanna, OH 43230

**Saturday, December 2, 2023**  
**7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**

To schedule an appointment visit [RedCrossBlood.org](https://RedCrossBlood.org), sponsor code:  
MatthewApChurch or call 1-800-RED CROSS.

If you last donated on or before October 7, you may be eligible to give.

**Our gift to you: Come give Dec. 1 to 17 for a \$10  
Amazon.com Gift Card by email. [rcblood.org/Amazon](https://rcblood.org/Amazon)**



**Schedule your blood donation appointment today!**

1-800-RED CROSS | [RedCrossBlood.org](https://RedCrossBlood.org) | Download the Blood Donor App



**SUNDAY MASS READINGS EXPLAINED – NOW AVAILABLE BOTH MORNING & EVENING** – Looking for a place to understand the Sunday readings based on the Church's teachings and the mindset of a first century Jew hearing the Word preached for the first time? Join us as we dive deeper into the study of the Word every Thursday morning in the Church library at **9:15 a.m.** and Thursday evening at **6:30 p.m.** Our lesson presenter, Dr. Brant Pitre, is noted for his scholarship on connecting the Old and the New Testament scriptures in such works as *Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist*, *Jesus and the Jewish Roots of Mary*, *Jesus and the Last Supper* and others that are in our library. The sessions are free and materials will be provided for you. If you are new to reading the Scriptures, these sessions will encourage you to read them with more understanding. Questions? Please contact Lorraine Curtin at [lorraine.curtin@icloud.com](mailto:lorraine.curtin@icloud.com).

**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 this **Wednesday, November 29** (please note change of date due to Thanksgiving) at **6:30 p.m.** in the church.



**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, December 3** at **3:00 p.m.** Everyone is 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.

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

**WE WELCOME INTO OUR FAMILY OF FAITH** the following child who was baptized on Sunday, November 19: Fiahd Lynn Lynch.

**WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED:** Mary Ann Rovnak, mother of Paul Rovnak.; Justin Route, son of Jeff and Rose Route; and Jeff Conkle, son of Paul and Therese Conkle.

**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.

## AROUND THE DIOCESE

**URGENT SUPPORT NEEDED IN THE HOLY LAND** – As the war rages on, Pope Francis is reaching out to world leaders calling for a cease-fire, entry of humanitarian aid into Gaza and the release of all hostages being held by Hamas. Due to their longstanding presence, Catholic Relief Services has been responding to meet urgent, comprehensive needs, while also monitoring possible extended needs across the region. To support their efforts, pray and consider learning more and donating to CRS at: <https://www.crs.org/>. For more information, contact the diocesan Social Concerns Office at [socmailbox@columbuscatholic.org](mailto:socmailbox@columbuscatholic.org) or call 614-224-2540.

**CATHOLIC MEN'S LUNCHEON IS FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2023 – SPEAKER BISHOP EARL FERNANDES.** Join us **Friday, December 1** at St. Patrick Church in downtown Columbus for a luncheon featuring his Excellency Bishop Earl Fernandes, Bishop of the Columbus Diocese, who will present his annual address to the luncheon club. The December luncheon is sponsored by The Catholic Foundation. Started in 1984, the Catholic Foundation has provided over \$200 million in funding for organizations throughout the Columbus Diocese and beyond. More information about the Catholic Foundation is available at <https://catholic-foundation.org/>. If you are interested in sponsoring a luncheon, please contact Pat Foley at [foleyp513@gmail.com](mailto:foleyp513@gmail.com). Holy Mass (optional) begins at 11:45 a.m. followed by lunch at 12:10 p.m. and Bishop Fernandes' presentation. No reservations are necessary and \$12.00 covers the lunch and meeting. Bring a friend! There is no luncheon in January, but plan on attending our luncheon on Friday, February 2, 2024, when Bishop Fernandes will return to present the Catholic Man of the Year Award.

**ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE** is being held on **Saturday, December 9** from **10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.** Items available include: trays of more than 6 dozen assorted cookies for \$50.00 each; nut & poppyseed rolls (sold frozen) for \$15.00 each; baklava in an 8"x8" pan for \$25.00 each; and gourmet pirohi for \$7.00/package. Pirohi fillings are – potato/cheese, sauerkraut, sweet cheese and whole prune, these are sold frozen in packages of one dozen per filling. Place your order at [www.byzantinecolumbus.com](http://www.byzantinecolumbus.com) OR call 614-882-7578 and follow the prompts. **The order deadline is December 3.** Cash, check or card is accepted.

**BOOK SALE** – Mark your calendar for the 9th Annual Knights of Columbus Council 11207 Book Sale at St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Avenue. The proceeds benefit our Diocesan Seminarians. There will be hundreds of religious books and items for sale on **Saturday, December 2** from **4:00-7:00 p.m.** and **Sunday, December 3** from **8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.** in Patrick Hall.

**JOSEPH'S COAT OF CENTRAL OHIO** is looking for volunteers interested in learning data entry and how to schedule our clothing and furniture clients by calling and speaking with or emailing them. They are also looking for men to work on the dock during their open hours and to drive their trucks to pick up furniture on Saturday mornings. (Drivers would volunteer once a month for 4-5 hours.) Additionally, they need donations of men's coats. Many homeless men have come this year asking for assistance, and they don't turn anyone away, even if a coat is all they want. They are also in need of queen, double, and twin beds, and children's clothes. For more information, see their website at <https://www.josephscoatcolumbus.com>.

**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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