

## 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, DECEMBER 4** – *Is 2:1-5; Mt 8:5-11*

6:30 a.m. Carl &amp; Mabel Kegelmayer/Federer Family

8:30 a.m. Toni Barr/Maietta Family

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5** – *Is 11:1-10; Lk 10:21-24*

6:30 a.m. Carl &amp; Dorothy Kegelmayer/Federer Family

8:30 a.m. Bill McConnell/Patti &amp; Steve Herrick

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

6:30 a.m. Kaiden Paul Riesenberger/Mom, Dad &amp; Sisters

8:30 a.m. Jim Hess/Joan Hess

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

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

8:30 a.m. Jon Migliozi/Family

**VIGIL – FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

7:00 p.m. Danny Askew/Family

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8 – FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE****CONCEPTION** – *Gn 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38*

6:30 a.m. Frank &amp; Betty Everson/Family

8:30 a.m. Donald &amp; Cecelia Zeller/Carl Zeller

7:00 p.m. For Saint Matthew Parishioners/

Fr. Theodore K. Sill

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9** – *Is 30:19-21, 23-26;**Mt 9:35–10:1, 5a, 6-8*

8:30 a.m. Intentions of Norma Miller/Family

5:00 p.m. Kenneth Schmidt/David Nelson Family

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10** – *Is 40:1-5, 9-11; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8*

8:00 a.m. For Saint Matthew Parishioners/

Fr. Theodore K. Sill

10:00 a.m. Rose Gabella/Jenkins Family

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

**STEWARDSHIP**

2023-2024 Through	November 26, 2023	Year to Date
Parish Budgeted Expenses	\$42,957.00	\$945,054.00
Contributions	\$40,599.00	\$917,679.51
Surplus (Shortage)	(\$2,358.00)	(\$27,374.49)

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 9 5:00 P.M.</b>	<b>SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10 8:00 A.M.</b>	<b>SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10 10:00 A.M.</b>	<b>SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10 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> )			
	Sue McFadden Mike Barr Erin McConnell Jennifer McConnell	Michael Wodarczyk Corinne Miller Kathy Martin Mary Jedlicka	Gary Strapp Maria Alfaro Lee Ettenhofer Linda Strapp	Beth Huddy Andrew Prociuk Kristin Williams Darlene Doody
<b>IN HOME</b>	Michael Wodarczyk (2); Debbie Sears (4); Karen Lackey (5); Tess Thibaut (6); Mila McNamee (7)			
<b>LECTORS</b>	Emily DeArdo Dylan Drugan	Tim DeMuth Kathy Martin	Maria Alfaro Kristen McSweeney	Andy Prociuk Kristin Williams
<b>SACRISTANS</b>	Jane Linville	Corinne Miller	Eileen Masoni	Cathy Buzenski
<b>SERVERS</b>	MC – Jeffrey Iruthaya Ryan Folian Jessica Gebhart Zach Nusbaum Alice Ruscak	MC – Landon Miller Ducky Lentz Ben Prier Claire Smith	MC – Finn Shirey Evan Callam Ben Riesbeck Aiden Teeters Liam Whitlatch Noah Whitlatch	MC – Logan Geig Isabella Barrera Molly Kowalski Kieran Nowalk Reagan Sanders

## 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).

**DONUT SOCIAL** – Join us for the Donut Social today, **Sunday, December 3**, in the St. Anthony Room, immediately following the 10:00 a.m. Mass. Come gather for donuts, coffee, and juice. Enjoy the company of old friends and welcome others into the St. Matthew Community. All are welcome. Hope to see you there!

**FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8**, is a Holy Day of Obligation. St. Matthew will celebrate Masses on **Thursday, December 7**, at **7:00 p.m.**, and **Friday, December 8** at **6:30 a.m.**, **8:30 a.m.** (with the school) and **7:00 p.m.**

**HELP SPREAD CHRIST'S LOVE BY ADOPTING A FAMILY!** Charitable Works Ministry is offering parishioners a way to give back this Advent season. To sponsor a family, we ask that you: donate \$25.00 toward the cost of a full Christmas meal (cash, check or online donation); write a card or note to the family sharing the love of God and telling them you're praying for them; and pray for the family during your own family's Advent and Christmas devotions. See the lighted tree in the Gathering Space to pick up an envelope with specific instructions. Thank you for your generosity!

**CONFESSION TIMES** during Advent (starting today, **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.**

**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 this **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.

### IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION TO OUR ANNUAL SUPPORT FOR VULNERABLE TEENS AND ADULTS!

This year, St. Matthew Parish is partnering with Urban Encounter, a Catholic ministry, devoted to bringing Jesus to the Hilltop area where homelessness and poverty are the norm. Every Saturday morning, five missionary 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 the missionaries to distribute survival bags to vulnerable people on the street and offer to pray with them. Survival bags 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 "Urban Encounter." For more information, contact Maggie Allwein at [mallwein@stmatthew.net](mailto:mallwein@stmatthew.net).

**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.**

### DIVINE MERCY PERPETUAL ADORATION

"Advent is thus a favourable time to pray with greater intensity, to reserve to the spiritual life the important place it deserves." Pope Francis. Learn more of our Divine Mercy Perpetual Adoration Chapel online at <https://stmatthew.net/dmc>.

### Divine Mercy Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration

Numbers indicate the **total adorers STILL NEEDED to reach minimum**

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
12 AM	2	1	-	1	1	1	2	12 AM
1 AM	-	2	2	2	2	2	2	1 AM
2 AM	2	2	2	-	1	2	2	2 AM
3 AM	1	2	1	3	3	2	2	3 AM
4 AM	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4 AM
5 AM	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	5 AM
6 AM	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	6 AM
7 AM	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	7 AM
8 AM	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8 AM
9 AM	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	9 AM
10 AM	1	1	-	-	1	1	-	10 AM
11 AM	2	-	1	1	-	-	-	11 AM
12 PM	1	-	-	1	1	-	1	12 PM
1 PM	2	1	-	1	1	-	2	1 PM
2 PM	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	2 PM
3 PM	2	1	-	-	-	-	1	3 PM
4 PM	1	-	1	-	1	1	-	4 PM
5 PM	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	5 PM
6 PM	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	6 PM
7 PM	2	-	-	-	1	1	1	7 PM
8 PM	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	8 PM
9 PM	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	9 PM
10 PM	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	10 PM
11 PM	1	-	1	-	1	Cleaning Hr.	1	11 PM

ADORERS STILL NEEDED—VISITORS ALWAYS WELCOME!

**REDUCE YOUR OHIO INCOME TAXES** and help make an authentic Catholic education affordable and accessible for all! It's true! As an Ohio taxpayer, when you make a donation to the Emmaus Road Scholarship Fund, you could receive a dollar-for-dollar credit against your state income tax liability, while creating scholarship dollars for students to attend our Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Columbus. Even with the recent expansion to Ohio's EdChoice Scholarship program, financial need still exists for many families. Your gift helps bridge the gap between state scholarships and the cost to educate a child while reducing your Ohio tax burden. For more information and to donate, go to <https://emmausroadscholarship.org/>.

**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.

**JULIA GREELEY COMMITTEE BOOK CLUB** – You are invited to read *Black Catholics on the Road to Sainthood*, by Michael Heinlein, along with the Julia Greeley Committee. They will discuss the second half of the book on **Wednesday, December 13**, from **7:00-8:00 p.m.** in the St. Michael Room. If you have any questions, please contact Patti Herrick at [spemherrick@gmail.com](mailto:spemherrick@gmail.com).



## PRO-LIFE CORNER

One of the groups that are on the frontline of changing hearts to a culture of life are pregnancy resource centers (PRC). They not only help women with an unplanned pregnancy understand the options available besides abortion, but they also support the woman before and after birth with practical resources such as ultrasounds, counseling, diapers and parenting classes. Many people are unsure of how to help someone connect with a PRC. To simplify this, a website has been set up to streamline this process. The website is Option Line at <https://www.optionline.org>, which provides a search function, online instant messaging, information on options, and a 7x24 hotline: 800-712-HELP (4357). There are 20 PRC locations within a 50-mile radius of Columbus, all of which are qualified to assist a woman through a difficult pregnancy.

One of the charges frequently leveled by the pro-abortion industry is that PRCs are "fake clinics." This is, in fact, not true. There are over 2,700 PRCs (which outnumber abortion clinics by 3:1), of which 2,000 are medically certified. The other 700 are not medically certified because they do not provide medical services. There are no "fake" clinics. The vast majority follow a code of ethics known as Commitment of Care and Compassion. There have been several lawsuits and investigations into PRC's giving false information and not one instance has been validated. Contrary to pro-abortion industry claims that PRCs get government funding, 90% of their funding is from private donations.

PRCs are providing vital services for women in a crisis pregnancy and need our active support. As Patricia Heaton (one of the few Pro-Life advocates from Hollywood) replied to a disparaging Tweet stating that PRCs are notorious for misrepresenting a woman's options, she noted that "no one ever died from visiting a pregnancy clinic." If you are interested in providing volunteer support for a local PRC, contact the St. Matthew Pro-Life Group for more information.

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 614-506-2382.

**CURIOUS ABOUT WALKING WITH PURPOSE?** The morning session of Walking with Purpose will be starting a new Bible Study (*Discovering Our Dignity*) this **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).

**SATURDAY MORNING MEN'S GROUP** – Our *That Man Is You* program 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.

**RSVP TODAY! 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** this **Wednesday, December 6**, from **12:00-1:00 p.m.** Please RSVP to [Support@XLNsystems.com](mailto:Support@XLNsystems.com) and simply include the number of seats requested.

**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.

**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.

## 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 your children.

Last week we continued to fine-tune the sanctuary sound as work started on consolidating all the lights on our wireless system. At this time last year, we were replacing our main lights with LED fixtures. The plan was to convert and connect all existing ceiling track lights to the same wireless system, allowing programming of preset scenes with a single button. Before final connections could be made, the Sanctuary repairs took priority. With the Sanctuary completed and Christmas less than a month away, it was time to finish the lighting.

The Family Life Office and Facilities Team were presented with Catholic Foundation grant checks last week. A total of \$8,000 will be utilized for a faith development program and support of our ongoing church security initiatives. We appreciate all the support The Foundation has provided St. Matthew Parish the last few years, as well as this year. Thank you.

At our request, the proposed electronic monument sign, Appeal Hearing, has been continued until January 18. We should have less going on, providing additional time to prepare and present our case in front of newly appointed members of the Zoning Appeal Board.

Those wishing to help with church Christmas decorations and Nativity construction, please mark your calendars. We will start decorating on **Friday, December 22 at 10:00 a.m.** We will use anyone willing to help, including entire families. It is great to watch the church transform for the Christmas season. This year will be particularly special with the completion of the Sanctuary renovations. Thank you for your involvement and support.

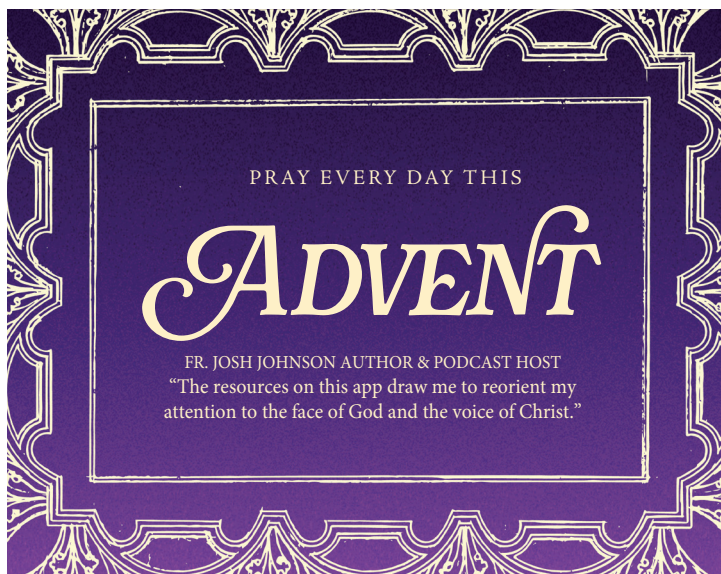
Suggestions on how we can better serve you and the parish are always welcome. Send requests and suggestions to [gharvey@stmatthew.net](mailto:gharvey@stmatthew.net). Be safe, stay healthy, and God Bless.

## REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR THE COLUMBUS CATHOLIC WOMEN'S & MEN'S CONFERENCES BEING HELD FEBRUARY 17 & 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.

## 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).



### Find Peace in Prayer this Advent with Hallow

St. Matthew has gifted you  
Hallow access through Easter for only \$1! Scan the code and  
search for "St. Matthew the Apostle Catholic Church" to subscribe!



[hallow.com/holyday](http://hallow.com/holyday)

Scan with your phone



#### Daily Prayers

Start your day with the Daily Gospel, Rosary, Examen, or one of over 10,000 sessions, including daily meditations, homilies, reflections, and Bible studies.



#### Family Content

Pray as a family with weekly Mass Prep, or guide your little ones with introductory prayer sessions for ages 3 and up as well as sacrament prep.



#### Bible Stories & Sleep Content

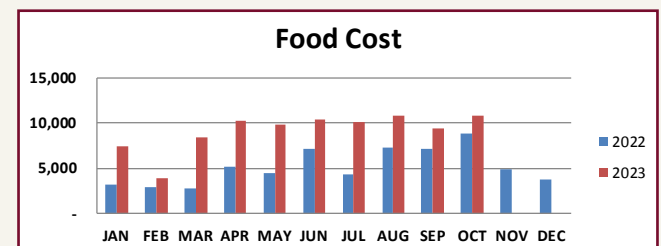
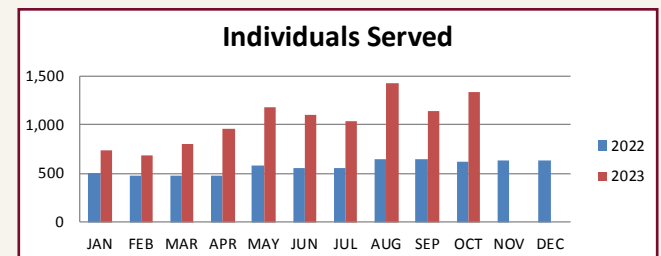
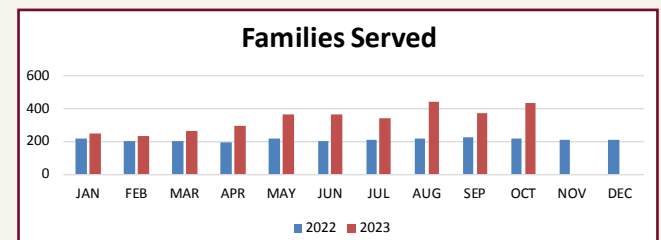
Close your day with Christ with an Examen, Night Prayer, or a Rosary with guests like Bishop Barron, Mark Wahlberg, and Jonathan Roumie.

## 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#/).



NATIONAL  
**Eucharistic  
Revival**

*The Year of Parish Revival*  
2023-24

## Know Your Gestures and Postures during Mass – a Quiz

As St. Paul writes, “As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body” <sup>1</sup> When it comes to our prayer lives and relationship with each other and within the Church, though, do we know when we should pray as the many parts and when we are to pray as one body? We are blessed as the People of God with many charisms, devotions, and private prayer opportunities to grow in relationship with God our Creator. However, when it comes to the Mass, we are not individuals but Christ’s bride, the Church, praying universally (literally) as one body.

The Mass is the prayer par excellence instituted by Christ at the Last Supper. It is Christ’s sacrifice offered to God the Father, even as we gather together to celebrate a meal. Given this context, do we as the Lay Faithful know what to do in our unity of worship during the Mass? How do we know? From our parents? As students in Catholic school? From those around us in the pews? Hopefully, our answer is ‘yes’ to some or all of these instances, but it is first and foremost from the Church Herself, who gives us the best way to express our oneness in the Mass. Let us, therefore, consider what we know from our social interactions and from the Church Herself.

Ponder the situations below and your experience with them. (Individual answers will not be tallied nor collected.) Note: Posture = a position with our whole body; Gesture = a temporary position or movement of some part of our body.

1. During the proclamation of the Holy Gospel, what is the posture of the Lay Faithful, i.e. the congregation?
  - a. Sit
  - b. Stand
  - c. Kneel
  
2. In those Masses when incense is used, the priest celebrant incenses the altar and gifts at the Offertory, then the assisting minister incenses the priest before coming forward to incense the congregation. What is the congregation’s posture and gesture in response to incensing from the assisting minister?
  - a. Standing, then bow from head or waist
  - b. Standing, then make the sign of the cross
  - c. Both a. and b.
  - d. Standing, but do nothing (just remain standing)



3. During the Lord's Prayer, what should the gestures of the congregation be?
  - a. Hold hands with others
  - b. Imitate the priest celebrant with the Orans hand position (arms extended with palms turned upward and open)
  - c. Put hands together in prayer, palm-to-palm, in imitation of the deacon (when he is present at the altar)
  
4. When offering each other the Sign of the Peace, what gestures can the Faithful use?
  - a. Shake hands with immediate pew neighbors
  - b. Nod head and/or wave hand toward individuals while making eye contact
  - c. Blow kisses to immediate pew neighbors
  - d. Any of the above
  
5. When receiving Holy Communion, what is the posture of each communicant, in terms of our unity of worship?
  - a. Standing, with reverent bow from waist before receiving Jesus
  - b. Standing, but genuflecting on one knee before receiving Jesus
  - c. Kneeling while receiving Jesus

Under the leadership of our bishops, we are now in a multi-year season of Eucharistic Revival in the United States. As the new liturgical year begins this Advent, bringing in the calendar year 2024, we focus on the Year of Parish Revival as we receive, review, and reboot our hearts to grow in love with the Lord Jesus in His Real Presence in the Eucharist. And so, we begin with what we Catholics do at Mass, with more catechesis to come throughout the year. The answers to each scenario above that fully express our unity in worship will be provided in the coming weeks.

<sup>1</sup> Quoted from 1 Corinthians 12:12-13a. For more context, continue with verses 13b-27, NAB version.

**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, December 27 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 today, **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.



## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ST. JUDE COUNCIL 5801

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

**PANCAKE BREAKFAST**, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, will be next **Sunday, December 10** (and will be held every second Sunday through March) after the 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Masses in the Hutta gym. Proceeds will benefit the Women's Care Center. Come and join us for a delicious breakfast!

**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).

**WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED:** Laura Lackey, mother of Dennis Lackey.

## AROUND THE DIOCESE

**NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN FOR THE 2024 CATHOLIC MAN OF THE YEAR** The Catholic Men's Luncheon Club is accepting nominations for the Diocese of Columbus 2024 Catholic Man of the Year. The annual award will be presented by Bishop Earl Fernandes on **Friday, February 2, 2024**, at the Men's Luncheon held at St. Patrick Church in downtown Columbus. The Catholic Man of the Year is awarded to one layman who, through his daily actions, words, and prayers, exemplifies the "good and faithful servant." The recipient will have the opportunity to share his personal testimony during the ceremony. Nominations will be accepted through **Sunday, December 31**. For details, nomination instructions and the required online nomination form, go to <https://www.catholicmensministry.com/catholicmanoftheyear>. Submit your nomination and let us know why your parishioner, husband, father, son, uncle, brother, or friend is the Catholic Man of the Year!

**URGENT SUPPORT NEEDED IN THE HOLY LANDS** – As the war rages on, Pope Francis is reaching out to world leaders, calling for a ceasefire, 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.

**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>.

Summary of Receipts and Disbursements for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023		
<b>OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
<b>Operating Receipt Activity</b>		
Offeritory, Education Fees, Gifts and Bequests		\$ 5,960,124
Facilities Fund Donations		\$ 92,077
	Total Received	\$ 6,052,201
<b>Operating Expenses:</b>		
Parish		\$ 1,175,936
School		\$ 3,350,337
Religious Education		\$ 314,946
Secondary School Support		\$ 48,490
	Total Disbursed	\$ 4,889,709
<b>NET OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		\$ 1,162,492
* Capital Fund reserve		\$ 480,000
<b>NET OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		\$ 682,492
<b>Budgeted Receipts and Disbursements for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2024</b>		
<b>OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
<b>Operating Receipt Activity</b>		
Offeritory, Education Fees, Gifts and Bequests		\$ 5,705,524
	Total Budgeted	\$ 5,705,524
<b>Operating Expenses:</b>		
Parish		\$ 1,181,326
School		\$ 3,418,204
Religious Education		\$ 294,375
Secondary School Support		\$ 49,000
* Capital Fund reserve		\$ 480,000
	Total Budgeted	\$ 5,422,905
<b>NET OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		\$ 282,619
* For facilities and equipment replacement		



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