



O NIGHT

Divine



ST. MATTHEW

THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC PARISH

WORSHIP • SERVE • EVANGELIZE

807 Havens Corners Road

Gahanna, Ohio 43230

614-471-0212 • www.stmatthew.net

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.

PARISH CLERGY – 614-471-0212

Fr. Theodore K. Sill, Pastor

Deacons: Rev. Mr. Joseph Meyer

Rev. Mr. Christopher Walsh

PARISH STAFF – 614-471-0212

Business Manager: Leo Grimes

Director of Music: Dawn Shiningier

Facilities Superintendent:

George Harvey – gharvey@stmatthew.net

Office & Ministry Coordinator: Michelle Dougherty

Safe Environment: Michelle Lantz

Director of Family Life Ministries: Julie Ratliff

Catholic Inquiry/Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults
(RCIA): Jennifer Cabe

Religious Education Coordinator: Dorothy Allwein

Baptism Coordinator: Katie Ryzenga

Youth and Young Adult Ministry: Maggie Allwein

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.

CHRISTMAS
2023

MASS INTENTIONS AND SCRIPTURES**MONDAY, DECEMBER 25** – *Is 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14*

10:00 a.m. Justin Pressler/Kim Wittensoldner

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26 – *Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22*

6:30 a.m. Hobby & Patty Howard/John & Karen Howard

8:30 a.m. Shirley Merkle/Family

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27 – *1 Jn 1:1-4; Jn 20:1a, 2-8*

6:30 a.m. Intentions of John Annarino/Bruce Vanderhoff

8:30 a.m. Lori Amick/Vano Family

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28 – *1 Jn 1:5-2:2; Mt 2:13-18*

6:30 a.m. Susa Stertzner/Mom & Dad

8:30 a.m. Chris Davis/Whitt Family

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29 – *1 Jn 2:3-11; Lk 2:22-35*

6:30 a.m. Edward Gernetzke/Hartge Family

8:30 a.m. Intentions of Charles & Anne Porter

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30 – *1 Jn 2:12-17; Lk 2:36-40*

8:30 a.m. Art & Molly Ulrich/Family

5:00 p.m. Cecelia Klepper/Greger Family

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31 – *Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17; Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40*8:00 a.m. For Saint Matthew Parishioners/
Fr. Theodore K. Sill

10:00 a.m. Panfilo S. Reyes/Azucena Reyes

12:00 p.m. Florinda Garcia/Chuck & Mila McNamee

STEWARDSHIP

2023-2024 Through	December 17, 2023	Year to Date
Parish Budgeted Expenses	\$42,957.00	\$1,073,925.00
Contributions	\$41,922.55	\$1,066,281.75
Surplus (Shortage)	(\$1,034.45)	(\$7,643.25)

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

	SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30 5:00 P.M.	SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31 8:00 A.M.	SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31 10:00 A.M.	SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31 12:00 P.M.
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	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>)			
	Mickie Zaino Patti Herrick Molly Fanning Brooke Warren	Gary Frazee Nancy Nelson Tim McMullen Mary Anne Frazee	Tom Whitlatch Nick Miller Maria Alfaro Ann Whitlatch	Andy Prociuk Mila McNamee Darlene Doody Kristin Williams
IN HOME	Lorraine Curtin (2); Nancy Nelson (4); Sarah Kaminski (5); Rhea Neugebauer (6); Tom & Teresa Ozarzak (7)			
LECTORS	Patti Herrick Steve Blubaugh	Mary Anne Frazee Tim McMullen	Tom Whitlatch Ann Whitlatch	Kat Graham Michael Motil
SACRISTANS	Vicki Wengert	Ezra Escudero	Manuel Xavier	Tom Minser
SERVERS	MC – Jeffrey Iruthaya Maddie Klein Mallory Klein Monica Klein Natalie Klein Ruby Klein Sadie Klein	MC – Landon Miller Owen McNair Ben Prier	MC – Thomas Dougherty Arianna Akemati Ayden Akemati Ben Lackey Roman Rush Molly See Henry Springer	Gabby Dages Finnley Helms Claire Navarro Trae Rogers Joseph Williams

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.

ADORERS STILL NEEDED OVER CHRISTMAS – What present will you give Jesus this year? Consider an hour of Adoration over Christmas Eve or Christmas Day as a gift to our Lord. We need your help to stay perpetual over these two days. Sign-ups are in the Gathering Space and by the Chapel sign-in desk. Your generosity is deeply appreciated.

SECOND COLLECTION DURING CHRISTMAS – It has been the custom for many years at St. Matthew to take up a second collection at Christmas as a sacrificial offering for the birth of our Savior. This year's collection will go toward the **Parish Facilities Fund** to assist in making continued improvements to our parish. Please consider going online to make that extra offering, or drop it in the offertory basket. Thank you for your generosity!

OFFICE HOURS DURING THE HOLIDAYS – The Parish Office will be closed **December 25-January 1**. We will reopen on **Tuesday, January 2**, with our regular hours of 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

DIVINE MERCY PERPETUAL ADORATION – “Holy Eucharist is the continuation of Christ's Incarnation on earth. The mystery of the Eucharist gives us the joy of having Christmas every day. When we come to the Blessed Sacrament, we come to Bethlehem, a name which means “house of bread.” Jesus chose to be born in Bethlehem because He would dwell with us forever as the “Living Bread” come down from heaven. When the shepherds and Magi came to adore Him, they brought Him so much joy with their humble visit to Bethlehem that their visit has been praised and retold down through the centuries. God has never stopped honoring them for honoring His Son in Bethlehem. So too, your humble visit to Jesus today in the Blessed Sacrament brings Him so much joy that it will be retold for all eternity and bring the world closer to His promise of peace on earth.” – St. Teresa of Calcutta. Learn more of our Divine Mercy Perpetual Adoration Chapel online at <https://stmatthew.net/dmc>.

ST. MATTHEW BOOK CLUB – There will be no Book Club meeting in December. The next Book Club will meet on **Wednesday, January 24 at 7:00 p.m.** in the St Michael Room. We will be discussing the book, *The Rocking Chair Prophet* by Matthew Kelly. All are 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.

WOMEN OF ST. MATTHEW! We hope you will join us for the first weekend of January's **Be Loved** retreat being held at the Jesuit Retreat Center in Milford, OH. Our daily frustrations and fears point to deeper things happening inside us. Step back from your daily grind and give yourself space to heal. Join us in a safe space with other women where you can listen to God. It's time to let go of what holds you back. He does amazing things when you're fully present to Him! This Christmas, why not give yourself the gift of time with Jesus and start the year with an extra shot of grace. The cost of the weekend is \$332.00, but we want to make this retreat possible for any woman from our parish who would like to attend. If you need financial assistance or have any other questions, please reach out to Julie Ratliff at jratliff@stmatthew.net. More information is on our website at <https://stmatthew.net/womensretreat>.

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.

PRO-LIFE CORNER



On April 24, 2007, a miracle occurred at the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City. After a Mass that was offered for the unborn children, a bright white light appeared on the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe. The light appeared as an embryo in the exact location of the womb of the Blessed Mother. This event was witnessed by thousands of people and was photographed and filmed. It lasted for one hour. The white light was described as pure and very intense, much different than the photographic glare produced by a camera flash. The photographs were examined by an engineer who found them to be authentic. The light, in the form of an embryo, emanated from the image and appeared to be floating.

This miracle happened on the same day that the state court of Mexico City ruled that abortion would be legal. But the message from Our Lady of Guadalupe echoes the Gospel passage from St. John that we read on Christmas Day “What came to be through Him was life, and this life was the light of man; the light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it.”

In the image, Mary has her hair loose beneath the mantle, a sign of virginity in Aztec culture. She also has a black girdle around her waist which symbolizes pregnancy; both of which convey the miracle of the Incarnation and Mary's perpetual virginity. The image is a testimony of Mary's motherly love for all people, especially for expectant mothers and the unborn. Let us invoke the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe this Christmas season, for all expectant mothers and the challenges they face for giving birth. One way to do that is to participate in the nationwide Novena “9 Days for Life” that runs from January 16-24. Visit <https://www.stmatthew.net/pro-life> to receive daily reflections and prayers, via email, during these 9 days.

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.

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.

Thanks to many volunteers, the church was decorated beautifully for Christmas providing the perfect environment to reflect on the season.

The Facilities Team embarked on a very ambitious project list over the Christmas break. With the original school building well over 60 years old, most of the original mechanical systems have been replaced or upgraded. In the last six years, we have replaced the roof, the kitchen, and upgraded the entire school to LED lighting. Last week, the original electrical panels were replaced after several obsolete circuit breakers failed, requiring expensive refurbished replacement parts. The cafeteria HVAC system installed in 2002 was struck by lightning last summer. This week, the unit will be replaced, paid for by an insurance settlement. Also, during the break, playground repairs were made, Pre-K storage cabinets installed, stonework on outside of church was repaired, ventilation was improved in the back classrooms of the school, and the cafeteria kitchen was deep cleaned. We also had time to pick up extra student desks, chairs, and kidney tables from St. Mary School to replace some of our older worn furniture.

Want to learn a new skill? We could really use some volunteers at each Mass to watch over the sound system and to help stream on Sundays at 10:00 a.m. No experience is needed. Training is available at your convenience on weekdays and during weekend Masses. Other Parishes our size have as many as three volunteers working each Mass on sound, video, and graphics. Our goal is at least one person per Mass with a backup. Parent/student teams work great. It is interesting and a very important ministry. Thank you.

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

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING 101 – Join Jim Gernetzke, a long-time parishioner, in an ongoing small group study of Catholic Social Teaching (CST). Beginning on **January 8, 2024** – the group will meet every Monday from **6:00-7:00 p.m.** in the St. Raphael Room to read and discuss the Church's foundational documents of CST. We will begin with *Rerum Novarum* (On the Condition of Labor) – Pope Leo XIII, 1891. For more information and to reserve your spot in the group, email Jim at jimgernetzke@noslumine.com. Seating is limited.

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 or 614-443-8893, ext. 112.

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.

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.

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.

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.

CONGRATULATIONS to Charles & Anne Porter on their 50th Wedding Anniversary. May God send you His choicest blessings.



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, January 7 at 3:00 p.m.** Everyone is welcome.



Donations for Christmas Flowers and Decorations

In Memory of:

Leonard and Emma Ritchey / Marilyn Allread
 Tom and Pat Blubaugh, Ryan E. Miller /
 Terri and Van Ambrose
 Danny Arnold / Charles & Sarah Arnold
 Daniel Arnold / Kevin & Kathy Arnold
 Sheila Beck / Tom Beck
 John Hadley / Lois Beckman
 Todd Bidlack / Mary Bidlack
 William George and Virginia Maxwell Brown, Bob and
 Donna Brown / Anne and Rob Brown
 JoAnn Buttler / Jack Buttler
 James Michael Carney and Deceased Members of the
 Loomis Family / Muiriel Carney
 Kip and Helen Arick / JoAnn and Michael Carpenter
 William D. Payne / Catherine Cincinnati
 Jeffrey Conkle, Harry and Emily Mare, Bert and
 Mary Conkle / Mr. and Mrs. Paul Conkle
 Deb Harting / Stephanie Couhig
 Joseph P. and Margaret A. Endres / Jane Crombie
 Deceased Loved Ones of Beth Crompton /
 Mr. and Mrs. Brett Crompton
 Mary Ann Fuela, Carmine D'Alberto /
 Maria and Donato D'Alberto
 Betty Strapp and Kevin Strapp / Sharon Dalton
 The Selby, Koelbl, Danielson and Durbin Families /
 Mrs. Diane Danielson
 Arlene, Jim and Terry Deibel / The Ted Deibel Family
 Karl Dienhart, Tim McGinnis / Molly Dienhart
 Anna Marie Dougherty, Blanche Verhelst /
 Eugene T. Dougherty
 Clare Plessner, Odell Plessner / Barbara and
 Kenneth Eichman
 Elekes, Rocker, Boley, Nisky and Nash Families /
 Mr. and Mrs. Neil Elekes
 Anna Fedorchak, Stephen Fedorchak, Helen Richardson /
 Susan Fedorchak
 Larry Feters, Joe and Lillian Lesch / Mrs. Karen Feters
 Christopher Finkel, Grace Weidaw, Gary Graham,
 Louis Merryman, Dorpha and Lorena Tackett, Bob and
 Lois Finkel / Christie & Mark Finkel
 Richard Debevoise / Joelle Folian
 Mr. and Mrs. James Frazee, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Wells,
 Martin Frazee / Mary and Gary Frazee
 Deceased Members of the Frueh Family / Geraldine Frueh
 Deceased Members of the Ryan and Fugger Families /
 The Fugger Family
 Dean Garrett, Paul C. Garrett / Ginger Garrett
 Rose and William Ciez, and Mr. and
 Mrs. Thomas Glasgow / Mr. & Mrs. Malcolm Glasgow
 Sean Gilmore / Kat Graham
 Alex Gray, Carmin S. Maietta, DO / Carla Gray

Deceased Parents and Grandparents of the Greger and
 Klepper Families / Paul and Maribeth Greger
 Clifford and Lorraine Fodness, Ann and Harry Harmon,
 William Fodness, Brent Fodness /
 Cheryl & Gary Harmon
 Frank and Mary Louise Hartge, Robert and Phyllis Casey,
 Fr. Russell Tikalsky, Fr. Thomas Casey, S.J. /
 Frank and Judeen Hartge
 Deceased Members of the Hastings, Taylor and
 Gulyban Families / Patricia & Fletcher Hastings
 Jim Hess / Joan Hess and Family
 Maria Sichini / Loretta and Patrick Higgins
 Thomas and Marian May / Julia Hoenig
 Ryan Hogan, Nick Hogan, Carolyn Howard / Karen Hogan
 & John Howard
 Leora and Ralph Huck, Ron Huck, Christopher Tesi /
 Nelson Huck
 Marcia and Walter Chadwick, Tom and Vi Jones,
 James Chadwick, and Kevin McCollum /
 Greg & Katherine Jones
 William and Elizabeth Joseph, John Lichwarcik /
 Mona Lee Joseph
 Deceased Family and Friends / The Jenkins Family
 Deceased Members of the Kanoski/Schwartz Family /
 Donna and Christopher Kanoski
 Ray and Margaret Hart / Barbara and Albert Keechle
 Leon Kessel, Mary Margaret and Paul Fortener and
 Allen Fortener / Susan Kessel
 Ed Kistner, Ron Kistner / Mary Kistner
 James and Theresa Konkus, Gregory Olszyk,
 Janet Johann Hall, Mary McGill /
 Mr. and Mrs. Scott Konkus
 Larry Lager, Sam Hardwick, Connie Danison,
 Ruth Binkley, and Deceased Members of the Hardwick
 and Lager Families / Mary Lager
 Joseph M. Endres / Marc Largmann
 Jim Martin / Kathy Martin
 Deceased Members of the Stedman, Hoban and
 Martin Families / Pat & Scott Martin
 Lucy and Marion May / Tom May
 Deiss and Mazza Families / Mrs. Julius Mazza
 Debbie McMillan, Dorothy McMillan / Andrea McMillan
 Barb McMullen (Mother of Timothy), Albert Hudack
 (Father of Susan) / Timothy and Susan McMullen
 Jon Migliozi, John P. Alexander, Josephine Alexander,
 Kitty Alexander, Eileen Migliozi / Nan Migliozi
 Joe and Mamie Murphy / Jennifer & Patrick Millenbaugh
 Robert, Helen and Joseph Palmer, and Deceased Members
 of the Miller, Podsedly, Winkle, and Jandroch Families /
 Edward and Corinne Miller
 George Morse / Phyllis Morse
 Toni Barr / Michael & Susan Mulligan
 George and Margaret Hess, Richard and Ellen Nadalin /
 Dr. & Mrs. Richard Nadalin
 Ralph J. Napolitano / Emily Napolitano

Hast and Novotny Families /
 Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Novotny
 Martins Olabode, Augustine Olabode / Mr. Josy Olabode
 George Morse / Lori Onega
 Jon and Irene Altman, Nicolette Ozarzak,
 Gene and Ginny Ozarzak, and Janet Busch /
 Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Ozarzak
 Deceased Parents and Grandparents of George and Susan /
 George & Susan Palmer
 Fred and Dolores Hoffman, Matthew Hoffman,
 Joan Andren, William Dula / Dennis & Mary Pancake
 Mary Mullins (Mother of Trina) and Helen Panzo
 (Mother of Rich) / Trina & Rich Panzo
 Mom and Dad / Joy Parker
 Nancy and Paul Bennett / Mr. and Mrs. Jeffery Perry
 The Enke Family / AnnaMarie & John Rice
 Shirley Coleman, Doris Queen and Stephen Butcher /
 Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Rickman
 Kaiden Paul Riesenbergs / Paul and Jessica Riesenbergs
 Arthur N. Ulrich and Mary Ulrich / Jim and Cathy Rose
 Keith J. Russell, Mark J. Russell, and Deceased Members
 of the Thibaut Family / Linda Russell
 Joseph P. Ryan / Mary Ryan
 Danny Arnold, Richard Berger, Steve Dunlap and
 Patricia Ryan / The Rich Ryan Family
 Walter and Eleanor Saarie, Ed and Anne Rossiter,
 Louella Saarie, Dorothy Velie / Mr. & Mrs. Thom Saarie
 Anthony Salamony, Nicola Pietrykowski,
 Loreto Dalicandro, Victoria Dalicandro, Maria Macioce /
 Gina Salamony
 Nick Sanders, Martina and Carl Uhlenhake, Dolores and
 Clayton Sanders / Dan and Pat Sanders
 Deceased Members of the Schlagheck/Severs Family /
 Joan & Richard Schlagheck
 Ronald Schull, Mr. and Mrs. Quentin Pitcher /
 Caryl Schull
 George and Frances Schweitzer, Louis and Helen Reichert /
 Helen & George Schweitzer
 Joseph D. Lauferweiler / Mr. and Mrs. James R. Secrist
 Tom Selby, Tim Selby / Betty Selby
 The Wimberly Family / Mr. and Mrs. Gary J. Sergio
 Paul Sewell / Paula Sewell
 Don Danielson, Frank Williams, Margaret Williams,
 Susan Mason and Barbara O'Riordan / Sarah Simcox
 Robert L. Slezak, Frank J. Henze /
 Mr. and Mrs. Scott Slezak
 Daniel Smith and Richard Lang / Monica Smith
 Juna Cutlip / Nancy Sonderman
 Catherine Squillace / Mr. Vincent Squillace
 Wayne Stertz and Susa Stertz / Kasey Stertz
 Betty Strapp, Kevin Strapp, Nancy Wirthman and
 Richard Wirthman / Gary and Linda Strapp
 Mr. and Mrs. Frank Tartal / Thomas Tartal
 Samantha Nienberg / Marie & Jason Templeton

Christopher Tesi, Ralph, Leora and Ron Huck /
 Sharon Tesi
 Tom and Arlene McQuade / Nancy & Gregory Thompson
 Joseph and Betty Rinehart, Del Thompson, and
 James Thompson / Tim, Laurie, Noah and
 Joel Thompson
 Joseph and Jeannine Fancelli / JoEllen Vickers
 Mickey Anne Wood / Joe & Connie Wood
 Leo Woodruff / Jane Woodruff
 Durland, Margaret and Mark Workman /
 Michael Workman
 Deceased Members of the Silva and Xavier Families and
 Uma Friends / Sylvia & Manuel Xavier
 Justin Routte / Mr. and Mrs. Mark Yale

In Honor of:

The Albert Arnold and William Rauch Families /
 Charles & Sarah Arnold
 Helen Breitfeller, Helen Carpenter / JoAnn and
 Michael Carpenter
 Members of the Ryan/Fugger Family / The Fugger Family
 Joe and Mary Johann / Mr. and Mrs. Scott Konkus
 Members of the Stedman, Hoban and Martin Families /
 Pat & Scott Martin
 Father Sill and Sister Paulina with Thanksgiving /
 Edward and Corinne Miller
 James Matthew White / Ellen Pietrykowski
 Grace and Francis Conroy, MaryAnn and Paul Rovnak /
 Joan and Paul Rovnak
 Judith Lauferweiler / Mr. and Mrs. James R. Secrist
 Philip Valles / Victoria and Richard Valles
 Jacob Whitlatch, Jim McCrone / Brian Whitlatch
 Yale Family / Mr. and Mrs. Mark Yale

Additional Donations Received:

Jeff and Heather Bernard
 Carol and John Dreska
 Gary Fadley
 Kevin Lepionka
 Mr. and Mrs. Biao Li
 Dr. & Mrs. Adolph Lombardi
 Eileen Masoni
 William Mauri
 Mrs. Janine Patton
 Mrs. Margaret Staggs
 Susie Strait
 Ms. Tina Tilson
 Mr. and Mrs. Niem Vo
 Anna and Kenneth Zins

CHARITABLE WORKS MINISTRY NEWS

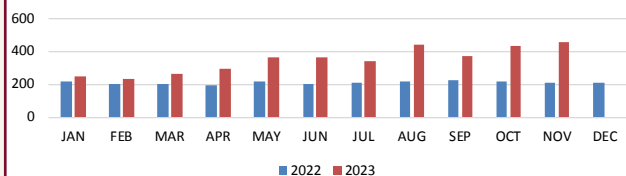
~ **THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU!!** We are truly blessed to have such a generous and kind community here at St. Matthew Parish. We exceeded our Matching Collection goal of \$52,000.00 and received donations of over \$62,000.00 during November. Thanks to all who donated and also to those who prayed for our campaign. May Our Lord Jesus Christ bless all of you!!!

Recap of November 2023 – Another record month for CWM.

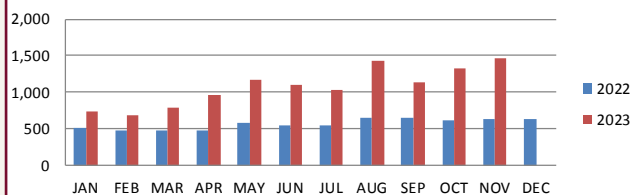
- 461 families served (more than double what we did in November 2022)
- 1,468 individuals served in those families
- 3,818 families served to date in 2023 (on track to exceed 4,000 for all of 2023)

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.

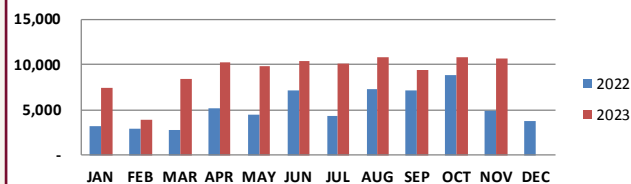
Families Served



Individuals Served



Food Cost



Our normal hours of operation are from **10:00 a.m.-12:00 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 2024 (UPDATED) at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040945aeaa2aa5f94-charitable>.



CONVERSATIONS OF FAITH

FIRST FRIDAYS AT 7:30 PM

STARTING FEBRUARY 2

ST. ANTHONY ROOM (BASEMENT OF THE CHURCH)

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<https://stmatthew.net/events/conversations>



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www.emmausroadscholarship.org



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ST. JUDE COUNCIL 5801

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

FREE THROW CHAMPIONSHIP – The Knights will hold the 2024 Free Throw Championship on **Saturday, January 20** from **5:00-8:00 p.m.** in the St. Matthew PAC. Reservations are not required. The event is **FREE** and is both fun and challenging for boys and girls. Free Throw contestants, ages 9-14, will compete against other contestants their own age. Age eligibility is determined by the age of the contestant as of January 1. Winners go on to district, region and state competition and can earn trophies and other recognition from the Knights. Look for additional information after the holidays.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED: Mary Ann Hobart, mother of Carol Thompson and grandmother of Jamie Tilson and Heather Rush; and Margaret (Peg) Keefe, mother of Deborah Walsh and mother-in-law of Deacon Chris Walsh.

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.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

DID YOU KNOW? MODERN-DAY MANGER – As we inch our way toward the celebration of the most significant birth in history, we need to remember the “Bethlehems” right here in our back yard. There are women who are caring for their babies in a way not dissimilar to Mary twenty-one centuries ago. Oftentimes, through no fault of their own, these mothers are thrown into a life of poverty that inflicts the child with a life that is rough and hard to endure. 2024 is just around the corner. Have a blessed Christmas and stay tuned for the improvements and increased aid that Bottoms Up will offer those who most need us! For more information, and ways you can help, visit www.bottomsup.life.

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!

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.

LITERATURE PROFESSOR OPENING AT THE JOSEPHINUM – The Pontifical College Josephinum seminary is seeking to hire a full-time Assistant Professor of Literature in the College of Liberal Arts (rank negotiable), beginning in fall 2024. An ideal candidate will possess a completed doctorate (PhD) in literature or an associated area and exhibit a strong commitment to Catholic higher education and to the mission of the Josephinum to form men for the ordained priesthood. Read more about the position and its necessary qualifications at www.pcj.edu/jobopportunity.

ODU TO HOST ST. THOMAS AQUINAS LECTURE

ON JANUARY 25 – Ohio Dominican University will host its annual St. Thomas Aquinas Lecture on **Thursday, January 25** as theologian and scholar Fr. Justin Brophy, OP, Ph.D. presents “Thomas Aquinas: What is Truth in the Modern World.” The free lecture will take place at **11:00 a.m.** in the Matesich Theatre, located inside Erskine Hall on ODU’s main campus, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus, 43219. Fr. Brophy currently serves as an assistant professor of political science at Providence College in Providence, Rhode Island. More information is available at ohiodominican.edu.

START THE NEW YEAR RIGHT! Give the gift of time to each other next year. Experience a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend where married couples can get away from jobs, kids, chores, and phones and focus only on each other. Make 2024 the best year of your marriage by applying today! The next weekend is **February 9-11** in the Central Ohio area. For more information or to apply, visit our website at WWMEcolumbus.org. Early registration is highly recommended.

ST. CHARLES HOSTING WOMEN’S AUDITIONS FOR

“THE LIGHTNING THIEF: THE PERCY JACKSON MUSICAL” PRODUCTION – The St. Charles Preparatory School Drama Department will hold women’s auditions for *The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical* on Wednesday & Thursday, **January 3 & 4** at **4:00 p.m.** at the St. Charles Campus Theater, 2010 East Broad Street (You need only attend one of the two days.) Auditions are open to all area high school women in Central Ohio. Production Dates: February 29-March 3. If you would like additional information, please email Doug Montgomery, at dmontgomery@scprep.org.

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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