BAPTISMS

All Baptism inquiries must begin by filling out a Baptism form on our website at www.stmatthew.net/baptism. For more information, please contact Katie Ryzenga at 614-532-0620 or kryzenga@stmatthew.net.

MARRIAGE

Marriage preparation must begin at least 6 months before a desired wedding date. All inquiries begin on the Parish website at www.stmatthew.net/marriage or by contacting Julie Ratliff at 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

Deacons: Rev. Mr. Joseph Meyer

Rev. Mr. Christopher Walsh

PARISH STAFF - 614-471-0212

Business Manager: Leo Grimes Director of Music: Dawn Shininger

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

PARISH SCHOOL

cdstmatthew.org

Director Pre-K: Sr. Paulina Porczynska – 614-557-7571

Principal K-8: John Rathburn - 614-471-4930

CHARITABLE WORKS MINISTRY - 614-471-5320

Monday-Friday, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon; Thursday, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

PARISH REGISTRATION

To register as a parish member, stop by the office or register online at www.stmatthew.net/online-parishioner-registration.

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Announcements must be submitted to Hillarie Michaels by email to hmichaels@stmatthew.net by 12:00 noon on Monday.



ST. MATTHEW

THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC PARISH

WORSHIP · SERVE · EVANGELIZE

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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.

ST. MATTHEW CHURCH GAHANNA, OHIO

MASS INTENTIONS AND SCRIPTURES

MONDAY, JANUARY 29 – 2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13; Mk 5:1-20

6:30 a.m. Larry Thibaut/Barbara Overholser

8:30 a.m. Arlene Deibel/Linda Russell

TUESDAY, JANUARY 30 – 2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30–19:3; Mk 5:21-43

6:30 a.m. Leonor Benegas/Pen Ripke

8:30 a.m. Margaret Fielders/Mary Rita Simpson

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31 - 2 Sm 24:2, 9-17; Mk 6:1-6

6:30 a.m. Intentions of Ryan Russell/

Barbara Overholser

8:30 a.m. Howard Family/John Howard

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1 - 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12; Mk 6:7-13

6:30 a.m. Mary Sue Malone/Mary Ann Armstrong

8:30 a.m. Don Boes/Jean Boes

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2 – Mal 3:1-4; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

6:30 a.m. Stephan Haller/Carmen Londono

8:30 a.m. James Polk/Jaime Lawler

7:00 p.m. Jeannine Fancelli/Paul & Joan Rovnak

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3 – 1 Kgs 3:4-13; Mk 6:30-34

8:30 a.m. Intentions of Betty Walsh/Kevin Walsh

5:00 p.m. For Saint Matthew Parishioners/

Fr. Theodore K. Sill

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4 – *Jb* 7:1-4, 6-7; 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23; *Mk* 1:29-39

8:00 a.m. Toni Barr/Frank & Judeen Hartge

10:00 a.m. Intentions of Bob & Lorraine Curtin/

9:00 a.m. Bible Study

12:00 p.m. Christopher Kuhlman/Kathleen Meyer

STEWARDSHIP					
2023-2024 Through	January 21, 2024	Year to Date			
Parish Budgeted Expenses	\$42,957.00	\$1,288,710.00			
Contributions	\$44,672.15	\$1,348,302.73			
Surplus (Shortage)	\$1,715.15	\$59,592.73			

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, FEBRUARY 3 5:00 P.M.	SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4 8:00 A.M.	SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4 10:00 A.M.	SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4 12:00 P.M.	
EXTRAORDINARY	Max Maksimoski – rmaksimo@stmatthew.net – 614-607-4799 (Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Lectors); Vicki Wengert – vwengert@icloud.com – 614-270-2118 (Sacristans)				
MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	Vicki Wengert Kathy Wodarcyk Mindy Mays Mike Barr	Mike Huff Mary Jedlicka David Macynski Kathy Martin	Andrew DeLeonardis Cheryl Harmon Jen Lawrence Sohmer Lawrence	Crystal Cockerell Beth Escudero Heather Thompson Mary Thompson	
IN HOME	Shawn Miller (2); Mike Huff (4); Sarah Kaminski (5); Steve Testa (6); Dave Macynski (7)				
LECTORS	Steve Blubaugh Therese Eppler	Mike Huff Kathy Martin	Andrew DeLeonardis Kristen McSweeny	Alysa Li Michael Motil	
SACRISTANS	Jane Linville	Kristin Paulus	Teresa Altman-Ozarzak	TBD	
SERVERS	MC – Dominik Eppler Austin Buerger Bailey Buerger Luke Neugebauer Zach Nusbaum Jameson Yates	MC – Landon Miller Matthias Dienhart Ducky Lentz Ben Prier	MC – Thomas Dougherty Evan Callam Cecilia Dougherty Adison Esser Ben Lackey Anissa McSweeny Aiden Teeters	MC – Devin Canter Joey Brown Johnny Brown Myron Kobson 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 Shininger, Director of Music, at dshininger@stmatthew.net.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We are into the new year, which often comes with new resolutions. I ask you to consider a spiritual practice that can profoundly deepen your faith and draw you closer to Jesus: Eucharistic Adoration.

Here at St. Matthew the Apostle Catholic Parish, we are blessed to have our very own Perpetual Adoration Chapel. It is a quiet haven amidst the hustle and bustle of life, a space where we can encounter Christ face to face and heart to heart. In the consecrated bread and wine, our Lord awaits us in His Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity, offering His Presence, to listen and to share our burdens and our joys.

Many people hesitate to sign up for a regular hour of Adoration thinking they aren't holy enough, but I assure you: Adoration is about presence. It's about spending time with Jesus. And it's for everyone. It's not a test of piety, but an invitation to intimacy. In the simple, yet profound words of St. John Vianney, in Eucharistic Adoration, "I look at Him, and He looks at me."

So, in this new year, I urge you to join me in this beautiful practice. Come, sign up for a Holy Hour in time with our Lord Jesus. Come with open hearts and expectant spirits, and witness the transformative power of simply being present with our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

In Eucharistic Adoration, you may find answers to questions you haven't yet asked, comfort for burdens you carry, and strength for the journey ahead. You may discover a deeper understanding of your faith, a more profound connection with Christ, and a renewed sense of peace in your heart.

May this new year be filled with the blessings of God, and may Eucharistic Adoration be a beacon of light and love on your path.

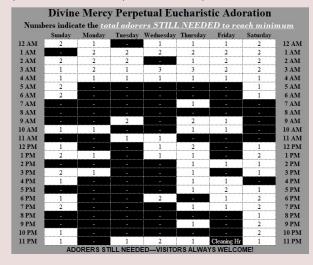
Sincerely in Christ, Fr. Ted

SAINT MATTHEW CHARITABLE WORKS COLLECTION is this weekend, **January 27-28**, after all Masses. Your kindness is appreciated.

CONVERSATIONS OF FAITH – We're excited to share our new discussion series "Conversations of Faith." This series is exactly what it sounds like: a low pressure environment in which people share their stories of faith. We'll meet every first Friday of the month starting this Friday, February 2 at 7:30 p.m. in the St. Anthony Room in the basement of the church. Not a Bible Study, not a course on Catholic doctrine. This gathering is for anyone who has been away from the church for a while, but might be curious about what it means to live a life of faith; anyone struggling to see God working in his/her life; or anyone who needs to hear that they are not alone. Come join us and bring a friend! For more information, please visit https://stmatthew.net/eyents/conversations.

DIVINE MERCY PERPETUAL ADORATION

"Nothing is nearer to Our heart than that devotion to the Holy Eucharist grow from day to day throughout the world," – Pope Benedict XV. Learn more about our Divine Mercy Perpetual Adoration Chapel online at https://stmatthew.net/dmc.



EMMET CAHILL LIVE IN CONCERT ON MARCH 13 — Celebrate St. Patrick's Day at St. Matthew with internationally acclaimed Irish tenor Emmet Cahill in a benefit concert singing Irish songs and liturgical hymns. Emmet is the lead singer for the group Celtic Thunder, has been guest soloist with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir and St. Patrick's Cathedral Choir and performed for sold-out audiences at Carnegie Hall and the Irish National Concert Hall in Dublin. Tickets can be purchased at https://emmetcahill.com/tour. Please contact Pat Martin at padhragin@icloud.com with any questions. The concert begins at 7:30 p.m. and will benefit the Charitable Works Food Pantry and SPICE (Special People in Catholic Education).

CANDLEMAS BLESSING OF CANDLES ON FEBRUARY 2 AND FEAST OF ST. BLAISE ON FEBRUARY 3 — This Friday, February 2, the Church celebrates the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. This feast is also called Candlemas because when St. Simeon first saw the infant Jesus during the Presentation, he exclaimed that Jesus was "a light to the revelation of the Gentiles and the glory of thy people Israel" (Luke 2:32). Therefore, it is tradition on that feast day to bless candles that will be used for prayer throughout the year. Parishioners are welcome to bring candles used for prayer to the 8:30 a.m. Mass to be blessed. Candles can be kept with you in the pews or placed on the long table in the sanctuary. On Saturday, February 3, St. Blaise Day, throats will be blessed at the 8:30 a.m. Mass.

WHERE IS THE IHS LOCATED?



As we wrap up the month of the Most Holy Name of Jesus, we encourage all to continue the pious custom of bowing our heads at the sound of His Name. For those searching for the Latin initials of Jesus' Name, I H S, which are found in most

churches, we only need to look up at the Rose Window above us to find it here at St. Matthew.

ST. MATTHEW CHURCH GAHANNA, OHIO

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, February 3 in the church.

SHARE YOUR BLESSINGS WITH ST. MATTHEW — We are blessed for the specific purpose of blessing others. St. Matthew has blessed you with a community that you call your faith home, a sacred space where you have encountered Christ in a variety of ways. We want to ensure that His message lives on at St. Matthew for future generations of Catholics. St. Matthew has an endowment fund that The Catholic Foundation manages. An endowment fund is a long-term, sustained investment designed to provide our parish with a perpetual source of income. There are numerous ways to support the St. Matthew Parish Endowment Fund and share your blessings with our parish for eternity. For more information on how you can make an eternal impact on St. Matthew, please contact Jim Hahn at 614-443-8893, ext. 112 or jhahn@catholic-foundation.org.

PRO-LIFE CORNER

In October 2023, the USCCB released a statement from their conference entitled "Priorities at the Polls." This was released as part of their guidelines for encouraging Catholics to vote on candidates and issues that best align with Catholic Social teaching. This guidance does not favor any particular candidate or political party. In this statement, the USCCB said that abortion is the preeminent priority in our voting "because it directly attacks life itself, because it takes place within the sanctuary of the family, and because of the number of lives destroyed." While the USCCB recognizes there are other threats to human dignity in our society such as racism, poverty, and the death penalty, they give the highest priority to defending an unborn child's right to life.

The statement goes on to say that even with the overturning of *Roe vs Wade*, there are many states that do not provide full protection for the unborn, and many political leaders who actively work to increase access to abortion. Falsely describing abortion as healthcare and a personal right. This is in fact a key theme of the current administration's national tour for "reproductive freedom" which will include rallies, media and digital ads. It is hard to imagine how the "right" to kill unborn children is an appeal for getting votes.

The bishops concluded that "people of good will must boldly stand up against this intrinsic evil, especially when it is occurring on a massive scale" and that we should work to see that unborn children are protected by our laws and support mothers and fathers in embracing life. The personal consequences of attacks against human life, either at the beginning or end-of-life, "are most serious because they are "carried out in the very heart of and with the complicity of the family – the family which by its nature is called to be the sanctuary of life." This is the place where a person should be most *loved and protected*.

Upcoming Events:

• February 3 – First Saturday prayer vigil at the Planned Parenthood building on 3255 E. Main Street, at 10:30 a.m.

If you are interested in learning more about St. Matthew's Pro-life group, please contact Jeff Solinger at jksolinger@aol. com or (614) 506-2382.

STUDY SCRIPTURE...WHY?

Last August, Fr. Sill appealed to the parish to make an effort in becoming more intentional disciples. The Genesis to Jesus program was a great success, but it is just the beginning. In his appeal, he reminded us that our journey to becoming better disciples begins with understanding the Holy Scriptures. He reminded us what St. Jerome is famous for saying... "to be ignorant of scripture is to be ignorant of Christ." To know Christ is to better conform to His will for us in the great salvation story told through Sacred Scipture. The next step in the parish's vision for Casting Your Nets is a formal scripture study. This naturally follows Genesis to Jesus' introduction into the big picture of salvation. Now it is time to dive into the details!

Please join the parish effort of "The Sunday Mass Readings Explained" by the distinguished professor from The Augustine Institute, Dr. Brant Pitre. This study runs independently each week with no homework or reading assignments.

If you are new to studying the Bible, you will better recognize the context of the Old Testament books within the promises made to God's chosen people and then connect it with the salvation He offers us through Jesus Christ. Do not be surprised how comfortable you become reading any book of the Bible while developing the habit of reading it and praying through it daily!

If you are an experienced student of scripture, you will be delighted to learn the deeper nuggets that Dr. Pitre brings forth due to his expertise in Jewish history and the Old Testament. Your contribution to our short discussion following the video will be invaluable. If you fall somewhere in-between, you will continue to deepen your relationship with Jesus as you strengthen your habit of prayer through the daily Scriptures.

Please join us beginning this week in the LIBRARY of the undercroft: **Thursday mornings: 9:15-10:45 a.m.** or **Thursday evenings: 6:30-7:45 p.m.** Questions? Please contact Lorraine Curtin at lorraine.curtin@icloud.com.



"Know Your Gestures and Postures during Mass"

View the latest quiz answers at https://stmatthew.net/revival.



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.

A quick update on the status of our new electronic monument sign in front of the church. We took our variance requests before the Zoning Appeals Board. A detailed account of the history of our sign can be found in the January 14th bulletin. The Appeals Board denied our requests for a larger message area and use of color. We are allowed to change the message more than once a day. A revised application is being submitted for approval to obtain the necessary sign permit. We hope to have the new sign installed before the school summer break eliminating the need for temporary signs and banners.

The snow early last week was the first test of our snow removal team and equipment. After some adjustments and minor repairs, we feel better prepared for whatever comes our way the rest of the winter season. The warmer weather and rain have helped us get caught up on cleaning floors and windows in preparation for this weekend's St. Matthew School Open House on Sunday from 1:00-2:30 p.m.

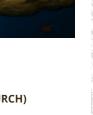
We should be hearing back on several safety grant applications submitted last year. Based on the outcome of those grants, we will be very busy implementing or very busy submitting more grant applications. No matter the outcomes, we will be applying for new lighter tables in the school and undercroft to help our many groups with setup and teardown of their activities and programs.

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 you during the new year.



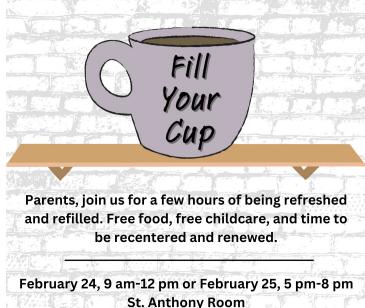
CONVERSATIONS OF FAITH
FIRST FRIDAYS AT 7:30 PM
STARTING FEBRUARY 2
ST. ANTHONY ROOM (BASEMENT OF THE CHURCH)

Deepen your faith, journey with others, and be welcomed in our community. Visit our website to ask questions or learn more.









Register at https://stmatthew.net/fyc

https://stmatthew.net/events/conversations

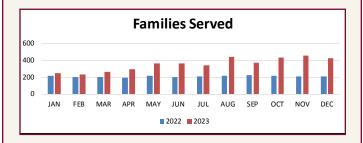
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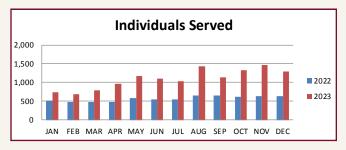
CHARITABLE WORKS MINISTRY NEWS

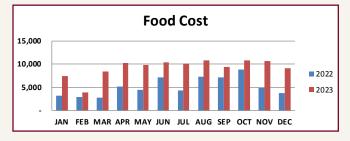
Recap of December and 2023 – The volume of families that we were able to help this past year was truly staggering:

- 4,248 families served in 2023 (a 68% increase over 2022)
- 13,132 individuals served in those families (94% increase vs. 2022, so larger families)
- Nearly 197,000 meals provided to these families (15 meals/ person)

December was another big month, even though we were closed the last week and do not include any of the Christmas meals. We do not foresee this slowing in 2024. Thank you for your continued support to those families who are experiencing difficult times through your financial support and volunteer 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 PSC 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 at: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040945aeaa2aa5f94-charitable.



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, February 4** at **3:00 p.m.** Everyone is welcome.

American Red Cross

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Saturday, February 3, 2024 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

To schedule an appointment visit RedCrossBlood.org, sponsor code: MatthewApChurch or call 1-800-RED CROSS.

If you last donated on or before December 9, you may be eligible to give.

Share your heart! Come give in Feb. for a \$20 mazon.com Gift Card by email. See rcblood.org/heart



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WE WELCOME INTO OUR FAMILY OF FAITH the following children who were baptized on Sunday, January 21: Emilia Adelaide Pardo and Georgina Louise Poole.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED: Bill McCarthy, husband of Debbie McCarthy.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

CATHOLIC MEN'S LUNCHEON IS FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2 – Join us Friday, February 2 at St. Patrick Church in downtown Columbus for a luncheon to award the 2024 Catholic Man of the Year. The award will be presented by Bishop Earl Fernandes. The luncheon is sponsored by The Order of Foresters, a Catholic Fraternal Benefit Life Insurance Society since 1883. More information is available at https://www.catholicforester.org/ or contacting Mike Dippold at 614-847-0649. If you are interested in sponsoring a luncheon, contact Pat Foley at foleyp513@gmail.com. Holy Mass (optional) begins at 11:45 a.m. followed by lunch at 12:10 p.m. and Bishop Fernandes' presentation of the award. No reservations are necessary and \$12.00 covers the lunch and meeting. Bring a friend!

FRIENDSHIP, UNITY & CHRISTIAN CHARITY – Join the Ancient Order of Hibernians for entertainment every Friday night at Tara Hall (274 E. Innis Avenue, Columbus 43207). For more information, please visit www.patrickpearse.com. All parishioners welcome!

WE SHOULD HAVE DONE THIS A LONG TIME AGO! That is what you will be saying after a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend. Marriage Encounter is 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 or contact Kim & Don Downs at 614-893-1935. Early registration is highly recommended.

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