

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF
St. Matthew & Our Lady of Perpetual Help



Church of St. Matthew
 616 Warburton Avenue
 Hastings on Hudson, NY 10706
 Rectory.....914-478-2822



Our Lady of Perpetual Help
 535 Ashford Avenue
 Ardsley, NY 10502
 www.stmolph.com

December 31, 2023 • The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Clergy

Rev. Douglas Crawford.....*Pastor*
 Rev. Nicholas Nwagwu.....*Chaplain, St. John Riverside Hospital*
 Rev. George Lodi.....*In Residence*

Sacrament of Baptism

The date for baptism should be scheduled in advance. Please contact the Rectory.

Sacrament of Matrimony

Arranged 6 months in advance. Please contact the rectory and speak with a Priest before any deposit is made for the wedding reception.

Anointing & Last Rites

Call the rectory at any time.

Religious Education Program

Mrs. Stephanie Bonney.....*Coordinator*
 Mr. Jay A. Conklin.....*Assistant*
 Office Location: St. Matthew Church
 Phone: 914-693-0030 • e-mail: ReligiousEd@stmolph.com

Parish Emails

Fr. Crawford.....fr.dycrawford@yahoo.com
 Rectory Office.....office@stmolph.com



facebook.com/stmolph



Instagram.com/stmolph

Mass Schedule

Daily Mass: Monday - Saturday

St. Matthew.....9:00 am
 OLPH.....8:00 am

Saturday Vigil Mass for Sunday

St. Matthew 5:30 pm
 OLPH4:00 pm

Sunday

St. Matthew.....8:30 am & 11:30 am
 OLPH.....10:00 am

Holy Day Mass

Check the Parish Bulletin for schedule.

Sacrament of Penance: Saturday

OLPH3:00 - 3:45 pm
 St. Matthew.....4:30 - 5:15 pm

Prayers & Novena

Miraculous Medal Novena

(St. Matthew) Monday after the 9:00 am Mass

Rosary (OLPH): First Saturday of the month immediately following the Mass

Holy Hour & Exposition

(St. Matthew) Friday between 9:30 am - 10:30 am

Mass Intentions

ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

5:30 pm Special Intentions for Mary O'Driscoll

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

8:30 am Joseph A. DiSalvo †

11:30 am Pope Benedict XVI

MONDAY, JANUARY 1, 2024

9:00 am John Chinnery †

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2

9:00 am Claire & Breeda Moloney †

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3

9:00 am Antonio Cocchiarella †

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4

9:00 am Carol Scheerer †

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5

9:00 am Elizabeth Keaney †

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6

9:00 am Special Intentions for Uta Atzrodt

5:30 pm Decd Members of the
William B. Walzer Sr. Family

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7

8:30 am Maura McPhillips †

11:30 am Angelo Mozillo †

REQUESTED BY:

Sherry Family

Protection Engine Co.
Parish

AnnMarie Chinnery

Agnes & Hugh Dynes

Terry Cocchiarella

Virginia

Jimmy

Sherry Family

Carol

The Bottesch Family
Emerald & Jim Mandracchia

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP CHURCH

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

4:00 pm Nicholas Macri, Sr. †

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

10:00 am Noel Corbett †

MONDAY, JANUARY 1, 2024

8:00 am Noel Corbett †

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2

8:00 am Special Intentions for the Sognonvi Family

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3

8:00 am Mary Benevento †

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4

8:00 am Special Intentions for Tom & Mary McCarthy

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5

8:00 am Special Intentions for Kathleen Walsh

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6

8:00 am Zander Hattersley †

4:00 pm Lubamyra Palij †

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7

10:00 am The Richter Family †

REQUESTED BY:

Family

Paulette & Mark Damiano

Paulette & Mark Damiano

Marie Sognonvi

Sylvia & Rosalie Melina

Jerry McCarthy

Jerry McCarthy

Joanna
Palij Family

McNerney Family

December 31, 2023 - The Holy Family

Reading I: Sirach 3: 2-6, 12-14

Here we read "the cornerstone of biblical ethics": Fear of the Lord embraces our duties to others, first of all to our parents.

Reading II: Colossians 3: 12-21

St. Paul offers a true formula for living family life on the Lord. He lists several virtues and then adds: "Over all these put on love."

The Gospel: Matthew 2: 13-15, 19-23

Referencing the Exodus, Matthew has Joseph tasked with taking the Child Jesus and His mother to Egypt to escape Herod's death order. When he returns home, Joseph settles in Galilee rather than Judea, where Herod's son holds forth.

READING FOR THE WEEK



Monday, January 1, 2024 Nm 6:22-27 Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 Gal 4:4-7 Lk 2:16-21

Tuesday, January 2, 2024 1 Jn 2:22-28 Ps 98:1, 2-3AB, 3CD-4 Jn 1:19-28

Wednesday, January 3, 2024 1 Jn 2:29-3:6 Ps 98:1, 3CD-4, 5-6 Jn 1:29-34

Thursday, January 4, 2024 1 Jn 3:7-10 Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9 Jn 1:35-42

Friday, January 5, 2024 1 Jn 3:11-21 Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5 Jn 1:43-51

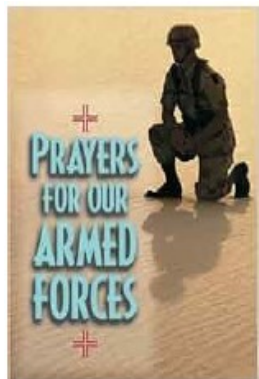
Saturday, January 6, 2024 1 Jn 5:5-13 Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20 Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38 or Lk 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38

Sunday, January 7, 2024 Is 60:1-6 Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6 Mt 2:1-12

Support Our Parish

We rely on the generosity of parishioners and visitors in order for our Parish to thrive. We would not be able to fulfill our mission without your financial support.

Also, please remember St. Matthew-Our Lady of Perpetual Help in your Will or Living Trust. Kindly contact the rectory office with your inquiries.



Brian Dunne-USN
Christopher Gaulin-USA
George Moore-USN
Michael Germain-USN
Peter Dillon-USCG
Chris Minozzi-USMC
Sean Roth-USA
Mike Gibbons-USMC
Nick Lumalcuri - USN
Claire Sherry - USAF

COLLECTION REPORT:

Weekend Summary:

December 18:

Sunday 12/18: \$4,569

Parish Giving 12/18: \$2,170

Weekend Total: \$6,739

Christmas Flowers to Date: \$2,987

Christmas Flowers Last Year Total: \$3,258



Upcoming 2nd Collections:



Christmas Flowers & Christmas Collection

Christmas Flower & Christmas Envelopes can be dropped into any collection basket on any weekend or returned to the rectory.



Thank you to **121** parishioners
who regularly give monthly via Parish Giving!
Won't you join too?

You can click on the Parish Giving Link or scan the QR code to take you directly to our Parish Giving page.

CANDLE DEDICATIONS

OLPH Tabernacle Candle

In Memory of Anna Clevenson

req. by daughter JoAnn

St. Matthew Tabernacle Candle

req. by

St. Matthew Blessed Mother Candle

req. by

If you would like a candle to burn in memory of a loved one, please contact the rectory. Candle dedications can be reserved online. Visit the parish website for a direct link.



NEW YEAR'S: Monday, January 1, 2024

Our Lady of Perpetual Help: 8:00am
St. Matthew Church: 9:00am

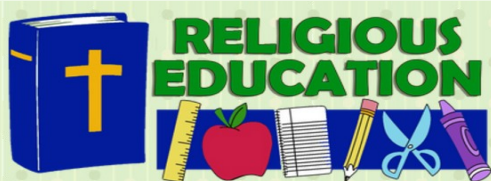
**Not a Holy Day of Obligation this year,
but Mass attendance is encouraged.*



**CHRISTMAS FLOWER ENVELOPES &
CHRISTMAS OFFERING ENVELOPES**

If you would like to make a donation towards the Christmas Flowers in memory of a loved one, please use the Christmas Flower Envelope that you can find in your monthly envelope packet. There are also extra Christmas Flower Envelopes on the tables in the rear of the churches.

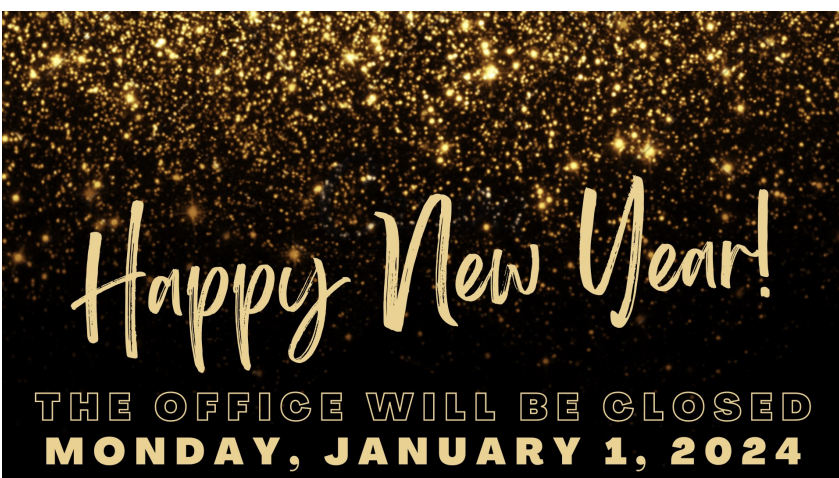
The Christmas Flower Envelope and the Christmas Offering Envelope can be dropped into any collection on any weekend.



**There will be
NO Classes on
December 31
and January
3rd**

***in observance of the Christmas & New Year
Holidays***

**Classes will resume on: Sunday, January 7 &
Wednesday, January 10**



In the event of a weather cancellation, we will do our best to notify all through Flocknote. If you have not yet signed up for Flocknote, please visit:
www.flocknote.com/stmolph

Also note: if the weather is bad (snow, ice) for driving, the 8am Mass at OLPH will be automatically cancelled for the safety of all.



**Masses, as well as Candles &
Altar Flowers for 2024 can be
requested online at**

www.MassIntentions.com

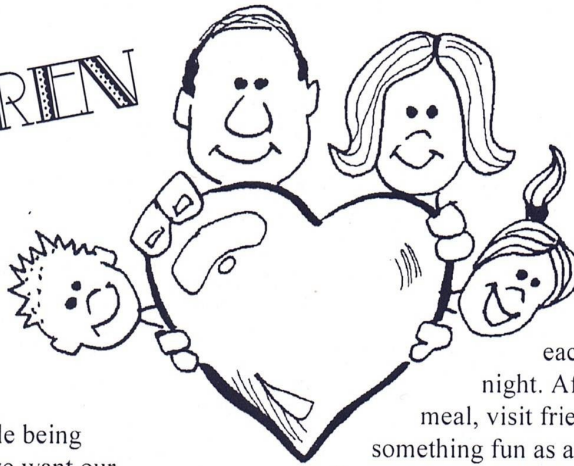
**(There is a direct link on the parish
website: www.stmolph.com)**



Alaina Lyn Carney (Mary), Devlin Riordan (Joseph),
 Brandon Hurley (Narrator), Rhiannon Ritch (Head Angel),
 Brayden Lennon (Emperor), Christopher Pisanti (First King),
 Joe Carney (Second King), Cameron Jose (Third King)
ANGELS: Amelia Pisanti (K), Emma Fischer (1st), Annie Trolie (1st),
 Lauren Hannah (1st), Juliana Jose (1st), Liam Forlenza (1st),
 Lucy Forlenza (pre-K), Abigal Lee (1st), Macy Maranino (K),
 Ariela Hurley (K), Grace Cleary (1st), Mila D'Amico (3rd)



HELP CHILDREN LOVE THE MASS



Children of all ages can have trouble being “present” for the entire Mass. As parents, we want our children to grow up in God’s love, and to be close to him always. That’s why it is so important to help our children find their place at Mass. And, making Mass more meaningful for them will make it more meaningful for their parents, too.

♥**Start with the basics.** Make sure everyone has had enough to eat and has visited the bathroom before Mass so they’re comfortable. Even adolescents will squirm when hungry.

♥**Go to the same Mass each week.** They will look forward to seeing the same faces each week. Try to pick a Mass time close to when everyone wakes up. That way they will be fresh and rested.



♥**Model.** Participate fully by singing, following in your book, watching what is happening at the altar.

♥**Bring your own.** It can be daunting to a child to try following along with adult mass books. Look for age-appropriate Mass books youngsters can bring to church to help them stay

focused. Publishers such as Our Sunday Visitor (800-348-2440, www.oursundayvisitor.com) or the Daughters of St. Paul (800-836-9723, www.pauline.org) have Mass resources for children of various ages.

♥**See and be seen.** Sit in a place where you can each have an unobstructed view of the celebration of Mass. Watching the priest, the altar servers, friends and neighbors on the Communion line makes children more aware of what’s going on during the Mass. As they get older, they understand that sitting up front makes them more accountable for their behavior.

♥**Teach the rituals.** Start early showing youngsters how to make the Sign of the Cross, bow or genuflect, give the Sign of Peace.

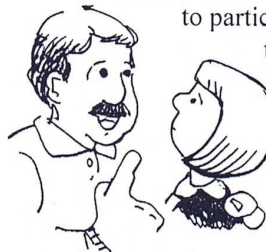
♥**Make it special.** Have Mass be the start of special family time each Sunday or Saturday night. Afterwards, go out for a meal, visit friends or relatives, do something fun as a family. Then they’ll look forward to it each week.



♥**Visit during quiet times.** At the beginning of Advent or Lent, pay a family visit your church when Mass is not being celebrated and remark on the changes in the church. When you next attend Mass, they’ll notice more.

♥**Rehearse.** Go through your Mass book and pull out different prayers and responses to practice as a family. When the time comes during Mass, everyone will know what to say.

♥**Spell it out.** Before Mass, communicate your expectations. For example, you expect everyone to participate in the prayers and rituals of the Mass, to kneel, stand, and sit when appropriate. Be specific, “Stand up straight with hands in prayer position. Whispering is okay, provided it’s quick and quiet and has to do with what’s going on.”



♥**Say “hello” to the priest as you leave.** It will be more interesting to watch when they see their friend, “Fr. Thomas,” on the altar.

♥**Recap.** As you leave, talk about what went on during Mass. Sing the song they liked best from Mass, restate the homily in simple terms, and challenge them to do one thing that week in response.

♥**Praise.** Be sure to compliment good behavior so they will see Mass as a positive experience and the Church as a refuge from anger and negativity.

♥**Be vigilant.** Watch them carefully during Mass and look at it as a learning experience. They’re learning manners and you’re learning patience. Jesus will understand if this takes away some of your attention from him. The end result will please him.

Saints Among Us

*Three Americans who lived heroic lives of love.
They still inspire us today ...*

Rose Philippine Duchesne (1769-1852)

The life of Rose Philippine Duchesne is a lesson in patience and courage – the virtues of America's pioneers. She never gave up her dream of a mission to Native Americans – and with God's help found her way to them at last when she was more than seventy.

How did an elderly, French-born nun become "Woman-Who-Prays-Always" to the Pottawatomie people in the remote village of Sugar Creek, Kansas?

Rose Philippine Duchesne only became a nun over the strong objections of her parents. Then in the chaos of the French Revolution, her convent closed and the community scattered.

When politics in France improved, Philippine rented her old convent and tried to revive community life. But the spirit was gone and soon there were just four nuns left. They decided to become part of the Society of the Sacred Heart, directed by Madeleine Sophie Barat who became Philippine's lifelong friend.

In 1818, the bishop of the Louisiana Territory needed sisters to teach the French and Indian children in his diocese. Philippine and four other sisters made the eleven-week ocean crossing and landed in New Orleans in May. Then they spent seven more weeks traveling upriver to St. Louis. In September these pioneer sisters founded the first free school for girls west of the Mississippi in St. Charles, Missouri.



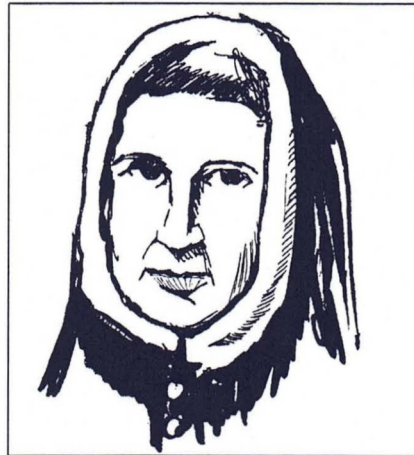
John Neumann (1811-1860)

John Neumann shows us that even though we start with little or nothing - we can do a lot if we just take one step at a time to help ease the burdens of God's people. Like so many immigrants to the U.S., when John Neumann arrived in New York City from Europe, he had almost no money and was wearing the only clothes he owned. He had studied at Budweis seminary and Prague University but he was not yet an ordained priest. He was determined to be a missionary. Son, he was ordained and sent as a diocesan priest to the German-speaking immigrants in and around Buffalo, NY,

who were clearing the forests near Niagara Falls. After four years he joined the Redemptorist fathers and eventually was sent as a parish priest to Baltimore.

In 1852, his outstanding pastoral work was recognized and John Neumann was named a bishop of Philadelphia. At first, his appointment was not popular. He was short, spoke English with an accent and lacked the imposing presence expected of a Bishop. People said he looked more like a worker than a bishop. John Neumann was a worker. He made many visits to the remote and neglected parts of the diocese founded almost 100 schools and 50 churches. He cared for the poor and orphans and founded the Sisters of the Third Order of Saint Francis. He introduced the Forty Hours devotion to this country and began construction of Philadelphia's Cathedral of SS. Peter and Paul.

John Neumann -- the first American bishop to be canonized. His feast day is January 5.



They shared the hardships of frontier life, living and teaching in unheated log cabins. But year after year, more schools were opened. Schools for Indian girls. Parish schools. Schools for boarding students.

But Philippine always dreamed of working as an active missionary. Finally, in 1840, when she was seventy-one, she joined a mission and was sent to work directly with Native Americans. She found she could not learn the Pottawatomie language, so she tended the sick and prayed while the others taught, thus earning the name the Pottawatomie gave her, "Woman-Who-Prays-Always." *Rose Philippine Duchesne -- pioneer missionary of the frontier. Her feast day is November 18.*

Elizabeth Seton (1774-1821)

A wife and then a widow, rejected by friends and family, Elizabeth Seton had her heart broken again and again. But she shows us that personal sorrow need not keep us from the work we're called to do as Christians.



In 1794, Elizabeth Ann Bayley, the daughter of one of New York's "best" Episcopalian families, married William Magee Seton, a successful businessman. Soon Elizabeth and William had two sons and three daughters. But their happiness did not last. In 1803, William, Elizabeth and the eldest of their children traveled to Italy for his health. But perhaps as an aftereffect of his bankruptcy three years earlier, William died there in December. Elizabeth stayed in Italy, living with friends and learning about the Catholic faith.

When she returned to New York, Elizabeth's friends and family completely rejected the idea that she might become a Catholic convert. Nonetheless, in March 1805, she was received into the Catholic Church. This decision left her lonely and without financial support. That's why she welcomed the invitation to move to Baltimore and open a Catholic school for girls. She gathered a group of like-minded women and by the spring of 1809, the community became the Sisters of St. Joseph. As their superior, Elizabeth became Mother Seton. The community was centered around the school.

The number of sisters grew and so did their schools and orphanages. Those schools were the beginning of the U.S. parochial school system.

By 1821, when Elizabeth died, the Sisters of St. Joseph numbered twenty communities across the country.

Elizabeth Ann Seton -- the first native-born U.S. saint. Her feast day is January 4.