

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



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 28, 2025 • The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Clergy

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

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



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Instagram.com/stmolph

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27

(A) 4:00 pm Jean Boscov & Alfred Sognonvi †

(H) 5:30 pm Ann Dosing †

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28

(H) 8:30 am Jean & John Cannon †

(A) 10:00 am Olga Pecora †

(H) 11:30 am Viola Jean Cannon †

MONDAY, DECEMBER 29

(A) 8:00 am Eugenia Phillips & Cecial Barrett Families † Bryan Barrett

(H) 9:00 am Francis "Frank" Stanton † Bryan Healy

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30

(A) 8:00 am Lucy Johnson † Family

(H) 9:00 am Missa Pro Populo

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31

(A) 8:00 am Baldiuno DiMatteo † Maiorano Family

(H) 9:00 am Francis "Skip" Stanton Jr. † Bryan Healy

(H) 5:00 pm (Vigil Mass) Missa Pro Populo

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 1 - Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

(H) 8:30 am Santos & Maria Maceo † Granddaughter

(A) 10:00 am Olga Pecora † Family

(H) 11:30 am John Chinnery † Ann Marie Chinnery

FRIDAY, JANUARY 2

(A) 8:00 am Missa Pro Populo

(H) 9:00 am Rosemary Khelifa † Murphy Ribeiro Family

SATURDAY, JANUARY 3

(A) 8:00 am Intentions of Tania Baker

(H) 9:00 am Elizabeth Keaney † Family

(A) 4:00 pm Intentions of Spadaccini Family Agnes & Hugh Dynes

(H) 5:30 pm Alan Burns † Lumalcuri Family

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4

(H) 8:30 am John Cannon † Bryan Healy

(A) 10:00 am Olga Pecora † Family

(H) 11:30 am Salvatore Macri † Joe & Toni Newbury

(H) - Hastings: St. Matthew

(A) - Ardsley: Our Lady of Perpetual Help

REQUESTED BY:

Marie Sognonvi
Linda & Roger Manley

Nancy Maleska
Family
George Febles & Family

Bryan Barrett
Bryan Healy

Family

Maiorano Family
Bryan Healy

Granddaughter
Family
Ann Marie Chinnery

Murphy Ribeiro Family

Family
Agnes & Hugh Dynes
Lumalcuri Family

Bryan Healy
Family
Joe & Toni Newbury



Our prayers during Mass are spiritually important and bring benefit and

comfort to those who have experienced a loss or acute need. If you would like to arrange for a Mass to be said for the repose of the soul of a loved one or for a special intention, please visit or call the parish office 914-478-2822 or you can schedule a time using the online website. You can also request to memorialize the tabernacle candles on the altars. The direct links can be found on the parish website: www.stmolph.com

"A religion that doesn't interfere with secular order will soon discover that the secular order will not refrain from interfering with it."
- Abp. Fulton J. Sheen



Our monthly food collection continues at St. Matthew Church. Parishioners are invited to bring non-perishable food donations for the Hastings Food Pantry to Mass on the second weekend of each

month, which will be the weekend of January 10th & 11th

Please no glass, open or expired items and please do not leave food donations at other times.

the good news room™

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December 28, 2025 - The Holy Family

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

The author teaches a filial respect for one's parents, and then the text shifts to the concrete help that children should extend to them "in old age and in times of illness, loneliness, or distress."

Reading II: Colossians 3: 12-21, or 3: 12-17

Paul gives his pastoral instruction on family life. He challenges every household to be transformed with "the peace of Christ." This peace is far more than the absence of hostility. It is a deep-rooted sense of connection to Christ through love and obedience to His way of understanding each other.

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

God works within the family structures. For example, St. Joseph is instructed by the angel because he is the head of the Holy Family, and the one most responsible for their well-being. We should also note his obedience in a very difficult time for the Family.

*New Year's
Solemnity of Mary*

A Holy Day of Obligation

Vigil Mass, December 31st

Our Lady of Perpetual Help: 5:00pm
St. Matthew: 5:00pm

January 1, 2026:

Our Lady of Perpetual Help: 10:00am
St. Matthew: 8:30am & 11:30am



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: December 14:

Sunday 12/14: \$2,767

Parish Giving \$2,135

Weekend Total: \$4,902

Immaculate Conception: \$1,009



Upcoming Second Collections

December 25: Christmas Flowers*

**Christmas Flower & Christmas Envelopes can be put into any collection basket at any time.*

Online Giving

St. Matthew & Our Lady of Perpetual Help offers two ways to make church contributions online:
Zelle and Parish Giving



Parish Giving

For Parish Giving use the QR Code or visit the website:

www.parishgiving.org

and search for **St. Matthew & OLPH Church**



zelle[®]

Scan the QR Code in your banking app to find: **The St. Matthew** or find us using our email address office@stmolph.com

Please Note: The church's legal name is so long that our bank only uses the first several characters, hence why in Zelle our name shows up as: **The St. Matthew**

CANDLE DEDICATIONS



OLPH Tabernacle Candle

In Memory of Noel Corbett

req. by Damiano Family

St. Matthew Tabernacle Candle

In Memory of

req. by

St. Matthew Blessed Mother Candle

In Memory of

req. by

Candle dedications can be reserved online or by calling the rectory. Please visit our website at www.stmolph.com



Christmas Memorial Flowers

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 & Christmas Envelopes on the tables in the rear of the churches.

Christmas Flower Envelopes & Christmas Envelopes can be dropped into any collection basket on any weekend.



St. Matthew & Our Lady of Perpetual Help parish is eager to recruit new Lectors and Ushers for both churches.

If you feel you have a calling for either of these two important ministries within the parish, please contact Fr. Crawford



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES are on **Christmas Vacation** for the following dates: **Sunday, December 28 & Sunday January 4th, and Wednesday, December 24th & December 31st.**

Classes will resume on **Wednesday, January 7th** and **Sunday, January 11th.**

WEDNESDAY PROGRAM at OLPH SCHOOL Grades 1-4 meet from **4:00pm to 5:00pm**

Grades 5 & 6 meet from 6:30pm to 7:30pm

SUNDAY PROGRAM at ST. MATTHEW SCHOOL: Grades 1-6 meet from 9:45am - 10:45am



Ministry to Homebound Parishioners

For those parishioners who are homebound or elderly, please reach out to the Rectory if you are interested in having a priest visit to hear your confession, receive the sacrament of Anointing of the Sick and receive Holy Communion.

Please call 914-478-2822.

every contribution is hugely valued



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.



Please keep in your prayers the ill of our parish especially: **Charles Green**

And for those who have died marked by the sign of faith, especially:

If you would like to add the name of a loved one to the prayer list, please contact the rectory: 914-478-2822



Thank you to everyone who took a tag from the Angel Tree's.

Because of your generosity we were able to help over 60 families by providing gifts they would not have had this Christmas season.



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: From December 26th through the end of January, if the weather is bad (snow, ice) for driving, the 8am Mass at OLPH will be automatically cancelled for the safety of all.



Merry Christmas



HO HO HO



Is the Culture of Death Committing Suicide?

by Joseph Pearce

"The future belongs to those who show up," goes the saying, and Europe is not on track to be there.

If you give the devil enough rope, he'll hang himself. This is true, but it's not the whole truth. The problem is that he'll hang you first. The devil hangs his own disciples, which is tragic enough, but he also hangs the innocent. These timeless cautionary thoughts should be kept in mind as we survey the way that the culture of death in the decadent West is collapsing in its own hedonistic too-muchness.



Let's take the example of Iceland as a microcosmic representative of what is happening in many of the larger countries of Europe. Like most countries in the collapsing, decadent

Europe, Icelanders are following the Nazis through the practice of eugenics to exterminate the "unfit." In particular, Iceland boasts of its "final solution" to the problem of children with Down syndrome in the program of systematically exterminating them. About 85 percent of expectant mothers undergo prenatal testing, and close to 100 percent of them choose to kill their child if he or she is diagnosed with Down syndrome. Only two children with Down syndrome are born in Iceland each year.

What are we to make of a culture in which almost every mother chooses to kill her own baby if the child in the womb is disabled? Is such a culture more "unfit" to survive than its own children which it devours? The latter question is being answered before our very eyes as we witness Iceland's culture of death committing suicide.

Until fairly recently, unlike in most of Europe, the birthrate in Iceland was at replacement levels. In recent years, however, as Icelanders have embraced Western decadence, the birthrate has plummeted to 1.56 children per woman of childbearing age. As Iceland's own population has lost the will to live, or to bring new life into the world, the shortfall is being met by the arrival of immigrants in such numbers that Icelanders will be an ethnic minority in their own country within three or four decades.

The root of the problem, in political and economic terms, is Iceland's abandonment of its national sovereignty in 1994, when it chose to be absorbed into the burgeoning and obese European Union. Having accepted its status as a relatively impotent subject of the EU, it has left itself at the mercy of the evil empire's rapacious imperial directives. Ironically and pathetically, Iceland was not even afforded full membership in the EU in return for its subjection but was allowed to join the powerless European Economic Area on the fringes of the empire's expansionism. It surrendered its national freedom without even being allowed the dignity of joining the Empire. It had become a mere dominion.

Lacking the moral or political will to disobey their adopted masters, the people of Iceland have sat idly by as Iceland has accepted wave upon wave of immigrants. Having chosen to become a colony, Iceland is now being colonized to such an extent that its indigenous people are destined to become an ethnic minority.

As stated earlier, Iceland is not an isolated example, an idiosyncratic anomaly, but a microcosmic representative of what is happening throughout the decadent West in general and the European Union in particular. All nations that have adopted the culture of death are on the same suicidal path.

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Returning to the cult of infanticide and the extermination of the unfit, Iceland might be the worst in its wholesale embrace of the “final solution” of abortion, but things aren’t much better elsewhere. In Europe as a whole, 92 percent of mothers choose to “terminate” their child with Down syndrome, while in the United Kingdom the figure is 90 percent. Things are marginally better in the United States, where more than two-thirds of women choose to give their child death instead of life, though some studies indicate that as many as 90 percent of American women make this dark choice.

In France, a pro-life video was banned by the government because it shows children and adults with Down syndrome speaking cheerfully of the happy lives they’re living. The sight of smiling children was deemed offensive because it might “disturb the conscience” of those who choose to exterminate their own child with Down syndrome. Again, what are we to make of a culture in which the government encourages women to kill their own “unfit” children but won’t allow anything to “disturb their consciences”?

What we should make of such a culture is that it is itself unfit to survive. The culture of death has chosen to take the devil’s bargain and will face the inevitable consequences of such a choice. The devil’s disciples, having succumbed to the temptation to destroy their own children, have succumbed to the temptation to destroy themselves.

Isn’t this all a little depressing?

Not in the least. It simply shows that the culture of life does not need to destroy the culture of death because the latter is in the process of destroying itself. By comparison, those who follow Christ simply need to do what He commands. We need to be fruitful and multiply. We need to love the Lord our God. We need to love our neighbors. And yes, we need to love our enemies too.

We need to pray for those who have embraced the death-culture. We need to witness to the goodness, truth, and beauty of Christ’s Presence in the midst of the darkness. And we need to follow the Great Commission, the great commandment of Christ: to go and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

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Joseph Pearce is Visiting Professor of Literature at Ave Maria University and a Visiting Fellow of Thomas More College of Liberal Arts (Merrimack, New Hampshire). The author of over thirty books, he is editor of the [St. Austin Review](http://www.staustinreview.com), series editor of the [Ignatius Critical Editions](http://www.ignatiuscritical.com), senior instructor with [Homeschool Connections](http://www.homeschoolconnections.com), and senior contributor at the Imaginative Conservative and Crisis Magazine. His personal website is <https://jpearce.co/>



ATTENTION: Not Married in the Catholic Church?

For various reasons, couples choose to be civilly married but did not have a religious celebration in the Catholic Church.

According to Church teaching, Catholics who marry are required to have their unions celebrated in the Catholic Church in order to participate in the Church’s sacramental life.

At parent meetings for sacramental preparation have raised, this situation often poses problems for families raising children. For those who are civilly married and did not have a previous marriage celebrated in the Catholic Church requiring an annulment, the process to have the marriage validated by the Catholic Church is usually not complicated. IF you find yourself in this situation, please consider making an appointment to speak with Fr. Crawford to discuss what may be done.



Thank you to our Monday Morning Collection ladies who decorated the beautiful rectory Christmas tree.