



*Saint Matthew Church*  
**The PULSE**

December 16, 2018

Detroit, Michigan



*St. Matthew Parish Communal Penance Service*  
*~ Sacrament of Reconciliation ~*  
*Monday, December 17, 7:00 p.m.*

## Readings for the week of December 16, 2018

Sunday:	Zep 3:14-18a/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 [6]/Phil 4:4-7/ Lk 3:10-18
Monday:	Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:1-17
Tuesday:	Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 [cf. 7]/ Mt 1:18-25
Wednesday:	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16- 17 [cf. 8]/Lk 1:5-25
Thursday:	Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 7c and 10b]/Lk 1:26-38
Friday:	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 [1a; 3a]/Lk 1:39-45
Saturday:	1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd [cf. 1a]/Lk 1:46-56
Next Sunday:	Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/ Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45



### **Third Sunday of Advent**

In Christianity, we hear often about the "Good News." We might often associate it with Jesus' compassion to the poor, his healings and miracles, and the salvation he won for us. In today's Gospel, we read of John the Baptist. "Exhorting them in

many other ways, he preached good news to the people." Yet as we examine the rest of the reading, we see examples of John's preaching. If you have two cloaks, give one away. Don't cheat others out of their money, extort, or lie. And, of course, the warning that the Messiah is on the move and "his winnowing fan is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." Merry Christmas?

Not only do John's listeners enjoy his message, but they seem to think he might be the awaited Messiah! To understand today's Gospel, it's important to understand the Jewish people. For most of their history, God's chosen people had been under someone else's heel. They were slaves in Egypt. Their kingdoms were ravaged first by the Assyrians, then the Babylonians. Now they were under the yoke of the Roman Empire. Familiar with being strangers in a strange land, welcoming the stranger, caring for the vulnerable, and enacting justice was incredibly important to them as a people. While John's words may seem odd or strong to our modern ears, this call to justice was welcome, even if it was directed at the hearer.

The truth is, no one is exempt from John's call to repentance. We all have further to go in the Christian life. We can all grow in virtue and love our neighbors more generously. The Church gives us the Advent season to examine our own hearts. Did any of John's warnings resonate with you? That could be a great thing to bring to Jesus this week!



### **A Family Perspective**

**by Bud Ozar**

Today's Gospel tells us to SHARE! This Christmas resist the pressure to give token gifts. Instead, use those funds to give necessities to the poor. If our impoverished brothers and sisters are not on our gift list, we've missed the point of Christmas.

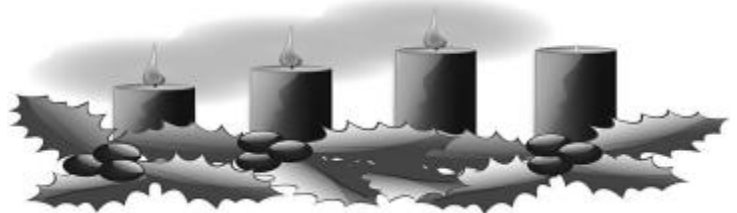
### **What Shall We Do?**

*"Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." (Matthew 25:40)*

In today's Gospel, there is a question posed three times: "What shall we do?" It is raised to John the Baptist by three categories of people: first, the crowd in general; second, the publicans or tax collectors; and third, some soldiers. They want to know what must be done to implement the conversion that he is preaching. John's reply to the question of the crowd is sharing essential goods. He told them to share basic necessities, and, therefore says:

"He who has two coats, let him share with him who has none; and he who has food, let him do likewise." Then, he tells the tax collectors to collect no more than the amount owed. What does this mean? No taking bribes, John the Baptist is clear. And he tells the soldiers not to extort anything from anyone and to be content with their wages.

There are three answers to the three questions of these groups. Three answers for an identical path of repentance, which is manifested in concrete commitments to justice and solidarity. It is the path that Jesus points to in all his preaching: the path of diligent love for neighbor. We feel that this question is ours also. In the words of John, it is necessary to repent, to change direction and take the path of justice, solidarity, sobriety: these are the essential values of a fully human and genuinely Christian life. (*Pope Francis*)



### **Third Week of Advent Prayer**

This joyful Sunday in Advent (Gaudete Sunday) is represented by rose or pink instead of the penitential purple color. Each night during the third week, the mother of the family (or one designated by the gathering) lights the pink candle as well as the previously lit purple candles after the following prayer has been said by the father or leader.

*O Lord, we beg You incline Your ear to our prayers  
and enlighten the darkness of our minds  
by the grace of Your visitation.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen*

### **The Third Week Reflection**

*"You have been enlightened by Christ.  
Walk always as children of the light and keep  
the flame of faith alive in your hearts." (Roman Rite)*



## St. Matthew Parish ~ Happenings

Saturday, December 15, 4:30 pm, Sunday, December 16, 10 am Masses - Blessing of Expectant Parents

Monday, December 17, 7 pm - Parish Communal Service

Tuesday, December 18, 6 pm - Parish Council Meeting, Rectory Conference Room (re-scheduled from December 11)

### The Giving Tree

The Giving Tree for children's toys and clothing is now up in the church and ready for Christmas. Please take a tag or two and make Christmas a little more special for a child in need. These gifts benefit the families that our St. Vincent de Paul Conference has helped during this past year. The individual tags include whether the child is a boy or girl and their age. Please donate toys or clothing appropriate for the age level stated on the tag. Suggestions: pull toys, plush toys, games, coloring books and crayons, puzzles, balls, sports equipment, dolls, trucks, and cars, (non-violent toys only, please!). Also, shirts, sweaters, hats and gloves, etc... would be an appropriate gift. Return all toys and clothing with tags from the Giving Tree by TODAY, December 16th.

Please put toys and clothes in bags, boxes, or some type of covering (no wrapping paper). If you would like to purchase a gift card for a child ages from 13 to 16, that would be much appreciated. PLEASE REMEMBER TO ATTACH THE GIVING TREE TAGS TO GIFTS.

Your generosity in the past has always been an inspiration as you remember those that are less fortunate among us! Thank you so very much.



## CSA Minute ~ Sharing Christ



CTND - Each December, the Catholic Television Network of Detroit (CTND) features programming focused on the true meaning of Christmas, helping families throughout the Archdiocese of Detroit truly prepare for the birth of our savior, Jesus Christ.

Thanks to your CSA gifts, CTND has broadcast faith-filled programming since 1985 that informs, educates, inspires, and entertains to 900,000 homes in southeast Michigan. Since 2011, CTND has been an affiliate of Boston-based Catholic TV Network. CTND's program scheduled can be found on the Archdiocese of Detroit website.

### Regarding your CSA and CLT Donations

St. Matthew Parish has received notice from the archdiocesan Donor Services Office that in order for parishioners to receive credit for the 2018 CSA and CLT (Changing Lives Together) donations, they must be received in their office no later than December 28, 2018 as their offices will be closed on December 31, 2018.

Donors are always able to go online at: <https://give.aod.org/> to make their donations. Online donations are immediate and do not require parish involvement for processing. Online donations can be done anytime between now and December 31, 2018, and the date can be selected by the donor. You can call 1-888-331-8695 for assistance if needed. Please do not put this off in order to avoid last minute high call volume to their office.



**RECONCILIATION SERVICE**  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2018 ~ 7:00 PM

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2018**  
CHRISTMAS EVE MASS ~ 10:00 PM

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2018**  
CHRISTMAS DAY MASS ~ 10:00 AM

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2018**  
FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY ~ 10:00AM

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 1, 2019**  
NEW YEAR'S DAY  
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, MOTHER OF GOD  
10:00 AM

### 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



## ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH DIRECTORY

6021 Whittier, Detroit 48224-2637  
Rectory Office: (313) 884-4470  
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10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Rev. Duane R. Novelly ~ *Pastor*  
Rick Cucchi ~ *Music Minister / Choir Director*  
Joe Balistreri ~ *Saturday Organist*  
David Troiano ~ *Weekday Organist*

### CLERICAL STAFF

Marilyn Lynn ~ *Secretary*  
Denise Balogh ~ *Bookkeeper*

### PARISH COUNCIL

John Dunstone ~ *President*  
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Michael Dulapa ~ *Evangelization Chair*  
Patricia Camazzola-Godoshian &  
Bryan Jones ~ *Members at Large*  
Sharon & Jerry Mielke ~ *VPC Representatives*

### PARISH ORGANIZATION

Dennis Costello ~ *St. Vincent de Paul / Christian Service*  
Dan McBride ~ *St. Vincent de Paul / Christian Service*

### WEEKEND/WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday	4:30 p.m.
Sunday	10:00 a.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday	9:00 a.m.
Reconciliation	By Appointment
Holydays	9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.

*In your prayers...*

*Please remember those in our parish and in our families who are sick or in need of our prayers.*

Chuck Schuster  
Bienvenido Fajardo  
Lolita Dorado  
Rita Moroni  
Albert Fajardo  
Virginia Fajardo  
Madeline O'Neill  
Kurt Beghuyn  
Laura Bush-Terry  
Sebastiano Stellino  
Allen McKee  
Teresita Covacha  
Richard Gargulinski  
Joe Petrylka  
Roger Sharpe  
Nenette Ferreria  
Dorothy Kurrie  
Anthony Mastronardi  
Eduardo Fajardo  
Kathy Bush

Peggy Bates  
Glenda Johnson  
Daniel Adams  
Robert Stark  
Stephanie Smith  
Alice Mocerri  
Janice Lafferty  
Janet Law  
Dan Lusch  
Michelle DeLeauw  
Jesse Ocampo  
Mike Holster  
Tim Fitzgerald  
Larry Hamel

## Ministers, Lectors, and Servers

### EUCCHARISTIC

#### MINISTERS

#### LECTORS

#### SERVERS

Saturday, December 22, 2018, 4:30 p.m.

Janet Bielman  
Mary Bielman  
Marie Vortkamp

Bryan Jones

Ian Campbell

Sunday, December 23, 2018, 10:00 a.m.

Marilyn Lynn  
Keith Arcicovich  
Dorothy Brooks  
Beverly Goll  
Linda Holster  
Greg Redman  
Kristen Stark

Mary Ann Pilette

Cory Fullilove  
Lauren Gross  
Julia Zuerblis

*Christmas Eve, Monday, December 24, 2018, 10:00 p.m.*

Marilyn Lynn  
Keith Arcicovich  
Beverly Goll  
Debra Nieddu  
Joseph Nieddu  
Veronica Obianwu  
Greg Redman

William Zuerblis

Ian Campbell  
Bruce Campbell  
Cory Fullilove  
Julia Zuerblis

*Christmas Day, Tuesday, December 25, 2018, 10:00 a.m.*

Janet Bielman  
Patti Adams  
Dorothy Brooks  
Marilyn Lynn  
Jean Solomon  
Kristen Stark  
Marie Vortkamp

Bill Ridella

Liz Foley-Dunsone

Patrick Dunstone  
Mary E. Dunstone  
Mary Pocius  
Lauren Gross

## Mass Schedule

### Saturday, December 15 - Vigil: 3rd Sunday of Advent

4:30 p.m. - Laura Bush Terry, For the People of St. Matthew Parish

### Sunday, December 16 - 3rd Sunday of Advent

10:00 a.m. - Laura Bush Terry, Annette Laige, Judy Stark, Bobby Hanshaw (2nd Anniv)

### Monday, December 17 -

### Tuesday, December 18 -

9:00 a.m. - Laura Bush Terry

### Wednesday, December 19 -

9:00 a.m. - Laura Bush Terry

### Thursday, December 20 -

### Friday, December 21 - St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church

9:00 a.m. - Laura Bush Terry

### Saturday, December 22 - Vigil: 4th Sunday of Advent

4:30 p.m. - Laura Bush Terry, Emma Langan, Joseph Chinnici (3rd Anniv)

### Sunday, December 23 - 4th Sunday of Advent

10:00 a.m. - Laura and Jeff Terry and Family, Karen Nutting and Family, Judy Stark, William H. Gracey, Sr.

O COME, O COME,  
EMMANUEL AND RANSOM  
CAPTIVE ISRAEL.



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