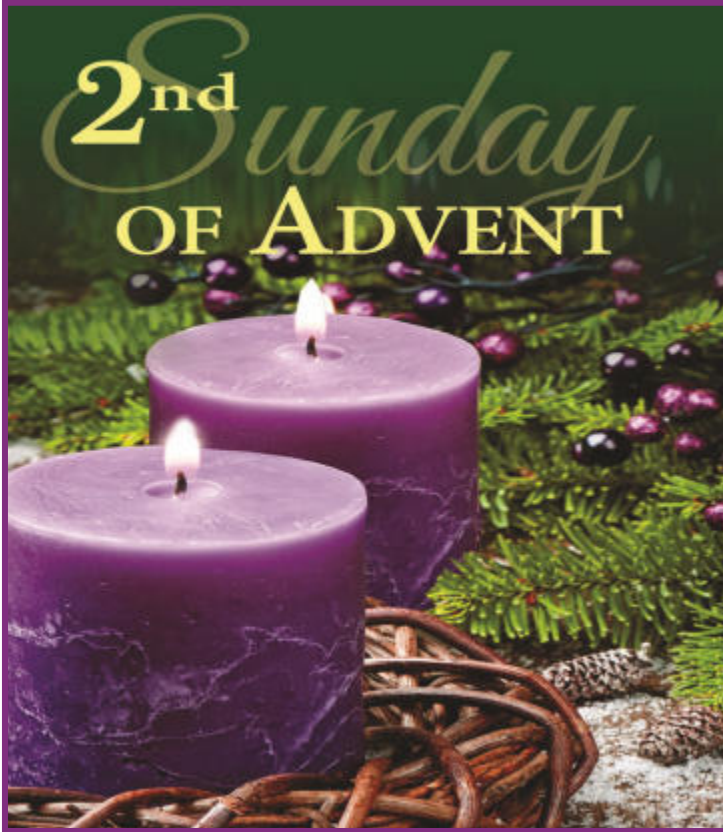




Saint Matthew Church The PULSE

December 6, 2020

Detroit, Michigan



St. Matthew Church 18th Annual Gold'n Harvest 50/50 Raffle Drawing Today

After all of your efforts in selling or purchasing tickets, the day has finally arrived when we will learn who the lucky winners are!

Due to the pandemic restrictions on parish gatherings, we remind you that there will be no catered breakfast provided for the parishioners to enjoy as they await the results for the drawing. It is unfortunate that we need to do eliminate this event, but it is in the best interest for the health of everyone.

Sometime after noon, the drawing this year will be live-streamed on our website: stmatthewdetroit.com. Please tune in!

**GOOD LUCK TO EVERYONE!
THANKS TO ALL FOR
YOUR GOOD WORK!**



From Father Duane's Desk

I noted in my homily on the first week of Advent that it is good to take a look behind us to see where we are going in the future. That simple task is part of our "Advent adventure." As I did that, I reflected upon the memorial of the deceased we displayed in church, the Memorial Mass which I felt was very prayerful, and, especially, the Book of Remembrance in which you inscribed the names of parents, family, relatives, friends, and acquaintances.

As the memorial was taken down for this year, I read each name you wrote. By name and inference, I could tell who wrote it. I prayed for each soul in the Book and for the one who remembered their friend or loved one. I was moved by the thoughtfulness you showed in taking the time to "remember." My prayerful reflection was that no matter how young or old, recent or past, when that person died, he or she is still important to you, and you remembered. The Church teaches it is fitting and proper to pray for the dead. The community of faith remembers as we celebrate All Saints Day and All Souls Day, and we remember in our hearts those who were dear to us as we inscribe their names in the Book of Remembrance.

On a more temporal topic, today we have our Gold'n Harvest 50/50 Raffle Drawing. Due to the pandemic, we are not having our annual parish breakfast, and I am very disappointed in that. However, I am hopeful that our live-streamed drawing at noon today will be successful. I could tell parishioners tried very hard to make it a success by selling and buying as many tickets as they could.

Whatever the outcome, I want to say thank you for your efforts. This year has been very difficult and like so many others, we too are struggling financially. But with the grace of God and the cooperation of people we will get through this pandemic and life will return to normal.

Keep praying for a Bright and Happier New Year.
God bless all of you,
Father Duane

Readings for the Week of December 6, 2020

Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 [8]/
2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8
Monday: Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14
[Is 35:4f]/Lk 5:17-26
Tuesday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [1]/
Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38
Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10 [1]/
Mt 11:28-30
Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab
[8]/Mt 11:11-15
Friday: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [cf. Jn 8:12]/
Mt 11:16-19
Saturday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/
Jdt 13:18bcde, 19 [15:9d]/Lk 1:26-38 or
Lk 1:39-47
Next Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 51-54
[Is 61:10b]/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28



2nd Sunday of Advent

People knew over a year in advance that the Pope was coming for a visit to America and the preparations began. Security, space limitations and requirements, protocols, crowd management, itineraries, invitations, regulations, and so much more was necessary to pull this event off effectively. It's not every day that we get a visit from such a prominent dignitary. Thought, effort, meticulous attention to detail and vision all are necessary to make this thing work. After all, he can't just show up in the ordinary and normal daily routines of life and catch people unprepared! Tickets have to be purchased, buses rented, hotel rooms reserved, and travel arrangements made early because it will be impossible to see him if we wait too long!

We do this kind of preparing not only for prominent religious figures but for political dignitaries, notable sports figures, people of fame, and even actors. If an individual intrigues us, we are going to want to do all we have to do to get a "good seat" in the house. Does Jesus Christ captivate this much of our attention? We are asked to prepare the way of the Lord and to do so not with frantic frenzy but patient enthusiasm. We do not have to stand on a street corner making profound announcements about God's coming or become overly zealous in our embrace of the Good News. Our task is quieter, more interior, captivating, and consuming. We are asked to change. We have to conduct our lives with holy devotion.

Is the cost of that ticket too much for you? Don't you want the "best seat" in the house? You don't want to miss Our Lord's arrival when he comes, do you? After all, if he comes while you are going about your daily routines without you even knowing, he may catch you off guard. Or, he may come in disguise looking like a beggar, a prisoner, migrant, refugee, or someone who is lost. Would you be ready to recognize him then? Preparing for the coming of Christ requires a change of mind, heart, and behavior. It is not adequate to simply do the things we always do. We want our lives to speak of the exciting news of Christ's coming and the joy that the Gospel brings. It has to do with our demeanor, values, priorities, choices, and how we structure daily routines. Of course, it involves sacrifice. All anticipations do! Are you excited, captivated, enthusiastic, and sitting on the edge of your seat eager to celebrate his coming among us at Christmas, and waiting for him to come again? If not, why not?



FEAST OF THE

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2020
MASSES AT 9:00 A.M.
AND 7:00 P.M.
HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION



Second Week of Advent Prayer

Each night of the second week, the eldest child (or one other one selected by the gathering) lights the first and second purple candle. Both candles burn during the evening meal as before. The Father or Leader prays:

*O Lord, stir up our hearts that we may prepare
for Your only begotten Son that through His coming,
we may be made worthy to serve You with pure minds.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

The Second Week Reflection

*Just as the Virgin Mother pondered
in her heart on the Word made flesh,
so every individual soul
and the entire Church are called
during their earthly pilgrimage to wait for Christ
who comes – and to welcome him
with faith and love ever new. (Pope Benedict XVI)*

St. Matthew Parish ~ Happenings

Sunday, December 6 - 2020 Gold'n Harvest 50/50 Raffle Drawing, following the 10 a.m. Mass - VIRTUAL EVENT, LIVE-STREAMING ONLY

Tuesday, December 8, 9 am and 7 pm Mass - Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Holy Day of Obligation

Saturday, December 12, 4:30 pm Mass, Sunday, December 13, 10 am Mass - Collection for the Retired Religious

Monday, December 14, 7 pm - Parish Reconciliation Service

Tuesday, December 15, 6 pm - Parish Council Meeting, Church Auditorium (tentative)

Retirement Fund for Religious Collection

Help our elders. In good times and bad, senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have dedicated themselves to service and acts of mercy. Today, they pray for an aching world. Yet years of serving for little or no pay have left religious communities without enough retirement savings. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please be generous.

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 December 13th, the 3rd Sunday of Advent.

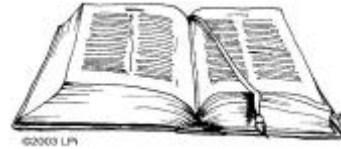
Please put toys and clothes in bags, boxes, or some type of covering (no wrapping paper). If you would like to purchase a gift card for a child ages from 13 to 16, that would be much appreciated. PLEASE REMEMBER TO ATTACH THE GIVING TREE TAGS TO GIFTS.

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

Please remember to respond to your invitation to pledge to the Catholic Services Appeal. Our parish benefits from your pledges and payments. Repeat the Success! Double the Participation! Thank you!



A Family Perspective

by Bud Ozar

Why is it so hard to forgive, yet so easy to get even? Listen to John the Baptist in today's Gospel and repent of the anger and ugly feelings which block your ability to forgive. This Christmas give a gift which makes a difference. Give forgiveness.

Courage in Hardship

**Jesus, in these difficult times
we renew our faith and trust in You.
We believe in your tender love
for all people and your absolute
sovereignty over world affairs.
Send your Holy Spirit to protect
the Church and console all believers,
especially those burdened
with fear and anxiety.
We pray especially for all bishops
and priests, may they shepherd
your people with wisdom
and grace amidst uncertainty.
In this time of crisis, open anew
the hearts of young people
and raise up new saints to witness
to Your everlasting love. Amen.**

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH DIRECTORY

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E-mail : stmatthew27@aol.com
Website: www.stmatthewdetroit.com
Office Hours: Monday through Friday
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*

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Gloria Bermudez ~ *Bookkeeper*

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Bill Zuerblis ~ *Financial Council Chair*
Michael Dulapa ~ *Evangelization Chair*
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Bryan Jones, David Smydra ~ *Members at Large*
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MARY ANN BOLONE, JOHN DUNSTONE, JEFF SMITH,
GARY STARK ~ *MEMBERS*

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 | Pauline Williams |
| Madeline O'Neill | Bill Solomon |
| Sebastiano Stellino | Eloise Parker |
| Joe Petrylka | Herb and Jeanne Damman |
| Roger Sharpe | Doreen Redman |
| Nenette Ferreria | Sarah Wagner |
| Anthony Mastronardi | Steve Czapski, Jr. |
| Kathy Bush | Lolita Dorado |
| Glenda Johnson | Albert Fajardo |
| Stephanie Smith | Eduardo Fajardo |
| Janet Law | Aurora Guinto |
| Laura Alix | Patrick Foley |
| Betty Leone | Mary Spansky |
| Jo Marie Nardi | Marie Kane |
| David Beaupre | Mike Dulapa |
| Kenneth Beaupre | Jo Piazza |
| Anthony Crimauco | Linda Holster |
| Rosemary Schoolcraft | |
| Tiffany Gelle | |
| Robert Stark | |

Ministers, Lectors, and Servers

LECTORS

SERVERS

Tuesday, December 8, 2020, 9 a.m., Immaculate Conception
TBD

Tuesday, December 8, 2020, 7 p.m., Immaculate Conception
William Zuerblis

Saturday, December 12, 2020, 4:30 p.m.
Liz Smith

Sunday, December 13, 2020, 10:00 a.m.
Bryan Jones

TBD

Julia Zuerblis

Jermaine Donaldson

Cory Fullilove
Julia Zuerblis

Mass Schedule

Saturday, December 5 - Vigil: 2nd Sunday of Advent

4:30 p.m. - For the People of St. Matthew Parish

Sunday, December 6 - 2nd Sunday of Advent

10:00 a.m. - Judy Stark, Elizabeth Reyes (3rd Anniv), Sr. Karen Eklund, IHM

Monday, December 7 - St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Tuesday, December 8 - Feast of the Immaculate Conception

9:00 a.m. - For the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

Wednesday, December 9 - St. Juan Diego

9:00 a.m. - For the Sick, Suffering, and Dying

Thursday, December 10 -

Friday, December 11 - St. Damasus I, Pope

9:00 a.m. - For an End to the COVID-19 Pandemic

Saturday, December 12 - Vigil: 3rd Sunday of Advent (Gaudete)

4:30 p.m. - For the People of St. Matthew Parish

Sunday, December 13 - 3rd Sunday of Advent (Gaudete)

10:00 a.m. - Judy Stark, John C. Sasinowski

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