



DECEMBER 20, 2020
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

OUR MISSION

We follow Jesus as a welcoming Catholic community of believers, fostering a life of active prayer and worship, sharing God's word through education and action, and reaching out in service to those in need.

PARISH OFFICE

Phone: (414) 762-4200
Hours: Monday- Thursday 9am-4pm
Friday 9am-12pm
Email: Parish@stmattocparish.org

PARISH STAFF

Pastor Rev. Patrick O'Loughlin

Deacon John Stodola | 559-9957

Deacon Steve Kramer skramer@shsst.edu

Director of Administration

Kris Wegner x21
das@stmattoc.org

Parish Secretary

Linda Anderson x20

Administrative Assistant

Renee Rebisch x17

Liturgy & Music Director

Chris O'Loughlin x16
coloughlin@stmattoc.org

Child/Family Formation Director

Carol Daun x13
cdaun@stmattoc.org

Youth Formation Coordinator

Karin Felske x14
kfelske@stmattoc.org

PARISH SCHOOL

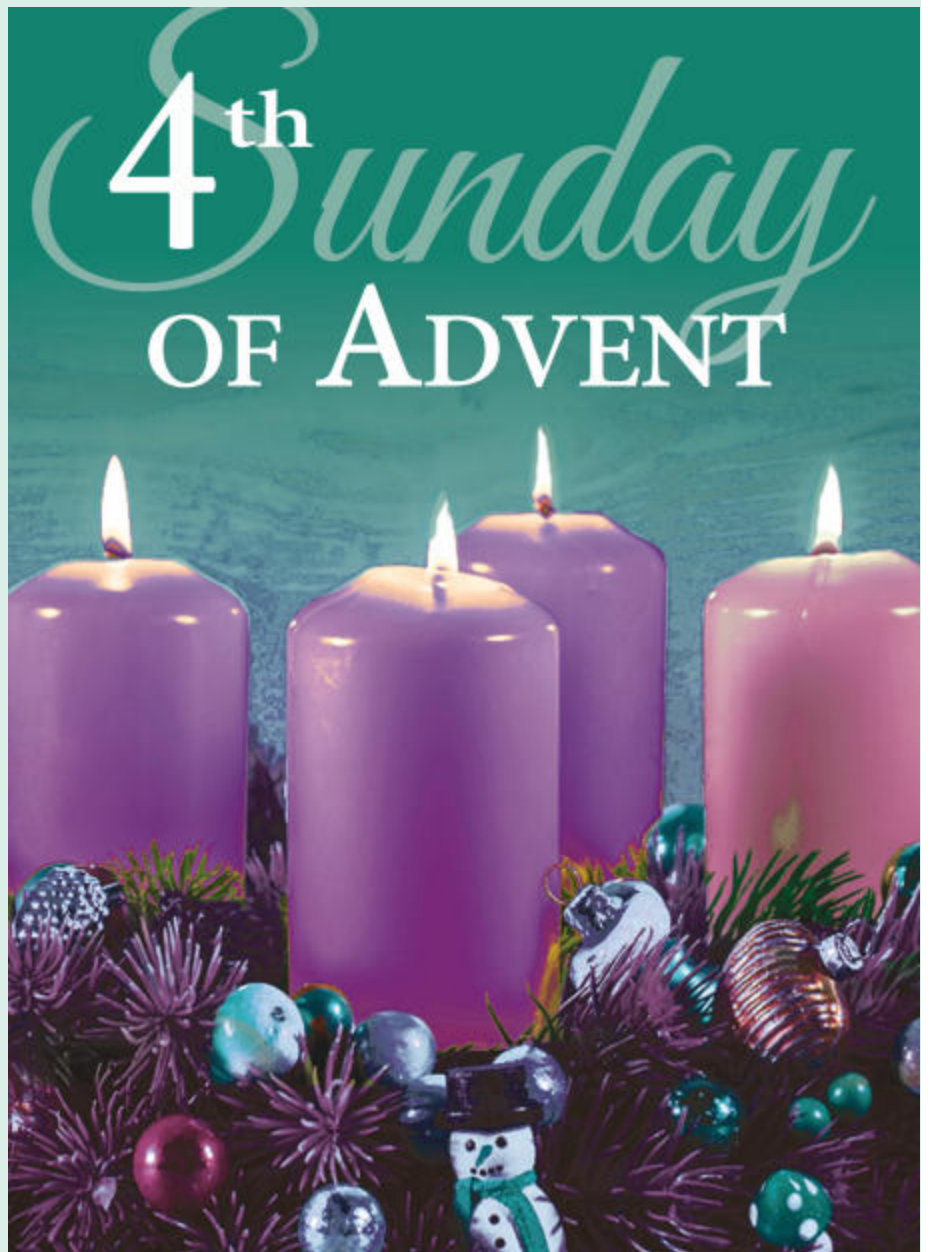
Office 762-6820
Principal Kelly Stefanich x11
School Secretary Diane Shadd x10

PARISH TRUSTEES

Secretary Janice Beder-Yee (h)571-0053
Treasurer Mike Kuick (h)764-1313

PARISH COUNCIL

Chairperson Matt Knorr (c) 414-364-1939





Welcome!

You may come as a stranger to us, yet you are known to our Lord, Jesus Christ, and in his name we bid you "welcome," praying that you find peace, inspiration and friendship in this parish.

Parish Council

Julie Anderson, Janice Beder-Yee, Gail Bezucha, Bo Boone, Sue Chilson, Steve Kidder, Matt Knorr, Mike Kuick, Kevin Martin, Fr. Patrick O'Loughlin, Dave Sims, and Pat Trinko

Mass Schedule

Weekend

Saturday 4 pm, Sunday 10 am

Sacramental Life

Reconciliation

Cancelled until further notice.

By appointment only. Call the parish office at 414-762-4200 ex. 20

Marriage

Registered, practicing members, call the Pastor as soon as you are engaged and at least six months in advance of the marriage.

Baptism

We welcome children of registered members, practicing Catholic parent(s)/guardian(s). Please call Deacon John Stodola for more information at (414) 559-9957.

First Communion

Preparation begins in first grade. Please call Child Formation Office for more information.

Anointing of the Sick

Generally after one Mass the last weekend of the month or call the parish office.

Parish Services

Sick/Communion Outreach

Requests for visitation of the homebound should be made to the Parish Office.

Hospital Visitation

If you are hospitalized and wish a visit, please call the Parish Office.

Prayer Network

Prays for personal intentions daily. To add intentions, call Nikki Sunn at 414-762-8145 or e-mail wolfsunn@hotmail.com by Thursday morning each week unless emergency.

Parish Membership

All Catholic adults living in the parish area and regularly participating in Liturgy should register with the Parish. Registration is required for Religious Education and Youth Ministry Programs. To join, call parish office.



Weekend Mass Schedule St. Matthew/St. Mary by the Lake

Saturday, December 19

4:00 pm The Parishioners of
St. Matthew/St. Mary
by the Lake Parishes

Sunday, December 20

10:00 am †Gary Biedrzycki

Tuesday, December 22

7:45 am †Gordon Sweet

Thursday, December 24

4:00 pm †Grace Ziegler
6:00 pm The Parishioners of
St. Matthew/St. Mary
by the Lake Parishes
8:00 pm †Members of the Mueller
and Anderson Families

Friday, December 25

7:30 am †Betty Rice
9:00 am †Patricia Losiniecki and
Fr. Tom Olszyk
11:00 am †Richard B. Tenner

Saturday, December 26

4:00 pm The Parishioners of
St. Matthew/St. Mary
by the Lake Parishes

Sunday, December 27

10:00 am †Harvey Moore

December 19/20

St. Matthew 4 pm	Fr. Pat	St. Mary 5:30 pm	Fr. Pat (Dcn Steve)
St. Matthew 10 am	Fr. Pat	St. Mary 8:30 am	Fr. Pat (Dcn Steve)

December 24 Christmas Eve

St. Matthew 4 pm	Fr. Pat (Dcn Steve)	St. Mary 3 pm	Fr. Drenzek
St. Matthew 6 pm	Fr. Pat (Dcn John)	St. Mary 5 pm	Fr. Drenzek
St. Matthew 8 pm	Fr. Pat		

December 25 Christmas Day

St. Matthew 7:30 am	Fr. Maher (DcnJohn)	St. Mary 8:00 am	Fr. Pat
St. Matthew 9 am	Fr. Maher (Dcn Steve)	St. Mary 9:30 am	Fr. Pat
St. Matthew 11 am	Fr. Pat		

Your Stewardship Matters

*"Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you!"
(Luke 1:28)*

After Jesus, we look to Mary as an ideal steward. Her entire life was lived in obedience to God's call. Mary teaches us to live with joy for all we have been given. Just as the moon reflects the light of the sun, Mary reflects the light of Christ. Like Mary, we are called to reflect Christ's light to the world through our gratitude and generosity.

This week's collection \$4,908



WeShare™ a form of Stewardship giving online, It's easy and convenient: Go to www.stmattoc.org. Click on WeShare at top of the home page" and follow the instructions.

Blood Drive — Save the Date

St Matthew's next blood drive will be held **Wednesday, January 13, 2021**. Due to COVID restrictions we will be holding the drive at the Oak Creek Community Center. Sign-ups will begin soon. We apologize for the change in location, but there is a strong need for blood and January is typically a month with a significant need. Watch for further details.

Good Reading

Only God knows the good that can come about by reading one good Catholic book. —St. John Bosco. Have you read a good Catholic book lately? Two good Catholic books will be available after our Christmas Masses as a Christmas gift to anyone who is interested! *I Heard God Laugh* and *Do Something Beautiful for God* will be made available thanks to the generosity of our Holy Name Society. *I Heard God Laugh* is half-memoir, half how-to make prayer a daily part of your day and the amazing changes that can come from that habit. *Do Something Beautiful for God* is an easy to read collection of 365 daily reflections from Mother Teresa. Plan to pick one up after Christmas Mass!



Scrip

The Home and School Board invites you to take advantage of SCRIP. We will be using any funds raised through SCRIP to offset the cost of safety measures for our students, staff and parishioners. New this year is "Express SCRIP". There is a shortened form with just the everyday necessities on it (gas, groceries, Target). You can now fill out the shortened form and leave it along with your payment in our dropbox and then your order will be ready for pick up right after Mass. The shortened form along with our regular form (with all of our card options) are on the desk in the gathering space marked accordingly. If you have any questions or are interested in any other card options, ask at the counter, or email Paulette Ralston: pauletteralston@gmail.com. We thank you for your support!

Reaching Out for December



St. Matthew's Reaching Out

The Guest House provides emergency shelter and transitional housing to homeless men. On-site services include outpatient and day treatment for substance abuse and outpatient mental health treatment; life skills and employment readiness workshops; as well as food, clothing, and personal care items. Some of the items needed are: New clothing— men's winter gear, men's T-shirts and underwear (sizes small-3XL), new backpacks, 55 gallon garbage bags, razors, shaving cream, toothbrushes, toothpaste, body wash, personal hygiene items and playing cards. Cash donations are also appreciated.

Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading: Today's reading from Second Samuel narrates the context in which God establishes his covenantal promise to King David around the year 1000 B.C. In the birth of Jesus, God fulfills his covenant with David. What does this teach us about the idea of "salvation history?"

Second Reading: Paul concludes his letter to the Romans with a hymn of praise to God for the long-awaited revelation that all are saved and justified through faith in Christ. In what ways are you praising God during this season of Advent?

Third Reading: Today's Gospel reading records the angel Gabriel's announcement to Mary of the upcoming birth of Christ. Mary's acceptance of God's will for her life ("May it be done to me according to your word") models for all of us an unconditional faith. How can we encourage others to embrace such faith?

Words of Wisdom

For God so loved the world that He gave His only son, that whoever believes in Him shall have eternal life. (John 3:16)

TV Mass

Christmas Midnight Mass from St. John the Evangelist Cathedral will be shown on WISN-TV Channel 12.

Just a reminder, Mass for homebound Catholics are available every Sunday at WITI-TV Channel 6, 5:30am and WCGV-TV Channel 24, 7am and 9am.

Mass Intentions

We are taking Mass Intentions through August. According to the Archdiocese you are allowed 1 Weekend/Holy day Mass and 2 weekday Masses. There are many parishioners wanting Masses, please stick to the 3 Masses per year. Call the parish office, come in or mail in your dates. Cost is still \$10. Thank You!

Rosary Prayer Group

Join with fellow parishioners as we pray the rosary for the intention of healing and peace in our world, along with any personal intentions we may have. Each **Wednesday** morning at 10am, we gather in the Little Brick Church to pray one of the mysteries of the Rosary. We hope to see you there!



FYI-Online Bulletins

Sign up to have the bulletin emailed to you each week, by going to <https://www.stmattocparish.org/publications/subscribe> Bulletins can also be viewed on our website www.stmattocparish.org, by going to the "Our Parish" tab and clicking on Publications.



Principal's Corner



The third week in Advent...Joy. It is our hope that our students brought joy to others this week. It has been tradition in the last few years to go caroling to area nursing homes. This year, each class recorded a video singing a Christmas carol and offering words of cheer. The video was then compiled into one with all of the students on it. The link is being sent to area nursing homes to share with their residents. Students also made Christmas cards for the residents of The Villa of Greenfield. Some of them have made gifts to give to their parents. The 8th grade is creating their paper mache nativity set that will be displayed near their classroom. We had our school spelling bee last Friday. Students in grades 5-8 competed in a classroom spelling bee, the top five from each class then competed in the school bee. In third place was Will Martin, second place was Erin Moore and first place was Hailey Goebel. Generally, Hailey would move onto the district spelling bee, but that has been canceled. So, she will be moving onto the regional bee which will take place virtually. Congratulations, Hailey! I hope each of you gave and received joy this week!

Blessings,
Mrs. Stefanich

Are You a Member of St. Matthew Parish

Are you over the age of 18 and/or no longer living with your parents who are members of the parish? It's time for you to join St. Matthew. This will be important if you are asked to be a sponsor or getting married. Call the parish office to register. We can mail or email a registration form to you. If you are new to the area and would like to register, please call us 762-4200 ex. 20.

Scholarship Information

Catholic Financial Life scholarship applications for the 2021-22 School Year are now available for members to apply online.

The guidelines and criteria for the Grade School Scholarship remain the same. Grade School Scholarships will be awarded based upon a random drawing.

While the guidelines for the High School and College Scholarships remain the same, there has been one significant change to the qualification criteria for each. In the past, these scholarships have been awarded based on service hours. Given the current situation, it is now difficult for students to volunteer their time. Therefore, in place of service hours, students must submit an application and a **one-page essay** by March 31, 2021.

The theme of the **High School Scholarship essay** should be: "Describe three ways in which you hope your Catholic high school education will prepare you to positively influence local, national, or global challenges."

The theme of the **College Scholarship essay** should be: "Describe the ways in which you hope your college education will prepare you to walk in the footsteps of a hero you have known, either personally or through study of his/her life." High School and College Scholarships will be awarded based upon meeting the criteria and on the quality of the essay.

Essays may be submitted online when completing the scholarship application in "My Account." Essays and applications may also be sent via email to: memberengagement@catholicfinanciallife.org or by U.S. mail to the Member Engagement Department at Catholic Financial Life. Essays submitted via email or U.S. mail should clearly identify the student's name and contact information if they are sent apart from the scholarship application.

Call Your Advisor for Catholic Financial Life for scholarship applications!
Deborah J. Hecker, FIC, (414) 278-6637

This Week

Sunday, December 20

8:30 am Families of Faith Cafe
11:00 am Christmas Decorating CH/Gath

Monday, December 21

6:30 pm Religious Formation
6:30 pm YM Gr. 6/7/8

Tuesday, December 22

2:40 pm Grade 8 Comp Lab

Wednesday, December 23

10:00 am Pray the Rosary LBC

School Christmas Break December 23 thru January 3

CH-Church • CR-Conference Room • GS-Good Shepherd • MP Multi Purpose Rms • SR-Scout Room • SW-South Wing
LBC-Little Brick Church



Readings for the Week

Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/
Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

Monday: Sg 2:8-14/Lk 1:39-45

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5,
6-7, 8abcd/Lk 1:46-56

Wednesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Lk 21:28/
Lk 1:57-66

Thursday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/
Lk 1:67-79

Friday: Is 9:1-6/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14.

Saturday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/
Mt 10:17-22

Next Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/ Col 3:12-21/
Lk 2:22-40



St. Mary by the Lake—Racine
7605 Lakeshore Dr. 262-639-3616
www.stmarybythelake.org
Email: stmarybl@wi.twcabc.com
Mass Schedule: Saturday 5:30 pm
Sunday 8:30 am



CHRISTMAS 2020

*What came to be through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race;
the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. (John 1:4-5)*

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

When we pray the Nicene Creed we profess, "I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man."

These familiar words echo the prologue of John's Gospel, which is read at Christmas. John proclaims, "What came to be through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race; the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." (John 1:4-5) I draw your attention to the Creed and John's Gospel to emphasize the profundity of describing God as Light and Life. Out of the infinite ways to describe Christ, light and life are given to us as preeminent and essential descriptions.

The key to understanding this is the celebration of the Incarnation. The Son of God did not become man to prove a point, become rich, powerful and popular, or punish the wicked. It is all too easy to look at the life of Christ in these terms because of our human tendencies to want to be rich, famous or powerful. In doing so, the Gospels become a biography among many other great people who did great things.

However, that is not why God became man; He became man to save us from the darkness of sin and the punishment of death. When we profess this truth, we allow Christ to reorient our lives. No longer is He just another great person to listen to or admire; He becomes the Light and Life of our lives.

Whatever you have faced this year, from the joyous occasions to suffering and sadness, I pray that you will entrust them to Christ at Christmas. May the Light and Life you receive be the gifts you share with your family and loved ones this year. I trust in God. I trust in His Word. Merry Christmas!

With a heart full of gratitude for your faithfulness, I am,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Jerome E. Listecki

Most Reverend Jerome E. Listecki
Archbishop of Milwaukee

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