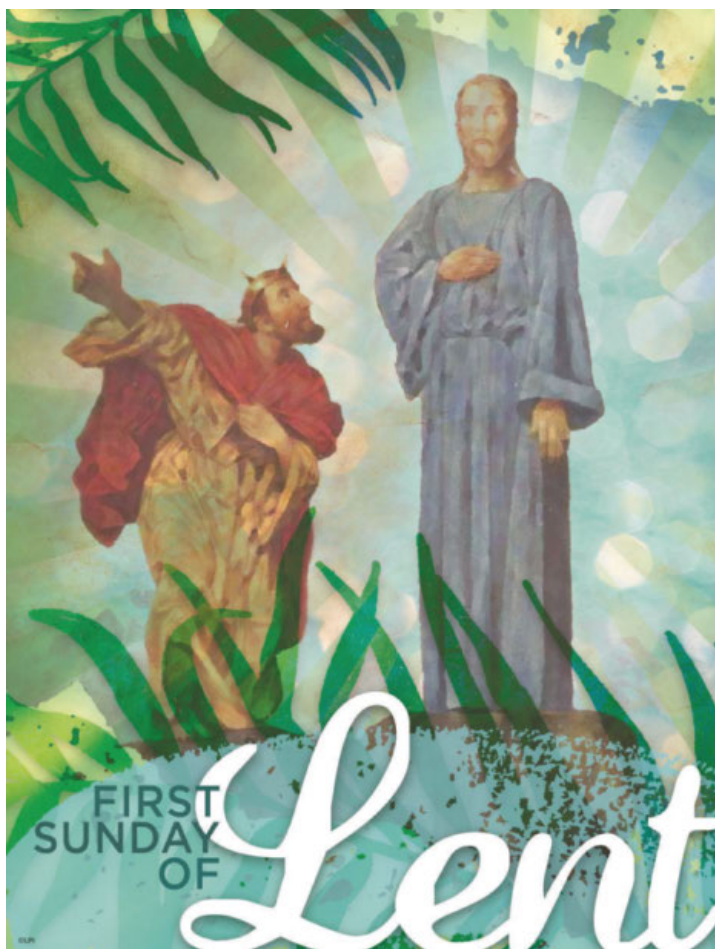


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February 26, 2023



MISSION STATEMENT

St. Matthias Catholic Parish is committed to continuing the ministry of Jesus Christ. We invite and welcome all. Come... live, grow, and be challenged by the message through prayer, formation, and service.

Pastoral Staff

Fr. Jerry Herda, Pastor
Deacon Stan Lowe, Pastoral Coordinator
Alissa Turner, School Principal
Brian Jens, Director of Youth and Adult Ministries
Peter Morello, Director of Religious Education K4-8
Francine Micklus, Director of Liturgy and Music

Weekend Help Out Priests

Fr. Dave Cooper
Fr. Chuck Schramm

Parish Officers

Don Vaclav, Trustee Secretary
Paul Ziehler, Trustee Treasurer
Mark Kopplin, Parish Council Moderator

Mass Schedule

Tuesday and Thursday 8:15 am
Wednesday 5:30 pm followed by Adoration 6:00 to 7:00 pm
Saturday: 4:00 pm & 6:00 pm; Sunday: 8:00 am & 10:00 am

Anointing of the Sick

First weekend of the month.
Even months - after the 4:00 pm Mass
Odd months - after the 8:00 am Mass
When a parishioner is hospitalized, homebound, or in a nursing home, please notify the Parish Office.

Rite of Reconciliation

First and third Saturday of the month at 8:30 am

Membership

online at www.stmatthias-milw.org

Contact Information

Parish Phone: 414-321-0893 School Phone: 414-321-0894
Parish Fax: 414-321-1330 School Fax: 414-321-9228

Please call the Parish Office for more information regarding all sacramental preparation and celebration.

Bulletin requests to cpfeifer@stmatthias-milw.org by Monday noon. Bulletin requests are subject to approval.

Please contact Kathy Shields at kshields@stmatthias-milw.org for approval on postings for the bulletin boards in church.

From the Pastor



The following is a column written by Fr. Jerry which previously appeared in the Catholic Herald.

What are some of the key requirements for a Catholic funeral and what should family members be thinking about when planning one?

The Catholic Church has some very specific rules and requirements when it comes to a Catholic funeral, and at the same time, the Catholic Church gives great flexibility in how to do a funeral. Canon Law states, "Deceased members of the Christian faithful must be given ecclesiastical funerals according to the norm of law" (Canon 1176). Every Catholic is entitled to a funeral. The canon goes on to state there are three main reasons for a funeral – spiritual support for the deceased, honoring their body, bringing solace of hope to the living. A funeral is designed to pray for and honor the deceased, but it is also designed to bring comfort and hope to family and friends. This canon also states, "The Church earnestly recommends that the pious custom of burying the bodies of the deceased be observed; nevertheless, the Church does not prohibit cremation." While cremation is permitted, the scattering of ashes is not. It is also required that the cremated remains be permanently placed in a sacred place, not be kept in an urn at home.

The next Canon states, "A funeral for any deceased member of the faithful must generally be celebrated in his or her parish church. Any member of the faithful or those competent to take care of the funeral of a deceased member of the faithful are permitted to choose another church for the funeral rite with the consent of the person who governs it and after notification of the proper pastor of the deceased" (Canon 1177). The normal way a funeral is celebrated is in the home parish of the deceased with a funeral Mass, but the Church does give flexibility. A funeral service in a funeral home is permitted. However, it is very disappointing when a faithful Catholic dies and family who is not as faithful decides not to do a funeral Mass. I strongly recommend that you express your wishes for a funeral Mass to your loved ones and even consider putting it in writing.

Canon 1181 makes a very powerful statement, "there is to be no favoritism toward persons in funerals and that the poor are not to be deprived of fitting funerals." In the Catholic Church everyone is entitled to a funeral with a few rare exceptions laid out in Canon Law. Whether a person is rich or poor, sinner or saint, they are entitled to have a funeral.

The biggest challenge regarding funerals is the fact that people are afraid to talk about their own death. We are all going to die. It is ok to plan your own funeral, pick out the songs and readings you would like. Meet with a funeral director to pre-plan. Buy a cemetery plot or a crypt. Talk to your family and tell them what you want.

Continued...

Finally, when it comes to planning a funeral, whether it is pre-planning your own or planning at the moment when your loved one dies, remember that our ultimate goal here on earth is to make it to heaven. A funeral is a celebration that the deceased is now going home to the Lord. Let us rejoice and be glad for they have found their eternal reward.

Fr. Jerry

A side note: When a loved one, who is a parishioner of St. Matthias, has passed, and if their funeral Mass or service was not held at St. Matthias, please call the parish office to inform us so that we may update our records and those of the Archdiocese. Thank you.

PARISH NEWS AND NOTES

St. Matthias Sleeping Bag Ministry

The St. Matthias Sleeping Bag Ministry will take place on Saturday, March 4, 2023 in Steiger Hall from 8:00am-12:00pm. **Come join us—Everyone is welcome!** No skills necessary, we will teach you, just please bring scissors. Thank you for providing warmth for those in need.



HAM AND ROLLS IN STEIGER HALL ON MARCH 4TH



Ham and rolls will be offered after the 4:00pm Mass on March 4th. This has been made possible due to the generous donation from a parishioner, in honor of Fr. Jerry's installation as our pastor. Chips, coffee and water will also be available. Come have a sandwich and conversation with your fellow Mass neighbors!

Readings for the week of February 26, 2023

Sunday: Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17 (see 3a)/Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/Mt 4:1-11
Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/Mt 25:31-46
Tuesday: Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19/Mt 6:7-15
Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19/Lk 11:29-32
Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8/
Mt 7:7-12
Friday: Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 507a, 7bc-8/Mt 5:20-26
Saturday: Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8/Mt 5:43-48
Next Sunday: Gn 12:1-4a/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22 (22)/
2 Tm 1:8b-10/Mt 17:1-9

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, February 26, 2023 1st Sunday of Lent

- 8:00 am **Mass - Church** - Fr. Jerry Herda
†Melvin Fularczyk (Margaret Fularczyk)
- 9:15 am K4-8 grade Christian Formation - 62 Bldg., Beloit Bldg. & Gym
- 10:00 am **Mass** - Fr. Jerry Herda
†James Sokol (Cindy Sokol)
- 6:30 pm 9th & 10th Grade Christian Formation class - Church, Steiger Hall & Rms., Parish Office Conf. Rm., Parish Center Rms.

Monday, February 27, 2023

- 3:15 pm Brownie Troop Mtg. - Steiger Hall
- 7:00 pm River of Life Prayer Group - Steiger Hall

Tuesday, February 28, 2023

- 8:15 am **Mass - Church** - Fr. Dave Cooper
†Kay Bates (Christopher Bates)
- 6:00 pm Pastoral Council Mtg. - P.O. Conference Rm.
- 7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop Mtg. - Parish Center Scout Rm.

Wednesday, March 1, 2023

- 3:15 pm Junior Handbells - Church
- 5:30 pm **Mass - Church** - Fr. Jerry Herda
- 6:00 pm **Adoration - Church**
- 7:00 pm Dartball - Steiger Hall
- 7:00 pm Centering Prayer - Parish Center Living Rm.

Thursday, March 2, 2023

- 8:15 am **All School Mass - Church** - Fr. Jerry Herda
- 6:30 pm Adult Faith Formation Bible Study - P.O. Conference Rm.
- 7:00 pm Adult Choir practice - Church
- 8:00 pm A New Awakening Group - Parish Center

Friday, March 3, 2023

- 2:00 pm Sleeping Bag Ministry set - up - Steiger Hall
- 7:00 pm Stations of the Cross - Church

Saturday, March 4, 2023

- 8:00 am Sleeping Bag Ministry - Steiger Hall
- 8:30 am Individual Confessions - Church
- 4:00 pm **Mass - Church** - Fr. Jerry Herda
†Elizabeth Schmid (Roger & Sharon Phelps)
- 5:15 pm Ham & Rolls - Steiger Hall
- 6:00 pm **Mass - Church** - Fr. Jerry Herda
†Rita Campanella (Richard & Donna Barwick)

Sunday, March 5, 2023 2nd Sunday of Lent

- 8:00 am **Mass - Church** - Fr. Jerry Herda - Children's Liturgy of the Word
†Theodore Hainer (Thomas & Carol Hainer)
- 9:15 am Anointing - Church
- 9:30 am Christian Formation Intergenerational Gathering - Steiger Hall
- 10:00 am **Mass** - Fr. Dave Cooper
Parishioners of St. Matthias



For Those with Celiac or Gluten Concerns

We have hosts that will hopefully allow you to receive Holy

Communion. These low-gluten hosts are approved to be used in the Celebration of the Eucharist and contain trace amounts of gluten (less than .002% or <20ppm). This low-gluten communion is considered to be safe for those with celiac disease or other gluten intolerances.

These hosts are stored completely separate from all other wheat products to avoid any cross-contamination.

If you wish to receive, please contact the sacristan before Mass so that a host is available for you.

GRACE. GRATITUDE. GENEROSITY.

PARISH WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP WEEK OF: February 19, 2023

*These funds represent the majority of the parish income needed to sustain the mission of St. Matthias.
Thanks for all you do!*

Finance and Stewardship Committees

Total # Envelopes	202
Total Contributions	\$16,804.19
Year to Date Total	\$586,280.20

St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry

The next Food Pantry dates are March 11 and 25 from 7:30 am-11:00 am. Please drive up in the circle drive in front of St. Matthias Church and stay in your car. A food pantry volunteer will come to assist you.



Advent Giving Tree Thank You



Dear St. Matthias Parish & Human Concerns Committee,

Thank you for the generous donations of gifts you provided to Aurora Sinai Medical Center NIC Unit. We feel blessed to be included in you Advent Giving Tree program. Every family we have given baby supplies to has been so appreciative. Just this week a NICU father said please thank St. Matthias for their support.

With appreciation,

*Kathy Jens & Missy McMillan,
Aurora Sinai Women's Health Social Work*

Food Pantry Donation

Thank you to the West Allis Community Improvement Foundation for their generous contribution of \$1,000 to our SVDP Food Pantry.

Lenten Almsgiving Opportunity



St. Matthias Parish Human Concerns Committee is involved in Parish outreach and one of the many projects that we undertake is designating one or more recipients for your almsgiving during the Lenten Season. Your sacrificial offering is a way of making your Lenten experience a complete and meaningful one through the traditional practices of praying, fasting and almsgiving. We wish you a blessed and fulfilling Lenten season.

Our almsgiving recipient this year is our sister parish, **Santa María de los Angeles** in Aramberri, Neuvo León, Mexico.

Fr. José Antonio has provided us with a list of project needs for various parish buildings. Please check out the picture boards in the Gathering Area for a bit of background on the parish, some pictures of the church and buildings, and the list of projects that will greatly benefit from the generosity of all of you during this Lenten season.

Red canisters will be in church each weekend for collection. Please make your check out to St. Matthias Parish, with *Lenten Almsgiving* in the memo line.



Thank you!!!



Lent at St. Matthias

Stations of the Cross

7 PM

Each Friday during Lent
March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
April 7 (Good Friday)

Wednesday Evening Mass and Adoration

March 1st to April 5th

Mass - 5:30 pm

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 6 - 7 pm

You are welcome to come for Mass and stay for Adoration, or just come for Mass or Adoration.

Lenten Reconciliation Opportunities

Individual Reconciliation

Saturdays: March 4 & 18 and April 1 @ 8:30 am

12 Hours of Reconciliation

Wednesday, March 29, 8:00 am to 8:00 pm

Please see the last page in the bulletin for locations. St. Matthias is one of the sites hosting this event, and as such, will not have a Communal Penance service this Lent.

Fasting

The Church formally asks members who have reached the age of **14** to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and each Friday of Lent. In addition, those **between the ages of 18 & 59** are required to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, taking in only one full meal on those days. The obligation of fasting ceases with the celebration of one's **59th** birthday.

Almsgiving

Our almsgiving recipient this year is our sister parish, **Santa María de los Angeles in Aramberri, Neuvo León, Mexico.** Please see the special section inside of this bulletin for further details.

Lenten Prayer Books

The "Not By Bread Alone" Lenten prayer books are now available.



The books are free and obtainable at each exit in the church. However, if you would like to make a donation to help cover the cost, there are boxes for your offering. We ask that you take one book per household, thank you.



Synod Listening Sessions



Come share your thoughts on how the Catholic Church should move forward in the world together! Anybody and any age is able to attend!

Synod Listening Session Dates:

Tuesday March 7th, 2023—6:30—8:00 pm—Steiger Hall
Tuesday March 28th, 2023—6:30—8:00 pm—Steiger Hall

Session will be conducted both in-person and on Zoom.

You can register:

1. Website: <https://stmatthias-milw.org/ffo/>
2. Email Brian Jens: bjens@stmatthias-milw.org
3. Call Brian Jens: 414-982-2406

MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

Building and Grounds

The 3R and Buildings and Grounds committee works with parish staff to Renew, Repair and Rehabilitate the facilities of St. Matthias.



Volunteer members do hands-on work, and also seek out contractors to do work that is beyond our abilities. Please consider sharing your talents and join us!

If you are interested, kindly contact the parish office at 414-321-0893. Thank you!



St. Matthias Parish School is currently looking to hire an Art teacher for the 2023-24 school year. They are also looking for an After School Supervisor for the extended care program, starting this school year. If you know of anyone who would be interested in either of these positions, please share this information with them.

Interested candidates can visit the "Careers" section of the Archdiocese website for more information or may call the school office directly at 414-321-0894 and ask to speak with Mrs. Turner, Principal.



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