

St. Matthew Catholic Community

PARISH • SCHOOL • EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER Joyfully transforming lives through sacraments, prayer, and action.

January 9, 2022



"I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." - Lk 3:16bc

CONTACT US

Parish Office Phone (319) 363-8269 Website www.stmatthewcr.org contactus@stmatthewcr.org 2310 First Avenue NE Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday 5:30 PM Wednesday 8:00 AM Thursday 8:30 AM (School Mass) Friday 8:00 AM Saturday 4:00 PM Sunday 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM Sat 4 PM & Sun 8 & 10:30AM

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 2:45 PM or by appointment

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

PARISH 319-363-8269

Fr. Doug Loecke Deacon Rich Wallace / 929-1703 Deacon Steve Bauer / 329-4371 Kate Tyler, Pastoral Associate / 363-5238

Brenda Kowalsky, Business Manager Kathy Berry, Parish Associate Gary Sullivan, Bookkeeper

Zach Gignac, Liturgy & Music

Megan Moore, Faith Formation / 362-9967

SCHOOL 319-362-3021

Amy Conlon, Principal Tami Kolden, Preschool Director

EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

Jackie Luzum, Director / 363-9309

WELCOME TO ST. MATTHEW CATHOLIC COMMUNITY!

Archdiocese of Dubuque Women's Conference Holy Women of the Visitation

with speakers, Liz Kelly & Emily Jaminet.



Saturday, January 29th, 8:00am-1:00pm (with Eucharistic Adoration to follow from 1-2pm)

We will gather in-person to experience this virtual conference together. *Refreshments will be provided and door prizes will be awarded!*

All Saints Catholic Church - in the social hall 720 29th St SE, Cedar Rapids

Cost is \$15 per person. Please contact Megan Moore at 319-362-9967 or mmoore@stmatthewcr.org to register or for more info.

Thank you to everyone who dropped off treats and goodies at the parish office during Advent and Christmas! We are grateful for your generosity and your culinary talents! All of us in the office wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

2nd on the 2nd Reminder

THIS weekend we will have a second collection benefiting **Parish Sanctity of Life**.

Extend support for the protection of human life from conception to natural death.

www.guidingstarcedarvalley.org www.bridgehavencr.org

St. Gianna Beretta Molla, pray for us!

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

We are bringing back the opportunity for our young people to sing together at Mass! And we know everybody is very busy, so we are not asking for a monthly commitment until the end of time. Instead, check the dates, and reach our to Zach, our music director, to let him know if your kids are able to join for a particular date, as soon as possible.

WHO: All students in grades 3-8 (public AND private school) — parents and siblings can join too!

WHERE: We will meet in the Music Room at church (located right behind the statue of St. Joseph)

WHEN: Just one rehearsal before each Mass we sing Sunday, January 23 - 9:30AM rehearsal, 10:30AM Mass

RSVP to Zach ASAP so he can have enough music for everyone zgignac@stmatthewcr.org or 319-363-8269

2310 Ist Ave NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402 | 319-363-8269 | www.stmatthewcr.org



LIVING LITURGICALLY WITH THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Jesus was baptized, too. Regardless of whether or not Jesus *needed* to be baptized, he chose to do it. So we, as baptized Christians, share in the experience of this Sacrament with our Lord!

This means that as we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, we can also celebrate our own baptisms. Here's what I suggest:

- I. Find your baptism candle
- 2. Bake a cake or a pie or something that you can put the candle in
- 3. Light the candle
- 4. Blow the candle out
- 5. And, lastly, enjoy the cake (or whatever you made)

The moral of the story is this: our baptism candles are not meant to collect dust in a box in storage. Rather, they are meant to remind us of the light of Christ and of anointing as priest, prophet, and king, that we might all grow in holiness. So on this feast day (and on the anniversary of your baptism), I recommend getting the candle out, lighting it, and remembering your baptism in a special way each year.

MASS INTENTIONS for 2022

As Christians, we have an ancient tradition of praying for the deceased, praying for the repose of their souls. This tradition stretches all the way back to the Old Testament.
One primary way this devotion is expressed now is through the offering of Masses for particular intentions (persons). When the priest offers Mass, he prays certain prayers specifically for the intention of that Mass.
We are now scheduling Mass intentions through the entire year of 2022, and we have many openings left to fill! The standard offering for a Mass is \$5 - please note that this is not the selling of a Sacrament, but rather an act of worship. Instead of bringing a calf or a pair of doves to the temple as they did in the ancient times, we can offer a gift to God from

our livelihood. If you would like to request one or more Masses be offered for your loved ones, please contact Zach at the office, at <u>zgignac@stmatthewcr.org</u>, 319-363-8269, or by visiting during office hours (8:30-4:00).



If you were not able to pick up a home blessing packet last weekend, there are still several available at the entrances to the church. Home blessings are done annually, usually around the Feast of Epiphany, with blessed chalk and a prayer.

Please take a packet for your home so you can bless your home for 2022!

We're moving the baby grand piano up to the choir loft!

Why? Our church is architecturally designed to have the musicians in the choir loft in the back of the church. With the piano now up in the loft, we have our real piano in the same space as our pipe organ! This gives our musicians more flexibility to use whichever instrument better suits a given piece of music for Mass without having to travel between two ends of the church during the liturgy.

How? We hired professional movers to ensure it was done correctly and to protect the piano from damage. The legs of a standard grand piano are actually removable for such purpose. So, it was partially dismantled to be hauled up the stairs by hand and then reassembled in the loft.

Will it be moved back and forth? No, it is up there to stay! It may take some getting used to, but we believe this is the best next step to continue improving our liturgies at St. Matthew. This consistency will also help in our ongoing effort to refine the sound quality and volume levels.

Can I play a few notes on it? Yes! Both the piano and the organ are always looking for new friends, and we are always looking for more accompanists to assist at our parish liturgies! Find Zach, our Director of Liturgy and Music, after Mass, or reach out at 319-363-8269 or zgignac@stmatthewcr.org

Sunday, January 9, 2022 | The Baptism of the Lord

Thank you to everyone who helped to decorate the church for our Christmas liturgies, as well as all those who served in our different Mass ministries as we celebrated the Christmas season here at St. Matthew!



All 21-39 year olds are invited to join us at Parlor City on January 20th at 6pm to hear from Deacon Scott Zogg on "Faith and Science". Your first drink is on us! Check out facebook.com/CRToT for more information.

oping the WHOLE Person

REGIS



Families with 5th Graders: Save the date to explore Regis!

Saturday, January 29th from 9-11am, current fifth grade students and their families will have the chance to learn all about the opportunities Regis offers and will meet Regis students, parents, teachers, and staff. Please contact Dianne Clark at dclarke@regisroyals.org or 319-363-1968 to RSVP or if you have any questions. We look forward to seeing your at Explore Regis on January 29th!

Cedar Rapids March for Life Saturday, January 22nd

We will meet at 9am in Kearn Hall. We will march down 1st Ave to pray at Planned Parenthood.



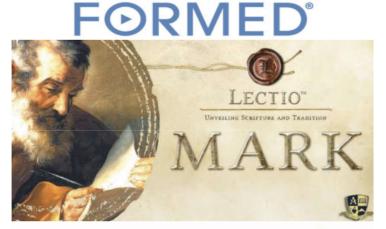
WATCH

For those who would like to pray indoors, Eucharistic Adoration and a rosary will be hosted by the Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women from 10-10:30am in St. Matthew Church.

A chili social will begin at I I am with guest speaker Bernie Hayes at 11:10am. The event will conclude at 11:40am.

We are collecting disposable diapers, wipes, and newborn clothes for distribution to Bridgehaven and Birthright.

For more info contact Sue Martinek at 319-270-0054 or coalitionforlife@gmail.com



LECTIO: MARK, EPISODE 2: PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD

Jesus couldn't have been baptized without a baptizer. Join Dr. Tim Gray as he explains the opening verses of Mark's Gospel that depict the ministry of John the Baptist - the man who would baptize Jesus.



YOU, YOUR CHILD AND THE HEART OF BAPTISM

REBORN - EPISODE 1: A NEW CREATION

This week, as we contemplate Jesus' Baptism, dive into the mystery of the Sacrament of Baptism! Through our Reborn series, you will come to understand the deeper meaning behind your Baptism!

Our parish has a FORMED subscription. To set up your free account visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.





For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • www.4lpi.com

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St. Matthew, Cedar Rapids, IA