

Saint Matthew Catholic Church



January, 2 2022 — The Epiphany of the Lord

Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD

Lord Jesus, increase the faith life of our parish and strengthen our families. Bless our parish with vocations to the priesthood. Call forth young men to great challenges and heroic deeds. We pray that they hear your voice and listen to your call. Give them courage, Lord, to follow in your footsteps and become priests for the salvation of souls. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

120 Church Avenue

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Office Hours: Monday through Friday: 9:00a.m.-4p.m.

Father John Dietrich, *Pastor*

Fr. Glen Dmytryszyn, *Parochial Vicar*

Deacon Brian Armstrong

Sonia Shavel, *Parish Secretary*

Roman Czuchta, Terry Roach, *Parish Trustees*

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday through Friday 7:30 a.m.

Saturday: 8:30 a.m.; Saturday Vigil, 4p.m.

Sunday 7 a.m.; 8:30 a.m.; 10 a.m.; 11:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (Confession):

Saturday 3:00 – 3:45 p.m. (* please remember to wear a mask) or by appointment. Call the Parish Office.

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Mrs. Helen Treacy, *Principal* Kate Ricci, *Secretary*

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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION Maryann Wisniewski, *DRE*

YOUTH MINISTRY Amanda Binghi, *Director*

MUSIC MINISTRY William L. Hively, *Director*

ACCOUNTING Deborah P. York, *Finance Manager*



Entrance: *We Three Kings*

1. We three kings of Orient are;
Bearing gifts, we traverse afar
Field and fountain,
Moor and mountain,
Following yonder star.

**O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to the perfect Light.**

2. Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,
Gold I bring to crown him again;
King forever,
Ceasing never,
Over us all to reign.
3. Frankincense to offer have I;
Incense owns a Deity nigh;
Prayer and praising,
Gladly raising,
Worshiping God on high.
4. Myrrh is mine: its bitter perfume
Breathes a life of gathering gloom;
Sorrowing, sighing,
Bleeding, dying,
Sealed in the stone-cold tomb.
5. Glorious now behold him arise,
King and God and Sacrifice:
"Alleluia, Alleluia!"
Sounds through the earth and skies.

Responsorial Psalm: *Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13.*



R. (cf. 11) Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

O God, with your judgment endow the king,
and with your justice, the king's son;
He shall govern your people with justice
and your afflicted ones with judgment.

R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Justice shall flower in his days,
and profound peace, till the moon be no more.
May he rule from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

The kings of Tarshish and the Isles shall offer gifts;
the kings of Arabia and Seba shall bring tribute.
All kings shall pay him homage,
all nations shall serve him.

R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

For he shall rescue the poor when he cries out,
and the afflicted when he has no one to help him.
He shall have pity for the lowly and the poor;
the lives of the poor he shall save.

R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Offertory: *Epiphany Carol*

1. Ev'ry nation sees the glory
Of a star that pierced the night.
As we tell the wondrous story
We are bathed in radiant light.
Star sent forth from highest heaven,
Dancing light of God's design,
Shine upon the gift that's given:
Word made flesh now born in time.
2. Ev'ry tongue shall sing the praises
Of his birth in deepest night.
He is healing for the ages;
He is Christ, our God's delight.
He proclaims within his being
All our hopes, our great desires.
He shall die to rise, redeeming
All who follow with their lives.
3. Once again may we discover
Word made flesh sent from above.
In our neighbor, sister, brother,
In the lonely and unloved.
May we touch him, may we hold him,
May we cradle him with care
As we learn to love each other,
Bringing hope from out despair.
4. Gather, God, the world together
In the brightness of your day.
Fill hearts with joy forever;
Help us walk the holy way.
May your justice rule the nations;
May all people live as one.
Now we see our true salvation

Communion: *Here I Bow*

Where would I run
But to the throne of mercy
Where would I kneel
But at this cross of grace
How great the love
How strong the hand that holds us
Beautiful so beautiful

**So here I bow to lift You high
Jesus be glorified
In all things for all my life
I am Yours forever Yours**

There is a King
Who bore the scars of healing
There is a Son who came in grace and truth
How great the love
That carries us to kindness
Wonderful You're wonderful
God here and now be lifted high
Right here and now be glorified
God of Heaven and Earth
God who brought me back to life
I am Yours forever Yours

Recessional : *The First Noel*

1. The first Noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

**Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel!
Born is the King of Israel.**

2. They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east beyond them far;
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night.
3. And by the light of that same star
Three wise men came from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent,
And to follow the star wherever it went.
4. This star drew nigh to the northwest,
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest;
And there it did both stop and stay
Right over the place where Jesus lay.
5. Then entered in those wise men three,
Full rev'rently upon their knee,
And offered there in his presence
Their gold and myrrh and frankincense.
6. Then let us all with one accord

All music used with permission.



First Reading: *Is 60:1-6*

“Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you. See, darkness covers the earth, and thick clouds cover the peoples; but upon you the LORD shines, and over you appears his glory. Nations shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance. Raise your eyes and look about; they all gather and come to you: your sons come from afar, and your daughters in the arms of their nurses. Then you shall be radiant at what you see, your heart shall throb and overflow, for the riches of the sea shall be emptied out before you, the wealth of nations shall be brought to you. Caravans of camels shall fill you, dromedaries from Midian and Ephah; all from Sheba shall come bearing gold and frankincense, and proclaiming the praises of the LORD.”

Responsorial Psalm: *Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13.*

R. (cf. 11) Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Second Reading: *Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6*

“Brothers and sisters: You have heard of the stewardship of God’s grace that was given to me for your benefit, namely, that the mystery was made known to me by revelation. It was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.”

Alleluia:

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

We saw his star at its rising
and have come to do him homage.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel: Mt 2:1-12

“When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, “Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.” When King Herod heard this, he was greatly troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. Assembling all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, He inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it has been written through the prophet: And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; since from you shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people Israel.” Then Herod called the magi secretly and ascertained from them the time of the star’s appearance. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search diligently for the child. When you have found him, bring me word, that I too may go and do him homage.” After their audience with the king they set out. And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way. “

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. 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. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.



The Catechism of the Catholic Church

II. THE REVELATION OF GOD AS TRINITY

The Father revealed by the Son

238 Many religions invoke God as "Father". the deity is often considered the "father of gods and of men". In Israel, God is called "Father" inasmuch as he is Creator of the world. Even more, God is Father because of the covenant and the gift of the law to Israel, "his first-born son". God is also called the Father of the king of Israel. Most especially he is "the Father of the poor", of the orphaned and the widowed, who are under his loving protection.

239 By calling God "Father", the language of faith indicates two main things: that God is the first origin of everything and transcendent authority; and that he is at the same time goodness and loving care for all his children. God's parental tenderness can also be expressed by the image of motherhood, which emphasizes God's immanence, the intimacy between Creator and creature. the language of faith thus draws on the human experience of parents, who are in a way the first representatives of God for man. But this experience also tells us that human parents are fallible and can disfigure the face of fatherhood and motherhood. We ought therefore to recall that God transcends the human distinction between the sexes. He is neither man nor woman: he is God. He also transcends human fatherhood and motherhood, although he is their origin and standard: no one is father as God is Father.

240 Jesus revealed that God is Father in an unheard-of sense: he is Father not only in being Creator; he is eternally Father by his relationship to his only Son who, reciprocally, is Son only in relation to his Father: "No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and any one to whom the Son chooses to reveal him."

241 For this reason the apostles confess Jesus to be the Word: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God"; as "the image of the invisible God"; as the "radiance of the glory of God and the very stamp of his nature".

242 Following this apostolic tradition, the Church confessed at the first ecumenical council at Nicaea (A.D. 325) that the Son is "consubstantial" with the Father, that is, one only God with him. The second ecumenical council, held at Constantinople in 381, kept this expression in its formulation of the Nicene Creed and confessed "the only-begotten Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, light from light, true God from true God, begotten not made, consubstantial with the Father".

The Father and the Son revealed by the Spirit

243 Before his Passover, Jesus announced the sending of "another Paraclete" (Advocate), the Holy Spirit. At work since creation, having previously "spoken through the prophets", the Spirit will now be with and in the disciples, to teach them and guide them "into all the truth". The Holy Spirit is thus revealed as another divine person with Jesus and the Father.

244 The eternal origin of the Holy Spirit is revealed in his mission in time. The Spirit is sent to the apostles and to the Church both by the Father in the name of the Son, and by the Son in person, once he had returned to the Father. The sending of the person of the Spirit after Jesus' glorification reveals in its fullness the mystery of the Holy Trinity.

245 The apostolic faith concerning the Spirit was confessed by the second ecumenical council at Constantinople (381): "We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father." By this confession, the Church recognizes the Father as "the source and origin of the whole divinity". But the eternal origin of the Spirit is not unconnected with the Son's origin: "The Holy Spirit, the third person of the Trinity, is God, one and equal with the Father and the Son, of the same substance and also of the same nature. . . Yet he is not called the Spirit of the Father alone, . . . but the Spirit of both the Father and the Son." The Creed of the Church from the Council of Constantinople confesses: "With the Father and the Son, he is worshipped and glorified."



A DECISION OF FAITH

Giving freely of ourselves – whether it is a gift of our time, our talent, or our treasure – isn't always easy or comfortable. It is a decision of faith, and it is the result of much prayer and self-evaluation, as we consider our many blessings and our responsibility to use them wisely in the service of the Lord. As you consider your commitment to our future through the **Forward with Faith** campaign, we invite you to reflect upon four questions that may help you determine the appropriate amount to pledge.

- Is your pledge motivated by love and gratitude to God – a way to acknowledge all the ways that God has blessed you?
- Does your pledge stretch your faith by lifting you beyond your comfort zone, causing a new selflessness on your part and requiring you to place your trust first in God?
- Do you feel a sense of purpose and a spirit of joy in making your pledge rather than a sense of obligation or guilt?
- Will your support serve as a loving witness that would inspire those who know you?

If you have not already done so, I hope you will join me in making a sacrificial gift to **Forward with Faith**. Together, we will meet the challenges of our future and leave a lasting legacy for generations to come.

*Thank you to all who have given thus far to help make our campaign a success. All gifts to the **Forward with Faith** campaign of any size are greatly appreciated!*

For more information, please visit www.hartfordbishopsfoundation.org/forwardwithfaith



Holy Hour
Respect for Life
Our Lady of Guadalupe
Protectress of the Unborn
St. Matthew Church
Wednesday, January 19, 2022
6:00 p.m.

- **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**
- **Rosary**
- **Songs - Respect for Life - sung between decades**
- **Benediction**

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be available through the day immediately following the **7:30 a.m. Mass** and concluding with **6:00 p.m. Holy Hour.**

... Please join us in prayer ...



St. Matthew's Bereavement Support Group

St. Matthew Bereavement Support Group will meet on **Saturday, January 8, 2021 from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. in the Parish Center.** Please call Rita Lagasse at 860-583-6674 to register.

St. Matthew's Weekly Offertory Collection

We are very grateful for our parishioners who continue to make their weekly contribution to St. Matthew's. Your generosity is vital to meet our expenses and serve our parishioners. For your contributions please note that you can:

- 1) Mail your envelopes to the rectory office.
- 2) Use our Offertory "drop-off" window in the rectory office entrance.
- 3) Use our online giving app. Registering is easy! Just go to our webpage at www.stmatthewrcc.com and click **WAYS TO GIVE.**

Thank you very much for your faithful support!



A Pew Research Center study conducted before the Covid-19 pandemic found that for every person that joins the Catholic Church, 6.5 people leave, and that 50% of young people who were raised Catholic no longer consider themselves Catholic. Today those numbers are likely much worse.

Heeding God's call to come back to Him, St. Matthew Parish is forming a group to meet monthly to pray, share experiences, and learn ways to draw back into communion with the faith, those loved ones who have disengaged themselves from the Church. We will meet the 3rd Wednesday of each month beginning on **January 19th at 6:30 pm in the Father Blaney Room.**

We will use the book, *Return: How to Draw Your Child Back to the Church* by Brandon Vogt, published by Word on Fire Press, to explore why people leave the Catholic church and identify the reason(s) our family member left as well as tools for opening and maintaining a channel of communication for drawing them back. In so doing, we will strengthen our own understanding of Church teachings. As the group progresses, other resources such as the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* will likely direct group conversations. Fr. Dietrich will also be available at times to join our discussion.



There is no cost. Pre-registration is required to ensure that we order enough books. You may register by dropping the registration form below into the collection basket or drop it off at the rectory.

Return to Me Group registration:

Name:

Email address:

Phone:

or by emailing, Lizette Pelletier at lizettep58@gmail.com

Dear Parishioners:

If you would like to have the name of a loved one included in our **prayer list**, please, call the parish office during business hours.

The prayer list is updated weekly.



Jill Synnott, Rita Lagasse, Ann Conroy, Kim Romano, Ada Zoccoli, Frank Baldino, Paul D'Aprile, Diane Bouchard, Barbara Morgan-Young, Murillo Bouchard, Theresa Letizia Darby, Betty Ann Silver, Gary Wycko, Sr., Lisa Harkey-Smith, Daniel Murzin, Kenneth Roy, Kenny Armstrong, Alice Casper and Cecilia Dombrowski.

January 2—January 8

The **Sanctuary Lamp** and The Candle of St. Joseph are lit this week, in honor of *all living and deceased members of St. Matthew Parish.*



The **Blessed Mother Candle** is lit this week, in honor of *Ronald Savio* requested by his sister, Donna.

Family Chalice For Vocations

11:30 a.m.

Catherine Baraiolo

will receive the Family Chalice for Vocations and pray for Vocations during the next week. If you would like to sign up to receive the Family Chalice for Vocations please contact Rich and Donna Slusz at (860) 589-4318.



Daily Mass Readings

3 Monday — *The Most Holy Name of Jesus*
1 Jn 3:22—4:6; Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

4 Tuesday — *St. Elizabeth Ann Seton*
1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 72:1-4, 7-8, Mk 6:34-44 or 1 Cor 13:4-13; Ps 128:1-5; Lk 10:38-42

5 Wednesday — *St. John Neumann, Bishop*
1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13; Mk 6:45-52

6 Thursday — *St. Andre Bessette* 1 Jn 4:19—5:4; Ps 72:1-2, 14, 15bc, 17; Lk 4:14-22a

7 Friday — *St. Raymond Penyafort*
1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Lk 5:12-16

8 Saturday
1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-6a, 9b;
Jn 3:22-30



Mass Intentions



Saturday

January 1st Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God—*not a holy day of obligation*

8:30 a.m. † Edward Faryniarz by family

4:00 p.m. † James R. Shanley by Mary Shanley

Sunday

January 2nd The Epiphany of the Lord

7:00 a.m. † Jay Johnson
by Katie and Steve Kachidurian

8:30 a.m. † Rita Elliott
by Roger and Arlene Grandbois

10:00 a.m. † Cecilia Cowles
by St. Mathew's Ladies Guild

11:30 a.m. † Rita Elliott by Patricia Broderick

5:00 p.m. † Blanche Adamczyk by Edward and Sonia Shavel

Monday

January 3rd

7:30 a.m. † Stephen Ivers by Margi Fletcher

Tuesday

January 4th

7:30 a.m. † Jonathan C. Beaulieu by Knecht and Ziarnik families

Wednesday

January 5th

7:30 a.m. † Bill Thomson (19th anniversary) by his wife, Ellie Thomson and family

Thursday

January 6th

7:30 a.m. † Vincent Macera by Fioreta D'Amico and family

Friday

January 7th

7:30 a.m. Theresa Letizia Darby (living) by family

Saturday

January 8th

8:30 a.m. † Daniel Long (2nd anniversary)
by his mother, Rachel Long

4:00 p.m. † Veronica Gardner by Margaret Roscoe

† George and Mary Gagnon
by Barbara Gagnon

Sunday

January 9th

7:00 a.m. † Mattie Soucier
y Mr. & Mrs. Robert Boilard

8:30 a.m. † Cecile Godbout by Masotti family

10:00 a.m. † Ernest Maynard (anniversary)
by Jean Maynard

11:30 a.m. † Jay Johnson by Fioretta D'Amico
and family

5:00 p.m. † Donald Therriault by Carole Therriault
and family

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