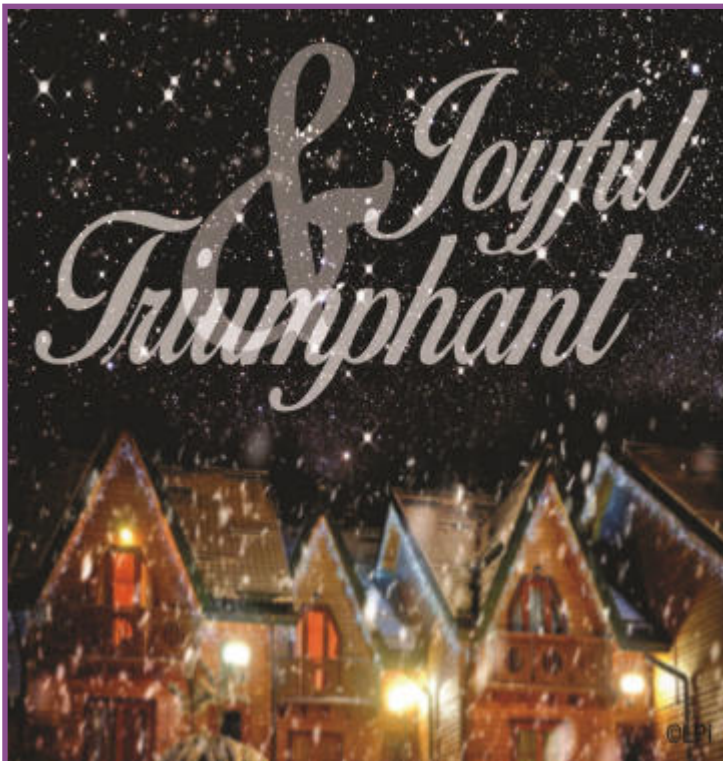
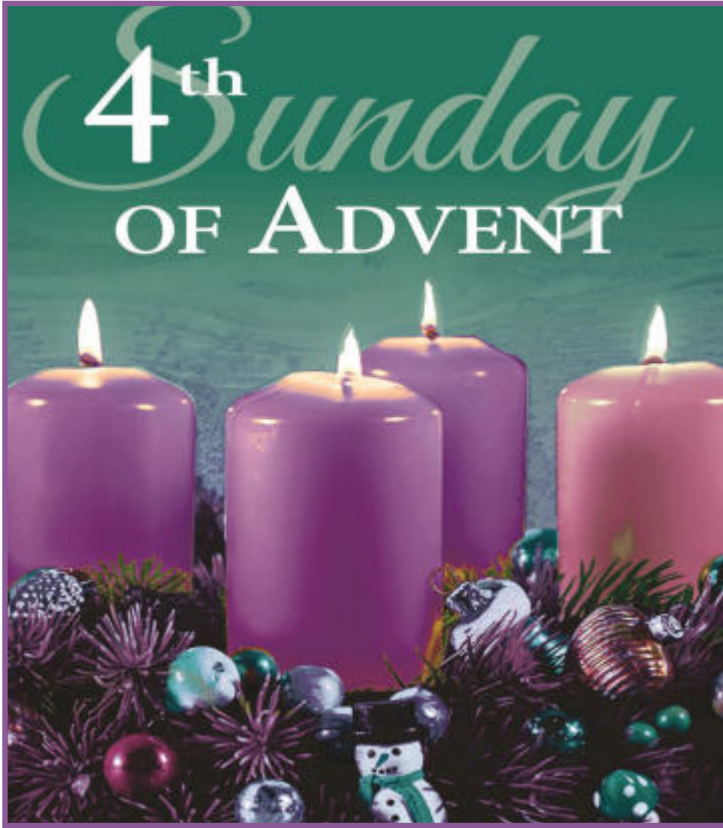




# Saint Matthew Church The PULSE

December 19, 2021

Detroit, Michigan



## 2021 Gold'n Harvest 50/50 Raffle Announcing the Winners



The Gold'n Harvest 50/50 Raffle Drawing was held last Sunday, December 12th. We did our best to capture pre-pandemic times for the event. Besides the small gathering of parishioners, the Big Raffle Drawing was live-streamed in the auditorium thanks to the expertise of Gerianne LaPratt.

We had to forego our catered parish breakfast and the consolation (sur)prizes again, but there were plenty of donuts and coffee to go around to those who attended.

This was an extraordinary year with respect to the process and results of the raffle. We needed to scramble on the weekend of the drawing due to the lack of tickets to sell. Folks were generous in their response to Father's request to his parish friends as well as our parishioners. It ended well thanks to last minute calls made by Theresa Zuerblis and Father Duane to those who had not yet turned in their tickets, sold or unsold.

After all the returns were reconciled, the total raffle earnings amounted to \$35,140, truly our best year. The amount of \$17,570 will go to the parish, and the balance of \$17,570 was awarded to the following winners in accordance with the rules of the State of Michigan Charitable Gaming Commission. We congratulate these lucky winners!

1st Prize: \$10,542 to Lisa Porter, one of our Online Givers and former student of St. Matthew School

2nd Prize: \$4,919.60 to Rob Funk, a parishioner of St. Matthew's

3rd Prize: \$2,108.40 to Len Henk, a friend of Father Duane's and a support of St. Matthew Parish

Sellers' Drawing Winner: \$200 to Father Duane Novelly

Thanks also to Co-chair, Bill Zuerblis, for his loyal support to this effort. Patricia Camazzola manned the ticket table after Saturday Masses. Jennifer Khalifah not only provided the breakfast goodies for the drawing event but also collected returns on Sundays after Mass. Thank you to Patricia and Toni Scully for their assistance in allocating tickets for the requests from Father's friends.

Of course, we cannot forget those of you who bought or sold the 50/50 Gold'n Harvest Raffle tickets. Your efforts in this challenging time made this fundraiser a success beyond our expectations!

Co-Chairs, Bill Zuerblis and Marilyn Lynn

## Readings for the Week of December 19, 2021

Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/Heb 10:5-10/  
Lk 1:39-45

Monday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 7c and 10b]/  
Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21  
[1a; 3a]/Lk 1:39-45

Wednesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd [cf. 1a]/  
Lk 1:46-56

Thursday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14  
[cf. Lk 21:28]/Lk 1:57-66

Friday: *Morning:* 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5,  
27 and 29 [2]/Lk 1:67-79

Saturday: *Vigil:* Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 [2a]/  
Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25  
*Night:* Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 [Lk 2:11]/  
Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14  
*Dawn:* Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/  
Lk 2:15-20  
*Day:* Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3c]/Heb 1:1-6/  
Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

Next Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/  
Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or 1 Sm 1:20-  
22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/  
1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

### **4th Sunday of Advent**

St. Augustine tells us that a “Christian is a mind through which Christ thinks, a heart through which Christ loves, a voice through which Christ speaks and a hand through which Christ helps.” As we look around and out at the world, we do not have to search too far before we come face to face with inequity and



injustice. There is so much unfairness, prejudice, anger, hatred, violence, and want. The stories of human heart-ache, people being hurt, deprived of life's necessities, loneliness, and sickness are far too commonplace. For many of the world's ills, the vices of greed, lust, pride, gluttony, and jealousy are clearly among the more significant root causes.

Why doesn't God just step in and fix this mess? After all, God created this world, and one would hope that he would step up and take some measure of responsibility for it! Once we sit with this thinking for a while, we can begin to realize just how flawed it really is. God did take responsibility and God did fix the problem! God sent us Jesus Christ as the divine solution to the world's ills. It is not God who has shirked responsibility, we have. We are the ones who continually fail to set our own personal needs, wants, and securities aside so that One more powerful than us can use us.

Mary had to set her needs aside in order for the Son of God to come into the world. Put simply, Mary listened and believed. Having opened herself to being an instrument of the Divine, God could use her as his mind, heart, voice, and hand. She became God's vessel so that God's greatness could reach the ends of the earth and peace could come upon the world. God's fix for the world's difficulties is you and me. We are the ones who confess that Jesus Christ came into the world as the Son of God, the Prince of Peace, and herald of justice. All we have to do is believe, as did Mary, that what has been spoken to us by the Lord will be fulfilled. Then, we can step aside and be the Christians we claim to be. What a difference it would make if every person who professed to be Christian truly understood that their one and only vocation is to be God's instrument. What a beautiful, equitable, and just world it would be.

# HOLIDAY Mass Schedule

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2021**  
CHRISTMAS EVE MASS ~ 10:00 PM

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2021**  
CHRISTMAS DAY MASS ~ 10:00 AM

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2021**  
FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY ~ 10:00 AM

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 2022**  
NEW YEAR'S DAY  
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, MOTHER OF GOD  
10:00 AM

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 2, 2022**  
FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD  
10:00 AM

### HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

DECEMBER 24  
RECTORY OFFICE CLOSURES AT 3 PM

DECEMBER 25 ~ RECTORY OFFICE CLOSED

DECEMBER 27 ~ RECTORY OFFICE CLOSED

DECEMBER 31  
RECTORY OFFICE CLOSURES AT 3 PM

JANUARY 1, 2022 ~ RECTORY OFFICE CLOSED

JANUARY 3 ~ RECTORY OFFICE CLOSED

JANUARY 4 ~ RECTORY OFFICE RE-OPENS



### Fourth Week of Advent Prayer

The father of the household or the designated leader for the group lights all four candles in proper sequence during the fourth week after saying the following prayer.

*O Lord, stir up Your power, we pray You and come;  
and with great might help us  
that with the help of Your grace,  
Your merciful forgiveness may hasten  
what our sins impede.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Candles can be replaced as necessary during the Advent Season without re-blessing the wreath. Replace the purple/pink candles with white candles for the Christmas Season.

### The Fourth Week Reflection

*“Lift up the eyes of your heart to the  
sacred light, watch closely to see the  
glory and majesty of the Lord.” (St. Elizabeth of Schonau)*

## *St. Matthew Parish ~ Happenings*

Friday, December 24, 10 pm Mass - Christmas Eve

Saturday, December 25, 10 am Mass - Christmas Day

**NO 4:30 PM MASS ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25, CHRISTMAS DAY**

Rectory Office Closed at 3 pm  
December 24, opening on  
Tuesday, December 28, at 10:30 am



### **A Family Perspective**

**by Bud Ozar**

Mary was excited about her first pregnancy and rushed to tell her cousin. Sadly children are often seen as a liability, "another mouth to feed" or an "obstacle to my career." It is said "Christmas is for children." It is more accurate to say "Christmas is for adults to appreciate the gift of children!"

*What Child is This ~ by Teri Couture*

*What child is this that came into my life  
To stir up happiness amidst all the strife.*

*What child is this who wipes all my tears  
And when He is close conquers my fears.*

*What child grows older but keeps getting better,  
What child is this that breaks every fetter.*

*What child is this grown into a man  
Who makes me say "With Him all things I can."*

*He gave up His life a great child indeed,  
He died on the cross so I could be freed.*

*What child is this  
that from this world should part.  
He is the child that still lives in my heart.*

*What child is this, why it's JESUS, God's Lamb,  
And I can say with great faith,  
now His child I am!*

**~ PLEASE NOTE ~**

**THERE WILL BE NO 4:30 PM MASSES ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25, OR SATURDAY, JANUARY 1. THESE ARE THE VIGIL MASSES FOR THE SUNDAY LITURGIES. THIS TEMPORARY CHANGE IS DUE TO THE WAY THE HOLY DAYS FALL FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON.**

## **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! St. Matthew Parish will be eternally grateful!



### **The Baby Jesus' Wish List**

Odds are you've got a Christmas list going by now — gift ideas for everyone from your nephew to your goddaughter to your mailman. But what about the birthday boy? What's the gift Jesus gets from you this Christmas?

If you've ever read the Book of Leviticus, you know all about the sacrifices God asks of the Israelites, referred to in the reading from Hebrews today. Leviticus can be a chore to read — a little repetitive, a little intimidating. There's a lot of very specific actions that God asks His Chosen People to complete to make up for whatever they have done wrong. In essence, it's a bit of a wish list for gifts.

But it's a wish list that can really confuse you. What's God going to do with a cereal offering? The kidneys of an animal? If you look closely, what God is doing here is beautiful. He's customized his wish list to only those things He knows the Israelites can give. It's God saying, in what amounts to theological baby-talk for folks who barely know of Him and His ways, exactly how they could be stewards. "Do this, but don't do that. If you do that, do this and you will find My mercy."

Our guide to stewardship — the Gospels of Christ — is less precise because by the time of Christ, God's people have grown in understanding of love and mercy and relationship with the divine. Through Christ, we find out that God's real wish list didn't really consist of cereal offerings and the kidneys of various animals. It's far simpler, but luckily, it's something we still have on-hand. All He wants is our whole heart.

4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT



## ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH DIRECTORY

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Rectory Fax: (313) 884-4276  
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. Novelty ~ *Pastor*  
Rick Cucchi ~ *Music Minister / Choir Director*  
David Troiano ~ *Weekday Organist*

### CLERICAL STAFF

Marilyn Lynn ~ *Secretary*  
Gloria Bermudez ~ *Bookkeeper*

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Bill Zuerblis ~ *Financial Council Chair*  
Michael Dulapa ~ *Evangelization Chair*  
Patricia Camazzola, Bryan Jones,  
David Smydra ~ *Members at Large*  
Sharon & Jerry Mielke ~ *VPC Representatives*

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BILL ZUERBLIS ~ *CHAIR*  
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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.*

Anthony Mastronardi  
Stephanie Smith  
Janet Law  
Laura Alix  
Jo Marie Nardi  
Anthony Crimauco  
Rosemary Schoolcraft  
Tiffany Gelle  
Robert Stark  
Pauline Williams  
Eloise Parker  
Herb and Jeanne Damman  
Sarah Wagner  
Lolita Dorado  
Albert Fajardo  
Eduardo Fajardo  
Aurora Guinto  
Jesse Ocampo  
Mary Spansky  
Mike Dulapa

Kathy Bush  
Richard Goll  
Tim Fitzgerald  
Kristen Freiburger  
Joanne Papineau  
Elsa Camazzola  
William Walker IV  
Nancy Clemons  
Cathy D'Agostini  
Bill Scarnecchia



# Ministers, Lectors, and Servers

## LECTORS

*Friday, December 24, 2021; 10:00 p.m., Christmas Eve*  
*Liz Foley-Dunstone*  
*William Zuerblis*

*Saturday, December 25, 2021, 10:00 a.m., Christmas Day*  
*Bill Ridella*  
*David Smydra*

*Sunday, December 26, 2021, 10:00 a.m.*  
*Mary Anne Pilette*

## SERVERS

*Lauren Gross*  
*Julia Zuerblis*

*Bruce Campbell*  
*Ian Campbell*

*Lauren Gross*  
*Julia Zuerblis*

## Mass Schedule

### Saturday, December 18 - Vigil: 4th Sunday of Advent

4:30 p.m. - Emma Langan, Bobby Hanshaw (5th Anniv),  
Faustina (Nanette) Ferreria, Emile and Magda  
Torok, Joseph Petrylka

### Sunday, December 19 - 4th Sunday of Advent

10:00 a.m. - Joseph Chinnici (6th Anniv), Nanette Ferreria,  
Cecilia Pilette

### Monday, December 20 -

### Tuesday, December 21 - St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church

9:00 a.m. - For Missionaries Serving around the World

### Wednesday, December 22 -

9:00 a.m. - For the Homeless and Marginalized in our  
Community

### Thursday, December 23 - St. John of Kanty, Priest

### Friday, December 24 - Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Eve)

10:00 p.m. - Albino Martinelli (35th Anniv), Raymond and Sylvia  
Novelly

### Saturday, December 25 - Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Day)

10:00 a.m. - Anna and Zenon Kolasa, Irene and John Ridella,  
George and Rose Godoshian, John Camazzola

### Sunday, December 26 - Feast of the Holy Family

10:00 a.m. - For an Increase in Vocations to the Priesthood and  
Consecrated Life



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