Mission Statement

St. Matthias Parish is committed to becoming a prayerful community by celebrating the Sacraments together, and supporting the parish and one another by sharing the time, talents and treasures God has given us. Through prayer and good works we will strive to grow in peace and unity with God and our community.

PALM SUNDAY
praise God aloud with joy

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Holy Thursday - April 18
7 p.m. Mass of the Lord’s Supper
Adoration in Social Hall till 10 p.m.

Good Friday - April 19
12:30 p.m.
Stations of the Cross
1 p.m. Liturgy of the Lord’s Passion & Death
No Rosary will follow the Liturgy.

Holy Saturday - April 20
12 noon Food Basket Blessing
8 p.m. Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday - April 21
8:30 a.m. Mass
11 a.m. Mass
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<tr>
<th>Saturday, April 13</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4:30 a.m. ~</td>
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<td>3:00 P.M. Confessions</td>
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<tr>
<td>†Francesco &amp; Antoinette Orsini— by Andy &amp; Antoinette Ceccacci</td>
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<td>4:30 P.M. Mass</td>
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<tr>
<td>†Florence &amp; Henry Jakubowski— by Family</td>
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<td><strong>Sunday, April 14</strong></td>
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<td>†Ken Pilarski— by Family</td>
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<td><strong>Palm Sunday</strong></td>
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<td>†Marie Oja— by Gary &amp; Allison Rice</td>
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<td>8:30 A.M. Mass</td>
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<td>†Lottie Bojke— by Swims Family</td>
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<td>9:30 A.M. SVDP Meeting</td>
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<td>†Walter &amp; Hedwig Siedlecki— by Helene Briesky</td>
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<td>11:00 A.M. Mass</td>
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<td>†Howard James Barnes— by Helene Briesky</td>
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<td><strong>Monday, April 15</strong></td>
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<td>†Arthur E. Briesky— by Helene Briesky</td>
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<td>6:15 P.M. Grades K-5</td>
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<th>Sunday, April 14</th>
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<td>8:30 a.m. ~</td>
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<td>9:00 A.M. Mass</td>
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<td>†Faro Pizzo— by Family</td>
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<td>10 A.M. Bible Study</td>
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<td>†Barbara Jachcik— by Delbert &amp; Family</td>
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<td>6:30 P.M. Jr High/Confirmation</td>
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<td>11:00 a.m. ~</td>
<td>St. Matthias Parishioners</td>
<td><strong>Wednesday, April 17</strong></td>
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<td>8:00 P.M. AA and AL-Anon</td>
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<th>Tuesday, April 16</th>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Holy Thursday</strong></td>
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<td>St. Matthias Parishioners</td>
<td><strong>Friday, April 19</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Good Friday</strong></td>
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<td>12:30 P.M. Stations of the Cross</td>
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<td>1:00 P.M. Lord’s Passion &amp; Death</td>
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<td><strong>Holy Saturday</strong></td>
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<td>12:00 P.M. Blessing of the Baskets</td>
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<td>St. Matthias Parishioners</td>
<td><strong>Sunday, April 21</strong></td>
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**The Compassion of Our God**

**Happy Easter**
**Ministry Schedule**

**Thursday, April 18-7:00 p.m.**

**Presider:** Fr. Francisco  
**Lector:** Gordon Lenz  
**Servers:** Carneys, Annamaria

**Friday, April 19–100 p.m.**

**Presider:** Fr. Francisco  
**Lector:** Denise Zimkiewicz, Pat Zelenak  
**Servers:** Christine, Carneys, Violet

**Saturday, April 20 8:00 p.m.**

**Presider:** Fr. Francisco  
**Lector:** Gordon Lenz  
**Servers:** Carney Family, Annamaria

**Sunday, April 21 8:30 a.m.**

**Presider:** Fr. Francisco  
**Lector:** Alan Byrd  
**Servers:** Guadaloupe, Esmeralda

**Sunday, April 21 11:00 a.m.**

**Presider:** Fr. Francisco  
**Lector:** Lori Ciotti  
**Servers:** Casali Family, Joseph Juliano, Evan Cicilian

~ When a loved one passes away we ask you to please go to the funeral home first and they will contact the church.~
The liturgy today has two distinct, but related Gospels and themes. Before the Liturgy of the Eucharist begins, we join in the ancient tradition of recalling that Jesus proceeded on his journey up to Jerusalem. This journey which began in Bethlehem and wended its way through the towns and villages of the country, always was moving upwards towards the Altar of Calvary. As the liturgy of that week begins, we recall the Entrance Rite wherein Jesus, riding on a donkey, is proclaimed as the blessed king who comes in the name of the Lord. The people are shouting their praises for all the deeds they had seen Jesus perform. They cover the road in front of the procession with their cloaks and palm branches. This ritual is meaningful for us only if we are celebrating what Jesus has done for us by being faithful to His journey. We hold our palms reverently and meaningfully when we recall that He would do it all again for each of us. The original liturgy of that ancient Palm Sunday was celebrated by those who knew what Jesus had done. We celebrate with palms in grateful anticipation for where His faithfulness will lead Him and what this will mean in our lives. The reading from Isaiah begins our reflections on the events which form the liturgical events of our Lord’s final hours. The reading is one of the Servant Songs of the Prophet and speaks of this servant of God being resolved and determined. He will be beaten, but not dissuaded. The servant is faithful, because his God is faithful. The servant’s trusting frees him to resist discouragement and the abandoning of what he has heard. Luke’s account of the final liturgy of His dying needs little explanation. What we hear brings up pictures of the Word Made Flesh, experiencing all that flesh fears. Proclamation turns to condemnation as Jesus moves from the intimacy of the Passover ritual and the sharing of His body and blood to the sharing of His life and spirit on the table of the Cross. We may smile a bit as we hear the close friends of Jesus who have just received His commissioning them to remember Him in the blessing of bread and wine in thanksgiving for His life. They are walking towards the very conclusion of the saving liturgy and they want to know who is to be considered number one. Jesus stays faithful even to their human selfishness, pride and greed. He reinforces His own personal identity as Servant of God. The rest of the liturgy within the Gospel is His living out to His death, His mission as Saving Servant. He is betrayed by Judas, denied by Peter. Jesus is taken before Pilate, who sends Him to Herod, who mocks Him and then sends Him back to Pilate, who sends Him to His final act of acceptance and trust of His Father. All this He did in praise of the One Who called Him Beloved. We may be betrayed, denied, abandoned, rejected and handed over, ourselves. We may question as to whether we are obsessed, deluded or simply faithful. The Servant of the Lord continued to be the One Who served at the Table of the first Eucharist and continues doing so this very day. We are invited to allow Him to serve us from the Cross and to serve us as we live our lives in the liturgy of our own lives with its crosses. source Larry, S.J. Creighton online

Questions for Reflection
When might you have experienced a false accusation against you? What did that do to you?
What is happening to you when you kneel in silence during the reading of the Passion after the death of Jesus is announced?
Do you find it easier to forgive or to be forgiven? Why?
How have you learned to forgive?
Recall a time when being completely truthful was freeing.

Puttng Popularity in its place
Shouts and symbols of support from the crowd accompanied Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem. By the end of the week, however, the slogans screamed by the crowd had changed dramatically. Popularity can be wonderful, but Jesus never based his life or teaching on it. He trusted, instead, in his relationship with the Father. How do you balance the desire to be accepted and popular with the need to be faithful to commitments and relationships?

Good Friday
Emptiness invades our church buildings on Good Friday. The altar and sanctuary are stripped bare of decorations, cloths, candles and crosses. The Blessed Sacrament is removed from its usual place in the tabernacle and moved temporarily to a new location.

Reflect as a family or with a special friend on how empty your life would be without the special relationships you have with your family, your friends, and your God.

Offer a simple prayer of thanks for the way your life has been enriched by others.

May the traditional Lenten disciplines of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving help us realize how very good God has been to us and inspire us to share our many blessings with others. The intimacy we receive with Jesus when we embrace our own sufferings and the humility of the cross is abundant! Take courage, for Easter Joy is received through the sorrow of Good Friday!
Please note location change for the Resale Purse, Jewelry, Ladies Accessories Fundraiser to benefit our parish after each Mass Saturday, April 27, and Sunday, April 28. Join us in the school area. (The social hall is setup for a Saturday morning event.) The Society of Christian Women appreciate all items donated for this fundraiser. All are invited to browse and shop at the St. Matthias Resale Shop. You may find a treasure for a Mother’s Day gift, for an upcoming birthday, or a special occasion.

Mark your calendar

Wedding Anniversary Blessing at 11:00 am Mass Sunday, May 19, for couples celebrating their first year anniversary in 2019 or their 5th, 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th, 30th, 45th, 50th, 55th, 60th or more years. All are invited to enjoy light refreshments in the Social Hall following Mass. Please RSVP to parish office 586-731-1300 by May 13 with number of people attending reception along with your wedding anniversary date.

Little White Books

The Easter Little White Books are now available at the entrances of our church. Just like the Little Black Books cover the season of Lent, the Little White Books cover the season of Easter from April 21 through June 9, Pentecost Sunday.

This book is meant to help you enjoy six minutes a day in prayer during the 50 days of the Easter Season. All Donations accepted

Holy Thursday is this Thursday. The ritual of feet washing is portrayed at the 7 p.m. Mass of the Last Supper. This week we are called “to remember” many symbols and their meaning. Jesus washed the feet of his apostles and so will Fr. Francisco continue the ritual. We need about a dozen people to volunteer for the sacred reenactment.

If you are so moved to experience the sacred expression of old, please contact the Parish Office and we will be in touch. Anyone can volunteer for this liturgical experience.
Church Support

Week of April 1, 2019

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<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week’s Deposit</td>
<td>$ 5,788.15</td>
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<td>Week’s Expenses</td>
<td>$ 5,700.15</td>
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<td>Week’s Cash Flow</td>
<td>$ 88.15</td>
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Giving is not about making a donation. It is about making a difference.

St. Vincent De Paul

~ Thank You for your generous giving to our requests~

We are in need of:
- Breakfast Cereal
- Canned Fruit
- Rice
- Rice Mixes
- Saltine Crackers
- Pudding
- Jello
- Ketchup
- Dish Soap
- Paper Towel
- Toilet Paper

Food Pantry Donations Needed

Attention All Gardeners

Spring is rapidly approaching. If there are any green thumbs in our congregation who would like to assist with the gardens at St. Matthias, please contact Pat Farris – 586-292-5179. We would welcome you with open green hands——

St. Matthias Catholic Community
12311 Nineteen Mile Road
Sterling Heights, MI 48313
Parish Office: (586) 731-1300
Fax: (586) 731-2576
Email: parishoffice@stmatthiaschurch.net
Website: www.stmatthiaschurch.net

Pastor: Fr. Francisco Restrepo

Weekend Mass Times:
Confessions: Saturdays: 3 p.m. until all heard or by appointment.
Saturday 4:30pm— Sunday 8:30am & 11:00 am

Parish Office Hours:
Monday thru Thursday: 8 am-1 pm
Closed Fridays

Parish Office: 731-1300
Bookkeeper: Jacki Lenard: 731-1300
Maintenance: 731-0654
Marsha Laurencelle - Jose Fuentes - Pauleta Pashki: 731-1300

Director of Music Ministries: 731-1300
Kristin Glasgow

Faith Formation Office: 586-731-0650
Director: Donna Latimer
Adult Formation: Donna Latimer
Email: latimer_stmatthias@yahoo.com

Finance Council - 731-1300
Chairperson: Carmelia Badia
Sue Kirouac
Dave Barth

Parish Pastoral Council
Chairperson: Jan Siemen: 739-2050
Nick Bommarito: 226-3702
Tony & Veronica Giganti: 997-3692
Ron West: 254-9419
Cassandra Swiderski: 731-1300
Melinda McNamara: 731-1300

Worship Commission
Chairperson: Marie Bommarito: 586-524-1785
Lectors: Denise Zimkiewicz: 566-7546
Ushers: Tony & Veronica Giganti: 997-3692
Altar Server Coordinator: Carrie Carney: 208-4783
Art & Environment: Margaret Peters: 731-1300

Christian Service
Director: Teresa Fortuna: 731-1300 X107
Baptism Preparation: Teresa Fortuna

Christian Women:
Catholic Services of Macomb: 586-416-2300
Pregnant & in need: 1-800-848-LOVE
Project Rachel Post Abortion Ministry: 1-888-722-4355
Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-7233
Protective Services (CHILD & ADULT): 1-877-412-6109
Legion of Mary
St. Matthias/St. Vincent de Paul: 739-2922

Abigayle Ministries: 586-323-1411

Baptism: Contact Parish Office.
Marriage: Arrangements are to be made six months prior to the wedding date.

Palm Sunday
Hosanna To The King of Kings

Lord, we pray for all who are preparing to celebrate the Easter sacraments, that they may enter more deeply into the mystery of God’s unconditional love through the celebrations of Holy Week.

Lord, hear our prayer.

UNLEASH THE GOSPEL