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.
SATURDAY, MAY 25
†Joseph Huck—by Family
†Louise Koczab—by Daughter
†Cristina Guzman—by Joyce Papden
†Bernard Orsini—by Andy & Antoinette Ceccacci

SUNDAY, MAY 26
8:30 a.m. ~
†Francine Lemont—by Husband & Son
†Henry Patalon—by Family
†Roxanne Holst—by Family
†Salvatore Catalano—by Wife & Son
†Paolina Anile—by Sister & Nephew
†Joe Anile—by Sister in Law & Nephew
†Daniel Muttagh—by Mother, Josephine
†Jack & Ann Kerscher—by Son Marvin

▼ Special Intention

11:00 a.m. ~
▼ St. Matthias Parishioners

TUESDAY, MAY 28
▼ St. Matthias Parishioners

WEDNESDAY, MAY 29
▼ St. Matthias Parishioners

THURSDAY, MAY 30
▼ Vocations

SATURDAY, JUNE 1
▼ Eugene & Grace Reindeau—by Rosalie Iwig
†Donald & Patricia McNamara—by Family
†Barbara Devos—by Husband
†Jerry Love—by Family

SUNDAY, JUNE 2
8:30 a.m. ~
†Bill Schaffstein—by Friends
†Victoria Marineau—by Husband

11:00 a.m. ~
▼ St. Matthias Parishioners

SUNDAY, MAY 26
MEMORIAL WEEKEND
8:30 a.m. Mass
11:00 a.m. Mass

MONDAY, MAY 27
CHURCH & OFFICE CLOSED

TUESDAY, MAY 28
9:00 a.m. Mass
10 a.m. Bible Study

WEDNESDAY, MAY 29
9:00 a.m. Mass
9:00 a.m. SVDP
8:00 p.m. AA and AL-Anon

THURSDAY, MAY 30
9:00 a.m. Mass

FRIDAY, MAY 31
CHURCH & OFFICES CLOSED

SATURDAY, JUNE 1
3:00 p.m. Confessions
4:30 p.m. Mass

SUNDAY, JUNE 2
8:30 a.m. Mass
11:00 a.m. Mass
Saturday, June 1
4:30 p.m.

Presider:
Fr. Francisco

Lector:
Matthew Cichowlas

Sunday, June 2
8:30 a.m.

Presider:
Fr. Francisco

Lector:
Denise Zimkiewicz

When a loved one passes away we ask you to please go to the funeral home first and they will contact the church.
“It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain.” John 15:16

Larry Gillick, S.J., reflects: Talk about problems in the Church. It started early, as we read in the First Reading for the Eucharistic liturgy for today. The ancient question throughout human history is still with us these days and is about who belongs and who does not. For Jews, any contact with “pagans” was a form of impurity and now they are thinking that perhaps they can belong. The Jews who have been moved by Jesus and the preaching of His apostles are confronted by another problem. Circumcision was their religious and physical symbol of belonging to the Abrahamic covenant and community. The Jews were feeling that they were not quite in their tradition and so they wanted clarity about belonging. We read today of the first major conference to solve very important issues and they publish the first kind of Pastoral Letter. Three quite exact requirements are listed which are reflective of the Jewish laws and tradition, but circumcision, as an exact religious requirement is not one of them. The promised “Advocate” will be sent to remind us, not merely of this teaching or that document or those practices, but of Who Jesus is for us and with us and within us. We are reminded by this Holy Spirit of our belonging to Him and to ourselves as a loved gift to others.

Prayer is essentially about nurturing our relationship with God. We can have a relationship with each of the persons of the Trinity – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We can also have a relationship with the saints. As we grow older, all of our relationships in life tend to change. And, experience has shown that our relationship with God goes through some changes. What are those changes and how can we prepare for them and experience them with grace? Change happens the longer a relationship lasts. We all know that relationships have a flow. There are ups and downs. There are times of greater or less intimacy. We spend lots of time together and then we can get very busy and spend less time. Communication changes as we grow in comfort and grow in the skills necessary to reveal ourselves to another and to express our feelings more deeply. Sometimes, there are great ruptures in a relationship, with perhaps a period of distance, followed by reconciliation and a renewed connection. Good, healthy, loving, self-sacrificing relationships grow in love more deeply as the years go by. Signs of affection can become simpler and more bonding. There has been a strong growth in a sense of “us-togetherness” which is beyond “me and you.” In long-lasting relationships, there can be a growing comfort, just being in each other’s presence. Our relationship with God has these same patterns Fundamentally our relationship with God is a gift. We don’t create it, earn it or maintain it on our own. However, our relationship with God has many of these same elements. To the degree that we continue to nurture that relationship, with personal interaction – moving beyond formal prayers, written by others – we can grow in intimacy with God. Formal prayers, as well as devotions, rituals and liturgy, are key ways to nurture a prayer life, for us as individuals and as a community. However, Pope Francis makes an important distinction between “saying prayers” and praying. He encourages us to develop a relationship which is personal and has elements of affection and genuine interaction. It is this kind of praying intimacy which takes on the elements of relationship, as we know it. It is wonderful to witness people who grow old being very comfortable talking with family and friends about their experiences, and at times, to ask for help and support, or just a compassionate ear. Aging is a process nearly all of us will experience. As we begin this process, we can look for the support of others, as companions on the journey. We can be good for each other. And, whenever two or three of us are together, in faith, in his name, he is there with us. To be candid about the humble experience of diminishment and the desire to let grace into our lives as we grow older, is a whole lot more fulfilling and mutually supportive than a gripe session. As we age, we can turn to Mary, the mother of Jesus, the mother of the Church, to grow in affection for her and to learn from her, and rely upon her for help. Her Magnificat is a marvelous prayer for our journey. She can teach us to say, “Behold the handmaid of the Lord,” in whatever way in our lives those words will be full of grace. And, as St. Ignatius prayed to her, we can ask her, “Mary, place me within your Son.” So much anxiety and fear, so much doubt and anger can be softened and healed with Mary’s help. With Mary’s assistance, let us pray for the graces we need in the journey ahead of us, and let us pray for each other, especially for those who are struggling the most.

Questions for Reflection
Recall a time when you had to let go of a familiar practice to achieve a greater good.
When have you known that God’s Spirit was with you reminding you of Jesus’ words?
Recall a time when you were at peace despite your differences with a loved one.
Jesus encourages us not to let our hearts be troubled, but this is not always easy. In what ways do you need to take these words more to heart?
When has consciously calling upon the Holy Spirit helped you deal with a disagreement?

Respond in Action
Educate yourself or your community about a topic of current debate in the Church today with readings on both sides of an issue. The National Catholic Register (www.ncregister.com) and The National Catholic Reporter (www.ncronline.org) may provide two often differing starting points.

Set aside ten minutes each day this week for reflection and prayer. Be conscious of the things that concern you these days, but do not let your heart be troubled or afraid. Listen for the prompting of the Spirit about how to keep the Lord’s word in the midst of your life’s challenges.
Contact your congressional representatives this week about some legislative issue of importance where the promotion of gospel values are at stake. Make your case as you think Jesus would.

We are accepting registrations for fall classes this year. Mail them in or drop them off at the Faith Formation Office. If you need registration forms, call the office and we will mail them to you.

Ascension Thursday
Jesus reminded the Apostles that the Holy Spirit would come upon them so they could tell everyone about him. Then, before their eyes, Jesus was taken up to heaven.
As a family, pretend that you are the Apostles and marvel at what has just occurred. If you have small children, take them outside to look up into the sky.
How would you feel? What memories of Jesus would you share?
Congratulations, Best Wishes and God’s Blessings
To our Anniversary Couples celebrating today at the 11:00 am Mass

Ray & Dorothy Glashauser ~ 67 years
Vincent & Antonia Lizzio ~ 61 years
Kenneth & Judy O’Kray ~ 60 years
Walter & Dorothy Szatkowski ~ 55 years
Brian & Nancy Finkel ~ 45 years
Gary & Linda Glashauser ~ 43 years
Robert & Deborah Biondo ~ 40 years
Ron & Denise Glashauser ~ 35 years
Jeff & Kelly Glashauser ~ 35 years

This week we start our can & bottle drive!!
Boxes will be at the entrances of the church
Thank You!

Pentecost Weekend - June 8 & June 9
Geranium Dress-Up

It has become our tradition at St. Matthias to provide RED geraniums to decorate the church for Pentecost weekend - June 8 & 9. Feel free to bring a RED geranium or two with you to Church and place them on the steps around the altar. This will be a visual reminder of the first Pentecost and the wonderful presence of the Holy Spirit within each Christian. Please also wear RED to Mass. RED signifies the fire of the Holy Spirit. RED is also for our vibrant life as a Christian. Geraniums because the blossoms are composed of many small flowers joined together and because geraniums bloom and bloom and bloom.

Graduates
of High School & College

We will be featuring pictures of our seniors in our June 16 bulletin. Please send in your picture to the Parish Office with your name and school written on the back by June 1.

Spring is in the Air
its now time to add to our Memory Garden
The Paver Garden Crew is getting ready to insert the newest bricks for our Memory Paver Garden. If you would like to make a donation for a paver brick - please come to the Parish Office to fill out a paver form with your needed information. Any questions or for more information, please call the Parish Office at 586-731-1300.
2019 CSA has begun!
Please help us make our goal!
$45,258.00
Pledge cards have been mailed out. If you did not receive one contact the Parish Office
(586) 731-1300
Thank You!

Archdiocese of Detroit Catholic Services Appeal 2019

Opening Doors to WITNESS CHRIST
"Tell them to do good works, to be generous, ready to share, as he who sows the life that is true life." - 1 Thessalonians 4:9

Week of May 13, 2019

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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,

Food Pantry
Donations Needed

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 Pashti
Director of Music Ministries ............. 731-1300
Kristin Glasgow

Finance Council  - 731-1300
Chairperson: Carmella 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

Abigail Ministries ..................... 586-323-1411

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

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