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.
“Lord, you will show us the path of life.” Ps. 16

Creighton Ministries Eileen Wirth reflects: In happier days, we EME’s [Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist] would stand in the sanctuary of St. John’s offering worshipers the host or the chalice. “Body of Christ” or “Blood of Christ” we would say, smiling at each recipient, naming those we knew. The ritual has never grown stale for me. As I write this, it is Holy Thursday and like the rest of you, I can’t attend Mass or receive communion tonight. However, today’s gospel from Luke about Jesus’ apparition to the two disciples on the road to Emmaus reminds us how central the sacramental breaking of bread is to our Christian identity.

In Luke’s gospel, this was how the disciples recognized Jesus. In our day, receiving the Eucharist is one of the ways we affirm our connection with the living Body of Christ snaking in lines up to our sanctuaries everywhere. The Body of Christ. It includes all of us – young, old, women, men, all races, ethnicities and economic levels. As one of my favorite St. Louis Jesuit hymns, “One Bread, One Body,” says, “we are one body in this one Lord.” I’ve felt this affiliation in magnificent cathedrals and humble country churches, with my beloved St. John’s community and in foreign churches where I didn’t understand the local language. But the sacrament united us.

So, what does this all mean at this strange, hard time?

In Luke’s account, the two disciples were feeling bereft at the loss of Jesus but after they recognized him through the breaking of the bread, they realized he was still with them. That’s true today. Jesus has not abandoned us.

He’s present in his living Body to help us cope with our hardships. May this time of separation from receiving the Eucharist increase our love of the sacrament and the communities in which we receive him. May we remember that this Body knows no borders and that at the end of every Eucharistic celebration we are admonished to “go forth to love and serve the world and one another.”

Andy Alexander, S.J., shares: Most of all, faith and trust can help us replace our anxiety with our mission - the mission each of us has to love as we have been loved. When we ask for the help - in our relationship with our God - to grow in compassion and care for those around us, a new level of purpose is given to us. We can feel the grace of being sent - missioned - to be for and with others in crisis. We can comfort others and help calm their fears. We can be a source of strength for others who are struggling. Our charity and the ways we reach out to others will transform our hearts. And, we can make a real difference. Perhaps someone I know, who is quarantined at home, needs a call every day, or perhaps a quick trip to the store for necessities. The possibilities will come to us as we let our hearts be calmed and be filled with compassion. Gratitude leads to generosity and courage lets our hearts move from being fearful to being bold.

Most loving God, Creator of us all, we turn to you to care for your people in need. We thank you for your presence among us and the peace you offer us. Send us your Spirit to fill us with courage and hope, so that we might be your instruments of love and assistance for others in need. Through this crisis, may we come together, as people of faith in a crisis so often do by your grace, and may we come out of it more united and more determined to care for those most in need. Thank you for your fidelity and the graces we need these days.

Amen.
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Greg Wilk
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Pat Wolfe
Leon Zmikiewicz
Trever Zimmerman
Mary Ziskie
FIRST READING
"God raised this Jesus, of this we are all witnesses. Exalted at the right hand of God, he received the promised of the Holy Spirit from the Father." (Acts 2:32-33a)

PSALM
Lord, you will show us the path of life. (Ps 16) or Alleluia

SECOND READING
He was known before the foundation of the world but revealed in the final time for you. (1 Pt 1:20)

GOSPEL
"The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!" (Lk 24:34)


WORSHIP & MEDITATION
WALK WITH PURPOSE

GOSPEL MEDITATION
Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

What does it take for our eyes to be opened? Every day, a man laboriously walks down Main Street of town. With great difficulty but graceful determination, he pieces one foot in front of the other, uses a crudely made staff for support, and walks. His pace is slow, but he walks. What does he hope to see? Where does he want to go? What does he find? We all walk through life. The type of walking life requires is not always physical but is most assuredly emotional and spiritual. We walk, we look, we encounter, and we seek. How do we do these things and what we actually find is determined by what we carry and what we allow ourselves to discover along the way.

Walking is too challenging for us, we may choose to isolate and stay alone. If we are afraid to walk, we may become overly dependent on others providing for us and abandon the journey. We can walk and pay attention only to what is in front of our feet and never notice the immensity of what is happening around us. The road is never the same twice. The journey's always different. What kinds of things do you notice as you walk through life? It seems that the disciples of the Road to Emmaus missed a lot at first. We do as well.

We are called to walk with purpose, to listen, and to notice things that may not at first be apparent. We have to allow the One who has a special claim on our souls to enlighten, instruct, and inspire us. The incarnate mystery of God is pulsating in and through all of creation, where the presence of the Word who became flesh can be discovered. He has been with us all along. How could we have missed Him? Our journey brings us back to the breaking of the bread, and something begins to stir within us. We begin to understand, and things look differently. Bread, body, wine, and blood bring us to see that everyone and everything is a Eucharistic encounter. We become what we eat and we see what we eat. We continue to walk. Our eyes are now opened and we recognize Him. Our hearts burn. Stay with us. Please stay with us.

SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2020 | 3rd SUNDAY OF EASTER

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
1:00pm Spanish Mass
Parish Office Hours:
Monday thru Thursday: 8 am-1 pm
Closed Fridays
Parish Office ....................................731-1300
Bookkeeper: Jacki Lenard ....................731-1300
Maintenance: ....................................731-0654
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: Carmella Badia
Sue Kirouac
Dave Barth
Worship Commission
Chairperson: Marie Bommarito ..................586-524-1785
Lectors: Denise Zimkiewicz ...................566-7546
Altar Server Coordinator: Denise Zimkiewicz 566-7546
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? ..........................1-800-946-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
St. Matthias/St. Vincent de Paul ............731-2922
Abigayle Ministries ..................................586-323-1411
Baptism: Contact Parish Office.
Marriage: Arrangements are to be made
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