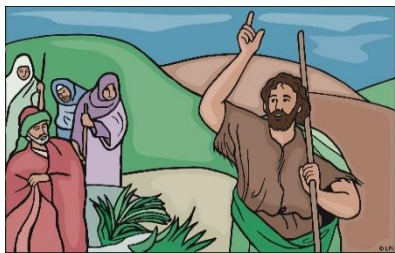


ST. MATTHEW THE EVANGELIST PARISH



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill shall be made low. The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God." - Lk 3:5-6

MASSES THIS WEEKEND

Sat.	Dec	8	9:00 am – Karen Heinen
Sat.	Dec	8	5:00 pm – Rev. Dennis R. Stolinski †
Sun.	Dec	9	8:30 am – Richard Schneider †
			10:30 am – St. Matthew Families

MASSES THIS WEEK

Tues.	Dec	11	9:00 am – James Lomax †
Wed.	Dec	12	9:00 am – Stolinski Family †
Thur.	Dec	13	9:00 am – Stephen Forget
Fri.	Dec	14	9:00 am – Dorothy Lomax †

MASSES NEXT WEEKEND

Sat.	Dec	15	5:00 pm – Bernice Zakaras †
Sun.	Dec	16	8:30 am – St. Matthew Families
			10:30 am – Forget Family

MASS GREETERS NEEDED

Job Duties include: Smiling, greeting & handing out misselettes. Contact the parish office. *No prior experience required. Adults only.*

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

Altar Server Training is scheduled by contacting Phil McEvoy at prmcevoy@gmail.com or Dan Linder at dan@linder.org.

FUNERAL LUNCHEONS

Would you be willing to donate a salad or dessert for a funeral luncheon or help serve when it is convenient for you? If so, please email Margaret Galloway at s9sgallowm@yahoo.com to be added to the distribution list.

24 HOUR EUCHARIST ADORATION

Adoration is held every FIRST FRIDAY of the month, from 8:00am Friday through 8:00am Saturday. Multiple people can attend each hour. If you would like to be a sub, sign up on the table outside of the Chapel. Reminder: If you are unable to keep your commitment, please contact a sub. Contact is Phil McEvoy at 402-689-6457 or prmcevoy@gmail.com.



CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING

We are asking for VOLUNTEERS to help decorate the two 12 foot and two 9 foot trees Sunday, December 23, after the 10:30 Mass. It works great if we have at least 4 people per tree. We know this is a busy time for everyone, but without your help the trees will not be able to be decorated.



FAITH DIRECT

In this season of Advent, we are continuously preparing ourselves for the celebration of Christ's birth. Why not help our own parish prepare for the coming new year by signing up with Faith Direct? Both you and our parish can save some time and peace of mind this holiday season. Visit www.faithdirect.net and use our church code: NE489.

SECOND COLLECTION SCHEDULE

All checks made out to St. Matthew

December 7/8	Retirement Fund for Religious
	Almost 94% of donations directly aid senior religious.
December 15/16	Maintenance Fund

If you are not using envelopes, please write your envelope number and designated fund (e.g. World Mission, Camp. Campaign, etc.) in the memo line. If you no longer wish to receive envelopes, just call or email the parish office.

ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

This year's Annual Appeal goal for St. Matthew is \$35,941.73. Our contributions to date total \$32,438.00 (90.3% of our goal).

GIFTS OF STOCK TO ST. MATTHEW

The end of the year isn't far off, which also means tax time. If you wish to gift stocks to St. Matthew Parish, please contact our client associate for Merrill Lynch. Kelsey Nealon 402-496-5146. If possible, please have your broker include YOUR NAME on memos and all corresponding paperwork to help identify from whom transfers are received.

CANDLE LIGHTING



If your family would like to participate in lighting the Advent candles before mass—please sign up on the table in the Commons.

HEALING MASS AT STS CYRIL & METHODIUS CHURCH

The Holy Spirit moves very well in times of trouble in the Church. At Sts. Cyril & Methodius, we are specially inviting those who have had an abortion in their lives, those who have been a victim of abuse of any kind and those who are in need of any kind of healing. What is it like to be healed of your pain? Jesus is the great healer. There will be a healing Mass held on Thursday, December 20th, at 7:00 PM, at Sts. Cyril & Methodius Church, 120 Cherry St., Clarkson, NE. Confessions will be heard at 6:00 pm. Stations of the Cross will begin at 6:25 pm. Everyone is welcome to attend this healing Mass. The Holy Spirit provides this loving time of healing for us. Any need for healing, we pray for in this healing service. Any questions call Fr. Rod at 402-892-3464.



Knights of Columbus: Planning meeting is the first Monday each month; General Membership meeting is the third Monday each month. Meetings are at 7:00 pm in the lower level of the parish office. All Knights are invited and welcome to attend both meetings. *If you are not receiving emails, check your spam email.*

If you are interested in joining or want more information, please contact Pat Brennan, Grand Knight, at 402-592-5027.

† † † † † † †

Need a ride to Church? Contact Butch Songcuan 402-933-1646

Health Care Items are available for loan from the Knights: wheelchairs, electric wheelchairs, walkers, crutches and a home-use oxygenator. If you have borrowed and no longer need, please return. If you have items you no longer need and would like to donate, contact Pat Brennan, Grand Knight, at 402-592-5027.

Columbian Squires Chief Counselor

Phil Earsley 402-214-7877



WWG~WOMEN WORKING FOR GOD

WWG has the Giving Tree set up on their table in the commons. Please take a tag and bring back a gift unwrapped for the women and children and place in the big container under the WWG table. Gifts will be picked up after the 10:30 Mass December 17. Thank you for your generosity.

SCRIP/MATT'S MONEY

Last Week's Rebate: \$1,358.37



Volunteer Sales People Needed: Duties include: Selling scrip cards before and after masses, taking inventory and securing cards before and after your sales "shift". *Please prayerfully consider if this is something you might be able to help with, and contact the parish office at 402-292-7418.*



The following \$25 scrip cards are being added to our regular inventory: Ulta, PetSmart, Qdoba and Home Depot.

Smaller denomination cards are now available (by order) for holiday gifts.

Including \$10 Amazon, Walmart, and Target cards, as well as \$5 Panera cards. A current retailer list is available at the scrip table and online.

ST. MATTHEW COMMEMORATIVE COINS

Available in the Parish Office for \$10. Profits will benefit the new church.



"As for the seed that fell on rich soil, they are the ones who embrace the word and bear much fruit through perseverance" Magnificat

Total Pledges: 264

Total Pledged: \$2,354,411.00

Total Collected: \$1,185,979.44

SANCTUARY FURNITURE

For a preview of our new sanctuary furniture, go to our website (under 'New Church'). Also available on our new app! *Note: Some of this furniture will be in different places in the church than what the video shows.*

PATHWAY BRICKS

As an ongoing fundraiser...Pathway Bricks are being sold for \$100. These bricks will be used to build the actual Pathway to OUR Church. You may personalize your brick in any way that is meaningful to you. Simply fill out the form located in the Commons or pick one up in the office. Be a part of OUR Pathway, OUR church family, OUR History and, most importantly OUR future! You may also order a brick by clicking the link on our website: stmatthewbellevue.org

LAST CHANCE TO ORDER!!!

There is another opportunity to order a Celebration of the Groundbreaking book. Cost is \$50. All orders must be in by Monday, December 17. The books will be in time for Christmas!

PHOTOS WITH FR. LEO AT GROUNDBREAKING

The Ground Breaking Photo Book of Family Pictures taken with Father Leo is available for your review on the table in the Commons. You are invited to look through it and take your photo, along with its handwritten identification number. If you want digital copies, reference the identification number on the photo and contact Shannon Abboud, at shannonabboud@cox.net.



LOVING LIFE MINISTRY

Prayer Vigil Our monthly prayer vigil is this Friday, Dec 14, 10:00-

11:00am. What a great work of mercy to do this Advent! All are encouraged to pray any Thurs, Fri or Sat, when the abortion facility is open (1002 Mission Ave, Bellevue). Let us bring hope and be a joyful presence of love to mothers and families looking for help in the face of a desperate time and be the light of Christ and witnesses to life in our community. Prayer booklets to help guide your hour of prayer are available in the Commons.

Sidewalk Advocates for Life Are you interested in a peaceful, prayerful method of reaching out to women and men entering the local abortion facility and helping them to choose life? If so, Sidewalk Advocates for Life might be for you! This new "sidewalk counseling" program uses a very compassionate, woman-oriented method to save lives and help woman in unplanned pregnancies by offering them more life-affirming options. Our training will be held this Tuesday, Dec 11, from 6:30-8:30pm in the multipurpose room at St. Gerald's (96th & Q). Suggested donation of \$20 for training and materials. More information at www.sidewalkadvocates.org! Please contact Janice Todd at 402-871-4699 or janicetoddcmc@msn.com if you plan to attend or with any questions.

A great sign appeared in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon beneath her feet, and a crown of twelve stars on her head. ~ Rev 12:1

Reflection: Our Lady of Guadalupe is the patroness of the unborn. Her image shows her as pregnant, carrying God Himself. That image converted millions of Aztecs.

Today, this image is taken to abortion clinics, where human sacrifice is practiced, and turns the despair of those mothers and fathers into the hope that brings new life.

Prayer: Jesus, through Our Lady of Guadalupe, may we spread Your hope everywhere. (Pro-life Reflections for Every Day by Fr. Frank Pavone of Priestsforlife.org. Visit the website for all daily reflections. Click on the "Prayer" tab)

The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe is Wed, Dec 12. "To help stop the anti-life push in the world the late Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen encouraged the spiritual adoption of an unborn child. This is done by praying that one particular but unknown child's life be spared abortion and be allowed to continue to live. To help accomplish this, it was recommended, an individual say the following daily prayer for a period of nine months:"

"Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I love you very much. I beg you to spare the life of the unborn baby that I have spiritually adopted who is in danger of abortion."

(The name I wish to give my baby is: ____.) Our Lady of Guadalupe Spiritual Adoption prayer cards are available on the K of C table in the Commons. We suggest starting this prayer on the Feast Day.

WEEKLY SUNDAY HOLY HOUR

Join your fellow parishioners in a weekly Holy Hour on Sunday evenings from 5p to 6p in the St. Matthew Chapel. During the Holy Hour we adore our Lord in Eucharistic Exposition, offer our prayers to include an ongoing Novena, and close with Benediction and Evening Prayer (Vespers). Parishes are encouraged to join in community for the Liturgy of the Hours, especially the Evening Prayer on Sundays (Sacrosanctum Concilium). The current Novena that we're offering is for a Rebirth of Chasity and Purity. Come offer your prayers for this intention, as well as your own, in the presence of Jesus during this Holy Hour of Exposition. If you have any questions, please contact Deacon Mark (mhwhite@archomaha.org).



COMMUNITY FOOD BANK UPDATE

--We have donated over 4,500 pounds of food to the hungry in our community.

--The PTO has included collections in multiple school fundraisers and events.--The weekly donations continue to be steady and strong. *If you would like to assist with this program, contact Scott Eversole at 402-216-1508.*

SILENT AUCTION UPDATE

Our silent auction has a proven history of success. To date we have accomplished the following:

- ✓ \$20,000 raised for the Electronic Marquee.
- ✓ Generated a \$20,000 matching donation for the Marquee.
- ✓ \$5,000 raised for parish growth.

OUR NEXT GOAL:

\$15,000 for a

Maintenance Garage

Current Total: over \$3,200!

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- ❖ The Knights of Columbus will hold the funds raised for the Garage
- ❖ Please make auction payments out to Knights of Columbus Council 11879
- ❖ Payment envelopes are on the table. They can be placed in the SVDP box, dropped in the collection basket, or given to the Parish or School office

If you would like to assist with this program, contact Scott Eversole at 402-216-1508.

BAKER'S COMMUNITY REWARD PROGRAM

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO PARTICIPATED. THIS LAST QUARTER. WE RECEIVED \$804.92!! *This does not cost you anything or take away from any other reward points you receive.*

Go to: www.bakersplus.com/communityrewards

1. Sign in to your online account, or create a new account if needed;
2. Scroll down to the bottom of the page to "Community Rewards";
3. Click on "Enroll Now";
4. Enter 71120 and select "St. Matthew"

You may also call: 866-221-4141 to enroll your card.

"GO FUND ME" PAGE



\$575 Total raised to date.

In an effort to reach outside of the parish to help fund our new church, we have established a "Go Fund Me" page (thanks to Tim & Ariel Tompsett). We would also like to share the link to this page with you, in hopes that you will be willing to share it on your personal social media sites. ***If you haven't seen the school video...it is worth the watch! (See what the kids know about "pews" and "kneelers"!!)***

<https://www.gofundme.com/a-pathway-to-our-church>

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CHRISTMAS SOCIAL

Knights of Columbus Christmas Social – REMINDER

- We hope you and your guest will join your Brother Knights in an evening of great food and fellowship!
- When: Thursday, 13 December. Social Hour: 6 PM; Dinner: 7:00 PM.
- Where: South Omaha Council 3019 Social Hall.
- Menu Choices: 1) Prime Rib; 2) Chicken; 3) Salmon.
- Remembering our core principle of charity, **please also bring a generous food pantry donation!**
- Please **RSVP NLT THIS Thursday, 6 December** to Dave Boone at 402-291-1493 or dbuceb1@gmail.com.
- Please **include menu choices** if attending. Please **send "regrets" if not attending!**

THE ST. MATTHEW MOBILE APP

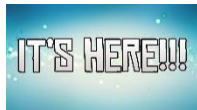
Download from the homepage of our website or:

iPhone users text: ParishApp1 to 555888

Android users text: ParishApp2 to 555888

---Enjoy quick access to bulletins, ministry schedules, faith direct giving, daily readings, new church updates and much, much more!

---You can also select to receive notifications from the parish, specific parish groups and/or school! To receive notifications, be sure to select 'Allow' when prompted while downloading the app. If you wish to do this at a later date you may do this in your phone's settings (instruction links are available on our website, as well).



ST. MATTHEW CALENDAR LOTTERY

Don't miss your chance to buy your ticket!!

See Joann Price in the Commons this weekend or purchase in the Parish/School office anytime.

A fundraiser for St. Matthew School and Parish 365 individual prizes awarded, one per day throughout 2019. Prizes range from \$25 to \$500. **\$25.00 per Ticket**

Maximum of 1,460 tickets to be sold. Winners need not be present. Drawing to be held NLT December 31, 2018

A donation of \$25 entitles each ticket holder (a maximum of 1,460) a chance to win one of 365 daily prizes and 12 special monthly prizes, awarded for each day/month of 2019, respectively, totaling the greater of \$12,725 or 65% of total sales.

All ticket holders have 365 chances to win, as all are eligible for each and every daily and monthly prize for the year. Sales will continue through the later of December 28, 2018 or the date of drawing; if all are sold prior to the closing date, late entries will be returned.

ESSENTIAL PREGNANCY SERVICES (EPS)

EPS is looking for a volunteer to be a greeter at our Bellevue location on Thursday evenings from 4:45 - 6:00PM. Volunteer would greet clients as they enter the building for class. On occasion, volunteer would be asked to stay until the end of class at 7:15PM. If interested and available, please contact Suzie at suziel@essentialps.org or call her at our Benson location 402.554.0121

BASEBALL PLAYERS NEEDED.

The St Columbkille 10U select baseball team is looking for a couple players for the 2019 season. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Scott Bovick at bov9@hotmail.com or 402-960-9321.

MENTORING MOMS PROGRAM

Seeking mothers, women, and girls to be a part of Catholic Charities' Mentoring Moms Program. Opportunities to mentor 1 on 1, volunteer in friendly support groups, hold babies, and making goodies or donations are needed.

If you would like to help in any way, please call or email Sierra Barrios at Catholic Charities (402)829-9283 mentoringmoms@ccomaha.org.

NEW BIBLE STUDY BEGINS JANUARY 2019 WOMEN IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

Tuesday evenings beginning January 8th from 7-8:30 pm, St. Matthew school library OR Wednesday mornings beginning January 9th from 9:30-11 am at Thanksgiving! Lutheran Church at the corner of 36th Street and Hwy. 370.

"The stories [of these women] are all the more remarkable in that they arise from historical eras that crimped their options in influencing or changing the flow of history. The women of this study can be bold and decisive, also meek and faithful, but they are always compelled to act in ways that bring about change. God's saving deeds often came through the mind and will of amazing women using limited resources."

This 10-week study is a part of the Little Rock Scripture Study series. It requires about 15-20 minutes a day of reading and answering study questions. Cost of the study set is \$15, and childcare is available during the Wednesday morning session for a small fee. Please call Susan Tracy (402-292-4986; leave a message) or email srtracy2@icloud.com if you are interested in attending so that books may be ordered.

New and experienced Bible study participants are welcome!

FAMILY BASED CATECHESIS

ALL parishioners are warmly welcomed to attend St. Matthew's monthly FBC sessions. This year we'll be learning more about the Sacraments of Christ's Church. During these once-monthly sessions, the adults will meet in the Worship Area (gym) while the youth meet with their grade-specific catechists in one of the school's classrooms. You can find out more about the FBC program at the RE/FBC tab on the parish website StMatthewBellevue.org or by contacting Deacon Mark (mhwhite@archomaha.org).

SCRIPTURE STUDY WITH DEACON DEALL

Meeting every Wednesday night from 6:30 to 7:30 pm in the Cardinal Spellman Room (lower level of the parish office), parishioners and their families can enjoy a walk through the readings for the upcoming Mass. During this study you'll discuss the history, the people, the writers themselves and the unique situations surrounding the readings and the books in which they're found. Though only an hour, it's filled with informatin, laughter, learning and most of all, there's lots of food – always food. All are welcome from early teens to kids at heart.

FORMED[®]

THE CATHOLIC FAITH.
ON DEMAND.

Get FORMED Now! It's EASY and FREE to Register!

- Go to stmatthewbellevue.formed.org
- Click "Register" and enter your name, email address, and desired password
- You are now ready to access the inspiring and engaging content on FORMED! Check out our "Community" tab on the Homepage to see the current recommendations.

FORMED also has an app for Apple or Android mobile devices! Go to the Apple App store or the Google Play store and do a search for FORMED, then download the free App. You will now have beautiful Catholic content available in only 1 click, anytime and anyplace.



USE SCRIP

FOR YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING!

Gifting that gives back...

Find gifts for everyone on your list while raising funds for St. Matthew. Shop gift cards from over 750 top brands, including Best Buy, Amazon, Panera, The Home Depot, Target, Wal-Mart and more. Whether you buy the gift cards to give as presents to family and friends, or to use them to buy your gifts—St. Matthew earns with every gift card purchased. It's simple, it's thoughtful and it's truly the gift that keeps on giving.

VISIT THE SCRIP TABLE TODAY!

We keep a large variety in stock, but you may also order hundreds of different cards, that are generally available in a week or less.

Bonus: 75% of every rebate can be designated to the fund of your choice:
New Church, General School Fund or to a specific family's Tuition Account
(Or a combination of the funds listed above.)

Also available: Scrip Now gift cards (egift cards sent directly to your email).

Must set up a Presto Pay account (see website for details).

shop.shopwithscrip.com

Any questions? Please contact Parish Office at 402-292-7418 or email plbanks@archomaha.org







Special Gifts—Updated September 2018


Thank you for helping us to check

Some of the items off of this list! New items added!

The following items could not be funded through the annual budgeting channels because of the limited amount of revenue generated in a year. These items remain needed and hopefully a parishioner or group of parishioners might be interested in funding one or more privately. The estimated cost of each item is provided. Please contact the Parish Office if interested, or simply drop your *clearly noted* contribution in the collection basket.

1. Install electronic marquee on 36th Street. est. \$50K 
2. Rectory repairs \$8,500 
3. Replace/repair windows in the Rectory \$15K 
4. Mudjacking \$1475 –_Needed sidewalk repairs due to annual safety inspection. 
5. New computers for our teachers \$12K *down to \$1,900K* Computers have been purchased for most of our teachers. We are still in need of 2 more computers.
6. Concrete pad for dumpsters \$5K A concrete pad is needed to prevent any further damage to our asphalt caused by the heavy garbage trucks that service us.
7. Classroom Lighting update for efficiency est. \$24K ***Partially Funded ~2 classrooms completed*** Upgrading the classroom lighting would enhance the learning experience and reduce utility bill.
8. Materials for maintaining playground \$3K. Minutemen are working on this project.
9. Motorized utility vehicle (new or used) \$4.5-6K. To be used by our maintenance staff and Minutemen for hauling equipment/supplies throughout our campus.
10. St. Matthew School is looking to create a new hands-on makerspace in our media center. In order to make this dream a reality, there are items that would be wonderful to have. In addition to the generosity of our parishioners who may be able to help fund these items, we would love the support and time of any parishioner willing to help research, find, and write **grant opportunities** to fund items like these as well as other possible items for our school. Please contact our school principal, Angie Palmer, if you are interested: acpalmer@schools.archomaha.org

Technology items for new makerspace:

iPads- \$370 each  (10 iPads received via an Archdiocesan Grant)
3D printer \$1500
Robotic kits
 Spheros \$130 each
 Dot and Dash robots \$149 each
 Bee bots \$140 each
Circuit boards
 Little bits \$159
 Makey Makeys \$49 each or classroom kit of 12 for \$700
3D Doodle pens \$99 each
Building/hands on materials
 Legos (new or used)
 Tegu- magnetic wooded block sets \$220-400 each
 Kenex \$100



THE EVANGELIST'S YEAR - 2019

A Fundraiser for St. Matthew School and Parish
12210 South 36th Street, Bellevue, NE 68123
stmatthewbellevue.org

365 individual prizes awarded, one per day throughout 2019

Prizes range from \$25 to \$500

\$25.00 per Ticket

Maximum of 1,460 tickets to be sold. Winners need not be present. Drawing to be held NLT
December 31, 2018

State ID: 35-7411464

A donation of \$25 entitles each ticket holder (a maximum of 1,460) a chance to win one of 365 daily prizes, awarded for each day of 2019, respectively, totaling the greater of \$12,500.

A donation of \$25 entitles each ticket holder (a maximum of 1,460) a chance to win one of 365 daily prizes and 12 special monthly prizes, awarded for each day/month of 2019, respectively, totaling the greater of \$12,725 or 65% of total sales.

The daily winning amounts are as follows:

\$25 - Daily prizes given, with the exception of the following special days:

\$50 - Every Sunday (with some exceptions listed below), Principal Angie Palmer's Birthday (February 4), Good Friday (April 19), Taxes Due (April 15), Memorial Day (May 27), Flag Day (June 14), Labor Day (September 2), Patriot Day (September 11), Father Leo's Birthday (October 4), and Veterans Day (November 11)

\$75 - Pope Francis' Birthday (December 17)

\$100 - Catholic Holy Days: Mary, Mother of God (January 1), Ascension (May 30), Assumption of Mary (August 15), All Saints (November 1), and Immaculate Conception (December 8)

\$100 - Civil Festivities: Mother's Day (May 12), Father's Day (June 16), Independence Day (July 4), and Thanksgiving (November 28)

\$100 - Anniversary of the establishment of St. Matthew Parish (June 20, 1996)

\$250 - Parish Patronal Fest: St. Matthew the Evangelist (September 21)

\$500 - Easter (Sunday, April 21) and Christmas (December 25)

All ticket holders have 365 chances to win as all are eligible for each and every daily and monthly prize for the year.

Sales will continue through the later of December 28, 2018 or the date of drawing; if all are sold prior to the closing date, late entries will be returned.

The 2019 Evangelist's Year Calendar Lottery Form PRINT CLEARLY

Data for ticket holder, ie., who will win if ticket is drawn:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

If this is a gift, name of purchaser: _____

Purchaser's address if you would like the gift mailed to you to personally give the gift:

Tickets Purchased _____

Office Use Only:

Date Payment Received: _____ Check # _____ Check Amount _____ Cash _____

Tickets issued: _____