

# ST. MATTHEW THE EVANGELIST PARISH



## HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

*He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man. - Lk 2:51-52*

### MASSES THIS WEEKEND

Sat. Dec 29 5:00 pm – St. Matthew Families  
Sun. Dec 30 8:30 am – Joe Kosch†  
10:30 am – Beaudoin Family

### MASSES THIS WEEK

Mon. Dec 31 5:00 pm – Rev. Dennis R. Stolinski †  
Tues. Jan 1 10:00 am – Ted Heinen †  
Wed. Jan 2 9:00 am – No Mass  
Thur. Jan 3 9:00 am – Doug Grieser †  
Fri. Jan 4 9:00 am – Jack Mullen †

### MASSES NEXT WEEKEND

Sat. Jan 5 5:00 pm – Joe Piccolo †  
Sun. Jan 6 8:30 am – St. Matthew Families †  
10:30 am – James Kotera †

### 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](mailto:prmcevoy@gmail.com) or Dan Linder at [dan@linder.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:prmcevoy@gmail.com).



To securely make a gift, TEXT a dollar amount to 402-809-4948.



*You will be asked to complete a one-time registration page with your billing and contact information. After this registration, you can give any time by texting a dollar amount to our phone number. To make it easier, save this number as a contact in your phone for future giving.*

### FAITH DIRECT

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](http://www.faithdirect.net) and use our church code: NE489.

### SECOND COLLECTION SCHEDULE

*All checks made out to St. Matthew*

#### January 5/6

#### Seminary

The archdiocese is currently blessed with twenty-three men studying for the Priesthood. Thank you for your prayers, sacrifices and generous financial support.

#### January 19/20

#### Maintenance

#### January 26/27

#### One Rose/One Life

*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 402-292-7418.*

### ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

This year's Annual Appeal goal for St. Matthew is \$35,941.73. Our contributions to date total \$35,103 (97.7% of our goal).

### GIFTS OF STOCK TO ST. MATTHEW

This is the end of the year, 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.



### HOLY DAY MASS SCHEDULE

Solemnity of Mary (New Year's)

**Monday, Dec 31 – 5:00 pm**

**Tuesday, Jan 1 – 10:00 am**

*Sign up for ministries in the Commons.*



**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

Ladies, our next meeting is Tuesday, January 15, 6:30 pm, in the Commons.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** to help take down decorations and trees next Sunday, January 6 after the 10:30 Mass.

Thank you to those who gave their valuable time during this very busy season to help set up the Christmas trees, decorate the Christmas trees, and the altar.



Welcome  
Johnathan Kyrie  
Thompson-Wray

Baptized December 24 2018

## PRAYER FOR OUR CHURCH

Please continue to pray for our church and its healing...

"Gracious Father, we pray to you for your Catholic Church. Fill it with your truth. Keep it in your peace. Where it is corrupt, reform it. Where it is in error, correct it. Where it is right, defend it. Where it is in want, provide for it. Where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of your Son, your Savior Jesus Christ. Amen

Archbishop William Laud, 1573-1645



"But Jesus called the children to him and said, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these'."

Total Pledges: 264  
Total Pledged: \$2,309,411.00  
Total Collected: \$1,222,422.32

## 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](http://stmatthewbellevue.org)



## ST. MATTHEW COMMEMORATIVE COINS

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

## SCRIP/MATT'S MONEY

Last Week's Rebate: \$214.19



**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 inventory: Best Buy, Scooters, Ulta, PetSmart, Qdoba and Home Depot.

## LOVING LIFE MINISTRY



**Prayer Vigil** Thank you to all that joined us to sing Christmas carols at the abortion facility with Nebraskans Embracing Life

and for our Loving Life Ministry breakfast. What a wonderful St. Matthew presence! [Please mark your calendar for our next](#) monthly prayer vigil on Fri, Jan 11, from 10:00 – 11:00am. 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 and Prayer Partners** Our Omaha LIFE Runners chapter has started a Sidewalk Advocates for Life (SAFL) program to be the heart and face of Christ in front of the Bellevue abortion facility. Sidewalk advocates use a research based method to compassionately connect and offer mothers and fathers life-affirming options. In addition to sidewalk advocates, we are in need of prayer partners to be present with them for prayer support. Contact Janice Todd at 402-871-4699 or [janicetoddcmc@msn.com](mailto:janicetoddcmc@msn.com) if you would like to be a sidewalk advocate or prayer partner or with any questions.

**I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. ~ Rev 21:6**

**Reflection:** God gives us the gift of life, in units of years and months and days, and we likewise give it back to Him, in days and months and years of faithful service.

In the New Year, let us put the defense of the unborn at the top of our priority list.

**Prayer:** *Lord, enable me to devote more time, energy, and resources to the greatest human rights movement of our day, the pro-life movement.* (Pro-life Reflections for Every Day by Fr. Frank Pavone. Visit [priestsforlife.org](http://priestsforlife.org) for all daily reflections. Click on the "Prayer" tab)

**FORMED.org** Get FORMED! Go to [stmatthewbellevue.formed.org](http://stmatthewbellevue.formed.org).

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY (MONDAY, DECEMBER 31) and SOLEMNITY OF MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD (TUESDAY, JANUARY 1)

**STUDY** - Beloved: Mystery and Meaning of Marriage; Beloved: Living Marriage

**WATCH** - Mary of Nazareth; Joseph of Nazareth; The Story of the Nativity

**READ** - How to Raise Good Catholic Children; The Catholic Family Handbook; The World's First Love

**LISTEN** - Counting Your Blessings; Discipline that Lasts a Lifetime; How to Apply Faith to Our Families

### 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 Chastity 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](mailto:mhwhite@archomaha.org)).

### COMMUNITY FOOD BANK UPDATE

- We have donated over 4,679 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.
- The school staff recently volunteered at the Bellevue Food Pantry. Three takeaways:
  - ❖ *They will be short of food in late Jan through early March.*
  - ❖ *They always need bagged beans and all types of crackers.*
  - ❖ *They can never get enough toilet paper and personal care items.*



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

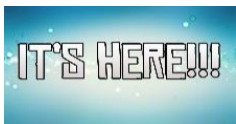
## ESSENTIAL PREGNANCY SERVICES (EPS)

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](mailto:suziel@essentialps.org) or call her at our Benson location 402.554.0121

## 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](mailto:mentoringmoms@ccomaha.org).



## 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).



## \$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>

## 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](http://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.

## 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: \$3,332!**

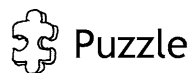
## IMPORTANT NOTES:

- ❖ 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

*Note: It is important for all auction winners to pick up their items as soon as possible to allow room on our table for new auctions.*

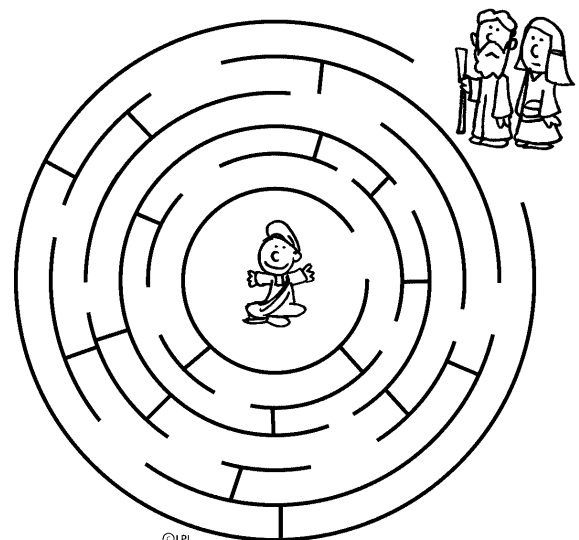
UPCOMING HIGHLIGHTS: Snowmen, Angels galore, and a Hand Carved wood Crucifix.

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



## Puzzle

Help Mary and Joseph find Jesus.



## **ADULT FAITH FORMATION**

### **Purgatory: The Forgotten Church**

Come join us on Thurs, Jan 3 and 10, from 6:30 – 8:00pm, in the library (Bldg 2) to learn more about one of the more difficult, misunderstood doctrines of our faith, purgatory. On Jan 3 we will watch *Purgatory: The Forgotten Church*. (“Is Purgatory real? Could the Afterlife require suffering? Can the living help alleviate the anguish of the dead? This groundbreaking documentary investigates these compelling life-after-death questions through spiritual, scientific, and cultural perspectives.”) On Jan 11 we will listen to an audio study by Dr. Brant Pitre called *Jesus and the Jewish Roots of Purgatory* (“If you’ve ever wanted to learn what Jesus himself had to say about what will happen to those who die before “making amends” with their enemies; if you’ve ever wondered what will happen to those who “aren’t ready” for when they meet their Master; and if you’ve ever wanted to learn more about Purgatory—without actually having to go there—then this is the Bible study for you.”) No cost and all are welcome! Contact Janice Todd at [janicetoddcmc@msn.com](mailto:janicetoddcmc@msn.com) or 402-871-4699 to register or with any questions.

### **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](mailto:srtracy2@icloud.com) if you are interested in attending so that books may be ordered.

New and experienced Bible study participants are welcome!

## **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.

## **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](http://StMatthewBellevue.org) or by contacting Deacon Mark ( [mhwhite@archomaha.org](mailto:mhwhite@archomaha.org) ).



THE CATHOLIC FAITH.  
ON DEMAND.

*stmatthewbellevue.formed.org*

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Thank You!!

Janice