

Bulletin  
December  
12, 2021



**ATTENTION**

**No 9:00 daily mass on Tuesday, December 14.**

**The Parish Office will be closing at noon on December 15.**

**MASS INTENTIONS** If you wish a Mass celebrated for a special need or the welfare of someone, please email Patsy at: [pahart@archomaha.org](mailto:pahart@archomaha.org) or call 402-292-7418. Mass Intentions can be scheduled a year out. We are now scheduling intentions through November of 2022. We may also send Mass intentions to the Archdiocese to have them sent to missions. These masses may not be able to be offered on a specific date. Even if we don't witness the mass, all spiritual graces are still conferred.

**EUCHARISTIC ADORATION:** Currently, Exposition of the Eucharist is every Thursday, Friday, and Saturday starting at 3:00pm on Thursday and ending at 8:00am on Saturday. We would like to add on additional days and hours, so even more people can have the opportunity to spend time with Jesus.

If you have an interest in a weekly adoration hour that also works with your schedule or in being a substitute, please contact Donna Buell or Phil McEvoy via Flocknote. Text SMTE to 84576 or connect with us online at [matthewbellevue.flocknote.com](http://matthewbellevue.flocknote.com)



**FLOCKNOTE  
KEEP IN TOUCH  
WITH US!**

Receive Parish information and have access to ministry notifications. Text SMTE to 84576 or connect with us online. [Stmatthewbellevue.flocknote.com](http://Stmatthewbellevue.flocknote.com)



**CHRISTMAS TREE  
BLESSING**

Dear God,

**Two thousand years ago, You brought Your Son, Jesus into this world to teach us the power of love and sacrifice. As we raise this tree, we remember His birth and the meaning of His life for us. Bless this tree as a symbol of our celebration of Jesus' birth and our gratitude for His sacrifice. May the joy this tree brings and the gifts we place under it remind us of the many gifts You have given us. We ask Your blessings upon our loved ones, this day and always.**



**Continuing Our Journey**

**Commitment:**  
\$2,249,083.00

**Pledges Collected:**  
\$ 815,405.19

**Second Collection Schedule**

*All checks made out to St. Matthew*

**December 18 Maintenance**

*If you are not using envelopes, please write your envelope number and designated fund (e.g. Maintenance etc.) in the memo line. If you no longer wish to receive envelopes, contact the parish office.*



**Mass Intentions**

- December 11**  
5:00pm St. Matthew Families
- December 12**  
9:00am Elroy Hefner †  
11:00am Ruth Martinick †
- December 14**  
9:00pm No Daily Mass
- December 15**  
9:00am Jody Holdcroft †
- December 16**  
9:00am Ernest Benes †
- December 17**  
9:00am Forget Family †

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION  
CLASS SCHEDULE**

December 15, 6:30pm-7:45pm

Christmas Break

December 16 to January 4

Classes will resume January 5

## WEEKLY SUNDAY HOLY HOUR

Join your fellow parishioners in a weekly Holy Hour on Sunday evenings from 5:00pm to 6:00pm. During the Holy Hour we adore our Lord in Eucharistic Exposition, offer our prayers as a community, and close with Evening Prayer (Vespers) and Benediction. A Sunday evening Holy Hour and Vespers is not just a randomly scheduled event. According to Church tradition, parishes are encouraged to join in community for the Liturgy of the Hours, especially the Evening Prayer on Sundays (Sacrosanctum Concilium). Accordingly, we as the St. Matthew Catholic Community join our prayers, in union with the universal church, for the mission of the Church--the salvation of souls. Come offer your prayers for this intention, as well as your own, in the presence of Jesus during this Holy Hour of Exposition. Contact Deacon Mark via Flocknote (see Flocknote insert) with questions.

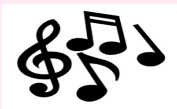


“But let all who take refuge in you rejoice;  
let them ever sing for joy.  
Spread your protection over them,  
so that those who love your name may exult in



### DAILY PARISH ROSARY

Join us for a daily rosary, Monday through Friday starting at 4:15pm. All are welcome!



### LOOKING FOR MUSICIANS!

- Vocalists
- Instrumentalists

Needed for all masses and combined music groups for Christmas masses. Contact Suzi Brunner via Flocknote. with questions and to sign up.

## SUNDAY PREP BIBLE STUDY

Join us for one hour of food, fun, history, and preparation toward understanding Sunday readings. This Bible Study is held Wednesdays, 6:30pm, in the Narthex. Deacon Tom Deall facilitates the bible study.

## PONDER: CONTEMPLATIVE BIBLE STUDY (YEAR C)

The first Sunday of Advent begins a new liturgical year—Year C, which features the Gospel according to Luke. Marked by the compassion of Jesus, the gospel stories of Luke demonstrate the universal nature of Jesus’ mission. Luke’s focus on God’s faithfulness will encourage you to trust. Other themes include mercy and forgiveness, joy, the journey, the role of the Holy Spirit and the place of prayer. Join us as we dive deeper into the lectionary readings every Tuesday evening via Zoom. We pray with the Sunday readings and listen to what God is revealing to us. Our prayer method is Lectio Divina, but we also use Ignatian Contemplation and our own life experiences, along with lively and life-giving discussion. If you would like to join, contact Susan Tracy via Flocknote and I will send you a link to the Zoom meeting and also make sure you have a book. This is an ongoing study, meeting every Tuesday evening from 7:00pm to 8:30pm, but you are welcome to drop in whenever you are available.

## ADULT FAITH FORMATION

**NEW – FREE AMEN APP** We are delighted for you to be among the first to know about the launch of the Amen Catholic Prayer App. We invite you to download the free app on the App Store or Google Play and enter deeper into the Word. The development and release of this app is an exciting moment for the Augustine Institute in answering Saint John Paul II's call for a New Evangelization— to proclaim the Gospel using new ardor, methods, and expression.

In the Amen app, you can: Delve into God's Word by meditating on the *Daily Mass Readings*, gain new insights into the Scriptures with *Daily Reflections*, and prepare your heart for each Sunday Mass with *Opening the Word*. Hear the Good News proclaimed in a powerful new way in *The Life of Christ*, a 50-day dramatized journey through the Gospels from the Incarnation of our Lord to his glorious Ascension. Draw your mind, body, and soul to rest in God in the midst of life's busyness with our *Meditations*, *Evening Psalms*, and *Sleep Stories*. Listen through all 73 books of the Bible in just 20 minutes a day with the exclusive audio version of the Augustine Institute's popular *Bible in a Year*, featuring the ESV® Catholic Edition. Discover exciting new content for everyone at home, including the beloved children's show *Brother Francis*, *One-Minute Inspirations* with Catholic speaker Chris Stefanick, and a host of prayers for the whole family.

The Augustine Institute is able to offer all of this entirely free of charge thanks to the generous support of donors! Enjoy!

## LOVING LIFE MINISTRY

**LIFE Runners** Not a teammate yet? Join the largest Pro-Life team in the world, now with more than 17,300 teammates! LIFE Runners use prayer and teamwork to defend Life from conception to natural death. Running optional. Faith required. Sign up to get your "REMEMBER The Unborn – Jer 1:5" jersey and team updates/devotions at [liferunners.org/signup](http://liferunners.org/signup). Invite others to join us. All In Christ for Pro-Life! Contact Kevin and Janice Todd via Flocknote with questions.

**PRAYER VIGIL** Thank you to all who prayed on Fri!! Please mark your calendar for our next vigil, Fri, Jan 14, 10:00-11:00am, at the Bellevue abortion facility (1002 W Mission). We also encourage you to come pray for/with us each Saturday morning, 7:30-8:30am. When the facility is open, we do sidewalk outreach to moms arriving for appointments; if it is closed, we pray for the end to abortion. Let us bring hope and be a joyful presence of love to mothers, fathers and families looking for help in the face of a desperate time, be the light of Christ in our community, and pray for the conversion of Carhart and the workers



**"CHOOSE LIFE" LICENSE PLATES** We encourage everyone to choose these plates for your vehicles. What a great way to spread the message to love and choose life all over town and wherever you travel! The alpha/numeric plates are only \$5! Go to <https://dmv.nebraska.gov/dvr/choose-life-plates>

**REFLECTION:** When I was in the seminary, a group of us would pray the Rosary every Friday afternoon across the street at a hospital that performed abortions. Sometimes people would curse at us, laugh at us, mock us. One day a man screamed at us, "Get a job!" How ironic yelling that to a bunch of men studying to be priests. I remember thinking, "Well, I guess this is my job, to pray for conversion, to publicly witness against the injustice of abortion, to stand up for the sanctity of all human life, especially the unborn child." John the Baptist had the job of preparing the way of the Lord. His stand for truth cost him his head. We may be mocked. We may be abused. We may someday even have to die for our faith. May God give us the courage and the grace to do His will no matter what the cost.

**TODAY'S CHALLENGE:** Prepare to be mocked for your faith; truth will set us free. (LIFE Runners Daily Devotions by Dr. Patrick Castle & Bernadette Costello visit [www.liferunners.org/gear](http://www.liferunners.org/gear))

## GET SIGNED UP FOR YOUR FREE FORMED ACCOUNT!

Registering for FORMED is easier than ever! See website homepage under "parish app links".

## BEST ADVENT EVER

What Draws You To The *Light?*

There are things that draw you toward the light. And there are things that draw you into the darkness. So much of the world wants to draw you into the darkness of worry, fear, procrastination, negative self-talk, toxic relationships the list goes on. This Advent, discover and choose the things that draw you to the light! Get inspiring daily video reflections sent straight to your inbox—for free. Taken from Matthew Kelly's life-changing new book, *Life Is Messy*, each reflection will help you infuse your life with prayer, reading, authentic love of self, genuine friendship, beautiful kindness and so much more! And when Christmas arrives, you'll be ready to share the light you've gathered along the way! Visit [dynamiccatholic/advent.html](http://dynamiccatholic/advent.html) to sign up.



### St. Matthew - Individual

Saturdays - 4:30 pm

Wednesdays, December 1, 8, 15, 22 - 6:00 pm

Sundays after the 11:00 Mass

### St. Mary's in Bellevue - Individual

Thursdays, December 2, 9, 16, 23 - noon - 1:00 pm

Tuesdays, November 30, December 14 & 21 - 5:00 - 6:00 pm

### St. Columbkille in Papillion - Reconciliation Service

December 14 - 6:30 pm

December 21 - 6:30 pm



### Christmas Masses

Friday, December 24, 4:00 pm

Friday/Saturday, December 25, Midnight

Saturday, December 25, 10:00 am

Saturday, **NO 5:00 pm Mass**

### New Year's Masses

Friday, December 31 - 5:00 pm

Saturday, January 1 - 10:00 am

Saturday, **NO 5:00 pm Mass**





**Thank you to all that donated to The Safe Haven Women's Shelter Thanksgiving dinner and filling up their pantry.**

**WWG Women**

**Working for God**

**Wishing everyone a Blessed Advent and Christmas season!**

All ladies of the parish are invited to attend our meeting on Tuesday, January 18th in the school commons. Join us! If anyone needs a ride to the meeting, contact Shirrel Medara. Please direct any questions to Shirrel Medara via Flocknote (see Flocknote insert). Hope to see you then!



**Community**

**Outreach Ministry**

December Collection:

New men's and women's underwear, socks, and gently used or new clothes and shoes. All items will be donated to the Stephen Center. These can be placed in the blue bin at the school or the west entrance when you come into church. Thanks for your continued support, November collection was 164 pounds of food and clothing to the Stephen Center. The school donated 153 pounds of food to Safe Haven from their Spiritwear day.



## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Monthly Officer Meetings are held the first Monday of each month. The general Member's Meeting is the third Monday of the month. Meetings are 7:00pm in the new church conference room (and via Zoom). All Knights are invited and welcome to attend either meeting. If you are not receiving emails with general council information, contact Mark Kyriss to ensure your email address is current. If you need information to become a Knight, contact Mark Kyriss, Grand Knight or Membership Director, Dale Bauermeister, via Flocknote (see Flocknote insert).

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

## ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

This week, your Vincentians helped 2 local families in financial crisis. One family was affected by COVID and needed rental assistance. The other, a young single mother, needed assistance on multiple levels and was provided both financial and referral agency assistance.

Like what we do? Come and join us on the First Tuesday of the month at 5:30pm at St Matthew, in the lower level conference room.



## HEALTH CARE

### PROFESSIONALS NEEDED!

If interested, please contact Mark Lockwood or Amy Adams via Flocknote (see Flocknote insert).

### PRAYER SHAWLS

All shawls are well-crafted and blessed, then given to anyone in need of God's comfort. The next meeting is January, 24 at 2:00pm in the conference room. Contact the Parish Office for information.

### MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

Anyone in need of medical equipment, cane, walker, etc. please contact Phil McEvoy via Flocknote.

### VETERAN'S HOME VOUNTEERS NEEDED

EMHC to take the Eucharist to the Veterans, Sundays at 10:30-11:15am, Rotating Schedule. Contact Philip McEvoy via Flocknote (see Flocknote insert) Not an EMHC? Father can give you a temporary Mandation.

## SEEKING MASS

### GREETERS

If you are interested, please contact Mary Lomax via Flocknote (see Flocknote insert).

### SECURITY DOORS – LOCKED

As part of the plan to protect parishioners against any form of malicious entry into the church during mass services all church doors are automatically locked 5 minutes after the scheduled mass start time. Entry after this time will be made by the security personnel on duty. All doors are unlocked one hour prior to the scheduled mass for pre-mass activities.

## HOLIDAY LIGHT RECYCLING DRIVE

"Do a good turn daily" is the Scouts BSA slogan. This year, Troop 231 in Bellevue is living that slogan by recycling old holiday lights! These lights are recyclable because of the small amount of copper within the wires. There will be a collection bin in the church lobby from November 15 to January 15. Please bring any lights you no longer need and help the troop do its good turn! Contact Barb Bittner [bbittner68@gmail.com](mailto:bbittner68@gmail.com).

## WWG CHRISTMAS OUTREACH

The WWG ladies group provides Christmas gifts of toys, clothes, and accessories for Safe Haven Women's Shelter in Bellevue each December. We are hoping that your family will choose one of the tags on our Christmas tree in the narthex. Then purchase the item listed and return it unwrapped to the narthex. We have 11 children ages 2 to 15 years and 7 mothers. Often the families come to the shelter with just the clothes on their backs. The items must be new and brought to the church by noon Sunday Dec. 19, and put unwrapped in the bins by the tree. Thanks for your generosity to these families.

## SPOUSE BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

If you are interested in participating in a quarterly widow/widowers support group, our next meeting will be Sunday, January 16 at 2:00pm. For more information, please contact Mary Fran Williamson via Flocknote (see Flocknote insert).



## YOUTH



**OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE** Join us Wednesday, December 15 at 9:00am for a beautiful procession celebrating Our Lady of Guadalupe. Everyone is Invited

**ST. MATTHEW ADVISORY TEAM (SMAT)-** The SMAT is looking for individuals to help with alumni relations and grant writing. If you are willing to help, please contact Principal Angie Palmer- [principal@stmattschool.com](mailto:principal@stmattschool.com)

**LUNCH ROOM ASSISTANT** St. Matthew School is looking for a paid lunch room assistant to work 10:15am to 12:30pm, M-F. Please contact Principal Angie Palmer if you are interested. [principal@stmattschool.com](mailto:principal@stmattschool.com)



Come out and cheer on your Cardinals! The basketball season has started!. Game schedules can be found on the CYO and PAL websites. Check back here for updates and more information as the season goes on..



Welcome

Federico Eduardo Lopez III

Baptized December 4, 2021

Brooklynn Elizabeth Seeley

Baptized December 5, 2021

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

Memorial donations for the parish should be made payable to St. Matthew, with the memo line designating specifics (i.e., Building Fund, General Use, etc., and name of honoree or deceased). Checks made out to families or other organizations are not acknowledged by the parish Memorials Committee unless St. Matthew is the payee.

CALENDAR LOTTERY WINNERS

Dec. 5	Lois Brom	\$50
Dec. 6	Angelica McFall	\$25
Dec. 7	Edward & Linda Janeczko	\$25
Dec. 8	Kristina Pajeda	\$100
Immaculate Conception Special		
Dec. 9	Yili Jin	\$25
Dec. 10	Molly Lukasina	\$25
Dec. 11	James R. Tracy, Jr.	\$25

**A CHECK IS AUTOMATICALLY MAILED OUT TO ALL WINNERS.**

Bulletin Submission Deadline

Submit information for the upcoming bulletin by 12:00pm Tuesday to: [acmcfall@archomaha.org](mailto:acmcfall@archomaha.org)

UPCOMING EVENTS

**December 15  
9:00am**

Procession for Our Lady of Guadalupe

**December 19**

Parish Wide Christmas Caroling

**January 3**

Knight of Columbus Pancake Breakfast

**January 30 thru February 5**

Catholic School's Week

**February 26**

Mardi Gras Event



**December 19<sup>th</sup> at 4 PM  
Parish Christmas Carol Sing-along**

Advent—a time of hope, peace, joy and love. The Advent wreath has three candles that are purple and one that is pink (or rose). The dark purple reminds us of darkness and marks a time for prayer and waiting. The pink candle is lit on the third Sunday of Advent (December 12<sup>th</sup>) which is called Gaudete Sunday, meaning ‘Rejoice’ for the time of Christmas is near.

As we come to end of the four weeks of Advent – we sing in hope, joy, love and peace as a Parish we by having a Christmas Carol Sing-along for all Parishioners in the Church Sanctuary, Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup> beginning at 4 PM. We hope you will stay for the Holy Hour that begins at 5 PM and then join to-



**Helpers wanted** to decorate the church for Christmas. **Sunday, 19 at noon.**

*Advent Ablaze Celebration*  
Friday, December 17 | 7-9 PM  
**St. Mary's Church in Bellevue**  
2302 Crawford Street

**JOIN US FOR A RECEPTION**  
IN THE PARISH CENTER IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING ABLAZE.

**PRAISE & WORSHIP MUSIC. ADORATION. CONFESSIONS.**



## AMAZON SMILE

*We received \$204.93 for last quarter's rebate!*

If you order from Amazon, please consider using Smile. Amazon and designate St. Matthew as your charity. Or use this direct link every time you shop <http://smile.amazon.com/ch47-0800122>. Amazon donates 0.5% of your purchase price to St. Matthew. Thank you for your support!

## BAKER'S COMMUNITY REWARD PROGRAM

*We received \$719.29 for last quarter's rebate!*

Thank you to the 174 families who participate in this program. Remember this does not cost you anything or take away from any other reward points you receive. To link your rewards card to St. Matthew: [www.bakersplus.com/communityrewards](http://www.bakersplus.com/communityrewards)

1. Click on "I'm a Customer" and sign in to your online account, or create a new account if needed;
2. Select "Community Rewards";
3. Click on "Enroll Now";
4. Enter PF663 and select "St. Matthew"

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

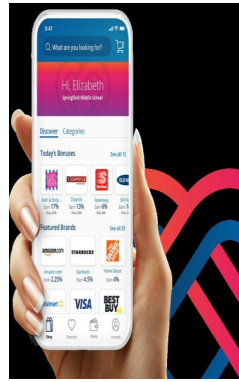
## FAITH DIRECT

Consider e-giving. Visit [www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net) simply click "Give Now" and enter our church code: NE489. Or call 1-866-507-8757. You can give a one-time gift or sign up for recurring gifts.

## TEXT TO GIVE OPTION

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.



## SCRIP GIFT CARDS

*Rebate: \$58.87*

Thank you for your support of our parish scrip program. To order scrip online please contact the Parish Office.

"Makin' a list and checking it twice"

Shop for Christmas with Matt's Money gift cards!

How to get Matt's Money Download the "Raise Right" app. It is like giving two Christmas presents in one because.. St. Matthew Church and School benefits from every purchase you make.

<https://www.stmatthewbellevue.org/scrip-matt-s-money>



Download the  
**TOGETHER  
A GREATER  
GOOD**  
app + start tagging  
your purchases today!



## HOW TO TAGG

- 1 Download the TAGG mobile app.
- 2 Choose us and upload a photo of your receipt.
- 3 The business will make a donation to us at no extra cost to you!

## ST. MATTHEW CALENDAR LOTTERY

**468 of 862 tickets sold,  
54 1/4% of goal**

See Ed Janeczko in the Narthex or purchase in the Parish/School office. A fundraiser for St. Matthew School and Parish. 377 individual prizes throughout 2022. Prizes range from \$25 to \$500. **\$25.00 per Ticket.** Winners need not be present. Drawing to be held NLT December 31, 2021. A donation of \$25 entitles each ticket holder a chance to win one of 365 daily prizes and 12 special monthly prizes, awarded for each day/month of 2022. All ticket holders have 377 chances to win, as all are eligible for each and every daily and monthly prize for the year. Sales will continue through late December 2021 or the date of drawing; if all are sold prior to the closing date, late entries will be returned.

