

# ST. MATTHEW THE EVANGELIST PARISH



“Greater will be the future glory of this house than the former, says the Lord of hosts; and in this place I will give peace, says the Lord of hosts!”  
**Haggai 2:9**



Then the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father.” — Lk 1:30-32

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCC.

## Campaign Prayer

Please join the prayer team in reciting the campaign prayer, at home, on a daily basis with your family. Extra prayer cards are in the narthex and in both the school and parish offices.

## Cares Act – Federal Income Tax Benefits

Passed to provide emergency funding due to the March 2020 Covid-19 national shutdown, the Cares Act includes income tax benefits for anyone making a charitable donation in 2020. The Act allows for a greater deduction against Adjusted Gross Income, whether or not an individual/couple itemizes on their federal tax return. These specific tax benefits are set to expire on January 1, 2021. In considering year-end giving, please consult with an income tax advisor as to your potential benefit.

## SECOND COLLECTION SCHEDULE

*All checks made out to St. Matthew*

**December 19/20**

**Maintenance**

*If you are not using envelopes, please write your envelope number and designated fund (e.g. Black/Indian Mission etc.) in the memo line. If you no longer wish to receive envelopes, just*



## FAITH DIRECT

Consider e-giving. Visit [www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net) simply

click “Give Now” and enter our church code: NE489. Or simply 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.*

## MASSES THIS WEEKEND

Sat. Dec	19	5:00pm - Mauvis Money †
Sun. Dec	20	9:30am - Mary Grange † 11:00am - St. Matthew Families

## MASSES THIS WEEK

Tues. Dec	22	9:00am – Edward Perez
Wed. Dec	23	9:00am – Tom Dudley
Thur. Dec	24	4:00pm – Dailey & Poulin Families 6:00pm - Marjorie Hart†
Fri. Dec	25	10:00am – Darlene Veylupek †

## MASSES NEXT WEEKEND

Sat. Dec	26	5:00pm - St. Matthew Families
Sun. Dec	27	9:30am - Don Leiber † 11:00am - Marion Roman†

## CHURCH INFORMATION

We continue to livestream daily and weekend masses. **Church donations** may be placed in the baskets at the entrance/exit to church or taken to the parish office or mailed. We are looking to set up a new drop off box. **Thank you!**

## NEW ADDRESS

All mail for our church and parish office should be addressed to: 12330 S. 36<sup>th</sup> Street, Bellevue, NE 68123. **NOTE:** This is especially *for those* who have their donations mailed from their financial institution. Thank you for your cooperation.z

## GIFTS OF STOCK TO ST. MATTHEW

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 have been received.

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



**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 new parish administration Bldg..

All Knights are invited, and welcome to attend both meetings. *If you are not receiving emails, check your spam folder.*

If you are interested in joining or want more information, please contact Dave Boone, Grand Knight, at 402-291-1493 or [dbruceb1@gmail.com](mailto:dbruceb1@gmail.com).

† † † † † † † †

Need a ride to Church?

Contact Butch Songcuan 402-933-1646

† † † † † † † †

**Columbian Squires Chief Counselor**

Phil Earsley 402-214-7877

### MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

Health Care Items are available, for loan, from the Knights. Available items: wheelchairs, electric wheelchairs, walkers, crutches and a home-use oxygenator. **Please Note:** If you have borrowed medical equipment and are no longer using it, please contact Phil McEvoy @ 402-689-6457 or at [prmevov@gmail.com](mailto:prmevov@gmail.com) for information on how to return it.



### WWG

#### WOMEN WORKING FOR GOD

We are again having a food drive for the Women's shelter in Bellevue and Christmas Dinner. Due to Covid, we are asking for gift cards to Walmart. If you wish to donate, contact Cindy Brazeal, 402-312-7101 or [cbrazeal81@gmail.com](mailto:cbrazeal81@gmail.com). Or you may send gift cards to Safe Haven, %Julie Fagan, PO Box 1612, Bellevue, NE 68005.

### SCRIP GIFT CARDS

Last week's rebate: \$1150.53

Thank you for your support of our parish scrip program. Scrip may still be ordered online. For information, contact Sue Mailhot at [samailhot@archomaha.org](mailto:samailhot@archomaha.org).

<https://shop.shopwithscrip.com/>



### COMMUNITY OUTREACH MINISTRY

December Collection:

Warm gently used clothes – socks, shirts, shoes, coats, gloves, and hats will be very much appreciated. The warm clothes 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. December donation of 262 lbs. of food to Mater Filius.

DECEMBER 20, 2020



**SCHOOL YEAR 2020-2021**

#### **ENROLLMENT OPEN!**

Enrollment for the 20-21 school year is open for all families.

Contact the school – 402-291-2030



#### **EUCHARIST ADORATION**

**Exposition of the Eucharist is now every Friday of the month from 6:00am Friday to 8:00am Saturday. Reminder: If you are unable to keep your commitment, please contact a**

**sub.** Contact Donna Buell or Phil McEvoy if you would like to participate regularly or substitute as needed. Donna Buell at [BUELLDONNAJM@GMAIL.COM](mailto:BUELLDONNAJM@GMAIL.COM) Phil McEvoy at [PRMCEVOY@GMAIL.COM](mailto:PRMCEVOY@GMAIL.COM)

#### **USHERS NEEDED!!**

We are asking for more people to volunteer to be an usher. Five ushers are needed for each mass. Contact the parish office if you are interested in helping.

#### **SAFETY---SAFETY---SAFETY**

The parish of Saint Matthew's Safety Board has established **Security** and **Medical Teams** who are on duty at weekend masses whose mission is to help our parishioners in a medical situation and to keep them safe.

We thank all our members who have stepped forward to assist in this regard. More of our parishioners are needed to help us out. Those interested in finding out more about our efforts, please contact:

**Security** - Greg Stoiber (402 -203-3685) or Dick Lewis (402 301-5849)

**Medical** - Mark Lockwood (402 215-7835) or Amy Adams (402 689-1093)

All parish members at least 18 years old are eligible to participate.

#### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CLEANING OUR CHURCH**

Teams are being put together to vacuum, dust, and sweep on a weekly basis. We hope to have several teams. If you are interested, contact Sue Mailhot, [samailhot@archomaha.org](mailto:samailhot@archomaha.org). With 5 or 6 people to a team, it would take about an hour and a half to clean



### FAMILY BASED CATECHESIS (FBC)

**Religious Formation for the Entire Family.** All parishioners are welcome to attend St. Matthew's Family-Based Catechesis (FBC). Sessions for the entire parish are typically on the **First Wednesday** of every month from 6:30p to 7:45p. This year's FBC focus will be on the fourth part of the Catechism of the Catholic Church--"Christian Prayer." Prayer is an essential gift from God that we've been created for and called to participate in so that we may deepen our bond with Him who is Love. St. Teresa of Calcutta said "'Prayer makes your heart bigger, until it is capable of containing the gift of God himself. Prayer begets faith, faith begets love, and love begets service on behalf of the poor.'" Come to this year's FBC sessions for opportunities for yourself, and your family, to grow more deeply in love with God through prayer. You can find more information about FBC on the parish website, or by contacting Deacon Mark at [mhwhite@archomaha.org](mailto:mhwhite@archomaha.org). We will be following COVID-19 safety guidelines for the youth and adult sessions.

### ADULT FAITH FORMATION YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH

On Dec. 8, the 150th anniversary of the proclamation of St. Joseph as patron of the universal Church, Pope Francis declared a Year of St. Joseph, which officially began that day and ends on Dec. 8, 2021. What a wonderful time to gain plenary indulgences, to make a Consecration to St. Joseph, and to learn more about him. The following are available on FORMED - St. Joseph: Patron of the Universal Church by Dr. Mark Miravalle (listen); Joseph of Nazareth: The Story of the Man Closest to Christ (watch); The School of Nazareth: A Spiritual Journey with St. Joseph by Mark Hartfiel (read). Also suggested books: Consecration to St. Joseph: The Wonders of Our Spiritual Father by Fr. Donald Calloway, Meet Your Spiritual Father by Dr. Mark Miravalle, and The Life of Saint Joseph by Maria Cecilia Baij.

### WEEKLY SUNDAY HOLY HOUR.

Join your fellow parishioners in a weekly Holy Hour on **Sunday** evenings from **5 to 6p**. 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's 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. If you have any questions, contact Deacon Mark ([mhwhite@archomaha.org](mailto:mhwhite@archomaha.org)).



### LOVING LIFE MINISTRY

#### PADRE PIO WINDOW UPDATE

The LIFE Runners race to lead the funding of the St. Pio window has passed the halfway marker!!! Let's keep it going! We now have \$18,124. The total cost for the window is \$36,000. Thank you so much to all those who have already contributed! If every remaining St. Matthew family would now contribute only \$30, we would complete the race to fund the last window for our beautiful new church. What a witness this window will be to holy teamwork!! Our finish line date is January 29, 2021. Please mark cash contribution envelopes with "Padre Pio window" and make checks payable to LIFE Runners with "Padre Pio window" in the memo. Contributions can be put in the collection basket at Mass or sent to the parish or school office. St. Padre Pio, pray for us!

**CHRISTMAS GIFTS** If anyone would like to help our family of 5 and/or our single mom that we continue to support, please contact Janice Todd at 402-871-4600 or [janicetoddcmc@msn.com](mailto:janicetoddcmc@msn.com). Pampers diapers size 4, any diapers size 3 and 4, Enfamil formula, or Target/Wal-Mart gift cards are always helpful and gratefully appreciated. Thank you for remembering and praying for those in need.

**LIFE Runners** Not a teammate yet? Please join our St. Matthew Church or School LIFE Runners chapter at [liferunners.org](http://liferunners.org). Running is optional! ☺ Sign up, order your "REMEMBER The Unborn" jersey, then wear it in public to impact hearts and minds for saving lives.

**PRAYER VIGIL** Please mark your calendar for our next monthly prayer vigil on Fri, Jan 8, from 10:00-11:00am. We always encourage you to pray on any Thurs, Fri or Sat, when the Bellevue abortion facility is open (1002 W. Mission Ave). 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.

**Then He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and He was obedient to the. ~ Lk 2:51**

**Reflection:** Though He was conceived of a virgin, Jesus nevertheless lived as a son in a human family. The family is the sanctuary of life. The family, above all, is where life is to be welcomed no matter how fragile or inconvenient it may be. One of the many reasons why the Church sees abortion and euthanasia as pre-eminent issues is because these crimes are committed by one family member upon another.

**Prayer:** O Holy Family, bless our families and lead us to a Culture of Life. (Pro-Life Reflections for Every Day by Fr. Frank Pavone; visit [priestsforlife.org](http://priestsforlife.org) to sign up for daily Pro-Life Reflections emails)





Total Pledges:	282
Pledged:	\$2,297,981.00
Total Collected:	\$2,515,143.47

### CAMPUS WIDE IT/AV COMMITTEE:

The Parish is forming a committee to oversee the management of Information Technology, Audio and Visual systems across the campus to ensure we maintain our state of the art systems and have consistency across the school and new building systems. We are interested in individuals who have expertise in networking, video systems, audio systems and computer systems. Contact Rick Holdcroft, rholdcroft@cox.net, 402-350-4097 for more information.

### PATHWAY BRICKS

As an ongoing fundraiser, Pathway Bricks are being sold for \$100. These bricks will be placed in a special area. 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, under 'Pathway to Our Church'.

### CAMPUS WIDE LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE:

The Parish is forming a committee to oversee the maintenance of the landscape across the entire campus. If you enjoy working the ground, gardening, maintaining sprinklers, cutting grass, etc, consider joining this group. Contact Teresa Metzger, Greg Stoiber or Brian Carney for more information.

### FOUNDATION FAMILIES



Families who have made a pledge of at least \$1000 to the "Upon this Rock" Capital Campaign to build our new church, and have contributed at least \$1000 toward that pledge are our 'Foundation Families'! It is not too late to qualify, all one has to do is meet these criteria by the end of the campaign which is **December 31, 2020**. Foundation Families will be recognized by name, in the Narthex of the new building. Further, they will receive a special "Foundation Family" coin. If you have not received your coin, please stop by the parish office.

### 2019 COMMEMORATIVE COINS AVAILABLE



The new coins are now available for purchase in the parish office. Coins are \$10. Cases are \$1. *Artists: Elliott Cook, Side 1 & Rose Black, Side 2*

### 2018 COIN STILL AVAILABLE

There are still a few of our first annual commemorative coins available. All profits benefit the new church. Just stop in the parish office to purchase. \$10 per coin.

*Artist: Bryson Banks*



### INVITATION FOR YOU

It is true Christ is Risen, but you can live all your life as in a tomb: unhappy, afraid of the future, doubtful, slave of occasional pleasures, somewhat frustrated.

Or you can enjoy the new life of the RISEN CHRIST, assured by God's love, tasting Heaven, overcoming fears, savoring victory.

You don't believe it? Come and See! Catechesis for adults and youth (11 years and up) to rediscover your Baptismal treasure. Come and Listen to the Good News. Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7:00 pm in the church.

### BULLETIN REMINDER

If you have information that you would like posted in the bulletin, submit it by Tuesday at Noon, for the current weekend's bulletin. Email to:

Angelica [acmcfall@archomaha.org](mailto:acmcfall@archomaha.org) and Patsy [pahart@archomaha.org](mailto:pahart@archomaha.org).

### NEW SCRIPTURE STUDY!

Looking for a way to deepen your understanding of the Scripture readings you hear proclaimed at Mass each weekend? Join us for a lectionary-based study which incorporates lectio divina, Ignatian contemplation, and group discussion to reflect on the upcoming Sunday readings. Using the book, *Ponder*, from Little Rock Scripture Study, we will discover how the Word of God applies to our lives today.

This study will be conducted via Zoom on Tuesday evenings from 7-8:30 PM. Contact Susan Tracy via email: srtracy2@icloud.com, or by text message: 402-630-9938 in order to get a book (approximate cost \$20) and to be put on the Zoom invitation list. Join at any time during the year, and attend as often as you are able. All are welcome—no prior Bible study experience needed!

### ST. MATTHEW FOOD BANK UPDATE:

With the opening of our new church and new ***opportunities to serve our community, we have made*** some updates to our Food Bank program.

**One Food Bank wagon is located in the new church (positioned near the restrooms)**

**One Food Bank wagon remains in the east school commons entrance.**

We have begun a direct support effort for the Mater Filius House located in north Bellevue. There is a special collection box located near the school commons Food Bank wagon with contact/delivery information and a wish list. A Mater Filius wish list is also attached to the Food Bank wagon in the church if you desire to purchase those items. A volunteer with consolidate items into the collection box in the school (To keep the church uncluttered). If anyone would like to assist in deliveries or organization of the Food Bank program, please contact Scott Eversole at 402-216-1508.

### ST. MARY'S COLLECTING YOUR OLD CHRISTMAS CARDS

We are looking for the fronts of Christmas cards again! If you would like to re-cycle your Christmas cards, please drop them off at the St. Mary's church office. We will collect the cards as long as there is an interest in donating. Advent Blessings to all!

### FR. MCGIVNEY CANONIZATION ARTICLE

Father Michael J. McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus in 1882 as a mutual aid society. He wanted to provide financial support for families having lost their primary breadwinner. He also wanted to ensure that Catholic men could remain strong in their faith. Now 138 years later, his legacy continues to inspire the nearly two million Knights today. Father McGivney died at the age of 38 from influenza thought to be a strain of coronavirus. Fr. McGivney was beatified to sainthood Oct. 31, 2020.

Fr. McGivney, the first American parish priest to be beatified, has long been a hero of working-class Catholics. His first miracle, recognized by the Vatican, occurred in 2015 where an unborn child was cured of a life-threatening case of fetal hydrops. The parents were given no hope. They prayed to Father McGivney and the baby, Mikey Schachle, is now 5 years old.

A second miracle is needed to advance Father McGivney's cause for canonization to Sainthood. We offer this novena to support and advance the cause for sainthood for Blessed Fr. Michael J. McGivney. The novena to be said at the end of the rosary each week can be found below.

### PRAYER FOR THE CANONIZATION OF FATHER MICHAEL J. MCGIVNEY

God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called our priest, father, Michael J. McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his body which is the Church. Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and the outcast. We humbly ask that you glorify your venerable servant Father Michael J. McGivney on earth according to the design of your holy will. Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present (here make your request). Through Christ our Lord. Amen

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be



**HOLY DAY  
MASS SCHEDULE**

Christmas Masses

**Thursday, Dec. 24 ~ 4:00 pm  
6:00 pm**

**Friday, Dec. 25 ~ 10:00 am**

Solemnity of Mary (New Year's)

**Thursday, Dec 31 – 5:00 pm**

**Friday, Jan 1 – 10:00 am**

Individual Confession

**Saturdays 4:15 pm**

**Wednesdays 6:00 pm**

**Sundays after 11:00 am Mass**

**CALENDAR LOTTERY  
WINNERS  
CONGRATULATIONS!**



Dec	13	Russ Rolfzen	\$50
Dec	14	Jennifer Barrett	\$25
Dec	15	Ethan Tomlinson	\$25
Dec	16	Laura Ortiz	\$25
Dec	17	Rachael Stringer	\$75

**Pope Francis' Birthday Special**

Dec	18	Denise Fricke	\$25
Dec	19	Shari & Miguel Riere	\$25

*A check will automatically be mailed to all winners,  
There is no need to claim your prize.*

**ST. MATTHEW CALENDAR LOTTERY**

See Ed Janeczko in the Narthex or purchase your lottery calendar tickets in the Parish/School office anytime. This is a fundraiser for St. Matthew School and Parish. 365 daily prizes and 12 special monthly prizes, awarded for each day/month of 2021. Prizes range from \$25 to \$500. Cost is \$25.00 per Ticket. Winners need not be present to win. Drawing will be held NLT December 31, 2020. All ticket holders have 377 chances to win, as each ticket is eligible for each and every daily and monthly prize throughout the year. Sales will continue through the late December 2020 or the date of drawing. No more than 1,500 tickets will be sold; late entries will be returned. As of December 14th, we have sold 582 tickets.

**SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL**

December 31, 2020 ends the moratorium on rent collections for tenants. Nationwide, as many as 19 million renters are facing eviction. Our greatest concern is not so much the numbers of neighbors asking for, but the amount they require to avoid eviction. Although renters have been allowed not to pay, the land-lords have been assessing penalty fees on a daily basis that have been accruing. We are not sure how this will all work. Somehow, the Lord will provide; He always does.

Imagine how Mary felt at the birth of Jesus: excited, awed, frightened. Deep faith was her light in the darkness, for Jesus was born during the night of the year when darkness is the longest.

**Your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul has brought light into the darkness surrounding the heart of those living in poverty bringing them the real, lasting, and deep joy of Christmas. Thank You!**

We have Poor Boxes available in the Narthex where contributions can be made. Thank you for your generosity. As always, we appreciate your continued support in our efforts. For questions about the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul, please contact the church office and one of our Vincentians will respond.

**ATTENTION PARISHIONERS**

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE  
INFORMATION FROM ST. MATTHEW PARISH?**

EMAIL: We make every attempt to limit our emails to relevant information that affects all parishioners. Call the parish office at 402-292-7418 or email plbanks@archomaha.org to receive the parish emails.

Please note that our system allows one (1) email address per family for general information. You may enter additional individual emails for each family member in order to receive information that is more specific, e.g. parishioners who are liturgical ministers may each have their own email address listed.

INSTANT NOTIFICATIONS: You may select specific organizations to receive instant messages from through our parish app. Some examples of notification groups are: Daily Mass Schedule, Set-Up/Take Down Crew, Prayer Warriors, Religious Ed, Security Team etc. See our website for more information or stop in the office for help downloading the app, and setting up your specific notifications.

**DIVINE MERCY IMAGE**

Father Leo would like to share this video with you. It is called "Let's Seal the Doorposts". It is an encouraging message to post the Divine Mercy Image on your front door. Here is the link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ot3tVMXnOzI>

