

ST. MATTHEW THE EVANGELIST PARISH



"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and everyone that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit." — Jn 15:1-2

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

MASSES THIS WEEKEND

Sat. May 1 5:00pm – St. Matthew Families
Sun. May 2 9:00am – Braeden Banks (birthday)
Banks Family
11:00am Ferd Metzger
& Debbie Tewes

MASSES THIS WEEK

Tues. May 4 9:00am – Tim Kissel
Wed. May 5 9:00am – Bill Rausch †
Thur. May 6 9:00am – Ruth Martinick †
Fri. May 7 9:00am – Don Maitland †

MASSES NEXT WEEKEND

Sat. May 8 5:00pm – Gary Willers †
Sun. May 9 9:00am – Isabel Chong Ku †
11:00am Msgr. Tom Furlong
(Birthday – 94 years young May 7)

MASS INTENTION CHANGES

Due to Archdiocesan policy, we can only take Mass Intentions within a year, ie., we accept Mass intentions April to March 31; then May to April 30, etc. We may also send Mass intentions to the Archdiocese to have them sent to missions. Another option is we may send to Msgr. Furlong who will distribute the masses to other retired priests. The only stipulation is the Mass 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.

SECOND COLLECTION SCHEDULE

All checks made out to St. Matthew

May 8 St. Vincent de Paul
May 15 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.



CALENDAR LOTTERY WINNERS

CONGRATULATIONS!

April 25	Louise & Jim McCoy	\$ 50
April 26	Therese Wilde	\$ 25
April 27	Rich & Mary Lomax	\$ 25
April 28	Tom & Cindy Brazeal	\$ 25
April 29	Joe Bockman	\$ 25
April 30	Dan Sarah Beaudoin	\$ 25
April 30	Ariel Tompsett	\$ 87
May 1	Jenny Medara	\$ 25

A check will automatically be mailed to all winners.

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.

FAITH DIRECT

Consider e-giving. Visit 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.



Welcome back to Mass! The dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass will end effective Pentecost weekend, **May 22-23, 2021**. Catholics who are not otherwise excused from the obligation will need to attend Mass that weekend. The faithful who, because of sickness, disability or some other serious cause, are prevented from taking part, should as best they can unite themselves with the celebration of Sunday Mass from afar, by means of the readings and prayers for that day from the Missal, as well as through their desire for the Eucharist. **Masks will still be required. Part of the church pews will still be roped off while the rest of the pews will be open for sitting.**



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 7:00 PM in the new church administration conference room. All Knights are invited and welcome to attend the Members Meetings. If you are not receiving emails with general council information, contact Dave Boone to ensure your email address is current. If you need information to become a Knight, contact Dave Boone, Grand Knight, 402-291-1493, dbruceb1@gmail.com or Membership Director, Dale Bauermeister, 402-658-9636, or email dbauermeister3@gmail.com.

NOTE: Until further notice, monthly Officer and Member Meetings are held via Zoom.

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Need a ride to Church?

Contact Butch Songcuan 402-933-1646

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Columbian Squires Chief Counselor

Phil Earsley 402-214-7877



WWG

WOMEN WORKING FOR GOD

Meetings will resume again in the Fall. See you then.

SCRIP GIFT CARDS

Rebate: \$56.21

Thank you for your support of our parish scrip program. Order Scrip online. <https://shop.shopwithscrip.com/> Parish Office also has scrip on hand and ordering every two weeks.



EUCCHARIST 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 BUELLDONNAJM@GMAIL.COM or Phil McEvoy PRMCEVOY@GMAIL.COM if you would like to participate regularly or substitute as needed.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Send Msgr. Tom Furlong a birthday card! His birthday is May 7! He will be a young 94!! 7323 Shirley Street, Apt 116, Omaha, NE 68124



JOB OPPORTUNITY

St. Matthew School is looking for help next school year in the cafeteria. Hours will be 10:30 am to 12:30 pm each day that school is in session. If interested, please contact the Principal, Angie Palmer, for more details. 402-291-203

SCHOOL YEAR 2021-2022

ENROLLMENT NOW OPEN

Enrollment for the 21-22 school year is open for all families. Go to stmattschool.com to register or contact the school – 402-291-2030.

NEW SCRIPTURE STUDY!

This is Year B in our liturgical cycle, which focuses on the Gospel according to Mark. It is believed to be the earliest of the four gospels, and it is the shortest. The evangelists Matthew and Luke incorporated almost all of Mark's gospel into their own. What does Mark's gospel have to tell us about Jesus, and why is it important to hear this unique perspective?

We explore these questions (and more) in a Scripture study every Tuesday evening via Zoom. Using the book Ponder from Little Rock Scripture, we pray with the Sunday readings and listen to what God is revealing to us. Our prayer method is Lectio Divina, but we have also used Ignatian contemplation, and our own life experiences, along with lively and life-giving discussion. If you would like to join, email me at srtracy2@icloud.com 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 7-8:30 pm, but you are welcome to "drop in" when you are available.

Have you wanted to do a Bible study, but don't feel that you know where to start? Do you find your knowledge about the Bible is lacking? Or maybe you have experienced trying to "study" Scripture, but haven't found something that gives a Catholic perspective? I want to form a group to do an "Introduction to the Bible" study. It would be once a week (via Zoom) for 6 weeks. Email me at srtracy2@icloud.com if you are interested.

ASCENSION OF THE LORD

MASS TIMES

Wednesday, May 12 6:00pm

Thursday, May 13 9:00am

6:00pm



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, September through May. 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. We will be following COVID-19 safety guidelines for the youth and adult sessions.

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. Contact Deacon Mark (mhwhite@archomaha.org) with questions.

SUNDAY PREP BIBLE STUDY

Join us for one hour of food, fun, history, and preparation toward understanding Sunday readings. This is held Wednesdays, 6:30 pm, in the CSR conference room. To attend, come to the southwest corner at the back of the church. Come in the doors by the sign "Parish Office". Deacon Tom Deall facilitates the bible study.



LOVING LIFE MINISTRY

LIFE Runners LIFE Runners is the largest Pro-Life team in the world with now over 16,000 teammates. Join us at liferunners.org, order your "REMEMBER The Unborn" jersey, then wear it in public to impact hearts and minds for saving lives. The LIFE Runners Daily Devotions: All In Christ for Pro-Life! book is available on Amazon. Great for daily reflection and inspiration. Get one for yourself and give as gifts to others!

PRAYER VIGIL Mark your calendar for our next vigil Fri, May 14, from 10:00-11:00am. We always encourage you to pray 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.

"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> for more info and to order them.

And while they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him.
~ Gen 4:8

Reflection: The first murder in history was within the immediate family, brother killing brother. One of the reasons abortion and euthanasia are preeminent issues today is that those forms of killing likewise take place by one family member upon another.

The family is the sanctuary of life. It should be the safest place.

Prayer: *Lord, have mercy on the families of our world. Fill them with the spirit of welcome and love, nurture and protection.* (Pro-Life Reflections for Every Day by Fr. Frank Pavone; visit priestsforlife.org to sign up for daily Pro-Life Reflections emails)

OUR LADY OF FATIMA STATUE

A family in our parish has graciously loaned us a statue of Our Lady of Fatima. It has been a part of their family for over 30 years, has traveled to many members of the family in times of need and many prayers have been answered! You may sign out the statue from the Parish Office M-F from 9-4 or Phil McEvoy at prmcevoy@gmail.com or 402-689-6457.



PARISH LENDING LIBRARY

The library is on the left side of the sanctuary, second door on the left. It is open weekdays during office hours and on weekends before and after masses. There is a sign out sheet for the books and CDs on the table. We suggest you try to return the books/CDs within 3 weeks and then note your return date on the line where you signed out. There is a blue box for the return items. Our space is limited so we only accept donations of adult catholic books. (Please no pamphlets or children's books.) Stop by and peruse our large selection of books & CDs.

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'.

NEW PROGRAM DRIVE THRU Fresh Produce Pantry!

Wednesdays from 4:30pm-6pm we are providing a drive through fresh produce pantry in the South parking lot. This will continue through May. Aside from produce, a gallon of milk is also provided. If you are experiencing food insecurity, join us on Wednesdays. A mask is required, no sign-up or ID verification is required. Share this with others who may be experiencing this concern. This program is through Whispering Roots.

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. A sign up sheet is in the Narthex for **Planter care** or **Island beautification**. Contact Teresa Metzger, Greg Stoiber or Brian Carney for more information.




COMMUNITY OUTREACH MINISTRY

April Collection:

Breakfast items, cereal, coffee, powdered cream and sugar, oatmeal pancake mix. Any clothes and shoes gently used. 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. April donations of 53 pounds of food was taken to Mater Felius and 182 pounds of food and clothing to the Stephen Center last week.

UPCOMING KNIGHTS EVENTS.....

May 8-9: Mother's Day Roses.

 Roses will be handed out after this weekend masses to support the on-going efforts of Essential Pregnancy Services (EPS). If you accept a rose, please consider making a cash donation to support EPS. Their FREE services are provided to women without regard to age, race, income, nationality, religious affiliation, disability, or other arbitrary circumstances. In keeping with their non-profit, pro-woman mission, ***EPS does not provide or refer for abortion services.***



May 16: Pancake Breakfast in the Commons: Have you missed us? Please join us for our first full sit-in and eat-in breakfast in over a year after each mass on Sunday. Your free will donations will support our Scholarship fund where we help to encourage on-going Catholic education for our St Matthew students.



May 23: Quarterly Knight's Mass 9:00am We are returning to our practice of holding a Knight's Mass each quarter. This mass will coincide with the lifting of the dispensation for Catholics to attend mass in person. Please, help us to celebrate this joyous occasion on Pentecost Sunday. .

BAKER'S COMMUNITY REWARD PROGRAM

We received \$731.42 for last quarter's rebate!

Thank you to the 168 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

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



GARAGE SALE! SPRING CLEANING!

St. Matthew is planning a garage sale the third week of June. Help is needed!! Great opportunity for everyone to help if only for one hour. ☺ Also great for service hours for high school students! Contact Mary Kay Marshall, 402-506-4877.

Keep your items you do not want and save for the garage sale. We will take them the week of the sale. Please be sure they are clean, useable items.

Drop off dates: June 13, 14, 15

Dates of Sale: June 17, 18, 19

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH "He [St. Joseph] is patron of vocations, so pray to him for the grace of fulfilling your duties well and of directing your children in their path of life. Inspire them with devotion to St. Joseph. It will bring them happiness." ~ St. Peter Julian Eymard (St. Joseph Gems by Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC)

PREP for CONSECRATION to JESUS through MARY with 33 Days to Morning Glory - Those preparing individually begin reading Week 4 - St. John Paul II, May 1. Watch 33 Days to Morning Glory DVD - Week 3: St. Teresa of Calcutta on FORMED to recap Week 3.

GET SIGNED UP FOR YOUR FREE FORMED ACCOUNT!

Registering for FORMED is easier than ever:

1. Go to formed.org/signup
2. Select "Sign up as a parishioner" then enter "St. Matthew The Evangelist" (12210 S. 36th St., Ste A Bellevue, NE)
3. Enter your name and email address
4. Check that email account for a link to begin using FORMED.

How to access your FREE FORMED account on a phone:

It's easy with email authentication! First, you open your email account on your phone. Then open formed.org and select "sign in" in the top right. Then type in your email address and go check your email which will contain a new email with a button to click to confirm. And you're in!

Enjoy the Catholic faith On Demand. Thousands of movies, programs, audio talks and books instantly. Wonderful content for kids and families.



ST. MATTHEW WWG SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM 2021

The Women Working for God Scholarship will provide a \$500 scholarship for an 8th grade student who currently attends St. Matthew School and/or are St. Matthew parishioners who will attend a Catholic High School in 2021-2022. The WWG seeks to promote Catholic education and further our objective to encourage more members to serve in parish ministries. Each student must complete an application form and an essay on **"How a Catholic education will prepare me for service in parish ministry."**

Application forms are available at the St. Matthew School office, CCD office and the Parish Administration office. The entry must be returned by Friday, May 7 to any of these same offices. The scholarship certificate will be awarded in May.

The essay must be a minimum of one page and a maximum of two pages.

It must be typed, double space and use 12pt font.

It will be judged on the quality and development of your ideas, and effective use of English composition skills.

**PUZZLE**
Unscramble words from today's Gospel:

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joined	pray	gardener
branch	fruit	clean

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v i n e

Fareth

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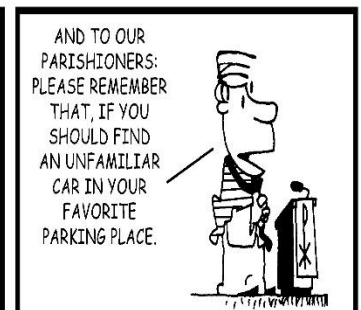
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**MISSION**
Read Galatians 5:22-23 with your family. Write down the nine different kinds of fruit that will grow from your faith, when you stay connected to Jesus.

5th SUNDAY OF EASTER

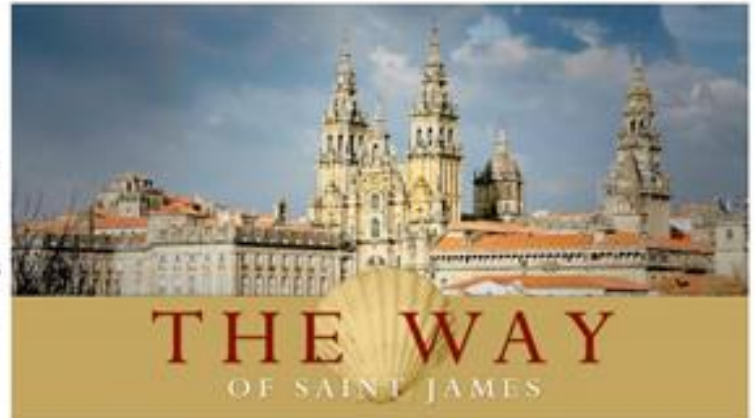


May 2, 2021

WATCH

THE WAY OF ST. JAMES

This documentary follows the journey of several pilgrims who differ in culture and religious faith but are united in their journey across the Camino de Santiago. Each of them is traveling toward the shrine of St. James the Apostle, whose feast day we celebrate this week.



The
ACTS OF THE APOSTLES



ACTS OF THE APOSTLES WITH MARK HART

The feast day of Saints Philip and James reminds us of the impact that the Apostles made on the whole world. With Philip, James, and all the Apostles in mind, join Mark Hart in this refresher on the Book of Acts.

LEARN

LISTEN

REACHING OUT TO TODAY'S CULTURE BY BISHOP ROBERT BARRON

Saints Philip and James each lived extraordinary lives of missionary zeal. In this insightful talk, Bishop Barron shares his advice on how to live similar lives of mission within a culture dominated by media and misconceptions about faith.



Our parish has a FORMED subscription.
To set up your free account visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.

<u>Fiscal Year 2020–21 Financial Report to Parish–July 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021</u>			
<u>Parish & School day-to-day Operating Funds–Monthly & Fiscal YTD</u>		<u>Mar 21</u>	<u>Jul 20–Mar 21</u>
Total Income	Faith direct/envelopes, cash/coin, registration/tuition, fundraisers, etc.	\$151,554	\$1,178,603
Total Expense	Payroll, utilities, maintenance/repairs, services, supplies, admin, etc.	\$113,124	\$1,006,626
Net Revenue Over (Under) Expenses		\$38,429	\$171,977

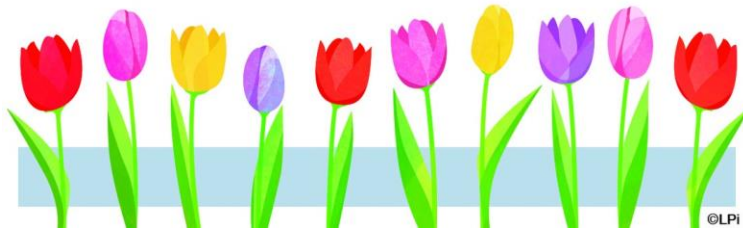
<u>Continuing Our Journey (COJ)–Monthly & Fiscal YTD</u>		<u>Mar 21</u>	<u>Jul 20–Mar 21</u>
Total Income	Revenue from COJ Fundraising Campaign Pledges & Contributions	\$143,959	\$364,786
Total Expense	COJ Expenses to Operate New Church & Pay its Mortgage	\$31,120	\$63,171
Net Revenue Over (Under) Expenses		\$112,839	\$301,615

<u>One Time Transactions–Monthly & Fiscal YTD</u>		<u>Mar 21</u>	<u>Jul 20–Mar 21</u>
Revenue from Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan		\$0	\$187,800
Unbudgeted Expense for COJ Fundraising Campaign Consultant Fee		\$0	\$75,000
Net Revenue Over (Under) Expenses		\$0	\$112,800

TOTAL Net Revenue Over (Under) Expenses		\$151,269	\$586,392
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Other Information

- March 2021 contributions from faith direct/envelopes, cash/coin, holy days, etc. totaled \$67,699.
- March 2021 mortgage loan payments to Archdiocese & Security National Bank together totaled \$22,582.
- March 2021 Security National Bank & Archdiocese new church loan amounts added together totaled \$8,400,696.



NEW PLANTERS CARE

Calling all St. Matthew parishioners who love being outdoors! We are looking for volunteers to 'adopt' the new red square planters in the front and back of our church. The Landscape Committee will be filling the planters with some beautiful new plants in the next few weeks. This will really dress up our entrance doors! The Landscape Committee is looking for singles, couples, families, students needing service hours to volunteer for 1-2 hours per week to keep the planters looking good all summer. If we have enough volunteers, we would cover the entire summer and volunteers would only be responsible for one week per month.

START DATE: Saturday, May 15

END DATE: Saturday, Oct 30

TIME: approximately 1-2 hours per week, depending on weather

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- pull weeds in the planters, dead head blooms
- water the plants
- inform Landscape Committee if plants need to be replaced
- general upkeep



ISLAND BEAUTIFICATION

The Landscaping Committee also needs help keeping up with the weeds in the 7 islands. Weeds will have to be dug up to maintain the beauty of the church for the summer/fall. Volunteers are also needed for this much needed ministry.

A sign up sheet will be provided in the Narthex for either **Planter Care** or **Island Beautification** or contact:

Teresa Metzger 402-212-0513 or Barbara Melvin 402-292-1319

