



Saint Matthew Church
The PULSE

December 17, 2017

Detroit, Michigan



St. Matthew Parish Communal Penance Service
~ Sacrament of Reconciliation ~
Monday, December 18, 7:00 p.m.

Readings for the Week of December 17, 2017

Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54
[Is 61:10b]/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28
Monday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 [cf. 7]/
Mt 1:18-25
Tuesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17
[cf. 8]/Lk 1:5-25
Wednesday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 7c and
10b]/Lk 1:26-38
Thursday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12,
20-21 [1a; 3a]/Lk 1:39-45
Friday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd [cf.
1a]/Lk 1:46-56
Saturday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14
[cf. Lk 21:28]/Lk 1:57-66
Next Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5,
27, 29 [2a]/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38



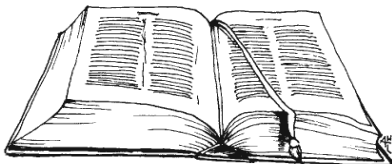
Third Sunday of Advent

"There is one ... coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie." Untying sandal straps was no prestigious job. In the days of John the Baptist, those straps would have been especially unpleasant to deal with. Besides the usual odors that accompany sockless leather footwear, there would have been the grime and dirt from the sandy roads and paths that swirled around the people who went everywhere on foot. Taking off someone's shoes upon their arrival was the task of the lowly servants.

So when John says he's unworthy of doing this task for the "one who is coming after me," he is putting himself in a very humble position. And rightly so.

John realizes that the Christ-the Anointed One, the Messiah-is so far above him, so far above any of us, that we are truly unworthy of him. Indeed, the Son of God is not just the greatest of men; he is God-made-man and in his presence we most appropriately should bow in humble homage. Yet this God chose to stoop down to our human level and walk among us. He chose to get his sandals dirty. And still today he chooses to allow us to encounter him as a friend and companion.

But as John reminds us by his example, this encounter with the Lord is not the result of our own merits or accomplishments. We are sinners who stand in need of Christ's help. But thanks be to God, he is always willing to extend this help to us. As St. Paul says in today's epistle, "May the God of peace make you perfectly holy." Indeed it is God who does the perfecting, not us by our own power. So let us approach the Lord this Advent season with a spirit of hopeful humility, trusting that God alone can make us worthy of welcoming his Son.



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A Family Perspective

by Bud Ozar

Today's Gospel reports, "there is one among you whom you do not recognize." It is hard to believe Christ is present in a family with crazy schedules, suppers that start too late and end too early, cars that don't start, misunderstandings, frustrations, piles of laundry, unmatched socks, and stretched food budgets. The list is endless. The words, "The Lord is with you," are not a hope, they are a fact.



Third Week of Advent Prayer

This joyful Sunday in Advent (Gaudete Sunday) is represented by rose or pink instead of the penitential purple color. Each night during the third week, the mother of the family (or one designated by the gathering) lights the pink candle as well as the previously lit purple candles after the following prayer has been said by the father or leader.

*O Lord, we beg You incline Your ear to our prayers
and enlighten the darkness of our minds
by the grace of Your visitation.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen*

The three candles are extinguished immediately following the meal.



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RECONCILIATION SERVICE

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2017 ~ 7:00 PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2017

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS ~ 10:00 PM

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2017

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS ~ 10:00 AM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2017

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY ~ 10:00AM

MONDAY, JANUARY 1, 2018

**NEW YEAR'S DAY
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, MOTHER OF GOD
10:00 AM**

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2018

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD ~ 10:00 AM

St. Matthew Parish ~ Happenings

Saturday, December 16, 4:30 pm, and Sunday, December 17, 10 am Masses, respectively - Blessing of Expectant Parents

Sunday, December 17, 10 am Mass - Introduction of our RCIA Candidates

Monday, December 18, 2 pm - Mass at St. Anne's Convalescent Center

Monday, December 18, 7 pm - Parish Communal Penance Service

CSA Minute ~ Sharing Christ



CTND - The Catholic Television Network of Detroit (CTND) is featuring programming this month focused on the true meaning of Christmas, helping families throughout the Archdiocese of Detroit truly prepare for the birth of our savior, Jesus Christ.

Thanks to your gifts to the Catholic Services Appeal, CTND has broadcasted faith-filled programming since 1985 that informs, educates, inspires, and entertains to 900,000 homes in southeast Michigan. Since 2011, CTND has been an affiliate of Boston-based CatholicTV Network.

CTND's program schedule can be found on the Archdiocese of Detroit website and in The Michigan Catholic newspaper.

**COME,
Lord Jesus!**



St. Ann's Convalescent Center

This is the time to put your cash/check donation in the present-box on Mary's altar for the residents of St. Anne's Convalescent Center. Your donation will provide a "gift for the house" to be enjoyed by all the residents of St. Anne's.

*Thank you for your thoughtfulness
and generosity to the shut-ins
of our community...*

The Giving Tree

Return all toys and clothing gifts by December 17th. However, it's not too late! If you have a gift to donate, please drop it off at the rectory on Monday or Tuesday. These gifts make Christmas a little more special for a child in need and benefit the families that our St. Vincent de Paul Conference has helped during this past year.

Suggestions: pull toys, plush toys, games, coloring books and crayons, puzzles, balls, sports equipment, dolls, trucks, and cars. (non-violent toys only, please!). Remember to put the articles in bags, boxes, or some type of covering (no wrapping paper). If you would like to purchase a gift card for a child ages from 13 to 16, that would be much appreciated. **PLEASE ATTACH TAGS TO GIFTS.**

Your generosity in the past has always been an inspiration as you remember those that are less fortunate among us!

Also, if you are interested in helping our St. Vincent de Paul volunteers sort and package the gifts, please call the rectory or talk to Dennis Costello after Mass.



Welcome

*Please welcome
our newest parish members.*

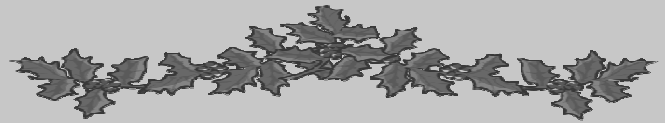
John Borota of St. Clair Shores

Bonitta Swajkowski of Detroit

Barbara Tuohy of Detroit

*We hope they find their
spiritual home here at St. Matthew's.*

*May my heart always keep watch for you,
Lord Jesus ~ St. Peter Canisius*



Eastside Free Legal Clinic

The Eastside Free Legal Clinic is an outreach of the Southwest Detroit Immigrant and Refugee Center located at 15491 Maddelein (Fisher Academy). They are a 501c3 entity approved by the Ford Fund.

Legal advice is provided by licensed, experienced attorneys and is available without appointment for landlord/tenant issues, public benefits, employment discrimination, family law, criminal law, and other legal issues. For more information, please call 313-437-1550.



**Kroger Community Rewards Program
St. Matthew's Quarterly Reward
Between 7-31 and 10-30-2017**

\$265.59

Thank you to those 61 households who shopped at Kroger during this last period. Your support has benefited St. Matthew Parish. If you are interested in joining this unique group of shoppers, please visit www.krogercommunityrewards.com, follow the prompts, and designate St. Matthew as the organization to benefit from your purchases. Our Kroger Rewards Number is **#84736**. **We need your participation!**

ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH DIRECTORY

6021 Whittier, Detroit 48224-2637
Rectory Office: (313) 884-4470
Rectory Fax: (313) 884-4276
E-mail : stmatthew27@aol.com
Website: www.stmatthewdetroit.com
Office Hours: Monday through Friday
10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Rev. Duane R. Novelly ~ *Pastor*
Rick Cucchi ~ *Music Minister / Choir Director*
Joe Balistreri ~ *Saturday Organist*
David Troiano ~ *Weekday Organist*

CLERICAL STAFF

Marilyn Lynn ~ *Secretary*
Denise Balogh ~ *Bookkeeper*

PARISH COUNCIL

Vaughn Adams ~ *President (sede vacante)*
Bill Zuerblis ~ *Financial Council Chair*
Dennis Costello ~ *Evangelization Chair*
Patrick Lusch ~ *Member at Large / Webmaster*
Patricia Camazzola-Godoshian, John Dunstone,
Bryan Jones ~ *Members at Large*
Sharon & Jerry Mielke ~ *VPC Representatives*

PARISH ORGANIZATION

Dennis Costello ~ *St. Vincent de Paul / Christian Service*
Dan McBride ~ *St. Vincent de Paul / Christian Service*

WEEKEND/WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday	4:30 p.m.
Sunday	10:00 a.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday	9:00 a.m.
Reconciliation	By Appointment
Holydays	9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.

In your prayers...

Please remember those in our parish and in our families who are sick or in need of our prayers.

Chuck Schuster
Bienvenido Fajardo
Lolita Dorado
Rita Moroni
Albert Fajardo
Virginia Fajardo
Madeline O'Neill
Regina Butler
Kurt Beghuyn
Rose Colombo
Laura Bush-Terry
Sebastiano Stellino
Allen McKee
Teresita Covacha
Janet Law
Joe Escorial
Richard Gargulinski
Joe Petrylka
Roger Sharpe
Sr. Judy Seefeld, OP

Rev. Robert Allman
Nanette Ferreria
Dorothy Kurrie
Anthony Mastronardi
Eduardo Fajardo
Kathy Bush
Peggy Bates
Glenda Johnson
Daniel Adams
John Allman
Robert Stark
Stephanie Smith
Alice Mocerri
Emma Langan

Ministers, Lectors, and Servers

EUCCHARISTIC

MINISTERS

LECTORS

SERVERS

Saturday, December 23, 2017, 4:30 p.m.

Janet Bielman
Janet Law

Julie Smith

Ian Campbell
Kiley Dulapa

Sunday, December 24, 2017, 10:00 a.m.

Marilyn Lynn
Beverly Goll
Debra Nieddu
Joseph Nieddu
Veronica Obianwu
Greg Redman
Jean Solomon

William Zuerblis

Lauren Gross
Mary Pocius
Julia Zuerblis

Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24, 2017, 10:00 p.m.

Marilyn Lynn
Beverly Goll
Linda Holster
Michael Holster
Debra Nieddu
Joseph Nieddu
Greg Redman

William Zuerblis
Liz Smith

Ian Campbell
John Smith
Mary Pocius
Julia Zuerblis

Christmas Day, December 25, 2017, 10:00 a.m.

Janet Bielman
Patti Adams
Dorothy Brooks
Marilyn Lynn
Jean Solomon
Kristen Stark
Marie Vortkamp

Bill Ridella
Liz Foley-Dunstone

Patrick Dunstone
Mary E. Dunstone
Kiley Dulapa
Lauren Gross

Mlass Schedule

Saturday, December 16th - Vigil: 3rd Sunday of Advent

4:30 p.m. - Laura Bush-Terry

Sunday, December 17th - 3rd Sunday of Advent

10:00 a.m. - Laura Bush-Terry, Judy Stark, Joseph Chinnici (2nd Anniv), Lincoln Chrysler, Cecilia Pilette, Robert Hanshaw (1st Anniv)

Monday, December 18th -

Tuesday, December 19th -

9:00 a.m. - Laura Bush-Terry

Wednesday, December 20th -

9:00 a.m. - Laura Bush-Terry

Thursday, December 21st - St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Friday, December 22nd -

9:00 a.m. - Laura Bush-Terry

Saturday, December 23rd - Vigil: 4th Sunday of Advent

4:30 p.m. - Laura Bush-Terry, Dick Pint (18th Anniv), William and Sylvia Law

Sunday, December 24th - 4th Sunday of Advent

10:00 a.m. - Laura Bush-Terry, Judy Stark, William H. Gracey, Bill and Betty Cummings, Fred Schaldenbrand, Albino Martinelli (31st Anniv)



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