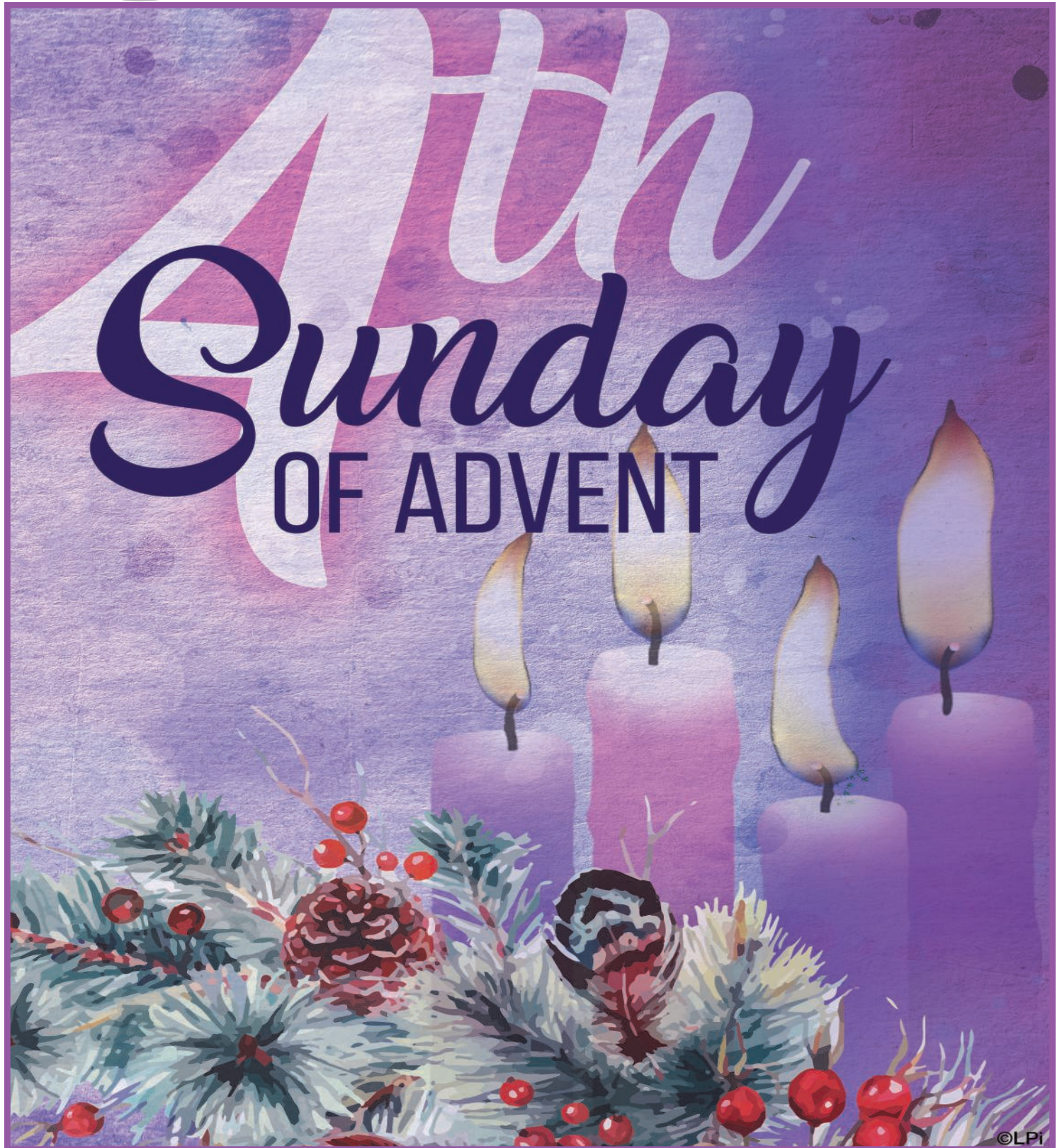




Saint Matthew Church
The PULSE

December 24, 2017

Detroit, Michigan



Readings for the Week of December 24, 2017

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

Monday:
Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 [2a]/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25
Midnight: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 [Lk 2:11]/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14
Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20
Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3c]/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

Tuesday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17 [6]/Mt 10:17-22

Wednesday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Thursday: 1 Jn 1:5--2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18

Friday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35

Saturday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40

Next Sunday: Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3 or Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9, [7a, 8a] or Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19 or Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40



"Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus." Today is the last Sunday of the Advent season, and we hear in the Gospel the anticipation of the feast we will celebrate in just one day. Christmas is coming! Jesus is on his way!

We have had weeks to prepare for this momentous occasion, and now we are on the very verge of its arrival. The children in our midst can hardly contain their excitement as they wait to wake up on Christmas morning. The thrill of this coming moment is meant to remind us of the joy and anticipation we should all feel as we await the coming of Christ. Yes, Christmas is a great feast, but there is more here than a remembrance of the past or a fabulous party in the present. There is a looking-ahead as well. We celebrate as we anticipate.

Much as Mary must have waited in wonder during the nine months of her pregnancy, we wait in hopeful expectation as Christians looking forward to being reunited with our Savior. Our future is full of hope. The deflating melancholy that afflicts many people after a holiday runs its course need not be the experience of the Christian waiting for Christ. We are always looking forward to something! There is never a moment when we have no cause for joy. Our lives are lived in a kind of unending advent as we stand in watchful waiting.

Let us remember this as we enter into our Christmas Eve gatherings and festivities. As we join with family and friends to share in the good things of this life, may we carry with us the joy of knowing that even better things lie in store for us who welcome the infant Jesus into our hearts and homes.



Fourth Week of Advent Prayer

The father of the household or the designated leader for the group lights all four candles in proper sequence during the fourth week after saying the following prayer.

*O Lord, stir up Your power, we pray You and come;
and with great might help us
that with the help of Your grace,
Your merciful forgiveness may hasten
what our sins impede.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Candles can be replaced as necessary during the Advent Season without re-blessing the wreath. Replace the purple/pink candles with white candles for the Christmas Season.

HOLIDAY *Mass Schedule*

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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

Sunday, December 24, 10 pm Mass - Christmas Eve

Monday, December 25, 10 am Mass - Christmas Day

Tuesday, December 26 - No Mass, Parish Rectory Office Closed

Monday, January 1, 2018 - Feast of the Solemnity of Mary, New Year's Day

Tuesday, January 2, 2018 - No Mass, Parish Rectory Office Closed

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...*



*Oh! Come,
Let us Adore Him!
Christ, the Lord!*

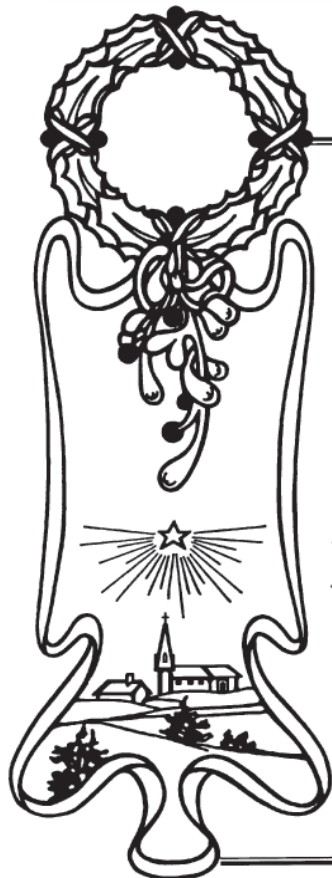
We Wish You All

A glad and peaceful
Christmastide

With all its memories sweet;
May hope and love and
joy be yours

With kindly friends to greet;
The echo of the angel's song,
The star's clear guiding light,

The **Christ** child in your
heart and home,
To make this
Christmas bright.



CSA Minute ~ Sharing Christ



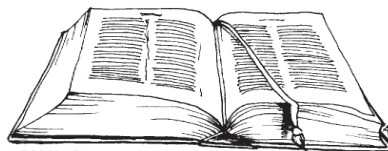
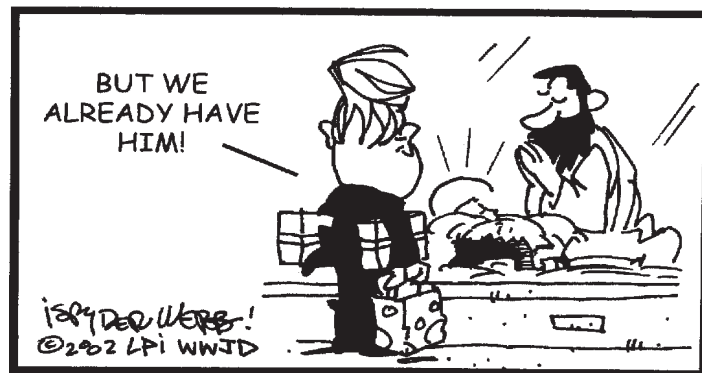
Christmas - While the spirit of generosity is most evident at Christmas, Christian stewards in the Archdiocese of Detroit share their gifts year-round through the Catholic Services Appeal.

The Archdiocese is grateful for the nearly 64,000 faithful who pledged \$21.9 million to the 2017 Catholic Services Appeal. CSA gifts support valuable ministries, programs, and services that touch the lives of thousands each day.

As you plan your year-end donations, consider benefiting your parish with a gift to the CSA. Parishes that exceed their CSA targets receive the excess funds, without archdiocesan assessment, as refunds for parish programs and projects.

To make a gift to the Catholic Services Appeal, or for more information about CSA-funded ministries, programs, and services, please go to www.aod.org.

CHRISTMAS



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A Family Perspective

by Bud Ozar

QUESTION: What do you call a family which began with an unmarried pregnant teen and had a twelve-year-old son who ran away from home and was eventually executed as a criminal?

ANSWER: HOLY! Two lessons in today's Gospel: (1) No matter what is happening in your family, "The Lord is with you," and (2) "Do not be afraid" for "nothing is impossible with God."

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
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Rick Cucchi ~ *Music Minister / Choir Director*
Joe Balistreri ~ *Saturday Organist*
David Troiano ~ *Weekday Organist*

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Denise Balogh ~ *Bookkeeper*

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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
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 30, 2017, 4:30 p.m.

Janet Bielman
Mary Bielman

Liz Smith

Ian Campbell
Lauren Gross

Sunday, December 31, 2017, 10:00 a.m.

Marilyn Lynn
Patti Adams
Beverly Goll
Linda Holster
Michael Holster
Jean Solomon
Kristen Stark

Mary Ann Pilette

Kiley Dulapa
Mary Pocius
Julia Zuerblis

New Year's Day, Monday, January 1, 2018, 10:00 a.m.

Marilyn Lynn
Mary Bielman
Janet Bielman
Janet Law

Patrick Lusch

Ian Campbell
Kiley Dulapa
Julia Zuerblis

Veronica Obianwu
Kristen Stark
Marie Vortkamp

Mass Schedule

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)

Sunday, December 24th - Vigil: Nativity of Our Lord

10:00 p.m. - Clarence and Mary Merlo, Richard and Shirley Goll, Ponina Stellino, Peppino Moroni, Raymond and Sylvia Novelly, Robert Lynn

Monday, December 25th - Nativity of Our Lord

10:00 a.m. - John and Mary Ozark, George and Rose Godoshian, John Camazzola, Zenon and Anna Kolasa, John Ridella, Rita and Frederick Allman

Tuesday, December 26th - St. Stephen, the First Martyr

Wednesday, December 27th - St. John, Apostle and Evangelist

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

Thursday, December 28th - The Holy Innocents

Friday, December 29th - St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr

9:00 a.m. - Laura Bush-Terry, Robert Keyes

Saturday, December 30th - Vigil: Feast of the Holy Family

4:30 p.m. - Laura Bush-Terry, the Families of St. Matthew Parish

Sunday, December 31st - Feast of the Holy Family

10:00 a.m. - Laura Bush-Terry, Judy Stark, Chief Anthony Anyanwu Afirih



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