



Saint Matthew Church
The PULSE

December 1, 2019

Detroit, Michigan

PREPARE



“So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.”

MATTHEW 24:44

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Readings for the week of December 1, 2019

Sunday: Is 2:1-5/ Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [cf. 1]/
Rom 13:11-14/Mt 24:37-44

Monday: Is 4:2-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4c-5, 6-7, 8-9/
Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 [cf. 7]/
Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [6cd]/
Mt 15:29-37

Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118: 1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a
[26a]/Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday: Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 [1a]/Mt 9:27-31

Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/
Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

Next Sunday: Is 11:1-10/ Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 19 [cf. 7]/
Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12



First Sunday of Advent

“I’m never getting enough rest! How can I possibly be ‘asleep’?” In a world of jam-packed schedules and high anxiety levels, physical rest may be hard to come by. Yet relentless pursuit of our to-do lists and social calendars may keep our minds off of the things that really matter. Jesus knows all too well a pattern of busy, harried ignorance. *“In those days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage ... they did not know until the flood came and carried them all away ... two men will be out in the field ... two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken, and one will be left.”* When it comes to the spiritual life, we can be at work or at relaxation and still be spiritually asleep.

Each year, we are called back to remember the essential things. God comes to save His people. He becomes flesh to dwell among us. Supernatural light pierces the world’s darkness and our own. Advent wakes us up. *“Stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come.”* Every Advent, we prepare to celebrate Christ’s first coming at Christmas, and we anticipate his second coming at the end of time.

“At an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.” There’s another hour, too, both known and unknown. It’s the present moment. Whether it’s a lazy Saturday morning or a major business proposal, whether it’s attending a kindergarten play or an elderly relative’s bedside, at every moment the Lord wants to enter into our hearts. This Advent, let’s pray for the grace to stay alert. Christ is coming soon.



The Advent Wreath Ceremony

The ceremony is simple. It starts at the evening meal on the Saturday before the first Sunday in Advent with the blessing of the wreath. The head of the household is the one designated to say the prayers following while various members of the family light the candles. If the group is not a family a leader is selected to say the prayers and others appointed to light the candles.

Blessing of the Wreath

*O God, by Whose word all things are sanctified,
pour forth Your blessing upon this wreath,
and grant that we who use it may prepare our hearts
for the coming of Christ and may receive from You
abundant graces.*

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The First Week Prayer

Each night of the first week, the first purple candle is lit by the youngest child of the household (or one other selected by the gathering) and is left burning during the meal.

*Lord, stir up Your might, we beg You, and come that
by Your protection, we may deserve to be rescued
from the threatening dangers of our sins and saved
by Your deliverance.*

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The First Week Resolution

*Mark the Season of Advent by loving and serving others
with God’s own love and concern. (Mother Theresa)*

This year, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary falls on the Second Sunday of Advent and, according to the “Table of Liturgical Days” contained in the Roman Missal, the Sundays of Advent may not be replaced by a solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The liturgical celebration of the Immaculate Conception must, therefore, be transferred to the first free day that Mass is celebrated at the parish. **Father Duane will celebrate this Feast Day on Tuesday, December 10th, at the 9:00 a.m. Mass.**

Although the liturgical celebration of the Immaculate Conception will be celebrated on Tuesday, December 10th, **the faithful are not obligated** to participate in Mass on that day. Please remember the Feast of the Immaculate Conception is not observed as a Holy Day of Obligation this year.



St. Matthew Parish ~ Happenings

Saturday, December 7, and Sunday, December 8, 4:30 pm and 10 am Masses, respectively - Retirement Fund for Religious Collection

Sunday, December 8, following 10 am Mass - Gold'n Harvest 50/50 Raffle Drawing and Catered Breakfast by Majestic Cafe

Tuesday, December 10, 9 am Mass - in celebration of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Tuesday, December 10, 6 pm - Parish Council Meeting, Rectory Conference Room

The Giving Tree

The Giving Tree for children's toys and clothing is now up in the church and ready for Christmas. Please take a tag or two and make Christmas a little more special for a child in need. These gifts benefit the families that our St. Vincent de Paul Conference has helped during this past year. The individual tags include whether the child is a boy or girl and their age. Please donate toys or clothing appropriate for the age level stated on the tag. Suggestions: pull toys, plush toys, games, coloring books and crayons, puzzles, balls, sports equipment, dolls, trucks, and cars, (non-violent toys only, please!). Also, shirts, sweaters, hats and gloves, etc... would be an appropriate gift. Return all toys and clothing with tags from the Giving Tree by December 15th, the 3rd Sunday of Advent.



Please put toys and clothes 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 REMEMBER TO ATTACH THE GIVING TREE TAGS TO GIFTS.**

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

CSA Minute ~ Sharing Christ



Christian Stewardship - Earlier this month, the Department of Development and Stewardship distributed weekly reflections for the readings in the Sunday Liturgy of the Word in Cycle A, which parishes can begin including in their bulletins this weekend.

These Stewardship Thoughts are designed to encourage reflection on the grace God gives to each of us through His gifts of time, talent, and treasure, and how we are called to "steward" those gifts to serve Him in advancing His Kingdom on earth.

Your CSA gifts allow the archdiocese of Detroit to provide materials and guidance on Christian stewardship education, including the Department of Development and Stewardship's award-winning stewardship education manual, *Called by Christ, Gifted by the Spirit*.

For information about CSA-funded ministries, programs, and services, please go to aod.org.

Retirement Fund for Religious Collection

Give in thanksgiving. "The nuns left lasting impressions on me," writes a donor. "I shall always be grateful for my Catholic education." Please join in thanking the thousands of senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who worked tirelessly to educate the young and serve those in need. Next week's second collection is for the Retirement Fund for Religious, which helps hundreds of religious communities care for aging members. Please give generously.



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St. Matthew Church
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**Drawing: Sunday, December 8, 2019
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David Troiano ~ *Weekday Organist*

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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	Michelle Harter
Lolita Dorado	Jo Marie Nardi
Albert Fajardo	Thomas Bingham
Virginia Fajardo	David Beaupre
Madeline O'Neill	Kenneth Beaupre
Kurt Beghuyn	Anthony Crimardo
Sebastiano Stellino	Thomas Giles
Teresita Covacha	Rosemary Schoolcraft
Richard Gargulinski	Tiffany Gelle
Joe Petrylka	Robert Stark
Roger Sharpe	Pauline Williams
Nenette Ferreria	Bill Solomon
Anthony Mastronardi	John Allman
Eduardo Fajardo	Peggy Bates
Kathy Bush	Eloise Parker
Glenda Johnson	Kelly Kranson
Stephanie Smith	Herb Damman
Janet Law	
Laura Alix	
Betty Leone	

Ministers, Lectors, and Servers

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

LECTORS

SERVERS

Saturday, December 7, 2019, 4:30 p.m.

Janet Bielman
Janet Law

Bruce Campbell

Ian Campbell

Sunday, December 8, 2019, 10:00 a.m.

Marilyn Lynn
Dorothy Brooks
Beverly Goll
Linda Holster
Michael Holster
Debra Nieddu
Joseph Nieddu

Liz Foley-Dunstone
Jermaine Donaldson
Lauren Gross
Julia Zuerblis

Mass Schedule

Saturday, November 30 - Vigil: First Sunday of Advent

4:30 p.m. - For the People of St. Matthew Parish

Sunday, December 1 - First Sunday of Advent

10:00 a.m. - Judy Stark

Monday, December 2 -

Tuesday, December 3 - St. Francis Xavier, Priest

9:00 a.m. - For the Poor Souls in Purgatory

Wednesday, December 4 - St. John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church

9:00 a.m. - For Missionaries Serving around the World

Thursday, December 5 -

Friday, December 6 - St. Nicholas, Bishop

9:00 a.m. - For the Poor and Needy in our Community

Saturday, December 7 - Vigil: Second Sunday of Advent

4:30 p.m. - Sr. Karen Eklund, IHM

Sunday, December 8 - Second Sunday of Advent

10:00 a.m. - Judy Stark, John C. Sasinowski, Elizabeth Reyes (2nd Anniv), Tracey Lynn Walker

Parish Pledges Received

\$61,483.00



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