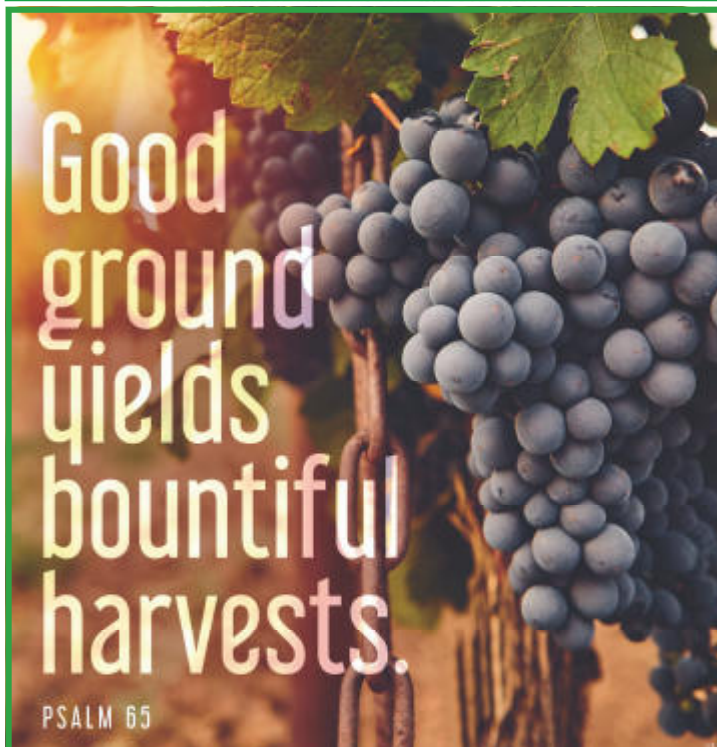
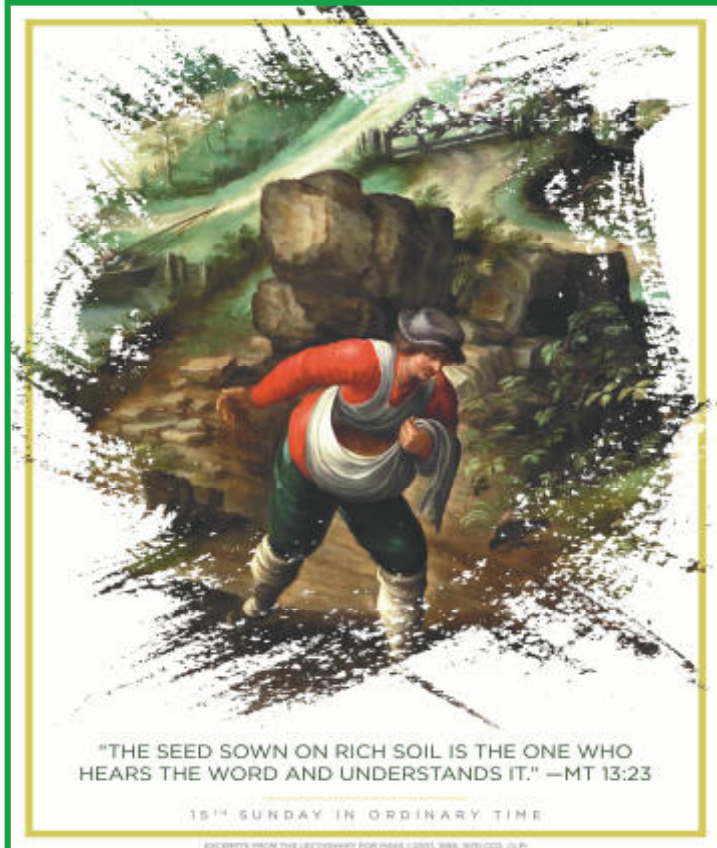




Saint Matthew Church The PULSE

July 12, 2020

Detroit, Michigan



✝ **STEWARDSHIP** ✉

What shall I render unto the Lord
for all his benefits to me?



St. Matthew Parish Report July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020

Budget/52 Weeks: @ \$2,442 (rounded)	\$127,000.12
Actual/52 Weeks:	\$118,114.61
Online Giving/52 Weeks:	<u>\$26,252.00</u>
Total Actual/52 Weeks:	\$144,366.61
Overage/Shortfall:	\$17,366.49
Average Collection/Sunday:	\$2,776.28
Average % of Budget/Sunday:	113.67%
Average % over (under)/Sunday:	13.67%
Debt Reduction Envelope/52 Weeks:	\$2,641.00
Online Debt Reduction Giving:	<u>\$765.00</u>
Total Debt Reduction Giving:	\$3,406.00
NET OVERAGE FOR 52 WEEKS:	<u>\$20,772.49</u>

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### 2019 - 2020 Final Report Catholic Services Appeal

|                            |                    |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| CSA AoD Goal:              | \$16,069.00        |
| Total Pledged:             | \$64,333.00        |
| Total Paid (June 30, 2020) | <u>\$63,511.68</u> |
| Pledge Balance:            | \$821.32           |
| Refund Anticipated:        | \$48,264.00        |
| Refund Issued:             | \$47,442.68        |
| Average Pledge:            | \$574.40           |
| Parish Families:           | 218                |
| Pledges Made:              | 112                |
| Pledges Fully Paid:        | 106                |
| Pledges Outstanding:       | 6                  |

## Readings for the Week of July 12, 2020

Sunday: Is 55:10-11/Ps 65:10, 11, 12-13, 14 [Lk 8:8]/  
Rom 8:18-23/Mt 13:1-23 or 13:1-9  
Monday: Is 1:10-17/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23  
[23b]/Mt 10:34—11:1  
Tuesday: Is 7:1-9/Ps 48:2-3a, 3b-4, 5-6, 7-8 [cf. 9d]/  
Mt 11:20-24  
Wednesday: Is 10:5-7, 13b-16/Ps 94:5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 14-15  
[14a]/Mt 11:25-27  
Thursday: Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19/Ps 102:13-14ab and 15,  
16-18, 19-21 [20b]/Mt 11:28-30  
Friday: Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8/Is 38:10, 11, 12abcd, 16  
[cf. 17b]/Mt 12:1-8  
Saturday: Mi 2:1-5/Ps 10:1-2, 3-4, 7-8, 14 [12b]/Mt 12:14-21  
Next Sunday: Wis 12:13, 16-19/Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16  
[5a]/Rom 8:26-27/Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30



### 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Using the best seeds doesn't always guarantee the best plants. An older Italian gentleman straight from Italy gave me these amazing tomato seeds that he claimed produced the best tomatoes ever grown. Without doubt,

the fruit he shared with me was a testament to that fact. These tomatoes were amazing! I couldn't wait until the next growing season to plant these seeds and harvest my own tomatoes. The whole experiment ended up a failure. I did everything the gentleman said, but my fruit didn't even come close. What happened? At first I was perplexed, then some years later the light dawned. The problem wasn't the seeds, it was the soil!

You cannot sow seeds in any old place and in a haphazard way and expect them to be at their best. It doesn't work that way. Planting the seeds is the easiest part. Preparing the soil is the challenge. Tilling, mulching, enriching, and building up the nutrients are all required for good fruit. Then after the seeds are planted, more care is required in order to maintain that healthy, nutrient rich environment for those seeds to sprout, grow, and flourish. God happily sows the seeds of his Word. What do we do with them?

If we expect to be a passive bystander and have good fruit magically grow, we are mistaken. Bearing the good fruit of God's Word requires preparation and work. We have to cultivate the soil of our lives so that those seeds can find a proper home. This one thing alone takes a great deal of patience, time, and effort. What kind of preparation have we put into our lives so that we can be a recipient of God's seed? It takes a great deal of soul-searching and ego-checking to properly prepare. God is the ever faithful and persistent sower. If the seeds do not bear fruit the first time, God will come back time and time again, giving it another try.

If we have created a suitable bed for sowing, then once the seed is sown, we must properly maintain them. What is our maintenance plan for the seeds of God's Word? We need not only a source for water but a watering schedule. We need to weed, aerate the soil, nurture the young plants, protect them, and provide proper nutrients. What does our spiritual maintenance plan look like? If we have done all things well, imagine what the seeds of God's Word could produce in us!

## Kateri Tekakwitha, Lily of the Mohawks

Kateri Tekakwitha was a young Mohawk woman who lived in the 17th century. The story of her conversion to Christianity, her courage in the face of suffering and her extraordinary holiness is an inspiration to all Christians. When she was only four years old her parents and brother died of smallpox. Kateri survived the disease, but it left her face badly scarred and her eyesight impaired. Because of her poor vision, Kateri was named "Tekakwitha," which means "she who bumps into things." Kateri was taken in by her uncle who was bitterly opposed to Christianity.

When Kateri was 18 years of age, she began instructions in the Catholic faith in secret. Her uncle finally relented and gave his consent for Kateri to become a Christian, provided that she did not try to leave the Indian village. For joining the Catholic Church, Kateri was ridiculed and scorned by villagers. She was subjected to unfair accusations and her life was threatened. Nearly two years after her baptism, in St. Peter's Chapel at the present Kateri Shrine in Fonda, she escaped to the Mission of St. Francis Xavier, a settlement of Christian Natives in Canada. During the last years of her life, Kateri endured great suffering from a serious illness. She died on April 17, 1680, shortly before her 24th birthday, and was buried in present day Kahnawake, Quebec, Canada. Witnesses reported that within a few minutes of her death, the pock marks from smallpox completely vanished and her face shone with radiant loveliness.

Before her death, Kateri promised her friends that she would continue to love and pray for them in Heaven. Both Native Americans and settlers immediately began praying for her heavenly intercession. Several people, including a priest who attended Kateri during her last illness, reported that Kateri had appeared to them and many healing miracles were attributed to her. Fifty years after Kateri's death the first convent for Indian nuns was established in Mexico and they prayed daily for Sainthood for Blessed Kateri. Their prayers were answered on October 21, 2012 when Kateri was canonized as the first Native American woman to be honored with sainthood.

### Litany of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha

*Kateri, lily of purity, pray for us.*  
*Kateri, consolator of the heart of Jesus, pray for us.*  
*Kateri, bright light for all Indians, pray for us.*  
*Kateri, courage of the afflicted, pray for us.*  
*Kateri, lover of the cross of Jesus, pray for us.*  
*Kateri, flower of fortitude for the persecuted, pray for us.*  
*Kateri, unshakeable in temptations, pray for us.*  
*Kateri, full of patience in suffering, pray for us.*  
*Kateri, keeper of your virginity in persecutions, pray for us.*  
*Kateri, leader of many Indians to the true faith*  
*through your love of Mary, pray for us.*  
*Kateri, who loved Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, pray for us.*  
*Kateri, lover of penance, pray for us.*  
*Kateri, who traveled many miles to learn the faith, pray for us.*  
*Kateri, steadfast in all prayer, pray for us.*  
*Kateri, who loved to pray the rosary for all people, pray for us.*  
*Kateri, example to your people in all virtues, pray for us.*  
*Kateri, humble servant to the sick, pray for us.*  
*Kateri, who by your love of humility gave joy to the angels,*  
*pray for us.*  
*Kateri, your holy death gave strength to all Indians to love*  
*Jesus and Mary, pray for us.*  
*Kateri, whose scarred face in life became beautiful after death,*  
*pray for us.*

*Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,*  
*spare us, O Lord.*

*Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,*  
*graciously hear us, O Lord.*

*Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,*  
*have mercy on us.*

*O Jesus, who gave Kateri to the Indians as an example of purity,*  
*teach all men to love purity and to console your immaculate*  
*Mother Mary through the lily, Kateri Tekakwitha,*  
*and your Holy Cross. Amen.*

*Kateri Tekakwitha, pray for us.*



## St. Matthew Parish ~ Happenings

Saturday, July 25, 4:30 pm Mass - Kylan Lusch and his family celebrate his First Holy Communion at St. Matthew Parish



### From Father Duane's Desk

We have been back for seven weeks now since the Pandemic shutdown. Having started public Masses on Pentecost, we have seen parishioners return to celebrate the Eucharist, praying and worshipping our Lord, and breaking open the Scriptures through readings and homiletic reflections, albeit in a different atmosphere what with social distancing, hand sanitizing, and masks. But, it is working well, and there is still plenty of room even while maintaining our social distance. We have the capacity to accommodate approximately 100 people for Mass maintaining distance. However, we have only 30 to 35 attending at each Mass.

I write today to encourage those who can attend, to please return (with proper protocols). And I would encourage you to speak to others to let them know St. Matthew Parish is a safe environment to worship our God. I certainly know that the "official" dispensation from the obligation is extended through September 6th. But, if you have no underlying conditions, please come and join us again. I know when we first returned on Pentecost, it felt a little different. But we soon adjusted; and now with the exception of the protocols, it feels comfortable and good again to renew our spirituality in community. Virtual Masses, or Masses for Shut-ins are good, but nothing replaces the Real Thing! I do hope you pass the word we are open. We have room, and we are safe!

On another note, due to COVID-19, CSA in its usual format has been postponed until September. We will through the Archdiocese take up the pledge drive with communication beginning in August. I invite you to review our CSA figures from last year in the Pulse today. They were fantastic, you were great! I am so appreciative.

We would like to do that well again, and I will be sending each of you a letter indicating what we and the Parish Council would like to do this year. There will be a change due to COVID-19 in that the pledge drive will not happen at the local parish but will be conducted through the AoD. Therefore, there will be less paperwork and less contact for our personal protection. In advance, I ask everyone to participate as you did last year. It will mean so much to the parish.

Enjoy the summer. I hope and pray all stay healthy!

God bless all of you, Father Duane

### A Family Perspective

by Bud Ozar

The stress and anxieties of family life are like "thorns which choke off" any opportunity to reflect on God's presence in our lives. Notice in today's Gospel Jesus "left the house" so He could connect with His Father. Take five minutes each day to appreciate God walking with you.

## CSA Minute ~ Sharing Christ



We witness to Christ when we do good toward others. In their pastoral letter, *Stewardship: A Disciple's Response*, the U.S. bishops remind us that, as faithful disciples, we are obligated to witness Christ by blessing others in mercy and love:

*"Disciples give thanks to God for gifts received and strive to share them with others. That is why, as Vatican II says of the Eucharist, "if this celebration is to be sincere and thorough, it must lead to various works of charity and mutual help, as well as to missionary activity and to different forms of Christian witness."*

The theme of this year's Catholic Services Appeal is, *Rise, Be Not Afraid*. The theme takes inspiration from the city of Detroit's motto given by Fr. Gabriel Richard, "We hope for better things, it will rise from the ashes." These are also the words Jesus speaks to his disciples after the Transfiguration: "Rise and be not afraid." Our support of the ministries, programs, and services to the CSA provides countless spiritual and temporal benefits of Christ's mercy and love to thousands of people in southeast Michigan and beyond.

Archbishop Allen H. Vigneron has charged all faithful in our Archdiocese to join together as a "joyful band of missionary disciples" in a spirit of evangelization. Generously sharing ourselves and our gifts through the CSA allows us to witness our discipleship in Christ through our love of one another. This "attitude of gratitude" also provides growth in our personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

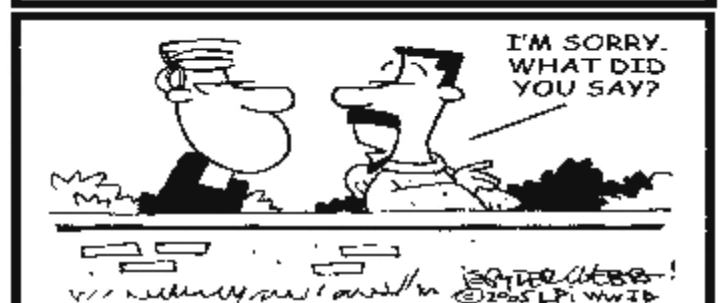
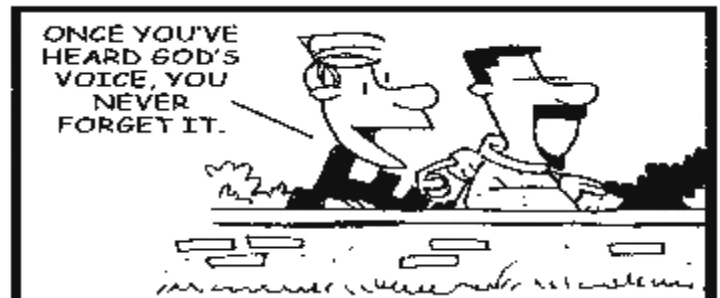


*Easter Flower Offering  
Donated in Memory of*

Anthony Kaminski Veronica Kaminski  
George Kaminski Mary Noreen Kaminski  
Anthony Nardi

*Due to the suspension of the Easter liturgies, there were no Easter flowers displayed on the altar. Nevertheless, there is much appreciation for those who made these donations in memory of their loved ones. Thank you!*

### 15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



## ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH DIRECTORY

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Gloria Bermudez ~ *Bookkeeper*

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Michael Dulapa ~ *Evangelization Chair*  
Patricia Camazzola-Godoshian,  
Bryan Jones, David Smydra ~ *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.<br>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      | David Beaupre          |
| Lolita Dorado       | Kenneth Beaupre        |
| Albert Fajardo      | Anthony Crimardo       |
| Madeline O'Neill    | Rosemary Schoolcraft   |
| Kurt Beghuyn        | Tiffany Gelle          |
| Sebastiano Stellino | Robert Stark           |
| Teresita Covacha    | Pauline Williams       |
| Joe Petrylka        | Bill Solomon           |
| Roger Sharpe        | Eloise Parker          |
| Nenette Ferreria    | Kelly Kranson          |
| Anthony Mastronardi | Herb and Jeanne Damman |
| Eduardo Fajardo     | Doreen Redman          |
| Kathy Bush          | Dennis Corbett         |
| Glenda Johnson      |                        |
| Stephanie Smith     |                        |
| Janet Law           |                        |
| Laura Alix          |                        |
| Betty Leone         |                        |
| Michelle Harter     |                        |
| Jo Marie Nardi      |                        |

# Ministers, Lectors, and Servers

## LECTORS

## SERVERS

Saturday, July 18, 2020, 4:30 p.m.  
Bruce Campbell

Ian Campbell

Sunday, July 19, 2020, 10:00 a.m.  
Mary Anne Pilette

Jermaine Donaldson  
Cory Fullilove

## Mass Schedule

**Saturday, July 11 - Vigil: 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
4:30 p.m. - Salustiano Guinto (28th Anniv)

**Sunday, July 12 - 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
10:00 a.m. - Judy Stark, Misuraca Family, Babiasz Family moved from April 12

**Monday, July 13 - St. Henry**

**Tuesday, July 14 - St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin**  
9:00 a.m. - For Missionaries Serving around the World

**Wednesday, July 15 - St. Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor of the Church**  
9:00 a.m. - For the Poor and Needy in our Community

**Thursday, July 16 - Our Lady of Mt. Carmel**

**Friday, July 17-**  
9:00 a.m. - For an End to the COVID-19 Pandemic

**Saturday, July 18 - Vigil: 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
4:30 p.m. - For the People of St. Matthew Parish

**Sunday, July 19 - 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
10:00 a.m. - Judy Stark, James Brus (8th Anniv), Gary Pilette

“  
The  
things that  
we love  
tell us what  
we are.  
”

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

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