



Saint Matthew Church
The PULSE

November 29, 2020

Detroit, Michigan



Readings for the Week of November 29, 2020

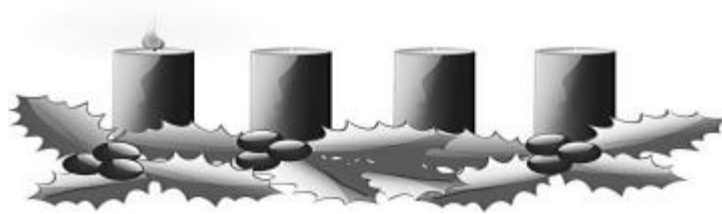
Sunday: Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37
Monday: Rom 10:9-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [10]/Mt 4:18-22
Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/ Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 [cf. 7]/ Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [6cd]/ Mt 15:29-37
Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 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 [cf. Is 30:18d]/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8
Next Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 [8]/ 2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8

1st Sunday of Advent

You are at the eye doctor and it's time for the peripheral vision test. You know the one. It's where you put your head up to a contraption and have to click a switch every time you see a squiggly line. If you don't concentrate and maintain optimal focus, you will miss them and skew the outcome of the test. You can easily find yourself with a diagnosis that really isn't accurate! Concentration and focus are key to succeeding with this evaluation. They are also key to developing a healthy, vibrant spiritual life. If we do not bring our full consciousness to the task, concentrate with all our might, be watchful and vigilant, we are not going to see God's loving presence flashing before our eyes!

That's why we need Advent. Let's face it. We can easily get distracted, focus on nonessential and superficial things and lose touch with what really matters. Our attentions wander. We daydream and even become a bit overwhelmed and tired. All of the stresses and demands of life consume us and we find ourselves constantly trying to play catch up rather than relishing the moment of the now. "Now" moments are so fleeting. They flash before us like those squiggly lines on a screen. Present moments go as quickly as they come but it is important to discover them and rest in them as often as we can. Though gone in a flash, these now moments of encounter with God teach powerful lessons and offer a grounding in truth that can be found nowhere else. It's the grace of Advent to become watchful and attentive because we are never sure when God will surprise us.

God loves surprises and love thrives on them! God's now moments of surprises come as tender instants of intimate connection where I find profound peace, experience joy, and rest in love. These are Advent times reflective of the now moments when Christ first was born, when God surprises us during every time we care to watch and when the great surprise of Christ's second coming dawns upon us all. But, to discover the grandeur and experience the awe of these now times, we have to be ready. We have to want to be there. We have to believe. And, we have to have the desire to soak in as much as we can in the time we have before us.



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)*



A Family Perspective

by Bud Ozar

Today's Gospel tells us to "Be watchful." This comes natural to families. Parents are watchful of their children's health, grades, and friends. Children are watchful of parental moods. Today's Gospel encourages us to use this ability to see God acting in the innocence, tenderness, love, and forgiveness of your family. "Be watchful," the Lord is already with you.

St. Matthew Parish ~ Happenings

Sunday, December 6 - 2020 Gold'n Harvest 50/50 Raffle Drawing, following the 10 a.m. Mass - VIRTUAL EVENT, LIVE-STREAMING ONLY

Tuesday, December 8, 9 am and 7 pm Mass - Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Holy Day of Obligation

Saturday, December 12, 4:30 pm Mass, Sunday, December 13, 10 am Mass - Collection for the Retired Religious

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 13th, 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



Please remember to respond to your invitation to pledge to the Catholic Services Appeal. Our parish benefits from your pledges and payments. Repeat the Success! Double the Participation! Thank you!

St. Matthew Church

18th Annual Gold'n Harvest 50 / 50 Raffle

Tickets ~ \$20 each or 5 for \$100
Maximum 1st Prize ~ \$12,000
Minimum 3rd Prize ~ \$240
\$200 Sellers' Drawing

**Drawing on Sunday, December 6, 2020
At Noon**



There will be no parish breakfast this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This is a virtual event only! The drawing will be live-streamed on our website, stmatthewdetroit.com.

Kroger Community Rewards Program St. Matthew's Quarterly Reward From 8-01-2020 to 10-31-2020 \$241.67

Thank you to those 70 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 **AW497**. **We need you!**

St. Matthew Church
6021 Whittier, Detroit, MI 48224
Ph 313-884-4470

Drawing: Sunday, December 6, 2020
Noon ~ 1:00 PM
Need not be present to win

0000 Gold'n Harvest 50/50 RAFFLE

TICKET PRICE
\$20.00

Raffle License R59059

Maximum Prize
1st - \$12,000
2nd - \$5,600
3rd - \$2,400

Minimum Prize
1st - \$1,200
2nd - \$560
3rd - \$240

0000

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____
Seller: _____

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*
Gloria Bermudez ~ *Bookkeeper*

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Bill Zuerblis ~ *Financial Council Chair*
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Bryan Jones, David Smydra ~ *Members at Large*
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MARY ANN BOLONE, JOHN DUNSTONE, JEFF SMITH,
GARY STARK ~ *MEMBERS*

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	Robert Stark
Madeline O'Neill	Pauline Williams
Sebastiano Stellino	Bill Solomon
Teresita Covacha	Eloise Parker
Joe Petrylka	Herb and Jeanne Damman
Roger Sharpe	Doreen Redman
Nenette Ferreria	Sarah Wagner
Anthony Mastronardi	Steve Czapski, Jr.
Kathy Bush	Lolita Dorado
Glenda Johnson	Albert Fajardo
Stephanie Smith	Eduardo Fajardo
Janet Law	Aurora Guinto
Laura Alix	Patrick Foley
Betty Leone	Mary Spansky
Jo Marie Nardi	Marie Kane
David Beaupre	Mike Dulapa
Kenneth Beaupre	Jo Piazza
Anthony Crimauado	
Rosemary Schoolcraft	
Tiffany Gelle	

Ministers, Lectors, and Servers

LECTORS

SERVERS

Saturday, December 5, 2020, 4:30 p.m.
Bruce Campbell

Ian Campbell

Sunday, December 6, 2020, 10:00 a.m.
Mary Ann Pilette

Cory Fullilove
Julia Zuerblis

Mass Schedule

Saturday, November 28 - Vigil: 1st Sunday of Advent
4:30 p.m. - Julio R. Justo

Sunday, November 29 - 1st Sunday of Advent
10:00 a.m. - Judy Stark, Rosalie Mastronardi, For an Increase in
Vocations to the Priesthood and Consecrated
Life

Monday, November 30 - St. Andrew, Apostle

Tuesday, December 1 -
9:00 a.m. - For the Poor and Needy in our Community

Wednesday, December 2 -
9:00 a.m. - For the Sick, Suffering, and Dying

Thursday, December 3 - St. Francis Xavier, Priest

**Friday, December 4 - St. John Damascene, Priest and Doctor
of the Church**
9:00 a.m. - For an End to the COVID-19 Pandemic

Saturday, December 5 - Vigil: 2nd Sunday of Advent
4:30 p.m. - For the People of St. Matthew Parish

Sunday, December 6 - 2nd Sunday of Advent
10:00 a.m. - Judy Stark, Elizabeth Reyes (3rd Anniv)

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