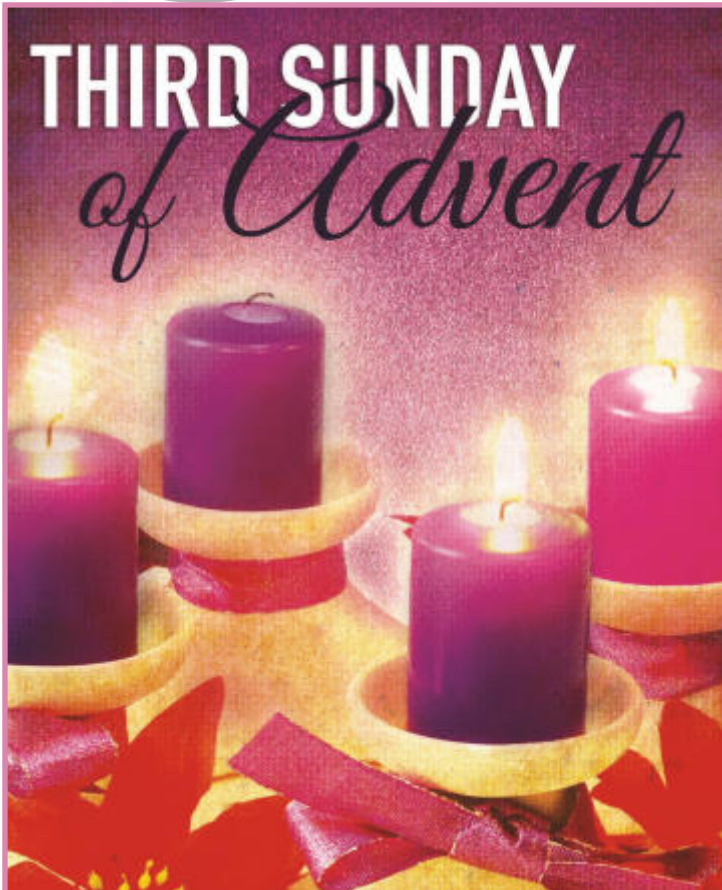




Saint Matthew Church The PULSE

December 13, 2020

Detroit, Michigan



2020 Gold'n Harvest 50/50 Raffle Announcing the Winners

The Gold'n Harvest 50/50 Raffle Drawing was held last Sunday, December 6th. It surely was different this year. Due to the pandemic, the Big Raffle Drawing was live-streamed in the auditorium. We had to forego our parish breakfast and the presenting of consolation (sur)prizes. However, there was a surprise in that we had extraordinary results, the third best ever. The gross proceeds totaled \$31,900, not including donations.

The amount of \$15,950 was awarded to the parish, and the balance divided among the winners. Three winners were awarded their prizes in accordance with the rules of the State of Michigan Charitable Gaming Commission. We congratulate these lucky winners!

1st Prize: \$9,570 to Len Henk, a long-time friend of Father Duane and supporter of St. Matthew Parish

2nd Prize: \$4,466 to Matt Gross, son of David and Lynn Gross, parishioners

3rd Prize: \$1,914 to Andrew Gallant, grandson of Bing and Jesse Ocampo, parishioners

Sellers' Drawing Winner: \$200 to Jennifer Khalifah

Thanks also to Co-chair, Bill Zuerblis, for his loyal support to this effort and to Patricia Camazzola for manning the ticket table after Saturday Masses. Of course, we cannot forget those of you who bought or sold the 50/50 Gold'n Harvest Raffle tickets. Your efforts in these most challenging times truly made this fundraiser a success!



From Father Duane's Desk

WOW! How can we ever say thanks but to say "Thanks be to God!" I worried so much this year that we would not have a successful raffle. But the "Gold'n Harvest" was golden indeed. Despite the pandemic and no parish breakfast, you, the parishioners, still stepped up to the plate (so to speak) and did a fantastic job! In fact, it was one of three best Gold'n Harvest Raffles to support our budget.

I want to thank everyone who extended themselves to sell tickets, I know it was not easy, to those that bought tickets, and those who supported us by hanging posters, letting people know of it, and keeping our success in your prayers. When I was sure we would fall short, due to a difficult year, we were very successful.

Also, I was so delighted for all the winners. All have a connection to the parish as parishioners, or in my case, the first place winner, is a long-time friend of mine and a yearly supporter of our Jazz Nite and of our Raffle since the beginning. Len has always bought numerous tickets as do all the people I send letters to. None of them have ever won. But this year, one of my people did, and I too felt like a winner. I want to thank all of my people for their kind and generous support. This year was a personal

best, I sold \$7,220 worth of tickets and donations toward the fundraising effort. Again, thank you and thanks be to God!

On another matter, this past Wednesday the Archdiocese of Detroit announced the make-up of the Family of Parishes. As of this writing, which goes to press before the official announcement, we most likely will be a part of the "Family" of St. Ambrose, St. Clare, and St. Matthew (If anything changes, I'll let you know.). I feel good about this relationship because we have always had a good connection with these parishes. We cooperate already in many ways. From partnering in RCIA to shared use of our gym, to working together in St. Vincent de Paul. This new structure will not be easy for the entire diocese, but it makes it so much easier when the partners you have are of similar backgrounds. Our history goes back to the days of the Detroit/Grosse Pointe Vicariate of which I was Vicar for nine years, and I am confident that we can work together.

As information continues to come from the AoD, I'll let you know when the "family of parishes" will begin for us. There will be two waves, one beginning in July 2021, and the second in July of 2022. There is much work to be done, and the Church in Detroit will definitely be structured differently, but this is what the Archbishop envisions as we face an ever-decreasing number of priests for the foreseeable future.

God bless all of you, Father Duane

Readings for the week of December 13, 2020

Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 51-54
[Is 61:10b]/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28
Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc,
8-9 [4]/Mt 21:23-27
Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and
23 [7a]/Mt 21:28-32
Wednesday: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-
12, 13-14 [Is 45:8]/Lk 7:18b-23
Thursday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17 [cf. 7]/
Mt 1:1-17
Friday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 [cf. 7]/
Mt 1:18-25
Saturday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17
[cf. 8]/Lk 1:5-25
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

3rd Sunday of Advent

Did you ever stop and realize that there is no earthly gain that can ever really satisfy us? Think of winning the Lotto. On this side of the winning ticket, it's all about the money, the new car, house, vacations, bank accounts, and infinite pleasures. The possibility of acquiring all of these earthly securities brings us back again and again to the purchase of a ticket. Then, one day we win! Our dreams are fulfilled, and happiness is on the horizon. Then one day, we wake up and realize that nothing has really changed, and I am not as satisfied as I thought I was or would be. I find myself living in my incompleteness and with my profound sorrow and grief. I did not find joy.

Glimpses of joy are possible but not by material means. They are brought to us through incredible experiences of connection that bring us face to face with real and authentic faith, hope, and love. And, they are glimpses and do not last. The moment we find ourselves looking back at them, they are gone, and we find ourselves remembering the moment in memory. To carry joy within us is to realize that it is not something I create, manufacture or even acquire. It is not able to be purchased. It is a gift. My need for joy mirrors my need for eternity, for a Creator who has a claim on the very essence of who I am and desires a home within me. As C. S. Lewis discovered, joy is a surprise that speaks to my very soul and is given as gift by the God who loves me.

The beauty of Advent is found in discovering the beauty of the gift of joy. God has visited his people for no other reason than to show them where and how to find joy! All of our human and earthly joy experiences are always only glimpses. They never satisfy us, sustain us or fulfill us. It is only God who is the joy of my soul. Real, Divine experiences of joy catch us off guard, make us stop and become aware, bring a feeling of awe and rightness and have an eternal Otherness about them. Nothing created by humans can ever come close to this. We probably will not fully realize the truth of all of this until we actually meet God face to face in heaven one day. Then, in that sacred moment when our hearts leap for joy we will understand what we have been tirelessly searching for all along. Intense gratitude will most surely follow.



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 Third Week Reflection

*“You have been enlightened by Christ.
Walk always as children of the light and keep
the flame of faith alive in your hearts.” (Roman Rite)*



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 spoken at Mass, “The Lord is with you,” are not a hope, they are a fact.



RECONCILIATION SERVICE

MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2020 ~ 7:00 PM

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2020
CHRISTMAS EVE MASS ~ 10:00 PM

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2020
CHRISTMAS DAY MASS ~ 10:00 AM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2020
FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY ~ 10:00 AM

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 2021
NEW YEAR'S DAY
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, MOTHER OF GOD
10:00 AM



St. Matthew Parish ~ Happenings

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

**Monday, December 14, 7 pm - Parish Rec-
onciliation Service**

**Tuesday, December 15, 6 pm - Parish
Council Meeting, Church Auditorium (tentative)**

Retirement Fund for Religious Collection -Today

Make a difference. "Every dollar makes a difference in covering our expenses," says a Trappist abbot. Hundreds of US religious communities struggle to provide for aging members because most senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for little pay. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps these communities bridge the gap, offering support for medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please be generous.

The Giving Tree

Your gifts for our Giving Tree for children's toys and clothing should be turned in this weekend. Our volunteers will be putting together Christmas packages for our families in need this week. However, you can drop off your gift at the rectory if you are unable to bring it this weekend, and it will be included.

These gifts benefit the families that our St. Vincent de Paul Conference has helped during this past year. Remember to indicate if 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. 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!

A Constant Companion



As Christians, we are called to a life of prayer. This is not just during seasons like Advent, but all year long. When we talk about being prayerful everyday stewards, we are speaking about cultivating an awareness of God being with us at all times. Each day we begin by offering God the entirety of our day. Each night we rest in Him and hope that the hours that passed gave Him glory.

During this busy time of Advent, it is hard to cultivate this life of prayer, but without it we can too easily lose sight of the reason for the season. It is during this time of year we need to heed the words of St. Paul more than ever when he wrote to the Thessalonians, "Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing." This is how we will be able to avoid the pitfalls of consumerism and secularism and keep our eyes fixed on Jesus.

Bring Jesus with you into the office Christmas party. Take him with you shopping for gifts in the department store. Be aware of him when you sit down to watch television specials you have seen every year of your life. Give him all your time and let his presence fill your every moment. By striving to be connecting with Jesus at all times, you will bear greater fruit and the joy you experience will be much greater than you could imagine. You might even spend a few less dollars and spend more time with those you love, particularly the one who loves you the most, the Incarnation himself.

Bring Jesus with you into the office Christmas party. Take him with you shopping for gifts in the department store. Be aware of him when you sit down to watch television specials you have seen every year of your life. Give him all your time and let his presence fill your every moment. By striving to be connecting with Jesus at all times, you will bear greater fruit and the joy you experience will be much greater than you could imagine. You might even spend a few less dollars and spend more time with those you love, particularly the one who loves you the most, the Incarnation himself.

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Merciful Father, you come to us
not only at Christmas,
But also in the time of waiting and preparation.
Help me to embrace with joy
this holy time of Advent,
so that I might celebrate your arrival
at Christmas with a ready and glad heart.

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*

PARISH COUNCIL

John Dunstone ~ *President*
Bill Zuerblis ~ *Financial Council Chair*
Michael Dulapa ~ *Evangelization Chair*
Patricia Camazzola-Godoshian,
Bryan Jones, David Smydra ~ *Members at Large*
Sharon & Jerry Mielke ~ *VPC Representatives*

PARISH FINANCIAL COUNCIL

BILL ZUERBLIS ~ *CHAIR*
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	Pauline Williams
Madeline O'Neill	Bill Solomon
Sebastiano Stellino	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	Mike and Linda Holster
Anthony Crimaudo	
Rosemary Schoolcraft	
Tiffany Gelle	
Robert Stark	

Ministers, Lectors, and Servers

LECTORS

SERVERS

Saturday, December 19, 2020, 4:30 p.m.
Bruce Campbell

Ian Campbell

Sunday, December 20, 2020, 10:00 a.m.
William Zuerblis

Lauren Gross
Julia Zuerblis

Mass Schedule

Saturday, December 12 - Vigil: 3rd Sunday of Advent
(Gaudette)

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

Sunday, December 13 - 3rd Sunday of Advent (Gaudette)

10:00 a.m. - Judy Stark, John C. Sasinowski, Cecilia Pilette

Monday, December 14 - St. John of the Cross, Priest and
Doctor of the Church

Tuesday, December 15 -

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

Wednesday, December 16 -

9:00 a.m. - For First Responders and Healthcare Workers

Thursday, December 17 -

Friday, December 18 -

9:00 a.m. - For an End to the COVID-19 Pandemic

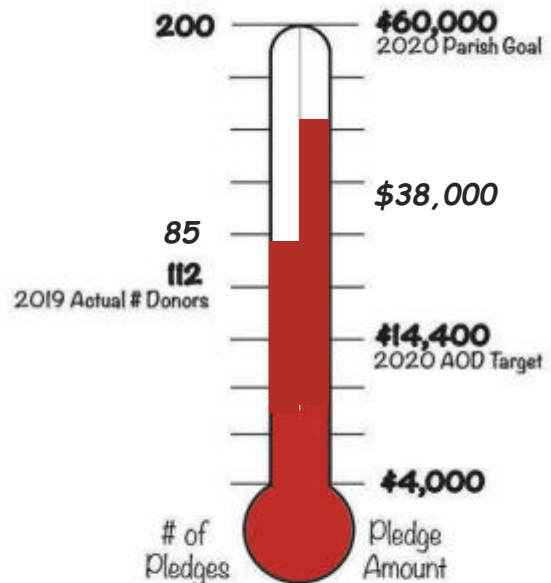
Saturday, December 19 - Vigil: 4th Sunday of Advent

4:30 p.m. - Emma Langan

Sunday, December 20 - 4th Sunday of Advent

10:00 a.m. - Judy Stark, Joseph Chinnici (5th Anniv), Bobby
Hanshaw (4th Anniv)

CSA "REPEAT THE SUCCESS"



DOUBLE THE PARTICIPATION • REPEAT THE SUCCESS
MAKE YOUR PLEDGE TODAY!
STMATTHEWDetroit.COM

**PROTECTING SENIORS NATIONWIDE
MEDICAL ALERT SYSTEM**

\$29.95/MO

BILLED QUARTERLY

**PLUS
SPECIAL
OFFER**



CALL NOW! 1.877.801.7772

WWW.24-7MEDALARM.COM

**Jim's
Collision Shop**

Complete Body • Mechanical
Glass • Free Loaner Cars

DETROIT

313-882-5400

16651 Harper

www.jimscollision.net

SERVING THE
COMMUNITY FOR
OVER A CENTURY



**A.H. PETERS
FUNERAL HOME**

Grosse Pointe Woods
20705 Mack Avenue • 313-884-5500
Warren
32000 Schoenherr • 586-293-8030
ahpeters.com

Fert-Scape, Inc.

Fertilizer and Landscape
Contracting

13335 15 Mile Road
Sterling Heights, MI 48312

(586) 344-9012

(586) 565-1077

**catholicmatch[®]
Michigan**



CatholicMatch.com/MI

CHAMPS

ROTISSERIE & SEAFOOD

DINE IN • CARRY-OUT
CATERING

313-886-7755

20515 Mack Avenue
Grosse Pointe Woods

Mon-Sat: 11:30a-10p • Sun: Noon-10p

*Celebrate with
Flowers*



1-800-VIVIANO
viviano.com

VIVIANO
flower shop



St. Clair Shores, Rochester, Shelby Twp.,
Grosse Pointe Woods, & Chesterfield Twp.

For all of Life's Celebrations since 1937



LICENSED & INSURED
MASTER PLUMBER

WaterWorkPlumbing.com

Senior Discounts

24 Hr. Emergency Service

313-558-8757

\$20 OFF ANY SERVICE

**Elite Driving
School**

23804 Harper Avenue
Between 9 & 10 Mile Road
St. Clair Shores, MI 48080

586-778-4934

STATE OF MICHIGAN APPROVED
AND CERTIFIED ROAD TESTING BY
ELITE DRIVING SCHOOL

www.elitedrivingschoolscs.com

**AVAILABLE
FOR A LIMITED TIME**

**ADVERTISE YOUR
BUSINESS HERE**

Contact **Richard Brogna** to place an ad today!
rbrogna@4LPi.com or **(848) 225-5120**

**ADT-Monitored
Home Security**

Get 24-Hour Protection
From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Fire Safety
- Flood Detection
- Carbon Monoxide



SafeStreets

1-855-225-4251

**SUPPORT YOUR
LOCAL PARISH.**

Buy a bulletin ad space today!



**SUPPORT THE ADVERTISERS
THAT SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY**

