



# *Saint Matthew Church* **The PULSE**

September 19, 2021

Detroit, Michigan



“WHOEVER RECEIVES ONE CHILD SUCH AS THIS  
IN MY NAME, RECEIVES ME.” - MK 9:37A

25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## Readings for the Week of September 19, 2021

Sunday: Wis 2:12, 17-20/Ps 54:3-4, 5, 6-8 [6b]/  
Jas 3:16—4:3/Mk 9:30-37

Monday: Ezr 1:1-6/Ps 126:1b-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6 [3]/  
Lk 8:16-18

Tuesday: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5]/Mt 9:9-13

Wednesday: Ezr 9:5-9/Tb 13:2, 3-4a, 4befghn, 7-8 [1b]/  
Lk 9:1-6

Thursday: Hg 1:1-8/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b  
[cf. 4a]/Lk 9:7-9

Friday: Hg 2:1-9/Ps 43:1, 2, 3, 4 [5]/Lk 9:18-22

Saturday: Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a/Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13  
[cf. 10d]/Lk 9:43b-45

Next Sunday: Nm 11:25-29/Ps 19:8, 10, 12-13, 14 [9a]/  
Jas 5:1-6/Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48



~ Our Patron ~  
St. Matthew, Evangelist

St. Matthew the Apostle or "Levi, son of Alphaeus" is the traditional author of the Gospel according to Matthew, which is the first book of the New Testament.

St. Matthew was a Jew from Galilee and was probably born in Capernaum on the northern shore of the Sea of Galilee (Lake Tiberias). He was a publican (a tax collector) who worked in the custom-house in Capernaum, probably collecting taxes for Herod Antipas as well as for the Romans. Because tax collectors were fellow Jews who worked for the Romans and helped them oppress the Jewish people (as well as taking advantage of their position to practice extortion on their Jewish brothers), they were shunned, hated, and

ranked among the worst of sinners.

The Call and subsequent conversion of St. Matthew is mentioned both in Luke's Gospel (Luke 5:27-31) as well in Matthew's Gospel. *As Jesus passed by, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the customs post. He said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him. While he was at table in his house, many tax collectors and sinners came and sat with Jesus and his disciples. The Pharisees saw this and said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" He heard this and said, "Those who are well do not need a physician, but the sick do. Go and learn the meaning of the words, I desire mercy, not sacrifice, I did not come to call the righteous but sinners."* (Matthew 9:9-13)

St. Matthew followed Jesus with the other Twelve and was present at the Last Supper, Resurrection, Ascension, and the birth of the Church at Pentecost. It is not known for sure what became of St. Matthew after Pentecost. Some traditions place him as dying at Hierapolis in Asia Minor or in Ethiopia or even in Persia. Traditionally, he is believed to have been martyred. His relics are in the Cathedral dedicated to him in Salerno, Italy in the crypt under the main altar.

One of the principal themes of St. Matthew's Gospel is presenting Jesus Christ as the Messiah and the fulfillment of the Law and the prophets. Matthew frequently quotes the Old Testament and references the words of the prophets and shows how their words are fulfilled in Jesus. He also stresses the rejection of Jesus by many of the Jewish leaders despite the great miracles He works. Jesus is also frequently called "Son of David" in this Gospel. St. Matthew wrote his Gospel in Aramaic for the Jewish converts in Palestine, perhaps around 45 A.D. It is believed that it was written prior to the Roman siege and destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A.D., since St. Matthew does not mention the fulfillment of this prophecy of Jesus.

All four of the Evangelists have a symbol that represents them in traditional Christian iconography, based on the four living creatures from Revelations 4:7 and Ezekiel 1:10. The symbol of St. Matthew is that of an angel, because of the association with the beginning of his Gospel which begins with the angel of the Lord telling Joseph in a dream not to fear to take Mary as his wife (Matthew 1:18-23). **St. Matthew's Feast Day is September 21st.**

## 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time



There is something about being first. Whether it be first in line, first to be picked for the team, or the first one to finish their work, great satisfaction is achieved. Our egos love being first. It somehow sets us apart from everyone else, gives us a

sense of pride and positions us to feel better than others. When we are first, we can glory in our efforts, skills, and achievements. Isn't that what really matters? After all, we are taught from a very young age to be proficient, stay on top, be the best at what we do, and win the praise and esteem of others. This is the stuff that makes us successful and provides us with a comfortable, satisfying life.

Jesus wants none of it. All of the details we anguish over mean little to the kingdom of God. You want to be first? Then, be a servant and welcome a child. All of this is the opposite of our often vehement pursuits. If we are serious about following Jesus and living the Gospel, then we must put the needs of others before our own. If we continue to listen only to the noise of the world, we are going to continue to believe the illusions we inherit. Those illusions come in many forms, but all have things in common: me before you, being on top and not the bottom, us versus them, personal security over universal harmony and peace. When are we going to learn that always striving to be the best and first is an empty pursuit in our struggle for happiness? While satisfying our ego with this momentary boost of esteem may feel good for a moment, is it what we really desire?

If we can break from the world's noise and create a space of sacred silence in our lives, we can begin to listen and see that we are being called in another direction. What we really desire is not the bolstering of our egos but the innocence we lost somewhere along the way. When we can be playful, joyful, and even somewhat carefree, life is good. We want our relationships to work, a place to call home, and to live peaceful lives with our sisters and brothers. Only a servant can do this. The servant's prayer seeks to detach from self-concern in order to be used by God. Rather than worrying about being first and coming out on top, we can be inspired, guided, empowered, and led to do good works. Stop worrying about being first and put greater energy into feeling joy.

## St. Matthew Parish ~ Happenings

Tuesday, September 21, 6 pm -  
Parish Council Meeting, Church Auditorium  
(Re-scheduled)

~ MARK YOUR CALENDARS ~

Saturday, October 16,  
and Sunday, October 17  
2021 Gold'n Harvest 50/50 Raffle Kick off!

### St. Vincent De Paul School Supplies Drive Thank You, Everyone!

Our St. Matthew Conference of St. Vincent de Paul would like to thank everyone that contributed to the success of our recent school supply collection. Many parishioners very generously gave of their time by purchasing and donating much needed school supplies for families that have been served in the recent past by our SVdP conference members.

For financially challenged families living in our community that may not have adequate furniture for their homes and working appliances in their kitchens, the expense of providing sufficient school supplies for their children who are returning to school after the summer break can be difficult. With all your kind donations, our parish family was able to provide numerous students with a brand-new backpack full of school supplies that included notebooks, loose leaf paper, pens, pencils, erasers, crayons, folders, glue, rulers, calculators, and age appropriate books to help them get a good start on the school year.

It's always very gratifying to see the looks on the faces of the students when they're handed these backpacks with an assortment of much needed school supplies graciously donated by St. Matthew parishioners to this annual initiative of ours. The families we see are very thankful for what we're able to provide.

Thank you again to all in our parish for answering the call and making life a little brighter for those we serve. Your generosity and kindness is very much appreciated!

St. Matthew Conference of St. Vincent de Paul



### A Family Perspective

by Bud Ozar

Disagreements are common in families. But what would you say if Jesus posed the same question "What are you arguing about?" Is it silly and petty? Is it an attempt to impose your will and control on another? Today, Jesus tells us and his disciples to give it up. We are meant to serve each other, not control.

## CSA Minute ~ Sharing Christ



From Archbishop Allen Vigneron -

"Each year, the CSA raises critical funds that support more than 170 ministries, services, and programs that *Fuel the Mission*. This mission is critical so we can respond to the material and spiritual needs of individuals and families throughout Southeast Michigan. This is how we act from the heart, putting Christ and his mission above all else.

I am deeply grateful for the support you have shown to the CSA. I ask you to prayerfully consider supporting our 2021 Catholic Services Appeal. With your gift, you help us to fuel the mission across the archdiocese and serve thousands of individuals and families throughout Southeast Michigan. Every gift makes a difference.

I recognize that some may no longer be able to support the CSA financially. Know that you and your family are in my prayers. Please pray for the success of the mission."

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### 25th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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

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Gloria Bermudez ~ *Bookkeeper*

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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.*

Anthony Mastronardi  
Stephanie Smith  
Janet Law  
Laura Alix  
Jo Marie Nardi  
Anthony Crimauco  
Rosemary Schoolcraft  
Tiffany Gelle  
Robert Stark  
Pauline Williams  
Eloise Parker  
Herb and Jeanne Damman  
Doreen Redman  
Sarah Wagner  
Nenette Ferreria  
Lolita Dorado  
Albert Fajardo  
Eduardo Fajardo  
Aurora Guinto  
Jesse Ocampo

Mary Spansky  
Marie Kane  
Mike Dulapa  
Kathy Bush  
Sue Allasio  
Richard Goll  
Tim Fitzgerald  
Kristen Freiburger  
Joanne Papineau  
Elsa Camazzola  
William Walker IV

# Ministers, Lectors, and Servers

## LECTORS

## SERVERS

Saturday, September 25, 2021, 4:30 p.m.

Liz Smith

Sunday, September 26, 2021, 10:00 a.m.

David Smydra

Jermaine Donaldson

Julia Zuerblis

## Mass Schedule

### Saturday, September 18 - Vigil: 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

### Sunday, September 19 - 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00 a.m. - Frances Stankowski, Joseph Petrylka, Emile and Magda Torok, Alex Coronel, Herminio Vivo, In Memory of Sylvia and Raymond Novelly

### Monday, September 20 - Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Priest, and Paul Chong Ha-sang, and Companions, Martyrs

### Tuesday, September 21 - St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

9:00 a.m. - For the People of St. Matthew Parish

### Wednesday, September 22 -

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

### Thursday, September 23 - St. Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest

### Friday, September 24 -

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

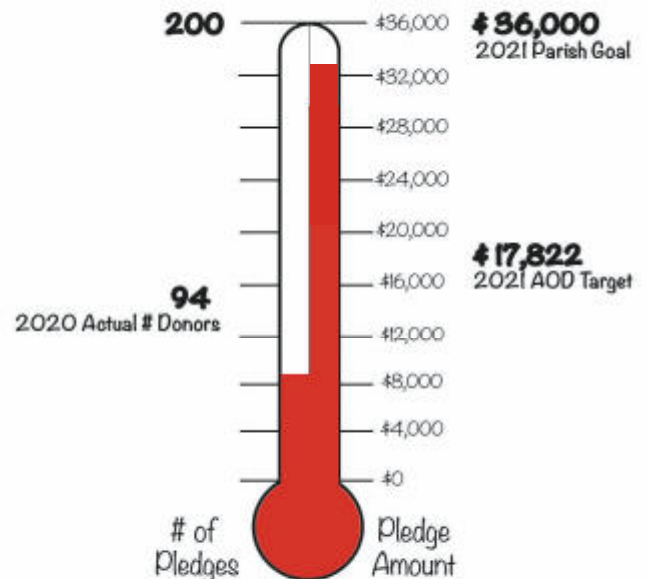
### Saturday, September 25 - Vigil: 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

### Sunday, September 26 - 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00 a.m. - For an Increase in Vocations to the Priesthood and Consecrated Life

## CSA 2021



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