

# ST. MATTHEW THE EVANGELIST PARISH



## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. John was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey. And this is what he proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me." - Mk 1:4, 6-7a

### MASSES THIS WEEKEND

Sat. Dec. 9 5:00 pm – Charlie Baxley †  
 Sun. Dec. 10 8:30 am – Robert Tomlinson †  
 10:30 am – St. Matthew Families

### MASSES THIS WEEK

Tues. Dec 12 9:00 am – St. Matthew Families  
 Wed. Dec 13 9:00 am – St. Matthew Families  
 Thur. Dec 14 7:00 am – Sally Heinen †  
 Fri. Dec. 15 9:00 am – Edward Forget

### MASSES NEXT WEEKEND

Sat. Dec. 16 5:00 pm – Bernice Zakaras †  
 Sun. Dec. 17 8:30 am – St. Matthew Families  
 10:30 am – Rodney & Mary Jo Fuhr

*Communion Service Monday-Friday at 7:00am*

### MINISTRY SCHEDULE Dec. 16/17

|          | 5pm         | 8:30am      | 10:30am   |
|----------|-------------|-------------|-----------|
| EMEs     | MGalloway   | DHarrington | RGivens   |
|          | PGalloway   | RHoldcroft  | DWilson   |
|          | STracy      | TVeylupek   | CWray     |
| Greeters | DGrajczyk   | NLeiber     | MKlein    |
|          | DKerr       | TMlnarik    | BStangler |
| Lectors  | JHalliday   | MRuane      | LHahn     |
|          | PMcEvoy     | PVeylupek   | PHawkins  |
| Servers  | CTreu       | JMlnarik    | ASanchez  |
|          | JTreu       | CRAusch     | JSevick   |
| Ushers   | DKathman    | MSchaeffer  | LBradford |
|          | DLinbrunner | JSteinauer  | TMedara   |
|          | MLukasina   | GStoiber    | APollack  |

If you cannot serve when you are scheduled, please call a *substitute*. *If you wish to be removed from the ministry list or the sub list, contact the parish office.*

### ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

Altar Server Training is scheduled by contacting Phil McEvoy at [prmcevoy@gmail.com](mailto:prmcevoy@gmail.com) or Dan Linder @ [dan@linder.org](mailto:dan@linder.org)



### MASS GREETERS NEEDED

*Job Duties include:* Smiling, greeting & handing out misselettes. All ages welcome! Contact the parish office. *No prior experience required.*

## CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNERS

## CONGRATULATIONS!

|        |                    |       |
|--------|--------------------|-------|
| Dec. 3 | Stephanie Janeczko | \$50  |
| Dec. 4 | Dan Tracy          | \$25  |
| Dec. 5 | Bill & Stacey Treu | \$25  |
| Dec. 6 | Janet Mlnarik      | \$25  |
| Dec. 7 | Rich James         | \$25  |
| Dec. 8 | Cary Luken         | \$100 |
| Dec. 9 | Barry & Joann King | \$25  |

There is no need to call or "claim" your prize. Winnings will be automatically mailed out to you.

### SCHEDULE FOR SECOND COLLECTIONS

*All checks made out to St. Matthew*

Dec. 9/10 Religious Retirement  
 Dec. 16/17 Utilities

### FAITH DIRECT

In this season of Advent, we are continuously preparing ourselves for the celebration of Christ's birth. Why not help our own parish prepare for the coming new year by signing up with Faith Direct? By supporting St. Matthew, both you and our parish can save some time and peace of mind this holiday season. Already using Faith Direct? Don't forget to add your Christmas or End-of-Year contributions to your account. Visit [www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net) and use our church code: NE489. Thank you for your continued support of our parish family!



### CHRISTMAS WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Regular Weekend Masses

**Saturday, Dec. 23 ~ 5:00pm**

**Sunday, Dec. 24 ~ 9:30am**

Christmas Masses

**Sunday, Dec. 24 ~ 4:00pm & 6:00pm**

**Monday, Dec. 25 ~ 10:00am**

*Sign up for ministries in the Commons.*



### 24 HOUR EUCHARIST ADORATION

Adoration is held every FIRST FRIDAY of the month, from 8:00 am Fri. through 8:00 am Sat. Multiple people can attend each hour. If you would like to be a sub, sign up on the table outside of the Chapel. Contact is Phil McEvoy at 402-689-6457 or [prmcevoy@gmail.com](mailto:prmcevoy@gmail.com).



*Welcome  
 Rosa Nayeli  
 Vega-Jimenez*

*Baptized December 3, 2017*



**Knights of Columbus:** Planning meeting is the first Monday each month; General Membership meeting is the third Monday each month. Meetings are at 7:00 pm in the

lower level of the parish office. All Knights are invited and welcome to attend both meetings.

If you are interested in joining or want more information, please contact Tom Medara, our Membership Director, at 502-4989 or Pat Brennan, Grand Knight, at 402-592-5027.

† † † † † † † †

Need a ride to Church? Contact Butch Songcuan 402-933-1646

Health Care Items are available for loan from the Knights: wheelchairs, electric wheelchairs, walkers and crutches. If you have borrowed and no longer need, please return. If you have items you no longer need and would like to donate, contact Pat Brennan, Grand Knight, at 402-592-5027.

**Columbian Squires Chief Counselor**  
Phil Earslev 402-214-7877

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CHRISTMAS SOCIAL  
HURRY! HURRY! HURRY!**

Brothers in Christ.... If you have not made your plans to attend the Knights of Columbus 2017 Christmas Social to be held December 14th (Thursday) at 6PM at the Council 3019 Social Hall.... Please do so immediately!!! We need an accurate head count right away and we don't want to turn anyone away. You and your guest are encouraged to attend this complimentary evening, but REGRETS are requested if you cannot attend. ... Please RSVP to me at 402-291-1493 or dbruceb1@gmail.com or contact me if you have any questions about the evening. Vivat! Jesus – Dave Boone DGK council 11879.



**WWG (WOMEN WORKING FOR GOD)**

Please take a minute to visit the Giving Tree located at the WWG Table in the Commons. If you are able to, please take an ornament and return the suggested gift, unwrapped, by 11:30am on Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>.

**SCRIP/MATT'S MONEY**

Last weekend's rebate: \$318.05

Scrip rebates not designated to a school or CCD student will now solely benefit our Building Fund. If you would like more information, or would like to volunteer; stop at our Scrip table after Mass, see our website or contact Samantha Elbert at 515-341-5041.

**BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS**

Every 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month free blood pressure screenings will be offered following 8:30am mass in the Commons.



**UPON THIS ROCK**  
"STRONG IS HIS LOVE FOR US; HE IS FAITHFUL FOR EVER." PSALM 117

**Upon This Rock  
Campaign Update**

**\$100,000 Matching Gift Challenge**

New or increased pledges made now through Dec. 22, will be matched dollar-for-dollar by a generous parish family. If a new pledge card or packet is needed, please call the parish office 402-292-7418.



**SAVE THE DATE**

We are long overdue for a parish photo directory. Please mark your calendars and plan to participate next March 5th-10th. All participating families will receive a free 8 x 10 photo and a photo directory. *More information to come soon.*

**THE SILENT AUCTION IS BACK!!!**

Due to the popularity, the generous bidding, and the blessed number of donations, the Silent Auction is returning. The first batch of items has a Christmas and Religious theme. Please check them out. As in the past the items will stay up for Auction for about 1 week and then be sold to the highest bidder.

For more information, to assist with the auction, or to donate an item, please contact Scott Eversole at 402-216-1508 or at sreversole@schools.archomaha.org

**SVDP ~ FURNITURE NEEDED**

A St. Vincent de Paul client with young children, in our neighborhood, is in need of the following items for his apartment: couch, love seat, one end table, kitchen table and chairs. If you can help, please contact Beth at 402-212-4208.

## **CONSECRATION OF ST. MATTHEW PARISH**

This past Friday evening, December 8, at the 6:30pm Mass celebrating the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, Father Leo consecrated St. Matthew Parish to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. What a wonderful occasion for our parish community as we move forward on a pathway to a new church. A group of our parishioners were recognized as they completed the 33 Days to Morning Glory group retreat, by Father Michael Gaitley, to prepare for this consecration. All parishioners at Mass prayed a consecration prayer to Mary. Extra prayer cards and programs honoring this occasion are available on the table in the Commons. Please take one per family. If you are interested in learning more about this consecration, the book is available at marian.org, the program is available on FORMED.org or watch the bulletin next Fall when the program will be offered again.

## **PREPARE YOUR HEARTS FOR CHRISTMAS**

Advent is a time to prepare our hearts for Christmas, but we often get distracted and busy. Don't let this Advent pass you by. It's not too late to join us for an "Advent retreat with Our Blessed Mother." We are listening to a 4-CD study by Dr. Brant Pitre that takes us on a scriptural journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem by looking at Jesus through the eyes of the person closest to him, the Virgin Mary. Come enter more deeply into the Christmas season by letting Mary prepare you to celebrate the great feast of the Incarnation. We will meet in the school library (Bldg 2) to listen to CDs 2 & 3 Sunday, December 10, from 6:30 - 8:15pm and CD 4 on Sunday, December 17 from 6:30 - 7:30pm. There is NO cost and snacks are provided.

Also, it's not too late to sign up for "Best Advent Ever," a free email program from Dynamic Catholic that will help you slow down and focus on what matters most during Advent. Each day, you'll receive an email with . .

- Short inspirational videos from leading Catholic voices Matthew Kelly and Dr. Allen Hunt
- Practical tips for your everyday life
- Real-life stories of hope

To sign up visit: [BestAdventEver.com/BeautifulHope](http://BestAdventEver.com/BeautifulHope)

## **ADULT FAITH FORMATION**

### **SCRIPTURE STUDY WITH DEACON DEALL**

Deacon Tom Deall is again facilitating the adult education Scripture study, 6:30 – 7:30 pm. It is held every Wednesday in lower level of the parish office. All are welcome!

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!**

Our Christmas Trees need assembled and fluffed: Thursday or Friday after 3pm or anytime on Saturday. Also, help is needed next Sunday at 11:30am to decorate! Contact Parish Office to help 402-292-7418.

## **ADULT FAITH FORMATION**

### **SUNDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY**

All are invited to join us for a program based on the book Divine Mercy in the Second Greatest Story Ever Told by Fr. Michael Gaitley. "In 10 fast-paced and lively sessions, Fr. Gaitley connects people and events in history to a unifying vision of the splendor of God's merciful love. From the epic story of Poland's national suffering, to the events of Fatima, the revelations of St. Faustina, the heroic efforts of St. Maximilian Kolbe, and the life of St. John Paul II, the panorama of Divine Mercy is fully revealed as a transformative reality." Come learn more about the important message and devotion behind the Divine Mercy image that you see at Mass every week! This is the introduction to the Hearts Afire Parish-based Program (HAPP) by Fr. Gaitley. This 10-week program will be on Sunday evenings from 5:00 - 6:30pm in the 8th grade classroom, Bldg 1. Classes will start on January 7. Cost is \$5. Free pizza and refreshments. Sign up list is on the Knight's table in the Commons or contact Rick Holdcroft, 402-350-4097.

## **PRO-LIFE MINISTRY**

This Tuesday, December 12, is the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. The Blessed Mother, under the title of Our Lady of Guadalupe, is the Intercessor of the Unborn. To help stop the anti-life push in the world the late Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen encouraged the spiritual adoption of an unborn child. This is done by praying that one particular but unknown child's life be spared abortion and be allowed to continue to live. To help accomplish this, it was recommended, an individual say the following daily prayer for a period of nine months.

"Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I love you very much. I beg you to spare the life of the unborn baby that I have spiritually adopted who is in danger of abortion."

The name I wish to give my baby is:\_\_\_\_\_. During your earthly life this spiritually adopted Child of yours will be known only to God but in the world to come it is hoped that you will meet the souls your prayers saved and spend eternal happiness with them.

Jesus, may your peace and your love embrace the hearts, minds and souls of the family, friends and loved ones who encourage this abortion and lead them all to your sacred and Eucharistic heart.

(Also, the suggestion was made to adopt your baby on December 12, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, to help you remember when you started your adoption prayer. After nine months for the next three months then pray that your baby was saved and that he/she is happy and healthy in a loving home. Next December 12 adopt a new baby and continue praying. There are Spiritual Adoption Prayer Cards on the K of C table.)

## SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING

Registration for the St. Matthew December 16, 2017 Initial/Expired Safe Environment (SE) training session is available at the website: <http://archomaha.org/ministries/safe-environment/training/>. The training session will be from 9:00a to 11:30a. It will be in the Cardinal Spellman Room (Parish Administration Building Lower Level). The website has registration instructions, but please contact Deacon Mark if you have any questions.

## SCHOOL REGISTRATION

For enrollment and tuition information visit: [www.stmatthewbellevue.net](http://www.stmatthewbellevue.net)

We are AdvancED and NCEA accredited! We also offer small classes, individual attention and a faith filled environment for your children. ***Did You Know?*** If your child transfers into St. Matthew School from a local non-Catholic school, your family could be eligible for \$1000 off tuition for the first year and \$500 off the second year. This applies to students in grades 1 - 7 in classes that have openings. Check out our school, you're already here for Mass anyway!

## HYVEE RECEIPTS

PTO is again collect receipts from HyVee. Last year they earned \$79.32. The receipts collected must have dates between September 1 and December 31, 2017 to qualify to earn money for PTO.

## AMAZON SMILE!

Amazon donates 0.5% of your purchase price to St Matthew when you shop through [smile.amazon](http://smile.amazon.com) and select St. Matthew as your designated charity. ***OR*** just use this direct link every time you shop. <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/47-0800122>

## PARISH DIRECTORY

If you would like to receive the parish directory, contact us with your current email address. ***Please note*** that our system will only allow us to send to **one primary email address** per family. If you would like to change your primary email address, or your family's information, email us at [stmatthew.bel@archomaha.org](mailto:stmatthew.bel@archomaha.org).

*The directory is intended for the use of St. Matthew Parishioners only and shall not be used for solicitation, preparation of mailing lists or "for profit" activities.*

## WANT TO BE NOTIFIED WHEN A NEW BULLETIN IS POSTED ONLINE?

Visit our website: [stmatthewbellevue.org](http://stmatthewbellevue.org), select ***Weekly Bulletin*** and click the ***Parishes Online*** link at the bottom of the page OR use this direct link:

<http://www.parishesonline.com/find/st-matthew-the-evangelist>  
***Be sure the church listed is St. Matthew***....Then click "View Page" and the "Subscribe" button in the upper right corner of the *recent publications* section. Please note: you will be notified by email when a new cover is downloaded by Liturgical Publications (approx. monthly), as well as for our weekly bulletin information. You can view/download up to the last 12 publications. *If you need help, please call the office and have your email address handy, we will be happy to help you!*

## "THE PATHWAY TO OUR CHURCH"

### COMMEMORATIVE BRICKS

(AN ONGOING FUNDRAISER)

We, the parishioners of St. Matthew, are the foundation of OUR Church. As noted in our prayer said together at the end of Mass, we must commit our hearts, minds and finances to the spirit and actual structure of OUR Church.

One fund-raising opportunity is the sale of these bricks. The bricks, available for \$100 each, will be used to build the actual *Pathway to OUR Church*. In the meantime, they'll be used to line the sidewalks leading into our current church. When the time comes, they will be moved to the pathway.

On each brick you can make a dedication to your family, your marriage, your children or in memory of a loved one who rests in peace. It's your brick and it's your choice of words.

Forms to purchase a brick are available in the Commons, parish and school offices, online and periodically in the bulletin. Simply fill out the form, pay the \$100 fee and be a part of OUR Pathway, OUR church family and OUR History and, most importantly, OUR future!

*You may also order a brick by clicking the link on our website: [stmatthewbellevue.org](http://stmatthewbellevue.org)*

May God bless you and may God continue to bless St. Matthew Parish, school and families.

## ATTN: ST. MATTHEW COMMITTEES

Please take some time to review the information posted on our website for your committee.

<http://www.stmatthewbellevue.org/Organizations>

For any changes/additions on your page, or to have your events/flyers placed on the "UPCOMING EVENTS" section of the website please email: [plbanks@archomaha.org](mailto:plbanks@archomaha.org).

For bulletin publications, send to:

[stmatthew.bel@archomaha.org](mailto:stmatthew.bel@archomaha.org)

Deadline for upcoming weekend bulletin is Tuesday at noon. Please note that all submitted items may be edited, as space permits.

To schedule a meeting on campus, please view the "Calendar of Events" on our website for availability and then contact the Parish Office to schedule your meeting.

<http://www.stmatthewbellevue.org/Calendar-of-Events>

## FORMED.ORG

Check out one of the many great programs, books, movies and audio talks to enrich your Advent preparation for Christmas. Below are just a few suggestions. Click on the "Search" tab and enter "Advent" to see more items available.

Program - Opening the Word (a program offering prayer and insights for the Sunday Readings of Advent)

Book - Mary, God's Yes to Man

Movie - Nicholas (Animated, great for families)

Audio Talks - Journey Through Advent; Prepare the Way of the King

Visit [FORMED.org](http://FORMED.org). Click on the "Learn" tab for more information about the website. Then click on "Register" to sign up for FREE using the St. Matthew Parish code: TGQQ66

### **SUNDAY EVENING PRAYER ("VESPERS")**

Vespers are held every Sunday evening at 6:00 p.m. in the chapel. Evening Prayer is one part of the Church's Liturgy of the Hours. Through the Liturgy of the Hours, the people of God sanctify the day by continual praise of God and prayers of intercession for the needs of the world. For more information, contact Deacon Mark White (mhwhite@archomaha.org or 402 292-7928).

### **OUR LADY OF FATIMA STATUE**

A family in our parish has graciously loaned us a statue of Our Lady of Fatima. The statue has been a part of their family for over 30 years, has traveled to many members of the family in times of need, as well as to many parishes throughout the country. Many prayers have been answered! You may sign out the statue from the Parish Office M-F from 9am-12pm or 1pm-4:00pm. If this is not convenient, please contact Phil McEvoy at [pmcevoy@gmail.com](mailto:pmcevoy@gmail.com) or 402-689-6457 to arrange pickup.

