

**SUNDAY COLLECTIONS**

Apr. 9	TBA
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**MASS SCHEDULE**

*DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY (OCTAVE DAY OF EASTER)*

Sat. Apr. 15	5:00 PM	For the Living and Deceased People of Our Parish
Sun. Apr. 16	9:00 AM	For †Ellarie Glenn
Mon. Apr. 17	8:00 AM	For †Victims of Nashville Shooting
Tue. Apr. 18	8:00 AM	For a Special Intention [Anonymous]
Wed. Apr. 19	8:00 AM	For Mike Lemming (Living)
Thur. Apr. 20	8:00 AM	For Mike Lemming (Living) (Adoration & Confessions 6-7 PM)
Fri. Apr. 21	8:00 AM	For †Rosario Fariello

*THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER*

Sat. Apr. 22	5:00 PM	For Sarah Gripshover (Living)
Sun. Apr. 23	9:00 AM	For the Living and Deceased People of Our Parish

**PRAYER LIST**—Jerry & Eileen Ehlman, Sherri Moffett, Charles Taylor, Chris Rauf, Katie Davis, Barry Bergman, Andrew Lauck, Bradley Franzen, Pam Babbington, Dave Kordenbrock, Kate & Colton Sherold, Karen Reilly, Emmitt Thomas, Jeff suffering from Meniere’s disease, Tony Bach, John Jackson, Hank Bond, Hudson Feinauer, Mike and Bill Lemming, Dave Neuspickel, Bonita & Jim Happe, Dave Verst, Andy Sper, Billie Huffman, Larry Slusher, Brenda Johnson, Verna Payne, Roger High, Rita Funke, Johnathan Briggs, Cheryl Miller, Missy Fryman, Sherry Jackson, Sarah Gripshover, Jeamme Eames. Bill Schneider (In Storrypoint Assisted Living, 9255 US 42, Apt. 44, Union, KY. 41091), Ree Wagner, and Randy Goodhew.

**BIRTHDAYS**—Apr. 3-William Beck, Apr. 4-Ethan Thorwarth, Apr. 10-Caity Schroeder, Apr. 11-Bailey Downs, Apr. 13-Gabrielle Feinauer, Apr. 13-Tori Schroder, Apr. 13-Cap Kiser, Apr. 14-Peter Cooper, Apr. 20– Hudson Feinauer, Apr. 27-Jill Schmiade.

*Please send any requests for prayers or memorials to the parish email or call to make a request. If you birthday or anniversary is not listed, let Linda know.*



**SAINT MATTHEW CHURCH**

Pastor: Rev. Jacob Straub – Cell (859) 445-2436

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Parish Website: [stmatthewskenton.org](http://stmatthewskenton.org)

Worship Schedule:

Saturdays – 5:00 PM

Sundays – 9:00 AM

Weekdays – 8:00 AM

Eucharistic Adoration: Thursdays 6-7:00 PM

Confession Times:

Saturdays – 4:00-4:50 PM

Sundays – 8:00-8:50 AM

Thursdays—6:00-7:00 PM

Parish Staff and Volunteers

Religious Education – Roseanne Rawe (859) 635-1572

Bulletin/Prayer List – Linda Fryman (859) 240-2377

Parish History/Cemetery Info – Patty Neuspickel (859) 472-2508

## DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY (OCTAVE DAY OF EASTER)

APRIL 16, 2023

### PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

**BIBLE STUDIES**—Matthew Wiseman has graciously agreed to extend our Monday evening bible studies so we will continue to meet at church at 6:30 PM on Mondays. Don't miss this. It is very enlightening as Matthew is so knowledgeable about theology.

**NKY PREGNANCY CARE NETWORK** will be having a Community Baby Shower on Apr. 26 from 5pm-7pm at Covington Life Learning Center. The network relies on local churches and organizations to supply the needed items for the showers. Items needed are diapers (sizes 2-5), baby wipes, new onesies, new swaddle blankets, and sleepers of various sizes. Larger items can be donated such as strollers, portable size baby beds, infant seats, and highchairs. These will be used as raffle prizes for those attending the baby shower. There will be a bin under the front table for your donations. Please return them by **Apr. 16** so we can get them down to the Learning Center in time. Thank you!

**DPAA 2023**—As of this bulletin our parish has pledged or collected \$2,140. Our goal is \$12,100. If you have not responded to the appeal, please do so. You are also welcome to donate throughout the year if you feel that you cannot make a commitment at this time. Any amount at any time will be greatly appreciated.

**DIVINE MERCY SERVICES**—The Cathedral Basilica in Covington will be hosting evening prayer beginning at 3 PM. All Saints in Walton will have Eucharistic Adoration along with Divine Mercy devotions and confession starting at 3:00 PM.

**LECTOR**— Apr. 16-Julie Feinauer, Apr. 23-Lisa Cooper

**CLEANING**—Tom and Darlene Schutte

*JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU!*



### FROM THE PASTOR – THE EASTER DUTY

This Sunday marks the end of our initial celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord, with the conclusion of the Octave of Easter-eight days to celebrate Jesus' victory over Satan, over sin, and over death. But the celebration continues for a while longer, until Pentecost which occurs on the 50th day after Easter. This Easter season is filled with "alleluia" and rejoicing in the tones because we are called to joy in the light of the victory of Christ. It is a holy season but also a celebratory season, and one that we should rejoice in through our daily lives.

The Easter season (in more traditional places called Eastertide or Paschaltide) is meant to be a celebratory time for the reception of the sacraments as well. We know of those who have been baptized and confirmed at the Easter Vigil around the world who now join us as fellow Catholics. Yet we who are already members of the body of Christ are in turn called to a joyful reception of the sacraments. Holy Mother Church desires this for us in making one of the few demands she does upon us in the Easter duty: the reception of Holy Communion once a year during the Easter season (that is, from Easter Sunday until Pentecost Sunday).

To be clear, this Easter duty is a minimum mandate. The Church encourages and supports the more frequent reception of the Eucharist beyond once a year. This duty is to ensure that the faithful do not keep themselves separated from Christ and His sacraments for too long. It seems hard to believe in an age when so many come forward with frequency to receive, but many Catholics in more ancient times held the Eucharist in such high regard (and perhaps themselves in too low of regard) that they refrained from receiving Communion out of fear they would degrade it. To combat this dangerous practice, the Church began mandating the reception of Holy Communion on Easter Sunday since the sixth century.

Why must we receive the Eucharist during Eastertide? Because of that other word we use to identify this sacred mystery: Communion. It is in the Eucharist that we enter into communion with Christ, who came to draw us to Himself and through Him to God. To receive the Eucharist is to become like Christ and to enter into the divine life which is meant for all. To avoid receiving the Eucharist means one has cut oneself off from communion with Christ, and how can one profess to be a Catholic if one is not in communion?

Some people struggle to make this duty because they persist in a state of mortal sin. We are not meant to stay sinners but to be renewed in the Risen Lord who pours out His mercy upon all who will receive it. Remember that confession is always available for an hour before weekend Masses, and that I am more than willing to meet privately to discuss any issues with you. Let us make our Easter duty worthily and well so that we may remain with Christ risen from the dead and be renewed by His mercy for the greater communion which awaits in everlasting life!

*Fr. Jacob Straub*