

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

Apr. 10	\$2,074
Apr. 17	\$1,308

MASS SCHEDULE

<i>DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY (OCTAVE DAY OF EASTER)</i>		
Sat. Apr. 23	5:00 PM	For the Living and Deceased Members of Our Parish
Sun. Apr. 24	9:00 AM	For Esther Rose and Peter Ignatius Cooper (L)
Mon. Apr. 25	8:00 AM	For †Gene Woodall
Tue. Apr. 26		<i>No Public Mass</i>
Wed. Apr. 27	8:00 AM	For †Ed Gripshover
Thur. Apr. 28		<i>No Public Mass</i>
Fri. Apr. 29		<i>No Public Mass</i>
<i>THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER</i>		
Sat. Apr. 30	5:00 PM	For Wayne and Barb Bach (L)
Sun. May 1	9:00 AM	For †Drew Kordenbrock

PRAYER LIST—Jerry & Eileen Ehlman, Sherri Moffett, Charles Taylor, Mary Louise Cross, Vernon Dixon, Chris Rauf, Katie Davis, Barry Bergman, Andrew Lauck, Bradley Franzen, Pam Babbington, Dave Kordenbrock, Kate & Colton Sherold, Karen Reilly, Judy Reilly, Emmitt Thomas, Jeff who is suffering from Meniere’s disease, Lena Bach, Brian Buckingham, Tony Bach, John Jackson, Jeff Elbert, Hank Bond, Hudson Feinauer, Billie Jean Huffman, Bobby Jo Glenn, and Andy Sper.

BIRTHDAYS– April 20– Hudson Feinauer, April 27– Jill Schmiade, May 9–Bill Funke, May 11–Meggy Cooper, May 17–Brenda Baker, May 18–Rosanne Rawe, May 18–Nathan Thorwarth, May 23–Estelle Thorwarth, May 30–Mark Cooper

ANNIVERSARY–May 3– Kathy and Joe Bach

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

Address: 13782 Decoursey Pike Morning View, KY 41063

Phone: (859) 356-6530

Fax: (859) 356-1695

Parish Email: stmatthew13782@gmail.com – Bulletin submissions by Fri. afternoon

Parish Website: stmatthewskenton.org

Worship Schedule:

Saturdays – 5:00 PM

Sundays – 9:00 AM

Weekdays – please check each week’s schedule

Confession Times:

Saturdays – 4:00-4:50 PM

Sundays – 8:00-8:50 AM

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 24, 2022

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

ST. VINCENT COLLECTION—Next month we will collect items for personal care such as body wash, lotion, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, bar soap, etc.

DPAA—The 2022 DPAA is now underway. Our parish goal this year is \$11,300. We are getting a very slow start in meeting our goal. Please consider giving. If we do not meet our goal, it comes out of the parish funds.

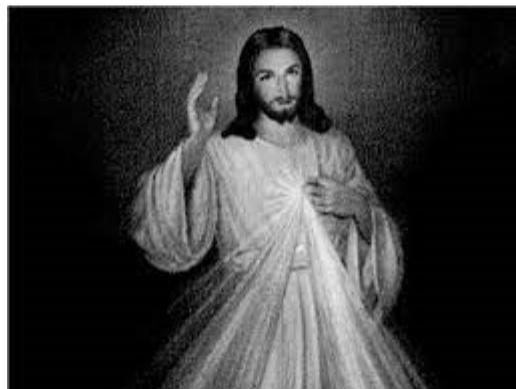
BAPTISMS THIS SUNDAY—After Sunday Mass this week there will be two baptisms. Kevin and Kalynn Cooper will have Esther Rose baptized and Brad and Meggy Cooper will have Peter Ignatius baptized. Stay and welcome our new brother and sister in Christ to our family.

MORNING OF REFLECTION—A Morning of Reflection is being hosted by All Saints in Walton on Saturday, April 30th from 9:30 AM—12:30 PM. Fr. Conor Kunath will be speaking, Mass will be celebrated, and there will be an opportunity for Adoration and Confession as well. If you have not yet attended one of these mornings, we hope you will give yourself the gift of some reflection time this Easter Season and join Fr. Kunath next Saturday at All Saints.

LECTOR— April 24—Linda Fryman May 1 —Bernie Rawe May 8— Rita Funke

CLEANING TEAM— APR. 24— Chris and Linda May 8—Kathy and Wanda Bach

*Jesus,
I trust
in You!*



FROM THE PASTOR – THE PASCHAL CANDLE

Just as Christmas is more than just one day, so also Easter is more than just one day in the celebration of the Church. This Sunday sees the conclusion of the Octave of Easter, in which we have continued the immediate rejoicing over the Resurrection of Jesus for eight days, ending on this Divine Mercy Sunday. We will continue to celebrate Easter over a total of 50 days. This length of time should remind us that we are meant more for joy than sorrow, as Lent was only 40 days yet Easter is longer.

The great symbol of the Easter season is the Paschal candle blessed and ignited at the Easter Vigil every year. There is a long history of having this particular candle signify the risen Savior as the Light of the world restoring “innocence to the fallen” as the Exsultet proclaims. This candle often has elaborate designs on it in celebration of Easter and calling us to consider He whom that candle symbolizes. This year’s candle is no different in the images that are painted on. I want to use this column to discuss the images seen on it and their significance.

Our candle was made by a woman named Gina Switzer who has been making paschal candles for years. This year’s design features 3 striking images: a peacock, a pomegranate, and an artichoke. Each of these images represents one of the theological virtues—the virtues infused into us by the Holy Spirit at our baptism so that we may believe (faith), trust (hope), and love (charity).

The peacock on the top is the symbol of faith, well-attested in the Church Fathers. The ancient pagans noted that the peacock did not rot when it died but merely dried out, remaining beautiful even in death. The early Christians took this as a symbol of eternal life and applied the peacock to the catacombs and sarcophagi. The peacock on our candle drinks from a font in recognition of the grace flowing from baptism that allows us to believe in all revealed by God through Jesus and disseminated through the Church.

The artichoke on the bottom is the symbol of hope. From Mrs. Switzer’s website: “The artichoke takes perseverance and Hope. Trim the thorns. Boil the globe. Peel away each leaf. Scrape away the nascent flower. Finally, the small tender heart is revealed and the hope for a tasty morsel is revealed. It’s a lot of work for little food and yet, in light of the Resurrection, it seems fitting to contemplate the hope of the transformation of a cursed thorny thistle into a delicacy, not unlike our own thorny selves becoming holy through the grace of Christ’s redeeming work on the Cross.”

Finally, the pomegranate in the middle of the cross is the symbol of charity. This fruit was seen as a symbol of fertility in many pagan cultures because of the multitude of seeds within it. St. Francis de Sales describes how charity “is oftentimes represented by the pomegranate, which, as it takes its properties from the pomegranate-tree, may be said to be the virtue of this tree; so again it seems to be its gift, which it offers to man by love; and it is its fruit, since it is eaten to please man’s taste; and finally it is, so to speak, its glory and beatitude, since it bears the crown and diadem”.

We should reflect on these virtues in celebrating this season in which we renew our faith in the Resurrection, hope in the mercy won for us through the crucified and risen Lord, and love the Lamb slain for our sins. Let us practice these virtues well so that we may be worthy to have our faith relieved, hope answered, and love brought to fulfillment in eternity.

Fr. Jacob Straub