SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

Dec 15	\$1,641
DPAA Rebate	\$1,680

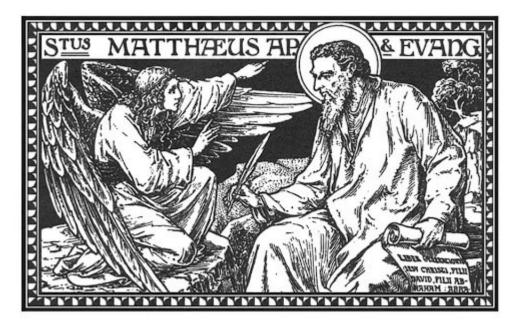
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MASS SCHEDULE		
(L=Living, †=Deceased)		
THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT		
Sat. Dec. 21	5:00 PM	For Regina Bach and Dudley Magee (L)
Sun. Dec. 22	9:00 AM	For the Living and Deceased People of the Parish
Mon. Dec. 23	XXXXX	NO PUBLIC MASS
THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST (CHRISTMAS)		
Tue. Dec. 24	6:00 PM	For †Herb Elbert
Wed. Dec. 25	9:00 AM	For the Living and Deceased People of the Parish
Thur. Dec. 26	8:00 AM	For Corbin Musial (L)
Fri. Dec. 27	8:00 AM	For †Verna Payne [from William Homan]
THE SOLEMNITY OF THE HOLY FAMILY (SUNDAY IN THE OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS)		
Sat. Dec. 28	5:00 PM	For †Edward Scott
Sun. Dec. 29	9:00 AM	For the Living and Deceased People of the Parish

PRAYER LIST—Jerry & Eileen Ehlman, Imogene Fisk, Sr. Georgia, Emmitt Thomas, Jeff suffering from Meniere's disease, Tony Bach, Bill Lemming, Dave Neuspickel, Andy Sper, Billie Huffman, Roger High, Cheryl Miller, Sherry Jackson, Sarah Gripshover, Jeanne Eanes, Bill Schneider (Dominion Assisted Living 4009 Siegalman Dr. Florence, Room 215), Ree Wagner, John Jackson, Wanda Bach, Maverick Orth (3yrs old), Daniel Cahill, Pax Minch, Todd Kloentrup, Gina Cooper, Tom Breeze, Rita Funke, Mary Lou Kaub, and Valetta Proctor.

BIRTHDAYS— Dec. 2-Andrea Huffman, Dec. 3-Ryder Cooper, Dec. 7-Nolan Redmon, Dec. 8-Sherman Redmon, Dec, 14-Ella Dickerson, Dec. 16-Imogene Fisk, Dec, 18-Joseph Broering, Dec. 21-Ava Mae Hummel, Dec. 23-Kaylynn Cooper, Dec. 24-Patty Neuspickel, Dec. 30-Michael Ryan.

ANNIVERSARY— Dec. 7-Howard and Penny Kluesener, Dec. 13-Jason and Julie Feinauer, Dec. 18-Rosanne and Bernie Rawe, Dec. 22-Lawrence and Amanda Eten, Dec. 31-Chris and Linda Fryman.

Please send any requests for prayers or memorials to the parish email or call to make a request. If anyone's birthday or anniversary is not listed, let Linda Fryman 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

Mass Schedule:

Saturdays – 5:00 PM Sundays – 9:00 AM

Weekdays [Tue through Fri] $-~8~\mathrm{AM}$ $~\mathrm{Holy~Days}-~8:00~\mathrm{AM}$ and $7:00~\mathrm{PM}$

Confession Times:

Saturdays — 4:00-4:50 PM Sundays — 8:00-8:50 AM

Parish Staff and Volunteers

Religious Education – Lindsey Rawe (859) 250-7415 Bulletin/Prayer List – Linda Fryman (859) 240-2377

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

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 22, 2024

HOLIDAY CARDS TO SHUT-INS—The CCD kids will be making holiday cards (Thanksgiving and Christmas) for our shut ins. We already have Imogene Fisk and Bill Schneider on our list. If you know of someone else, please tell Lindsey Rawe.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS—Please get your flower donations in ASAP if you want your memorials and dedications listed in the Christmas bulletin.

DPAA—If you have any end of year donations you would like to make, feel free to send them through the DPAA either with the parish or online (via covdio.org; be sure to select Saint Matthew in the parish dropdown menu). All donations to the DPAA 100% return to the parish since we have met our yearly goal.

LECTOR-Dec. 22-Brad Cooper, Dec. 24-Kathy Bach, Dec. 25-Linda Fryman, Dec. 29-Bill Funke

CLEANING – Dec.-Genita and daughters

HOLY DAY SCHEDULES

Christmas—Dec. 24 @ 6:00 PM and Dec. 25 @ 9:00 AM Mother of God—Dec. 31 @ 5:00 PM and Jan. 1 @ 9:00 AM

"Blessed are you among women,

And blessed is the fruit

of your womb!"



FROM THE PASTOR—THE THIRD COMMANDMENT

Traditional Formula: Remember to keep holy the LORD's Day.

Commentary: While we are meant to sanctify all times, God specifically commands that one day each week be set aside specifically for worship as well as rest. We know the part about rest because we hear about the rest of the Lord in the work of creation (see Gen. 1). God commands the day of rest be also a holy day as a reminder of the supremacy of God in all things. We rest because the primary Worker in all and through all is God. We have no food without God, let alone salvation, grace, and mercy.

While initially the Lord's Day was Saturday as the seventh day of the week and the day associated with divine rest from creation, Christians immediately after the Ascension of Christ gathered for Mass on Sunday as the day of new creation in the Resurrection of the Lord. Other days beyond Sunday became important to aid our commemoration of the mysteries of Christ throughout the year: days such as Christmas, the Ascension of the Lord (traditionally on a Thursday), All Saints, and the feasts of Our Blessed Mother.

Sins against the Third Commandment

- -Skipping or Avoiding Mass: We cannot avoid Mass on Sundays and days of obligation. Our first priority must be the love of God in all things. We are excused from Mass if we are sick or if we are caring for someone sick or incapable of caring for themselves (babies, elderly, severely sick, etc.) but there are no other excuses possible. To avoid Mass is to avoid giving the reverence and adoration due to God through the Mass. If you know of an occasion that might cause you to miss your regular Mass or if your duties or work cause you to regularly miss Mass, you can speak with your pastor and see if he can grant you a dispensation (an excused absence from Mass). Never presume you are excused.
- -Unnecessary or Excessive Work: We are meant to rest in the Lord on Sundays and holy days. This is not to the extreme level many Jews take it, with avoiding flipping light switches or even cooking. We are permitted to do the basics needed for life, as well as works of charity for others. But we must respect Sunday as a day of rest and not another day for work. We need rest, which is why God commands it.
- -Lack of Reverence at Mass: The obligation to attend Mass does not mean merely being present while Mass is offered. We have a duty to worship God through the Mass which Christ instituted for this reason. To be intentionally distracted or disinterested at Mass is gravely disrespectful of God as well as irreverent towards the Almighty who has given you everything. While we are frail creatures capable of giving in to weaknesses even at Mass, we should never intentionally keep our minds away from glorifying God and giving Him everything we can in return for the good things He has done for us in Christ.

 Fr. Jacob Straub