

**SUNDAY COLLECTIONS**

Nov. 26	\$672
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**MASS SCHEDULE**

(L=Living, †=Deceased)

*FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT*

Sat. Dec. 2	5:00 PM	For †Genoa Scott
Sun. Dec. 3	9:00 AM	For the Living & Deceased People of the Parish
Mon. Dec. 4	8:00 AM	For Mike Lemming (L)
Tue. Dec. 5	8:00 AM	For Special Intention of Eileen Ehlman
Wed. Dec. 6	8:00 AM	For Rosanne Rawe (L)
Thur. Dec. 7	8:00 AM	For PrayTheRosary.com [NO ADORATION THIS WEEK]
	7:00 PM	For the Living & Deceased People of the Parish
Fri. Dec. 8	8:00 AM	For the Intentions of the Blessed Virgin Mary

*SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT*

Sat. Dec. 9	5:00 PM	For †Deceased of Hoffman & Gripshover Families
Sun. Dec. 10	9:00 AM	For †Drew Kordenbrock

**PRAYER LIST**—Jerry & Eileen Ehlman, Verna Payne, Kate & Colton Sherold, Emmitt Thomas, Jeff suffering from Meniere’s disease, Tony Bach, Mike and Bill Lemming, Dave Neuspickel, Bonita & Jim Happe, Andy Sper, Billie Huffman, Larry Slusher, Roger High, Cheryl Miller, Sherry Jackson, Sarah Gripshover, Jeanne Eanes, Bill Schneider (Dominion Assisted Living 4009 Siegalman Dr. Florence, KY. 41042 Room 215), Ree Wagner, Randy Goodhew, Patty Neuspickel’s son Jim, Alan Fields, Imogene Fisk, Larry Cappel, Sean Timmerding, Rodney Gurren, Maverick Orth (2 years old), Bill Edelbroich, Jim Wolfe.

**BIRTHDAYS**– Dec. 2-Andrea Huffman, Dec. 3-Ryder Cooper, Dec. 14-Ella Dickerson, Dec. 16-Imogene Fisk, Dec. 18-Joseph Broering, Dec. 23-Kaylynn Cooper, Dec. 24-Patty Neuspickel, Dec. 29-Megan Oldiges, Dec. 30-Michael Ryan.

**ANNIVERSARY**– Nov. 27-Bill and Nancy Schneider, Dec. 7-Howard and Penny Kluesener, Dec. 13-Jason and Julie Feinauer, Dec. 18-Rosanne and Bernie Rawe

**ANNIVERSARY**– *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 – 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—6:00-6:50 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

## THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 3, 2023

**DPAA—We have achieved our goal!!** Thanks to everyone who has given this year. Now, any DPAA donation given after meeting the goal comes directly back to St. Matthew and we do not have to pay the diocesan tax on it. If you have not yet donated or wish to increase your offering, now is the time to do so.

**YEARLY SOCK DONATIONS**-Our CCD classes will be participating in their yearly service project of collecting socks for the homeless. We ask that you bring in new warm socks for this project. Socks should be in by Dec. 10 when the students ready them for Christmas distribution. Thanks.

**CHRISTMAS BREAKFAST AND CCD CHRISTMAS PLAY**-We will have breakfast after the 9 AM Mass on Dec. 17 with the play following. All are invited. Come experience the joy of watching the students proudly put on their play and enjoy a delicious breakfast with our church family.

**KENTUCKY MARCH FOR LIFE**-Join other Pro-Life Kentuckians on Tuesday, January 23 for the 2024 Kentucky March for Life & “Love them Both” Rally. The program will begin with Mass at Good Shepard Parish in Frankfort, followed by a rally at the State Capital. The event will end with a procession to the Cemetery of the Innocents in the historical Frankfort Cemetery. The Pro-Life office will be organizing buses that will leave from Northern Kentucky. If you are interested in traveling with other parishioners from the Diocese, please contact the Pro-Life Office for more information, 859-392-1500.

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**—Friday, Dec. 8 (holy day of obligation); Masses on Thur. Dec. 7 @ 7:00 PM and Fri. Dec. 8 @ 8:00 AM

**BLESSING OF BABIES**—After Masses on Dec. 16 & 17 (bring your baby Jesus from your Nativity creche to be blessed by Fr. Straub)

**CCD CONFESSIONS**—After Mass on Sunday Dec. 10 (adults welcome to confess as well)

**CCD PLAY & BREAKFAST**—After Mass on Sunday, Dec. 17

**LECTOR**— Dec. 3-Linda Fryman, Dec. 7 (7 PM Immaculate Conception) Bernie Rawe, Dec. 10-Bernie Rawe (for Rita Funke)

**CLEANING** –Dec. 3 Joanne and Tim Schlacter

## FROM THE PASTOR—ETERNAL LIFE AND NON-CATHOLICS

This time of year seems to bring out the best and the worst in people anymore. We certainly hear of wonderful stories of giving and reuniting and cheer. However, we have all heard or seen stories about people who seem to bicker over everything in this season. While this struggle can seem rather pointless, it does outline the growing divide in our country which produces two separate Christmases.

The first Christmas is the traditional Christian Christmas. This is the culture that has brought us everything we know and treasure about this time of year: Christmas trees and decorations, gift giving, caroling and feasting. This Christian celebration reaches its peak with the religious celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ on December 25th, though the celebration does not end there. This is the culture in which everything is closed on Christmas not merely for being together with family, but for worshipping as a community of faith the birth of the Savior of the world.

Yet there is a more modern Christmas that has emerged in our day. This new holiday is the sappy and sentimental Christmas which has become saturated more with obtaining bargains and gifts rather than comfort and joy. This is the Christmas more concerned with manufacturing a false, “magical,” bourgeoisie gift-giver which has increasingly become a cause for doubt and skepticism in our young people instead of rejoicing in the godly witness of a saintly bishop supporting the poor and spreading the gift of the Gospel. This is the Christmas which begins at the latest on Black Friday and comes to a screeching halt on December 25th, as can even be heard with the absence of Christmas music on Christmas night (as I have sadly discovered from the radio the past few years).

We must not lose the reason for the season. Without Christ, these celebrations are vacuous attempts to fill the emptiness of this life. Let us heed the example of St. John the Baptist and prepare the way for the Lord to come on Christmas. Let us in particular prepare ourselves through the reception of confession, cleansing ourselves of our sins to be truly prepared and eager for the Christmas celebrations to begin in earnest so soon.

*Fr. Jacob Straub*

## CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE AND CLARIFICATION

With Christmas falling on Monday, this serves as a clarification for Mass obligations

**ONE MASS FULFILLS ONLY ONE OBLIGATION! NO DOUBLE-DIPPING!**

4th Sunday of Advent

Christmas

Sat. Dec. 23—5:00 PM

Sun. Dec. 24—6:00 PM

Sun. Dec. 24—9:00 AM

Mon. Dec. 25—9:00 AM