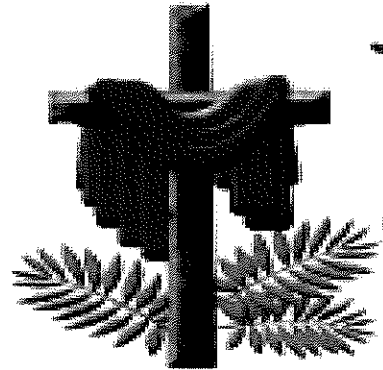


FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



St. Matthew Catholic Church (1909)
13782 Decoursey Pike
Morning View, KY. 41063
February 29 & March 1, 2020
The First Sunday of Lent

This Week's Mass Times

Saturday 5 PM

Sunday 9 AM

Tuesday 8:30 AM

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Tuesday 7:30 AM to 8:30 AM

Wednesday Evening Vespers 6 PM, Mass 6:30 PM

Friday 8:30AM

Stations of the Cross Friday, March 6, 7:00PM

Confession—8-8:30AM on Sunday Morning or by appointment

Welcome to St. Matthew Parish

To register and become a member of St. Matthew: Please see Father, Linda Fryman, Rosanne Rawe, or Lisa Cooper to fill out a registration form. We welcome you and hope you enjoy attending Mass at our little parish. We pride ourselves on being a faith family that welcomes all to join and get to know us. If you aren't Catholic and have thought about becoming Catholic or would like to know more about the Catholic faith, please call the rectory and leave a call back number or see Fr. Augustine after Mass.

Parochial Admin.....Fr. Augustine Aidoo

Email AAidoo@covdio.org

Rectory Phone.....859-356-6530

Fax.....859-356-1695

Emergency.....859-638-8225

Email.....stmatthew13782@gmail.com

Religious Ed

Rosanne Rawe.....859-635-1572

Bulletin Announcements/Prayer List

Linda Fryman.....859-240-2377

frymanlinda@gmail.com

Parish Historian/Cleaning Team/Cemetery Info

Patty Neuspickel.....859-472-2508

Mass Intentions

Saturday, 29 February—5PM

For the Living and Dead Members of
Our Parish

Sunday, 1 March —9 AM

For Henrietta Zellerer

Tuesday, 3 March —8:30AM

For Ed 'Rock' Reilly

Wednesday, 4 March —6:30PM

For The Living and Dead Members of Our
Parish

Friday, 6 March—8:30 AM

For Anna Menefee

Saturday, 7 March—5PM

For the Living and Dead Members of
Our Parish

Sunday, 8 March—9 AM

For Nancy Tepe

Mass

5 PM. Sat. 29 February

Lector: Linda Fryman

EMHC: Cup Temp. Suspended for
illnesses.

Server: TBD

9 AM. Sun. 1 March

Lector: : Lisa Cooper

EMHC: Cup Temp. Suspended

Servers: Estelle Thorwarth/Nathen
Thorwarth

5PM. Sat. 7 March

Lector: Cathy Oldiges

EMHC: Cup Temp Suspended

Server: TBD

9 AM. Sun. 8 March

Lector : Bernie Rawe

EMHCP: Cup Temp. Suspended

Servers: Hudson Feinauer/Nathan
Thorwarth

Sunday Readings

February 29 & March 1

First -- Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7

Second—II Romans 5:12-19

Gospel— Matthew 4:1-11

March 7 & 8

First—Genesis 12:1-4a

Second—II Timothy 1:8b-10

Gospel—Matthew 17:1-9

Daily Readings

Monday—Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18, Ps 19:8-10,
15, Matthew 25:31-46

Tuesday—Isaiah 55:10-11, Ps 34:4-7,16-19
Matthew 6:7-15

Wednesday—Jonah 3:1-10, Ps 51:3-4,12-13,
Luke 11:29-32

Thursday—Esther C:12,14-16,23-25, Ps 138:1
-3,7-8, Matthew 7:7-12

Friday—Ezekiel 18:21-28, Ps 130:1-8 Matt.
5:20-26

Saturday—Deut. 26:16-19, Ps 119:1-2, 4-5,7-
8, Matthew 5:43-48

Prayer Requests

Jerry Ehlman , Eileen Ehlman, Sherri
Moffett, Kenny Neuspickel, Kathy Barth,
Yandell Schneider, Charles Taylor, Brian
Lauer, Ed Gripshover, Joy Sowder, Kathy
Proctor, David Roland, Joseph Cooley, Grant
Kelly, and the family of Helen Fariello.

Offertory Procession

February 29—TBD

March 1— Ryan Family

March 7—TBD

March 8—Thorwarth Family

March Birthdays

Mar. 3—Andy Schroder

Mar. 6—Rita Funke

Mar. 11—Bill Kappesser

Mar. 18—Elissa Baker

Mar. 21—Howard Kluesener

Mar. 27—Tim Schlachter

Mar. 31—Eileen Ehlman

Confessions:

Sunday 8-8:30 AM or by appointment

If you have not taken the time to donate to
the DPAA yet, please do so. All donations
given now (after we met our goal) come di-
rectly back to St. Matthew without having to
pay the Diocese the normal tax on collections.
What a deal! **Please remember the Church in
your charitable giving. Consider naming St.
Matthew in your will or donations of stocks.
The blessings will be returned to you many
times over.**

Stewardship and Treasure

February 22 & 23 \$1,024

Easter Flowers \$20

Thank You!!

PARISH NEWS

LENT – ASH WEDNESDAY The holy Season of Lent begins this week with blessed ashes being distributed on Ash Wednesday. Ashes will be imposed during **Masses at 8:30am and 6PM**. Ashes, as a Jewish sign of penitence, were accepted by Christians as being a contrite sign of sorrow for sin and are now primarily used as a Sacramental by the Church on this day. Derived from the burning of last year's palms, the ashes are blessed and imposed on the faithful. This outward sign of private or public sorrow, sadness, and/or penance is a proof of humility, the result of human frailty, and a remembrance of our mortality; that we are made of dust and will return to dust. When receiving ashes, the individuals are challenged to let the stain of sin – which the ashes stand for – be left on their foreheads for the day as a sign of their yearning for reconciliation with the Savior. For believers, Lent, as a Season, ends with the beginning of the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, which begins the Sacred Triduum.

LENT – ABSTINENCE AND FASTING Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of both abstinence and fasting. **ABSTINENCE** is refraining from meat or food prepared with meat on certain days as commanded by the Church, to remind us of Jesus' redeeming Death, to prepare for the Sacred Triduum, to win heavenly graces, and to practice the virtues of penance and selfcontrol. Days of abstinence include Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and all Fridays in Lent. On other Fridays of the year, all are exhorted to perform acts of devotion, self-denial and charity in the spirit of piety and penance, and particularly for peace; abstinence from meat is especially recommended although under no obligation of the law. **FASTING**, the limiting of oneself to one main meal and up to two snacks – to composite for the other mealtimes is to be observed by everyone 18 years of age and older, who have not yet celebrated his or her 60th birthday. The ill are excused. The purpose of fasting and abstinence is penitential in nature and with the purpose of intensifying prayer, hence, as a means to an end it has psychological and religious values. It applies not only to food, but also to refraining from using other luxuries, such as candy, alcohol, tobacco, television, films and other entertainment and other activities which one may derive pleasure from. Thus, with fasting and abstinence comes the old adage "giving up for Lent."

Fish Fry Time-Thanks to all Volunteers!

Our first fish fry is in the books. As usual, the first week is the slowest but we did pretty well thanks to a last hour push. A huge thank you goes out to all the parishioners who showed up to help and who made desserts. This surpassed all fish fry crews ever and we are greatly appreciative. Please keep up the good work because we will need help every week since we are undertaking six fish fries this year. THANK YOU!

Very Important—Did You Know?

Until a few years ago when our finances made it impractical, we paid Sr. Georgia Messenschlager a stipend to visit our sick and homebound. This stipend took care of her gas and not a whole lot more but it helped. She visited, took Communion, and kept our pastor and parishioners informed on our parishioners who could not attend Mass. Even though we have not been paying her, Sister continues this mission and visits our people and still reports back on their well being so we can send cards and Father can visit as needed. We have decided to take up a bi-yearly collection called the "Sister's Mission" collection. There will be envelopes available at the entrance of church during March and we will end the collection and present it to Sister at the beginning of April. The second collection will begin with envelopes available during September and ending the first of October. Please be as generous as possible for this collection. It is strictly our own collection outside the taxes and knowledge of the Diocese as a benevolent offering and a 'thank you' for all that she does for us. Please pray for Sister as she continues this mission for us.

IN OUR DIOCESE

Memorial Mass for Loss of a Child

There will be a memorial Mass for the loss of a child at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church on **April 2** at 7 PM. This Mass is offered to anyone who has lost a child, regardless of the situation, recent or years ago, unborn or born, to come together for healing and celebration of life. Each family is encouraged to have a representative participate in the opening light procession. These candles will remain lit throughout the Mass and be taken home by a loved one. Please sign the memorial book as you arrive. Light refreshments immediately following in the gathering space. All are welcome.

Lenten Retreat at St. Cecilia

A one day Lenten retreat is being planned for Saturday **March 14** from 9 AM to 3:30 PM. All adults, 18 and older, are invited to attend. This gathering will be an opportunity for a time of peaceful prayer, talks, refreshments, and small group conversations to help strengthen your Lenten journey. The event will be led by Priests, speakers, and our retreat ministry team. The cost is \$10 a person with coffee, donuts, lunch, and reception included. The retreat will end with the 4:00 PM Mass at St. Cecilia. A light reception will take place after Mass for those who are interested in an additional time of fellowship. To register you may contact David Durr at 513-802-4235 or daviddurr@fuse.net.

Care Net In Need of Pro Life Volunteers

Care Net Pregnancy Services of Northern Ky. Is currently seeking passionate, pro-life volunteers. Positions are available for advocate/mentors and receptionists willing to serve 3-4 volunteers. Positions are available for advocate/mentors and receptionists willing to serve 3-4 hours per week at one of our centers. Help impact the lives of women and men facing an unplanned pregnancy and in need of support. Please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Mary Goins, at 859-431-9178, or email volunteerhere@carenetky.org. Thank you.

Lenten Deanery Penance Services

Cathedral: March 13 12PM– 12AM Confessions and Adoration
Divine Mercy Parish, Bellevue: March 20 12PM– 12AM Confessions and Adoration
St. Joseph, Cold Spring: March 23, 7PM Penance Service

St. Pius X in Edgewood will show Unplanned Movie March 15

Unplanned is an eye-opening look at the abortion industry from a woman who was once one of its most passionate supporters. Come see how Abby Johnson, once a Planned Parenthood clinic director and one of the organization's most outspoken supporters is changed forever by what she experiences. No one leaves this film unmoved by Abby's life changing journey. Doors open at 6:30pm and the movie starts at 7pm. In meeting room on the first floor. Admission is free. Snacks and refreshments will be served. Due to the R rating, parental discretion is advised. Hosted by St. Pius X Pro Life Committee. All are welcome!

Baptism and Joining the Church

Please contact the pastor. Children younger than the age of reason, which is typically age 8, are normally baptized after the 9 AM Sunday Mass

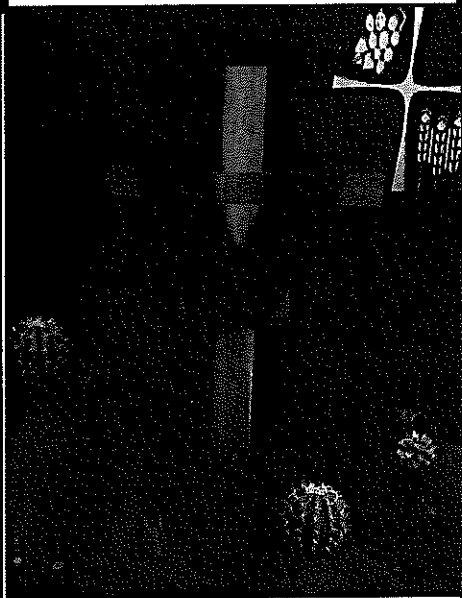
Adults and children older than the age of reason who have not been baptized are prepared. When they are ready, they are fully initiated, meaning that they receive all three sacraments of initiation, Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. Normally this is celebrated during the Easter Vigil. Adults and children beyond the age of reason, who have been validly baptized, can come into full communion with the Catholic Church after they are prepared. When brought into full communion they make a profession of faith and receive Confirmation and Eucharist.

Stations of the Cross

We will have stations of the Cross on three Fridays during Lent after the Fish Fry. This Friday, **Feb. 28, March 6, and April 3.** Hang around after the fish fry and come upstairs with us to pray the

Lenten Vespers

Lenten Vespers will be prayed before Wednesday evening Mass during Lent starting on March 4. They will begin at 6PM with Mass at 6:30PM. Use this to assist yourself to attain a proper Lenten state of mind.



NEW SECTION ON BACK OF BULLETIN..

A new section on the back of the bulletin is being offered in loving memory to list a deceased loved one's name. The cost is **\$50 per name** and their name will remain on the bulletin for a year. This will help defray the cost of printing our bulletin for the entire year. If interested, please clip and fill out this form and put it in the collection basket or mail to the Parish. Attn: Linda

Please include a check to St.

Loved One's Name _____

Your Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

In Loving Memory

*Charles L. Cross &
Rhonda Cross*

CCD Class Schedule for Next 8 Weeks

Feb. 9	16th Class	
Feb. 16	17th Class	
Feb. 23	18th Class	(Ash Wednesday Feb. 26)
Mar. 1	19th Class	
Mar. 8	20th Class	
Mar. 15	21st Class	
Mar. 22	22nd Class & Confessions	
Mar. 29	23rd Class	

Week of Temptations

A young adult once came to consult with me over some biblical issue that she considered confusing. She asked the following questions, among others: "Why did God allow Adam and Eve to sin? Didn't He know (as all-knowing God) that the serpent would come to tempt Eve and why could He not have stopped that snake?"

In my answer, I explained to her that God had already given them an instruction: *You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it, you shall die.* (Gen.2:16b-17). Furthermore, I explained to her that God gave them free will to choose either to eat or not to eat; to obey or not to obey. If God had intervened at the time the serpent was prodding Eve to eat the forbidden fruit, then free will would not have played any role.

The phenomenon of temptation is a facility that is open to everyone that has attained the age of reason. It is the urge, incitement or inclination to sin; we can also see it as a test of our ability to resist the invitation to sin. In other words, temptation precedes every sin. To be tempted, there must be an agreement between the senses and the mind. A temptation becomes sin when the mind accepts it. The mind is the central processor in every human being with reason; it is a very powerful determinant of our lives. Temptations appeal to the senses and urge the mind to accept the invitation.

Let us examine this description from the First Reading today (Gen. 2:7-9;3:1-7). The first temptation site is the garden of Eden. Eve was by herself when suddenly the serpent appeared and opened up a prodding conversation. Somewhere I read that "*an idle mind is the devil's workshop.*" There is truth in that assertion. If we could recall, David's temptation came when he was idling away around the palace towers while the Israelites were at war. It was at the idle moment that his eyes caught a woman taking her bath (2 Sam.11:1ff).

The talking serpent asked Eve a tricky question: "*Did God really tell you not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?*" From the last time we checked, God told them to eat the fruits of all the trees apart from the one at the middle of the garden. Often temptations come to us in the form of open-ended questions that may raise confusions in our minds. While Eve was trying to explain the divine instructions, the serpent invited her to take a closer look at the fruit. At the sight of it, her mind accepted the offer of the serpent who claimed that they would not die if they ate the fruit. The serpent knew that

God meant spiritual death, which is the separation from God, but Eve could have thought about physical death. Moreover, the serpent told her that their eyes would open to know good and evil.

The sense of sight is a very powerful inlet for temptation. We all like to see and seeing could turn us on or off. In this case, Eve was highly attracted by what she saw, and she went ahead to touch and taste; sin was committed and sealed. The same thing happened with Adam, he saw, took and ate. A rhetorical question asked some time is: "*What could have happened if Adam refused to eat the forbidden fruit after Eve had eaten?*" We can leave the answer to this to our individual imaginations.

The temptation of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Gospel of today (Matt.4:1-11), discloses the highest form of temptation. The devil went beyond limits to tempt the Second Person of the Trinity, the King of Kings, the Lord of Lords and the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Ancient of Days. The threefold temptations of our Lord Jesus Christ demonstrate to us that no one is beyond temptation. Furthermore, they help us to learn the tactics of the devil when he wants to lure us into sin. From them also we learn how to handle temptations or, put in another way, how to resist the devil. The devil can only tempt you with what you need.

From the temptations, we discover three basic needs that could become channels of temptation for us. We shall pay attention to them chronologically as they are presented in the Gospel.

1. *Command these stones to become loaves of bread if you are the Son of God.* That our Lord Jesus Christ is the Son of God is not a subject for debate. The devil challenges you to sin by presenting a false picture of your position. He was hungry, and the devil wanted him to perform magic, not a miracle for his immediate need. Our Lord Jesus Christ multiplied five loaves of bread and two fish for the hungry crowd, not for himself (Matt. 14: 15-21 and John 6: 4-13). Most of the things we want are not what we need. The devil knows we need some physical provisions and thus uses them as luring gifts to enslave us. Materialism is the devil's point of sale.
2. If you are the Son of God throw yourself down for it is written He will command his angels concerning you. The second temptation insists on the Sonship position of our Lord Jesus Christ. Furthermore, the devil wanted our Lord to take the promises of God for granted. When God promised protection in Psalm 91, He did not ask us to presume His protection and

plunge ourselves into some risky behavior. Somewhere I read that a pastor asked his members to drink rat poison while assuring them that by God's power none of them would die. He quoted Mark 16:17-18 where the signs that will follow believers included picking scorpions and drinking poison but remaining unhurt. After few days many of those who took the solution died. The devil did not ask our Lord to jump up but to throw himself down. He knew what belongs to the down region and wanted our Lord to go down with him. We can recall from the book of Revelation (12: 9) that he was thrown down from heaven.

3. *All these (kingdoms of the earth) I shall give to you if you will prostrate yourself and worship.* Beyond temptation, this is an insult! Can you imagine our Lord Jesus Christ bowing to worship the devil? The devil's kingdom has no real glories. They are citadels of darkness and sin. Our Lord Jesus Christ came to undo the powers of those kingdoms. St. Peter tells us that he has delivered us from the kingdom of darkness and transferred us into his marvelous light (1 Pet. 2:9). The devil would always give a false promise as bait to lead us into sin. Our theme for reflection says that we should resist the devil and he will flee from us (James 4:7). To do this, we are expected to submit ourselves totally to the will of God. To submit ourselves to God means considering God first before doing anything as our Lord Jesus Christ did during the temptation episode.

The devil has a mission which our Lord Jesus Christ spelled out very well in the Gospel of John (10:10a): "to steal, kill and destroy." St. Peter enjoins us not to give him any opportunity (Eph.4:27) because he is always looking for one to devour (1 Pet 5:8). Temptations will always come to confront us in various times, places occasions, and seasons. Let us remember the words of St. Paul in the Second Reading (Romans 5:12-19) today: "where sin increased, grace overflowed all the more." Though you may face temptations, resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

+Remain blessed and have a glorious and fruitful Lent.