

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

Jan. 31	\$761
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Please do not forget to mail or drop off your weekly offerings for our collection.

MASS SCHEDULE

THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sat. Feb. 6	5:00 PM	Special Int. for the Living & Dead Members of our Parish
Sun. Feb. 7	9:00 AM	For Nancy Tepe
Mon. Feb. 8		<i>No Public Mass</i>
Tue. Feb. 9	XXXXX	NO MASS TODAY THIS WEEK ONLY
Wed Feb. 10	6:30 PM	Special Int. for the members of St. Matthew Parish
Thur. Feb. 11	8:30 AM	For Fr. Mario Tizziani
Fri.. Feb. 12		<i>No Public Mass</i>

THE SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sat. Feb. 13	5:00 PM	For John L. & Myrtle Jennings
Sun. Feb. 14	9:00 AM	Special Int. for the Living & Dead Members of our Parish

Prayer List—Jerry Ehlman, Eileen Ehlman, Sherri Moffett, Kenny Neuspickel, Kathy Barth, Charles Taylor, Ed Gripshover, Joy Sowder, Kathy Proctor, Steve Elmlinger, Sarah Hoffman, Mary Louise Cross, Cotton Teegarden, Mike Newcomb, the family of Len Cooper, Ed Grant, Don Bornhorst, John Hofstetter, Vernon Dixon, Bill Schneider, Chris Rauf, Katie Davis, Barry Bergman, Andrew Lauck, Bradley Franzen, Pam Babbington, Dave & Barb Kordenbrock, Tony Kidwell, and everyone who has been touched by the Corona virus.

BIRTHDAYS – Feb. 1-Dan Cooper, Jeanne Cooper, Feb. 2-Marie Cooper, Feb. 5 –Maxine Kordenbrock, Feb. 6-Russell Neuspickel, Feb. 13-Cathy Oldiges, Feb. 20-Kathy Bach.

ANNIVERSARIES – Feb. 14-Patty & Kenny Neuspickel, Feb. 16-Dan & Lisa Cooper



SAINT MATTHEW CHURCH

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

Address: 13782 Decoursey Pike Morning View, KY 41063

Phone: (859) 356-6530

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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

Wed. 5:30-6:20 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 FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FEBRUARY 7, 2021

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

MONTHLY COLLECTIONS FOR NEEDY-Our February collection for St. Vincent de Paul will be canned goods. Containers will be in the gathering space for your donations. Thanks so much.

TAX STATEMENTS-The 2020 donation statements for taxes will be in the gathering space. Please pick yours up after Mass. The statements not picked up will be mailed.

SPECIAL PRAYERS REQUESTED—The nuns at St. Walburg have asked for our prayers since nearly all of them have Covid. Two of the nuns have passed away from the disease. Please join others in our Diocese in praying for all the nuns.

Feb. 11—Our Lady of Lourdes

Famous appearance of the Blessed Virgin in France in 1858

“I am the Immaculate Conception.”

-Our Lady to St. Bernadette



FROM THE PRIEST – CONFESSION & IT’S NECESSITY

We continue down the path to Lent as we move through these days. In the traditional liturgical calendar, the 2 1/2 weeks before Lent are called Septuagesimatide, symbolic of the 70 days before Easter (70 in Latin is *Septuagesima*, hence the name of the season). This period normally saw the beginning of violet vestments at Mass and the elimination of the Alleluia in the divine liturgy. Though this may not be done in the ordinary Mass we know today, it is still important for us to prepare well to have a holy Lent.

We saw last week about the necessity of penance in the life of the Christian, and we will see today and next week about how we can do that in various practices meant to be done during Lent. Penance is practices done as means of overcoming our sins and expressing our change of heart, from the old ways of the world, the flesh, and the devil, onto the way of Jesus Christ. Yet these actions of contrition and penance cannot compete with the sacrament that our blessed Lord Himself gave His Apostles and the Church in the sacrament of confession.

Jesus Christ gave to us through the Church the seven sacraments as visible signs of His grace and mercy poured out upon us to aid us in becoming the saints we were created to be. The sacrament which perceptibly wipes away all our sins committed post-baptism is the sacrament of confession or the sacrament of penance. In this sacrament, one comes before God through the person of the priest, acknowledges their sins, and hears the words of absolution which remove all confessed sins from your soul. This is how the Church helps remove or maintain the sins of the people of God as Jesus gave the clergy the authority to do (cf. John 20:22-23).

This sacrament is the ordinary means we have to be freed of any and all of our sins. The Protestants are wrong and teach falsely when they try to claim that we do not need confession. On the contrary, we are called by Christ to confess our guilt and our contrition in order to be healed and to become what we are supposed to be. It is only in receiving confession on a frequent basis (at least once a month) that we can even begin to be freed of sin which holds us back from God or even destroys our relationship with God, let alone our growth in Christ.

The Church actually mandates that we go to confession at least once a year to confess serious sins (see Code of Canon Law canon 989). Even if we have not knowingly committed serious or mortal sins, confession is the only way we have to know that God has forgiven us of our sins. St. Philip Neri recommends confession to grow as a saint: “When we go to confession, we should accuse ourselves of our worst sins first, and of those things which we are most ashamed of, because by this means we put the devil to greater confusion, and reap more fruit from our confession.” Let us not avoid this wondrous sacrament, but let us be resolved to receive God’s mercy and grace and become better and holier than before.

Fr. Jacob Straub