

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

Jan. 1 & 3	\$1,177
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Please do not forget to mail or drop off your weekly offerings for our collection.

MASS SCHEDULE

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Sat. Jan. 9	5:00 PM	Special Int. for the Living & Dead Members of our Parish
Sun. Jan. 10	9:00 AM	For Joseph Kordenbrock
Mon. Jan. 11		No Public Mass
Tue. Jan. 12	8:30 AM	For the health of John Hofstetter
Wed Jan. 13	6:30 PM	For Tom Klump
Thur. Jan. 14	8:30 PM	For the health of Bill Schneider
Fri.. Jan. 15		No Public Mass

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sat. Jan. 16	5:00 PM	Special Int. for the Living & Dead Members of our Parish
Sun. Jan. 17	9:00 AM	For Tony Klump

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, Jeffery Huffman, 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, and everyone who has been touched by the Corona virus.

BIRTHDAYS – Jan. 1-Mary Cross, Jan. 3-Christine Thorwarth, Jan. 4-Caedan Feinauer, Jan.5-Barb Dirkes, Jan. 15-Linda Fryman, Jan. 19-Justin Huffman, Jan. 20-Joe Bach, Jan. 23-Jerry Ehlman

ANNIVERSARIES – Jan. 17-Mark & Jeanne Cooper, Jan. 17-Nathan & Christine Thorwarth



SAINT MATTHEW CHURCH

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

Address: 13782 Decoursey Pike Morning View, KY 41063

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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 BAPTISM OF THE LORD

JANUARY 10, 2021

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

COLLECTION FOR OPPORTUNITIES FOR LIFE JAN. 17– This collection supports Opportunities for Life, a statewide, non-profit organization founded by the four dioceses in Kentucky. This organization offers non-judgmental and confidential support to women experiencing unplanned pregnancies by helping them to recognize the many opportunities and resources that exist for those who choose life. Through a toll-free number (1-800-822-5824) that is available to callers 24 hours and seven days a week, consultants at Opportunities for Life help women find answers to many questions about abortion, pregnancy tests, STDs, adoption, parenting, medical referrals, housing, and other issues. For more information, see www.opportunitiesforlife.org. Please be as generous as you can.

MONTHLY COLLECTIONS FOR NEEDY–We will begin collecting monthly items for St. Vincent de Paul soon. They will be letting us know what is needed most and we will put out a bin in the gathering space once we take the Christmas decorations down. Thanks in advance for helping supply items for St. Vincent de Paul to distribute to local families.

DAY OF PRAYER & PENANCE FOR LIFE—January 29 has been designated by Bishop Foy as a Day of Prayer & Penance for Life, in conjunction with the annual March for Life. We are encouraged to offer prayers and penances for the promotion of life and overcoming the culture of death.



FROM THE PRIEST – BAPTISM & HOLY WATER

The Christmas season comes to a minor conclusion today's celebration of the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. This feast commemorates the event that inaugurates the public ministry of Jesus by his public baptism at the hands of St. John the Baptist. This baptism is not the baptism of regeneration that we receive, but a reversal. St. Augustine of Hippo (†430), in commenting on today's Gospel, writes that:

The Saviour willed to be baptized not that He might Himself be cleansed, but to cleanse the water for us. From the time that Himself was dipped in the water, from that time has He washed away all our sins in water.

This is the preparation that Jesus gives to the renewal of creation, beginning with nature and reaching its fullness in humanity.

We are radically renewed through the sacrament of baptism, and the Church wants us to recall this sacrament in our daily life. The primary way we have of recalling our baptism in a physical manner is through the use of holy water. Have you ever asked yourself why it is that we dunk our fingers in a bowl and cross ourselves using water? It is a reminder of that fact that God has washed us clean in the blood of Christ through the waters of baptism. Yet holy water is more than just a reminder; it is a useful aid in the sanctification of life.

The Church instructs her pastors to bless and distribute holy water not only for its sacramental remembrance, but also as a great tool to sanctify the world. Just as Christ sanctifies the waters of the world through his baptism, so too does holy water sanctify the things of the world. This is why items which are blessed are also sprinkled with holy water, as if the item were receiving baptism itself.

Holy water is also a great deterrent against our primary spiritual enemy: Satan and his legion of demons. The devil hates anything blessed and nothing more so that holy water which has been exorcised and blessed by a priest. St. Teresa of Avila wrote in her Autobiography:

I have found by experience that there is nothing from which the devils fly more quickly than from holy water. They also fly from the cross, but they return almost immediately. Certainly, the power of holy water must be great; for my part, my soul feels particular comfort in taking it, and very generally a refreshment and interior delight which I cannot express.

There is always holy water available in the containers in the back of church. Take some home and sprinkle the house on occasion or use it as is intended. Continue to live in the grace of your baptism through the use of holy water, that God may continue to bless you every day.

Fr. Jacob Straub