#### **SUNDAY COLLECTIONS**

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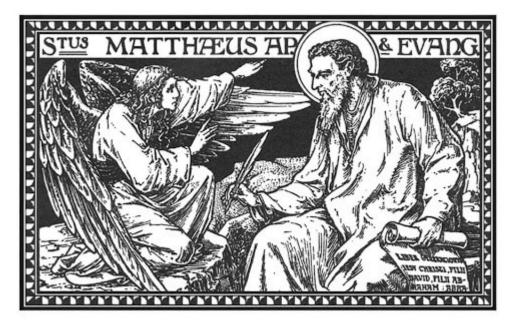
MASS SCHEDULE			
ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME			
Sat. June 12	5:00 PM	Special Int. for the Living & Dead Members of our Parish	
Sun. June 13	9:00 AM	For Kenny Neuspickel	
Mon. June 14		No Public Mass	
Tue. June 15	8:30 AM	For Tom Geiman	
Wed. June 16	6:30 PM	For Joe Fariello	
Thur. June 17	8:30 AM	For the special intention of Mike Leming	
Fri. June 18		No Public Mass	
TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME			
Sat. June 19	5:00 PM	For Ed Gripshover	
Sun. June 20	9:00 AM	Special Int. for the Living & Dead Members of our Parish	

**PRAYER LIST**—Jerry Ehlman, Eileen Ehlman, Sherri Moffett, Kathy Barth, Charles Taylor, Joy Sowder, Kathy Proctor, Sarah Hoffman, Mary Louise Cross, Cotton Teegarden, Mike Newcomb, Ed Grant, Don Bornhorst, John Hofstetter, Vernon Dixon, Chris Rauf, Katie Davis, Barry Bergman, Andrew Lauck, Bradley Franzen, Pam Babbington, Dave & Barb Kordenbrock, Larry Meyer, Bob Gish, Kate and Colton Sherold, Karen Reilly, Gavin Ward, Emmitt Thomas, Jeff who is suffering with a horrible disease, Mike Leming, Dave Verst, and Dave Neuspickel.

BIRTHDAYS— June 9-Wanda Bach, June 22-Lisa Cooper, June 27-Austin Schroeder

ANNIVERSARIES—Tim & JoAnn Schlacter-June 29

Please send any requests for prayers or memorials to the parish email or call to make a request.



# **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 – 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 ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

# **JUNE 13, 2021**

## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CHOIR NEWS**—Do you like to sing? Are you interested in joining our choir? If so, please stop by after Sunday Mass and see Penny or Howard Kluesener. We would love to have you join.

**DPAA**—The latest update from the Diocese (April 30) tells us we have \$7,165 pledged toward our \$10,900 goal. We still need \$3,735. Any and all donations will be appreciated.

**INTERESTED IN BECOMING A PARISHIONER OF ST. MATTHEW**—If you have been attending St. Matthew and like what you see, we would be happy to have you register as a parishioner. See Father Straub or Linda Fryman after Mass for a form to fill out. We will then send you budget envelopes and add your email to our list for announcements. We would love to have you and your family as parishioners.

**FLORENCE Y'ALLS GAME**—The SERRA Club for Vocations is currently selling ticket vouchers to the Florence Y'Alls game on Thursday, June 17, at UC Health Stadium. Tickets are \$10. Call Mike Murray at 859-630-4228 or email mmurray@covdio,org for tickets. Honorary first pitch will be by Rev. Joe Rielage, parochial vicar of St. Pius X (Joe was once the seminarian who drove Fr. Aby down to Mass before Father got his license and is the Diocese's newest priest).

**ALTAR SERVERS**—We would like to begin to have servers at Sunday Mass again. If your children are interested, please let Fr. Straub know. We will work on scheduling a training session over the summer for all servers, both new and experienced.

**FR. CLARENCE 'JACK' HEITZMAN**—Fr. Heitzman passed away at 91 on June 8. Please pray for the repose of his soul.

**FESTIVAL**—Our festival will be on Sunday, September 19. Mark your calendars and be thinking about what you want to do to help at the festival. We will begin having planning meetings in July.

LECTOR JUNE 20—Lisa Cooper

**CLEANING TEAM JUNE 13**—Patty and Penny

#### FROM THE PASTOR – ON THE SUNDAY OBLIGATION

This weekend marks our first Sunday Mass obligation since the coronavirus panic began 15 months ago. We are finally returning to normality in our lives after the craziness since last March. Yet the question may remain: what does it mean to be obligated to attend Mass on Sundays? Are there any legitimate reasons why we cannot attend? Can we substitute something for the Mass?

Holy Mother Church obliges us to attend Mass on Sundays in order to fulfill the first great commandment Jesus gave us: to love God. This is highlighted for us also in the Ten Commandments where God commands the Israelites to honor the Sabbath. For the ancient Israelites (and even Jews today), this was done on Saturday. The Church moved this obligation to Sunday in honor of the Resurrection, the sign of Christ's victory over our enemies. Christians have worshipped on Sunday since then, as can be witnessed from the Church Fathers (especially St. Justin Martyr). It has only been in the last few decades that this obligation has been extended to attending Mass on Saturday evening, though Sunday is still the main day of celebration.

But can there be a valid reason which excuses us from attending Sunday Mass? There have only been two valid categories of reasons offered in the eyes of moralists throughout the centuries.

- 1) Sickness or Infirmity—either because we are sick or we are caring for those who are sick or infirm (this includes homebound elderly and even babies)
- 2) Inability to Attend—we are unable to go to Mass either because we are inaccessible (weather, emergencies, great distances to travel) or no Mass is offered (for example, when our parish was closed for public worship)

These are the only reasons which legitimately excuse us from the Sunday obligation. Everything else is a distraction from our duty to God. We are bound by the Church and by our profession as Christians to worship as a community on Sunday in order to give to God what we owe Him: adoration, praise, thanksgiving, worship, ultimately everything. If we make something more important than the Sunday Mass, then we are demonstrating what we truly worship.

What ought we to do if we cannot attend Sunday Mass for a legitimate reason? First, if you will have a temporary inability to attend, you can discuss the matter with me and I could grant you an individual dispensation. Pastors have the right to do this for a just cause, so please discuss this with me if this matter comes up. Second, we should still consecrate the day with some prayer and rest from serious labors. We can watch Mass on the TV (although this does not fulfill our obligation), we could pray some prayers including the Rosary, and we can rest in the work which God is still doing through us.

May you not see this as a burden but a means to loving God and rejoicing with Him now & forever!

Fr. Jacob Straub