

**SUNDAY COLLECTIONS**

June 11	\$1,315
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**MASS SCHEDULE**

*THE 11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME*

Sat. June 17	5:00 PM	For the Living and Deceased People of the Parish
Sun. June 18	9:00 AM	For †Joseph Kordenbrock
Mon. June 19	8:00 AM	For Mike Lemming (Living)
Tue. June 20	8:00 AM	For James Casto (Living)
Wed. June 21	8:00 AM	For the healing of Rosanne Rawe (Living)
Thur. June 22	8:00 AM	For Fr. Jacob Straub (Living)
Fri. June 23	8:00 AM	For James Casto (Living)

*THE 12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME*

Sat. June 24	5:00 PM	For Jim & Connie Fuehner (Living)
Sun. June 25	9:00 AM	For the Living and Deceased People of the Parish

**PRAYER LIST**—Jerry & Eileen Ehlman, Sherri Moffett, Charles Taylor, Chris Rauf, Katie Davis, Barry Bergman, Andrew Lauck, Bradley Franzen, Pam Babbington, Dave Kordenbrock, Kate & Colton Sherold, Karen Reilly, Emmitt Thomas, Jeff suffering from Meniere’s disease, Tony Bach, Hank Bond, Hudson Feinauer, Mike and Bill Lemming, Dave Neuspickel, Bonita & Jim Happe, Andy Sper, Billie Huffman, Larry Slusher, Brenda Johnson, Verna Payne, Roger High, Johnathan Briggs, Cheryl Miller, Sherry Jackson, Sarah Gripshover, Jeanne Eanes. Bill Schneider (In Storypoint Assisted Living, 9255 US 42, Apt. 44, Union, KY. 41091), Ree Wagner, Randy Goodhew, Joanne Schlacter, and Alan Fields

**BIRTHDAYS**—June 1-Lucca Cooper, June 3-Sandy Lyle, June 5-Linda Beck, June 9-Wanda Bach, June 9-Tom Schutte, June 19-Genita Kiser, June 22-Lisa Cooper, June 27-Austin Schroeder,

**ANNIVERSARIES**-June 4-Adam and Kristen Bach, June 6-Andy and Andrea Hummel, June 7-Allen and Sandy Lyle, June 29-Tim and Joanne Schlacter

*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

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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 – 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—6:00-7:00 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 11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JUNE 18, 2023

### PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

**BIBLE STUDIES**—Matthew Wiseman continues to lead our bible study series which meets at church at 6:30 PM on Mondays. Don't miss this. It is very enlightening as Matthew is so knowledgeable about theology.

**DPAA 2023**—As of last bulletin our parish has pledged or collected \$7,555. We are over the half-way mark! Our goal is \$12,100. If you have not responded to the appeal, please do so.

**OUR LADY'S MEMORARE ARMY**—The Diocese is asking everyone to pray one Memorare prayer every day for an increase in holiness and an abundance of priestly vocations for the Diocese of Covington. Pray for priests! Pray for holy priests! Pray for more priests!

**BABY BOTTLES FOR CARE NET**— The baby bottles fundraiser for Care Net is here. This is a big fund raising program for Care Net and helps them in their ministry to pregnant women struggling to keep the child. PLEASE RETURN THEM THIS WEEKEND! Thank you.

**ST. VINCENT COLLECTION**— The St. Vincent de Paul group at St. Cecilia sends their 'thank you' to all who gathered personal care items for their clients.

**SERRA CLUB FOR VOCATIONS**— The June 29 Florence Y'alls game will be an opportunity to support the Serra Club. Tickets (\$10) to the game can be purchased by visiting the website <https://www.ticketreturn.com/>. Go to the Florence Y'all's June 29 game listing and use the code "SerraClub" in the special offer code field. Fifty percent of each ticket will be given to the Serra Club.

**HICKS FAMILY**-The Hicks family who lost their home to fire want to send their 'thank you' for our recent donation to them. Thanks to everyone for an impressive collection.

**LECTOR**— June 18-Bernie Rawe, June 25-Lisa Cooper

**CLEANING**—Penny and Patty

## FROM THE PASTOR – ON THE MALE PRIESTHOOD

One question that persists concerning the Catholic priesthood is around the recipient of this sacrament. To speak more specifically, there has emerged in recent years a question about the restriction of holy orders, and specifically the priesthood, to men. Some see this as an inhibition of the ability of women to be active in the Church. Others will see it as continuing or perpetuating a patriarchy that oppresses women and is not with the times. Why is it that the Church only allows men to be ordained?

Every sacrament has a particular matter to it, the thing which makes it a sacrament. This matter is necessary for the sacrament to happen. If the matter is missing or defective, then the sacrament does not happen. For instance, the priest cannot consecrate anything else other than bread and wine for the Eucharist. If I say the words of consecration over rice and fruit punch, nothing will happen to them. We believe that every sacrament has been instituted by Christ with a particular matter for a particular purpose. Holy orders is no different in necessitating the matter of men for ordination, because Christ has established it that way.

How do we know that Christ has mandated men alone for holy orders? We know this from the persistent witness of the church not only in the Scriptures, but across two millennia of tradition. Our Gospel today sees the calling of the 12 apostles, all of whom were men. We read consistently in the history of the church, how men have been permitted to receive holy orders. But there is a deeper reason why men alone are ordained, and it has to do with Christ Himself.

When God the Son entered into this world, the Son had to choose a gender. Humans are not born without a gender, and the incarnate Son would be no different. The son chose to become a man in becoming a human being. This choice has nothing to do with conformity to ancient social standards, but everything to do with how Christ desires us to understand our relationship with Him. The church, and ultimately the soul, is seen as feminine: as being receptive of the grace of God at work within us, individually and collectively. Hence the church being called a bride, which means she needs a bridegroom. Christ is the divine Groom united mystically to His bride, the Church.

Only a man can be a groom. Those ordained to holy orders, in particular the priest, are meant to be a living image of Christ the Bridegroom, calling His bride to Himself. A female can never be a groom, just as a male can never be a bride. This does not mean that women cannot help in the work of the Church; on the contrary, much of the good done through the Church is done by women. But the sacrament of holy orders is not about power or domination; it is about service and unity to God through the Church. Not every man who approaches the Church requesting holy orders is approved either, but only those found worthy of the calling. In the end, all of this is not about us, but about God. Whether ordained or not, each one of us is meant to be a witness of Christ into the world. Pray for the sanctity of priests, and pray for more priests. May we be ready for the divine Bridegroom when He comes to be eternally united with His bride the Church.

*Fr. Jacob Straub*