

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

May 18	\$823
May 25	\$669

MASS SCHEDULE

(L=Living, †=Deceased)

THE EXTERNAL SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Sat. May 31	5:00 PM	For †Herbie Elbert [from Kathy Bach]
Sun. June 1	9:00 AM	For the Living and Deceased People of the Parish
Mon. June 2	XXXXX	NO PUBLIC MASS
Tue. June 3	8:00 AM	For Marie & Cole Musial (L)
Wed. June 4	8:00 AM	For †Debbie Barnes Jackson [from John Jackson]
Thur. June 5	XXXXX	NO MASS THIS WEEK
Fri. June 6	XXXXX	NO MASS THIS WEEK
PENTECOST SUNDAY		
Sat. June 7	5:00 PM	For August NeCamp (L) [from Sarah Gripshover]
Sun. June 8	9:00 AM	For †Clayton Brown [from Patty Neuspickel]

PRAYER LIST—Jerry & Eileen Ehlman, Kate & Colton Sherold, Emmitt Thomas, Jeff suffering from Meniere’s disease, Tony Bach, Bill Lemming, Dave Neuspickel, Andy Sper, Billie Huffman, Roger High, Cheryl Miller, Sher-ry Jackson, Sarah Gripshover, Bill Schneider (Dominion Assisted Living 4009 Seligman Dr. Florence, Room 215), Ree Wagner, Wanda Bach, Maverick Orth (3yrs old), Daniel Cahill, Pax Minch, Todd Kloentrup, Gina Cooper, Tom Breeze, Valetta Proctor, Ruth Elbert, Melba Hauser, Elbert Hauser, Larry Cappel, Mary Beth Feldmann, Griffin Cornell, Nathan Thorwarth, Rosanne Rawe, and Lena Bach.

BIRTHDAYS—June 1-Luca Cooper, June 5-Linda Beck, June 9-Heidi Mayleben, June 9-Wanda Bach, June 19-Genita Kiser, June 22-Lisa Cooper, June 27-Austin Schroder, June 29-Amanda Eten, June 22-Gordon Redmond.

ANNIVERSARY—June 4-Adam and Kristen Bach, June 6-Andy and Andrea Hummel, June 29-Tim and JoAnn Schlacter

Please send any requests for prayers or memorials to the parish email or call to make a request. If anyone’s birthday or anniver-sary is not listed, let Linda Fryman know.



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

Mass Schedule:

Saturdays – 5:00 PM Sundays – 9:00 AM
Weekdays [Tue through Fri] – 8 AM Holy Days– 8:00 AM and 7:00 PM

Confession Times:

Saturdays – 4:00-4:50 PM Sundays – 8:00-8:50 AM

Parish Staff and Volunteers

Religious Education – Lindsey Rawe (859) 250-7415
Bulletin/Prayer List – Linda Fryman (859) 240-2377
Parish History/Cemetery Info – Patty Neuspickel (859) 472-2508

THE EXTERNAL SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

JUNE 1, 2025

DPAA—The new DPAA campaign has begun! Our parish's goal for this year is \$13,400. As of Mar. 31, we have collected \$3,650. You should be receiving envelopes in the mail to make your pledge. There are also purple envelopes available near the collection box. Thank you for your contributions!

BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN—Our annual Baby Bottle Campaign for Care Net has begun. The bottles will be in the back of church for you to take. Please return by Father's Day, June 15, containing change, paper money, or a check inside. Thank you for your caring donations.

LADIES TEA PARTY—The ladies of St. Matthew will host their first tea party of 2025 on Sunday, June 8, after the 9AM Mass. This event is for all ages so young ladies are invited too. Even if you are not a parishioner, come visit with us and enjoy snacks and fellowship.

FESTIVAL MEETING—We will be having the first festival meeting on Thursday, June 5 at 6:30 PM at church. Please try to attend this important meeting so we can discuss what everyone wants to do this year, get plans for our new signs, and just get things rolling. Thank you.

CROSS THE BRIDGE FOR LIFE— Cross the Bridge for Life is today, June 1 at 1:00 PM. The walk begins at Festival Park at Riverboat Row in Newport. If you do not want to walk there are many activities to enjoy. Free t-shirts, bands, face painting, hot dogs, Kona ice, K of C Holy donuts, and over 30 life supporting organizations with info and free gifts. Come to the riverfront and show our communities the love and support shown to mothers and families and that we celebrate all life as precious.

LECTOR— June 1-Lisa Cooper, June 8-Linda Fryman

CLEANING – June-Genita and daughters



FROM THE PASTOR – ON THE SUNDAY OBLIGATION

Memorial Day weekend is usually hailed as the unofficial start of summer. I'm sure many of you have various plans for travel or vacation, and it is well deserved during the most beautiful time of the year. But we should remember to fulfill our first obligation as Catholics whether we are home or away: to worship God at Sunday 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 Infirmary—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 the Sunday Mass as a burden but a means to adoring God, loving God, and rejoicing with Him now & forever!

Fr. Jacob Straub