

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

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| Sep 7 | \$1,230 |
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MASS SCHEDULE

(L=Living, †=Deceased)

THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

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| Sat. Sep. 13 | 5:00 PM | For †Ed & Genoa Scott [from Linda Menefee] |
| Sun. Sep. 14 | 9:00 AM | For †Kenny Neuspickel [from Patty Neuspickel] |
| Mon. Sep. 15 | XXXXXX | NO PUBLIC MASS |
| Tue. Sep. 16 | 8:00 AM | For †Verna Payne [from Elizabeth Cahill] |
| Wed. Sep. 17 | 8:00 AM | For †John Jackson [from Rita Jackson] |
| Thur. Sep. 18 | XXXXXX | NO MASS THIS WEEK |
| Fri. Sep. 19 | XXXXXX | NO MASS THIS WEEK |

THE SOLEMNITY OF SAINT MATTHEW

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| Sat. Sep. 20 | 5:00 PM | For Tony & Wanda Bach (L) [from Joe & Kathy Bach] |
| Sun. Sep. 21 | 9:00 AM | For the Living and Deceased People of Our Parish |

PRAYER LIST—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, Sherry 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, Larry Cappel, Mary Beth Feldmann, Griffin Cornell, Rosanne Rawe, Jeff Piehl, Annamarie Schroeder, Alyssa Baker, and Lena Bach.

BIRTHDAYS—Sep. 1-Sheri Hartman, Sep. 14-Terry Downs, Sep. 16-Genevieve Mayleben, Sep. 19-Bill Schneider, Sep. 20-Kevin Mayleben, Sep. 23-Brody Baker, Sep. 25-Tony Bach, Sep. 25-August Mayleben, Sep. 29-Owen Rawe.

ANNIVERSARY—Sep. 2-Tom and Darlene Schutte, Sep. 10-Tony and Wanda Bach, Sep. 12-William and Linda Beck.

Please send any requests for prayers or memorials to the parish email or call to make a request. If anyone’s birthday or anniversary 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 EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

SEPTEMBER 14, 2025

DPAA—The new DPAA campaign has begun! Our parish’s goal for this year is \$13,400. As of July 31, we have received \$11,485 in donations and commitments. 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!

CHURCH CLEANING—Patty Neuspickel is heading up the monthly cleaning crew. We are down to a very few who are cleaning so if you have any free time, please see Patty to determine what needs to be done and if you would like to volunteer. It is once a week for a month. You pick the days. Patty can be reached at 859-322-3491.

FESTIVAL NOTES—Our festival will be held next Sunday, September 21. Mark your calendars! Tell everyone!

GROCERY BASKETS—There are empty grocery baskets in the back of church. Please take one and return it with at least \$25 worth of groceries in it to be raffled at the festival. Please be aware of expiration dates! Some people do a theme basket of all baby items, baking items or whatever else you fancy. Thanks for your help on this.

FESTIVAL VOLUNTEERS—See flyers posted on the doors. Please help where you can.

CAKES FOR RAFFLE – Cake boxes for the raffle are in the back of church. There is a sign-up sheet on the table at the church entrance. Please consider making a fancy cake for the auction.

DESSERTS FOR DINNER—We need families to bring a dessert for the dinner at the festival. Homemade items or divisible items in particular are appreciated. Thank you.

ITEMS FOR RAFFLE—It’s not too late to bring in new and gently used items for our raffles. Just put them on the tables downstairs. We are in need of these items as well as \$25 gift cards. Thanks.

SUNDAY SCHOOL/CCD SIGN UPS— There are Sunday School sign up sheets on the desk in the hallway of church. You may return it to Lindsay Rawe after filling it out. CCD will start on the first Sunday of October.

LECTOR— Sep. 14– Lisa Cooper, Sep. 21-Linda Fryman

CLEANING – Sep.-Kathy and Wanda Bach

FROM THE PASTOR—SACRAMENTALS: THE SIGN OF THE CROSS

In looking at the various sacramentals of the Church, we cannot forget the most basic and perhaps most used one: the Sign of the Cross. When we hear this phrase, we normally associate it with the vertical motion of moving our hand from forehead to breast, followed by a horizontal motion from left shoulder to right shoulder, forming a cross over ourselves. But this is not the only way we can make this sign. Consider the way we sign ourselves before the Gospel is proclaimed: a small cross made with our thumbs on our foreheads, on our lips, and on our hearts. One custom seen in Spanish-influenced cultures (both Spain and Latin America) is to lay the thumb over the forefinger and make a visible cross, use that configuration to cross oneself, then kiss the finger cross. Whatever method is used, this sacramental is a crucial part of our prayer life and a symbol of our discipleship in Jesus Christ through His Catholic Church.

We have no clear indications of when the Sign of the Cross began, though there are numerous records about it in antiquity. The Church father Tertullian writes in the early third century that Christians mark their forehead with the cross, while St. Basil the Great in the fifth century remarks that this sign was learned from the apostles and handed down as part of tradition. Many see this as a conversion of the ancient Jewish practicing of using signs (see Ezekiel 9:4). No matter its origin, the Sign of the Cross is a fundamental aspect of the daily life of the Christian.

In using the Sign of the Cross, we ought to be mindful of its benefits. To start, it is a reminder of our baptism, in which we were rescued by Christ through the power and victory of the Cross to no longer be a slave of Satan but to become a child of God and a member of the Church. At baptism, we first received this sign and were sealed through the Cross, so we should remember that we belong with and to Christ when we make the sign. We are also professing our faith in making the Sign of the Cross. We typically associate this sign with the phrase “In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit”, so we ought to recall that we are acknowledging the reality of the Trinity in this sign along with showing that we are Catholics. Most other Christians do not use this sign, so it has become associated specifically with Catholics.

The Sign of the Cross is also a great deterrent against sin and the attack of the demons. It is in the Cross that Christ overcame the wickedness and malice of Satan and his demonic legions through His humility. We ought to be humble ourselves in our fight with temptation and the enemies of Christ and invoke God through this sign. Tracing the Cross on ourselves not only recalls the saving power of Christ but also is abhorrent to the demons. Finally, it is a great beginning into prayer by recalling He who interceded for us on the Cross and still intercedes for us at the right hand of the Father.

Let us never be afraid to use the Sign of the Cross in our lives but utilize it with simplicity and humility so as to call upon God in our every need and to place all things under the Cross. Let us follow Mary in tracing this sign throughout our lives so that we may be worthy to share in Christ’s victory forever. *Fr. Jacob Straub*

