

**SUNDAY COLLECTIONS**

Sep 1	\$887
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**MASS SCHEDULE**

(L=Living, †=Deceased)

*THE 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME*

Sat. Sep. 7	5:00 PM	For †Anna Menefee
Sun. Sep. 8	9:00 AM	For the Living and Deceased People of the Parish
Mon. Sep. 9	XXXXX	NO PUBLIC MASS
Tue. Sep. 10	8:00 AM	For the Ehlman Family (L & †)
Wed. Sep. 11	8:00 AM	For †Fr. Mario Tizziani
Thur. Sep. 12	8:00 AM	For Jo-Ann Kloeker Goodhew (L)
Fri. Sep. 13	8:00 AM	For †Elizabeth Groeschen

*THE 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME*

Sat. Sep. 14	5:00 PM	For †Verna Payne
Sun. Sep. 15	9:00 AM	For the Living and Deceased People of the Parish

**PRAYER LIST**—Jerry & Eileen Ehlman, Imogene Fisk, Kate & Colton Sherold, Emmitt Thomas, Jeff suffering from Meniere’s disease, Tony Bach, Bill Lemming, Dave Neuspickel, Andy Sper, Billie Huffman, Larry Slusher, Roger High, Cheryl Miller, Sherry Jackson, Sarah Gripshover, Jeanne Eanes, Bill Schneider (Dominion Assisted Living 4009 Siegalman Dr. Florence, Room 215), Ree Wagner, Sean Timmerding, John Jackson, Wanda Bach, Maverick Orth (3yrs old), Daniel Cahill, Pax Minch, Todd Kloentrup, and Rita Funke.

**BIRTHDAYS**—Bill Schneider-Sept. 19, Brody Baker–Sept. 23, Tony Bach-Sept. 25, Owen Rawe-Sept. 29.

**ANNIVERSARIES**– Tom and Darlene Schutte-Sept. 2, Dina and Michael Ryan-Sept. 6, Tony and Wanda Bach-Sept. 10, William and Linda Beck-Sept. 12, Jerry and Eileen Ehlman-Sept. 26.

*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

Worship Schedule:

Saturdays – 5:00 PM

Sundays – 9:00 AM

Weekdays – 8:00 AM

Confession Times:

Saturdays – 4:00-4:50 PM

Sundays – 8:00-8:50 AM

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 TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SEPTEMBER 8, 2024

**DPAA REMINDER**—This year’s goal for our parish is \$13,000. As of the latest count, we have received \$12,605 in pledges and contributions. Pledge envelopes are available if you haven’t made your commitment yet or did not receive an envelope in the mail. Thank you for all you do for our parish and for our diocese. Remember, everything received above our goal comes directly back to the parish with no Diocesan tax.

**MASS INTENTIONS**—Feel free to submit any and all Mass intention requests. There are lots of available dates if you would like to request a specific date. Remember that you can have Masses offered for the living as well as the deceased.

**SAVE THE DATE!**—The date for this year’s festival will be **September 22**. Please sign up on the sheet in the back of church to help. If you don’t know what you want to do, just sign up and write “anything” and we will find you a job. Thanks!

**NEXT MEETING**—The next festival meeting will be **Wednesday, Sept. 11, at 7:00 PM.**

**NEEDS FOR FESTIVAL**—There are baskets available in the back of church to be filled with \$20 worth of non perishable groceries for the grocery raffle. We also need 2 liter soft drinks for the ring toss, donations for the \$5 bag raffle (formally Silent Auction), cakes made for the cake raffle (boxes and sign up sheet on table in back), raffle tickets sold for the grand raffle and quilt raffle, desserts for the meal, Thank you for any help you are able to give.

**LECTOR**— Sept. 8-Bill Funke, Sept. 15-Lisa Cooper

**CLEANING** – Sept. Lisa and Jeanne Cooper

*Happy birthday,  
Virgin Mary!*

Feast of the Nativity of the Virgin Mary—Sep. 8



## FROM THE PASTOR—FAITH VERSUS WORKS

One of the major sticking points between Catholic and Protestants is on the question of faith versus works. Protestants will argue that we Catholics reject the “biblical” truth that all we need to do is believe and we are saved, no matter what happens. They will quote Romans 5:1 which says (in the King James Bible): “Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ”. They will argue that when we believe that Jesus is Lord and that He has mercy on us through the merits of His Passion and Death, then we are justified by Jesus and thus are saved. They argue that we have introduced a theology of works for a multitude of reasons, all of which boil down to our resistance to God’s grace. Yet the Catholic position on this matter has some points of agreement and cooperation.

We do indeed believe that our salvation begins through God’s grace and the justification Jesus has merited for us through His passion, death, and resurrection, but we must receive this justification first through the sacraments. The sacraments are efficacious—they have an effect on us when we receive them. Baptism not only washes away our sins but revives us in Christ so that we may be called the adopted children of God. Without baptism, our salvation is extremely difficult to receive. However, our salvation is not an absolute guarantee, either.

We must believe that God saves us, but we are also called to cooperate with His grace and work together with Him for our salvation to be permanent. Our second reading today from the Letter of Saint James greatly emphasizes this point: we are not merely saved by believing but this salvation comes through both faith and works. Saint James writes: “Demonstrate your faith to me without works, and I will demonstrate my faith to you from my works.” (James 2:18) Through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the apostles challenge the Protestants’ erroneous reading of the Scriptures, challenging them to show how they believe without doing works, while he emphasizes the true position.

Even our Lord stresses our need to cooperate and work for our salvation in the Gospel passage for today, when He declares at the end: “Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me.” (Mark 8:34) How can one see this and argue that all we have to do is believe? To take up the Cross is to work with Christ, not against Him, in the great work of salvation. We are still weak creatures prone to temptation, and we are capable of losing our salvation if we err through sin or through pride in believing the lie of “once saved, always saved.”

We must understand our faith enough to rebuke the false teachings of other Christian denominations but also to bear witness to the fullness of truth which is found in the Catholic Church. Let us pray for our separated brethren, that they may truly enter into the one fold of the Redeemer. Let us pray also for one another, that we may work together in this life to earn not only our salvation, but to rejoice in the rest God offers the faithful in everlasting life.

*Father Jacob Straub*