

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY, December 21

8:00AM Charles Suchyta

TUESDAY, December 22

8:00AM Maria Daidone

WEDNESDAY, December 23

8:00AM Vicky Masso

THURSDAY December 24

5:00PM All Deceased Members of St. Matthews

10:00PM All Deceased Members of St. Matthews

FRIDAY, December 25

9:00AM All Deceased Parishioners of St. Matthews

11:00AM All Deceased Members of St. Matthews

SATURDAY, December 26

5:00PM Gerard Frances LeComte

Annett Visgaitis

SUNDAY, December 27

8:00AM Callan Suchyta

10:00AM Theodore Miller

12:00PM Dave Masiero

Lucy Ryan



PASTORAL CARE

Kindly remember in your prayers the sick of our parish. May they experience the healing power of our gracious God: Matthew Augustine, Filomena Bocchino, Emily Cyrier, Bridget Hochstuhl, and James Latham.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

Monday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Lk 1:39-45

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28; Lk 1:46-56

Wednesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Lk 1:57-66

Thursday: Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Lk 1:67-79

Friday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25, Night: Is 9:1-6; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14, Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20, Day: Is 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

Saturday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52



EVENTS FOR THE WEEK OF Dec. 20th

SUNDAY, Dec. 20...Trinity Kit., Christmas Concert 50/50 Drawing.

MONDAY, Dec. 21... AA Mtg 9:30AM, Choir Practice (All), Youth Group 7:30PM, Bible Study 7PM, Search 7PM.

TUESDAY, Dec. 22...Boy Scouts 6:30PM, Rosary 7PM, Choir Practice (All).

WED. Dec. 23...AA Mtg 9:30AM.

THUR. Dec. 24...AA Mtg 9:30AM, Mass 5PM & 10PM.

FRIDAY, Dec. 25...AA Mtg 9:30AM, Mass 9 & 11 AM.

SAVE THE DATE!

The Snowflake Bash (Italian Night) is coming January 23, 2016...7-11PM. A night of delicious food, fun, and entertainment. Bring your own wine or beer! Tickets go on sale the weekend of January 2nd following all the Masses. In the past this has been a very popular event: seating is limited so BUY EARLY! Tickets are \$40 each. Buy individual or tables of 8. Tickets are first come first served...Buy now and be in on the fun!!

Served by:

Rev. Daniel W. Murphy, Pastor (fr.dan)

Rev. Kamil Stachowiak, Parochial Vicar (fr.kamil)

Deacon Edward Keegan, Permanent Deacon (deacon.ed)

Deacon Richard Brady, Permanent Deacon (deacon.rich)

Deacon Larry D'Amico, Permanent Deacon (deacon.larry)

Pat D'Amico, Director of Faith Formation (pat.damico)

Carol Lindsey, Faith Formation Asst. (carol.lindsey)

Kathleen Burke, Music Minister (kathy.burke)

Tom Carle, Associate Music Minister (tom.carle)

Leslie Doherty, Business Manager (leslie.doherty)

Terry Shaw, Parish Secretary (terry.shaw)

Karen Loveys, Receptionist (karen.loveys)

Andrew Vasta, Youth Minister (andrew.vasta)

Bryn Markovich, Youth Minister (bryn.markovich)

*All emails are (name)@stmatthewsrandolph.org

Web Address: www.stmatthewsrandolph.org

Mobile App: St. Matthew Catholic Church

Trustees:

William Ruane

Moira Dziomba

PARISHPAY AUTOMATED GIVING UPDATE

Automated Giving is an alternate means of support for St. Matthew's instead of envelopes. In lieu of weekly collections, the ParishPay program will collect monthly contributions from your checking, saving, or credit card account. There is **NO** cost to participate in the program. It's easy to sign up. Simply enroll at the program's website, www.parishpay.com or contact the parish office.

SHOPPER'S CLUB

This week 38 families purchased Shopper Club Cards realizing a weekly profit of \$290.50 and Burrini's May-August 2015 has a year to date total of \$502.02 for a grand total of \$8,772.43. Every purchase no matter how small results in profit for St. Matthew's. Remember, St. Matthew's realizes a profit of 5% of the face value of every Shopper's Card you purchase, at no cost to you. Mention St. Matthews when you check out at Burrini's and 5% *of your purchase will be donated to St. Matthew's. Also Randolph Diner, IHOP and Rosie's offers St. Matthew' 10%* when using their diners cards. All cards can be bought after Masses in the Gathering Space.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Office will be open Monday thru Wednesday, December 21st – 23rd full days and a ½ day on Thursday, December 24th closed on Friday Christmas day. The week of December 28th the parish office will be open 8am-12noon Monday – Thursday and closed on Friday Regular hours resume the week of January 4th. *The Parish Staff wishes you and your families a very Blessed Christmas and Happy Healthy New Year!*

CELEBRATION OF FIRST RECONCILIATION

Thirty three of our 2nd grade children received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on Saturday, Dec. 5th. Please remember these children and their families in your prayers as they continue in their preparation for 1st Eucharist in May.



2015-2016

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve

Thursday, December 24th

*Family Liturgy 5:00PM

(doors will open at 4:15PM)

Liturgy 10:00PM

Music & Carol Prelude 9:30PM

Christmas Day

Friday, December 25th

9:00AM & *11:00 * **Family Liturgy**

Solemnity of the Holy Family

December 26-27, 2015

Sat. 5PM, Sun. 8AM, 10AM & 12PM

(No 5PM Mass)

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (New Year's Day)

Vigil Mass, Thursday, December 31st - 5:00PM

Friday, January 1st - 10:00AM

Solemnity of the Epiphany

Sunday, January 3rd

Regular Mass Schedule

Solemnity of the Baptism of the Lord

Sunday, January 10th

Regular Mass Schedule

CONGRATULATIONS TO BILL RUANE

We are happy to announce that our very faithful parishioner, Bill Ruane, has been accepted into the Formation Program for the Diaconate for the Diocese of Paterson. Bill serves as a parish trustee and member of the Finance Committee in addition to being an active member of the parish Liturgy committee. He has been active in Cornerstone and coordinates our Matthew's Men program.

We offer him and his wife, Pam, our ongoing prayerful support in the years ahead. We are so very blessed to have dedicated and gifted deacons in our parish community and we are so happy to know that Bill will hopefully join the ranks of deacons in our community.

PLEASE CONSIDER IN YOUR PLANNING FOR CHRISTMAS

For the last few years people of our parish have been very good in responding to our invitation to "spread out" their coming to Christmas masses, It would be wonderful if all of us as a community could gather to celebrate one joyful liturgy of the Birth of our Savior. But we know space does not allow that. Over the years we have asked people who do not have the necessity of coming to Christmas 5 PM mass to maybe consider one of our other liturgies (10 PM Christmas Eve and 9 and 11 AM Christmas day.) This enables all to have a seat and worship in a spirit of true reverence and joy. Thanks for considering this invitation.

RELIGIOUS GIVE THANKS

"We cannot begin to repay all who contribute," writes a Catholic sister. "So we pray to God, who is never outdone in generosity, to reward you." Heartfelt thanks for your donation to last week's offering for the Retirement Fund for Religious. May God bless you for your goodness!

MEN'S CONERSTONE

"Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need." Hebrews 4:16 Pope Francis declared this year The Year of Mercy. In doing so, he extended an invitation to experience the love, kindness and unbound generosity found through this powerful blessing. This act of divine compassion is able to transform your life, your relationships, your work and your ability to embrace all of your life. It is with great honor that we have dedicated the 10th annual Men's Cornerstone retreat to the power of mercy. Cornerstone is a 26hour retreat which provides you with the opportunity to experience a sharing of faith and spiritual growth through personal reflection, prayer and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. It is a casual atmosphere, free of the pressure to share in discussion. The retreat is facilitated by a team of parishioners who have previously attended Cornerstone weekend. They will share their stories of trying to live the Gospel amidst the challenges of the modern world, a truly moving event. We hope that you accept our invitation to "Experience the Power of Mercy" with us on February 26 to February 27, 2015. To sign up or for more information, please contact Aaron Milliner, aaronmilliner2@gmail.com, 9739448968.

20TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT

This Sunday, **Dec. 20th at 2:00PM please join us for our 20-year tradition of great holiday music to warm your spirits!** Along with some sing-along carols, music will include selections by our adults, teens, and children, as well as our bell ringers! A free will offering will be received to help support the music ministry programs at St. Matt's.

ROSARY UPDATE INFORMATION ADVENT & THE YEAR OF MERCY

"The Rosary is by its nature a prayer for peace, since it consists in the contemplation of Christ, the Prince of Peace, the one who is "our peace" (Eph 2:14)." Let us pray together The Rosary this Advent as we await the birth of the Prince of Peace in our hearts and in our world and continue during the Year of Mercy. The Rosary will be said on Tuesday, December 22nd next week at 7PM in the Church. All men and women of the parish are invited! If you have any questions please contact Moira Dziomba 973-584-3788

ENCOURAGEMENT FOR THE ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SEASON

Avoid the word "holiday" in shopping and greeting people/Jews and Moslems are not upset. The small group of atheist band secularist try to rob us of our very identity. Wish our Jewish brothers and sisters "Happy Hanukah"

- ✓ Do not rush Christmas. Enjoy Advent. Be sure to set up and use an Advent wreath. Easy to find online or in local shops. If we push Christmas so early we will be tired of it by the time the feast comes. Remember as Catholics we only begin to celebrate Dec. 24-25 and continue the celebration of the following three weeks.
- ✓ Encourage our children to recapture the traditional Christmas carols which speak of the birth of Christ.
- ✓ Wait awhile to put up the Christmas tree and keep it up to Epiphany January 3
- ✓ We celebrate the birthday of Jesus, no one else's for December 25th if you send out Christmas greeting with family photos and messages please be sure to include some kind of Christmas Holy card or remembrance. See our bulletin for details.

LAST CALL TO PURCHASE TICKETS ST. MATTHEW'S CHRISTMAS 50/50

Our Christmas 50/50 drawing will take place here this Sunday 12/20/15 at 3:15PM following our Christmas Concert. So far we have sold 470 raffle tickets. This is your last chance to purchase tickets; you can purchase tickets today in the gathering space after all weekend masses.

Ticket price is @50 each, buy 2 and get a 3rd FREE!

Again we will have 20 winners! Our Summer 50/50 was very successful, we sold 795 tickets. 1st prize winner received \$4770 and the 19 2nd prize winners received \$795 each!

Winners will have some extra money for Christmas Shopping!

Please purchase your tickets today. Thank You for Your Support!

THANK YOU PAUL SARNO!

A great big thank you to Paul Sarno and his helpers for the new crèche in front of the church. Paul and his crew always work tirelessly to help all holidays at St. Matthew's look special! We are blessed to have Paul use his talents here, he is our treasure! Thanks again Paul!

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT AFTERNOON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2016 2-8 PM

So many of our parishioners share in the gift of the Sacrament of Marriage and their sacrament truly touches the lives of all of us. We want to offer the opportunity for married couples to come together to spend some quality time in reflection and sharing one week before Valentine's Day 2016 and to have the opportunity to have a nice dinner afterwards with other couples in the parish. Our theme will be "Seven Habits of Highly Effective Marriages" and our presenters will be Jim and Linda Baratte. The Barattes have made this presentation in other parishes and have been very well received. Set the date and watch for more information to come.

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, January 30, 2016

Cornerstone Reunion Dinner Celebrating our Men's 10 year anniversary and our Women's 11th year retreat.

Our 5:00 PM Mass will be dedicated to Cornerstone followed by our annual Cornerstone Soup Dinner
Please fill out the RSVP form which is located in the gathering space and leave in the Cornerstone box

by January 16, 2016 Any questions please contact-
Lori Ann Gaudioso at lgaudioso105@gmail.com

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY!

Villa Walsh Academy, located in Morristown, NJ, is looking for part-time school bus drivers. Interested candidates must possess a CDL with both the passenger (P) and school bus (S) endorsements. Most trips are late afternoon/early evening. There are also some weekend trips available. Please contact Jen Fleury, Athletic Director, at fleuryj@villawalsh.org or call 973-538-3680 x145.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

BAPTISM: Families are requested to contact the Parish Office for details on pre-baptismal instruction and date of Baptism.

FAITH FORMATION: Faith Formation for children kindergarten thru 11th grade takes place on Sundays and Wednesdays, (Confirmation Sunday evenings) Please contact Pat D'Amico at 862-251-4129 with any questions.

GLUTEN FREE EUCHARIST: As a reminder, for those parishioners or visitors who have Celiac Disease or have an allergy to gluten in food products, we offer gluten-free hosts for Eucharist. **If you desire to receive this host, we ask that you notify the Deacon at least 5 minutes before Mass in order that we can prepare for the special host for the Mass.**

HAITI RELIEF SERVICES: To help support relief services in Haiti you can reach out to Catholic Relief Services by calling 888-277-7575 or info@crs.org. Catholic Relief Services can be found at 228 W. Lexington St., Baltimore, Maryland, 21203-7090.
HOSPITAL BOUND: If you or any of your family members are currently in the hospital or will be going into the hospital please let the parish know so we can visit. Because of the privacy laws, the hospitals cannot notify parishes of incoming patients. Thank you.

MARRIAGE: Arrangements are usually made one year in advance. Please contact the Parish Office for an appointment.

MINISTRY TO THE SICK: If a family member is ill in the hospital, please call the parish office. Because of the privacy laws, we may not be aware that your family member is sick and we would be happy to visit you during this time.

NEW PARISHIONERS: If you are new to St. Matthew's or have been coming to Mass for a while now, we ask that you stop by and speak to Fr. Dan, Fr. Kamil, or our Deacons to talk about becoming part of our parish family. Registration forms can be found in the Gathering Space; and can be filled out and put in the gold mailbox outside the office door—or you can call Terry Shaw at 973-584-1101 ext. 205 and she will mail you a registration form. There are many wonderful happenings going on at St. Matthews and we want to make sure all our parishioners are in the know!

RECONCILIATION: The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated each Saturday from 4:15-4:45PM before the evening Liturgy or by appointment at another time.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION (RCIA): RCIA prepares adolescents and adults for Baptism and full Communion into the Catholic Church. Please call the office for more information.

THE EUCHARIST AT HOME: Holy Communion may be brought to the home of any person permanently or temporarily homebound. For the confined, the elderly and/or shut-in, be they at home or in the hospital, the staff of our parish makes calls to homes and hospitals each month. Please inform the office, 973-584-1101, to have your name added to the list.

VISITATION: Do you know someone who needs a visit, a phone call or just a kind note from his/her parish priest? Maybe it's someone who has been away from the Church for awhile or someone that has been turned off or offended by the Church? Email or call the parish office, 973-584-1101, so we can extend the healing hand of the Lord to them! All information will be kept confidential.

OPLATKI CHRISTMAS WAFERS

Polish, Slovak and Lithuanian families observe the centuries-old Oplatki Christmas Tradition. The word Oplatki means "Angel Bread". Sometimes you will see Oplatki spelled as Oplatky or Oplatke, and you will also see the singular version, Oplatek. The wafers come with 4 beautiful Christmas images, such as the Nativity or the Star of Bethlehem stamped on the wafer. The back of the envelope reads:

"The word Bethlehem means "House of Bread." The breaking of the bread is a sign of charity, unity, and friendship. Religious family traditions and customs bring the truths of Faith into the home. One of these beautiful Christmas customs is the Christmas Wafer. A Wafer bearing a simple design commemorative of Christ's birth is broken by the head of the family and distributed to each member. With a simple prayer for God's grace and the welfare of the present and absent members of the family, the head family member breaks the Wafer and distributes it, a piece to each one at the table. While doing so each member of the family is kissed and is wished a joyful feast. The other family members then greet one another in the same way.

The spiritual lesson in this age old custom is unity of the family - the main pillar of society. The bond of unity is the Christ-like charity that should exist amongst the members of the family. The father of the family is the link in the unbroken chain of One Body, One Bread, One Christ, and One Church. The family joins him in this eternal procession no matter where they are. For there is a universal longing by men to be always with one another, with God.

All this brings to mind clearly our charity for one another, to seek salvation together. Family customs remind us that we seek and obtain salvation with the help of others at all times."

