

St. Matthew Parish



Website: www.stmatthewrc.org

Pastoral Staff

Pastor

Fr. Frank Black

Priests

Fr. Thaddeus J. Abraham

Msr. Pierre Andre

Pierre

Fr. Ralph Theodat

Deacon

Nickie Colon



St. Gregory the Great

224 Brooklyn Ave.

Brooklyn, NY 11213

Tel 718- 773-0100

Fax 718- 773-4198

Email: faithcommstgreg@aol.com

Mass Schedule:

First Friday 10:00am

Saturday-5pm

Sunday 11:30am

Saturday: Reconciliation-4:30 pm

Office Staff

Secretary: Rosanne Barber Ext.100

D.R.E.: Monica Flemmings

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday: 9:00am-5:00pm

St. Matthew

1123 Eastern Pkwy.,

Brooklyn, NY 11213

Tel 718- 774-6747

Fax 718- 953-4895

Email: stmatthew1123@aol.com

Mass Schedule:

Monday-Friday 7:30am & 9:00am

Saturday 8:00am & 8:00pm

Saturday: Reconciliation-7:30 pm
or by appointment

Sunday:

English-7:30am & 11:30am

Spanish 9:30am; Kreyol 1:30pm

Office Staff

Secretary: Sharon Andrews

D.R.E.: Charmaine Noel

Office Hours:

Monday:10:00am-4:00pm

Tuesday, Wednesday,

Thursday Friday & Saturday:

10:00am-6:00pm

Sunday: 9:00am-4:00pm

Monday - Saturday-

Closed for lunch 1-2 P.M.

Our Lady Of Charity

1669 Dean St.,

Brooklyn, NY 11213

Tel 718- 774-5100

Fax 718- 778-3335

Email: Olc1669@aol.com

Mass Schedule:

Sunday: Rosary 9:00am

9:30am-Praise & Worship

10am-Mass

Office Staff:

Secretary: Patricia Romain

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday:10am-6pm

Catholic Cemeteries-

80-01 Metropolitan Ave.

Middle Village, NY 11379

Tel:718 – 894-4888



32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time: Using Time Wisely

I want to begin today by asking you to imagine that you get a call from a lawyer telling you that you are the main beneficiary of your Great Uncle Frank's will. Now, everyone had said that Frank was more than a bit eccentric and rather avoided him, but you always went out of your way to visit him, joke with him, and so forth. Well, it turns out that Great Uncle Frank was rich. He left you a great deal of money, but in his typical fashion, he had certain rules. Everyday for a year, you would receive \$86,400. The money would be administered by the lawyers. You had to spend the \$86,400 every day. You couldn't withdraw it to save it. And you had to show receipts for how you spent the money. At the end of each day, whatever you did not spend would be removed from your account.

The next day you would start with a fresh \$86,400.

I am sure that you and I would find some really creative things to do with the money.

Now, let's return to reality. Every day we are given 86,400 seconds to use wisely. Every night, God writes off as lost whatever portion of this time we have not used well or have wasted. In the bank of time, there are no balances and no overdrafts. Each day a new account is opened for us. Each night, what remains is written off, lost, gone forever.

Everyday's 86,400 seconds have to be invested in commodities that will hold their value from day to day, quarter to quarter, year to year and beyond. These commodities are lasting values like justice, compassion, forgiveness, and love.

There were five wise virgins and five foolish ones. The five foolish virgins squandered their time. The five wise virgins made the best use of every moment. The wise virgins entered into the banquet of the Master's love. The foolish virgins were too busy wasting time to be ready for their Master's return. They were locked out of the celebration.

How much time do you and I have left? We really don't know.

Recently, we have had young members of our parish come down with sudden illnesses and die just a few months after the diagnosis. Another died due to an accident. In our American denial of death, we all like to think that sudden death happens to other people and that this could not happen to any of us.

But it does.

The proper Christian attitude is not to deny death, but to prepare for it. This is the wisdom behind the five bridesmaids who were prepared to enter the wedding reception. They didn't know when the bridegroom was coming, but they were ready.

So how do we prepare? Well, survivalists prepare secret places where they hope to live for months or years after what they figure will be a devastating war. They gather supplies. Evidently, they want a lot of toilet paper. Chances are good that the Survivalists in Pinellas and Pasco counties have stocked up on Ensure. (Sorry, I couldn't pass that up.) :

These methods are all wrong. We do not prepare for the end by saving a lot of stuff, or by doing a lot of things. We prepare for the end by nurturing the proper disposition, the Christian attitude. Some of the most important words in scripture are two verses from Paul's Letter to the Romans:

Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect. Romans 12:1-2.

"Be transformed by renewal of mind." Paul tells us to take an attitude of life that is completely different from the attitude of the world. Throughout the Gospels, particularly in Matthew where today's gospel is taken, Jesus emphasizes the need for inner transformation. His complaint against the Pharisees was that they were hypocrites. They behaved one way, but were another way. He called them whiten sepulchers. On the outside, they looked nice and clean. On the inside they were rotten. The tax collectors and prostitutes who turned to Jesus transformed their lives. Their devotion to the Lord was a reflection of the Christian disposition they had taken on.

So, how do we form and nourish the Christian attitude of life? On the negative, we cannot give ourselves over to that which destroys the presence of the Lord. We live in a materialistic society. To the vast majority of society success is counted in the amount of possessions a person accumulates. Pleasure, even fleeting pleasure, is the goal of life. The glorification of sex is just one of the many ways that this is expressed. We, you and I, have to fight against the forces outside of us and, particularly, within us that are drawing us into materialism and away from the Christian disposition of life.

On the positive, we can form and nourish the Christian disposition by continually communicating with the Lord. We need to pray daily. We need to find a time, even if it is brief, but still a time when we can be with the Lord and freed of the distractions of life. If we have a family, then we have the additional responsibility to pray as a family every day. Bedtime prayers when the children are little is a great time for this. As they get older, Mom and Dad should continue praying with their children every evening and then, as time goes on, for their children every evening.

The main focus of our prayer life should be on the Lord's Day, Sunday. On Sunday we celebrate the passion, death and resurrection of the Lord and, if we are able to come to Mass, receive the Eucharist. The presence of Christ within us in this sacrament gives us the strength to be who we claim to be, Christians.

Today's first reading speaks about wisdom. Wisdom is a way of life. The wise are always ready for the Lord because they are always united to him. The gospel lesson is simple for this Sunday. Be like the wise virgins. Be ready to celebrate the banquet of the Lord's love.

WEEKLY READINGS	
Sun Nov 12	Wis 6:12 -16; 1 Thes 4:13-18 or 4:13-14 Mt 25:1-13
Mon Nov 13	Wis 1:1-7 ; Lk 17:1-6
Tue Nov 14	Wis 2:23—3:9 ; Lk 17:7-10
Wed Nov. 15	Wis 6:1-11 ; Lk 17:11-19
Thu Nov. 16	Wis 7:22—8:1 ; Lk 17:20-25
Fri Nov. 17	Wis 13:1-9 ; Lk 17:26-37
Sat Nov. 18	Wis 18:14-16, 19:6-9 ; Lk 18:1-8

OUR LADY OF CHARITY: MASS INTENTIONS

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS: Elizabeth Watson , Lincoln Duncan , Davina Lawrence , Michael Auguste , Nevaeh Sampson , Sophia Tailian , Parris Johnson , Gail Bullen/ Bourne , Brian Jennings , Margaret Otumba , Courtney Bennett , Lois Bailey , Kerry Benjamin , Donell Walker/ Herrera , **We pray to the Lord**

PARISH PRAYER: For our parish, that the three communities of St. Matthew, St. Gregory the Great and Our Lady of Charity, learn how to merge and grow together spiritually and become financially sound as three and yet one,
We pray to the Lord.

TODAY'S MASS :Memorial mass for the Bernadette Connell Julien may her soul rest in Christ peace requested by her daughter Barbara Phillip,
We pray to the Lord

ALTAR BREAD : For the month of November is donated by Barbara Phillip for her family,
We pray to the Lord.

SANCTUARY CANDLES :For the month of November is donated for , **We pray to the Lord.**

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY :
We pray to the Lord.

ST. GREGORY : MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, Nov. 11 th	5 PM Vigil Mass for Gloria Mitchell, Birthday Blessings
Sunday, Nov. 12 th	11:30 AM Mass for St. Martin Fontenelle, R.I.P., Requested by The Fontenelle Family
Saturday, Nov. 18 th	5 PM Vigil Mass for Frances Weeks, R.I.P., Requested by The Fontenelle Family

ST. MATTHEW: MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday November 11	8:00pm – R.I.P. family & friends
Sunday November 12 <i>32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	7:30am –The Holy Name Society 9:30am –Healing for Raymon & Henry Cabrera & Nancy Guzman 11:30pm –In loving memory of Joseph Brown & Jevaughn Morris by Theresa Browne– Morris 1:30pm –a. R.I.P. Etienne Ciceron by Etienne Chirmone b. Repose of the souls of Elise & Joseph Antoine by Anne M. Antoine c. Repose of the souls of Claire & Evens Antoine by Anne M. Antoine
Monday November 13	7:30am – R.I.P. family & friends 9:00am – In loving memory of Deacon Herve Desdunes by wife, Yolette
Tuesday November 14	7:30am - In loving memory of Jacques Pierre by Marie Pierre & kids 9:00am –Thanksgiving to God by Carmen Edouard
Wednesday November 15	7:30am – The Johnson family 9:00am – R.I.P. Franane & Roland Paul by Rudy Almonor
Thursday November 16	7:30am – R.I.P. family & friends 9:00am – R.I.P. Glenda Davidson by Helena O'Brien
Friday November 17	7:30am –R.I.P. family & friends 9:00am – In loving memory of Solange Aris by Solidarignia Viaud
Saturday November 18	8:00am – R.I.P. family & friends

CANDLE FOR NOVEMBER 12– NOVEMBER 18



Rest in peace Glenda Davidson by Helena O'Brien

BREAD & WINE FOR NOVEMBER



BREAD - Birthday blessings & deliverance for Ken Armstrong requested by Uphita Clarke

WINE - For the souls in purgatory requested by Uphita Clarke

REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

For the homebound, hospitalized and sick

Judith Adams, Rita Antomez, Marie Augustine, Armelle Amilcar, Loraine Quash– Antoine, Marie Augustin, Al Barnett, Monica Belfon, Marque & Yael Barber-LaFon, Melona Barber, Jason Bascom, Ruby Bowman, Silvestre Brathwaite, Ismay Brewster, Recy Brown, Patricia Burrowes, Yolande Cadet, Diana Codogan, Cathleen Charles, Catilda Charles, Delcia Charles, Marcel Charles, Maria Clouden Cecilia Clovie, Nelia Collins, Marilyn Coates, Diana Codogan, Virginia Cox, Daphne Critchlow, Theresa Cudjoe, Veronica Dale, Angela Daniels, Shirley Daniels, Joseph Drew, Stephen Duncan, Dorothy Edwards, Una Europe, Stella Emmanuel, Elardo Flemmings, Carrie Frasier, Doriel Gabriel, John Gale, Doriel Gabriel, Ryan Gee, Sybil Geoffroy, Catherine & Deacon Roy George, Bernadette Gilbert, Muriel Gomez, Trina Gonzalez, Kellon Hagley, Kelly Hagley, Gwendolyn Harding, Pat Harris, Bruno Henry, Beverly Hillyer, Pierre & Elreta Hinds, Florence Holder, Danielle Huie, Orson Hutchings, Kerlyne Hyppolite, Anasha Inniss, Carlyn Jabouin, Donna James, Nellie James, Diane John, Alsie Johnson, Nicole Johnson, Magdalena Joseph, Ian Kellman, Lucy King, Albert Kirton, Kanelle Lang, Rhoda Lewis, Sampson Lewis, Marjorie Lopez, Luis Manuel Lorenzo, Madelin Lorenzo, Vivian Boykin Lott, Norberto Lovell, Jean Lubin, Gloria Lynch, Hubert Lynch, Mamita, Barbara Manuel, Virginia Marcellin, Judith Matthew, Tom McCafferty, Laura McDonald, Mavis McDonald, Leticia McDowell, Vernita McDowell, Gemma Mejias, Isai Munoz, Marta Munoz, Nelson Munoz, Suzanne Neil, Ronald Nethersole, Claudette Norde, Mother Dolores Olf, Keena Ollivierre, Ronaldo Nano Paul, Sharon Perry, Andre Perry, Chung Peters, Mary James Peterson, Marie Pierre, Melody Pink, Sonia Prescott, Ann Primo, Val Quash, Len Quash, Dorothy Irons Reid, Catherine Richards, Melissa Richards, Elizabeth Rivera, Cornelia Robergeau, Randolph Romain, Carlos Rudas, Lidia Saunders, Marlene Saunders, Pamela Smith, Pema Smith, John Spellman Sr., Lisa Scott Spencer, Delores Sykes, Kevin Maynard, Basil Suarez, Antonio Sultan, Violet Sylvester, Brenda & Javier Talango, Angela & Edris Thomas, Lyonette Tribie, Janet Throne, Amparo Torres, Malik Wellington, Karen Williams, Terrance Williams, Octavio Willis, Leandro Wilson, Hazel Williams, Reynold Williams, Christine Wright, Joan Wright, Natasha Wright, James P. Young

SPECIAL PRAYERS FOR : Ruby Bowman, Yvonne Lacy, Dean Jackson, Wendy Romain, Vaughn Haynes, Georgeann Campbell, Voulda Edmondson, Danielle Huie, Cotilda Charles, Anthony Hepburn Jr., Lawrence Latimer, La Mar Mc Nabb, Lisa Colone, Krystal Chinalbert, Christine Hudson & family, Conrad Lord, Glenda Hunter, Livingston Holloway, Jaden Bell, Nathan Ford Sr. & family, Isabella Bugett, Gardin family, Reid Koken, Hannah Penny, Gifta Williams, Aluko Griffith, Kendall Wilson, all families represented here today,

All students, teachers and principals, President Joseph Biden & his family, Vice President Kamala Harris & her family, our Government, prayers and petitions in our prayer basket, for the all Priest especially those who serve here at Charity, Religious Vocations, and an increase in Religious Vocations, all men and women serving our country, the elders, all who are incarcerated, and unexpressed prayers, for immigrants, a successful solution to the pandemic, the mentally sick, the unemployed and under employed, end to gun violence and for world peace,

We pray to the Lord.

WEEKLY MEETINGS - St. Matthew

St. Matthew weekly meetings have commenced. Please contact your ministry to find out the time and date of the meetings.

WEEK OF SUNDAY 11/12/2023 @ ST. GREGORY

- + **9:30 AM Sunday School in session**
- + **10:30 AM – Choir Rehearsal**
- + **11:30 AM Sunday Mass – (Live Stream)**
- + **CREDIT UNION OPEN**

MONDAY 11/13/23

- + **7 PM Rehearsal-Senior Choir – Church**

FRIDAY 11/17/23

- + **7:30 PM Bible Study via zoom**

SATURDAY 11/18/23

- + **4 PM Confession**
- + **4 PM Vigil Choir Rehearsals**
- + **4 PM Light Fest Prayer Group *IN-PERSON* – Dining Room**
- + **5 PM Vigil Mass - Church- (Live Stream)**
- + **After Mass – BAKE SALE sponsored by Parent Support Group**
- + **5 PM BLACK CATHOLIC HISTORY MONTH MASS @ The Basilica of St. Patrick's Old Cathedral**

COLLECTION 11/04– 11/05/2023

ST. MATTHEW

Mass	Envelopes	Envelope Collection	Loose money	Totals
8 PM	32	931.00	170.00	1,101.00
7:30 AM	134	3,992.12	436.00	4,428.12
9:30 AM	78	1,389.25	317.75	1,707.00
11:30 PM	81	2,032.00	307.00	2,339.00
1:30 PM	51	779.00	184.00	963.00
L.I.R.	28	1,005.00	—	1,005.00
Total	404	10,128.37	1,414.75	11,543.12
All Saints		1,127.84		1,127.84
All Souls		1,840.00		1,840.00

ST. GREGORY

Mass	Envelopes	Envelope Collection	Loose money	Totals
5 PM	19	505.00	370.00	875.00
10:00AM	47	1,238.00	162.00	1,400.00
Total	66	1,743.00	532.00	2,275.00
All Saints		378.00		378.00
All Souls		597.00		597.00

OUR LADY OF CHARITY

Mass	Envelopes	Envelope Collection	Loose money	Totals
10:00AM	52	2,621.00	-	2,621.00
Total		2,621.00	-	2,621.00
All Saints		35.00		35.00
All Souls		30.00		30.00

FAITH DIRECT: October 8~Nov 7—\$2,025.00

ST. MATTHEW EXPENSES

	<u>Apr - Jul 20</u>	<u>Apr - Jul 19</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Income			
Collections	168,288.50	344,182.28	-51.11%
Rent	199,829.29	217,167.84	-7.98%
Programs	0.00	10,369.20	-100.0%
Donations/Fundraising	1,366.00	18,115.47	-92.46%
Other	25,491.52	24,792.07	2.82%
Total Income	394,975.31	614,626.86	-35.74%
Expense			
Employee Compensation	302,582.87	291,549.37	3.78%
Maintenance	69,276.57	33,706.71	105.53%
Office Expenses	28,460.39	19,601.93	45.19%
Programs	3,351.36	6,028.70	-44.41%
Altar Supplies	6,099.33	16,602.28	-63.26%
Utilities	28,261.46	27,878.02	1.38%
Miscellaneous Expense	2,032.03	3,230.79	-37.1%
Total Expense	440,064.01	398,597.80	10.4%
Net Income	(45,088.70)	216,029.06	-120.87%

ST. GREGORY THE GREAT

NOTE CHANGE: *St. Gregory the Great* **BIBLE STUDY** with Catherine Abdullah @ 7PM Eastern Time (US and Canada) every week on **FRIDAYS**

Bible Study back in Session @ 7:15 PM (Focus on The Book of Luke)

Link for Bible Study [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85498875775?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85498875775?pwd=Nk4zY3BVOUFmVzRUSDJodlIWSDArUT09)

[pwd=Nk4zY3BVOUFmVzRUSDJodlIWSDArUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85498875775?pwd=Nk4zY3BVOUFmVzRUSDJodlIWSDArUT09)

To Join Zoom Meeting please use Meeting ID: 854 9887 5775

Passcode: 374738

On tap mobile

Dial 929 205 6099 using Meeting ID and the passcode

ALL ARE WELCOME

**UPCOMING MTGS. & EVENTS @ ST. GREGORY
MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**MARCUS GARVEY SERVICE IS NOW
SCHEDULED ONCE A MONTH ON THE SECOND
SUNDAY AT 2PM**

St. Gregory the Great – Religious Education

Starting date: Sunday, October 15th, 2023

Time: 9:30am. Registration fee: \$60 per candidate

BULLETIN CHANGE:

**NO EAST BROOKLYN CONGREGATION
PRESENTATION ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH AT
11:30 AM – EXPECTED NOVEMBER 19TH, 2023.**

**The Parents Support Group will host a BAKE SALE
on Saturday, November 18th and Sunday, November
19th after Mass.**

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22ND, RECTORY
CLOSES @ 12 NOON**

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23RD THANKSGIVING
DAY MASS @ 10 AM – Please bring non perishable
items for the Rectory Food Pantry.**

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24TH, RECTORY OFFICE
WILL BE CLOSED FOR BUSINESS DUE TO
HOLIDAY**

**GARDEN CHRISTMAS LIGHTING ON SATUR-
DAY, NOVEMBER 25TH, AFTER THE 5 PM VIGIL
MASS**

**The Immaculate Conception of The Blessed Virgin
Mary Friday, December 8th, 2023 Mass at 9AM and
7PM**

**LIGHT FEST PRAYER GROUP AND BIBLE STUDY
ANNUAL RETREAT WILL BE HELD IN
DECEMBER, 2023. DETAILS TO FOLLOW**

SACRAMENTS & REGISTRATION

PARISH REGISTRATION:

All are welcome! Any letter concerning sponsorship for the sacraments or testimonial letters will only be issued to registered parishioners of 6+ months. Please register in the rectory.

BAPTISM:

To have your child baptized in the

Diocese of Brooklyn and Queens, you must show:

1. Proof that you live in the geographical boundaries of the Church you wish to have the baby baptized.(e.g. electric bill). If you live outside the boundaries of the Church you wish to have your baby baptized , you must get a permission letter from the Catholic church closest to where you live granting you permission to have your baby baptized outside of the geographical area .
2. Your baby is allowed **one** God mother and **one** God father, one must be Catholic, practicing their faith (letter from the Church stating this), and have their confirmation certificate. The baby can be baptized with one Catholic god parent.
3. One parent must be baptized Catholic and have their baptism certificate, First Communion or Confirmation as proof.
4. Once these requirements are fulfilled, we encourage you to call and set a date. Children 7 & under can be baptized w/o CCD classes.

RCIA

RCIA stands for RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS and is composed of a series of sessions bringing people together to experience the prayer life of the church as well as learn about its doctrines and teachings. Using the readings from the Bible which we hear daily at Mass, the Sacred Liturgy as well as the Catechism of the Catholic Church, teens and adults who have not yet done so prepare themselves to receive the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation & Holy Eucharist.

RCIA is offered in Spanish, Kreyol & English and is for people who:

- ◆ Were baptized in the Catholic Church but have not received the sacrament of Confirmation, First Holy Communion or First Confession
- ◆ Were baptized in another Christian denomination and wish to join the Catholic Church
- ◆ Were never baptized & wish to fully worship in the Catholic Church
- ◆ Wants to know more about what it means to be Catholic?

The sessions begin in October. If you are interested in knowing more, please contact the rectory.

SACRAMENTS & REGISTRATION

School of Religion @ St. Matthew

**REGISTRATIONS ARE CURRENTLY TAKING PLACE
New Applicants and Returning Students (ages 6-15)**

Registration forms are now available at the doors of the Church, in the Parish Center & in the Rectory.

Payment for registration is \$70.00.

Please attach a Copy of Your Child's Baptism Certificate, If Not Baptized, Attach a Copy of their Birth Certificate.

After receiving First Holy Communion, It is essential for your child to continue each year in our program, until they complete their initiation with the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation.

For more information about registration requirements or other questions you might have, contact us: Phone: 215-576-4124; email: stmatthewreledu@stmatthew-brooklyn.org

***LAS REGISTRACIONES SE ESTAN LLEVANDO
ACABO EN ESTOS MOMENTOS***

Aplicantes Nuevos y Estudiantes que Regresan (edades 6-15)

Después de recibir la Primera Comunión, es esencial que su hijo continúe en nuestro programa cada año, hasta que complete la iniciación con la recepción del Sacramento de la Confirmación.

Para más información acerca los requisitos para registración u otras preguntas que usted pueda tener, comuníquese al Tel: 215-576-4124; email: stmatthewreledu@stmatthew-brooklyn.org

***ENSKRIPSYON YO AP FÈT KOUNYE A
Nouvoaplikanakelevkapretounen (ki genlaj 6-15)***

Program nou an konsantresitoupouedeparanki gen timoun **kipokore** sevwasakremaninisyasyon yo: BATÈM, PREMYE SENT KOMINYON AK KONFIMASYON.

Pouplisenfòmasyon sou kondisyon enskripsyon ou swalòtkekasyon ou ta genyen kontaktenounan: Phone: 215-576-4124; email: stmatthewreledu@stmatthew-brooklyn.org

ST. MATTHEW EVENTS



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Adoration in the Church on **Wednesdays**
and **Fridays** after **9:00 am Mass** until
12:00 noon. Fridays from **7 P.M. to 9 P.M.**

“Your hour with Jesus in the Blessed
Sacrament will

repair for evils of the world and bring about peace on
earth “Let us be generous with our time in going to meet
Jesus.” (*Pope John II*)

HOLY NAME SOCIETY CHRISTMAS DINNER

DATE: Sunday, December 10th

TIME: 2 P.M.—6 P.M.

PLACE: 1345 Lincoln Place (Parish Hall)

PRICE: \$ 30 for adults; \$15 for children 12 and under

You can purchase tickets from members, in the rectory or
at the door

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Donation is \$5.00 per ticket.

One book - \$25.00

Two books - \$50.00

1st Prize - \$2,000.00 ; **2nd Prize**—\$ 1,500.00

3rd Prize—\$ 1,000.00 ; **4th Prize**—\$ 500.00

Drawing on Sunday, December 17th during our
Christmas concert.

IMMIGRATION FAIR

St. Matthew will hold an Immigration Fair in the Parish
Center (1345 Lincoln Place) on Thursday, November
16th from 2 to 9 P.M.

Topics will include: Your rights as an undocumented
person.

Obtaining a tax ID number

Filing for US Permanent Residence and your Labor
rights among other important issues

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Is on Friday, December 8th, we will have Mass @ 7:30
and 9:00 A.M. and 7:30 P.M.

THANKSGIVING SCHEDULE

We will have Thanksgiving Eve Mass on Wednesday,
November 22nd at 7:30 P.M. and on Thanksgiving Day,
November 23rd, we will have one Mass at 10 A.M. The
rectory will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday on
Thursday, November 23rd through Saturday,
November, 25th.

FAMILY MASS

We will have our monthly Family Mass on Saturday,
November 18th at 5 P.M.

A Real Presence, A Mystery of Faith

The sacramental re-presentation of Christ’s sacrifice, crowned
by the resurrection, in the Mass involves a most special pres-
ence which – in the words of Paul VI – “is called ‘real’ not as
a way of excluding all other types of presence as if they were
‘not real’, but because it is a presence in the fullest sense: a
substantial presence whereby Christ, the God-Man, is wholly
and entirely present”. This sets forth once more the perenni-
ally valid teaching of the Council of Trent: “the consecration
of the bread and wine effects the change of the whole sub-
stance of the bread into the substance of the body of Christ
our Lord, and of the whole substance of the wine into the sub-
stance of his blood. And the holy Catholic Church has fit-
tingly and properly called this change transubstantiation”.

Truly the Eucharist is a *mysterium fidei*, a mystery which
surpasses our understanding and can only be received in faith,
as is often brought out in the catechesis of the Church Fathers
regarding this divine sacrament: “Do not see – Saint Cyril of
Jerusalem exhorts – in the bread and wine merely natural ele-
ments, because the Lord has expressly said that they are his
body and his blood: faith assures you of this, though your
senses suggest otherwise”

Adoro te devote, latens Deitas, we shall continue to sing with
the Angelic Doctor. Before this mystery of love, human rea-
son fully experiences its limitations. One understands how,
down the centuries, this truth has stimulated theology to strive
to understand it ever more deeply.

These are praiseworthy efforts, which are all the more helpful
and insightful to the extent that they are able to join critical
thinking to the “living faith” of the Church, as grasped espe-
cially by the Magisterium’s “sure charism of truth” and the
“intimate sense of spiritual realities” which is attained above
all by the saints. There remains the boundary indicated by
Paul VI: “Every theological explanation which seeks some
understanding of this mystery, in order to be in accord with
Catholic faith, must firmly maintain that in objective reality,
independently of our mind, the bread and wine have ceased to
exist after the consecration, so that the adorable body and
blood of the Lord Jesus from that moment on are really before
us under the sacramental species of bread and wine”.

The saving efficacy of the sacrifice is fully realized when the
Lord’s body and blood are received in communion. The Eu-
charistic Sacrifice is intrinsically directed to the inward union
of the faithful with Christ through communion; we receive the
very One who offered himself for us, we receive his body
which he gave up for us on the Cross and his blood which he
“poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins” (Mt 26:28).
We are reminded of his words: “As the living Father sent me,
and I live because of the Father, so he who eats me will live
because of me” (Jn 6:57). Jesus himself reassures us that this
union, which he compares to that of the life of the Trinity, is
truly realized. The Eucharist is a true banquet, in which Christ
offers himself as our nourishment.

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