

# St. Matthew Catholic Church

400 West Sunset, El Paso, Texas 79922 • (915) 584-3461 • Fax (915) 584-2107

www.Stmatthewcatholicchurch.org email: stmatthew400@gmail.com

Office Hours: Mon: 8am-5 pm, Tues-Thurs: 8 am-3:30 pm, Friday: Closed,  
Second Saturday: 9 am-12 pm

ST. MATTHEW CATHOLIC SCHOOL, Principal: Veronica De La Cruz  
(915) 581-8801 • Fax (915) 581-8816



Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 21, 2024

## PARISH STAFF

Rev. Frank Lopez- Pastor  
Rev Astry Deraly- Parochial Vicar  
Dr Luis Santos- Deacon

Fr Frank Lopez  
Corporate Board - President  
Dorothy Schatzman  
Parish Pastoral Council, 581-3482

Socorro Ortiz  
Bookkeeper, 584-3461

Mickey Loweree  
Faith Formation Office, 584-3461  
Oscar Barreda  
R.C.I.A. Director, 373-5496

Colleen Baily  
Bulletin Editor,  
Sacramental Records/Virtus

Edna Baeza  
Receptionist

Mickey Loweree  
Youth Group

## SUNDAY LITURGY

Saturday 4:30 p.m. Vigil Mass  
Sunday 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m.,  
12:00 p.m. (Spanish)

WEEKDAY LITURGY:  
Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.

RECONCILIATION:  
Saturday 2:00-3:00 p.m.  
or by appointment

*"I will be with you always,  
even to the end of  
the world." Mt 28:20*

*World Day  
of Prayer for  
VOCATIONS*

*Seek HIS FACE  
Know HIS LOVE  
Serve HIS PEOPLE*



*Jornada  
Mundial de  
Oración por las  
VOCACIONES*

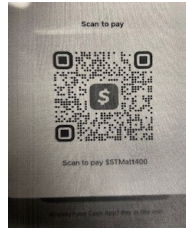
*Busca SU ROSTRO  
Conoce SU AMOR  
Sirve SU PUEBLO*



**Mass Intentions for  
April 20– April 28, 2024**

- Saturday, April 20-  
Easter Weekday**  
(Acts 9:31-42, Jn 6:60-69)  
4:30 pm + Annette Avila Chavez  
+ Henry & Blanca Diaz  
+ Bob Nunez
- Sunday, April 21-  
Fourth Sunday of Easter**  
(Acts 4:8-12, 1Jn 3:1-2, Jn 10:11-18)  
8:00 am + Dora Herrera  
+ Martha V Limas  
+ Michael A Ramos  
10:00 am + Javier Carpintero Jr  
+ Lilly Caldwell  
+ Neal Luther  
12:00 pm Mass For The People
- Monday, April 22-  
Easter Weekday**  
(Acts 11:1-18, Jn 10:1-10)  
9:00 am + Essie Ayoub  
+ Victor Manuel Medina  
SI Lucille Moya
- Tuesday, April 23-  
Easter Weekday**  
(Acts 11:19-26, Jn 10:22-30)  
9:00 am + Victor Manuel Medina  
+ Myrna Zanetell  
SI Elias & Alice Morales
- Wednesday, April 24-  
Easter Weekday**  
(Acts 12:24-13:5a, Jn 12:44-50)  
9:00 am + Victor Manuel Medina  
SI Fr Astry Deraly
- Thursday, April 25-  
St Mark**  
(1Pt 5:5b-14, Mk 16:15-20)  
9:00 am + Victor Manuel Medina
- Friday, April 26-  
Easter Weekday**  
(13:26-33, Jn 14:1-6)  
9:00 am + Victor Manuel Medina  
SI Fr Ed Roden
- Saturday, April 27-  
Easter Weekday**  
(Acts 13:26-33, Jn 14:1-6)  
4:30 pm + Manuela Banuelos  
+ Teresa Soto  
SI Jim & Christian Gannon
- Sunday, April 28-  
Fifth Sunday of Easter**  
(Acts 9:26-31, 1Jn 3:18-24, Jn 15:1-8)  
8:00 am + Augusto Aquino  
SI John D Aspeitia  
SI John Gilbert Aspietia  
10:00 am + Lupe H Rede  
+ Knights of Columbus  
SI Olivia Roeckl  
12:00 pm + Victor Manuel Reyes

Contributions can be made to the Church in the following ways:



Use the QR code (Cash App At \$St Matt400)

Online at: [www.osvhub.com/stmatthewep/funds](http://www.osvhub.com/stmatthewep/funds)

You can also always donate at mass or here in the office.

**Please inform the office of any changes to the calendar by Monday of each week. Room requests are required for all activities. Available online or in the office. Thank you.**

**First Tuesday Women's Rosary Group**

The Women's Rosary Group meets the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm in the Parish Hall. All women who want to join us are welcome.

The Tuesday morning Bible Class will begin the seven-week study of "Jesus in the Eucharist" on Tuesday, May 21.

This study is the effort of the Augustine Institute in special attention to the national Eucharistic Revival.

Class begins after the 9AM morning Mass, usually at 9:45 in the parish conference room.

There is no cost for this study since the thirty-page participant guide is only available on line.

Please contact Christy Balsiger at 915 525 5384 or at [hcbalsiger1@aol.com](mailto:hcbalsiger1@aol.com) for more information or to register.

**CALENDAR AND EVENTS  
APRIL 21–APRIL 28**

- Sunday, April 21**  
11:30-1 pm RCIA/RCIC Bldg G/Conf Rm  
11:30-1 pm Confirmation Bldg J/School
- Monday, April 22**  
10 am-12 pm Legion of Mary Cottage  
4-6:45 pm Faith Formation Ctyd/Bldg G
- Tuesday, April 23**  
5:30-6:30 pm Pietra Fitness Bldg J  
4-6:45 pm Faith Formation Cottage/Ctyd/Bldg G
- Wednesday, April 24**  
9:30-11:30 am Mas Deus Sacred Heart Rm  
5:30-6:45 pm Faith Formation Bldg G  
6-8 pm Yarn for Love Parish Hall  
6-7 pm Youth Group Bldg J  
6:30-7:30 pm Spanish Rosary Sacred Heart Rm  
6:30-8:30 pm Bible Study Conf Rm  
7-9 pm TMIY Bldg J
- Thursday, April 25**  
7:45-8:45 am Pietra Fitness Bldg J  
10 am-12 pm Bible Study Conf Rm  
12-1pm VIA LUCIS Church  
6-8 pm Confession for the Confirmation Students Church
- Friday, April 26**  
10 am– 5 pm Adoration Church
- Saturday, April 27**  
8:30-9:30 am Pietra Fitness Bldg J  
8:45 am-12 pm First Communion Retreat Church  
2-3 pm Confession Church

**Knights of Columbus**

On the 3rd weekend each month the Knights of Columbus will be selling empanadas and menudo. Menudo sales will begin in November! Meetings: 2nd Monday at 7 pm– 3rd degree 3rd Monday at 7 pm– 4th degree

**New Bible Study**

Your opportunity to begin Bible Study. A new ten (10) week study of the Gospel of Mark will begin in April.

Two classes are offered: Wednesday, April 3 from 6:30-8:30 pm Thursday, April 4 from 10 am– 12 pm. We will meet in the conference room. All are welcome from the first class to anytime after!

Join the study and bring a friend. Cost is \$ 20

**Door Policy**

Due to heightened security, ALL doors will be locked 10 minutes after the start of Mass.

There will be a minister of Hospitality at the front door only to let latecomers in.

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

**April 21, 2024**

*Fourth Sunday of Easter (B)*

**Acts** 4:8-12

**1John** 3:1-2

**John** 19:11-18

### Living with Our Instincts

We live with a maze of instincts- some from the dark side and some from the light. In her book, *Caste*, Isabel Wilkerson describes how cultures tend to consign certain individuals to the bottom of the social ladder. She specifically compares the caste system in India with how the Nazis sought to suppress and eliminate Jews and with the way blacks were oppressed by slavery and even in our own time. She describes the instinct in every society to relegate others to a lower class, always seeking to ensure that we are not at the bottom. This instinct can come from the dark side of people.

There is also an instinct for goodness to others, an instinct of light- to recognize everyone as brothers and sisters. As Saint James notes, "we are God's children now" (1John 3:2). It is the voice of the Shepherd instilled in the human spirit that calls us into one fold, the voice of God urging us to healing goodness.

It is the dark side that nurtures white supremacy. It is the light side that enables us to see beyond the color of our skin. It is the dark side that excludes those who seem different. It is the light side that welcomes and offers hospitality. It is the dark side that succumbs to fear. It is the light of God's love that confronts the wolves of hate and urges us to follow. There is always tension between darkness and light.

*-Fr Joseph Juknialis*

**21 de abril de 2024**

*Cuarto Domingo de Pascua (B)*

**Hechos** 4:8-12

**1Juan** 3:1-2

**Juan** 10:11-18

Vivimos con un laberinto de instintos, algunos del lado oscuro y otros de la luz. En su libro *Casta*, Isabel Wilkerson describe cómo las culturas tienden a relegar a ciertos individuos al fondo de la escala social. En concreto, compara el sistema de castas de la India con la forma en que los nazis trataron de suprimir y eliminar a los judíos y con el modo en que los negros fueron oprimidos por la esclavitud e incluso en nuestra propia época. Describe el instinto que existe en toda sociedad de relegar a los demás a una clase inferior, tratando siempre de asegurarnos de no estar en el fondo. Este instinto puede proceder del lado oscuro de las personas.

También existe un instinto de bondad hacia los demás, un instinto de luz: reconocer a todos como hermanos y hermanas. Como señala San Juan, "ahora somos hijos de Dios" (1 Jn 3:2). Es la voz del Pastor inculcada en el espíritu humano la que nos llama a un solo redil, la voz de Dios que nos insta a la bondad sanadora. Es el lado oscuro el que alimenta la supremacía blanca. Es la luz la que nos permite ver más allá del color de nuestra piel.

Es el lado oscuro el que excluye a los que parecen diferentes. Es la luz la que acoge y ofrece hospitalidad. Es el lado oscuro que sucumbe al miedo. Es la luz del amor de Dios la que se enfrenta a los lobos del odio y nos insta a seguirlos. Siempre hay tensión entre la oscuridad y la luz.

*-Padre Joseph Juknialis*

### An Insight On The Catholic Christian Prayer

By: Jonathan Brievea

Prayer is a grace given by God. It is the cornerstone of our Christian faith. Jesus Christ prayed always to the Father, and on multiple occasions He gave us examples and taught us the importance of prayer (Cf. Jn 3:16). Regularly, we see Jesus going up to the mountain to pray. For him prayer is transcendental, for it is what enlightens, purifies, guides our souls, and gives us the mind of God. Saints, such as Maximus the Confessor, Teresa of Avila, John of the Cross, Ignatius of Loyola, and others, also experienced the great effects of prayer.

When we pray, we experience knowledge of God, and of self. The Book of Exodus gives us a clear example of what prayer is: "The LORD used to speak to Moses, face to face, as a person speaks to a friend" (Exodus 33:11). St. John Chrysostom, Clement of Alexandria, and Gregory of Nyssa agreed that "prayer is a familiar conversation with God." Similarly, Ignatius of Loyola tells us that when we pray, we "converse with God as one converses with a friend" (Spiritual Exercises, 54). Thus, prayer is a grace, but it demands desire for Christian perfection, which means one's disposition has to be in conformity with God's will.

In this respect, St. Teresa of Avila proposes nine different ways to enter into prayer: vocal prayer, meditation, affective prayer, contemplation, infused contemplation, quiet prayer, prayer of union, prayer of conforming union and prayer of transforming union. All are possibilities that the Holy Spirit presents to the soul to engage in conversation with God. For this reason, our petition every day should be, "Lord, teach us to pray" (Lk 11:1). Through prayer, God wants to be present in our midst, so that we can know him as he is and love his will.

How do we enter into prayer? It is through trinitarian grace and Jesus Christ. Yet, we are not exempt from difficulties during prayer, such as "distractions and dryness." The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) says that "distraction reveals to us what we are attached to" (CCC, 2729). In this regard, St. Maximus the Confessor explains that if we want to pray without distraction, we need the intellect's freedom from passions; also, St. John of the Cross compares distractions with the "appetites as wearisome and tiring, they agitate and disturb one just as wind disturbs water" (St. John of the Cross, *Ascent to Mount Carmel*, 4). Likewise, the inability to engage in prayer with the intellect and the will, is due to the influence of habitual venial sins. These can lead to discouragement, sadness, disappointment, or in other words, dryness. (See CCC, 2728).

Let us watch and be attentive because "prayer presupposes an effort, a fight against ourselves and the wiles of the Tempter" (CCC, 2752). St. John of the Cross tell us that distraction can be prevented by avoiding a wandering mind. But do not lose hope in the battle against prayer difficulties, for "the remedy lies in faith, conversion, and vigilance of heart" (CCC, 2754). There are certain spiritual practices that can help us to focus on prayer, such as modesty of mind and eyes, self-awareness, deprivation of the senses, acts of mortification (i.e fasting, abstinence, penance), and finding the proper time, place, and posture for prayer.

These are strategies that can help our will and intellect to engage in prayer with the guidance of Jesus our Lord and trinitarian grace. Thus, we experience the transformation of being in union with God. Because in the end, "the intensity of one's prayer life coincides with the intensity of one's charity" (St. Teresa of Avila).



**Tithes and Offerings**  
**Offerings collected for April 14 2024:**  
**\$8,416.00**

Remember those who have asked for our prayers. May God grant them healing:  
Marsha Gannon, C. Alice Ihde, Naya Gurrola, Lorenzo Ortega, David Gutierrez, Salvador Hernandez, Henry Ragsdale, Mary Villareal, Doris Montes, Martha Alarcon, John Rudloff, Ralph Montes, Stefanie Rudloff, Joya Wright, Perch Valdez, Gloria Telles Hernandez, Michael Vela, Christina Ramos, James Gillis, Emilio Lopez, Mary Lou Rede, Nicholas Rede, Sandra Martinez, Edward Wells, Bianca Falvey, Jackie Fritz, Gary Rapp, Karleigh Fuhrman, Sofie Marie Crowe, James Lee Jamison, Beatriz Gonzalez, Angel Baker, Carmen Moreno, Marisol Moreno, Arturo Huerta, Guadalupe Delgado, Lilly Grado, Jose Castillo, Edmundo Silva, Susie Salinas, Carlos Spector, Willie Toscano, Bertha Garcia, Cruz and Carmen Ito, Margarita Payan, Ricardo Ramos, Lilly Grato, Miriam Skelton, Erica Torres, Ryan Salisbury, Lonnie Villarreal, Ernesto Ontiveros III, Kellan Coats, Terry Pallanes, Kathleen Pitcavage, Hortencia Lozano Lazo, Jeannette Emerich, Alfonso Ochoa Jr, Trevor Lyon, John Paul Gauci, Ronald David Sober, Javier Ontiveros, Terry Pallanes, Jesus Javier Gonzalez, Erica Sumaran, Elias & Alice Morales.

**Please call the office at the first of each month if you would like to continue to keep these names on the list.**

**For Reflection**

How does the voice of the Good Shepherd call you to reject the dark and embrace the light?

**A Word From Pope Francis:**

Christ's love is not selective; it embraces everyone...He is everyone's shepherd. Jesus wants everyone to be able to receive the Father's love and encounter God...The Father entrusts everyone to Jesus the Good Shepherd, who gave his life for everyone. Brothers and sisters, Jesus defends, knows and loves all of us.



REGINA CAELI  
ROME  
APRIL 25, 2021

If you or a loved one are facing a difficult challenge in your life due to a serious illness or circumstance, the **Yarn for Love** Ministry would love to offer you a Prayer Shawl or lap Afghan, to remind you that you are not alone. Please contact the office at 915-584-3461 for further information.

*Isaiah 41:10 Do not fear: I am with you; do not be afraid: I am your God. I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.*

**Legion of Mary**  
**Monday 10am-12 pm**  
You are invited to come and join us, and put your best effort in developing your own spiritual life, by furthering the cause of Christ and His Blessed Mother. A very worthwhile investment.  
If you are an Auxiliary member of the Legion of Mary and have not been recently contacted, please leave your contact information with the office so we can update the roster. Thank you.  
We will be praying the rosary at 8:15 am, Monday- Friday in the Daily Chapel. Please join us.

Please join us for the  
**VIA LUCIS**  
Stations of the Risen Lord  
Every Thursday during the Easter Season  
Stations will begin at 6 pm on April 4, 11, 18  
Stations will be at noon on April 25  
Returning to 6 pm for May 2, 9 and 16.

**Quinceanera Preparation Classes**  
If you are interested in having a quinceanera here at St. Matthew, please contact the office at least 6 months in advance. We have a committee to prepare you and your family- we cannot wait to meet you!



- UPCOMING 2024 EVENTS – PLEASE JOIN US**
- Saturday, May 4** ACTS Community gathering-8 a.m. potluck breakfast
  - Thursday, June 20- Sunday, June 23** **Women's English ACTS retreat**
  - Thursday, Aug. 1- Sunday, Aug. 4** **Men's English ACTS Retreat**
  - Saturday, Aug. 17** ACTS Community gathering-8 a.m. potluck breakfast
  - Saturday, Nov. 16** ACTS Community gathering-8 a.m. potluck breakfast

**Faithful Fitness**  
Pietra Fitness- classes for women  
Ages 14 and up  
**Tuesday:**  
5:30-6:30 pm: Gentle (women's class)  
6:30-7:30 PM: Gentle (men's class)  
Thursday: 7:45-8:45 am  
Intermediate/ Advanced (women's class)  
Saturday: 8:30-9:30 am  
Gentle/ Intermediate (women's class)  
To register, please contact  
Christy Balsiger at (915) 525-5384  
Or at hcbalsiger1@aol.com

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**Other Information:**

Daily Mass: Monday – Friday at 9 am  
 Daily Rosary : Monday-Friday at 8:15 am in the Daily Chapel

**Upcoming Envelope Schedule**

April 21: 3rd Sunday  
 April 28: Catholic Home Missions Appeal

**Adoration**

10 am to 5 pm every Friday.  
 During Lent, Adoration will be 24 hours.  
 10 am Friday to 9 am Saturday

**Help Line for St Vincent De Paul**

915-603-5962

**First Saturday Devotion**

Rosary at 9:30 am

Mass at 10 am

**Divine Mercy**

Third Monday at 3:00 pm

**Baptism Information**

Baptism Classes are the second Thursday of every month  
 6 pm– English, 7 pm– Spanish  
 Baptisms are the third Saturday of every month  
 10 am– English, 11 am– Spanish



**St Matthew Parish Ministries  
 And Ministry Heads**

Adoration	Bob and Joyce Kautz	584-8782
Altar Servers		office
Baptism Class		office
Bereavement	Luis and Wilma Santos	office
Bible Study–		
Tues am English	Christy Balsiger	office
Thur am Spanish	Margarita Aguilar	office
Wed pm English	John Cooney	479-4700
Thur am English	John Cooney	479-4700
Choir Leaders–		
Michelle Kessler	Saturday at 4:30 pm	
Adrian Zamora	Sunday at 8:00 am	
Wade Daw	Sunday at 10:00am	
Marisela Quesada	Sunday at noon	
Divine Mercy	Olivia Roeckl	office
Evangelizacion		office
Extraordinary Ministers	Silvia Ortega	office
Homebound		office
Knights of Columbus	Jesus Perez	office
Lectors	Laura Cruz-Acosta	office
Legion of Mary	Rosario Rubio	office
MASDeus	Jazmin Rodriguez	office
Hospitality	Bob Kautz	584-8782
Yarn for Love	Marie Nicholas	
office		
Prayer Chain	C.C. Ayoub	373-1289
Arts and Environment	Alice Valles, Terry Acosta -Ponce, Ana Cooper	office
Safety and Security		office
Social Justice	Becky Escobar	252-2701
St Vincent De Paul	Dorothy Schatzman, Letty Carrasco	581-3482/
office		
SVDP at St Matthew Food Pantry	Dorothy Schatzman, Terri Cullen Cordova	204-5120/office
That Man Is You	Felipe Gonzalez	575-496-7445
Wedding Preparation		office
Women at the Well		womenatthewellconference@gmail.com

Office number: 584-3461  
 Corporate Board: President: Fr Frank Lopez  
 Parish Pastoral Council: Dorothy Schatzman



**St. Vincent de Paul at  
 St. Matthew Food Pantry**

The St. Vincent de Paul Society, St. Matthew Conference (SVDP) is partnering with the El Pasoans Fighting Hunger Food Bank to provide the **St. Vincent de Paul at St. Matthew Food Pantry.**

Food distribution will be from 9-11 am on the following days:  
 First Half of 2024:  
 April 29  
 May 13,27  
 June 10,24

For more information call Terri Cullen, (915) 204-5120, or the Parish Office.

**Reflections**

That we take time in daily silent prayer to talk and listen for Jesus' voice.

Que tomemos el tiempo para orar en silencio, para hablar con Jesús y escuchar Su voz.



