

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



Third Sunday of Advent

December 17, 2023

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

Veronica Navedo

Faith Formation Office, 584-3461

Oscar Barreda

R.C.I.A. Director, 373-5496

Colleen Baily

Secretary/Bulletin Editor,
Sacramental Records/Virtus

Youth Group- 584-3461

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*

Joy
Goza

**Mass Intentions for
December 16– December 24**

**Saturday, December 16-
Advent Weekday**
(Sir 48:1-4,9-11, Mt 17:9a,10-13)
4:30 pm Mass For The People

**Sunday, December 17-
Third Sunday of Advent**
(Is 61: 1-2a,10-11, 1Thes 5:16-24,
Jn 1:6-8,19-28)
8:00 am + Dora Herrera
+ Norma Aguilar
+ Alvaro Munoz Sr

10:00 am + Msgr Dixon Hartford
+ Msgr David Fierro
+ Neal Luther

12:00 pm + Pedro Ganem
+ Alexis Gutierrez

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.

**Monday, December 18-
Advent Weekday**
(Jer 23:5-8, Mt 1:18-25)
9:00 am + Martha Sanchez
+ Si Josefina Vasquez
+ Si Ben Alanis

**Tuesday, December 19-
Advent Weekday**
(Jgs 13:2-7,24-25a, Lk 1:5-25)
9:00 am + Stanley Posner
+ Si Manny Garcia
+ Si Hilda Kerr

**Wednesday, December 20-
Advent Weekday**
(Is 7:10-14, Lk 1:26-38)
9:00 am + Si The Gallegos Family

**Thursday, December 21-
Advent Weekday**
(Sg 2:8-14 of Zep 3:14-18a, Lk 1:39-45)
9:00 am + Martha V Limas
+ Irma Ludwig
+ Si Edna & Gary Rapp

**Friday, December 22-
Advent Weekday**
(1SM 1:24-28, Lk 1:46-56)
9:00 am + Yvonne Monarez
+ Ruben Esparza

**Saturday, December 23-
Advent Weekday**
(Mal 3:1-4,23-24, Lk 1:57-66)
4:30 pm + Sonny, Jane & Will
+ Emmett
+ Santiago Gonzalez
+ Haydee Ramirez

**Sunday, December 24-
Fourth Sunday of Advent**
(2Sm 7:1-5,8b-12,14a,16,
Rom 16:25-27, Lk 1:26-38)
8:00 am NO MASS

10:00

12:00 pm

CHRISTMAS EVE

4:30 pm

MIDNIGHT

**Calendar for
Advent and Christmas
2023**

December 24
Mass at 10 am– English
Mass at noon– Spanish
Christmas Eve Mass
4:30 pm Children's Vigil
Mass
12:00 am– Midnight
Mass

December 25
Mass at 10 am– English
Mass at noon– Spanish
January 1
Mary Mother of God
Mass at 11 am–
Bilingual

**CALENDAR AND EVENTS
DECEMBER 17–DECEMBER 23**

Sunday, December 17
11:30 am-1 pm Confirmation Bldg J/School
11:30 am-1 pm RCIA/RCIC Bldg G/ Conf Rm
11 am-4 pm RCIC event Parish Hall

Monday, December 18
10 am-12 pm Legion of Mary Cottage
3-4 pm Divine Mercy Church
5-6:45 pm Faith Formation Parish Hall
POSASA for Faith Formation

Tuesday, December 19
5:30-6:45 pm Faith Formation Parish Hall
POSADA for Faith Formation
5:30-6:30 pm Pietra Fitness Bldg J

Wednesday, December 20
9:30-11:30 am Mas Deus Sacred Heart Rm
6-7 pm Youth Group Bldg J
6:30-8:30 pm Bible Study Conference Rm
7-9 pm TMIY Bldg J

Thursday, December 21
7:45 –8:45 am Pietra Fitness Bldg J
10 am-12 pm Bible Study Conference Rm
6-7:30 pm ACTS core Office

Friday, December 22
10 am-5 pm Adoration Church

Saturday, December 23
8:30-10 am Pietra Fitness Bldg J
2-3 pm Confession Church

Stewardship
2023-2024

**December 17, 2023
3rd Sunday of Advent**

"Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:16 – 18

This scripture reading sums up Stewardship. "Rejoice always" means place your trust in God; He will provide all that you need. "Pray constantly" means prayer should be a running conversation with God throughout the whole day, every day. "Give thanks in all circumstances" means even in bad situations, thank God. Suffering a little bit helps build empathy for others in similar situations and shows our dependence on God.

**17 de diciembre de 2023
3^{er} Domingo de Adviento**

"Estén siempre contentos. Oren sin cesar. Den gracias en todas las circunstancias, porque esa es la voluntad de Dios para ustedes como creyentes en Jesucristo."
-1 TESALONICENSES 5:16-18

Esta lectura de las escrituras resume a la Corresponsabilidad. "Estén siempre contentos" quiere decir colocar su confianza en el Señor; Él proveerá para todas nuestras necesidades. "Orar constantemente" significa que la oración debe ser una conversación fluida con Dios a través de todo el día, todos los días. "De gracias en todas las circunstancias" quiere decir dar gracias aún en las malas situaciones, agradezca siempre a Dios. Sufrir un poco ayuda a construir empatía con los demás en situaciones similares, y muestra nuestra dependencia de Dios.

Other Information:

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

Upcoming Envelope Schedule

December 17: 3rd Sunday
December 24: Capital Campaign

Adoration

10 am to 5 pm every Friday.
On the first Friday of the month, 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

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 17, 2023

Third Sunday of Advent (B)

Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

John 1:6-8, 19-28

Making Room for God

The story of John the Baptist is the story of taking a back seat to Jesus, of fading into the background so that Jesus might be the light. Fading out of the picture is something we might find ourselves doing more than once in our lives. Sometimes it's also a choice we have to make, even when it's painful.

Actor Nick Nolte talked about what it was like for him when he turned seventy; how his body would hurt and how painful it was to get out of bed some mornings. He told of how he cried when a longtime friend passed away and the sadness death brings. But the worst part, he said, is coming to the realization that your children have grown up, are on their own, and don't need you the way they once did. His son has a family, and for him the family comes first, as it should. That's the painful part, Nolte says, the letting go of your children because they are no longer yours; in reality, they never were.

From the perspective of faith, why do we need to fade into the background? To leave room for the hand of God in life, that's why. So that God can do what God does best, and so that we don't get in the way of it all. That is the task not only at the end of life but for all of life.

-Fr Joseph Juknialis

17 de diciembre de 2023

Tercer Domingo de Adviento (B)

Isaías 61:1-2a, 10-11

1 Tesalonicenses 5:16-24

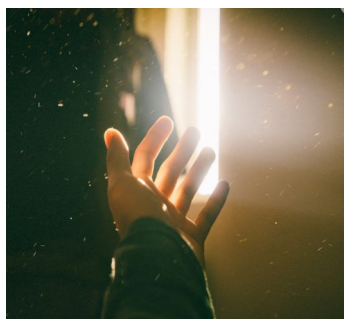
Juan 1:6-8, 19-28

La historia de Juan el Bautista es la historia de pasar a un segundo plano ante Jesús, de desvanecerse en un segundo plano para que Jesús pueda ser la luz. Desaparecer de la escena es algo que podemos encontrarnos haciendo más de una vez en nuestra vida. A veces también es una elección que tenemos que hacer, incluso cuando es dolorosa.

El actor Nick Nolte habló de lo que sintió cuando cumplió setenta años; cómo le dolía el cuerpo y lo doloroso que era levantarse de la cama algunas mañanas. Contó cómo lloró cuando falleció un viejo amigo y la tristeza que provoca la muerte. Pero lo peor, dijo, es darse cuenta de que tus hijos han crecido, están solos y ya no te necesitan como antes. Su hijo tiene una familia, y para él la familia es lo primero, como debe ser. Ésa es la parte dolorosa, dice Nolte, dejar marchar a tus hijos porque ya no son tuyos; en realidad, nunca lo fueron.

Desde la perspectiva de la fe, ¿por qué necesitamos desvanecernos en el fondo? Para dejar espacio a la mano de Dios en la vida, por eso. Para que Dios pueda hacer lo que mejor sabe hacer, y para que nosotros no nos interpongamos en todo ello. Ésa es una tarea no sólo al final de la vida, sino para toda la vida.

-Padre Joseph Juknialis



[John] was not the light, but
came to testify to the light.
John 1:8



GLORY TO THE NEWBORN KING

*Christmas candles
are available in the office
For \$8*

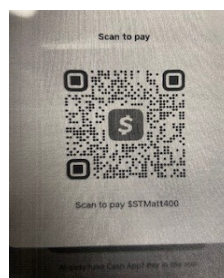


This leadership program is based on
Scripture and Catholic faith.
Join us Wednesdays at 7 pm
in Building J.
First meeting is September 20.
Contact Felipe Gonzalez at
575-496-7445
or the office with any questions.

All Contributions can be made in several ways:

Online at: www.osvhub.com/stmatthewep/funds

Or use the QR code below :



Cash App at \$StMatt400

**You can always donate
with your envelopes at mass or
in the office as well.**



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, Bobby Nunez, 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, Mike Bogdan, Beatriz Gonzalez, Angel Baker, Carmen Moreno, Marisol Moreno, Arturo Huerta, Guadalupe Delgado, Lilly Grado, Lilly Caldwell, Jose Castillo, Edmundo Silva, Susie Salinas, Carlos Spector, Willie Toscano, Blanca Valdez, Bertha Garcia, Cruz and Carmen Ito, Margarita Payan, Ricardo Ramos, Michael Tracy, Lilly Grato, Miriam Skelton, Erica Torres, Josephine Perez, Ryan Salisbury, Lonnie Villarreal.

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

Prayers of the Faithful

That we realize suffering is a gift and helps us build empathy for others and build our dependence on God.

Que nos demos cuenta de que sufrir es un don y que nos ayuda a construir empatia con los demás, y a construir nuestra dependencia de Dios.

A Word From Pope Francis:

The Baptist is a model for those in the Church who are called to proclaim Christ to others: they are able to do so only by detaching from themselves and from worldliness, by not attracting people to themselves but directing them toward Jesus. This is joy: directing toward Jesus. And joy must be the characteristic of our faith.



ANGELUS
ROME
DECEMBER 13, 2020

Faithful Fitness

Pietra Fitness— classes for women
Ages 14 and up

Tuesday:

5:30-6:30 pm: Gentle (women'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

Tithes and Offerings

Offerings collected for December 3, and 10, 2023:

Available next week

Capital Campaign posted once a month.

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.

Men's Breakfast Saturday morning

7:30-8:30 am– Yvonne's Cantina

All are welcome. Join us for Fellowship, Prayer and Faith Formation.

Call or text Karl Kimball at 915-539-0006 for details.

For Reflection

When has it been difficult for you to fade into the background?

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.



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Knights are Back!!
On the 3rd weekend each month
the Knights of Columbus
will be selling
empanadas .

Menudo sales will begin in November!
Meetings: 2nd Monday at 7 pm- 3rd degree
3rd Monday at 7 pm- 4th degree



*Donations for the poinsettias for
Christmas can be made in the office
or in the collection. Please note
whom you are making the intention
for.
Thank you.*



Bell Choir for Christmas
All are Welcome!
Rehearsals begin on
November 7, 2023
at 4:30 pm in the Church.
Please call the office with any
questions.



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 Quarter of 2024:

January 8, January 22

February 5, February 19

March 4, March 18

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

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!

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
Evangelization		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		office
	womenatthewellconference@gmail.com	
	Office number: 584-3461	

Corporate Board: President: Fr Frank Lopez
Parish Pastoral Council: Dorothy Schatzman

Dear St Matthew Parishioners,

On behalf of the Social Justice Ministry, we
want to extend our sincerest gratitude for
your donations and for being an Angel
donor for the El Paso Foster Children.

Thanks to your generous donations, we
were able to provide 2 Thanksgiving
dinners with all the trimmings to families in
our community. Your Angel gifts provided
clothing to foster children at a time of
transition to foster care. This makes all the
difference for these struggling lives, and
for this we are extremely grateful.

Your contributions are very important to
the families and children being served. We
appreciate your ongoing commitment, we
couldn't do it without your help.

May the spirit of Christmas fill your homes
with love and peace.



Advent Prayer

For the desert places in which
we walk, the streets we roam,
the paths we cross: Guide our feet.
Take us to places where you would go,
Give us words that you would use,
that in this Advent season
of promise and preparation
we might point the way
with John the Baptist
to the Lamb of God,
who takes away the sin of the world!
Amen.



