

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 Advent

December 24, 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*

A SAVIOR
IS BORN!

UN SALVADOR
HA NACIDO!

**Mass Intentions for
December 23– December 31**

**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 am
12:00 pm
4:30 PM **CHRISTMAS EVE**
MIDNIGHT

**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.**

Stewardship
2023

**December 24, 2023
4th Sunday of Advent**

"Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you!" - Luke 1:28

After Jesus, we look to Mary as an ideal steward. Her entire life was lived in obedience to God's call. Mary teaches us to live with joy for all we have been given. Just as the moon reflects the light of the sun, Mary reflects the light of Christ. Like Mary, we are called to reflect Christ's light to the world through our gratitude and generosity.

**24 de diciembre de
2023
4º Domingo de Adviento**

"Salve, llena de gracia, El Señor está contigo." - LUCAS 1:28

Después de Jesús, vemos a María como un ideal de corresponsabilidad. Vivió su vida entera obedeciendo el llamado de Dios. María nos enseña a vivir con alegría por todo lo que nos ha sido dado. Así como la luna refleja la luz del sol, María refleja la luz de Cristo. Como María, somos llamados a reflejar la luz de Cristo al mundo a través de nuestra gratitud y generosidad.

**Monday, December 25-
Nativity of the Lord
(Is 52:7-10, Heb 1:1-6, Jn 1:1-18
or 1:1-5, 9-14)**
10:00 am English
12:00 pm Spanish

**Tuesday, December 26-
St Stephen
(Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59, Mt 10:17-22)**
9:00 am + Gloria Lightbourn Chavez
+ Rick Marro
SI Legion of Mary

**Wednesday, December 27-
St John
(1Jn 1:1-4, Jn 20:1a, 2-8)**
9:00 am SI Victor Dominguez
SI Pat Dominguez
SI Abigail Vega

**Thursday, December 28-
Holy Innocents
(1Jn 1:5-2:2, Mt 2:13-18)**
9:00 am + Arturo Franco
SI Deacon Rapp

**Friday, December 29-
Christmas Weekday
(1Jn 2:3-11, Lk 2:22-35)**
9:00 am + Adrian Chavez
+ Fr Cervantes

**Saturday, December 30-
Christmas Weekday
(1Jn 2:12-17, Lk 2:36-40)**
4:30 pm + Maria (Kenni) Garcia
+ Francis & Joan Cullen
+ Julio Laguette

**Sunday, December 31-
Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and
Joseph
(Sir 3:2-6, 12-14, Col 3:12-21 or
3:12-17, Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40)**
8:00 am + Rick Marro
+ Salomon Barraza Jr
+ Salomon & Maria
Barraza

10:00 + Mary Lou Schichtl
+ Sr Imelda Marie
Kaufman (Sr Mel)
+ Carlos & Delfina
Hernandez

12:00 pm Mass For The People

**CALENDAR AND EVENTS
DECEMBER 24–DECEMBER 30**

Sunday, December 24

Monday, December 25
Office Closed

Tuesday, December 26
Office Closed
5:30-6:30 pm Pietra Fitness Bldg J

Wednesday, December 27
Youth Group Bldg J
7-9 pm TMIY Bldg J

Thursday, December 28
7:45-8:45 am Pietra Fitness Bldg J

Friday, December 29
10 am-5 pm Adoration Church

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

Calendar for
Advent and Christmas
2023
January 1
Mary Mother of God
Mass at 11 am-
Bilingual

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 24: Capital Campaign
December 31: 5th Sunday

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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 24, 2023

Fourth Sunday of Advent (B)

2 Samuel 7:1-5,8b-12,14a,16

Romans 16:25-27

Luke 1:26-38

Wondering Why

The old axiom goes: if you want to make God laugh, tell God your plans. All too often the vision God has for us takes us in quite varying directions. The stories of King David and of Mary echo such realities. David, who wanted to build a temple for the Ark of the Covenant so God would not need to live in a tent, had his plans nixed, only to be reminded that it is God who does the building in life and not David. And Mary, who found herself confused over how she might conceive, was asked to simply trust and place her life in the hands of God. Both said "yes".

There are always times when the unfolding path of God for us may unsettle us: the complexities of immigrants at our doorstep, the changing demographics of our cities, the need to close or merge parishes, the upheavals of our personal lives. We find ourselves asking why without receiving any answers. Each time there is no answer, consider it an invitation to trust in a power greater than ourselves.

Not all rhythms of life are necessarily caused by the hand of God, but then one can never be sure. Who is to say where and how and through whom God works? Christmas comes as a reminder that God's love and presence still unfolds in varied and new ways, always giving birth again and again to the divine made flesh in our lives. The mystery of the Incarnation points to this truth: God is present in all of life.

-Fr Joseph Juknialis

24 de diciembre de 2023

Cuarto Domingo de Adviento (B)

2 Samuel 7:1-5,8b-12,14a,16

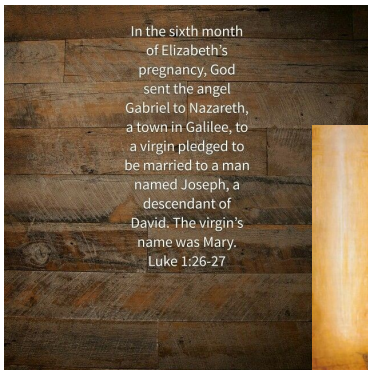
Romanos 16:25-27

Lucas 1:26-38

Dice el viejo axioma: si quieres hacer reír a Dios, cuéntale tus planes. Con demasiada frecuencia, la visión que Dios tiene de nosotros nos lleva en direcciones muy diversas. Las historias del rey David y de María se hacen eco de tales realidades. A David, que quería construir un templo para el Arca de la Alianza, de modo que Dios no tuviera que vivir en una tienda, le rechazaron sus planes, sólo para recordarle que es Dios quien construye en la vida, y no David. Y a María, que se encontraba confundida sobre cómo podría concebir, se le pidió que simplemente confiara y pusiera su vida en manos de Dios. Ambos dijeron "sí".

Siempre hay momentos en los que el camino que Dios despliega para nosotros puede inquietarnos: las complejidades de los inmigrantes a nuestras puertas, los cambios demográficos de nuestras ciudades, la necesidad de cerrar o fusionar parroquias, los trastornos de nuestra vida personal. Nos encontramos preguntando por qué sin recibir ninguna respuesta. Cada vez que no haya respuesta, considéralo una invitación a confiar en un poder superior a nosotros mismos. No todos los ritmos de la vida están necesariamente causados por la mano de Dios, pero nunca se puede estar seguro. ¿Quién puede decir dónde, cómo y a través de quién actúa Dios? La Navidad viene a recordarnos que el amor y la presencia de Dios siguen desplegándose de formas variadas y nuevas, dando siempre a luz una y otra vez a lo divino hecho carne en nuestras vidas. El misterio de la Encarnación señala esta verdad: Dios está presente en toda la vida.

-Padre Joseph Juknialis



Christmas candles are available in the office For \$8

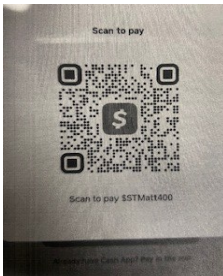


This leadership program is based on Scripture and Catholic faith. Join us Wednesdays at 7 pm in Building J. First meeting is September 20. Contact Felipe Gonzalez at 575-496-7445 or the office with any questions.

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.



Tithes and Offerings

Offerings collected for December 3, and 10, 2023:
12/3: \$9,945.00 12/10: \$15,636.00
Capital Campaign posted once a month.

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 Villarreal, 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, 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 like Mary, our lives, too reflect Christ's light to the world through our gratitude and generosity.

Que, como María, nuestras vidas, también reflejen al mundo la luz de Cristo a través de nuestra gratitud y generosidad.

A Word From Pope Francis:

Let us ask our Lady for a grace...that she kindle our enthusiasm for the ideal of holiness which is not a matter of holy cards and images, but is about living what happens each day, humbly and joyfully...with our eyes fixed on God and the neighbor we meet.



ANGELUS
ROME
DECEMBER 8, 2021

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

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

Have you ever had your plans unsettled in a way that turned out, in the end, to be a gift from God?

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.



FOURTH 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
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		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.



