

Church of Saint Matthew – August 29, 2021

PRAYERS FOR OUR PARISH FAMILY

Please remember in your prayers our parish family and friends who are ill or in need of our prayers. Pray for their recovery and for their family members who are with them and caring for them. Especially, **Carolina Gomez, Elena Saucedo-Rivera, Louise Breidel, Doris Schillinger, Michael Wood, Grant Littler, Cecelia Glenn, Jerry Jenniges, and Jan Steinbrenner**

If you have a loved one you would like to add to this list, please call the Parish office, provide us with your name and the name of your loved one.

We are strong as a community praying together.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

Our Gospel recounts a dialogue between the Pharisees and Jesus. The Pharisees questioned why Jesus' disciples did not practice the ritual washing before eating a meal.

Jesus' response reminds us to ask ourselves 'why.' Why do we remain faithful to God's commands? Why do we pray or go to Mass? Why do we participate in the sacraments? Why do we love others?

Often, we are living our faith a certain way out of obligation, fear, or duty. But Jesus reminds us that the greatest way to live out our faith is through love. Our faith has obligations to provide us opportunities to love, honor, and praise the Lord. They are meant to aid us on our personal journey with Jesus Christ.

St. James reminds us that every moment of each day is an opportunity to respond to God's infinite love for us with love and gratitude in return.

If we approach our relationship with Jesus with this in mind, then we begin to realize that the gift of the Mass is an opportunity to worship God, the sacraments are ways to draw us closer to Him and His commandments are opportunities to love Him more faithfully.

And if we approach our day-to-day moments with this in mind, then we begin to see just how many blessings God has given us. Looking at life through the lens of gratitude helps us to see each moment as a gift with endless opportunities to respond in love.

This is how we ought to live our lives as Christian stewards — by recognizing our lives as a gift and an opportunity to love God in response to how He has loved us.

**Stewardship Reflections by
Catholic Stewardship Consultants**

New Members Welcome!

ALL ARE WELCOME AT THE CHURCH OF SAINT MATTHEW - PLEASE COME JOIN US!

New to the area, joining us for the first time or coming home again? Please contact Linda Rivera at lrivera@st-matts.org to register as a member of our parish family. We will be happy to get you signed up or welcome you back.

STRAWBERRY CLEANING PARKING NOTICE

Quantum Steam Academy will begin school on Monday, August 30, 2021 - **therefore there will be NO parking in the lower parking lot Monday-Fridays.**

We appreciate everyone's help cleaning strawberries for the ten days of the State Fair but we have a lease with Quantum School that allows the children safe use of the parking lot without vehicles driving through it.

We thank you abundantly for your understanding.



World Day For Migrants and Refugees September 26th

Prayer for an Ever Wider "We" from Pope Francis' Message for the 107th World Day Of Immigrants and Refugees

Holy, beloved Father, your Son Jesus taught us that there is great rejoicing in heaven whenever someone lost is found, whenever someone excluded, rejected or discarded is gathered into our "we", which thus becomes ever wider. We ask you to grant the followers of Jesus, and all people of good will, the grace to do your will on earth. Bless each act of welcome and outreach that draws those in exile into the "we" of community and of the Church, so that our earth may truly become what you yourself created it to be: the common home of all our brothers and sisters.