

Church of St. Matthew - Bulletin Insert

December 17, 2023
Third Sunday of Advent

UPCOMING EVENTS

Communal Reconciliation Service
Sunday, December 17 – 2:00 pm

Private Confessions in the Chapel
Wednesday, December 20 - 6:30 to 7:30 pm
Thursday, December 21- 4:00 to 5:00 pm
Friday, December 22 - 6:30 to 7:30 pm
Saturday, December 23 - 5:00 PM (after Mass)
Sunday, December 24 - 11:00 AM (after Mass)

4th Sunday of Advent
Saturday, December 23 – 4:15 pm
Sunday, December 24 – 10:15 am

Christmas Eve
Vigil, Sunday, December 24 – 4:15 pm

Christmas Day
Monday, December 25 – 10:15 am

The Feast of the Holy Family
Saturday, December 30 – 4:15 pm
Sunday, December 31 – 10:15 am

Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God
Monday, January 1, 2024 – 10:15 am

**THE TREASURE WITHIN OUR TEARS:
REFLECTIONS ON GRIEF, HOPE & RESURRECTION**
by William C. Wacker (local author)

Parishioners have found this book to be helpful when dealing with grief and loss.

A copy of the book is available at a special holiday pricing of \$5 (normally \$10) through Thursday, December 28. If you are interested in purchasing this book, contact **Matt Wacker at 651-324-6308**.

You will be able to pick it up in the Parish Center during normal business hours, Monday through Thursday from 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM. The office is closed on Monday and Tuesday, December 25 and 26.

Thank You!

A huge **Thank You** to everyone who made last weekend's Christmas Bake Sale, Boutique and Craft Fair, plus Breakfast with Santa a huge success.

Thank You:

- To everyone who donated bakery items, new and gently used jewelry and Christmas items for the Bake Sale and Boutique.
- To the **Theme Basket Lady** who created and donated many, many theme baskets, and staffed the Theme Basket tables.
- To **Chris**, along with **Sue, Joan and Tony**, who set up and ran the Jewelry Booth.
- To **Beth, Becky, Joanne, Kathleen, Suzanne, Anita, Jackie and Donis**, who set up and staffed the Bakery Booth.
- To **Dave, Jose and Simon** who set up the tables in the Social Hall.
- To the Men's Club, especially **Tim, Dean, Bob, Tom, Anthony, Tony and Mike** who staffed the kitchen, made the food and cleaned the dishes.
- To **Kathy, Al and others** for providing everything needed for Bottle Lotto to be available for the kids.
- To the **Community of Saints Boy Scouts and Adult Leaders** who served the food, cleared and reset the tables.
- And to everyone who bought items from the Christmas Bake Sale, Boutique and Craft Fair, and/or had Breakfast with Santa

Grief Support Group - Date Change

Due to a scheduling conflict, the Grief Support Group which was scheduled to meet Thursday, December 21 has been rescheduled to **Thursday, December 28 at 6:00 PM**. Email Mary Leibl (mleibl@st-matts.org) with any questions.

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Security Update

Over the past few weeks, technicians have been installing our new security cameras inside and outside of our buildings. This photo shows a worker putting the finishing touches on a camera that will cover the entire courtyard area between the Parish Center and church building.

Cameras and cables are now in place. One next step is to learn how to make best use of the cameras.

Another next step is the addition of special hardware to the Parish Center's Door #1, so that people can access the building with a fob instead of a key. In addition, we will be able to buzz people in remotely.

Thanks again to everyone whose contributions during the past two November Giving Thanks fundraisers have made these projects possible!

Phil Grant



Ways to Support St. Matt's

- Prayer – of course!
- Volunteering
- Contributions: regular collections, EFTs, PayPal, Donorbox, bequests, and beneficiary designations.

We rely on a variety of methods for our financial support. For many people, envelopes are the easiest way. Others put cash in the basket. Some supporters use PayPal or Donorbox.

Yet others choose Electronic Funds Transfers (EFTs), which allow the direct transfer of funds from their bank to our account at BankCherokee. EFTs have a couple of advantages; one is that the fees are less than PayPal and Donorbox. The other is that you can designate the transfers to go to our general parish operational account; and/or to our Capital Needs Fund; and/or to support Community of Saints Regional Catholic School.

If interested in setting up an EFT, let me know. I take your information over the phone and tailor the amount, timing, and account to your preferences. I adjust your preferences at any time, though the bank may take a couple of weeks for the change to go into effect.

I was glad to hear speakers at our November 30 "Preparing for Heaven" seminar mention bequests and beneficiary designations. Let me know if you'd like more information about those processes.

Regardless of how you support St. Matt's, thank you!

Phil Grant

\$CRIP - Gift Cards

Prepaid gift cards will be available for purchase after Masses this Saturday and Sunday in the back of the church. Proceeds from the program benefit the parish.

The following \$10 gift cards are available which make for great stocking stuffers:

Arby's, Bath & Body Works
Burger King, Caribou Coffee, Chipotle
Dairy Queen, Dunkin' Donuts, McDonald's
Noodles & Co, Panera Bread, Starbucks
Subway, Taco Bell, Target
Walmart/Sam's Club, Wendy's

Other denominations are also available. Contact Tim Nowak for more information.

POPE'S MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTION DECEMBER 2023

For persons with disabilities

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.