

CHURCH OF SAINT MATTHEW

78 RIDGEWAY STREET EAST STROUDSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

Parish Office:
570-421-2342
Fax: 570-421-8414

Website:
www.stmatthewspa.org

E-mail:
rectory@ptd.net

Religious Education
ccd1@ptd.net



CLERGY:

Fr. Donald J. Williams, Pastor
Email: frdon@ptd.net
Fr. Ryan P. Glenn, Assistant Pastor
Email: frryan@ptd.net
Fr. Jaime Perez R., Assistant Pastor
Deacon Kevin Scheirer
Email: deaconscheirer@gmail.com
Msgr. John A Bergamo,
Pastor Emeritus

The Next Holy Day of Obligation:

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Mission Statement: The Parish Family of St. Matthew, East Stroudsburg, in the Pocono Mountains of Pennsylvania and the Diocese of Scranton, endeavors to provide a welcoming environment to all. Guided by the Holy Spirit, through prayer and worship, and the sharing of our resources, we humbly strive to witness the Good News and to spread the Kingdom of God.

Mass Schedule:

Monday through Friday12:00 pm
Monday through Friday (*Spanish*).....8:00 am
Friday.....6:30 pm (*Spanish*)
Saturday.....8:00 am & 4:00 pm
Saturday (*Spanish*).....7:00 am
Sunday.....8:00 am,
9:15 am (*Spanish*), 10:45 am, 12:15 pm,
2:00 pm (*Spanish*), 6:00 pm

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

Suspended until further notice; however, the Church is open daily for private prayer from 6 am until 6 pm.

Sacrament of Penance (Confession):

Confessions in Spanish on Fridays at 5:30 pm until 6:20 pm. In English, Saturday after the 8:00 am Mass until 9:00 am and Saturday afternoon from 3:00 pm until 3:45 pm or by appointment.

Parish Office:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 8:30 am-1:00 pm
(Closed Holidays)
Phone: 570-421-2342

Sacrament of Marriage:

Couples contemplating marriage should contact us at least 6 months before the date on which they wish to marry. This should be done before any other arrangements are made.

Homebound/Hospitalized:

In need of Communion, Confession, or the Anointing of the Sick, please call the Parish Office.

In the Case of an Emergency:

Please call the Parish Office. If closed, listen to and follow the prompts to be connected to a priest. Emergencies are situations such as an anointing when in danger of death.

Vocations :

Please contact Fr. Don Williams or Fr. Ryan Glenn if you are discerning a vocation to priesthood, religious life, or marriage. Fr. Ryan is Assistant Vocation Director for the Diocese of Scranton.

What Age to Register as an Adult:

When one finishes formal education (High School or University), young adults need to register with the parish as adults.

Welcome to St. Matthew's Parish: Please see the next page for information about registering, baptizing your child, or obtaining a signed eligibility form to be a Godparent for Baptism or a Confirmation Sponsor.

How do I join St. Matthew's Parish and be considered an active parishioner?

Registering to be a parishioner at St. Matthew's Parish could not be easier. Simply visit or call the office to complete a parish registration form. Parishioners are considered to be active in our data base if they attend Mass regularly and support the parish to the best of their ability through the envelope or electronic giving system (the only way, albeit not the best, that we know people who register are active and still part of the community).

All are welcome to worship at St. Matthew's Parish. However, to fully participate in the life of the community one needs to be an active parishioner. Full participation would include scheduling a baptism, obtaining a Godparent or Confirmation sponsor eligibility letter, starting marriage preparation, and other similar services. Active parishioners, simply call the Parish Office for information.

We invite you to regularly worship with us on Sunday and make St. Matthew's Parish your home.

It can be intimidating to return to regular Sunday Mass if you have been away for a while. Our priests gladly welcome you home without any judgment. We would also be willing to meet with you to discuss anything that is holding you back from regularly joining with our community for Sunday Eucharist.

Baptism Information Sessions

Parents who are new to St. Matthew's Parish or who are not active parishioners (see above) and would like to have their child baptized are invited to attend an informational session. This session can be attended before the child is born so that you are ready for Baptism when the birth occurs.

During the Baptismal information session a priest communicates the importance of Sunday worship, explains the requirements the church has for selecting Godparents, and guides parents through the steps necessary to schedule a baptism. Worship with us at a 12:15 pm Sunday Mass and afterwards join us for our baptismal information session in the St. Matthew's Center (when facing the altar exit through the door on the left by the confessional). We offer a session every two weeks for your convenience:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Place</u>
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PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE AT 570-421-2341 EXT. 100 TO ARRANGE AN APPOINTMENT.

Eligibility Forms to be a Godparent or Confirmation Sponsor

New or inactive parishioners, please join us for Mass any Saturday evening at 4:00 pm. After Mass the priests have scheduled time to be available to discuss eligibility requirements to be a Godparent or Sponsor (available on our web site or by calling the office). Simply introduce yourself after Mass and tell the priest that you would like to understand the requirements to be a Godparent or Confirmation Sponsor.

We will require a period of time that the prospective Godparent or Confirmation Sponsor regularly attends Mass at St. Matthew's Parish and expresses a desire to regularly attend Sunday Mass going forward before eligibility forms will be signed. Please meet with us several months before the Baptism or Confirmation to discuss eligibility requirements. All are welcome!

ATTENTION...BRIDGE CLOSURE

The bridge on Ridgeway Street between Crystal St. & Braeside Ave. will be closed from August 24th until the end of the year. Work is being done on the bridge and there will be a posted detour for all traffic, pedestrians, & bicycles.

MEMORIALS



If you would like to memorialize a bouquet of flowers or a candle for a loved one or for a special intention,



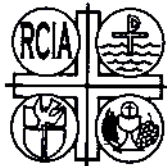
please contact the Parish Office at 570-421-2342 ext. 100.

Available Dates: 2020

September 19-20	1 Bouquet
September 26-27	1 Bouquet
October 17-18	1 Bouquet
October 31-November 1	1 Bouquet
November 14-15	1 Bouquet

RCIA

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults



What is RCIA?

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the process established for the universal Church for individuals to become Catholic and receive the sacraments of initiation — Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist. This initiation process also involves a parish community experiencing a renewal in faith as it prepares and welcomes new members into the Church. The Rite speaks of conversion as a “spiritual journey.” Centered on fostering a deep relationship with Jesus and the Church he founded, this journey takes place through distinct stages over a period of time suitable to bring about a thorough catechesis, significant experience of the parish community, and commitment to the liturgical and moral life of the Catholic faithful. The RCIA process is a restoration of the ancient catechumenate, arising within the first three centuries following the era of the apostles. It was the early Church’s way of Christianizing the pagan Roman Empire. The Second Vatican Council called for the restoration and use of this venerable and powerful method of initiation for the worldwide Church.

For more information, please contact Deacon Kevin at deaconscheirer@gmail.com or call the Parish Office at 570-421-2342 Ext. 100.

YOUTH IN ACTION

FAITH FORMATION

Religious Education



For Information on 1st Communion, Confirmation... & CCD

Friend us on Facebook & get all upcoming dates and CCD information for the 2020-2021 year

Search S-A-I-N-T Matthew’s CCD Program, spell out the word saint.

CCD E-mail: ccd1@ptd.net

USE OF PARISH HALL, ST. MATTHEW’S CENTER, AND/OR THE CHURCH

We don’t know what the future holds as to the scheduling of activities, but if we are allowed to open up and just to be on the safe side, please drop off or email your schedule and room request to the Parish Office: rectory@ptd.net.

I will need **in writing:** a **list of dates, times, room preference, your group or organization name, your name, & contact telephone #.** Please respond as early as possible. We will do our best to accommodate you, however, 1st come/1st served, plus certain activities may have priority.

If you have any questions, please contact Ann Marie at the Parish Office: 570-421-2342 ext. 100. or email: rectory@ptd.net. Thank You!

THE HOLY FATHER’S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR AUGUST 2020

Universal: The Maritime World

We pray for all those who work and live from the sea, among them sailors, fishermen and their families.

**OPEN ENROLLMENT AT
NOTRE DAME ELEMENTARY**

Notre Dame Elementary School in East Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania is currently accepting registrations for students in our Montessori pre-school program, kindergarten, and grades first through sixth. Students entering the Montessori program must be 3 years old by September 1, 2020. Students entering kindergarten must be 5 years old by September 1, 2020. We are also accepting applications for students entering 1st through 6th grade.

Notre Dame offers an education for students beginning at the age of 3 years old. Our pre-school program begins at 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. five days a week. Students entering kindergarten through 6th grade will begin at 8:00 a.m. – 2:15 p.m. Extended care is available for grades pre-k – 6th from dismissal to 5:30 p.m.

Notre Dame offers a balanced academic curriculum that integrates faith, culture, and life. Notre Dame provides a safe and welcoming environment for all.

Please email Notre Dame Elementary School at office@ndelementary.org for more information.

ATTENTION!!!

Several people have said they are receiving an email from Fr. Don. If you are not expecting one from him...Please...

DO NOT OPEN! DELETE!

It is a scam!



We are in need of **VOL-UNTEERS** to clean the Church after the 8:00 am Mass & 4:00 pm Mass on Saturdays and the 6:00 pm Mass on Sunday.

If you can help at those times, please call the Parish Office at 570-421-2342 Ext. 100. *Thank You!!*

STEWARDSHIP IN ACTION...

Collection from the weekend of **August 9, 2020**

	Amount	# Families	Avg. Amount
Envelops/Checks	\$ 6,967	146	\$ 47.72
Loose (Cash)	\$ 600		
Electronic Giving	\$ 3,344	154	\$ 21.71
Total	\$10,911	300	\$ 34.37
<i>Special Collection</i>	\$		

Thank you for your support of St. Matthew's Parish. We have 1314 registered families with 982 of those families considered active as they regularly contribute to our parish. We ask all parishioners to utilize envelopes or on-line giving for their weekly contributions so that we know who our current parishioners are.

ALL **MASSES** ARE NOW **LIVE-STREAMED** on **YOUTUBE.** Please



go to YouTube and type in **Saint Matthew East Stroudsburg** in the search box at top of screen. When site comes up, click on **Subscribe.**

ONLINE GIVING...Online Giving can help eliminate the fluctuation on parish finances which vacations, weather conditions, sickness, etc. can cause. Online Giving is an easy way to thank God each week for all your blessings. Go to **www.stmatthewspa.org** and click on the "Online Giving" icon on the homepage. For any questions, please call the parish office at 570-421-2341 ext. 107.

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