

MARCH 4, 2018 — THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

ST. MATTHEW APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

8001 LONGVIEW ROAD, KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI 64134

PARISH OFFICE

Phone: 816-763-0208 Fax: 816-765-2617 Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9:00 am – 4:00 pm, (Closed on Friday)



WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 3:00 pm
Sunday 8:00 and 11:00 am

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday 6:15 am
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 8:30 am

CONFESSIONS

Saturday: 2:00 pm Wednesday-Friday: 7:45 am

STAFF

Fr. Richard Rocha, *Pastor* 816-888-5021
Fr. Adam Haake, *Associate Pastor* ahkcsj@gmail.com
Dcn. Joe McNeal, *Director of RCIA* 816-695-7566
Jessica Ast, *Pastoral Assistant* 816-888-5020
Eddie Bruton, *Buildings and Grounds*

OFFICE OF YOUTH PROTECTION

Kathleen Chastain, *Victim Advocate* 816-392-0011
Jenifer Valenti, *Ombudsman* 816-812-2500

St. Matthew Apostle Mission Statement

St. Matthew Apostle Parish is a Catholic community committed to Jesus Christ, nourished by the Eucharist, blessed by Life, and guided by the Gospel. ~ Answering the call to follow Christ as disciples challenges us to support one another on our journey of faith and to witness that faith to others. ~ Dedicated to the mission of Christ, we strive to be a worshipping community reaching out, welcoming, and embracing all people.

Welcome to St. Matthew

We welcome all who want to deepen their relationship with God to join us. To become a registered member of our community, please call the Parish Office.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday	March 5 <i>No Mass</i>
Tuesday	March 6 6:15 a.m. ✘Dottie Ballard
Wednesday	March 7 8:30 a.m. ✘Francis Lewis
Thursday	March 8 8:30 a.m. ✘Bonnie Davis
Friday	March 9 8:30 a.m. ✘Nicholas Chokota
Saturday	March 10 Vigil—3rd Sunday of Lent 3:00 p.m. ✘Delores Underhill
Sunday	March 11 3rd Sunday of Lent 8:00 a.m. ✘Jeanette Wagner 11:00 a.m. People of the Parish

Please remember in prayer those who have died.
Grant them eternal rest and peace O Lord!

SILVER THREADS

All parishioners age 55 and up are invited to join our group and share in our activities. If you haven't joined us lately, or not at all, check out the list of activities below and make plans to join us. You'll be glad you did.

March 28 — March Potluck! There will be more details to follow, but for now just mark your calendar!

For more information about our activities, check the Gathering Space for sign-up sheets or call Thelma at 816-388-3257.

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICES

Communal penance services will be held at:

- Tues, Mar 13—St. Sabina Parish, Belton—7:00 pm
- Mon, Mar 19—St. Bernadette/Lourdes (at Lourdes)—6:00 pm
- Tues, Mar 20—St. Catherine of Siena—7:00 pm
- Wed, Mar 21—Regis/St. Matthew (at SMA)—6:30 pm

Mark your calendars and don't miss out on the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Penance prior to Easter!

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Sacramental preparation is available for registered, active parishioners at Saint Matthew. Please contact Fr. Rocha for information on receiving the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Marriage.

Bulletin Deadline: Monday at Noon

LENTEN REFLECTION ON TODAY'S GOSPEL

In today's Gospel, we hear the story of Jesus driving the money changers out of the Temple. There was a reflection on the Vatican radio website that talks about some of the things that were happening at the time that particularly angered Jesus:

"First, the merchants selling animals and the money changers had converted the Court of the Gentiles into a noisy market making it impossible for the Gentiles to worship Yahweh. Furthermore, the merchants sold the animals and birds for sacrifice at exorbitant prices (18 to 20 times the regular price outside the Temple). The animal-inspectors, bribed by the merchants, disqualified even the healthy animals brought by poor shepherds and farmers for sacrifice. This was an unjust extortion at the expense of poor and humble pilgrims, who were practically blackmailed into buying animals and birds from the Temple booths. Jesus considered this a glaring social injustice aggravated by the fact that it was perpetrated in the name of religion. Secondly, the Temple authorities, by sharing the profit made by merchants and money-changers, converted it into a "hideout of thieves" (Mk & Luke). Roman coins, bearing the images of pagan gods and the emperor, were forbidden as offering in the Temple. The moneychangers, who exchanged the Temple coin (Galilean shekel) with Roman coins, demanded 1/6 of the value of the coin as their commission, even from the poor people who had to pay one and a half days of their daily wage as their annual Temple tax. What especially enraged Jesus was not that a fee was being charged, but that the amount being charged to the poor was exorbitant and, thus, unjust. What was happening was a great social injustice done in the name of religion. The money-changers were street-level representatives of a corrupt Temple banking system which had become an instrument of injustice, fleecing the poor to benefit the powerful."

The article went on to discuss some of the life lessons we could take from the Gospel: "We need to remember that we are the temples of the Holy Spirit: St. Paul reminds us that we are God's temples because the Spirit of God dwells in us... We are expected to cleanse our hearts of pride, hatred, jealousy and all evil thoughts, desires and plans. Reminiscent of what Jesus did in cleansing the Temple, we, as 21st century disciples, must, with His grace, cleanse ourselves of attitudes and behaviors that prevent us from seeing and responding to hurt wherever we find it. Let us welcome Jesus into our hearts and lives during Lent by repentance and the renewal of our lives. We will drive out the wild animals that do not belong to the holy temple of our body by making a whip of cords out of our fasting, penance and almsgiving during Lent, and by going to confession to receive God's loving forgiveness in the sacrament of reconciliation."

- Fr. Anthony Kadavil

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

The readings for the 4th Sunday of Lent:
2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23; Eph 2:4-10; Jn 3:14-21

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday	March 5
9:00 am	Rosary Makers
Tuesday	March 6
9:00 am	Homeschool Co-op
10:00 am	Quilters and Crafters
Wednesday	March 7
9:00 am	Adoration
	Homeschool Co-op
2:00 pm	Benediction
6:00 pm	Finance Council
7:00 pm	Little Saints
Thursday	March 8
9:00 am	Homeschool Co-op
6:00 pm	Manos Amigas
Friday	March 9
7:00 pm	Stations of the Cross
Sunday	March 11
11:00 am	Youth Mass
5:00 pm	Charismatic Prayer Group

All Weekend: Catholic Relief Services Appeal

GET YOUR SHOEBOXES!

We are once again participating in the "Shoebox" Shower, the annual Lenten project sponsored by the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (DCCW) of donating hygiene items for Women's Shelters in the Kansas City area for women and children who are victims of domestic violence. Shoe boxes with lists of suggested items are available in the Gathering Space. Pick yours up today.

We ask for your prayers for all victims of domestic violence and their perpetrators. May they seek and accept the help that is available for them.

HELP JESUS IN DISGUISE

Next weekend, March 10 and 11, we will have an appeal for Catholic Relief Services. This appeal supports six Catholic agencies that touch more than 100 million lives around the world. The funds from this appeal help provide food to the hungry and provides support and education to displaced refugees, victims of human trafficking, those who suffer from unjust laws, and those who need pastoral care and humanitarian assistance across the globe.

There will not be a second collection. Simply bring your envelope marked for the "Catholic Relief Services" with you next weekend and put it in the collection basket with your weekly contribution envelope. If you do not receive contribution envelopes there are specially marked envelopes available in the Gathering Space or any plain envelope marked the same will work. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

HELP WANTED

CAN YOU HELP?

Our annual Easter Egg Hunt is fast approaching and we need your candy donations to fill our eggs. Please drop off 1-2 bags of candy at Mass March 17-18. Thank you for being generous.

YOUTH NEWS

Our youth had a very active week! With the Eucharist being received for the first time at the Youth Mass and the Sacrament of Confirmation celebration on Wednesday at Holy Spirit Church, the week was extremely busy and exciting. Some of the youth also attended and participated in the Stations of the Cross on Friday.

The past meeting was also filled with much business discussed. We are currently discussing: a lock-in activity, attending St. Catherine's Youth Group in their Praise and Adoration meeting, training for altar servers at the Youth Mass, cook out, clean up in the spring, the list goes on. We consumed snacks as we prayed and artistically expressed ourselves by making posters for our Pastor. There was also a talk given on "Our Lord the Super Hero."

On February 21st, Victoria Theresa Blackman, Brian Alexander Soriano, Kathryn Catherine Vasquez, Blanca Rose Suarez, Dulce Barbara Martinez, and Misael Dominic Clemente (St. Sabina's) were confirmed in our Faith by Bishop Johnston. Please continue to pray for them as they continue their faith journey.

Our next meeting will be March 4th at 7:00 pm. Questions: call Vince at 913-575-9496 or contact the parish office at 763-0208.

FINANCIAL FIGURES

For the weekend of February 24 & 25

Weekly Parish Contribution	\$4,026.33
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This Month's Figures

Total Income Budgeted for this Month	\$24,125.00
Total Contributed to Date	\$19,393.57
Needed To Meet Budget	\$4,731.43

Year-to-Date Comparisons

July 1, 2017 thru June 30, 2018

Total Budgeted Income	\$289,500.00
Total Actual Income	\$181,745.20
Difference To Date	- \$107,754.80

Thank you for your continued support to our parish. The gifts of your time, talents, and treasure are greatly appreciated.

REPORT CHILD ABUSE OF ANY KIND

The Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph is committed to combating sexual abuse in the Church. If you are a victim of sexual abuse, or if you *observe or suspect* sexual abuse: 1. Call the Missouri Child Abuse Hotline at 1-800-392-3738 (if the victim is currently under the age of 18), and 2. Contact your local law enforcement agency or call 911, and 3. After reporting to these civil and law enforcement authorities, report suspected *sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult* to the Diocesan Ombudsman, Jenifer Valenti, at 816-812-2500 or JeniferValenti@att.net, if the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee, or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph. The Diocese has a sincere commitment to providing care and healing resources to victims of sexual abuse and their families. Please contact Kathleen Chastain, Victim Advocate at 816-392-0011 or victimadvocate@diocesekcsj.org for more information.

INFORMATION SHEET

Church name & address:

St. Matthew #522252

8001 Longview Rd.

Kansas City MO 64134

Contact person: Jessica Ast @ 816-763-0208

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Kansas City MO 64134

Special instructions for delivery: Please leave bulletins in specially-marked Bulletin Drop Box on church building.

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