

DECEMBER 24, 2017 — THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

ST. MATTHEW APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

8001 LONGVIEW ROAD, KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI 64134



www.stmatthewapostle.org

Check us out on Facebook at Saint-Matthew Apostle
Get our weekly bulletin at www.stmatthewapostle.org.

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 816-888-5021
Pastor

Fr. Adam Haake ahkcsj@gmail.com
Associate Pastor

Dcn. Joe McNeal 816-695-7566
Director of RCIA joe.mcneal@stmatthewapostle.org

Jessica Ast 816-888-5020
Pastoral Assistant jessica.ast@stmatthewapostle.org

Eddie Bruton
Buildings and Grounds

OFFICE OF YOUTH PROTECTION

Kathleen Chastain 816-392-0011
Victim Advocate victimadvocate@diocesekcsj.org

Jenifer Valenti 816-812-2500
Ombudsman jenifervalenti@att.net

PARISH OFFICE

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

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 9:00 a.m.	December 25—Solemnity of the Nativity People of the Parish
Tuesday	December 26—St. Stephen <i>No Mass</i>
Wednesday 8:30 a.m.	December 27—St. John the Apostle ✠Teodoro Aguirre
Thursday 8:30 a.m.	December 28—Feast of the Holy Innocents Clem Ast
Friday 8:30 a.m.	December 29—St. Thomas Beckett ✠Cindy Meinen
Saturday 3:00 p.m.	December 30 Vigil—Feast of the Holy Family People of the Parish
Sunday 9:00 a.m.	December 31 Feast of the Holy Family ✠Myron Garth
Sunday 4:00 p.m.	December 31 Vigil—Mary, Mother of God ✠Cindy Meinen

**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.

January 24 — Our Next Potluck! There is no special theme for the January potluck, but we will have a guest presenter! Julie Lane from Health and Wellness Group will be giving a presentation on health issues. Join us for this delicious food and what is sure to be an interesting presentation!

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

HAVE A HOSPITAL VISIT SCHEDULED?

Please do not hesitate to call when you are scheduled to enter or are already in the hospital. Hospitals have privacy rules they must follow, so unless you contact us we do not know where you are a patient. If you are unable to contact us yourself, please ask a family member or friend to contact us on your behalf. If it is a priest emergency and you are calling after regular business hours please call 816-763-0208 and press 1. Otherwise please call the Office and speak to Fr. Rocha or Jess.

Bulletin Deadline: Monday at Noon

MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!

Dear Parishioners,

As this Blessed Advent comes to a close and Christmas is upon us, I wanted to extend my gratitude to Almighty God for the gift of His Son, and this parish of St. Matthew Apostle.

God the Father not only authors life and pours out grace in the midst of it, He chooses to join us in our lives by becoming one of us. Jesus enters into our lives in order that we might do the same. Whatever the circumstances of your life right now ~ grief or joy, struggle or success, faith or doubt ~ Jesus has lived it Himself, and He longs to live it with you. Let Him be born again in your heart. Allow Him to enter into your moments and give you the life for which you were created.

I would like to thank all of our parishioners for your commitment to our parish this past year. The giving of your time, talent and treasure to the Lord continues to bear fruit for the Kingdom of God. I would also like to extend my gratitude to all who have worked so hard to make our Christmas celebrations truly wonderful. Thanks to all who have been involved in decorating our churches and setting up for the different Masses, this season and throughout the liturgical year. And a special thank you to the devoted members who work quietly behind the scenes. As we will celebrate Christmas Masses at St. Matthew Apostle, you will be remembered in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and in my Divine Office.

Merry Christmas!

Fr. Rocha

**ALL PARISH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED ON
MONDAY, DECEMBER 25 AND TUESDAY,
DECEMBER 26 FOR CHRISTMAS
AND MONDAY, JANUARY 1 AND TUESDAY,
JANUARY 2 FOR THE NEW YEAR.**

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**GOD BLESS YOU & YOUR FAMILIES WITH A  
HEALTHY, BLESSED CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR!  
FR. ROCHA, FR. HAAKE & THE PARISH STAFF**

### NEED PRAYERS? WANT TO BE A PRAYER ANGEL?

Prayers offer emotional, spiritual and physical healing. God bless all of you for your support through your love and prayers. Send your Prayer Angel requests to Becky McNeal at prayerangels15@gmail.com or call her at 816-763-6899.

## THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR OF EVENTS

|                  |                                                             |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Monday</b>    | <b>December 25—Christmas</b><br><i>Parish Office Closed</i> |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | <b>December 26</b><br><i>Parish Office Closed</i>           |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | <b>December 27</b>                                          |
| 9:00 am          | Adoration                                                   |
| 2:00 pm          | Benediction                                                 |

### CATHOLIC KEY SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL

Did you know our parish is required to purchase a set number of Catholic Key subscriptions every year? The weekend of January 6 & 7, we will ask you to renew your subscription to the Catholic Key by making a \$25 annual renewal fee to the parish. By doing so you can help the parish cover this expense and allow us to use it toward another area of ministry. Just mark your envelope "SUBSCRIPTION AMOUNT: \$25" and put it in the collection basket. Thanks for your generosity!

### 2017 YEAR END TAX NOTICE

Sunday, December 31, 2017 will be the last collection for the current tax year. Anything received after this date will be credited to the tax year 2018. Our Parish relies on your generous and consistent giving, so thank you all for the gifts of your time, talent and treasure to St. Matthew Apostle!

### ATTENTION PARENTS

There will be NO Little Saints PSR classes on Wednesday, December 27.

There will be NO High School Youth Group Sunday, December 24 or Sunday, December 31. Have a safe and joy-filled Christmas and New Year!

### FINANCIAL FIGURES

#### For the weekend of December 16 & 17

|                            |            |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Weekly Parish Contribution | \$5,126.88 |
|----------------------------|------------|

#### This Month's Figures

|                                      |             |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| Total Income Budgeted for this Month | \$24,125.00 |
| Total Contributed to Date            | \$19,201.46 |
| Needed To Meet Budget                | \$4,923.54  |

#### Year-to-Date Comparisons

##### **July 1, 2017 thru June 30, 2018**

|                       |                |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| Total Budgeted Income | \$289,500.00   |
| Total Actual Income   | \$126,022.11   |
| Difference To Date    | - \$163,477.89 |

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

## DIFFERENT MASS TIMES FOR THE WEEKEND OF DECEMBER 23/24 AND DECEMBER 30/31



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Because both Christmas and New Year fall on a Monday this year, the Sunday Mass schedule for both December 24 and December 31 will be somewhat different. There will be a Sunday morning

Mass at 9:00 am, but **there will not be a Mass at 8:00 am or 11:00 am on either of those Sundays.** Below are the complete schedules for those two weekends:

### Mass Times for the 4th Sunday of Advent:

Saturday, December 23:

3:00 pm

Sunday, December 24:

9:00 am

### Mass Times for Christmas:

Sunday, December 24:

4:00 pm

Monday, December 25:

9:00 am

### Mass Times for the Feast of the Holy Family:

Saturday, December 30:

3:00 pm

Sunday, December 31:

9:00 am

### Mass Times for the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God:

Sunday, December 31:

4:00 pm

Monday, January 1:

9:00 am

### 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.

### 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

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