

The Nativity of the Lord

Monday, December 25th

Mass 8:00 AM: **Intentions of Father Jack**

Mass 11:30 AM: **Priests' Intentions**

Bilingual Mass 1:30 PM: **Intentions of Father Ford**

Masses for the Octave of Christmas

Tuesday, December 26th

Saint Stephen, First Martyr

Daily Mass 8:30 AM: **Carleigh Paolino** (Living-Birthday)

Wednesday, December 27th

Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist

Daily Mass 8:30 AM: **Amanyeiwe Family Intentions**

Thursday, December 28th

The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

Daily Mass 8:30 AM: **Sylvester Ezeani** (Living-Birthday)

Friday, December 29th

Saint Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr

Daily Mass 7:00 AM: **Jose Manlapaz**

Saturday, December 30th

Daily Mass 8:30 AM: **Richard Kosko**

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Saturday, December 30th

5:00 PM: **Richard Kosko**

7:00 PM: **Rev. Ralph J. Kuehner**

Sunday, December 31st

8:00 AM: **Marian Huber**

9:30 AM: **Isaac and Louisa Ezeonyebuchi**
(Living)

11:30 AM: **Ernesto B. Felix**

6:00 PM: **Bob Farland**

Readings:

Sir 3:2-6,12-14

2nd Reading: Col 3:12-21

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

Please pray for the sick and homebound in our parish, our neighbors, family, and friends:

Elaine and Melvin Brooks; Muriel Brown; Al Craig; Ronnie Davis; Norma Florimbio; Francis and Genevieve Greenfield; William Halbe; John and Joan Kodak; Abanda William Ndinu; Lucy Nguyen; L. Oyelese; Kay Villemi; Mae Young; Sister Giustina Zanin; Zaria Zanin; Eugene Zehner

*For our military, protect them from all harm.
For the faithful departed, may they rest in peace.*

Stewardship Report

Due to the Christmas holiday and early publication of the bulletin, the Stewardship Report for December 24th will appear in next week's bulletin.

Items of Note at St. Matthias

Hosting An Event? Friendship Hall is available for rent. Please contact Thad Ereme at 301-459-4814 x 207 or tereme@stmatthias.org.

During this holiday season, reserve a **Memorial Candle** to honor your loved ones. For information, please contact Thad Ereme at 301-459-4814 x 207 or tereme@stmatthias.org.

Dance Ministry: The St. Matthias Liturgical Dance Ministry will dance to *Joy to the World* during the 6:00 PM and 10:00 PM Masses this Sunday, December 24th. We pray that you will enjoy this spiritually uplifting hymn.

Christmas Schedule

Sunday, December 24, 2017

Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM Mass

9:30 AM Mass

11:30 AM Mass

6:00 PM Christmas Vigil Mass

10:00 PM Christmas Vigil Mass

(Carols at 9:45 PM)

Monday, December 25, 2017 Christmas Day

8:00 AM Mass

11:30 AM Mass

1:30 PM Spanish Mass

Sunday, December 31, 2017

8:00 AM Mass

9:30 AM Mass

11:30 AM Mass

6:00 PM Mass

11:00 PM "Crossover" Mass

Monday, January 1, 2018 (Not a Holy Day of Obligation)

8:30 AM Daily Mass

10:00 AM Bilingual Mass

Adoration 6:00—8:00 PM



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Family Connection

One of the challenges of faith is to recognize God's plan for us and to remain open to God's will and God's actions in our world. Filled with God's grace, Mary models for us the kind of faith that is needed to cooperate in God's plan of salvation. Like Mary, we are given the awesome opportunity to cooperate in God's saving plan. On this final Sunday of Advent, our Gospel invites us to consider how our preparations for Christmas have made us more aware of God's grace working in our lives.

Gather together your family and talk about what you have been doing as a family to prepare for Christmas. How have these preparations helped you to better celebrate the central mystery of Christmas, the Incarnation? Our Gospel today talks about how Mary was prepared for her role in Christ's birth. Read today's Gospel, Luke 1:26-38. Consider the question: What enabled Mary to say yes to God? Which of your Advent activities have made you more aware of God's grace in your life? Conclude in prayer together that God's grace will enable your family to be more faithful and obedient to God. Pray together the [Magnificat](#).

Dear Friends,

On behalf of Father Canice and visiting clergy, I offer you our best wishes for a blessed and happy Christmas. We look forward to the coming year as we continue to grow in faith.

Sincerely in Christ,
Father Jack

The St. Matthias Prayer Group meets in the church every Sunday immediately after 11:30 AM Mass. All are welcome.

Ushers' Closet: Are you missing you glasses, keys, hat, scarf, umbrella, jacket? Please ask an usher for assistance in locating your lost item(s). Unclaimed items will be donated before the end of the year.



The Academy of Saint Matthias

Open House Dates:

Wednesday, Jan. 24th, 7:00—8:00 PM

Sunday, Jan. 28th, 10:00 AM-12:30 PM

Please stop by for a tour and enrollment information.

Applications for Financial Aid for 2018-19 are available at www.TADS.com. The deadline for new families whose children will attend school in the 2018-2019 school year is **February 4, 2018**. Please check the website for details.

School tours are offered every Monday from 8:30-10:00 AM. Please call the school office at 301-577-9412 to arrange a tour.

School Will Reopen on Tuesday, January 2nd. Our faculty and staff wish you a joyous Christmas and God's blessings in the New Year.

Ministry Schedules December 30/31

<u>Time</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>	<u>Greeters</u>
5:00 PM	A. Amanyeiwe J. Onyewu	An. Boafo, Ar. Boafo
7:00 PM	F. Garcia, L. Martinez, B. Barahona	TBD
8:00 AM	D. DeMaio, A. DeMaio, S. DeMaio	L. Adekoya, M. Prout, M. Reeves
9:30 AM	A. Akem, M. Akem, R. Akem	P. Okongwu, V. Neke
11:30 AM	D. Morfaw, C. Morfaw	TBD
6:00 PM	S. Sykes, J. Onuoha	Y. Balogun

<u>Time</u>	<u>EMCH</u>	<u>Lectors</u>
5:00 PM	TBD	A. Hawkins
7:00 PM	TBD	L. Del Valle, R. Martin
8:00 AM	TBD	R. Johnson
9:30 AM	TBD	M. Ibebuchi
11:30 AM	TBD	B. Nwadije
6:00 PM	TBD	K. Holmes-Johnson

Celebrant Mass Schedule for the Weekend of December 30/31

5:00 PM	Father Jack
7:00 PM	Father Jacek
8:00 AM	Father Jack
9:30 AM	Father Khumbah
11:30 AM	Father Jack
6:00 PM	Father Albert
11:00 PM	Guest Celebrant