

The First Week of Advent

Monday, December 3rd

Saint Francis Xavier

Daily Mass 8:30AM: Phil Colliere (L)

Tuesday, December 4th

Saint John of Damascene

Daily Mass 8:30 AM: Shaun Fernandes (L)

Wednesday, December 5th

Daily Mass 8:30 AM: Guadalupe Manlapaz (D)

Thursday, December 6th

Saint Nicholas

Daily Mass 8:30 AM: Alfredo V. Felix (D)

Friday, December 7th

Saint Andrew Ambrose

Daily Mass 8:30 AM: Peter O'Neill (D)

School Mass 10:30 AM: Francis R. Windsor (D)

Saturday, December 8th

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Mass 8:30: Msgr. Thomas R. Duffy (D)

Mass 12:00 PM: The People of the Parish (L)

Second Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 8th

5:00 PM: Francis, Christine & Jerome Tauro (D)

7:00 PM: Francisco De Leon (D)

Maria Toro (D)

Sunday, December 9th

8:00 AM: Steve Keleti (L)

9:30 AM: Adaobi Ezeani (L)

11:30 AM: Rebecca Udejiofor (D)

Bari Fonso (L)

6:00 PM: Members of the Catholic Women's Association (L)

Readings:

Bar 5: 1-9

Phil 1:4-6, 8-11

Luke 3:1-6

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

Elaine Brooks; Muriel Brown; John Cassidy; Rose Chisefsky; Chunyere Duru; Helen Dziduch; Barbara Falls; Ferris "Bo" George; Francis and Genevieve Greenfield; William Halbe; Helen Jacik; Janet Kinard; John and Joan Kodak; Susan Lum; Marion Prout; June Provini; Mary Soh; Mae Young; Dennis Zanin; Elda Zanin; Sister Giustina Zanin; Zaria Zanin; Rita and Eugene Zehner; Bernard Zempolich

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

Stewardship Report

November 18

Offertory \$ 7,627

Faith Direct \$ 3,153

Total \$10,780

Last Year \$10,569

November 25

Offertory \$ 7,501

Faith Direct \$ 3,153

Total \$10,654

Last Year \$10,196

We are grateful for your generosity

Items of Note at St. Matthias

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

The Catholic Women's Association meets after the 11:30 AM Mass on the second and fourth Sundays of the month. Parishioners are invited to the CWA's first dedication of new members on Sunday, December 16th, at the 11:30 AM Mass. A reception will follow in Friendship Hall.

Volunteers Are Needed to help at the receptionist's desk in the Hughes Center. Most volunteers work a 4-hour shift once or twice per month. Please contact Thad Ereme at 301-459-4814 x 207 for more information.

Parish Social Life Committee News



Celebration of the Virgin of Guadalupe: An overnight celebration with prayers, singing, and dancing will be held Tuesday, Dec. 11th, through Wednesday, Dec. 12th. Parishioners are asked to meet at Friendship Hall at 10:30 PM to prepare for the procession of Our Lady of Guadalupe. On Dec. 12th, Mass will be celebrated in Spanish at 7:00 PM. Please join us for this special celebration to honor our Blessed Mother.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Giving Tree: The Ladies of Charity are again sponsoring the Parish Giving Tree which will be in the church vestibule through this Sunday, Dec. 2nd. Please take a gift tag labeled with a requested item. Unwrapped and tagged gifts may be dropped off at the church or parish office. Gifts will be donated to area charities. Thank you for making Christmas brighter for someone in need.



Mass Schedule for The Immaculate Conception A Holy Day of Obligation Saturday, December 8, 2018

8:30 AM (English)
12:00 PM (Bilingual)

Family Connection



First Sunday in Advent

In today's Gospel, Jesus warns his disciples against the fatigue that can emerge if one becomes consumed by the anxieties of daily life. Many families are too familiar with the kind of fatigue Jesus refers to here. We may be concerned about a family member's health, our job security, our children's education, or any number of other concerns. All these are important matters. Jesus does not promise an end to daily worries and fears, but he does teach his disciples that they will have the strength to withstand anxiety if they stay focused on him, remaining vigilant for his return and praying for strength to endure all tribulations. Through prayer, God helps us stay focused on that which is most important in our lives.

As you gather as a family, recall the tradition of making New Year's resolutions in preparation for the new calendar year. Observe that today is the first Sunday of Advent, which is the beginning of the new Church year. During the season of Advent, our Gospel readings ask us to consider what is most important to us as we prepare for Jesus' coming, at his birth and at the end of time. Read today's Gospel, Luke 21:25-28,34-36. Jesus describes signs that may disturb many people, but he says that these should not to disturb his disciples. Why? (because these signs indicate that redemption is near) What does Jesus say that his disciples should do? (Be vigilant and pray for strength.) At this start of the new Church year, consider as a family what "Advent resolutions" your family might make to help you stay focused so that you will be prepared to receive the salvation we celebrate at Jesus' birth and anticipate at Jesus' second coming. Pray together for God's help in following through on these resolutions. Pray together today's psalm, Psalm 25.

Knights of Columbus



High School Scholarships: Each year the MD State Council of the K of C awards scholarships to Catholic high school students. For information and application forms, go to www.kofc-md.org. All applications must be received by the Scholarship Committee no later than February 1, 2019.



The Academy of Saint Matthias

Tuition Assistance for the 2019-2020 School

Year: The application for Archdiocesan financial aid is available at www.TADS.com. Families who will be new to the Academy of Saint Matthias have until **February 4, 2019**, to apply. *You must have a completed financial aid application on file to be considered for financial aid from any source.* Questions? Please contact the school Admissions Director, Mrs. Ann O'Hare, at 301-577-9412.

Shop Online and Support our School:

The holidays are fast approaching. When shopping online, you can use your amazon.com account information to help raise funds for our school. By going to <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/52-0780162> to place your order, .5% of your purchases from Amazon will be donated to our school. *Happy Shopping* and thank you for your support.



Advent

TIS THE SEASON: Join our parish for **BEST ADVENT EVER**, a free email program from Dynamic Catholic that will help you slow down and focus on what matters most during the busy holiday season. Each day of Advent, you'll receive an email with:

- Short inspirational videos
- Practical tips for your everyday life
- Real-life stories to encourage you in your faith journey

To sign-up, visit BestAdventEver.com/Christmas



Celebrant Mass Schedule for December 8/9

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| 5:00 PM | Mons. Balbago |
| 7:00 PM | Fr. TBD |
| 8:00 AM | Fr. Jack |
| 9:30 AM | Fr. Canice |
| 11:30 AM | Fr. Jack |
| 6:00 PM | Fr. Christopher |

