SAINT MATTHIAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH  •  LANHAM, MARYLAND  
December 31, 2017

The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord

Monday, January 1st
Mass 8:30AM: Ruperta Borja
Bilingual Mass 10:00 AM: Pedro Nagales

Christmas Weekdays

Tuesday, January 2nd
Saints Basil and Gregory
Daily Mass 8:30 AM: Macauley Nzefili

Wednesday, January 3rd
The Most Holy Name of Jesus
Daily Mass 8:30 AM: Richard Middleton

Thursday, January 4th
Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton
Daily Mass 8:30 AM: Kay Kaderabek

Friday, January 5th
Saint John Neumann
Daily Mass 8:30 AM: Ruperta Borja

Saturday, January 6th
Daily Mass 8:30 AM: Pedro Nagales

The Epiphany of the Lord

Saturday, January 6th
5:00 PM: Richard Kosko
7:00 PM: Intentions of Parishioners

Sunday, January 7th
8:00 AM: Richard Kosko
9:30 AM: Njomeni J.P. Boyoung (Living)
11:30 AM: Florence & Jude Nwoko (Living)
6:00 PM: Mary Soh (Living-Birthday)

Readings:
Is 60:1-6
2nd Reading: Eph: 3:2-3a, 5-6
Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

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

December 17, 2017
Offertory  9,024.
Faith Direct  3,758.
Total Offertory  12,782.
Last Year  11,524.

Due to the early publication of this bulletin, the Stewardship Report for December 24th will appear in next week’s bulletin.

We Are Grateful For Your Generosity

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.

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

The Saint Matthias Teen Youth Ministry will meet in the Hughes Center on Sunday, January 14th, from 12:00-2:30 PM. Teens in grades 9-12 are welcome to attend.

2018 Offertory Envelopes: If you are a registered parishioner who currently uses offertory envelopes, you should have received your envelopes for January and February, 2018. Please contact Pat the office (301-459-4814 x 201 or pford@stmatthias.org) if you have not received your envelopes. Be sure to provide your current mailing address.

Our wishes to you for a happy and blessed new year!

Father Jack, Father Canice, and the Parish Staff
A New Year’s Prayer

Dear Lord, please give me...
A few friends who understand me and remain my friends
A work to do which has real value, without which the world would be poorer
A mind unafraid to travel, even though the trail be not blazed
An understanding heart
A sense of humor
Time for quiet, silent meditation
A feeling of the presence of God
The patience to wait for the coming of these things, with the wisdom to recognize them when they come
Amen

Family Connection

Today’s celebration of the Feast of the Holy Family highlights the importance of family in our religious life. We know that Mary and Joseph’s faithfulness to God enabled them to cooperate in God’s plan for our salvation by accepting the responsibility to raise God’s Son, Jesus. From his parents, Jesus learned how to be a faithful believer in his Jewish tradition. Simeon’s prophecy about Mary’s sorrow alerts us to the importance of a family’s commitment to one another, a commitment that is expressed in both good times and bad.

Gather as a family and recall times when your family showed its commitment to one another in good times and in bad. Recall times when your immediate family was supported by members of your extended family. Note that today we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family, and we see in the family of Jesus an example for our own family life. Read together today’s Gospel, Luke 2:22-40. Joseph and Mary expressed their faithfulness to God through their observance of the Law of Moses. Simeon prophesied the grief that Mary would experience at the foot of Jesus’ cross. One of the blessings of family life is our commitment to one another, sharing good times and supporting one another through difficult times. Conclude in prayer together thanking God for the grace expressed in your family’s commitment to one another. Write a prayer together, thanking God for your family life and asking God to strengthen your family’s commitment to one another. Pray this prayer together.

School Raffle Fundraiser

Please support our school by purchasing raffle tickets for $10 each. The weekly drawing begins in January and ends in August. Each winner receives $300 and the seller receives $50. Tickets may be purchased in the school office or in the Hughes Center parish office.

Mass Schedule

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