SAINT MATTHIAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH ♦ LANHAM, MARYLAND ♦ DECEMBER 23, 2018

Stewardship Report
December 16
Offertory $ 10,517
Faith Direct $ 2,403
Total $ 12,920
Last Year $ 12,782

We are grateful for your generosity.

Items of Note at St. Matthias

Dance Ministry: The Saint Matthias Liturgical Dance Ministry will dance to the song Breath of Heaven on Monday, Christmas Eve, at the 5:00 PM and 10:00 PM Masses. We pray that you will enjoy this song about our Blessed Mother Mary and the arrival of her son, Jesus. We ask that you attend one of these Masses and support this ministry.

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.

Offertory Envelopes for 2019: If you are a registered parishioner who currently uses weekly offertory envelopes, please note that your 2019 envelopes for January & February will be mailed to you before the end of this month. Check your mail carefully! Envelopes will be mailed bi-monthly. Please notify the parish office of your new address if you have moved recently, or if you would like to receive contribution envelopes.

Christmas Eve
Monday, December 24th
Daily Mass 8:30AM: Priest’s Intentions

The Nativity of the Lord
Tuesday, December 25th
Mass 8:00 AM: Priest’s Intentions
Mass 11:30 AM: Priest’s Intentions
Mass 1:30 PM: Priest’s Intentions

Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

Wednesday, December 26th
Saint Stephen
Daily Mass 8:30 AM: Carleigh Paolino (L)

Thursday, December 27th
Saint John
Daily Mass 8:30 AM: Msgr. Thomas Duffy (D)

Friday, December 28th
Holy Innocents
Daily Mass 8:30 AM: Sandra Dugan (D)

Saturday, December 29th
Saint Thomas Becket
Mass 8:30: Jose C. Manlapaz (D)

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Saturday, December 29th
5:00 PM: Barbara Falls (L)
7:00 PM: People of the Parish (L)

Sunday, December 30th
8:00 AM: Delores Richardson (D)
9:30 AM: Peter L. Fonju (D)
11:30 AM: Emmanuel Foli (L)
6:00 PM: People of the Parish (L)

Readings:
Sir 3: 2-6, 12-14
Col 3: 12-21
Luke 2: 41-52

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; Nancy & John Matais; 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, may they rest in peace.
Faith Formation Classes will resume Monday, January 7th, at 6:30 PM.

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

School is Closed through Tuesday, January 1st, for the Christmas Holiday. Classes will resume Wednesday, January 2nd. Our faculty and staff wish you a joyous Christmas and God’s blessings in the New Year.

Celebrant Mass Schedule for December 29/30

5:00 PM Fr. Khumbah
7:00 PM Fr. Jacek
8:00 AM Fr. Khumbah
9:30 AM Fr. Jack
11:30 AM Fr. Jack
6:00 PM Fr. Khumbah

Dear Friends,
On behalf of Father Canice and our visiting clergy, I offer you 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 Parish Office will be Closed Monday, December 24th and Tuesday, December 25th, in observance of Christmas.

The office will re-open Wednesday, December 26th, at 8:00 AM.

Family Connection

In the encounter between Mary and Elizabeth described in today’s Gospel, we learn that other people can help us recognize God’s presence and action in our lives. Mary traveled to see Elizabeth because Elizabeth's pregnancy was a sign that everything the angel told Mary would truly happen. Elizabeth recognized Mary as the mother of her Lord because her unborn child, John the Baptist, leapt at the sound of Mary’s greeting. Elizabeth and Mary rejoiced together at the wonderful things God was doing in their lives. We too are blessed when we have people who help us recognize God’s action in our lives. We pray that our family can be this for one another.

As you gather as a family, work together on a word search or hidden-picture puzzle. Help one another until everyone has found each of the words or pictures in the puzzle. Talk about this experience, noticing how some people found words or pictures more easily than others and how easy it was to see the word or picture once someone else pointed it out. Observe that sometimes we need the help of others to recognize God’s presence and action in our lives. Read together today’s Gospel, Luke 1:39-45. Ask: What did Elizabeth recognize about Mary? (that she was to be the mother of Jesus, the Lord) How did Elizabeth know this? (Her baby, John the Baptist, leapt with joy at Mary’s greeting) Pray together that as we share our faith together as a family, we may help one another recognize God’s presence and action in our lives. Pray together the Hail Mary.

Christmas Schedule

Saint Matthias Church

Monday, December 24, 2018
Daily Mass at 8:30 AM
Christmas Vigil Mass at 5:00 PM
Christmas Vigil Mass at 10:00 PM
(Christmas Carols begin at 9:30 PM)

Tuesday, December 25, 2018
Christmas Day
Masses: 8:00 AM, 11:30 AM, 1:30 PM (Spanish)

Monday, December 31, 2018
Daily Mass 8:30 AM
“Crossover” Mass at 11:00 PM

Tuesday, January 1, 2019
Solemnity of the Holy Mother of God
(A Holy Day of Obligation)
Daily Mass at 8:30 AM
Mass at 10:30 AM (Bilingual)