



Archbishop William E. Lori, Archbishop of Baltimore

St. Matthew Roman Catholic Church

“Rich in Tradition, United in Mission, Blessed with Diversity.”

First Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2017

Mass Times: Holy Day Mass times vary; please see our bulletin and our website.

Weekdays (Rectory Chapel) Monday – Thursday – Saturday 9:00 AM

Tuesday – Friday 7:00 AM

Weekends – Saturday 5:00 PM

Sunday 8:45 AM – 11 AM

Confessions:

Saturday 4:00 – 4:30 PM – By Appointment

Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, Anointing of the Sick, and RCIA:

Please call the church office.

New Parishioners:

Please pick up a registration form at the exits or contact the church office.
Please also indicate if you wish to receive giving envelopes.

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Baltimore, MD 21239

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Website:

www.stmatthewbaltimore.org

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Monday – Friday: 8 AM – 4 PM

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FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 3, 2017



Dear People of God,

*Pastor's
Notes*

Welcome to Advent 2017!! We are in the season of waiting and preparing for the coming of the Lord; at least, that is what we always say! But, what else are we waiting for? An end to violence on our city streets? An end to fear of deportation in the immigrant community? Waiting to hear who killed Freddy Gray, who died in police custody, and no one has been charged with his death?? Waiting to hear who has been arrested for the death of Marcus Edwards, who was killed in front of St. Matthew on September 19th, 2016? **What else are we waiting for?** The list could go on and on... To address the violence in the streets, we have already heard politicians say that they don't know what to do. We already know that the Police Department is understaffed. As I mentioned in last week's bulletin, **the religious institutions coming together may be the last hope of the city.** The Gospel of Mark tells us to "Be on guard!" The reading from Isaiah expresses our own frustration that says, "Why do you let us wander, O Lord, from your ways, and harden our hearts so that we fear you not?...Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, with the mountains quaking before you..." This frustration is felt by many. Therefore, on Thursday, December 7th, BUILD is gathering at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in Highlandtown at 7 PM. The BUILD members (churches, mosques, and synagogues) will gather for a city-wide action team meeting to address this problem of violence and fear in the city. I am inviting those from Blessed Sacrament and St. Matthew who wish to join in this effort. We will meet at St. Matthew at 5:30 PM for prayer and a meal and then proceed to Sacred Heart of Jesus Church by carpooling. This is a unique and special time in our city and all who can are needed to participate. This is the event that will be the beginning of our Advent waiting, hoping, dreaming, planning, relationship-building, and action. Come and join us!!!

The St. Matthew Pastoral Council meets on Monday, December 4th at 7 PM.

The Marian House ribbon-cutting will take place on Wednesday, December 6th at 4 PM at Blessed Sacrament Church for the Opening of Independence House.

Mass at Franklin Woods will be held on Thursday, December 7th at 2 PM. All are welcome to these three events.

Friday, December 8th is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception and is a Holy Day of Obligation.

Mass will be at 9 AM in the church with the students of Cardinal Shehan School and at 6 PM in the rectory chapel. Fr. Joe has also been asked to celebrate mass at 1:45 PM at Holy Angels Catholic School: 1201 Caton Avenue; 21227. If you are interested in attending this Mass, call Fr. Joe.

ADVENT PROGRAM: WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE? It will be held on Thursday, December 7th, 14th, and 21st.

December 7th is the BUILD action at Sacred Heart Church (600 South Conkling Street; 21224).

December 14th and 21st will be reflection sessions at St. Matthew starting at 6:30 PM.

December 14th session: Where does hope come from??

December 21st session: What does the coming of Jesus mean at this particular time?

Please sign up today!!!

Reading for Advent sessions:

Creating Light by Beth Hurley Luers;

Flesh Becomes Word by Brian Volck;

Jesus and the Disinherited by Howard Thurman.

Love and Prayers,
Fr. Joe

Let Us Pray For:

Aileen Semple, Alfred Lee-Young, Alphonsus Oguamanam, Sr. Andre Rothschild, Andrea Shuck, Andrew Macsherry, Anne Marie Campbell, Anthony Udumukwu, Archer Senft, Atticus Smith, Augustine Ubaru, Ardella Oliver, Barbara Reid, Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Adams, Bernice Kucharski, Bernice Thomas, Betty Johnson, Betty King, Betty Mathers, Butch Podgurski, Carl Gabler, Carol Augustine, Caroline Grayson, Carolyn & Carl Richardson, Casey Seymour, Cecilia Harris, Charles Supik, Chantelle Clarke, Cheryl Lusby, Cleo Stamatatos, Corleen Lee, Dawn Hubner, Denise Womer, Bishop Dennis Madden, Donna Dusman, Donna Lusby, Eloise Hopkins, Elvin Gonzalez, Eric Younkin, Ethel White, Evelyn Thompson, Fr. James McKearney, Frances Ubaru, Gail Liss, Gloria Heemann, Gloria Smith, Gloriana Hopkins, Greg Schaum, Gunter Moore, Gwen Heemann, Helen Nitkoski, Helen Scott, Henrietta Mitchell, James Waller, Janet Pettaway, Jeanette McMillan, Jennifer Tamberino, Jim Augustine, Joan Ray, Joan Muth, Joe Kennedy, John Byrnes, Joscelin Hancock, Justin Jones, Justin Xavier Mathis, Keagen Merritt, Kerry Heemann, Kerstin Lynch, Kyle Beaudet, Larry Balda, Lashawda Jelks, Lee Nel, Lena O'Toole, Lenon Daniel, Lucille Casey, Marie Fields, Mark Bynun, Mark Rogalski, Mary Jo Bowen, Mary Lou Balda, Mary Ritter, Mary Wojtulewicz, Milagro Rivera, Omolara Ajayi, Parfulit Youzon, Fr. Paul Theisz, Peg Collins, Peter Parker, Philomena Ofoma, Ramon Thompson, Randy Capone, Robert Holt, Rocky Davis, Robin Novak, Ruby Hughes, Ruth Toro, Ryan Carlisle, Sam Okere, Seaton Haney, Shakia Williams, Steve Heemann, Sylvia Adams, Tom Peddicord, Tony Scaletta, Victoria Borland, William Kovalevsky, and Yae Dupont.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THIS WEEK (December 3rd – 10th):

Sunday, December 3 **Is 63:16-17, 19; 64:2-7** **Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19** **1 Cor 1:3-9** **Mk 13:33-37**
First Sunday of Advent. Lord, rend the heavens and come down (1). Come and save us (Ps) from our sins. Let us turn again to you (Ps) and so be found blameless (2) when you return in glory (3).

Monday, December 4 **Is 2:1-5** **Ps 122:1-9** **Mt 8:5-11**
St. John Damascene, Priest & Doctor of the Church. Let us give thanks (Ps) for the great feast prepared for us (2) in which God's Glory (1) is revealed.

Tuesday, December 5 **Is 11:1-10** **Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17** **Lk 10:21-24**
The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Jesus (2), the shoot of Jesse (1). He will bring justice and peace (Ps).

Wednesday, December 6 **Is 25:6-10** **Ps 23:1-6** **Mt 15:29-37**
St. Nicholas, Bishop. We are invited to celebrate the Lord's victory banquet (1, Ps), his triumph over sickness and evil (2).

Thursday, December 7 **Is 26:1-6** **Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27** **Mt 7:21, 24-27**
St. Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor of the Church. The Lord is our rock and fortress (1), our Savior (Ps). May our lives be built upon God's Holy Word.

Friday, December 8 **Gn 3:9-15, 20** **Ps 98:1-4** **Eph 1:3-6, 11-12** **Lk 1:26-38**
The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Holy Day of Obligation). Chosen by God (2), Mary reverses the sin of Eve (1). Because of her obedience (3), God's salvation is made known to all the nations (Ps).

Saturday, December 9 **Is 30:19-21, 23-26** **Ps 147:1-6** **Mt 9:35 – 10:1, 5, 6-8**
St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin. The Lord sends the Twelve to proclaim the Kingdom (2); peace and healing of the sick testify to its advent (1, Ps).

Sunday, December 10 **Is 40:1-5, 9-11** **Ps 85:9-14** **2 Pt 3:8-14** **Mk 1:1-8**
Second Sunday of Advent. As we await new heavens and a new Earth (2), let us make clear the way of the Lord (1, 3) by being servants of justice, truth, and peace (Ps).

SACRIFICIAL GIVING:

November 25 – 26:

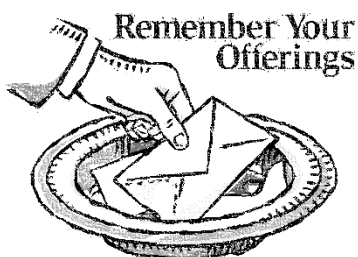
Offertory Envelopes:	\$6,882.75
Loose Offertory:	\$616.46
TOTAL:	\$7,499.21
Extraordinary Expenses:	\$754.00

MASS ATTENDANCE:

November 25 – 26:

<u>5 PM:</u>	<u>8:45 AM:</u>	<u>11 AM:</u>
68	117	175

TOTAL: 360



2018 giving envelopes are available. Please don't forget to pick them up!! We also like to verify your address to keep our records current. Please help us do this by providing an updated mailing address if you have recently moved when you pick up your envelopes!!

Mass Intentions 
FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, December 3:

8:45 AM: Sr. Luigia Vigano
11:00 AM: Sr. M. Pasqualina Ghilardi

Monday, December 4:

9:00 AM: Sr. M. Bernardina Cerea

Tuesday, December 5:

7:00 AM: Sr. M. Gabriella Ghidei Alawi

Thursday, December 7:

9:00 AM: Sr. M. Rina Lucia Graziato

Friday, December 8:

9:00 AM: Marie McGonigle Coshnear
6:00 PM: Sr. Gianfranca Longhin

Saturday, December 9:

9:00 AM: Sr. Ildegarde Malfatti
5:00 PM: Sr. Agnese Quaggiato

Next weekend's second collection is for Retired Religious. Thank you for your generosity.

CHRISTMAS GIFT COLLECTION



Our Daily Bread Christmas party for single men

Bring NEW flannel shirts and socks THROUGH THIS WEEKEND (December 2nd and 3rd)!!

Sizes needed: L, XL, 2XL, and 3XL

Please place items in the boxes at the church exits (unwrapped, please) - thank you.





Please help us with our annual shoebox project. We are collecting small items that fit in a shoebox e.g. toys, school supplies, hygiene items and accessories, and personal notes wishing those in need a very, Merry Christmas. **You can drop off items to the church through next weekend, December 9th and 10th.** The boxes will be assembled by our youth and then handed out to children in need at Christmas.

The Franciscan Center is collecting **new and unwrapped** Winter clothing and personal hygiene items for the homeless. They will be distributed during the Christmas Season and throughout the Winter. Items for men, women, children, and babies are all welcome. Please drop off donations between 9 AM and 3 PM at

The Franciscan Center
101 West 23rd Street
Baltimore, MD 21218

Please drop off items by the week of December 10th. If you need help with getting your donations to the center, please contact

Angela Hall
410-467-5340 ext. 113
ahall@fcbmore.org

The Men's Fellowship would like to meet with men in the parish who have an interest in making positive contributions (of any kind) within the St. Matthew community. Among other activities, our group promotes talking with other men about their life and Christian journey...or about sports! Really, any topic is fair game as we have found that the act of sharing creates positive Christian community. Please join us for light refreshments after the 11:00 AM Mass in the church hall on December 10th for a brief gathering.

For more information, contact Tracy Smith tracy.trew@gmail.com or David Cramer david@cramercrystal.com.

Would you like to learn how to handle money in a way that will lead to financial freedom? Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University is the class where you're will learn to make your money work for you. The class will be led by Keyah and Jermaine Spann. We will begin on Saturday, January 20th at 5 PM. It is a nine-week class. Please call or text Keyah Spann at 410-852-8453 or email at mouse153@hotmail.com for more information.