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**We've Missed You!**  
Welcome Back to Mass

Stay connected to our faith community no matter where you are  
by signing up to get our bulletin delivered straight to your email!

# St. Matthew Catholic Church

Celebrate | Love | Share

**Dec.  
26  
2021**

**OFFICE HOURS:**  
9:30 am—4:30 pm. Phone: 912-681-6726.

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**  
**Weekend Masses:** Saturday: 5 pm (Span.),  
Sunday: 8 am, 10:30 am, and 5 pm.

**Daily Mass:** M, T, Th, and F at 12:10 pm; W at  
5:30 pm.

**CONFESSIONS**  
Wed: 5—5:25 pm, Sat: 4-5 pm, or by appt.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**  
Adoration Chapel available 24/7— Sunday at 7  
pm through Saturday at 3:30 pm—in the Train-  
ing Room.

**INFANT BAPTISMS**  
For information on scheduling baptisms and  
baptism instruction classes, please contact  
Helen Almeter at 912-681-6726 ext. 203 or via  
email at halmeter@saintmatthewsparish.com.

**MARRIAGE PREPARATION**  
Newly engaged couples should contact Fr.  
Johnson at 912-681-6726 to schedule prepara-  
tion sessions and a date for the wedding.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**  
Grades PreK through 8th meet on Sundays at  
9 am, October 3, 2021- May 22, 2022.

**CATHOLIC EAGLES**  
GSU students: For information on bible studies,  
events, and retreats contact our FOCUS  
(Fellowship of Catholic University Students)  
Team Director David Wentworth at:  
david.wentworth@focus.org.

**PARISH REGISTRATION**  
Welcome to the St. Matthew parish family! To  
register at St. Matthew parish, please fill out a  
registration form on the St. Matthew web  
site: [www.saintmatthewsparish.com/about](http://www.saintmatthewsparish.com/about).  
Forms are also available at the front entrances  
of the church. Persons interested in being add-  
ed to the e-newsletter mailing list, please con-  
tact the parish office at 912-681-6726 or via  
email: [mcannady@saintmatthewsparish.com](mailto:mcannady@saintmatthewsparish.com).

**BULLETIN DEADLINE: Monday at noon.**

**Mission Statement:**  
St. Matthew Church CELEBRATES  
the Catholic faith in Jesus Christ by  
inspiring all to LOVE God and one  
another and to SHARE the Good  
News of God's love with others.



## THE HOLY FAMILY

He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man. - Lk 2:51-52

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

221 John Paul Ave., Statesboro, GA 30458 | [www.saintmatthewsparish.com](http://www.saintmatthewsparish.com) | 912-681-6726



Please contact your parish representatives with questions, concerns, compliments, or ideas!

**Parish Council**

Chairperson: Rebecca Creasy: rlcreeasy@gmail.com  
 Len Fatica: 614-537-3747  
 John J. Gleissner: johnjgleissner@gmail.com  
 Tom Grovenstein: procleansys@bulloch.net  
 Carolyn Lota: carolynlota@yahoo.com  
 Kim Macy: 2.macysparade.6@gmail.com  
 Rachel Ploor: rachel.ploor@gmail.com  
 Joe Sikes: jojosikes@hotmail.com  
 Bill Wright: 912-531-0357, billwright2430@gmail.com

**Finance Council**

Eric Pollak, Chairperson: 912-414-6929, epollak@fdic.gov  
 Cindy Gantt: 489-1468  
 Steve Healy: 865-2869, healysj1@gmail.com  
 Ryan Macy: 912-536-2715  
 Dr. Brian Vicek: blvicek@georgiasouthern.edu  
 Dr. Mike Wall: 912-531-2559

**Pray for our Sick**



Names will be kept on the list for four weeks unless the office is notified otherwise. Please pray for: Jim Agnew, Terri Beasley, Bill Bolen, Drew Brandon, Sylvia Brannen, Margaret Brewer, Claire Burton, Orlena Bussie, Karl Collins, Marguerite DeFoe, Judy Cowning, Margaret Dannacher, Fred Denson, Dorothy Downs, Karen Dwyer, Chris Eaton, Les Fatica, Joe & Cassie Gay, David Greene, Madelyn Grovenstein, Kate Hall, Nola Hammond, Bob Haranda, Jordan Hathaway, Lue Healy, Kelly Howard, Mary Harrington, Jon Hart, Pat Jackson, Mattie James, Miranda Johnson, Peggy Kearns, Greyson Kennedy, Emily Kerstiens, John Kindig, Cecilia Krause, Maria LeFebvre, Marq Lett, Mellie London, Selah March, Sarah Mathis, Hugh and Linda McClendon, Ginger Morris, Cathy Orr, Bob Overlander, Brooks Padgett, Sandie Perrin, Rick and Kathy Poole, Dave Reichard, Denton and Margie Rouse, Audrey Senecal Sidway, April Shuman, Dot Sink, Shirley Smith, Carol Sowell, Steve Steinman, Katherine Strickland, Carolyn Strozzi, Joe Subarton, Joe Sutter, Sullivan family, Connie Tousley, Sharon Tracy, Shirley Wilson, Brian Wolnewitz, Morgan Wurst, Wurst Family, and their caregivers.

**Communion Ministry to the Sick/Homebound**

If someone needs to be added to the list for Communion Ministry to the Sick/Homebound, please contact Melinda Cannady at 681-6726.

**For those in the Military**

Trevor Alderman, Alax Baysinger, Audrey Brenden, Cole Carter, Christopher Doty, Ryan Erikson, David Liddell, Sean Limbach, Anthony Mullen, Lexi Murry, Brandon Luke Revenue, Lance Rewis, Matthew Robbins, Cody Stevens, Brian Sullivan, Sarah Sullivan, Sean Sullivan, Kevin Tyler, and James Ziegler.

**Volunteer Parish Nurse**

Mary Anderson is a retired registered nurse who shares her knowledge of the local medical community and resources with parishioners that seek or need a medical advocate for themselves or their loved ones. She also conducts blood pressure checks on Hospitality Sundays. She can be reached at 912-682-1147.

**STAFF DIRECTORY**

Fr. John Johnson, Pastor.....jjohnson@diosav.org or 912-681-6726  
 Fr. Douglas K. Clark (retired-in-residence).....912-681-6726  
 Fr. Tom Nellis (retired).....tfninboro@gmail.com  
 Deacon Mark Girardeau.....deaconmark@saintmatthewsparish.com  
 Deacon Mike McGrath.....deaconmike@saintmatthewsparish.com  
 Deacon John O'Malley.....deaconjohn@saintmatthewsparish.com  
 Helen Almeter, Pastoral Asst./DRE.....912-681-6726 ext. 203  
 Melinda Cannady, Parish Administrator.....912-681-6726  
 Ashley Slaughter, Development Dir.....aaut@saintmatthewsparish.com  
 David Wentworth, FOCUS Team Dir. ....david.wentworth@focus.org  
 Peter Vecchio, Music Director.....peteramgd@gmail.com

**The St. Matthew Consolation Ministry**

**Our Purpose:** To console those in grief, to support Masses for the deceased through the ministry's designated contributions, to pray for and with those who have suffered loss, and to pray the Rosary for comfort and healing.

**Our Mandate:** "Bear each other's burdens and so fulfill the Law of Christ." (Gal. 6:2)

**Contact:** Melinda Cannady at 912-681-6726 or mcannady@saintmatthewparish.com.

**Weekly Collection**

December 12, 2021 Offertory \$11,955.62  
 Online Giving \$1,999.91  
**Total \$13,955.53**

Due to an early Christmas week bulletin deadline, the offertory totals for the weekend of December 19th will be included in the January 2nd bulletin.

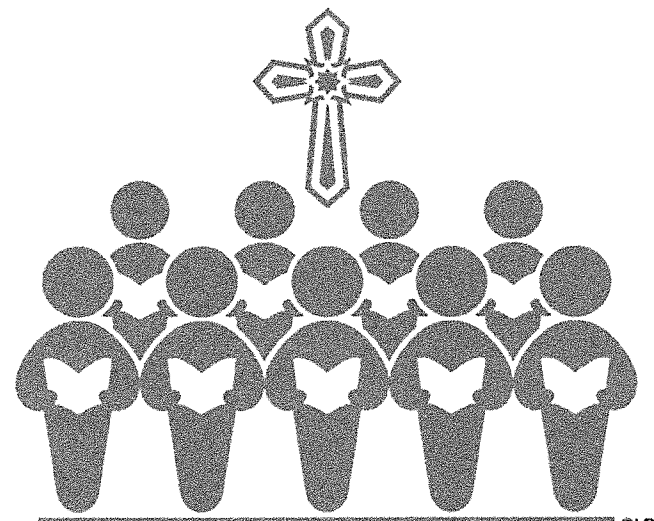
**Abuse Hotline Number:** To report sexual abuse of a minor by a Diocese of Savannah employee or volunteer, call the abuse hotline number, 888-357-5330, or the Office for the Protection of Children and Young People, 912-201-4074. To read the diocesan policy on sexual abuse of minors, go to [www.diosav.org/childyouthprotection](http://www.diosav.org/childyouthprotection).

**This Week at St. Matthew**

Date:	Activities:	Mass Intention:
Dec. 26 Sun.	8 am Mass 10:30 am Mass (Livestream) 5 pm Mass	+David Rhoney +Betty Boger
Dec. 27 Mon.	12:10 pm Mass	
Dec. 28 Tues.	12:10 pm Mass	
Dec. 29 Wed.	4:15 pm Rosary in Chapel 5 pm Confessions 5:30 pm Mass	
Dec. 30 Thurs.	8 am Men's Prayer Group 12:10 pm Mass	
Dec. 31 Fri.	12:10 pm Mass	Katie Grimm
Jan. 1 Sat.	10 AM Solemnity of Mary 5 pm Spanish Mass (Sunday Vigil)	

**Readings for the week of Dec. 26, 2021**

Sun: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52  
 Mon: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn 20:1a, 2-8  
 Tues: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18  
 Wed: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35  
 Thurs: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40  
 Fri: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18  
 Sat: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21  
 Next Sun: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12



**CHOIR NEWS**

Choir is back in session! We're prepping beloved Christmas Carols right now; a great time to try it out if you're interested. Family participation is encouraged with youngsters 7th grade and up invited. Contact Peter Vecchio with any questions or just show up at rehearsal on Thursdays at 7 pm.



**Mass on New Year's Day: 10 am**



**Parish Surveys available online and in print: January 9, 2022**

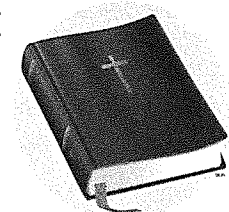
**Town Hall Listening Session: January 26, 2022 at 6 pm.**



It was the best of times and it was the worst of times. Our families can bring out the best and the worst in us. This is true of our families of origin, the current family of which we are a part, the family of our church, our society, and the like. In all of our family experiences, what stands out as our most challenging memory? Everything human can be found on the pages of family life, but there is also a Divine story to be discovered as well. When life gets difficult and perplexing, today's Feast of the Holy Family stands to remind us that it is not just by human effort that we tread treacherous waters. We have to remember and learn from the Divine effort too. We need this perspective if our love lessons are going to be learned completely and well. We are all works in progress and we all come from homes that are broken by imperfection. In whatever life brings us and in whatever family we find ourselves, may the promptings we feel toward faith and hope lead us to greater love. ©LPI

**Thursday Morning Bible Study**

The present members of the Thursday Morning Bible Study are now finishing their study of the Letter to the Hebrews and will be returning on the first Thursday of 2022, January 6th, to begin a study of the Gospel according to Mark. At that point, they will welcome any other parishioners who are fully vaccinated and wish to join them at 10:30 am in the Conference Room of the Parish Center. The text which will be used for this study is the "The Gospel of Mark" by Mary Healy, part of the Catholic Commentary on Sacred Scripture series. The easiest and quickest way to purchase a copy is through Amazon. If you are planning to come for the first time, please send me an email (tfninboro@gmail.com) so that we can be sure to have room enough for both old and new members.



- Fr. Tom Nellis

**2021 Contributions**

Donations to be included on the 2021 tax year should be received or postmarked by Dec. 31, 2021. Thank you for tithing!