



St. Matthew

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

The Holy Family / Sunday in the Octave of Christmas
December 29, 2024



Parish Purpose Statement

Our parish purpose is to use beauty and truth to inspire and develop disciples to transform the secular order by the grace of God, for His glorification and the edification of man.

OFFICE INFORMATION

Mon/Wed/Fri:
8:30 am - 11:30 am
12:30 pm - 3:30 pm

701 Church St.
Flint, MI 48502
(810)232-0880

StMatthewFlint.org

StMatthewCatholicChurchFlint

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday
11:00 am (OF), 1:00 pm (EF)

Mon/Tues/Wed/Fri
12:10 pm (OF)

First Saturday
9:00 am (EF)

OF: Ordinary Form
EF: Extraordinary Form

CONFESSION

Sunday: 2:30 pm
Monday: 5:00 - 6:30 pm
Saturday: 10:30 - 11:30 am

ADORATION

Monday: 12:40 - 7:00 pm

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Monday: 6:30 pm

PARISH INFORMATION

PARISH STAFF

PASTOR:
Fr. Anthony Strouse-franthonystrouse@flintcatholic.org

DEACON:
Dcn. Mark Danaho dcnmarkdanaho@flintcatholic.org

OFFICE MANAGER:
Position Available

MUSIC DIRECTOR:
Joseph Dobos josephdobos@flintcatholic.org

FAITH FORMATION:
Amanda Williams amandawilliams@flintcatholic.org

CAMPUS MINISTRY:
Tim Goodrich timgoodrich@flintcatholic.org

BOOKKEEPER:
Allison Gonser

MAINTENANCE DIRECTOR:
Michael Wilson michaelwilson@flintcatholic.org

CUSTODIAN:
Damien Johnson damienjohnson@flintcatholic.org

HALL RENTAL

Interested in renting Augustinian Hall, Undercroft or the gym for an event? Contact our facility manager at: rentals@flintcatholic.org

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

Submit items by Monday for publication in the following week's bulletin to: Amandawilliams@flintcatholic.org

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM - Call the office to make arrangements.

FIRST COMMUNION - If you believe your child is ready to receive his or her First Communion, there is no need to wait! Call the office to get the process started.

CONFIRMATION - If you or your child are seeking the sacrament of confirmation, please contact Amanda Williams at the parish office. We will begin prep for 2025 Confirmations in the fall of 2024.

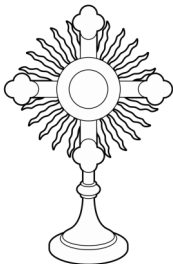
MATRIMONY - Contact Fr. Anthony at least 9 months in advance.

SACRAMENTAL PREP - We accept sacramental prep from Catholic schools as well as prep done at home. Call the office with any questions regarding your child's sacramental prep.

BECOMING CATHOLIC - If you are interested in becoming Catholic or just learning more, we look forward to helping you! Contact the parish office to setup a meeting.

ADORATION MONDAYS

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament occurs every Monday after the 12:10 pm daily Mass. Benediction is at 7:00 pm. Everyone is welcomed and encouraged to spend time with the Blessed Sacrament whenever is possible during our time of Adoration. It is an opportune time to pray, read, and reflect on our life. If you are interested in signing up to become a regular adorer, the sign up is located on our parish website. We are in special need of adorers from 3:00 to 5:00 pm.



WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS

Anticipated Weekly Income: \$6,100

SCAN FOR QUICK DONATION, THANK YOU! 

Week of:	December 1, 2024	December 8, 2024	December 15, 2024
Actual Income	\$ 6,715.14	\$ 5,203.79	\$ 6,922.13
Over (Under)	\$ 615.14	\$ (896.21)	\$ 822.13

LITURGICAL LIFE AT ST. MATTHEW

SUNDAY'S READINGS

Ordinary Form

Feast of the Holy Family

Sirach 3: 2-6, 12-14
Ps 128: 1-2, 3, 4-5
Colossians 3: 12-21
Luke 2: 41-52

Extraordinary Form

Sunday in the Octave of Christmas

Galatians 4: 1-7
Ps 44: 3, 2
Luke 2: 33-40

LECTOR SCHEDULE

December 31 (4:30)	JP McAvoy
January 1 (10:00)	K Downs
January 5	J Henry
January 12	K Gubert

MUSIC MINISTRY

"...and sing the love amazing..."

The lyrics to the Christmas carol "What Child Is This?" were written in 1865 by William Chatterton Dix. A prolific poet, Dix also composed the words to the hymn "For the Beauty of the Earth." The tune of "What Child Is This?" is known as "Greensleeves" which dates back to the time of Shakespeare. The lilting melodies of "Greensleeves" perfectly complement the text. The carol recounts the adoration of the shepherds and the Magi for the newborn King.

Joseph Dobos, Director of Sacred Music.
josephdobos@flintcatholic.org

MARRIAGE BANNS



The following parties are preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage. Any impediments regarding these couples, please inform the parish office immediately.

Michael Straub & Mikeyla Agopian

MASS INTENTIONS & EVENTS † (Deceased)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29

The Holy Family (New) / Sunday in the Octave of Christmas (Trad.)

11:00a The People of St. Matthew Parish
1:00p † Ferdie and Velma Savoie by the Hodack Family
2:30p Confessions

MONDAY, DECEMBER 30

12:00p Angelus
12:10p † Mary Ann Anibal by the Anibal Family
12:30p Adoration
5:00p Confessions
6:30p Vespers (Evening Prayer)
7:00p Benediction

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31 ** Offices Closed**

St. Sylvester I

4:30p Intentions of Jacob Foy

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1 ** Offices Closed**

Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Holy Mother of God (New) / Octave Day of the Nativity (Trad)

10:00p The People of St. Matthew Parish
12:30p Intentions of Christians in the Holy Land

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2

St. Basil the Great (New) / St. Gregory Nazianzen (New)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 3

The Most Holy Name of Jesus (New)

12:00p Angelus
12:10p † Robert Dailey by Pat Dailey

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4

St. Elizabeth Seton (New)

9:00a Intentions of Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Blondin by Dan Blondin
10:00a Potluck Breakfast
10:30a Confessions
11:35a Rosary Walk
6:30p Trivia Night (Augustinian Hall)

SAINT OF THE WEEK



Saint Sylvester I is venerated as a pivotal figure in the Church's history, serving as pope during a transformative era when Christianity emerged from persecution to become the favored religion of the Roman Empire under Emperor Constantine. His papacy, from 314 to 335, is celebrated for its spiritual leadership during the construction of foundational basilicas like St. John Lateran and St. Peter's, which became enduring symbols of the Church's universal mission. While not personally attending the Council of Nicaea, Sylvester sent legates to uphold orthodoxy against the Arian heresy, demonstrating his commitment to defending the faith. Tradition also honors him for his legendary role in baptizing Constantine, signifying the union of Church and state in divine providence. His feast day on December 31 invites us to reflect on the enduring legacy of the Church's early shepherds and their role in God's plan for salvation history.

St. Sylvester, pray for us!

DON ANTONIO'S DISPATCH

I hope your Christmas celebrations are going well! Remember, we celebrate Christmas for 8 days (the Octave of Christmas), and the Christmas Season in the Ordinary Form continues until the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. However, we also highlight the Twelve Days of Christmas, from Christmas Day to the Vigil of the Epiphany. This is where the song, "The Twelve Days of Christmas" comes from. To help you celebrate the Twelve Days of Christmas, we will be having a Christmas celebration for all parishioners on Sunday, 5 January at 3 p.m., beginning with the blessing of Epiphany Water in the church and continuing with a potluck dinner and festivities immediately following in Augustinian Hall.

This week, as we begin the Year of our Lord (Anno Domini) 2025, many people make resolutions to better themselves. Maybe consider a new spiritual practice in your life that you can begin that will help you love God and/or

neighbor more concretely. Remember that we have three Masses for the holyday: one on New Year's Eve, and two on New Year's Day. Happy New Year!!



Q&A with Fr. A is coming back. All parishioners are welcome to write any questions down and put them in the collection basket at Mass. Your question may be answered and featured in one of our future bulletins!

EXPLORING THE CATHOLIC FAITH

YOUTH GROUP

Our next meeting will be on **Monday, January 13 from 7:00 pm—8:30 pm. We will have a Teen Trivia Night! All Teens Welcome.** We will meet in the fieldhouse. Any teens interested in joining St. Matthew's youth group can sign up on the parish website.

GREATER FLINT AREA MEN'S GROUP

There will be no meetings the next two weeks due to Christmas and New Year's Day. The next meeting will be **Wednesday, January 8, 6:30-8:00pm in the church basement.**

LADIES STUDY GROUP

Tuesday evenings 6:30-8:00

Continuing our study of "How the Saints Shaped History" by local author, Randall Petrides. This book "focuses on the essential role of the saints as vessels of God's grace in moving the Church (and the world) through her two-thousand-year history.

Wednesday mornings 10:00-11:30

"A Right to be Merry" by Mother Mary Francis, PCC. "Can life really be 'merry' inside a Poor Clare cloister? This happy book reveals the challenges, cares and joys of that cloistered life." And it reminds us of the importance of their prayers for the sanctification of our world. Both meet at the home of Rae Ann Houbeck, Grand Blanc - 810-919-8696.

TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

The *Twelve Days of Christmas* in the Catholic tradition marks the period between the Nativity of Jesus Christ on December 25th and the Feast of the Epiphany on January 6th, celebrating key events in the life of Jesus and the early manifestations of His divinity. Each day holds spiritual significance, often honoring saints or sacred events within the Church's liturgical calendar. For example, December 26th is the Feast of St. Stephen, the first martyr, December 27th honors St. John the Apostle, the beloved disciple, who bore witness to Christ's divinity through his writings, and December 28th remembers the Holy Innocents, the children martyred by Herod. The culmination, Epiphany, highlights Christ's universal kingship and the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy.

Throughout the Twelve Days, We are invited to reflect on the profound mystery of the Incarnation—God becoming man—and to rejoice in the birth of the Savior. Traditionally, this was a time of extended celebration, feasting, prayer, and acts of charity, with each day serving as an opportunity to deepen one's spiritual life and share the joy of Christ's coming with others. This period continues to hold great significance in Catholic liturgy and culture, preserving its role as a time of reflection, gratitude, and joyous celebration of the Christmas season.

CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

The Magi came from the east seeking the newborn king. They traveled so very far to see him. They studied the stars and found this new star and wondered what it would mean for them? They turned toward King Herod for advice. The star guided the Magi to Jesus. When they found the child, they knelt and paid him homage. In the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, the children learn that homage involves making themselves small before the One who is so great. In these days of Christmas, how do we pay Him homage? How do we adore the Lord?

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

NORTH END SOUP KITCHEN

St. Matthew is signed up to assist at the North End Soup Kitchen on Thursdays. Come on out and give a hand. You can drop in from 2 pm to 5:30 pm, or sign up for a day on the parish website! This is a great outreach opportunity for the entire family!

HOPE IN THE BOX

There is a Hope in the Box for Catholic Charities container in the Narthex. Specific monthly needs are listed on the box, but any personal needs items can be donated at any-time. Thank you in advance for your donations.



COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY

We are looking for volunteers to be able to help at the Community Pantry at the former St. Pius X parish center. It would be on Tuesdays from 9:00 to 10:30 am. Please contact Karen at 810-287-2490 if you are interested.

MEALS FOR MOMS

If you are an expectant mother of the parish and would like to participate, fill out the form available on our website and we will be in contact with you.

If you are interested in getting notifications whenever we have new families that are in need of meals, please email us at stmatthewmealsformoms@gmail.com

IN & AROUND OUR PARISH

COFFEE & DONUTS

We will **NOT** have Coffee & Donuts on **January 5th**, due to the Twelfth Night Celebration later that afternoon.

Join us in the Undercroft for refreshments and fellowship after the 11 am Mass every 1st & 3rd Sundays of the Month! **Our next Coffee & Donuts will be on January 19th. Visit the parish website to sign up to bring Donuts for either 1st or 3rd Sunday, signing up is a one time commitment!**

TRIVIA NIGHT

& SOCK DRIVE

Bring a package of socks
for free entry & dinner

\$5 Entry/person
\$5 Taco Bar

All proceeds go towards the purchase of
socks for Catholic Charities

January 4 @ 6:30 PM
St. Matthew's Augustinian Hall
701 Church St. Flint 48502

Twelfth Night Celebration

January 5, 2025

*Come celebrate the last day of Christmas
and the Eve of Epiphany with us!*

3:00 pm - Epiphany Water Blessing (Church)
4:00 - Potluck Dinner & Celebration

www.StMatthewFlint.org

FIRST SATURDAY MASS & POTLUCK

Join us for the First Saturday Mass (EF) on **4 January at 9 am**. After Mass, join us for a potluck breakfast in the Augustinian hall. Sign up on the parish website.

SPECIAL MASS TIMES

For the Holy Day we have the following Mass times:

31 December—4:30 pm (OF)

1 January—10:00 am (OF) & 12:30 pm (EF)