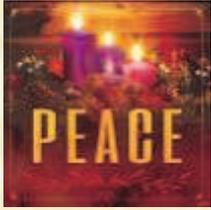


Saint Matthew Catholic Church

December 20, 2020

4th Sunday of Advent



And the angel said to her in reply, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God." Lk 1:35



Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve Mass
Thursday, December 24th

2:30 pm
4:30 pm
7:00 pm (Spanish)
10:00 pm

*Christmas Carols before 10 pm Mass

Christmas Day Mass
Friday, December 25th

7:30 am
9:00 am

"She will bear a son and you are to name Him Jesus, because He will save His people from their sins." Mt 1:21

Parish Center Office (Oficina)

(Behind school/atrás de la escuela)
221 S 28th Avenue - 715-842-3148

Christmas Week Office Hours (call 1st):

Monday: 9 am - 3pm
Tuesday: 1 pm - 3 pm
Wednesday: 9 am - 12 noon
Office Closed:

Thursday - Dec 24th, Christmas Eve
Friday - Dec 25th, Christmas Day

Website: www.stmatthewwausau.org
YouTube: St. Matthew Wausau
Facebook: St Matthew Catholic Church

Mass Schedule - Horario de Misas

Weekends: Saturday: 4:30 pm
Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:00 am
Español-Spanish: 12:00 noon

*The obligation to attend Sunday Mass & Holy Days has been dispensed by Bishop Callahan.

*Sunday Mass can be viewed on our website any time after 4 pm Saturday and all day Sunday.

Weekdays: Monday - Saturday: 8 am
*Weekday Masses live-streamed on YouTube.

Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction

Monday, Wednesday, & Friday: 9 am - 5 pm
Benediction at 4:50 pm

Guidelines for Attending Sunday Mass

- ❑ Face Masks are Required inside the Church. Please bring your own face mask. Hand sanitizer and some face masks are available at entrances.
- ❑ We welcome you to attend Mass. Please come 10 minutes early, so ushers can seat everyone before Mass begins. Social distancing guidelines are being followed.
- ❑ Accommodations will be made if attendance is greater than 120 individuals (25% occupancy)

Face Masks are Required in Church, the Parish Center, and the School.



The Joy of Christmas



It is December 13th, Sunday evening, as I write this Christmas message to you. Today's readings continued the theme of Advent preparation in anticipation of the great celebration of Christ's birth – the fullness of God's Love becoming flesh and dwelling among us. Isaiah, recalling his own anointing and call, reminds us of our anointing and our call to spread the good news and so "bring good tidings to the poor, heal the broken hearted, proclaim liberty to captives, and release to prisoners."

At the beginning of today's homily I called to mind a telegram my mother received from my dad on his way home from the navy at the end of World War II. In anticipation of the joy ahead, after the chains of war had been broken, he wrote to her: "Many wonderful years ahead!". We, too, await the birthday of our Redeemer in time and look forward with anticipation and joy to the "wonderful years ahead" to His second coming in time ... when all will be made new. Death will be destroyed forever, there will be no more war, no more tears, no fear, rather the love of God will rule over us all in a new life of eternal joy.

As we prepare for the celebration of Christ's birth and anticipate His second coming, Paul gives us clues about proper mental and spiritual formation of our minds and hearts. He says to the Thessalonians (and us) "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing and in all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you ..." (1Thess 5).

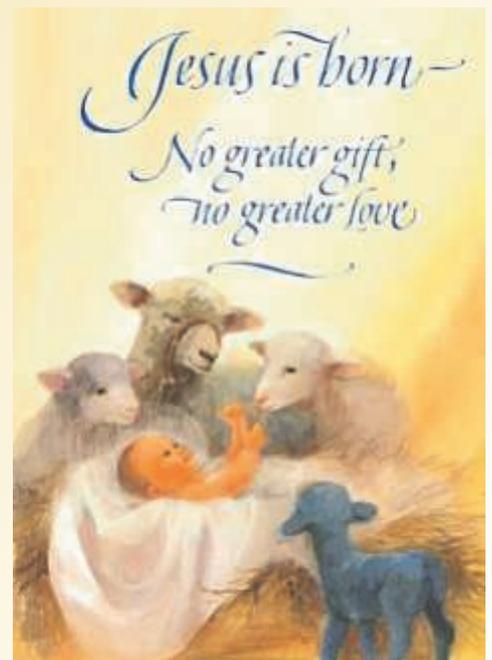
We must train our hearts and minds to live in joy, to not allow the world around us, the trials and fears, to overcome our inner peace, which is the Holy Spirit dwelling within us. "Do not quench the Spirit." Paul said to the Thessalonians. When we cease to pray or fail to give thanks, when we carry a grudge or spread fear or anger, we are quenching the Spirit. Instead, we must put on a new self and "rejoice heartily in the Lord"; remove the robes of sin and despair, fear and unhappiness, and be clothed with "a robe of salvation and wrapped in a mantle of justice." This comes about when we make a decision for Christ, to rejoice, even when we feel down, to pray always, to bring Christ into every moment of our lives, and to give thanks in all circumstances ... by thanking God for each and every person we encounter every day and for all the gifts we have received.

Several years ago Pope Benedict XVI reflected on the true value of Christmas as he spoke to people in a small Italian village: "Joy is the real gift of Christmas, not expensive things that cost time and money," Joy can be spread in any number of simple ways: "a smile, an act of kindness, a helping hand, even forgiveness." By bringing joy to others, joy will soon come back to those who gave it, he said.

The greatest gift God has given us is His Son Jesus, who came to break the bonds of death, to set us free from the power of Satan and bring us healing and peace. We rejoice in this great gift, in our freedom, as we celebrate, worship and adore during the Christmas season and each time we gather to celebrate the Eucharist – where we share His life with us, the Body and Blood of His Son Jesus.

Have a most blessed and holy Christmas!

Fr Bob



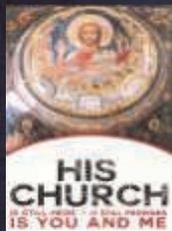
La Crosse Diocese Televised Mass
Wausau TV channels (Ch):
 Cable & Satellite: Ch 12 at 6:30 am Sunday
 Public Access: Ch 980 at 6 pm Sat, 9 am Sun

La Crosse Diocese Weekday Mass:
 Mass is available any time of day at:

- www.dioc.org/live
- www.dioc.org/tvmas;
- YouTube: www.youtube.com/user/dioceoseoflacrosse
- Facebook: www.facebook.com/pg/diocl/videos

EWTN: www.ewtn.com/tv/watch-live; EWTN App; YouTube Channel, & TV Sunday and daily Masses are at 7 am, 11 am, 6 pm & 11 pm

Relevant Radio: www.relevantradio.com & on Relevant Radio App
 Live-streamed Sunday and daily Masses: 12 noon Sunday - Saturday.
 Previous Masses available 30 minutes after live broadcast.

Diocesan Annual Appeal 2020-2021
 Target: \$72,700

Thank you for your generosity to the
 Diocesan Annual Appeal!

Wishing you a very Blessed and Merry Christmas
 and a Healthy, Happy New Year!



Visiting and Anointing of the Sick
 With the current covid 19 situation, hospital and nursing home visits by a priest are not always allowed. If you or a loved one would like to receive the **Sacrament of the "Anointing of the Sick"**, please call as soon as possible:
 Dorothy at (715-432-5519) or the Parish Center (715-842-3148)

When you know in advance that you are going to the hospital for a procedure, it will be easier for a priest to come to your home to anoint you. The hospital and nursing homes may not always allow visitors.

Often we have not received information from the hospital when a parishioner has been admitted, so please call us to let us know. Even if Fr Bob or Fr Juan Pedro are not able to visit the hospital or nursing home, you and your loved ones can be prayed for. Critically ill patients may receive exceptions for a priest to come to provide them with the Sacraments, so please notify us. Thank you!



Dear St Matthew Parishioners,
A belated "Happy Thanksgiving"! Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your donations to Helping Hands using the November church envelope. Your caring and giving will be used to help those who are most vulnerable in Kenya, Africa to make their daily lives a little easier, by either giving a family a bed w/mattress, a water tank, an outdoor latrine, school supplies and so many other ways your donation will be used to help your brothers & sisters in Kenya. God Bless you for giving **HOPE to so many. We're wishing each of you a Christmas of PEACE & JOY!**



Helping Hands



Heaters for Sale
 Heaters used to heat the school when boiler was out are available for sale.
 Original cost: \$80.00 Make an Offer!
 If you are interested, call Jason at:
 715-581-2005

Celebration of Sacraments

Confession - Saturday: 11:00 am - 12 noon
 or by Appointment

Baptism - A Baptism Preparation Class must be attended by the parents. The Godparents are encouraged to attend. You must register one week before the class by calling the Parish Center at 715-842-3148.

Next Baptism Class: Monday, January 11: 6:30 pm

Bautismo - Para Bautismos los padres y padrinos deben tomar una clase de preparaci3n. Generalmente las clases son el primer martes de cada mes a las 6:30 pm en el centro parroquial. Para mayor informes y registrarse para la clase llame a Joy al 715-842-3148.

Marriage - Contact Fr Bob 6 months in advance for arrangements.

Anointing of the Sick - Call Dorothy at 715-432-5519 to make arrangements for:

- ▣ Anointing of the Sick - available when you are seriously ill or before a scheduled surgery.
- ▣ Visits to the Homebound - visits to your home, assisted living facility, or nursing home.

Hospital Visits - Let the hospital know when you are admitted that you would like to have Fr Bob or Fr Juan Pedro visit you.

In Need of Prayer? - Our prayer group is always ready to pray for you when you need extra prayer. Call Bonnie at 715-675-9876.
 * You may also call the Parish Center at 715-842-3148



COVID Vaccines are very close – Which ones are ethical?
 Some COVID vaccines are being developed using cell lines from aborted children. Others are not. Visit:
www.usccb.org/resources/memo-bishops-vaccines-covid-19



Heroic Men Website: www.heroicmen.com
 Offering more than 100 feature-length films, TV shows, documentaries and short films, Heroic Men seeks to source the best Catholic media available and bring it all to you, all in one place.
 It is a 100% FREE Catholic streaming platform designed especially for men who want to discover (or re-discover) the truth, beauty and goodness of the Catholic faith.
 Tell others about this great website!



Religious give thanks!
“Thank you’ hardly seems adequate to convey what it means to us,” says a Catholic sister regarding the financial assistance her community received from the Retirement Fund for Religious. Prayer-filled thanks for your donation to last week’s second collection!



Mary Mother of Good Help Parish appreciates all those who have annually supported Super Roll Sunday! Due to COVID-19 and its impact on activities, Mary Mother of Good Help Parish has decided that Super Roll Sunday will not take place this February 2021. Mary Mother of Good Help Parish looks forward to hopefully continuing Super Roll Sunday in 2022!
 Prayers for good health and blessings to all our patrons during this continuing time of pandemic!



This Week at Saint Matthew

“We Wish You a Blessed and Merry Christmas”

Monday, December 21

Advent Virtual Parish Mission - Angelorum: 6:30 pm
Los Posadas - School Cafeteria: 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Tuesday, December 22

Advent Virtual Parish Mission - Angelorum: 9:00 am
Bible Study - Church, Angelorum: 10:30 am - 12 noon
Bible Study - Church, Angelorum: 6:30 - 8:00 pm
Los Posadas - School Cafeteria: 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Wednesday, December 23

Los Posadas - School Cafeteria: 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Thursday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

8:00 am Daily Mass
2:30 pm Christmas Eve Mass
4:30 pm Christmas Eve Mass
7:00 pm Spanish Christmas Eve Mass
10:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass (with Carols before)
Parish Center Closed



Friday, December 25 - Christmas Day - Holy Day

May you have a Blessed Christmas Day!
7:30 am Christmas Mass
9:00 am Christmas Mass
Parish Center Closed
No Eucharistic Adoration Today

Parish Staff (715-842-3148)

Pastor: Rev Robert C Thorn - frbob@stmatthewausau.org
Assoc Pastor: Rev Juan Pedro Roblez Baltazar - frjuan@stmatthewausau.org
Deacon: Rev Mr Tom Tierney
Pastoral Care: Dorothy Gialombardo - dorothy@stmatthewausau.org
Finance Secretary: Barb Splinter - barbfinance@stmatthewausau.org
Plant Manager: Jason Seliger
DRE & Hispanic RE: Joy Orozco - joydre@stmatthewausau.org
Bulletin Editor: Rosemary Beever - rosemarybulletin@stmatthewausau.org

Early Bulletin Submission Deadline

Send announcements to: rosemarybulletin@stmatthewausau.org

Deadline to Submit Announcements: For Bulletin on This Weekend:

Sunday, December 27 by 2:00 pm January 3, 2021



Minimum Amount Needed Weekly
per Budget.....\$9,612.00

Sunday CollectionTo Be Announced

Calendar Raffle Winner: December 14 - To Be Announced

Parish Contributions: Our weekly offertory collection provides the necessary funds to meet our financial obligations - staff payroll, insurance payments, utility bills, building maintenance, etc. While public Masses are limited at this time, our daily work of parish and pastoral ministry will continue on. Please consider sending your weekly donations by:

- Mail (St Matthew Parish, 221 S 28th Ave, Wausau, WI 54401)
- Monthly Electronic Funds Transfer from your bank (to set up, contact Barb at: 715-842-3148 or email: barbfinance@stmatthewausau.org).
- Bill Pay through your Bank (contact your bank to set up).
- Online Giving: (via credit card or direct debit)
 - www.stmatthewausau.org/donations (one-time donations)
 - www.stmatthewausau.org/payments (recurring donations available)



Mass Intentions

December 21 - 27, 2020



Monday 8:00 am - †Falparsí Perez
Tuesday 8:00 am - †Rick Henrichs
Wednesday 8:00 am - Living & †Deceased McKinnon & Jilek Families
Thursday 8:00 am - †Alicia Orozco

Christmas Eve Masses

Thursday 2:30 pm - †Patricia Grall
4:30 pm - †Patrick McDonald
†John Parker

Spanish 7:00 pm - Living & †Deceased Butzen & Beaver Families
10:00 pm - †Tom and †Kyle Miilu

Christmas Day Masses

Friday 7:30 am - Fr Carlos Orozco
St Matthew Parishioners and Families
9:00 am - †Don Southworth

Saturday 8:00 am - †Falparsí Perez
4:30 pm - †George Waldvogel

Sunday 8:00 am - †James A Radtke
10:00 am - †Jenny Hack
12 noon - St Matthew Parishioners



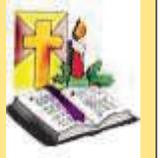
This Week's Scripture Readings

Monday, December 21 - St Peter Canisius, Priest/Doctor of Church
Zep 3:14-18/Ps 33/Lk 1:39-45

Tuesday, December 22
1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-8/Lk 1:46-56

Wednesday, December 23 - Saint John of Kanty, Priest
Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25/Lk 1:57-66

Thursday, December 24 - Christmas Eve
Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16/Ps 89/Lk 1:67-79
Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25
Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14



Friday, December 25 - Nativity of the Lord - Holy Day
Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20
Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18

Saturday, December 26 - Saint Stephen, the First Martyr
Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31/Mt 10:17-22

Sunday, December 27 - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Ps 105/Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/Lk 2:22-40

Christmas - Liturgical Ministers

Thursday December 24 2:30 pm	Thursday December 24 4:30 pm	Thursday December 24 10:00 pm	Friday December 25 7:30 am	Friday December 25 9:00 am
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Lectors				
Theresa Stubbe	Mary Holm	Mike Jilek	Jim Low	Peggy Bant

Weekend - Liturgical Ministers

Saturday December 26 4:30 pm	Sunday December 27 8:00 am	Sunday December 27 10:00 am
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Lectors		
Mary Holm	Jim Low	Lynn Meyer

Musicians		
Cindy Blair Anne Paul	Jim Washebek Annette Southworth	Gordon Crow Nancy Losinski



*Wishing you the gift of faith,
the blessing of hope
and the peace of His love
at Christmas and always.*

*We wish you a joyous Christmas
and blessings in the coming New Year.*

*Father Bob, Father Juan Pedro
and the
Staff at St Matthew Parish*



Decorating the Church and Angelorum for Christmas
Sunday, December 20th at 1:30 pm
Join us in preparing our church to celebrate
the birth of Jesus.



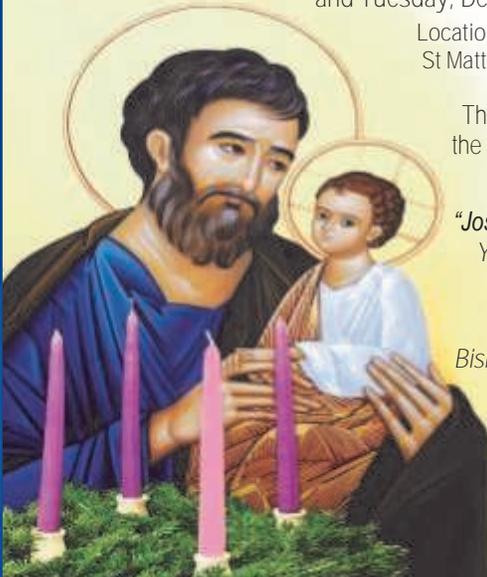
This Christmas Shop at
"AmazonSmile"
St. Matthew Parish will get a
"donation gift" from AmazonSmile
at no extra cost to you. To sign up go to:
www.smile.amazon.com
In the search bar for choosing your
"charitable organization" type:
St. Matthew Parish Wausau
Then choose "St. Matthew Parish" as
your *charitable organization*.
AmazonSmile has the same
products as Amazon.
Merry Christmas Shopping!



ADVENT VIRTUAL PARISH MISSION

Preparing for the Birth of the Christ Child
through the Eyes of St Joseph

Monday, December 21st at 6:30 pm
and Tuesday, December 22nd at 9 am
Location:
St Matthew Church Angelorum



This is the last week of
the Advent Virtual Parish
Mission.

**"Joseph, Son of David...
You are to give Him
the Name Jesus"**

Presented by
Bishop William Callahan

For information call:
Kitty @ 715-297-7988 or
Kathy @ 715-571-4495

To view online please
visit: diolc.org/advent

Sacrament of Baptism
*"I baptize you in the name
of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit."*



We welcome into the Catholic Faith:
Baptized Saturday, December 5, 2020

Leslie Adilen Lobo Mireles
Daughter of Eduin and Ana
Edwin Jariel Lobo, Jr.
Son of Eduin and Ana
Congratulations!
May Jesus be your dearest companion!

Buy **SCRIP Gift Cards**
for Everyone
this Christmas!!!
They make great gifts
& help the parish!



SCRIP can be bought at the Parish Center
and we will begin selling Scrip after some
weekend Masses in the Angelorum
(observing social distancing protocols).
For any questions on dates Scrip will be
sold, or to volunteer to help sell Scrip,
call the Parish Center at: 715-842-3148.

Thank you for buying SCRIP!
Merry Christmas!

Donations for Advent and Christmas
Candles and Flowers




To beautify the church and sanctuary and to
honor the birth of Jesus you may donate a
candle or flowers in memory of loved ones.

Place your donations in an envelope, include your name and the name of the
person you are remembering and put in the collection basket at Mass or mail to:
(St Matthew Parish Center, 221 S. 28th Ave, Wausau, WI 54401)

Thank You and May You have a Blessed Christmas Season!!!