

**Late Advent Weekdays****Monday, December 21st***Saint Peter Canisius*

Daily Mass 8:30 AM: **Edward Densmore, Jr.** (D)  
 Daily Mass 12:00 PM: **Homebound Parishioners** (L)

**Tuesday, December 22nd**

Mass 8:30 AM: **Sylvester Ezeani, Jr.** (L)

**Wednesday, December 23rd***Saint John of Kanty*

Daily Mass 8:30 AM: **Emmanuel Foli** (L)

*Christmas Eve***Thursday, December 24th**

Daily Mass 8:30 AM: **Richard Kosko** (D)

Vigil Mass 4:00 PM: **Priest's Intentions**  
 Night Mass 10:00 PM: **Priest's Intentions**

**The Nativity of the Lord**  
**Friday, December 25th**

Mass 8:00 AM: **Priest's Intentions**  
 Mass 9:45 AM: **Priest's Intentions**  
 Mass 11:30 AM: **Priest's Intentions**  
 Mass 1:30 PM: **Priest's Intentions**

**Saturday, December 26th***Saint Stephen*

Daily Mass 8:30 AM: **Martine Hoba** (L)

***The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph*****Saturday, December 26th**

Mass 4:00 PM: **Carleigh Paolino** (L)  
 Mass 7:00 PM: **Isaura Garcia** (D)

**Sunday, December 27th**

Mass 8:00 AM: **Aitcheson Family** (L)  
 Mass 9:45 AM: **George Johnson, Jr.** (D)  
 Mass 11:30 AM: **Jude and Florence Nwoko** (L)  
 Mass 6:00 PM: **Rev. William Goode** (D)

***Please pray for the sick and homebound in our parish,  
 our neighbors, family, and friends:***

Florence Asonglefac; Elaine Brooks; Yvette Butler;  
 Rose Chisefsky; Deacon Alton Davis; Charlene Dawson;  
 Eugene Diggs III; Chunyere Duru; Rosita Dietrich; Helen  
 Dziduch; Patricia Farland; Carole Gallo; John Graham;  
 Genevieve Greenfield; William Halbe; Jan Jarus;  
 Joseph Johnson; Edward Kin; Joan Kodak; Luz Naval;  
 Gustavo Paz; Bill Pinchback; Bruce Prout; Audrey Rebello;  
 Jane Smidinger; Evelyn Turley; Humphrey Udejiofor;  
 Bernadette Wilson, Mae Young; Ziara Zanin; Don Zehner;  
 Rita and Eugene Zehner

**Stewardship Report**

**Due to the early deadline for printing this  
 bulletin, the Stewardship Report for December  
 13th will appear in next week's bulletin.**

**Items of Note at St. Matthias**

**The 2021 Saint Joseph Sunday Missals** are available  
 in the parish office during regular business hours.  
**Cost is \$ 5.00**

**Grief Support:** The holidays are just around the  
 corner and can be a difficult time for those grieving  
 losses from death or other tragedies. For information  
 about our grief support program, please contact  
 Miriam Jacik at 301-345-6054.



**Open Windows in Church:** To  
 comply with local and state guidelines,  
 we need to keep the air circulating in  
 the church when services are  
 conducted. Fans are used, and  
 windows must remain open. With cold  
 weather here, please dress for cooler air  
 temperatures in the church.

**Offertory Envelopes for 2021:** If you are a  
 registered parishioner who currently uses weekly  
 offertory envelopes, please note that your 2021  
 envelopes for January and February will be mailed to  
 you later this month. ***Please check your mail  
 carefully!*** Be sure to notify the parish office of your  
 new address if you have moved recently.

**The Parish Office  
 Will be Closed  
 Thursday, December 24th  
 Friday, December 25th  
 Friday, January 1st**

**Open Thursday, December 31st  
 8:00 AM—12:00 PM**



## The Academy of Saint Matthias

**Shopping Online?** If you purchase items through Amazon, please go to [smile.Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) and select Saint Matthias Catholic Church as your charity. Our school will receive a portion of your purchases as a donation. Thank you for your support!



**School Raffle Ticket Fundraiser:**  
Our annual raffle begins March 1st. Each winner will receive \$ 500! Drawings will be held the 1st and 15th of each month through June. Tickets are \$ 10.00 each, and may be purchased after weekend Masses or at the school and parish offices. *Raffle tickets make great stocking stuffers!*

### Family Connection

One of the challenges of faith is to recognize God's plan for us and to remain open to God's will and God's actions in our world. Filled with God's grace, Mary models for us the kind of faith that is needed to cooperate in God's plan of salvation. Like Mary, we are given the awesome opportunity to cooperate in God's saving plan. On this final Sunday of Advent, our Gospel invites us to consider how our preparations for Christmas have made us more aware of God's grace working in our lives.

Gather together your family and talk about what you have been doing as a family to prepare for Christmas. How have these preparations helped you to better celebrate the central mystery of Christmas, the Incarnation? Our Gospel today talks about how Mary was prepared for her role in Christ's birth. Read today's Gospel, Luke 1:26-38. Consider the question: What enabled Mary to say yes to God? Which of your Advent activities have made you more aware of God's grace in your life? Conclude in prayer together that God's grace will enable your family to be more faithful and obedient to God. Pray together the *Magnificat*.

My soul magnifies the Lord  
And my spirit rejoices in God my Savior;  
Because He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaid;  
For behold, henceforth all generations shall call me blessed;  
Because He who is mighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is His name;  
And His mercy is from generation to generation  
on those who fear Him.  
He has shown might with His arm,  
He has scattered the proud in the conceit of their heart.  
He has put down the mighty from their thrones,  
and has exalted the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things,  
and the rich He has sent away empty.  
He has given help to Israel, his servant, mindful of His mercy  
Even as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his posterity  
forever.

## Giving Tree

**The Ladies of Charity** wish to thank you for participating in the parish Giving Tree project. Your gifts made the holidays brighter for those in need.

### Knights of Columbus

**Tickets for the 51st Annual Car Raffle** are available at the parish office and may also be obtained from a member of the Knights of Columbus after weekend Masses. The grand prize is a 2021 Ford Mustang (or \$ 18,000 cash). Tickets are \$ 1.00 each and proceeds benefit scholarship programs and local charities. For more information, contact Thad Ereme at 301-459-4814 x 207.



### Advent & Christmas Schedule

**Monday, December 21st**  
*Confessions 7:00-7:45 PM*  
*(Adoration 6:00-8:00 PM)*

**Christmas Eve, December 24th**  
*Daily Mass 8:30 AM*  
*Masses 4:00 PM & 10:00 PM*

**Christmas Day, December 25th**  
*Masses at 8:00 AM, 9:45 AM, 11:30 AM*  
*1:30 PM (Spanish)*

**Thursday, December 31st**  
*Daily Mass 8:30 AM*  
*"Crossover" Mass 11:00 PM*

**Friday, January 1st**  
**Solemnity of the Holy Mother of God**  
*(A Holy Day of Obligation)*  
*Mass 8:30 AM*  
*Bilingual Mass 10:30 AM*

#### Celebrant Mass Schedule for Dec. 26/27

4:00 PM	Fr. Jack
7:00 PM	Fr. Russo
8:00 AM	Fr. Jack
9:45 AM	Fr. Jack
11:30 AM	TBD
6:00 PM	Fr. Jack