

Families and the Gospel - Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

At this time of the year we are very conscious of our family as we make preparations for Christmas. Today's gospel warns us not to be consumed by all the consumer activity. This Advent appreciate the gift of people in your life. The best gift this season might be your appreciation of others.

Basket of Cheer – Knights of Columbus tickets \$2/each or 3 for \$5. Drawing Date will be December 12, 2024.



This week begins a new liturgical year. You will notice a different version of missalettes in the pews. These missalettes are for the entire liturgical year and will also replace the Glory and Praise Hymnals. The hymnals will be stored for usage when needed. Please be kind and **do not** dog-ear the pages.

School News: St. Matthew School will be participating in the Tyrone Cookie walk, downtown from 5 pm to 8 pm on **December 6th**.

You are invited to celebrate the birth of Jesus with our St. Matthew School students at their annual Christmas program beginning at 6:30 pm in Harkin's Hall on **December 11th**. Free of charge and refreshments will follow. Come share the excitement that children bring to this special day.

Franciscan Living Nativity – Help the Franciscan Friars, TOR celebrate their 100th Year Jubilee by joining us on the campus of St. Bernardine Monastery on **Saturday, Dec. 14th at 4 pm** to be part of our own children's Living Nativity. There will be a nativity service followed by refreshments and a chance for a visit and photo with Santa! The Friar's Nook Gift Hope will be open until 6 pm.

Available in the Gathering Space

- Lector workbooks for 2025.
- Advent candles \$7.00 per box.
- Advent pamphlets **"God With Us"** advent reflections by Henri Nouwen, Thomas Merton and St. Mother Teresa
- Christmas Oplatki Wafers
- 2025 Calendars

Dates of Importance:

December 7th – Tyrone Christmas Parade at 4 pm. featuring the Knights of Columbus float carrying St. Matthew School & Religious Ed. students. Participants arrive at 3:30 pm next to Neptune Fire Co.

December 8th – Angel Tree and Saint Nicholas Tree items due. Submission to the Proclaim magazine for the Jubilee due. Christmas Altar Flower orders due.

December 10th – Allegheny Chorale Christmas Concert at 7 pm at the Presbyterian Church

December 15th – St. Matthew Family Christmas Tree ready to receive your family decoration.

December 15th – Reconciliation Service at St. Joseph in Bellwood at 5 pm. There will not be a reconciliation service at St. Matthew.

December 22nd – Church decorating at 11:30 am. All ages are welcome and lunch will be provided.

Surprise Ending



"Jesus said to them, 'When the terror begins, stand upright and hold your heads high, because your liberation is near.'" Luke 21: 28

THOUGHTS ON STEWARDSHIP AS A WAY OF LIFE

"But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand." Luke 21: 28

We celebrate Advent each year in preparation for the birth of Jesus, His first coming, as we await His second coming. What will you do differently this Advent season to grow in friendship and love with Jesus? How will you inspire others to do the same? Start by sharing your God story with others, especially those closet to you. Invite and accompany them on their faith journey this Advent.

**SAINT MATTHEW
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
1105 Cameron Avenue
Tyrone, PA 16686**

Pastor: Reverend Father Michael Pleva
Phone: (814) 684-1480 (Parish Office & Rectory)
Fax: (814) 684-7969
Website: www.church.stmatthew-school.org
Email: stmatthewtyrone@gmail.com

Parish Office Staff:
Financial & Administrative Assistant: Deborah Zakrzwski

Office Hours:
Monday 9:00 am to 12:00 pm
Wednesday & Friday 8:30 am to 3:30 pm

Director of Religious Education: Lauren Wright
Call: (814) 312-0969 or email: lwright@dioceseaj.org

Director of Music: Leslie Estep
Call: (814) 684-4899 or email: lime458@verizon.net

Elementary to High School Classes: (Grades K-11):
Sunday mornings 9:00 am to 10:15 am (weekly during the school year)

OCIA: Susan Burkholder (814) 684-0352

Pastoral Council - Jason Terosky (814) 883-0077
Finance Council - Dennis Rozick (814) 684-5511
Cemetery Committee - Shirley Hall (814) 931-0657

Saint Matthew Catholic School
"serving our community since 1869"
Principal: Pauline Wiley
School Phone: (814) 684-3510
School web-site: www.stmatthew-school.org

We welcome all visitors. If you live in the area, please call the Parish Office to register and become an active member of our parish family.

If you would like to have a MASS celebrated for the deceased members of your family, or friends, or for special intentions, please stop by or call the parish office.



December 1, 2024

Weekend Mass Schedule: Saturday at 5:30 pm
Sunday at 7:30 am
Sunday at 10:30 am
Weekday Mass Schedule: Wed., Thurs. & Friday at 8:00 am
Holy Day of Obligation Mass Schedule: 9:00 am & 6:00 pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday at 12:30 pm
or anytime upon request.
Saint Joseph Church in Bellwood: Saturday at 4:00 pm or Sunday at 9:00 am and the Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated on Saturday at 3:30 pm.

First Sunday of Advent
Mass Schedule & Intentions

November 30, 2024 – December 8, 2024

- Sat. 5:30 pm Francis Hagg** – wife, Martha and Daughter, Ann
- Sun. 7:30 am Happy Birthday Blessings to Father Michael**
- Sun. 10:30 am Adrian Eberhart** – Jeff Eberhart family
- Mon. 8:00 am St. Joseph
- Tues. 6:00 pm St. Joseph
- Wed. 8:00 am Descendants fo the Gurekovich Family – JR & Susie Gurekovich
- Thurs. 8:00 am Donna Pavlic – John Pavlic
- Fri. 8:00 am Nicholas Zane – Mom and Dad
- Fri. 8:30-9:30 am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament followed by Benediction**
- Sat. 5:30 pm Cindy Hampton** – Robert Hampton
- Sun. 7:30 am Phyllis Good** – Mike & Becky Rozick
- Sun 10:30 am For the People - Pastor**



Sanctuary Candle for the week of December 1st is in memory of Nicholas Zane requested by Mom and Dad.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES SCHEDULE

Weekdays J Ieraci

Lectors – Dec. 7 and Dec. 8, 2024

Sat. 5:30 pm S Gavazzi, J Rumberer
 Sun. 7:30 am A Lynn, B Hiergeist
 Sun. 10:30 am H Quinn, I Weber

Extraordinary Ministers Eucharist Dec. 7 and Dec. 8, 2024

Sat. 5:30 pm † K Rafetto, M Raffetto, P Lambert
 Sun. 7:30 am † S Zakrzwski, D Zakrzwski, L Grove
 Sun. 10:30 am † L Wright, M Morse, S Thomas

Altar Servers: Dec. 7 and Dec. 8, 2024

Sat. 5:30 pm G Vaughn, K Shaffer
 Sun. 10:30 am M Weber, C Weber

Financial Report – November 24, 2024

Regular Weekly (Sunday) Collection \$5,779 \$9(children)

Beginning July 1, 2024 and Ending June 30, 2025

Year to date Sunday Collection Income \$ 113,806

2024 Year to date Bingo Net Income	\$ 33,959
Second Collection	\$ 275
SMS Catholic School Envelopes	\$ 122
Religious Education Envelopes	\$ 5
Good Samaritan	\$ 310

2024 Catholic Ministries Drive TARGET \$ 29,219
 CMD Donations for 2024 \$ 83,729

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND GENEROSITY! Please remember that one can have a lot of money but still live a really poor life and one can have no money at all and live a really rich life, that's because what makes a person truly rich is not how much they have but how much they give.

Rest in Peace - Please pray for the repose of the souls of Connie Steinbeiser, wife of Richard Steinbeiser and Lee Wertz, Father of Ann, Susan, Barbara, and Jim. May God grant them eternal peace in His kingdom and their loved ones comfort and strength.

Available in the Gathering Space

- Lector workbooks for 2025.
- Advent candles \$6.00 per box.
- Advent pamphlets “God With Us” will daily advent reflections.
- Christmas Oplatki Wafers
- 2025 Calendars



We are updating the prayer list for our ill and homebound. Beginning on December 1, 2024 all names will be removed. We ask that you contact the office with the names of those who need our prayers and we will put them on our prayer list. Names of those who have requested our prayers will remain on the list for six months. Throughout the six months, we will always add your requests. After six months, names will be removed and we ask those who want to be added or remain on the list to please call the office.

Stewardship Reflection

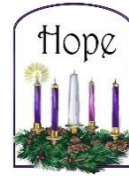
We have arrived at the powerful season of Advent, a season to prepare with awe and gratitude for the Feast of the Incarnation of Jesus, born to us as Savior and Brother. A season to prepare for His return at the end of time. It is also a moment to remind ourselves that our individual judgement day is coming too – the moment when we will be called to give an account for all the love God has shown us and the gifts He has given us during our lifetime.

‘God reveals His perfect and infinite love for us most visibly in His son, Jesus Christ. A steward makes God’s love visible by imitating Jesus ... Stewardship is the response of the disciple to God’s unconditional love for us. Stewards bask in the wonder and awe of God’s love’, from The Pillars of Parish Stewardship. In other words, Advent is a steward’s season!

Get ready Christian stewards! He’s coming! Let us prepare with awe and wonder.



The Altar flowers this weekend are in memory of Adrian Eberhart requested by the Jeff Eberhart Family.



The first Advent Candle symbolizes hope. Every 25 years the Church celebrates a special Holy Year called the Jubilee Year. This Jubilee will begin with the opening of the Holy Door of Saint Peter’s Basilica in Rome on Christmas Eve, 2024. The theme of the Jubilee Year is HOPE. It is a time for us to realize that “hope does not disappoint” when it is rooted in the knowledge that God has committed himself to us in *Emmanuel*, “God with us.”

2025 Jubilee Year

Pope Francis has welcomed the Universal Church in 2025 to set their eyes and hearts on the Hope Jesus Christ offers us as we journey together as pilgrims of faith in a very diverse world.

Deadline of submissions for entry in the Proclaim Magazine or December 8th for entries on display at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Altoona, PA and other Diocesan gathering during the year. Application forms are in the Gathering Space or contact the parish office.

Pro-Life Christmas Cards Available! Citizens Concerned for Human Life (CCHL), Blair County Chapter, has Christmas cards for sale. Several designs are offered this year. Packages of 11 cards are available for \$9. Your purchase helps support the pro-life work of CCHL in Blair County. To order, please call Chris Stoner at 814-931-8088.

Good Shepherd Advent Retreat on Saturday, December 7th from 8:30 am to 3 pm. Join us for a retreat presented by Brian Pusateri, founder of Broken Door Ministries. Brian is no ordinary speaker. His life story weaves through faith, resilience, and a profound message of God’s Mercy. This is a message that resonates deeply with broken hearts seeking healing. Think of the care you put into choosing the right gift for your loved ones. How does that compare to the gift of God gave us in Jesus? Because of our brokenness we are often scared to open His gift. Take time out to discover how God’s mercy can heal our

brokenness and lead us to become a gift to others. Register at <https://www.goodshepherd-sc.org>

All ages are invited to an **Interactive Nativity-Christmas Carol Sing-Along after the 11 am Mass at Holy Rosary Church on Sunday, December 1, 2024**, the First Sunday of Advent. We will have snacks, activities, and Christmas Cards to sign for the shut-ins and the veterans. We will also have a free raffle of a Thomas Kinkade Lionel Train Set for those who are present. Please call Holy Rosary Rectory 814-944-6676 to register before Thanksgiving.

Good Shepherd Parish (867 Gray’s Woods Boulevard, Port Matilda, PA 16870) sincerely invites you to join us as we honor the Blessed Virgin Mary who gave us our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and calls us to surrender our lives to Him. The celebration of the **Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas**, will take place on Thursday, December 12th. It will begin at 4:30 pm with the prayer of the Holy Rosary, then at 5:00 pm the music and singing will be offered by a professional band from Washington D.C. area call “Mariachi Esmeralda”. The band will also lead the congregation in signing during the Mass what will begin at 5:30 pm. After the celebration of the Eucharist a reception will take place in the parish hall.

Holy Name Advent Service: All are invited to a special evening of prayer, story, and song at Holy Name Church in Ebensburg on **Monday, December 16th**. In the midst of this busy season, here is an opportunity to pause and direct our minds and hearts to the coming of Jesus Christ, our Messiah. The service will feature preludes by Serendipity beginning at 6:45 pm, following by the cantata “Emmanuel, God with Us” performed by the combined Men’s and Women’s Choirs. Light refreshments will be served in the Narthex following the service.

Our parishioners, Anne and Bill Harshman have placed their collection of nativity scenes on display at the Bellwood Library. This collection features nativity displays from Russia, Haiti, Germany, and some African and South American Countries. Library hours are 9:30 am to 8 pm on Monday-Tuesday-Thursday: 9:30 – 9 pm on Wed: 9:30 am to 6 pm Friday” and 9:30 am to 4 pm Saturday.