

Families and the Gospel

Matthew 1:18-24

The child born to Jesus and Mary was named Emmanuel, which means "God is with us," Every child is EMMANUEL, reminding us "God is with us," Children are signs of God's continuing presence in our lives.

2025 Children Envelopes

are available in the Gathering Space. Even though our children do not have a regular income (aside from a possible allowance), they still need to begin learning about what the Bible teaches about being a generous and sacrificial giver. If your child has been utilizing envelopes, their name will be on the envelop packet. If you would like your child to participate in type of giving, please take a packet and provide your child's name and the envelope # on the list provided.

On Monday, January 20, 2025, the Knights of Columbus is sponsoring a bowling and pizza party at the Bavarian Hall in Altoona, PA for K-12 students from the St. Joseph and St. Matthew parishes as well as a guest from 1-3pm. Please sign up in the gathering space.

This is Christmas celebrating the Heart of Christmas on Monday, December 30th at 6 pm at The Basilica of St. Michael the Archangel in Loretto, PA invites you to a night of Christmas music performed by the Basilica Choir and the St. Michael Children's Choir. Enjoy the music and the beauty of our basilica during the Christmas Season! Make plans to join us!

Communal Penance Services

Monday, December 23

Our Lady of the Alleghenies Parish, Lilly – 6:00 pm

The Christmas Radio Station – WTRN 100.7 and 96.9 FM and 1340 AM in Tyrone. Listen to continuous Christmas music and hear Father Michael's Christmas Message.

Available in the Gathering Space

- Christmas Oplatki Wafers
- 2025 Calendars

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR ILL AND HOMEBOUND

(Dec. 1 to June 1, 2025) Sue Chambers, Jack Chambers, Virginia Frantz, Martha Hagg, John Lewis, Rose Long, Mary Jane Shank, Harry Sickler, Dorothy Smyder, Jeff Wevodau, Rachel Harshman Wiggins, Esther Zane

Available in the Gathering Space

- Christmas Oplatki Wafers
- 2025 Calendars donated by the Knights of Columbus – Saint Gregory Council and the Catholic Daughters of the Americas – Court Saint Rita

Christmas Flower Intentions will be posted on the vestibule bulletin boards, copies available in the gathering space, and posted online.

AN ANTIDOTE TO FEAR



"When Joseph awoke from the dream he did as the angel told him and took Mary into his home."

Matthew 1: 24

**THOUGHTS ON STEWARDSHIP
AS A WAY OF LIFE**

"When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home."

Matthew 1: 24

Putting our complete trust in the Lord without expecting anything in return. Striving to put God first in all things and follow Him wherever He may lead us. Joseph was a model of these pillars of our faith. As we prepare for the birth of our Lord, pray for the strength and courage to be a model of discipleship, just as Joseph was.

**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

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 22, 2024
Fourth Sunday of Advent

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.

Mass Schedule & Intentions
December 21, 2024 – December 29, 2024

Sat. 5:30 pm For the People - Pastor
Sun. 7:30 am Bill & Maxine Schoch - Family
Sun. 10:30 am Jack Murtagh – The Myrick Family
Mon. 8:00 am St. Joseph

Solemnity of Christmas – Holy Day of Obligation
Tues. 4:00 pm and 9 pm **St. Joseph**
Tues. 5:30 pm – **St. Matthew** For all of St. Matthew Parishioners & family who have died this year.
Wed. Midnight – **St. Matthew** Christmas Flower Intention
Wed. **9:00 am St. Joseph**
10:30 am **St. Matthew** - For the People

Thurs. No Mass
Fri. 8:00 am Michael Cannistraci – Mom and Dad
Fri. 8:30-9:30 am **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament followed by Benediction**
Sat. 5:30 pm Megan Fortney - Family
Sun. 7:30 am Rosalie & Salvatore Cannistraci – Mary Jane Cornelius
Sun 10:30 am William and Hulda Engelman - Estate



Sanctuary Candle for the week of December 22nd is in memory of Tony and Sara Castagnola requested by Castagnola & Burkle Families.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES SCHEDULE

Weekdays J Ieraci

Christmas Ministry Assignments

December 24 – 5:30 pm

Lectors: Religious Ed. Students
 Eucharistic Minister: D Castagnola, L Wright, K Raffetto
 Altar Servers: Religious Ed. Students

December 25th Midnight Mass

Lectors: S Cowher, J Ieraci, A Lynn
 Eucharistic Ministers: L Grove, D Zakrzwski, S Zakrzwski
 Altar Servers: B Wright

December 25th 10:30 am

Lectors: M Welker, H Quinn, I Weber
 Eucharistic Ministers: J Terosky, M Rozick, B Rozick
 Altar Servers: C or M Weber, J Gilliland

Weekend Assignments:

Lectors – Dec. 28 and Dec. 29, 2024

Sat. 5:30 pm D Strayer, T Jeffries, S Gavazzi
Sun. 7:30 am B Hiergeist, S Zakrzwski
Sun. 10:30 am K Naylor, T Naylor, G Naylor

Extraordinary Ministers Eucharist Dec. 28 and Dec. 29, 2024

Sat. 5:30 pm † S Burkholder, P Lambert, L Morrison
Sun. 7:30 am † L Grove, G Baldauf, D Zakrzwski
Sun. 10:30 am † D Castagnola, J Terosky, M Morse

Altar Servers: Dec. 28 and Dec. 29, 2024

Sat. 5:30 pm A Vasbinder
Sun. 10:30 am G Naylor, C Naylor

Financial Report – December 15, 2024	
Regular Weekly (Sunday) Collection	\$5,259 \$7(children)
Beginning July 1, 2024 and Ending June 30, 2025	
Year to date Sunday Collection Income	\$ 129,275
2024 Year to date Bingo Net Income	\$ 35,694
Second Collection	\$ 219
SMS Catholic School Envelopes	\$ 105
Religious Education Envelopes	\$ 35
Good Samaritan	\$ 100
2024 Catholic Ministries Drive TARGET	\$ 29,219
CMD Donations for 2024	\$ 86,570
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 <u>what makes a person truly rich</u> is not how much they have but how much they give.	



The fourth Advent candle symbolizes love. Our renewed sense of hope that accompanies the Jubilee Year results in a commitment to love one another. The Jubilee Year offers the opportunity to be “ambassadors of hope” through loving service. Join in the efforts to serve the poor offered by your parish. See what outreach ministries such as Catholic Charities have to offer. “god so loved the world that he sent his only son,” share that love in return.

Christmas Season Masses

Holy Day – Christmas Schedule
Saint Joseph Catholic Church

December 24th – 4 pm and 9 pm
 December 25th – 9 am

Saint Matthew Catholic Church

December 24th – 5:30 pm
 December 25, 2023 – Midnight and 10:30 am

Christmas Midnight Mass will be broadcast on WTRN (AM 1340 an FM 100.7 and 96.9).

Stewardship Reflection

Our Blessed Mother takes center stage on this fourth Sunday of Advent, and fittingly so as we draw near to the celebration of her Son’s birth. After our Lord himself, Mary is our model and guide to a stewardship way of life. Mary’s response to the angel Gabriel in our ‘Alleluia’ today captures her stewardship spirit: “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word (Lk 1:38).” At the moment of the Annunciation, Mary recognized God’s gift to her and made a generous and trusting return to Him, offering her very self to God as His servant. This reply to such an overwhelming request – made by an angel, no less – shows us how extraordinary our Blessed Mother is. She is indeed “full of grace.”

How beautiflly our Blessed Mother models the mind and heart of a steward. It is an example that we, her children, can follow in our own lives 2,000 years later. With all the gifts God gives us – our time, our talents, and our material possessions – we, too, can offer ourselves to God by using all these gifts to serve and glorify Him. In so doing, we will effektivly spread the Good News of the Gospel to the world around us today. We will be stewards after our Mother’s own heart.



Please join us at 11:30 pm on Christmas Eve, as a prelude to midnight

Mass, with congregational carol singing and organ selections to welcome the birth of *Jesus*. All are encouraged to arrive as you are able and join one another in song.



CHRISTMAS WISH

May the miracle that happened Long ago and far away be a special source of joy, peace and love and enlighten your heart and soul this Christmas Season and throughout the New Year.

Father Michael & parish staff



O Child of Bethlehem,
 You are the light of the world,
 shining in the darkness of our lives.
 As we celebrate your birth,
 We pray that your light
 may illuminate our hearts,
 dispelling all fear and doubt.
 Help us to recognize you
 in the poor and vulnerable,
 and may we show them
 the same love and care
 that you showed to us.
 Grant us the grace to be
 faithful witnesses of our love
 In the world. *Amen*
 Pope Benedict XVI