



Saint Matthew Church The PULSE

December 18, 2022

Detroit, Michigan



UPDATE ON THE RESIDENCES AT ST. MATTHEW HEALTHY HOUSING PROJECT TO REPURPOSE THE SCHOOL AND ACTIVITIES BUILDINGS

At the weekend Masses of December 10 - 11, 2022, the fifth “update report” was provided to the parish regarding the ongoing Residences at St. Matthew project, under the direction of Catholic Charities of SE Michigan (CCSEM), to acquire and transform the presently vacant school and activities buildings into 46 apartments of affordable “healthy housing” for mixed age and income level residents. The purpose of the current update was to give an “end of year” status of the project and keep parishioners fully informed of its progress.

The estimated cost for the project is over \$17 Million with a timeline for completion of approximately 18 months after the financing is fully acquired. Housing tax credits for the project were awarded by the State of Michigan in June 2022 and the seeking of full funding for the project is now underway. Historical tax credits are also anticipated. A major announcement of the project was made by Mayor Duggan, CCSEM, City Council members, state officials, executives from Ascension Health (St. John Hospital) and Fr. Novelty on June 23, 2022.

A full review of the project’s origins, its present status and the likelihood and timeline for its completion was provided during the update. The distinctive nature of the financing for a project of this nature was explained, as were the several stages involved in the project’s implementation. The present target for obtaining full financing is mid-year of 2023, at which point St. Matthew Parish would sell the buildings to CCSEM and the refurbishing of the buildings into apartments would begin. While awaiting the necessary financing, the project partners have continued to make good progress on other dimensions of the project. The practical implications of the Church and parish sharing the same site as The Residences at St. Matthew are being addressed and resolved. Further, CCSEM, St. Matthew Parish and other partners are meeting regularly to share information, facilitate coordination and attend to concerns as they arise.

Care was also taken to explain the importance and impact of the project for the future of St. Matthew Parish. Given the past and future expense involved in maintaining the buildings until they are sold, the matter of timing for the sale was addressed. Parishioners were also reminded that the project involves considerable complexity and that while the likelihood of success is very good, “bumps in the road” to completion may occur.

The update to the parish concluded with the request that personal prayers and those offered during the Intercessions at Mass for the success of the project continue as the project activity moves forward in the future. The success of The Residences at St. Matthew will assure that our century-long presence at Harper and Whittier will continue for the common good through the uncommon will and strong commitment of the good people of St. Matthew Parish. We will continue to be a “Beacon of Light and a Sign of Hope” in northeast Detroit.

Respectfully,
David Smydra
Parish Representative to The Residences at St. Matthew Project

Readings for the week of December 18, 2022

Sunday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [7c, 10b]/
Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

Monday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/
Lk 1:5-25

Tuesday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12,
20-21/Lk 1:39-45

Thursday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/
Lk 1:46-56

Friday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/
Lk 1:57-66

Saturday: *Morning:* 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-
3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Lk 1:67-79

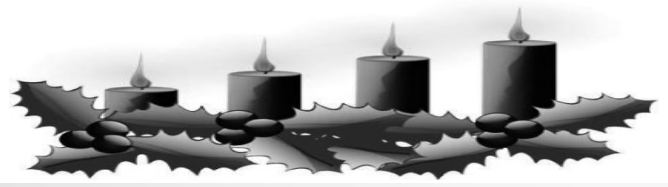
Next Sunday: *Vigil:* Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 (2a)/
Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25
Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13/
Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14
Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/
Lk 2:15-20
Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3]/
Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

4th Sunday of Advent

An entire town is wiped out by fire, a tornado rips through several neighborhoods, a bomb claims a maternity hospital and a sudden heart attack takes the life of a soul mate. Life is unpredictable and dramatic. Many buy into the sad illusion that the securities and familiarities we see around us today will remain forever: our homes, our friends, our spouses, our churches, and even our health. We are stunned and shaken by a sudden change, finding ourselves bewildered, mortified, and even embittered. We do not like change, especially change driven by sources beyond our control. Are there any guarantees in life? We often live as if our lives come with lifetime warranties. When they break, they can be fixed or replaced. Such is not the case. Many things are irreplaceable and unable to be fixed. During life's inevitable chaos, God says: "Do not be afraid." Seriously? How can one not be afraid when things are falling apart?

Fear is normal and it has a purpose. It is unrealistic, and somewhat unhealthy, to strive to live without any fear. Fear teaches us lessons and can be a catalyst to discovering more profound things. What we do with fear and how we understand it is critical. Fear can either cripple us or move us forward. God does not want fear to cripple us. If we look around at all that can change in our lives and consider what we might have to do, we can easily wallow in the mire of self-misery. Or we can step up to the challenge, as Mary did, and do what needs doing! We can stand tall, as did Joseph, and do the right and just thing! What gives us this courage? Faith.

God is with us. This is the focus of our Advent preparations. We need to be reminded that we are not in this alone. God not only made us and loves us, but God keeps us! In the person of Jesus Christ, God is the sign we need to persevere! Do not be afraid and do not be unbelieving! Hold fast to what God has done in giving us His only begotten Son. We do not have to anxiously attempt to control life's unpredictability. God has blessed us with the birth of His Son. Trust that He is with us and will not abandon us, even in death.



Fourth Week of Advent Prayer

The father of the household or the designated leader for the group lights all four candles in proper sequence during the fourth week after saying the following prayer.

*O Lord, stir up Your power, we pray You and come;
and with great might help us
that with the help of Your grace,
Your merciful forgiveness may hasten
what our sins impede.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Candles can be replaced as necessary during the Advent Season without re-blessing the wreath. Replace the purple/pink candles with white candles for the Christmas Season.

The Fourth Week Reflection

*"Lift up the eyes of your heart to the
sacred light, watch closely to see the
glory and majesty of the Lord." (St. Elizabeth of Schonau)*



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2022
CHRISTMAS EVE MASS ~ 10:00 PM
(No 4:30 pm Mass on Christmas Eve)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2022
CHRISTMAS DAY MASS ~ 10:00 AM

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2022
NEW YEAR'S EVE MASS ~ 4:30 PM

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 2023
NEW YEAR'S DAY
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, MOTHER OF GOD
10:00 AM

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8, 2023
FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY ~ 10:00 AM

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

DECEMBER 23
RECTORY OFFICE CLOSSES AT 3 PM
DECEMBER 26 ~ RECTORY OFFICE CLOSED

DECEMBER 30
RECTORY OFFICE CLOSSES AT 3 PM
JANUARY 2, 2023 ~ RECTORY OFFICE
CLOSED

JANUARY 3, 2023 ~ RECTORY OFFICE
RE-OPENS



St. Matthew Parish ~ Happenings

PLEASE SEE THE SCHEDULE FOR
CHRISTMAS HOLY DAY MASSES
AND OFFICE CLOSURES

SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday, January 8, Feast of the Epiphany
Song, Evening Prayer, and Fellowship
Starts at 3:30 pm

What Child is This ~ by Teri Couture

*What child is this that came into my life
To stir up happiness amidst all the strife.*

*What child is this who wipes all my tears
And when He is close conquers my fears.*

*What child grows older but keeps getting better,
What child is this that breaks every fetter.*

*What child is this grown into a man
Who makes me say "With Him all things I can."*

*He gave up His life a great child indeed,
He died on the cross so I could be freed.*

*What child is this
that from this world should part.
He is the child that still lives in my heart.*

*What child is this, why it's JESUS, God's Lamb,
And I can say with great faith,
now His child I am!*



Gold'n Harvest 50/50 Raffle Helpers

Thanks to all who gave their time, energy, and expertise to the success of our 2022 Raffle. Committee: Bill Zuerblis, Toni Scully, Jennifer Khalifah, Emily and Hannah Przybylski, Mark Przybylski, Chris Khalifah, Laurie Striebel, Beverly Goll, Debbie Nieddu. Consolation prize donors: Sharon and Jerry Mielke, Liz Foley-Dunstone, Mary Anne Pilette, Marilyn Lynn, Merchant's Fine Wine, Mancuso's Florist Shop, Beverly Goll, Debbie Nieddu. Music: Tim Duffy and Joanie Duffy. Breakfast catering: Joe Zainea and the staff at the Majestic Café.

St. Joseph the Steward

St. Joseph is one of the greatest examples of stewardship we have in the Gospels. Here is a man who understands care and reverence for the property of God, a man chosen to be steward over the very life and breath of God's Son.

Joseph was mindful. He recognized what belonged to God. When he understood that Mary was to be the mother of God, he was not jealous or bitter. He did not presume to claim ownership over her.

Joseph was prayerful. He accepted the opportunity to be in relationship with God, even if it was in a radical and unexpected way. How many of us would trust a crazy dream we have where an angel tells us our fiancée is carrying the Son of God? Well, those of us who are already profoundly connected to God through prayer. Joseph was open to receiving God, and so he was open to the truth in a way many of us would not have been.

Joseph was gracious. Even before he had full understanding of the situation, he was unwilling to expose Mary to shame. He did not give himself over to feelings of betrayal.

Joseph was committed. He persevered. The Lord had no shortage of strange and even dangerous-sounding tasks for Joseph, but he submitted to each one.

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

Joseph was a man entrusted with many gifts, and he gave of them wisely. Let us pray that we have the grace to follow in his example.

4TH SUNDAY IN ADVENT



COME
Lord Jesus!

~ EPIPHANY ~

Celebrate the closing of the Christmas season with a warm afternoon of carols, chanting, and cheer on Sunday, January 8, at St. Matthew Church. Our special Holiday Choir will lead a Christmas carol singalong in the church at 3:30 p.m.

At 4:00 p.m., all are invited to participate in a 45-minute sung Vespers (evening prayer) for Epiphany, the feast of the Three Wise Men.

Immediately after Vespers, Christmas cookies, hot cider, and mulled wine will be served in the auditorium.



ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH DIRECTORY

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David Troiano ~ *Organist*

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Dennis Costello ~ *St. Vincent de Paul / Christian Service*
Dan McBride ~ *St. Vincent de Paul / Christian Service*

WEEKEND/WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday	4:30 p.m.
Sunday	10:00 a.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday	9:00 a.m.
Reconciliation	By Appointment
Holydays	9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.

In your prayers...

Please remember those in our parish and in our families who are sick or in need of our prayers.

Anthony Mastronardi
Stephanie Smith
Janet Law
Laura Alix
Jo Marie Nardi
Anthony Crimaudo
Rosemary Schoolcraft
Tiffany Gelle
Pauline Williams
Herb Damman
Sarah Wagner
Albert Fajardo
Aurora Guinto
Jesse Ocampo
Mary Spansky
Mike Dulapa
Kathy Bush
Kristen Freiburger
Joanne Papineau
Elsa Camazzola

William Walker IV
Nancy Clemons
Robert Rabe
Lynn Simoncini
Joan Nardi
Barbara Foley
Carol Henk
Jim Krause
Michele Stearns
Fatima Dorado
Baby Magdalene Petrylka
Karyn Stellino

Ministers, Lectors, and Servers

LECTORS

SERVERS

Saturday, Christmas Eve, December 24, 2022, 10:00 p.m.
David Smydra
William Zuerblis

Lauren Gross
Julia Zuerblis

**Sunday, Christmas Day, December 25, 2022,
10:00 a.m.**

Liz Foley-Dunstone
Bill Ridella

Bruce Campbell
Ian Campbell
Emmanuel Kole-James
Samuel Kole-James

Mass Schedule

Saturday, December 17 - Vigil: Fourth Sunday of Advent
4:30 p.m. - Emma Langan

Sunday, December 18 - Fourth Sunday of Advent
10:00 a.m. - Roger Sharpe, Bill Cummings, Bobby Hanshaw (6th Anniv)

Monday, December 19 -

Tuesday, December 20 -
9:00 a.m. - In Thanksgiving to St. Joseph for Employment

Wednesday, December 21 - St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church

9:00 a.m. - For the Sick, Suffering, and Dying

Thursday, December 22 -

Friday, December 23 -
9:00 a.m. - For an End to the War in Ukraine

Saturday, December 24 - Vigil: The Nativity of the Lord
4:30 p.m. - Albino Martinelli (36th Anniv), Richard Goll, Frederick and Rita Allman, Robert Lynn, Raymond and Sylvia Novelty

Sunday, December 25 - The Nativity of the Lord
10:00 a.m. - Robert Stark, Alice Rapas, Bill and Betty Cummings, John Camazzola, Rose and George Godoshian, Rose Gambino DiNoto

PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH

TO YOU GOD ENTRUSTED HIS ONLY SON;

IN YOU MARY PLACED HER TRUST;

WITH YOU CHRIST BECAME MAN.

OBTAIN FOR US GRACE, MERCY

AND COURAGE. AMEN.

- POPE FRANCIS





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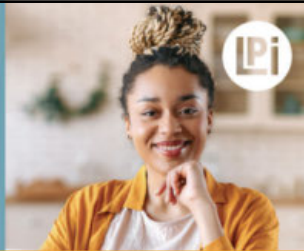
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