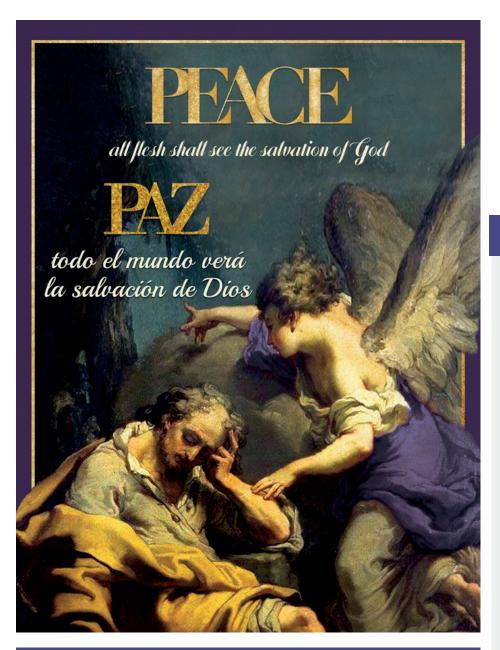
# ST. MATTHEW

## CATHOLIC CHURCH



## OUR CLERGY

Rev. Leonard Dim, Pastor
Rev. Valentine Umoh, Parochial Vicar
Msgr. Thomas Skindeleski
Deacon Andy Plucinski
Deacon George White
Deacon Dony Antony
Deacon Drew Navarro

## **DECEMBER 7 2025**

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

# December 8 - Holy Day of Obligation

MASS SCHEDULE 8:00 A.M.,12 Noon, 6:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M. Spanish

### **MASS SCHEDULE**

## **WEEKEND MASSES**

Saturday Vigil |4:00 pm, 5:30 pm & 7:00 pm (Spanish) Sunday |7:45 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am & 12:00 pm

## **WEEKDAY MASSES**

Monday - Saturday | 8:00 am

## **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

Saturday | 3:00 pm - 3:50 pm or by appointment

#### **ROSARY**

Monday - Friday after 8:00 am Mass

### **ADORATION / ADORACION**

<u>1<sup>st</sup> Friday Adoration</u> in English at 8:30 am Spanish 6:00 pm followed by 7:00 pm Mass

### 2nd and 4th Friday of the month

6:00 pm, Adoration followed by Mass for the sick at 7:00 pm.

Primer Viernes de cada mes, comenzamos a las 6:00 pm con la Adoracion al Santisimo seguido de la Coronilla y Misa al Sagrado Corazon de Jesus 7:00 pm.

## **CONTACT US!**

St. Matthew Catholic Church 6090 Hypoluxo Road Lake Worth, Florida 33463 Phone: 561-966-8878

Email: cgutierrez@saintmatthewchurch.org Website: www.st-matthew-church.com

## **OFFICE STAFF**

Parish Secretary: Administrator Bookkeeper Parish Maintenance Director of Evangelization

& Discipleship Sacristan

Deacon Dony Antony

Consuelo Gutierrez Marisol Rodriguez Edwina Tanudtanud Dean Morris

561-966-1538

561-966-8878 X1001 cgutierrez@saintmatthewchurch.org 561-966-8878 X1002 mrodriguez@saintmatthewchurch.org 561-966-8878 X1006 bookkeeper@saintmatthewchurch.org dmorris@saintmatthewchurch.org dantony@saintmatthewchurch.org

Elizabeth Gedre 561-966-8878

Program	Coordinator	Language	Date	Hour	Location
Adult Choir	Eric Keiper	English	Every other Thursday	6:45-8:00 P.M.	
Council of Catholic Women	Joanne Capasso	English	2nd Saturday of every month	8:30 A.M.	Parish Center
Grief Share Support Group	Joanne Capasso	English	Wednesday	10:00–12:Noon	Parish Center
Loving Hands Crocheting &	Joyce Costello	English	Tuesday	10:00 A.M.	Parish Center
Baptismal Registration	Consuelo	English/Spanish	Monday to Friday	8:00 AM-12:Noon 1:00 P.M4:00	Parish Office
Baptism Classes	Deacon Dony	English	By Appointment	8:00 AM-12:Noon 1:00 P.M4:00 P.M	
Baptism Classes	lvan & Alexandra Munoz Martin	Spanish	Por Cita	8:00 AM-12:Noon 1:00 P.M4:00 P M	
OCIA	Natalia Brugal	Spanish	Jueves	8:00 AM-12:Noon 1:00 P.M4:00 P M	Clase
Liturgia de la Hora	Dr. Felix Rodriguez	Spanish	Jueves	8:00 AM-12:Noon 1:00 P.M4:00 P.M	
OCIA	Rev. Valentine Jamie Wooley	English	Sunday 8/24/25 to 4/5/2026	8:00 AM-12:Noon 1:00 P.M4:00 P.M	Office conference room
Hispanic Coordinator	Marisol Rodriguez				
Feeding the Hungry	Biddy Labutka	English/Spanish	Monday	8:00 A.M.	Parish Center & Kitchen
Knights of Columbus	Paul Turner	English	2nd Monday of every month	7:30 P.M.	Parish Center
Legion of Mary	Valencia M. Delva	French	Tuesday	7:00 P.M.	Legion of Mary
Legión de Maria	Dania Fernandez	Spanish	Jueves	7:00 P.M.	Salón Parroquial
Grupo de Oracion	Feliciano	Spanish	Miercoles	7:00 P.M.	En el Templo
Children Choir	Clare Ramos	English	Saturday	9:00 A.M.	Classroom 1
Spanish Choir	Alex & Nora Tacoa	Spanish			

## Mass Intentions for the Week

MON DEC. 8	8:00 AM	Joseph & Samson Family Alyssa & Robby Beck † Barbara Herzig †Jerome Barry McMenamy †Jacqueline Maignan			
TUE DEC. 9	8:00 AM	† Stethen Estratas †Ricahrd Ralf Nardini Juliana Raygada			
WED DEC. 10	8:00 AM				
THU DEC. 11	8:00 AM	†Barbara Herzik† †Luis Barcelo Nicole Happy Birthday			
FRI DEC. 12	8:00 AM Gianna Raygada † Caroline Gafner				
	7:00 PM	†Barbara Herzig †Souls in Purgatory			
SAT DEC. 13	Ivan Y Alexandra Munoz 16 A Celeste Torres † Barbara Herzig				
	<b>4:00 PM</b> † F	† Herbert Guyon †Matthew Prainito			
	5:30 PM	†Rafael de Jesus †Barbara Herzig			
	7:00 PM	cheddy Feliz Cumpleaños †Almas en el Purgatorio			
SUN DEC. 14	7:45 AM	†Minerva Guzman -Comunidad Hispa †Jeff Pastl †Tally Walker			
	9:00 AM	† Milagros Torres †Barbara Henzig			
10:30 AM		†Anna Perrillo †Julie Giardono			
12 NOON		Yolanda Salat †Michael Trifaro †For all Souls in Purgatory			

O GOD, GLORY OF THE FAITHFUL AND LIFE OF THE JUST, BY THE DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF WHOSE SON WE HAVE BEEN REDEEMED, LOOK MERCIFULLY ON YOUR DEPARTED SERVANTS, THAT, JUST AS THEY PROFESSED THE MYSTERY OF OUR RESURRECTION, SO THEY MAY MERIT TO RECEIVE THE JOYS OF ETERNAL HAPPINESS. THROUGH OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, YOUR SON, WHO LIVES AND REIGNS WITH YOU IN THE UNITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, ONE GOD, FOR EVER AND EVER. AMEN.



# **CHRISTMAS ANGEL** TREE

Jesus has given us the grace of sharing His love with the children of St. Philip Benizi Catholic Church in Belle Glade this Christmas. Your kindness will help make their celebration brighter and filled with hope.

Our Angel Tree is now available with cards listing an item for a child at Christmas

We invite you to:

- 1. Pick a card from the tree.
- 2. Purchase the gift listed.
- 3. Wrap the present and place it under the tree.
- 4. Please include a note on the outside indicating the intended recipient. Example: "Boy / Toy / Age 5."

Your generosity is a beautiful expression of Christ's love during this Christmas season.

Thank you for helping bring joy to a child this Christmas!

Order a poinsettia in memory of a loved one. The plant will be placed around the Altar during the Christmas Season Donation of \$10.00 per Plant one name per envelope

(Please Print the names) Please respond by December 16, 2025





#### **READINGS -SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

# READING 1 ISAIAH 2:1-5

This is what Isaiah, son of Amoz, saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come, the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest mountain and raised above the hills. All nations shall stream toward it; many peoples shall come and say: "Come, let us climb the LORD's mountain, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may instruct us in his ways, and we may walk in his paths." For from Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and impose terms on many peoples. They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; one nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

## READING 2 ROMANS 13:11-14

Brothers and sisters:

You know the time; it is the hour now for you to awake from sleep.

For our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed;

the night is advanced, the day is at hand. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light;

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let us conduct ourselves properly as in the day, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in promiscuity and lust, not in rivalry and jealousy.

But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the desires of the flesh.

### **GOSPEL**

## **MATTHEW 24:37-44**

Jesus said to his disciples:
"As it was in the days of Noah,
so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.
In those days before the flood,
they were eating and drinking,
marrying and giving in marriage,
up to the day that Noah entered the ark.
They did not know until the flood came and
carried them all away.

So will it be also at the coming of the Son of Man. Two men will be out in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken, and one will be left. Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will

Be sure of this: if the master of the house had known the hour of night when the thief was coming,

he would have stayed awake and not let his house be broken into. So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come."

## SAINTS OF THE WEEK

Dec. 8 The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Dec. 9 Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoazin

come.

# Monsignor Tom's Musings

Isn't it interesting that tomorrow's great Feast of the Immaculate Conception, which occurs in Advent, actually presents us with the Gospel story of the Annunciation. We might honestly conclude that somebody confused the happening of the Blessed Virgin's immaculate conception in the womb of her mother, St Anne, with the story of Jesus being conceived in the womb of his mother, Mary. It once puzzled me. But, in St. Luke's Gospel, we hear the dialogue that changed the course of human history — a meeting between heaven and earth, between God's messenger and a humble young woman of Nazareth. Now we begin to see the relationship between these two great Marian feasts: no confusion, no mistake- just God at work in His amazing way.

Hopefully, this presents us with a better understanding of why the Church proclaimed the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception as one of its two infallible teachings. Here, the entire plan of salvation quietly enters the world, not with force or spectacle, but through invitation... and through a response of faith. God already knew what Mary's response would be; hence, his great gift to preserve her from the Original Sin.

"The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a virgin named Mary." This already tells us something important: God comes to us intentionally. The Incarnation is not some accidental happening. The Savior's coming is not random. God moves deliberately, purposefully, lovingly; and God chooses a setting that no one would have expected: not a palace, not the Temple, not a center of power — but a small home in Nazareth.

This is the first great Advent lesson of this Gospel: God often enters our lives quietly, unexpectedly, and in the places we least anticipate. Mary doesn't seek out Gabriel. She doesn't go looking for a mystical experience. She is simply living her life faithfully. And into that ordinary moment, God speaks through his angel.

Gabriel greets her: "Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you." He is not complimenting Mary; he is revealing the truth of who she already is: a woman whose whole life is open to God, receptive to His grace, and ready for His call. But Luke tells us that Mary is "troubled" by this greeting. Even holy people can feel fear or confusion when God interrupts their plans. Holiness is not the absence of uncertainty. Holiness is the willingness to listen in the midst of it. Gabriel comforts her: "Do not be afraid." And then Gabriel presents a mission greater than anything Mary could have imagined:

"You will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be

called Son of the Most High... and His kingdom will have no end."

Mary's question is simple and honest: "How can this be?" She doesn't doubt God's power — she simply doesn't yet understand her part in His plan. This distinction matters. Zechariah doubted; Mary discerned. Doubt closes the heart; discernment opens it. Gabriel explains that the conception will be the work of the Holy Spirit. And

Mary will not carry this mission alone. Gabriel gives her a sign of encouragement: her relative Elizabeth, once thought barren, is already six months pregnant, "for nothing will be impossible for God." This is another Advent truth: God's promises are always accompanied by God's help. What He asks of us, He strengthens us to fulfill it.

Mary's response is one of the most beautiful and courageous sentences ever spoken: "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. Let it be done to me according to your word." This is not passive acceptance. Mary is not resigned or uncertain. This is active, wholehearted surrender to God's will. It is the "yes" that reverses Eve's "no." It is the opening of the door through which the Word becomes flesh. It is the faith that makes Christmas possible. In Mary, we see the perfect model of Advent. This season is not merely waiting; it is expectant trust. Advent is not passive; it is receptive. Advent is not full of noise; it is listening for God's voice in the quiet places of our life.

Mary teaches us how to prepare for Christ's coming — not just remembering His birth, but inviting Him into our own hearts, our own homes, and our own fears and hopes. Like Mary, we may not fully understand where God is leading us. We may see our limitations more clearly than our strengths. We may feel unworthy, unready, or overwhelmed. But God does not choose us because we are perfect. He chooses us because He loves us — and because He desires to work through us.

The Annunciation story reminds us of one fundamental truth: God's plan for the world involves human cooperation. He does not force His way in. He invites; He calls; He waits for a "yes." The world was changed by such a "yes." Mary's openness allowed Christ to be born in her; our openness allows Christ to be born in

As we continue our Advent journey, let's pray for hearts that listen as Mary listened—hearts that trust as Mary trusted, and hearts that are ready to receive Christ with the same faith, humility, and courage. May her words become our own prayer this season: "Let it be done to me according to your word."



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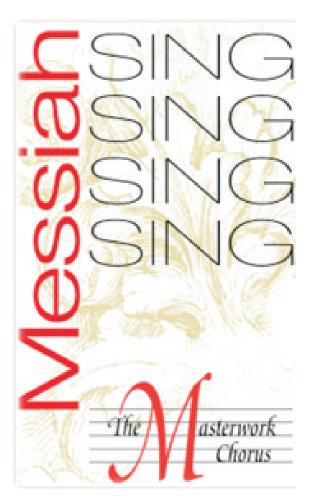
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Tips on Board the Cruise Ship Are Not Included.

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## **SAVE THE DATE!**

HANDEL'S MESSIAH

Friday, December 19, 2025 • 7:00 p.m.

Experience the beauty and majesty of Handel's Messiah in a live performance by The Masterworks Chorus of the Palm Beaches, accompanied by full orchestra and organ.

**Tickets: \$25.00** 

Available after all weekend Masses and in the Parish Office during regular business hours. Don't miss this extraordinary musical event — the first performance of Messiah in our area! Buy your tickets early for yourself, family, and friends, and help spread the word by volunteering to sell tickets or display posters.

# **\*\*CCW Christmas Goodies Sale — After All Masses on December 6 & 7**

Our CCW ladies warmly invite you to stop by the Parish Center after Mass on December 6 & 7 and enjoy a delightful assortment of homemade Christmas treats. Come pick up something sweet for yourself, your family, or as a festive gift!

Thank you for supporting the wonderful work of our CCW!

Saturday, December 6, after the 4:00 P.M. and 5:30 P.M. Masses and Sunday, December 7 after all masses



Thursday doors open at 5:30.

Bingo begins at 6:30 P.M.

There will be no Bingo on the following dates:

December 25, 2025 and

January 1, 2026



♣ Join Us for the 3rd Annual Christmas Festival! ♣
Saturday, December 13 • 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Bring the whole family for a joyful day filled with games, activities, and holiday fun! This year's festival features an **expanded Christmas**marketplace with gifts, crafts, and seasonal treats.

**Admission**: \$5 per person — includes access to all festival activities!

## Start the fun early!

Be sure to join us for **pre-sales of tickets** for our *Basket of Cheer Raffle* on **December 6 and 7** after every Mass. All raffle baskets will be displayed in the Parish Center.

Come celebrate the season with your parish family!

# BIENVENIDOS A LA COMUNIDAD HISPANA DE SAN MATEO



# Diciembre 12 5:00 A.M.

Vamos a cantarle las Mañanitas a Nuestra Virgencita de Guadalupe Misa a las 7:00 P.M.

Seguido por una convivencia. Todos están invitados.





# CHRISTMAS MASSES ST. MATTHEW CATHOLIC CHURCH

# **December 24th**

8:00 A.M. Weekday Mass

4:00 P.M. (Vigil Mass) Professional
Vocal Ensemble begins at 3:30 P.M.

5:30 P.M. (Vigil Mass) Professional Vocal Ensemble begins at 5:05 P.M.

7:00 P.M. (Vigil Mass) Spanish

10:00 P.M. Celebrants Fr. Leonard, Msgr.
Tom and Fr. Valentine -Choir &
Professional Vocal Ensemble
begins at 9:30 P.M.

# December 25th

**MASSES** 

9:00 A.M.

10:30 A.M.

12:00 NOON

## HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

December 8<sup>th,</sup> The Immaculate Conception

December 25<sup>th,</sup> The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

January 1<sup>st</sup> The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

## St. Matthew Catholic Church

Total collection for the weekend of November 30, 2025

1st Collection: \$ 9,420.00 2nd Collection: \$ 3,878.00



December - 7th Collection is for Mortgage/Debt Reduction







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## Parish Loan Journey: 2023–2025 Overview

## Starting Balance \$1,505,849

Loan balance at the beginning of November 2023

# Principal Reduced \$203,445

Amount of the original debt already paid down

## Interest Paid \$98,640

Total interest paid to date

## Total Paid So Far \$302,085

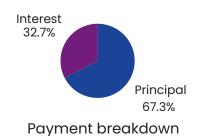
Combined principal and interest from Nov 2023 to Oct 2025

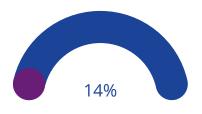
## Remaining Balance \$1,302,405

As of October 2025

## Projected Payoff January 2037

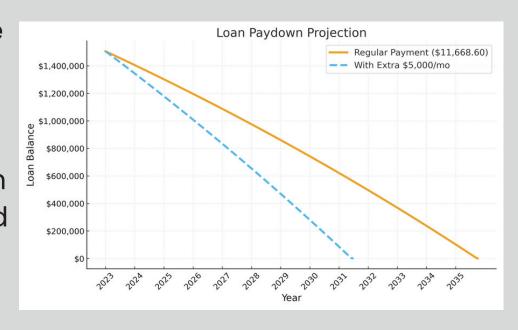
If we continue at the same pace





Percentage of principal paid

Paying only the monthly mortgage of \$11,668.60 means the loan will about 11 and a half years to be paid off.



# THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

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