Parish Staff

Administrator
Reverend Milton E. Jordan ~ x 203

Administrative Assistant
Ms. Mary Young ~ x 201

Business Manager
Ms. Leslie O’Leary ~ x 202

Director of Faith Formation
Ms. Catherine Tolnay ~ x 205
Adult & Youth Religious Education and Sacramental Preparation

Director of Music Ministry
Ms. Regina Loffredo 301-464-9193

Organist
Ms. Deborah Kijak-Hess

Maintenance Supervisor
Mr. Hector Perez

School Office Staff

Telephone: 301-577-9412

Principal
Mrs. Abigail Greer ~ x 214

Director of Development and Admissions
Mrs. Vivian O. Richards ~ x 215

Administrative Assistant
Ms. Marsha Blackburn ~ x 212

Sunday Mass Schedule
Saturday Vigil: 5:00 PM
Sunday: 8:00, 10:30 AM and 6:00 PM

Daily Mass Schedule
Monday through Friday: 8:30 AM

Monday Devotion
Adoration and Blessed Sacrament: 6:00 to 8:00 PM
Confessions: 7:00 to 8:00 PM
Benediction: 8:00 PM

Holy Days of Obligation
*Masses at: 7:30 AM, 12 Noon and 7:30 PM
*Unless otherwise announced

Sacrament of Baptism
Parents must be registered at least six months, practicing and attend a mandatory preparation seminar, which may be completed prior to the child’s birth. Please contact the Office of Faith Formation for information and registration.

Sacrament of Marriage
Registered, practicing parishioners must contact a parish priest at least six months in advance of the wedding.

New Parishioners
Welcome! Please fill out a parish census form in the church vestibule or contact the rectory. All parishioners must be registered and practicing in order for us to serve you by issuing a Letter of Good Standing for sponsorship at the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, or Matrimony.

Moving?
Please notify us as soon as possible if you are moving or have had a change of address in order for us to update our records.

The Academy of Saint Matthias the Apostle
9473 Annapolis Road • Lanham, Maryland 20706-3020
Telephone: 301-577-9412 • Fax: 301-577-2060
Pre-K-4 years old to Grade 8
Catholic school whose mission is to provide quality education in a safe and caring environment. Parish students are welcomed throughout the school year. If you’d like to take a tour, please call the school offices for an appointment.
Advent Gospels

On the four Sundays of Advent, the Catholic lectionary presents a series of Gospel readings that prepare for the celebration of the birth of Christ. The Sunday Advent readings all rotate on a three-year cycle, but they always follow the same pattern.

The Gospel for the First Sunday of Advent always tells of the reign of Christ at the end of time. It echoes the theme of the previous Sunday, the solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ the King. Advent begins with the message that we await the second coming of Christ. This entire season is not just a reminder of a past birth but an anticipation of future glory.

The Second and Third Sundays of Advent always have Gospel readings about John the Baptist. John is an adult in these passages, proclaiming the nearness of the kingdom of God and serving as the prophet who bridges the Old and New Testaments. John foreshadows Jesus in his birth, his preaching, and his death. John’s message on these two middle Sundays of this season inspires us to follow Christ.

The Fourth Sunday of Advent always tells part of the story that just precedes the birth of Christ. These familiar episodes set the stage for one of the Bible’s best-known passages, the story of Christmas.

The Gospel readings of the four Sundays of Advent come to us in reverse chronology. We start with the end of time. We continue to the period when Jesus was an adult. We end in the days before his birth. Like a funnel, Advent opens with a giant theme, the grandness of Christ the King, and it ends with a specific one, the child lying in a Bethlehem manger.

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Advent Reflection

In this Advent of expectation, draw us together in unity, that our praise and worship might echo in these walls and also through our lives.

In this Advent of expectation, draw us together in mission, that the hope within might be the song we sing, and the melody of our lives.

In this Advent of expectation, draw us together in service, that the path we follow might lead us from a stable to a glimpse of eternity.


Stewardship Report: Revenue

DUE TO THE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY AND THE EARLY PUBLICATION OF THE BULLETIN, THE STEWARDSHIP REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 23RD WILL APPEAR IN THE NEXT WEEKEND’S BULLETIN.

Building and Maintenance Fund: Our second collection next weekend is for our regular Building and Maintenance Fund. As always, we thank you for continuing generosity.

Advent Coin Folders for the Poor Box: Our annual Christmas Appeal for our Poor Box began with the appearance of the Advent Coin Folders. Each working household or individual is asked to set aside twenty-five cents a day (one quarter) so that by December 25th, each folder will contain a $10.00 gift to the Poor Box. We need those who have the means to participate in this simple method of fundraising for the charities we support, especially to enhance our ability to respond to parishioners in need. Take a coin folder home from the entryway of our church and begin to prepare a special gift for the Christ Child on Christmas. God bless you for your continuing generosity!

Advent Spiritual Reading Materials: We continually provide materials to enhance spiritual devotion and practice among our parishioners. These materials are offered at a reduced cost. The following are currently available:

♦ Advent Magnificat: Pocket-sized booklets for daily habit of reflective prayer. (Cost: $2.00)
♦ Missal: Saint Joseph Sunday Missal Prayer book and Hymnal for 2015 (Cost: $4.00)
♦ Word Among Us: Provides daily meditation for Advent 2014. (Cost: $4.00)

Find the Perfect Gift 2014-2015: The Find the Perfect Gift Advent Evangelization Campaign will take place from the First Sunday of Advent until January 6, 2015. The goal of this campaign is to provide an invitation to experience Jesus Christ, our Perfect Gift. We look to assist active Catholics in being evangelizers in their everyday lives. This year the campaign will feature a yard sign, online family Advent activity calendar, daily Advent and Christmas reflections by text or email, music featuring local parish choirs, ways to volunteer with Catholic Charities, inspirational Facebook posts, YouTube videos, and an opportunity to “share the perfect gift.” For more information, go to http://findtheperfectgift.org/.

The Academy Annual Lottery

Have you picked up your raffle ticket? Support our school and pick up a form from the pamphlet rack in the back of the church. A raffle ticket can also be purchased at the school or Hughes Center between the hours of 9:00 am and 2:00 pm or contact Vivian Richards at 301-577-9412 x215.

Celebrent Mass Schedule for the Weekend of December 6th/7th

5:00 pm  Father Stan
8:00 am  Father Stan
10:30 am Father Gerard
6:00 pm  TBA

View this bulletin online at www.TheCatholicDirectory.com
Items of Note

Christmas Giving Tree: Christmas Giving Tree will be up the day after Thanksgiving in the narthex. It will be decorated with ornaments bearing the name of an organization and a requested gift. Please take an ornament and return it along with the unwrapped gift requested to the church or Hughes Center by Tuesday, December 16th. Thank you for making the season special for those in need!

Coat of Many Colors Winter Coat Drive: As winter approaches, Catholic Charities’ Joseph’s Closet will be collecting and distributing winter coats on December 13th, January 10th, and February 14th at Saint Francis Xavier Catholic Church, 2811 O Street, SE. For more information, call 202-772-4357, email coats@catholiccharitiesdc.org or visit www.catholiccharitiesdc.org.

Christmas Dinner for those In Need: Christmas Day volunteers are needed at the National Shrine of Immaculate Conception to serve dinner from 12:15 pm to 2:30 pm on Christmas Day. Join with Father Jordan. If interested in volunteering, sign-up at www.nationalshrine.com/christmasdinner or call 202-526-8300. If you know of someone who cannot get out and would like a Christmas dinner delivered to them on Christmas Day, contact the Basilica by Friday, December 12th.

Christmas Concert at the National Shrine: On Friday, December 5th, the Choir of the Basilica, in conjunction with the Chorus and Symphony Orchestra of The Catholic University of America, will present their Annual Christmas Concert for Charity. This festive concert is free and open to the public. The concert begins at 7:30 pm. No tickets or reservations are required. The Basilica offers ample free parking. For more information, call (202) 526-8300 or visit www.nationalshrine.com.

Become a Shelter Hospitality Volunteer: You are cordially invited to spend one evening a week through April at one of Catholic Charities’ 3 low barrier shelters for men who are homeless. Our shelters are clean, safe places where people without homes can spend the night; you can assist our professional staff from 6:30-8:30, when the residents check in, to assign beds, distribute linens and toiletries, serve dinner, distribute mail, and most importantly, offer a friendly respite. Go to our website for more details: www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/Become-a-Volunteer or email volunteer@catholiccharitiesdc.org.

Mass Intentions
First Week of Advent

Monday, December 1:
8:30 am Father Michael Blackwell
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm Adoration & Blessed Sacrament
7:00 pm - 8:00 pm Confessions
8:00 pm Benediction

Tuesday, December 2:
8:30 am Marie Zebro

Wednesday, December 3: Saint Francis Xavier
8:30 am Father William Hines

Thursday, December 4: Saint John Damascene
8:30 am Chukwuemeka Eneze

Friday, December 5:
8:30 am Guadalupe Manlapaz

Second Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 6: Saint Nicholas, Bishop Vigil - 5:00pm Cynthia Amanyiel (Living)
Sunday, December 7:
8:00 am Peter O’Neill (Fifth Anniversary of Death)
10:30 am Emmanuel Ajayi (Living)
6:00 pm Father Richard Schmidt, S.J.

Please pray for the sick and homebound in our parish, our neighbors, family, and friends: Tina Armero; Margie Baker; Euphemia Bldi; Melvin and Elaine Brooks; Muriel Brown; Yvonne Brown; Shawn Brown; Charles Butler; Irene Chisholm; Edith Ejob; Alfredo Felix; Emma Graham; Francis Greenfield; Dorothy Johnson; Charles Jones; Jack Jordan; Kay Kaderabek; John and Joan Kodak; Joe Makowski; Carole New; Molly Onwukwu; Irene Pezzuti; William Pinchback; Marion Prout; June Provini; Delores Richardson; Nicole Riley; Pablo Rocha; Joseph Rubbo; Ben Self; Angela Thompson; Lucille Strenge; Kay Villemi; Sam and Jean Zanin; and Eugene Zehner; may God’s healing grace be theirs. For our military serving overseas: Ryan Morgan; protect them from all harm; For all of the deceased: Bishop Leonard Olivier, SVd; may he rest in peace.

Do Good By Looking Pretty: The Wizards and Caps are back at the Verizon Center! Join us in cheering our hometown teams and do a little good for Catholic Charities ($5 from each ticket will be donated to Catholic Charities). For promo codes and more information, visit www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/cheapseats.

Holy Day of Obligation: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

On Monday, December 8th, we will celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This is a holy day of obligation. Masses will be held at 7:30 am, 12:00 pm, and 7:30 pm. Adoration, Confessions, and Benediction are cancelled in observance of this feast day.

Please do not park in fire lane!

Notice from Saint Matthias Apostle Church, Lanham, Maryland www.stmatthias.org

Do not park in fire lane!

For the safety of all parishioners, we remind all drivers to adhere to Maryland State Highway Administration parking rules and regulations. Ample parking is available at the rear of the church.

Illegal parking will be subject to a fine and/or towing!
Be a Good Steward!
SUPPORT THE PARISH BY ADVERTISING IN YOUR BULLETIN
Call Tony for more information
1-800-233-8200 or 1-800-750-7824