

ST. MATTHEW CATHOLIC CHURCH

8200 Robert E. Lee Drive ✕ Spotsylvania, VA 22551

Pastor..... Rev. Paul M. Eversole
Deacons..... Rev. Mr. John Hubbarth, Ret.
Rev. Mr. Mike Strain

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Joanne Warren, Director
stmatthewre@comcast.net

YOUTH MINISTRY

Deacon Mike Strain, Director
deaconmike2@comcast.net
Sheila Kinley, Assistant Director
stmatthewyouthministry7@gmail.com

MUSIC PROGRAM

Melanie Bolas, Choir Director
Paulius Sinkora, Organist
Kathy Pellegreen, Organist
stmatthewfamilychoir@gmail.com

PARISH OFFICE: 540-582-5575
stmatthewsec@comcast.net
Fax: 540-582-8639

HOURS: Monday thru Friday
9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

BUSINESS MANAGER: Jared Darr
business@stmatthewspotsylvania.org

FACILITIES MANAGER: Jim Buck

PARISH SECRETARY: Terrie Yates

RECEPTIONISTS: Mary Lou Felts
Mary Szabo

PARISH WEBSITE: www.stmatthewspotsylvania.org



MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday Vigil Saturday, 5:30 pm
Sunday..... 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 am
Daily
Monday, Tuesday..... 8:00 am
Wednesday..... 11:00 am
Thursday 6:30 am
Friday..... 7:30 pm

CONFESSIONS

Normally heard at the following times:

Monday after 8:00 am Mass
Tuesday after 8:00 am Mass
Wednesday after 11:00 am Mass
Thursday after 6:30 am Mass
Friday 7:00 pm
Saturday 3:00 pm

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Mondays 9:00 am - 11:00 am
First Fridays 8:00 pm - 9:00 p.m.

Exceptions to this schedule are noted inside the bulletin. Please note:

Confessions will be heard until the line of penitents ends, or until 5 minutes before Mass begins - whichever comes first - so please arrive for confession promptly. Confessions are not heard after evening Masses.

**AFTER HOURS PRIEST EMERGENCY
TELEPHONE: 540-498-3170**

PARISH REGISTRATION

All Catholics residing within our parish boundaries should register as soon as possible. Packets are available in church vestibule.

BAPTISMS

Please contact the Parish Office; parish registration is required.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Please contact the Parish Office. Six Months of preparation are required before the marriage celebration. Parish registration is required. Weddings are not celebrated during Christmas Week and Easter Week.

SPONSOR LETTERS

Please contact the Parish Office for letters of qualification to serve as sponsors for Baptism and Confirmation. Registration in the parish and regular practice of the Faith are among the qualifications required. Letters should be requested in a timely manner.

GOOD SAMARITAN MINISTRY

Ministry to the infirm/ homebound. Please call the Parish Office to volunteer, or arrange visitation of the elderly, the sick or the homebound.

SAINT MATTHEW THRIFT STORE (Breezewood Shopping Ctr.)

Address: 10639 Courthouse Road • Telephone: 540-834-2479.

Hours: Monday through Friday 10 AM-3 PM; Sat. 10 AM-2 PM & Sun.-Closed. *Volunteers and donations of clothing, household items and furniture needed on a continuing basis.*

SAINT MATTHEW FOOD PANTRY & BABY CLOSET

Address: 8206 Robert E. Lee Dr. • Telephone: 540-507-8106.

The Food Pantry and Baby Closet assist clients during the following hours: Wednesdays-2 PM to 6 PM; Fridays 9 AM to 11 AM; and the first Saturday of the month from 9 AM to 11 AM. *-Volunteers and donations needed on a continuing basis.*

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL: Saint Faustina Conference

SVdP Assistance Line: 540-834-5555. Website: www.svdpstfaustina.org

Serves the poor, elderly, and infirm in the local area. Volunteers and donations needed on a continuing basis. To volunteer, call Dave Scharett: 540-388-8736.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS: To find information about the Bishop Keating Council 12434 or The Fathers Cilinski Assembly 3568, please visit <http://www.stmatthewspotsylvania.org> and select Knights of Columbus under the Outreach Ministries tab. The council meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. The Assembly meets the 4th Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

DECEMBER 14, 2025 ~ THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (GAUDETE SUNDAY)

MASSES

Mon (12/15) 8:00 AM - JOHN BUCCIGROSSI+
Tue (12/16) 8:00 AM - MONICA MACINDOE+
Wed (12/17) 11:00 AM - JARED AND CHLOE DARR
Thu (12/18) 9:00 AM - KATHERINE DALTON
Fri (12/19) 7:30 PM - MARY LOU FELTS
Sat (12/20) 5:30 PM - MARY SZABO
Sun (12/21) 8:00 AM - MICHAEL KUYKENDALL+
9:30 AM - PEOPLE OF ST. MATTHEW
11:00 AM - CHRISTINE WALSH

*The blind receive their sight,
and the lame walk, the lepers
are cleansed, and the deaf hear,
the dead are raised up, and the
poor have the gospel preached
to them.*

The Saturday 5:30 p.m. Vigil Mass is being live streamed.

PRAY THE ROSARY WITH YOUR PARISH FAMILY

Join your fellow parishioners in praying the Rosary for an increase in faith, hope, love and peace in our country and throughout the world, on the last Saturday of the month at 4:30 p.m. (in front of the church, weather permitting; otherwise, in the church), and on Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

VOCATIONS

"Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?" John's question invites us to seek Christ's presence in our lives. If you feel a spark of joy in serving others, God might be calling you to the priesthood or consecrated life, sharing His healing love as a shepherd. Listen closely to His voice. Talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at (703)841-2514 or via email: vocations@arlingtondiocese.org.

Current and Upcoming Collections

This weekend (12/13 - 12/14) Regular Collection
Catholic Charities Collection

Next weekend (12/20 - 12/21) Regular Collection

PARISH SUPPORT UPDATE

The First Collection for December 7th was \$18,265. **THANK YOU!**

In order to meet St. Matthew's operating expenses and save for future projects, the **First Collection** should bring in at least \$12,500 every weekend.

In addition to Mass collections, weekly donations may be mailed, dropped off at the Parish Office or made through online giving. Please help us by using your Offertory Envelopes when donating by cash or check.

For online giving go to our parish website:

www.stmatthewspotsylvania.org, and
Go to General Information and choose
Online Giving or scan this QR code.



PRAY FOR PEACE IN THE HOLY LAND UKRAINE AND RUSSIA

Donations for war relief in Ukraine may be made via
The Archeparchy of Philadelphia
Ukrainian Catholic Church
ukrcatholic.org (click on "Help Ukraine")
Donations for Gaza War relief may be made via
Catholic Relief Services crs.org

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Please consider spending some time in prayer before the Sacred Host exposed on the altar. Adoration takes place on Mondays 9-11 a.m. and on First Fridays 8-9 p.m. Information on prayer before the Eucharist is available in the vestibule. **Monday morning adoration does not take place on federal holidays, during Christmas Week and Easter Week, or on holy days of obligation.**

"GAUDETE" "REJOICE"

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near (Philippians 4:4-5)

Let us cleanse our hearts for the coming of our great King, that we may be ready to welcome him; he is coming and will not delay. (Liturgy of the Hours)

On that day the deaf shall hear the words of a book, and out of darkness and fog the eyes of the blind shall see.

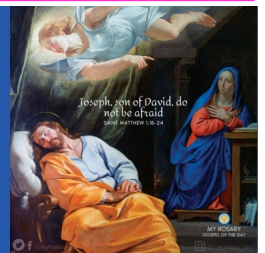
And the poor will rejoice in the Holy One of Israel.

Go back and tell John what you have heard and seen: the blind see, cripples walk, the deaf hear, and the poor have the good news preached to them. (Is. 29:18, 19, see Mt. 11:4,5)



SUNDAY DECEMBER 21st READINGS

Is 7:10-14
Rom 1:1-7
Mt 1:18-24



PLEASE BE AWARE!!

NO ONE from the Parish Office will text or email you asking for monetary help or gift cards. Please **do not respond to any form of this kind of communication.** Please call the office if you have any questions.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION K-8th Grade

12/16 & 12/17 RE Classes

**12/23 & 12/24 No RE Classes
Merry Christmas**

**12/30 & 12/31 No RE Classes
Happy New Year**

01/06 & 01/07 RE Classes



In Adore, popular author and speaker Fr. John Burns and illustrator Valerie Delgado will help you reclaim the sacred sense of longing and joyful hope at the heart of Advent, focusing on a new theme each week—

vigilance, preparation, nearness, and Emmanuel—that you can relate to your own life.



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT REHEARSALS BEGIN SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7th

Our Annual Children's Christmas Pageant will be presented at 4:45 p.m. on Christmas Eve in the Church. The mandatory rehearsals will be on Sundays, December 14th, and 21st after the 11:00 a.m. Mass. If you have elementary through middle school children who are interested in taking part, please contact Danya Ivory at (540)207-2402 or Melanie Bolas at: stmatthewfamilychoir@gmail.com.



2025 GIVING TREE

Advent is a time to prepare for the Birth of Jesus at Christmas; our Giving Tree brings us the opportunity to share our blessings with those in need in our local community. Please take envelopes from the tree, and return them with the requested gift for the **Society of St. Vincent de Paul, St. Matthew's Food Pantry and Baby Closet, or Mary's Shelter.**

The Giving Tree will be at the front doors of the Church through December 17th. You may return your donation envelopes to the collection basket or the Parish Office.



CHRISTMAS CLOSINGS

**The Parish Office will be closed:
December 18th (noon) thru January 2nd
It will reopen on Monday, January 5th**

**The Food Pantry will be closed:
December 22nd through January 2nd
It will reopen on January 3rd**

**The Thrift Store will be closed:
December 24th thru December 28th
It will be open on December 29th and 30th
and closed December 31st thru January 1st**



YOUTH MINISTRY - 9th - 12th Grade

No regular meeting tonight. Teens will meet at Spotsylvania Towne Center for the 5th Annual Scaventer Hunt. For more information contact Sheila Kinley at stmatthewyouthministry7@gmail.com.

A GLASS CLASS IS COMING!!

**January 9th and 10th - In the Parish Center
Check in between 9:00 a.m. and**

10:00 a.m. Work until Noon

**Class size
is limited -
you must
sign up
ahead of
time.**

Support the St. Matthew Church Food Pantry and Baby Closet! Fee \$50.00 for 2 projects.

Bring 3 food items for the food pantry and make an additional project!

To sign-up email Susan Sablon at:

susanmsablon@gmail.com

**In case of snow the classes will be on
January 16th and 17th**



SCHEDULE for CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S

CHRISTMAS EVE, WEDNESDAY - DEC. 24th

8:30 AM CONFESSIONS

4:45 PM CHILDREN'S PAGEANT

5:30 PM VIGIL MASS OF CHRISTMAS

11:20 PM CAROLS & SING-ALONG

CHRISTMAS DAY, THURSDAY - DEC. 25th

12:00 MIDNIGHT MASS

8:30 AM MASS

10:30 AM MASS

SOLEMNITY of MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER of GOD

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 31st,

5:30 PM VIGIL MASS

THURSDAY, JAN. 1st

8:30 AM MASS

10:30 AM MASS

PLEASE PRAY for OUR SICK

To place loved ones on this list, please contact the Parish Office.

Rosanne Backhus, John Bernard, Rita Bobik, Mary Buccigrossi, Dan Carver, Helen Cash, Mary Cave, Randy Chapman, Barbara Coughenour, Elizabeth Dubois, Fr. Alex Drummond, Alice Foley, Irene Foltz, Kristen Galik, Stan Galik, Marguerite Govoni, Mary Gibbons, Frances Gray, Christopher Hubbarth, Tony Hubbarth, David Hunziker, Emma Lovos, Melissa Martinez, Carol Mauro, Stephen Middleton, Michelle Mills, Robert Monastra, Ellis Newhouse, Maria Osorio, Rex Ostrander, Breanne Cave-Paulson, Dave Scharett, Sid Sidelko, Faye Sill, Natalie (Caporali) Smith, Sam Tomarchio, Al Undercoffer, Angie Walker, Marjorie Welsh, Joseph Waterman.

PRAYER REQUESTS: For parishioners and immediate family members or for emergency situations, please contact Lynn Kobasa at lynnkobasa_2@msn.com. Send your message with the words "prayer request."



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