



St. Matthew's Church

Rev. Thomas Chevalier, Pastor

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Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9 AM to 3 PM

Website: www.stmatthewsvoorheesville.org

STAFF	Ellie Dorn Suzanne Schultz Paul Davignon Gerald DeMauro Andrea Freeman Rebecca Kiegle Madge Devine Jack Stevens Bill Rogers Bill Kelly Mary McGinty	<i>Coordinator of Youth Ministry</i> <i>Coordinator of Faith Formation</i> <i>Deacon</i> <i>Deacon</i> <i>Parish Secretary</i> <i>Parish Secretary</i> <i>Director of Music Ministry</i> <i>Building Maintenance</i> <i>Building Maintenance</i> <i>Trustee</i> <i>Trustee</i>
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MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil	5:00 PM
Sunday	8:30 AM and 10:30 AM
Weekdays (T, W, & F)	7:30 AM
Holy Days	As Announced
Rosary & Novena	6:30 PM on Mondays (September – May)

Prayer Chain – Call the Parish Office to initiate our parish Prayer Chain for any special intentions you may have.

Sacraments of Baptism and Marriage – Please call the office for information on baptismal preparation classes. For marriages, call Father Tom, at least 6 months prior to the wedding date, to arrange.

Hospital or Home Visits – Please contact the parish office when serious illness and/or hospitalization occur. Many area hospitals no longer list patients by parish, so we rely on your timely notification to arrange a visit or the Anointing of the Sick.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) – Those who are interested in finding out more about joining the Catholic Church are asked to please call Deacon Paul. All inquiries are kept confidential.

Parish Membership – A heartfelt welcome to all new parishioners. We invite each family or individual to please register with us by calling or stopping by the parish office. Registration places you on our mailing list and ensures you receive up-to-date information on parish happenings.



February 21, 2010

Mass  for the
 Intentions  for the
 Week

Saturday, February 20

5:00 PM: Aggie Tucker

req. by: Ron & Anne Smolen

and for: Pat Rivers

req. by: Fr. Tom & St. Matthew's Parish

Sunday, February 21

1st Sunday of Lent

8:30 AM: Audrey Relyea

req. by: Bill & Mary Ellen Rogers

10:30 AM: John Fredette

req. by: Bill & Marilyn Lloyd

and for: Living & Deceased

Members of the Men's Association

req. by: The Men's Association

Monday, February 22

NO MORNING MASS

Tuesday, February 23

7:30 AM:

Wednesday, February 24

7:30 AM

Thursday, February 25

NO MORNING MASS

Friday, February 26

7:30 AM:

Saturday, February 27

5:00 PM: Aggie Tucker

req. by: Michael & Kathleen Fields

and for: John Pennock

req. by: Bill & Janet Kerr

Sunday, February 28

2nd Sunday of Lent

8:30 AM:

10:30 AM: Frank & Emily Tommell

req. by: The Family

and for: John & Claire Prisolo

req. by: The Wilson Family

Please remember that
 whenever the Voorheesville
 Central School District cancels
 or delays classes because of
 inclement weather, morning
 liturgy on that day will also
 be cancelled.

**Saturday, February 20**

Enrollment Mass 5:00 PM

Sunday, February 21

Enrollment Mass

8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Masses

Mid – Level 4:30 – 8:30 PM

Men's Assoc. Meeting 7:00 PM

Monday, February 22

Rosary & Novena 6:30 PM

Confirmation 7:00 PM

Tuesday, February 23

Grades 2-5 3:15 – 4:15 PM

NSC Food Pantry 6:30PM

Wednesday, February 24

Grades 2-5 3:15 – 4:15 PM

Music Ministry 7:00 PM

Sunday, February 28

Pre-K – 1 10:30 AM

Prayer Shawl Ministry 11:30 AM
in the Social Hall10th Grade 3:00 PM – 8:00 PM**THOSE WHO ARE ILL...**

Donna Amato, Gloria Bogart,
Raymond Banuls, Bill Boyd,
Diana Burns, Carly Carey, Connie
Castellana, Tim Colchin, Joan
Conway, Joseph Cury, Mildred
Cury, Philip Davis, Doris Doyle,
James Finnessey, Bobby Flagler,
Amanda Gibbs, Lynn Giudici-
Reynolds, Christine Gwaldis, Ricky
Haggerty, Richard Harrington,
Catherine Johnston, Brett Lee, Jean
LeCarl, Melissa Lee, Joe Markel,
Maureen Palumbo, Bryan Pettit,
Nicole Retajczyk, Tina Rosen, Kathy
Sansone, William Skicki, Allison
Thomas, Mary Walas, Angie Jean
Wimpperman, John Withkowski,
Anna Davis, Ruth Ulion, Jeannie
Mormile, Kathy Jornov, Donna
DeVellis, Richard Arthur, Claire
Broderick, Bertha Meservey, Eric
Dagner, Evelyn Lobato, Nellie
Ciupek, Katie Geiss, Margaret
Logan, Marybeth Saccone,
Al Birdsall, Tom Markert, Sr.,
Gertrude Richardson & Jim Kiegle

SAINT MATTHEW'S PARISH

PLEDGING LENT TOGETHER

*Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan
and was led by the Spirit into the desert for forty days...Luke 4:1 & 2*

Just as Jesus was led into the desert, so too are we. As we begin our Lenten journey, the theme of the desert fills our worship space. Rocks, sand and cactus call to mind that desert to which the Holy Spirit invites us for the next forty days. The desert can be peaceful or it can be a place to meet our personal demons. It can be lonely and painfully quiet or it can be restful and a time to speak to our constant companion who is God. It can be a place where we die of thirst or drink life giving waters. Time away in the desert lets us pray in our own unique way and be one with Jesus with no fear, shame or embarrassment. Many thanks to Brett Hotaling, Charleen Logan, Colleen Schultz and Paul Steinkamp who created such a powerful and beautiful visual reminder in our worship space of the spiritual landscape of lent.

Each week as liturgy concludes, small cards will be available to suggest ways that we can live the Lenten practices of Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving throughout the coming week. Also available this weekend are small metal images of the Lamb of God, who is the Christ and who "takes away the sins of the world". There are also prayer cards with a Lenten Table Blessing for use at home during this season. Please take one for your own use during these special days. This season which begins this week calls us to enter that place of transformation which is the desert, let us pray that by doing that together we may know the transforming grace of God.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

On Sunday, Feb. 28th, following the 10:30 mass, Sr. Mavis Jewell MSRN from St. Peter's Hospital, will speak on the Prayer Shawl Ministry in our Parish Social Hall. The *Prayer Shawl* symbolizes peace, shelter, and sustenance and brings comfort to the wearer. They are often made for someone suffering through a transition, crisis, or special need, but can also be made for special occasions or to honor an individual. The key is that the work is done intentionally for the comfort and blessing of someone else. They are never sold. All yarn is donated. Come and learn about this ministry we look to begin at St Matthew's in the near future.

Sacrificial Giving To Our Parish

Today's first reading describes the offering of first fruits which the people of Israel were to present to the Lord in thanksgiving for God's blessings. For Christians our gift to the Church is meant to be the same. Each week we are called to ask ourselves if our weekly gift is an appropriate response to God's goodness?

Many thanks to those parishioners and friends who contributed \$5942.21 to the support of our parish.

**Baptism**

On Sunday, February 14, 2010
St. Matthew's welcomed into the Church
through the saving waters of Baptism:

Braelyn Mackenzie Cornell
Daughter of Suzanne and Art Cornell

Madison Renee Pasquini
Daughter of Sarah and William Pasquini

Charles James Tobin Jr.
Son of Andrea and Charles Tobin

RITE OF ENROLLMENT

This weekend all those members of our parish who are preparing for to celebrate the sacraments of initiation were invited to enter their names into the Book of the Elect, signaling their intention to ask for either Baptism, Eucharist or Confirmation at Easter. Please keep all of these candidates in your prayers during their final weeks of preparation.

HOLIDAY CHOIR PRACTICE TO BEGIN

The Holiday Choir will begin to practice for Holy Week on Wednesday, February 25th at 7:45 PM. We will prepare music for Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday. You do not need to be present for all of the liturgies to participate. Instead of giving something up for lent, consider adding something to your life by joining us in celebrating our church's most important season. You not only participate fully in the liturgies but also contribute to the spirituality of the entire assembly. All adults and youth in grades 9 and up are welcome! We hope to see you on the 25th, if you have any questions, call Madge Devine at 765-2457.

BIG BREAKFAST

The Men's Association will sponsor a breakfast on Sunday, March 7th from 7:30AM – Noon in the Social Hall. Menu items include pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, home fries, toast, juice, coffee, tea and hot chocolate. Members of the Youth Ministry will serve your breakfast. Take-out meals will also be available. All are invited for enjoyable time and a delicious meal while helping the Association raise money for its many activities around the parish. Adults \$5, children \$3.

RUN FOR VOCATIONS

The Diocese of Albany is holding a 5K Run for Vocations at Christian Brothers Academy on April 24, 2010. Through this event, we hope to raise awareness and encourage prayer for all vocations: those who are considering marriage, the single life, diocesan priesthood, diaconate or religious life as well as for those who are already living commitments to these vocations. If you are a runner, or even a walker and could participate in this consciousness raising event pick up a registration form or call the parish office. We are also looking for individuals who could support the efforts of the runners by pledging prayers on that day. There will also be a Fun Run for those 10 years old and younger. Please be a part of our first Run 4 Runners. The pledges for the day are prayers, not dollars! Brochures are available at the church entrances or contact the Parish Office for information to sign up.

**MEN'S ASSOCIATION****MONTHLY MEETING**

The Men's Association's monthly meeting is this **Sunday, February 21st, at 7:00 pm.** All members are encouraged to attend and potential new members are invited as we plan for our March Big Breakfast and other upcoming events.

SPORTS NIGHT

Nearly 50 parishioners and friends attended the Parish's 14th Annual Sport's night on February 3rd. Everyone enjoyed hearing parishioner Joe Sapienza's talk about his experience as coach and athletic director at Voorheesville HS. Joe also won this year's Mike Burns Sports Award presented by Association president Dave Morrell. Joe has truly "made a difference" in athletics in our area. We appreciate the support of many local businesses and area sports teams who donated food items and more than \$800 in prizes for the event. Plan to attend next year's Sports Night!

COMMUNITY EVENTS**ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER/FUNDRAISER**

There will be a corned beef & cabbage dinner on Saturday, March 13th in the Parish Social Hall from 4:00 – 7:00 PM to benefit the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation featuring Irish Music, raffles and door prizes. Tickets will be sold after each mass. Adults \$10.00, Seniors/Children \$8.00. Call Eileen Bates (765-2668) or Erin Pritchard (765-4320) for tickets or more information.

LENTEN SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT SERIES

All parishioners are welcome from the cluster. Please join us, no reservations required.



Tuesday, Feb 23rd 7pm
Saint Thomas Church Delmar
 Rev. Christopher DeGiovine.

DeGiovine is Dean of Spiritual Life and Chaplain at the College of Saint Rose. He will speak on Spirituality.



Tuesday, March 2nd 7pm
Saint Matthew's Church
Voorheesville

Deacon Ed Solomon and his wife, Karen will speak about family spirituality.

Both Ed and Karen Solomon lead faith sharing groups at St. Vincent DePaul parish in Albany where Ed is assigned for service and liturgical responsibilities.