

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

INTO THE DESERT.

LUKE 4:1



Saint Matthew's Church

A Roman Catholic Community

25 Mountainview Street, Voorheesville, NY 12186-9551

Phone: 518-765-2805

email: stmatthewsvoorheesville@verizon.net

Faith Development

email: ffsmv@gmail.com

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Rick Lesser Pastoremail: rick.lesser@rcda.org
 Rev. Adam Feisthmel—Parochial Vicar—email: Adam.Feisthmel@rcda.org
 Deacon Nicholas Ascioti..... Faith Development : nascioti@gmail.com
 Carl AlexandrovPastoral Associate for Liturgy & Music
 Andrea FreemanPastoral Associate for Liturgy
 Christina Kocher.....Pastoral Associate for Administration
 Tom Lenseth.....Building Manager
 Peggy McQuadePastoral Associate for Hospitality
 Melissa Usher.....Pastoral Associate for First Communion
 Chrisi YoungPastoral Associate for Faith Development 6-12

Mary Gay Wood.....Trustee

Stephen GossTrustee

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil	5:15pm
Sunday	9:30am
Weekdays (Wed., Friday)	8:30am
Holy Days	As Announced
Rosary & Novena	6:30 pm on Mondays

Sacramental Reconciliation

Friday's 8:00am; Saturday evenings after the Vigil Mass;
 During Adoration on First Fridays or by appointment

WEBSITE

stmatthewsvoorheesville.org

OFFICE HOURS

Monday ~ Friday 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

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 Parish Office at least 6 months prior to the wedding date, to arrange.

Anointing of the Sick – Second Friday of the month immediately following 8:30 am Mass or by appointment

Eucharistic Adoration – First Friday of the month 9:00am–11:00am

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.

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) – Those who are interested in finding out more about joining the Catholic Church are asked to please call the Parish Office. All inquiries are kept confidential.

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.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

THOSE WHO ARE ILL...

Joel Rivera, Brendan Farmer, Nick Siver,
Susan Albright, Alexandra Simpson

Hospital or Home Visits

Please call the Parish Office

THIS WEEK AT OUR PARISH

- Mon., Mar 10 Rosary 6:30pm
Lay Spiritual Formation 6:30pm
- Tues., Mar 11 Faith Sharing 6:30pm
Via Zoom
- Wed., Mar 12 Prayer Shawl Ministry 1pm
Music Ministry 7pm
- Thurs., Mar 13 Alzheimer's Care Team
5:30pm

ALTAR LINEN MINISTRY

- March 9— Rita Hadeka
- March 16— Andrea Freeman



NEW SCOTLAND COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY

The pantry is looking to fill the following Board positions: **Volunteer Coordinator and Community Outreach Coordinator**. If interested, please leave your contact information at 518 765-3806 or email foodpantry.newscotland@gmail.com

The New Scotland Community is grateful for any and all donations. **There is an on-going need for the following:** Dish Soap, Laundry Detergent (urgently needed), Paper Products, Soups, Gluten Free Products, Pasta and Snacks.

As always, thank you for your generosity.

STEWARDSHIP March 1-2, 2025

Offertory.....	\$5,236.20
E-Giving.....	\$1,518.75
Total.....	\$6,754.95

**Budgeted Total
Needed for Each Week...\$8,252.00**



Diocesan Appeal

DIOCESAN APPEAL 2024-2025

St. Matthew's needs your help... the 2024-25 Diocesan Appeal will end on June 30th. If we do not reach this by your generous support, the balance will have to come from our operating funds. Those same funds pay our electric bills, heat and air condition our building, pay salaries and support our Faith Development programs.

St. Matthew's Assessment is **\$83,652.00**

As of March 3rd, we have collected **\$32,455**

Total Number of Donors **110**

Please reply to the Appeal mailing you received at home or pick up an envelope at either entrance of the church. Make your gift on line at: www.thediocesanappeal.org: Or mail a check payable to "Diocesan Appeal" to 40 N. Main Albany, NY 12203 and specify your parish

Thank you for supporting your parish!

CHANGES WITH ST. MATTHEW'S SCHEDULES

In light of Fr. Charles being reassigned, we will now have only 1 priest, Fr. Rick to cover Masses at St. Matthew's and Christ the King Church, resulting in the following **changes as of March 1st:**

- **Saturday Vigil Mass will be at 5:15pm**
- **Sunday Mass will be at 9:30am**
- **No longer a Tuesday weekday morning Mass**
- **Adoration will be on the 1st Friday of the month 9-11am**
- **Anointing of the Sick will be on the 2nd Friday of the month**
- **Confession will be as follows:**
Fridays at 8am
Saturday evenings after the Saturday Vigil Mass
During Adoration on the First Fridays and
By Appointment

(For Tues Masses, CTK has a 9am Mass and St. Thomas The Apostle Church has a 12:15pm Mass)

LAY SPIRITUAL FORMATION - LOVE FOLLOWS UNDERSTANDING

Take this opportunity to nourish the spiritual part of your life. St. Catherine of Siena will be our example to understand how the practices of self-knowledge, humility, charity and discernment can be integrated into our daily lives. Does knowing myself better help me to know God in a deeper way? How does humility help me to recognize any of my dependence on God and others? What is spiritual discernment? **Join us on Monday evenings 6:30pm—7:30pm March 10 & 24; April 7 & 21, May 5 & 19, and June 9 & 23. To sign up or for more information, email Deacon Nick at nascioti@gmail.com**

ST. MATTHEW'S LENTEN BIBLE STUDY— WOMEN OF EASTER

Before becoming Women of Easter, Mary, the Mother of God, Mary Magdalene and Mary of Bethany, needed to journey with Jesus to the cross. This bible study will look at the scripture featuring these women and their relationships to Jesus. The study will also explore the historical, theological and spiritual significance of these relationships. This Lenten Bible Study is based on the book: "Women of Easter" by Liz Curtis Higgs. Sessions will be held on Thursday Evenings at 6:30pm: March 20th, 27th and April 3rd. These sessions will be offered in person and online via Zoom. For more information, email Deacon Nick: nascioti@gmail.com



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

St. Matthew's Church will be offering Stations of the Cross during our Lenten season every Friday at 6PM except on Good Friday, which will then be at 3PM. We hope you can join us for this special prayer time as part of your Lenten journey.



BRINGING LENT TO LIFE WITH OPERATION RICE BOWL

Fifty years ago, Catholics in Allentown, Pennsylvania, organized to bring help to families facing famine in Africa. That help came in the form of a small cardboard box, marking the beginning of "Operation Rice Bowl." Today, as we celebrate CRS Rice

Bowl's 50th anniversary, the program is a tradition for millions of Catholics in the United States who continue to answer the Gospel call, supporting families experiencing hunger around the world. At this very moment, millions of our most vulnerable sisters and brothers are facing life-threatening level of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition. At the root of this crisis is a perfect storm of poverty, climate change, conflict and inequality. There is no one solution to breaking the cycle of hunger for every community around the world, but we can do our part through Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl by answering Jesus' invitation for us to share bread for life with our sisters and brothers during Lent, so all may live with dignity. The Rice Bowls may be obtained at both entrances of the church. This is a powerful and meaningful way to participate in Almsgiving.

LUNCHEON AND FASHION SHOW

The Christ Child Society of Albany is hosting a Red Wagon Luncheon and Fashion Show on Saturday, April 26, 2025 at the Italian American Community Center, Washington Avenue Extension in Albany beginning with coffee and pastry at 10:30am followed by Fashion Show at 11:00am by J. Jill sharing unique and fashionable



women's apparel, accessories and footwear. Our models will be the members of the Christ Child Society. Please come and join us. All are welcome - reserve a table for friends and family to enjoy the event. Lunch will be served at 12:00pm. Selections are Chicken Parmesan with Penne Pasta, Grilled Salmon in Lemon Basil Butter with rice, and French Ratatouille over Polenta Cake (GF/DF/V). Adult reservations are \$50.00 per person and child reservations are \$20.00 per person to be paid in advance by either check or PayPal. Your reservation is necessary no later than April 10 and cancellations a must. Please call Cathy Pastore at (518) 669-4446 to make your reservation or please consider making a donation to assist the needy children of the Diocese of Albany.

CHARISMATIC HEALING LITURGY

A monthly Charismatic Healing Liturgy will be held at Christ Our Light church, 1 Maria Drive, Loudonville, NY on Wednesday, March 12th. At 7:00pm there will be Prayer and Praise Music by Joyful Heart, then at 7:30pm a Liturgy with Healing Prayer to follow. There will be individual prayer available after mass.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE

Be that person who is an inspiration to the woman considering abortion and looking for a sign that she should choose life for her baby. Prayerful witness in front of abortion centers encourages women to choose LIFE for their babies. We seek to offer hope, help and healing to women with unexpected pregnancies and to those who are hurting after abortion. March 5 – April 13 daily. Albany: public sidewalk at bus stop: 855 Central Ave. 12206 Troy: public sidewalk (not plaza sidewalk) 120 Hoosick St., 12180. Hudson River Commons. Bring friends or join a group. For more information Albany: Mike at alb40days@gmail.com or Troy: Margaret at (518) 453 - 9302. Prayer Rally



LENTEN EVENING OF SONG & LENTEN RETREAT WITH DAN SCHUTTE—MARCH 28 & 29, 2025

The Ignation Volunteer Corps Albany presents renown liturgical composer and songwriter Dan Schutte for a Lenten Evening of Song and a Lenten Retreat. Dan Schutte's music has been a pulse in the heartbeat of many churches for more than 50 years, including "Here I am, Lord," "City of God" and "You Are Near".



LENTEN EVENING OF SONG
Beginning at 7:00pm on Friday, March 28

LENTEN MORNING OF REFLECTION
Beginning at 9:30am on Saturday, March 29

Christ the King Church—20 Sumter Avenue, Albany, NY 12203

Tickets and sponsorship information are available at www.ivcusa.org/Schutte
\$15 for the Concert; \$15 for the retreat; or \$25 for both events.

MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS

SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEKEND – March 15-16

5:15PM

GREETER

Rich Bogdany
Gwen Genovesi

USHER

Ron Rivers
Rich Bogdany
Melissa Usher
Gwen Genovesi

LECTOR

Melissa Usher
Stephen Hensel

COMMUNION MINISTER

Ron Rivers—P
Andrea Freeman—P
Millie Selby—C
Gwen Genovesi—C

ALTAR SERVERS

Charlotte Usher
Christopher Usher

SACRISTAN

Bob Harms
Mark Barrett

9:30AM

GREETERS

Nancy Dilanni
John Dilanni

USHER

Nancy Dilanni
John Dilanni
Volunteers Needed

LECTOR

Terry Devine
Julie-Ann Fortran

COMMUNION MINISTER

Nancy Dilanni—P
Anita Guagliardo—P
John Dilanni—C
John Tracy—C

ALTAR SERVERS

Collin Terry
Lizzy Terry

SACRISTAN

Ed Ardizzone

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 8

5:15PM: *Gail Ryan-Tannen—1yr Anniversary*
req by: *Fr. Rick and St. Matthew's Parish*
and for: **Jennie Riscavage**
req by: *Barbara Riscavage*
and for: **Harold DeWitt**
req by: *Philomena and William Donaldson*

Sunday, March 9

First Sunday of Lent
9:30AM **Christine Peters**
req by: *Tom and Peg O'Connor*
and for: **Carmelo Genovese**
req by: *MaryBeth Maxwell*

Monday, March 10

Lenten Weekday
NO MORNING LITURGY

Tuesday, March 11

Lenten Weekday
NO MORNING LITURGY

Wednesday, March 12

Lenten Weekday
8:30AM: **Morning Liturgy**

Thursday, March 13

Lenten Weekday
NO MORNING LITURGY

Friday, March 14

Lenten Weekday
8:30AM **Robert E. Sanchez**
req by: *Barbara Sanchez*

Saturday, March 15

5:15PM: **John Foley**
req by: *Philomena and William Donaldson*
and for: **Lynn**
req by: *Anne Marie*
and for: **Joseph Parsons**
req by: *Gwen Genovesi*

Sunday, March 16

Second Sunday of Lent
9:30AM **Bob Harley—2nd Anniversary**
req by: *Peggy McQuade and Family*