

St. Matthew Parish

A Parish of Many Cultures But One Faith

1240 NE 127th St. Seattle, WA 98125

Parish Office 206-363-6767 www.stmatthewseattle.org



Pastor & Staff

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Parochial Vicar: Fr. Davis
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 Julianna D'Angelo
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Facilities Supvr: Brian Dimak
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St. Matthew School

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Office Mgr: Sandra Walls
swalls@stmattschool.org
Admission: Stacy Pretti
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Phone: 206-362-2785
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Masses

Monday & Wednesday: NO MASS
Tuesday & Thursday: 9:00 am
Friday: 8:30 am

Weekend Mass:

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm
Sunday: 8:00 am & 10:00 am

Sacraments

Confession: Saturday at 4 pm or by appointment. Call 206-363-6767.
Marriage, baptism, funeral mass or confirmation. Call
 206-363-6767 Ext 200
Office Hours: 8:30am to 3:30pm
 Monday through Friday.

DECEMBER 14, 2025 – 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Jesus spoke to the crowd about John *"He is the one about whom it is written 'I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you. Truly, I tell you, among those born of women, there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.'"* (Matthew 11:10-11).

The apparent paradox—that the least person in the Kingdom is greater than John—marks a significant shift in how God interacts with humanity. The "least" in the Kingdom of Heaven, however, lives in the new covenant inaugurated by Christ's life, death, and resurrection. This new era offers full intimacy with God and is founded on grace and forgiveness. John was great by human and prophetic standards, but greatness in Heaven is a status *conferred by grace*, not earned by human merit. Even the most humble follower of Jesus possesses a spiritual standing and intimacy with God that surpasses even the greatest Old Testament saint.

The Privilege of the Present Believer: The words are a call to appreciate the immense spiritual privilege granted to contemporary Christians. This should inspire profound gratitude and a sense of responsibility to live in accordance with the greater light and greater access to God we have been given.

SCRIPTURE READINGS - DECEMBER 14-21, 2025

Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10/Ps 146:6-10/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11
Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5b, 7bc, 8-9/Mt 21:23-27
Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-19, 23/Mt 21:28-32
Wednesday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-4b, 7-8, 17/Mt 1:1-17
Thursday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25
Friday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6b, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25
Saturday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-6/Lk 1:26-38
Next Sunday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-6/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

STEWARDSHIP - A WAY OF LIFE

	Actual	Needed	(Under)
Week Ending Dec. 7, 2025	\$ 10,599	\$ 12,000	(\$ 1,401)
Cumulative from July 1, 2025	\$ 221,579	\$ 276,000	(\$ 54,421)

EVENTS CALENDAR

Host	Event	Date/Day/Time	Venue
St. Matthew	Simbang Gabi 9-day Masses	12/12-20	Church
St. Mark	Bellevue Opera Christmas	12/19/7pm	St. Mark Church
St. Matthew	Simbang Gabi Mass	12/20/5pm	Church
St. Matthew	Salo-Salo (Dinner)	12/20/6:30pm	Com. Center
St. Matthew	Wine & Cheese Social	01/03/26 @6 pm	Com. Center
St. Matthew	Feast of the Child Jesus	01/10/26 @5pm	Church & CC

OUR COMMUNITY PRAYERS

Pope Leo's December prayer: For Christians in areas of war and conflict:

- We pray for Christian living amid wars and violence. Even surrounded by pain, may they never cease to feel the gentle kindness of Your presence and the prayers of their brothers and sisters in faith.

For our Parish Family:

- That through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we may wait in joyful hope for the coming of the Lord.

For the Sick:

- That God's healing grace and comforting peace alight upon the bodies of the sick making them whole once more and forever grateful to You.

For our Departed Ones to:

- Receive the fullness of Your mercy, the warmth of Your eternal embrace and the joy of everlasting life.

MANY MANY THANKS FOR MANY MEALS!

Students collected 464 food items for St. Vincent de Paul Christmas baskets and enjoyed a free dress day as a reward.



Also to the families who have supported the St. Matthew Table Ministry during the past 15 years.

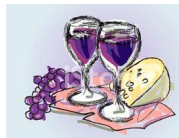
Jim and Patti Broulette started this ministry with the help of parish and school families to provide a free meal to neighbors in need each quarter. The table has served neighbors through several locations, COVID restrictions and change in leaders. Thank you to all who have helped to give their heart to this ministry.

CLOSING MASS OF THE JUBILEE YEAR, DEC. 28TH AT ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL

On Sunday, Dec. 28 at 10am, in union with bishops throughout the world, Archbishop Etienne will celebrate a solemn Mass marking the end of the observance of the Jubilee Year 2025 at St. James Cathedral. It's the last opportunity to make a Jubilee Year pilgrimage at the Cathedral.



WINE & CHEESE SOCIAL ON JANUARY 3, 2026



Join our **Wine & Cheese** social on January 3, 2026, after the 5pm Mass. All ages are welcome. Bring yourself and meet new and already friends.

School News

Thank You



Thank you to all of the parish, alumni and current School families who have shown their love and given to the St. Matthew School Fund Drive. We greatly appreciate your generous support! Your gift helps our students and teachers this school year. If you would still like to donate visit: <https://stmatsschool.org/giving/donate/>

CHRISTMAS CARD ART CONTEST WINNERS

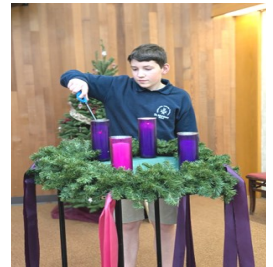


Congratulations to the student winners of our Christmas card art contest. The top two pieces will be featured on our school Christmas cards this year.

- 1st place - Efrata in 4th grade
- 2nd place - Regina in 4th grade
- 3rd place - Markan in 3rd grade

ADVENT PRAYER SERVICES

Please join students and staff for our last Advent Prayer services on December 15 & 17 at 8:30 am. They are a peaceful break during the busy season. All are welcome!



SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM



It's time to celebrate the joys of the season with music.

You are all invited to the school Christmas Program on Wednesday, December 17 at 7 pm in the Community Center.

9- day Simbang Gabi Novena of Masses in the Jubilee year



Join us for a 9-day "Simbang Gabi" novena of Masses offered in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary during the Christmas season. Fr. Ross has approved the following schedule of Simbang Gabi Mass intentions beginning December 12th through the 20th. On December 20, a Salo-Salo (dinner) reception will follow after the 5 pm Mass.

"Simbang Gabi"

<u>Date</u>	<u>Mass @</u>	<u>Venue</u>
Dec. 12, Fri.	8:30 am	St. Matthew
Dec. 13, Sat.	11:00 am	St. James Cathedral *
Dec. 14, Sun.	10:00am	St. Matthew
Dec. 15, Mon.	9 :00 am	St. Matthew
Dec. 16, Tues.	9:00 am	St. Matthew
Dec. 17, Wed.	9:00 am	St. Matthew
Dec. 18, Thurs.	9:00 am	St. Matthew
Dec. 19, Fri.	9:00 am	St. Matthew **
Dec. 20, Sat.	5:00 pm	St. Matthew
Dec. 20, Sat.	<i>Salo-Salo (dinner) reception after the 5:00 Mass at the St. Matthew Community Center</i>	

* Concelebrated Simbang Gabi commissioning Mass with Bishop Schuster.

** Also, St. Matthew School Christmas Mass.



CONFESSION TIMES ON WEEKDAYS FOR THIS ADVENT SEASON ONLY.

Both St. Matthew and St. Mark have opened up **Confession** times on weekdays during this Advent season. The confession times are **30 minutes** before each morning Masses. For St. Matthew, the confession hour is as follows:

Days Confession Hour Mass Times

Tuesday — 8:20-8:50 am 9:00 am

Thursday – 8:20-8:50 am 9:00 am

Friday - 7:50-8:20 am 8:30 am

Regular Confession Hour: Every Saturday 4-5pm

THE ADVENT GIVING TREE

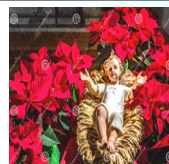


This is our last weekend to accept gifts for the Giving Tree! We are thankful that all the tags have been chosen and now we just need them **returned by noon this Sunday December 14th**. If you cannot purchase the specific gift on the tag, a gift card will work just as well. Any gift given is a blessing to the person or family.

We will be bagging the gifts on Sunday December 14th between 12 noon and 1pm. Agencies will be picking up the gifts from the church on Monday December 15th at 9:30am. For information or questions please call Monica Williams at **206.915.7555**.

POINSETTIAS FOR THE CHURCH ALTAR

Each Christmas we beautifully decorate the altar of St. Matthew with poinsettias in honor of the season. Parishioners and friends are invited to remember and honor their loved ones through the purchase of poinsettias.



Poinsettias may be ordered through December 22nd. Order forms are available in the church narthex and in the parish bulletin.

Please list the name of the loved ones or friend you wish to honor and return the form with your payment in the collection basket or to the parish office on or before December 22. This is a wonderful opportunity to honor your loved ones while helping to adorn our church for the Christmas season. Grateful for your support.

VOLUNTEER MONEY COUNTERS NEEDED

Calling St. Matthew Parishioners. We are in need of **Volunteer Money Counters** to assist with counting the Church's collections. Volunteers must be willing to undergo a required background check/clearance. For more info or interview, please contact Susan at **206 363-6767 (Ext. 203)**.



SCOUT TROOP 151

which serves St Matthew parish, is holding its annual Christmas tree fundraiser now through December 21st.

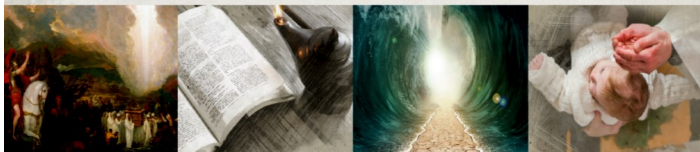
Their tree lot is located at Fairview Christian Church (NE 79th and Roosevelt Ave NE). The tree lot is open each weekday afternoon from 4:30 until 7:30 and each weekend from 10 AM until 7 PM. All proceeds go directly to the scout troop to support their activities forming young leaders of tomorrow .



FULFILLED

Uncovering the Biblical Foundations of Catholicism

PART ONE



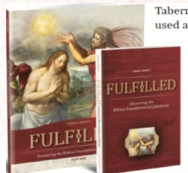
Dates Time Location
Tuesdays
Jan, 6, 13, 27
Feb. 3, 10, 24 + Mar. 3

St. Mark Sullivan Hall
Doors Open at 9:15 am
Class Session 9:30 – 10:45

Cost—Registration
Order your workbook
online at:
<https://ascensionpress.com/products/fulfilled-part-i-study-set-bundle>

A Seven-Part Apologetic Study Featuring Sonja Corbitt

Fulfilled explores the biblical roots of the Catholic Faith. It uncovers God's consistent design for our worship of him and his relationship with us. Learn how the Old Testament Tabernacle can be used as a blueprint for the Catholic Faith and how Jesus fulfilled it in the New Testament. Part One focuses on the elements found in the outer sanctuary of the Tabernacle and how they connect to the liturgical calendar, the priesthood, purgatory, baptism, and more.



FEAST OF CHILD JESUS (SANTO NIÑO), JAN. 10TH

You are warmly invited to join St. Matthew's celebration of the Feast of Santo Niño on Saturday, January 10, from 5 to 8 pm. The celebration will begin with a 5 pm Vigil Mass, including the blessing of the Infant Jesus' images, followed by a procession of the images at the Community Center with the devotees swaying to the sound of music and drums. A reception will take place during the procession.



Viva Pít Señor

FOUNDATIONS of FAITH

A Journey Through the Catechism of the Catholic Church

FOUNDATION OF FAITH—A JOURNEY THROUGH THE CATHECHISM

Discover the heart and soul of your Catholic beliefs as we continue the *Foundations of Faith: A Journey Through the Catechism of the Catholic Church*.

On January 7, we will begin a 4-week study of what the Catechism teaches about "How we Worship." There will be two more series before we close the year that will focus on "How we Live" and "How we Pray." You are welcome to join us for one or all these series. We will meet on Wednesday's at 7 pm in the St. Matthew Community Center Conference Room to view dynamic video presentations followed by a time of lively group discussion and fellowship.

Here is the planned schedule:

- **January 7, 14, 21, & 28** 4 Weeks on "How We Worship" - Focus on the liturgy and sacraments
- **February 4, 11, April 8 & 15** - 4 Weeks on "How we Live" – Focus on the call to freedom and happiness, the Human Community, and the Ten Commandments
- **April 29, May 6 & 13** – 3 weeks on "How we Pray" – Focus on the call to prayer, the Christian life of prayer and the Our Father.

Learn from some of the most renowned Catholic educators of our time, including Dr. Edward Sri, Jeff Cavins, Dr. Marcellino D'Ambrosio, and Fr. Mike Schmitz to explore the *Catechism*, unpacking its rich theological insights and helping you apply them to your everyday life. Strengthen your connection to the truth, beauty, goodness, and fullness of the Catholic Faith!

Baptismal Preparation Class



Saturday, January 10th, 2025
from 10:00-11:00am
in the St. Mark Sullivan Hall

If you would like to have your child (under 7 years old) baptized within the next six months, or if you are hoping to serve as a godparent, please email annel@saintmarkshoreline.org to register for this mandatory class. An online component must also be completed.



St. Matthew Parish Year-End Reminder

This is the time of year when most people give and receive. We thank you for your generosity and good stewardship to St. Matthew Parish as we continue the mission of Jesus Christ. As you search for the perfect gift for a loved one, remember that a year-end charitable gift in their name is deeply appreciated. Visit our website at www.stmatthewseattle.org and click on the "giving/donate" button.

WAYS TO GIVE BEYOND CASH

QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTIONS

A qualified charitable distribution (QCD) is a direct transfer of funds from your IRA custodian, payable to a qualified charity. A QCD excludes the amount donated from taxable income, which is unlike regular withdrawals from an IRA. QCDs don't require that you itemize, which due to recent tax law changes, means you may decide to take advantage of the higher standard deduction but still use a QCD for charitable giving.

IRA

When you utilize an IRA for charitable giving, you can satisfy your required minimum distribution (RMD) obligations if you are 73 or older, while also supporting a cause you care about. The donated amount is excluded from your taxable income, which can provide a tax advantage, especially if you do not itemize deductions.

(Please check with your financial advisor)

DONOR ADVISED FUNDS

A donor advised fund is like a charitable investment account for the sole purpose of supporting charitable organizations. When you contribute cash, securities or other assets to a donor advised fund, you are generally eligible to take an immediate tax deduction. Funds are disbursed at your discretion.

Gifts of securities (stocks, bonds, mutual funds) are some of the best gifts to make whether they have appreciated or not. Contact your broker to inform them of your request, and give them the Archdiocesan stock donation form available at the parish office, or from our website at www.stmatthewseattle.org and click on "Support Us, Online Giving".

- Your broker will be able to help direct you on the paperwork that you need to present them to release your stock.
 - Account information to give your broker to initiate a wire transfer of securities:
 - Tax ID# 91-0778147
 - D.A. Davidson: Acct title: Corporation of the Catholic Archdiocese of Seattle
 - Acct Number: 11402604 DTC 0361
 - Acct. Exec: Abraham Otoupal (866)333-8069

And Finally Please remember us:

- For any matching gifts (especially the school)
- In your will & trusts
- As one of the beneficiaries of your retirement fund/life insurance
- As a memorial/remembrance gift

This flyer is designed to provide general information regarding end of year giving strategies. It is not intended to serve as legal, tax, or other financial advice related to individual situations. Because each individual's legal, tax, and financial situation is different, specific advice should be tailored to the particular circumstances. For this reason, you are advised to consult with your own attorney, CPA, and/or other advisor regarding your specific situation.