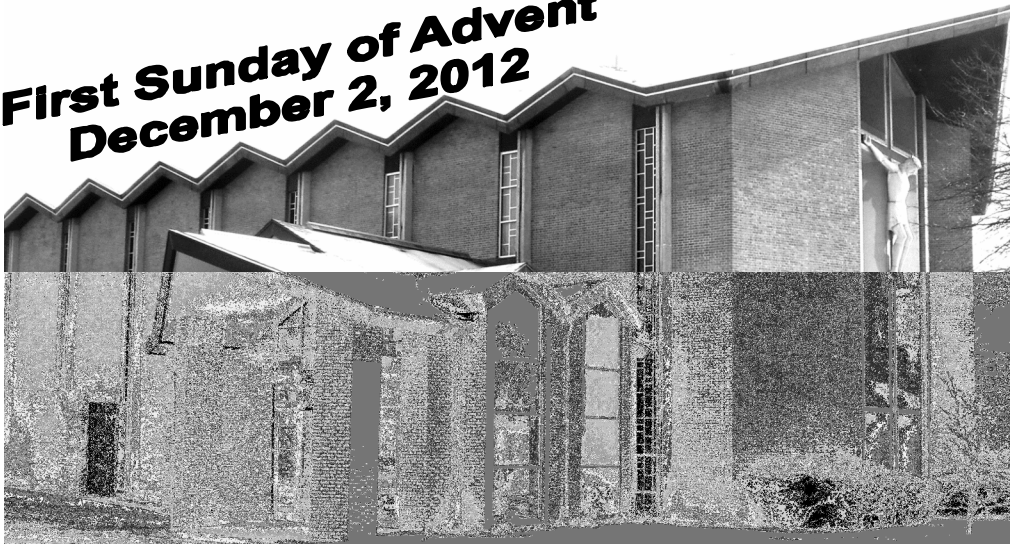


Rich in Tradition — United in Mission — Blessed with Diversity

**First Sunday of Advent
December 2, 2012**



St. Matthew Roman Catholic Church

5401 Loch Raven Boulevard
Baltimore MD 21239

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Joseph L. Muth Jr.
Pastor

Rev. Mr. Steven C. Rubio
Permanent Deacon

Mrs. Patricia DeLisle
Minister of Music

Mrs. Susan Keating
Director of Religious Education
& Youth Ministry

Ms. Barbara Metz
Director of Social Ministry

Sr. Andre Rothschild, CMS
Coordinator of R.C.I.A.

Mrs. Robin Novak
Accountant

Ms. Ann Marie Bunner
Administrative Assistant

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil 5:00pm
Sunday 8:45am & 11:00am

HOLY DAY MASS SCHEDULE

(Check the bulletin for schedule.)

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday & Thursday 9:00am
(Blessed Sacrament Church)
Tuesday 7:00am
Friday 7:00am & Saturday 9:00am
(St. Matthew Rectory Chapel)

First Saturday Devotion:
after 9:00am Mass

Taizé Prayer: First Friday (Sept—June,
and Fridays in Advent & Lent)
7:00 pm (Rectory Chapel)

Sunday Scripture Study at 10:00am

Little Rock Scripture Study
See Bulletin or call the Church Office

Rectory Office 410-433-2300 X 100

Hall Rental Requests: Ext. 100

Fax 410-433-5263

E-Mail stmattrc@gmail.com

Web www.stmattrc.org

Office of Religious Education & Youth Ministry

Phone: 410-444-4563

E-Mail: Reledym@yahoo.com

Web: <http://reledym11.tripod.com>

Immigration Outreach Service

Center Phone: 410-323-8564

www.ioscbaltimore.org

Cardinal Shehan School

Principal: Sister Rita Michelle Proctor, OSP

Phone: 410-433-2775

Web: <http://Cardinalshehanschool.org>

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 4-4:30PM (Church)
or by Appointment

ADULT CATECHUMENATE: To inquire
about the Faith, call the Church Office.

BAPTISM: Call the Church Office for
forms to complete and to arrange for
pre-baptism conference for parents.

MARRIAGE: Couples planning for
marriage must contact the Pastor at least
1 year in advance of the wedding date.

NEW PARISHIONERS: Please register
as soon as possible. Use the form on this
cover, or pick up a registration form at the
exits, or call the Church Office.

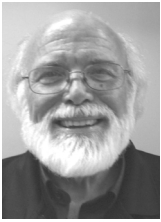
HOMEBOUND/SICK: Call the Church
Office to request Holy Communion or
Anointing.

Welcome to the Community of St. Matthew! So that we might serve your needs better, please fill out this form and drop it in the collection basket or mail to the Church Office.

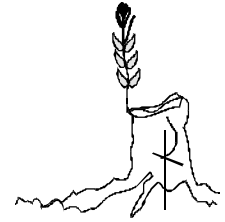
Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Zip _____

- Change of Address/Phone Visitor Returning Catholic Want to register in the parish Want envelopes
 Questions about Catholicism Wish to speak to Priest Special Interest/Need _____



First Sunday of Advent December 2, 2012



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

This weekend we begin the Season of Advent. It is the beginning of the Church Year. This year the Catholic Church throughout the world is celebrating the Year of Faith. So this year we are called to grow in understanding of who we are as a Catholic Community.

However, at times, the Catholic Community is a fractured or shattered people of God. We have differences of opinion; we don't get along; we don't like each other; and the unity we desire, as a people of faith, seems to be slipping away. We even begin to question if it was really there at all. This past election season seems to be one of those times. I had a meeting two weeks ago with 15 other pastors all talking about how their faith communities were fractured by the recent electoral process and how difficult it was. Some people were upset because the Church was too involved, some were upset because the Church was not involved enough. The Pastors decided how to handle all the information that came to them each week, and some gave out everything the Archdiocese sent, some gave out some of it, and others did not give out any of it. The Gospel today says, "Be on guard...pray constantly for strength." This is what we are going to do on this Advent Sunday. At each Mass this weekend there will be an altar call so that we can pray with and for each other. God can heal whatever is fractured within us, if we give God the chance. Today the second reading says, "may the Lord increase you and make you overflow with love for one another and for all...may he strengthen your hearts". May it be so!!

The St. Matthew Finance Committee meets on Monday December 3 at 6pm followed by the Pastoral Council at 7pm.

Blessed Sacrament's Advent Revival this week begins on Wednesday December 5 at 7pm and will continue on Thursday and Friday nights, December 6 and 7. All are welcome!!

The St. Matthew Advent Day of Prayer is on Saturday December 8. The day begins with 9am Holyday Mass in the church celebrating the Feast Day of the Immaculate Conception. The retreat day will follow from 10:30am to 2:30pm. The theme of the day is: "Finding the Right Gift". All are welcome.

Saturday December 8 is the Feast Day of the Immaculate Conception and a Holyday of Obligation. There will be one Mass in the church at 9am on Saturday. Because the children at Cardinal Shehan School will not be in class on Saturday, there will be a Mass in church on Friday December 7 at 9am so that the school children can celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. All are welcome!

Take some time during Advent for quiet time, prayer, reflection, meditation, contemplation, or some sort of slow-down prayer experience. Don't be caught up in the rush of all the traditional events. Go for a walk! Close your door! Be with God!

PREPARE *yourself
for the
Lord's Coming*

Love and Prayers and Happy Advent,
Fr. Joe

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

01 Sat 5pm Sunday Vigil *Mass Int. Joseph Patrick Sweeney*
 2 Sun 8:45am *Mass Int. Elizabeth Sweeney Child*
 2 Sun 11am *Mass Int. Aileen Stielper*
 3 Mon 9am Mass@ Blessed Sacrament Church
 4 Tue 7am *Mass Int. Sr. M. Candida Ferrari, CMS*
 6 Thu 9am Mass @ Blessed Sacrament Church
 7 Fri 7am *Mass Int. Rosemarie A. Batti*
 7 Fri 9am Mass (Cardinal Shehan School Holyday Mass)

8 Sat 9am Mass Int. Lou Fratta (Holy Day: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary) Mass in Church

8 Sat 5pm Sunday Vigil *Mass Int. Sara Jane Sant*
 9 Sun 8:45am *Mass Int. Marguerite "Mickie" Hallinger*
 9 Sun 11am *Mass Int. Tommy Evelyn*

CONFESS I O N / R E C O N C I L I A T I O N

4- 4:30PM Saturdays in Church or by appointment

FIRST RECONCILIATION: The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated collaboratively with area parishes on Tuesday, December 11 at 7:00pm at St. Anthony of Padua Church on Frankford Avenue. Please pray for our Students who have prepared to receive this Sacrament for the first time.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: Due to the Christmas and New Year's Holidays, there are no Religious Education classes on Saturday December 22 and Saturday December 29 for grades 1 through 6. There are no classes on Monday December 24 and Monday December 31 for grades 7 through 12. Classes resume on Saturday January 5 for grades 1 through 6, and on Monday January 7 for grades 7 through 12 with report cards being distributed to parents.

FIRST EUCHARIST: Letters of Invitation are sent to families whose children are in second grade and up. If you have not received a letter and your child has not received the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist, please contact the Office of Religious Education at 410-444-4563.

Parents are to attend a First Eucharist Meeting at the St. Thomas More Parish Center on one of the following dates:

- Monday, January 14 -- 6:00 to 9:00pm
- Tuesday, January 15 -- 8:45am to 12:00pm

You must register for one of these parent meetings by phoning or e-mailing the Religious Education Center @ 410-444-4563 or reledym@yahoo.com.

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

Offering Envelopes.....	\$8,855.00
Loose Offering	544.88
Mortgage Reduction.....	483.00
Poor Box.....	38.61
Attendance.....	406

2013 OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE AVAILABLE NOW! PLEASE PICK THEM UP NOW!

If you are unable to come to pick them up, please ask someone to get them for you, or call the church office 410-433-2300 x100 with any questions.



MEETING/ EVENTS THIS WEEK

02 Sun 9:30am RCIA (Library)
 02 Sun 10am Sodality Mtg (RMR)
 02 Sun 10am Sunday Scripture Study (Chapel)
 02 Sun 12:30pm Gospel Choir Practice (Church)
 02 Sun 12:30pm LEAD (Kit)
 03 Mon 10:30am NA Meeting (RMR)
 03 Mon 6pm Finance Committee Meeting (Lib)
 03 Mon 7:00pm Pastoral Council Meeting (RMR)
 04 Tue 8am Good Samaritan Nursing School (RMR)
 04 Tue 7pm Liturgy Committee (DR)
 04 Tue 7:30pm KofC Mtg (RMR)
 05 Wed 7pm Good Samaritan Nursing School (RMR)
 05 Wed 7pm Contemporary Choir Practice (Church)
 06 Thu 8am Good Samaritan Nursing School (RMR)
 07 Fri 11am Friendship Club for Seniors (RMR/Chapel)
 07 Fri Hall Setup for Saturday Rental
 07 Fri 7pm Taizé Prayer (Chapel)
 08 Sat 10:30am-2:30pm Advent Day (RMR)
 08 Sat Hall Rental
 09 Sun 10am Cross-Cultural Team Mtg (DR)
 09 Sun 10am Sunday Scripture Study (Chapel)
 09 Sun 12:30pm Gospel Choir Practice (Church)

PRAYER LI ST

Al Augustine, Alice Hariston, Alphonsus Oguamanam, Andrea Shuck, Anne Marie Campbell, Ann Woods, Anne Command, Annie Windom, Augustine Ubaru, Barbara Reid, Bernard Adams, Bernetta Mitchell, Beth/Pat/Greg/Alex, Bill & Sheila Schone, Carberry Family, Carl Gabler, Carlton Mitchell, Catherine Potillo, Catreece Johnson, Chapline Family, Charles Johnson, Charles Wood, Cheryl Lusby, Chukwuma & Philomena Okpala, Colton Auer, Confessor Perez, Cora Lee Palmer, Cory Hougaton, Courtney McCray, Daisy Nanton, Darlene Johnson, David Roman, Dawn Houck, Dezirac Black, Dionne J. Davis, Dolores Schmitt, Donna Dusman, Donna Lusby, Donna Parault, Eastlyn Aleong, Edward Arnold, Edward Ray Murray, Eileen Burnette, Elaine Crow, Elissa Perrera, Eloise Hopkins, Ethel White, Faith Donerson, Felix Kim, Fr. Guy "Gee" Msafiri, Frank & Shirley Canteloupa, Frieda Koubek, Glorianna Hopkins, Helen Heinbuck, Henrietta Mitchell, Hill Family, Huston Family, Jack Murphy, Ja'Leik Kernay, James Ramus, Jane Degannes, Jerry Balda, Jessica Homer, Jim Augustine, Jim & Nancy O'Neil, Jim Pavlic, Joe E. Koubek, Joe Newson, John Condon, Joseph Strauch, Judy Gardner, Kathleen Dragovich, Kim Bunner, Kyle Beaudet, Lawrence Hawkins, Lucille Casey, Mac McAvinue, Margie Guardia, Mark Whelan, Mary Jane Hart, Matthew Vandyke, Melanie Harris, Melanie McCollum, Michelle Lane, Nadine Finigan, Patrick Montague & Family, Patricia Moore, Pauline Alshure, Peg Collins, Peter Orni, Pettis Family, Rocky Davis, Rose Zampogna, Ruck Davids, Ryan Carlisle, Samuel Gordon Bish, Stephen Anthony Denton, Stephen Manik, Sylvia Adams, Teresa Troy, Thelma Backof, Theresa DeKowzan, Tom Whelan, Victoria Borland, Vince Gomes, Viola Williams, William Kovalevsky, Wilma Coleman, Wood/Haythe Family, St. Matthew & Blessed Sacrament Parishes. All in Harms Way, especially: Alan Caved (Iraq), Anthony Rivera (Kuwait), Brett Dawson (Baghdad), Brad Gonzales (Iraq), David Fyfe (Afghanistan), Kyle Martin (Afghanistan), Matthew Wickham (Iraq), Robert Daniels, Jr. (Afghanistan), David Swieczkowski (Iraq), Fire, Police, Rescue, National Guard, Unemployed, & Under-employed, and all Families in Crisis.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

THIS SUNDAY: Jer 33:14-16; Ps 25:4-5,8-10,14; 1 Thes 3:12-4:2; Lk 21:25-28,34-36 We must be on guard for the Day which is to come when all will be fulfilled. As we await the coming of Christ, let us love one another, observing his covenant and decrees.

MONDAY: Is 2:1-5; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11 Let us give thanks for the great feast prepared for us in which God's glory is revealed. [Saint Francis Xavier was one of the founding Jesuits; he preached in India, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, and Japan; with Therese of the Child Jesus, he is co-patron of the Apostleship of Prayer and of the foreign missions.]

TUESDAY: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1, 7-8,12-13,17; Lk 10:21-24 The spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Jesus, the shoot of Jesse. He will bring justice and peace. [Saint John Damascene was the last of the Greek Fathers; first of the East to formulate a comprehensive synthesis of Christian dogma; defended the veneration of icons; composed hymns and preached many homilies in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary, especially her assumption.]

WEDNESDAY: Is 25:6-10; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37 We are invited to celebrate the Lord's victory banquet, his triumph over sickness and evil.

THURSDAY: Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1,8-9,19-21,25-27; Mt 7:21,24-27 The Lord is our rock and fortress, our Savior. May our lives be built upon God's holy word. [Saint Nicholas was bishop of Myra in Asia Minor; model pastor noted for charity; popularized as Santa Claus, Anglicized from Dutch *Sinter Claus*; patron of children, bankers, pawnbrokers, sailors, perfumers, poets, and prisoners; also of Russia, Greece, Sicily, Lorraine, and Apulia in Italy where his relics are enshrined.]

FRIDAY: Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1,4,13-14; Mt 9:27-31 The Lord, our light and salvation, is able to cure us of our blindness because of our faith. [Saint Ambrose was born in Trier of noble parents; classically educated; while still a catechumen chosen by popular acclaim as bishop of Milan and then consecrated; he was a compelling preacher, defender of orthodoxy against Arianism; brought Theodosius to public penance; composed several liturgical hymns; baptized Augustine; along with Jerome, Augustine and Gregory I, he is declared one of the four great doctors of the Latin Church.]

SATURDAY – THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY HOLYDAY: Gn 3:9-15,20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6,11-12; Lk 1:26-38 Chosen by God, Mary reverses the sin of Eve. Because of her obedience, God's salvation is made known to all the nations. [Originating in the 7th century, the feast of the Conception of Mary by St. Anne was established as a solemnity for the entire church in 1708. The Immaculate Conception is the patroness of the United States of America, Spain, Tanzania, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.]

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT: Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126:1-6; Phil 1:4-6,8-11; Lk 3:1-6 The Lord has done great things, leading his people out of slavery to the glorious splendor of Jerusalem. Let us make ready the way of the Lord by abounding in love and in works of justice.

THANK YOU to all who brought food items on Thanksgiving, and/or donated cash that totaled \$319 for Our Daily Bread. Thank you to Steve & Michelle Rubio for delivering your gifts to Our Daily Bread.



LITURGY COMMITTEE FUNDRAISER

During the Advent/Christmas season, remember or honor a loved one by placing an ornament on the tree with their name. The funds generated from this endeavor will be used for liturgical items which are not in the regular budget for the year. Over the past year, the Liturgy Committee has purchased Bibles with covers for the church, holy water bottles, liturgy magazine subscriptions, purificators, New Roman Missal and Lectionary, New Sacramental Books, and supported the Praise and Worship Dance Ministry and Children's Liturgy of the Word.

Angels (\$10)
Holy Family (\$15)
Dove (\$10)
Candle (\$5)
Star (\$1)

ORDER FORMS are at the exits or email stmatrc@gmail.com and a form will be emailed to you. If you are homebound and need one mailed to you, please call the office 410-433-2300, ext 100 and a form will be mailed to you.



CHRISTMAS GIFT COLLECTION



Our Daily Bread Christmas Party for Single Men

Bring new flannel shirts & socks
by Sunday, December 2nd.



All sizes needed.

Please put unwrapped items
in boxes at church exits.



72 bags of clothing
were collected for St. Vincent dePaul **this month.**
Thanks to all who helped fill the truck !

Because of your support,
the Alternative Gift Fair
and Raffle were also great success !



Note: There is no Fair Trade Sale in December,
but gifts are still available...

Call Barbara at the rectory for Fair Trade products,
including 2013 Calendars
Divine Dinner Mints
and Travel Mugs

Contact Ramon Thompson for
Knights of Columbus Christmas Cards.


ARCHDIOCESE OF BALTIMORE MOBILE APP: To coincide with the Year of Faith, the Archdiocese of Baltimore recently announced it has developed a mobile version of its website and an App for Apple and Android mobile device users, to make it easier for Catholics to stay connected to their local Church, including parishes and schools, while on the go. For more information, visit www.archbalt.org or download the app from the app store.

February 10, 2013 - St. Francis of Assisi, 3615 Harford Road, Baltimore, Maryland 21218 is having an **All-You-Can-Eat Oyster Roast** in the Church Hall. The cost is \$40 per person. The menu includes homemade oyster stew, oysters on the half-shell, padded fried oysters, pit beef, sausages, salads, desserts, and beer and soda. The time is 1 - 5 P.M. The main entrance is near the corner of Harford Road and Pelham Avenue. The handicapped entrance is near the corner of Harford Road and Chesterfield Avenue. There will be a Big 6 Wheel, a Liquor Wheel, and raffles. Reservations are necessary - don't delay - this is usually a sold out event. Call 410-235-5136 for your tickets.

Annual Homeless Persons' Memorial Service Remembering those how have died homeless. First Day of Winter...Longest Night of the Year. Friday, December 21st, 5 pm, at the Inner Harbor Amphitheatre (Pratt and Calvert Sts). Sponsored by SHARP - "Stop Homelessness and Reduce Poverty." For info, contact Rachel Kutler at 443-703-1398 or rkutler@hchmd.org.

Margaret Driver has moved to a new address: Brightview Towson Apt. 223; 20 East Burke Avenue; Towson, MD 21286.

Sr. Joan's contact information: E-Mail: giancostanza@gmail.com. Suor Giancostanza Ramus; Suore Missionarie Comboniane; Via G. Piccinelli 3; 24125 Bergamo – Italy.

 If you have not picked up your offering envelopes, please do so now! If you have not been using offering envelopes or cannot find your box, please contact Ann Marie at ext. 100 or leave a note in the church office or email stmattre@gmail.com.

CHRISTMAS ALTAR FLOWERS: You may honor or remember your loved ones by completing the form with your name (donor) and the name of the one(s) you are honoring (H), or remembering (R). Please print the names and include your day time phone number or email address. Your \$5 donation per name helps with the cost of the Christmas Flowers for Church and for the Homebound. Please print clearly. Thank you!



NAME	HONORED (H) (or) REMEMBERED (R)

DONOR _____
Day Phone _____
E-Mail Address: _____

Year of Faith - Questions and Answers

1. What is the Year of Faith? At certain times in the history of the Church, popes have called upon the faithful to dedicate themselves to deepening their understanding of a particular aspect of the faith. In 1967, Pope Paul VI announced a Year of Faith commemorating the 19th centenary of the martyrdom of Sts. Peter and Paul. The 1967 Year of Faith called upon the Church to recall the supreme act of witness by these two saints so that their martyrdom might inspire the present day Church to collectively and individually make a sincere profession of faith. The upcoming Year of Faith declared by Pope Benedict XVI is a “summons to an authentic and renewed conversion to the Lord, the One Savior of the world” (Porta fidei 6). In other words, the Year of Faith is an opportunity for Catholics to experience a conversion – to turn back to Jesus and enter into a deeper relationship with him. The pope has described this conversion as opening the “door of faith” (see Acts 14:27). The “door of faith” is opened at one’s baptism, but during this year Catholics are called to open it again, walk through it and rediscover and renew their relationship with Christ and his Church.

2. Why is the Year of Faith this year? With his Apostolic Letter of October 11, 2011, Porta fidei, Pope Benedict XVI declared that the Year of Faith will begin on October 11, 2012 and conclude on November 24, 2013. October 11, the first day of the Year of Faith, is the fiftieth anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council (Vatican II) and also the twentieth anniversary of the Catechism of the Catholic Church. During the Year of Faith, Catholics are asked to study and reflect on the documents of Vatican II and the catechism so that they may deepen their knowledge of the faith.

3. The Year of Faith begins in October 2012 with a Synod on New Evangelization. What is a synod? A synod of bishops is a gathering of bishops, selected from different areas of the world, who meet with the pope to discuss questions pertaining to the activity of the Church in the world. This meeting of bishops helps to foster a closer unity between the bishops and the pope, and provides counsel to the pope. Pope Benedict XVI has situated the Synod on the New Evangelization (October 7-28) at the beginning of the Year of Faith (October 11).

4. How are Year of Faith and New Evangelization linked? The New Evangelization is a call to each Catholic to deepen his or her own faith, have confidence in the Gospel, and possess a willingness to share the Gospel. The New Evangelization is first and foremost a personal encounter with Jesus Christ; it is an invitation to deepen one’s relationship with Christ. It is also a call to each person to share his or her faith with others. The Year of Faith, just like the New Evangelization, calls Catholics to conversion in order to deepen their relationship with Christ and to share it with others.

5. How does the Year of Faith affect the average Catholic? Every baptized Catholic is called through baptism to be a disciple of Christ and proclaim the Gospel. The Year of Faith is an opportunity for each and every Catholic to renew their baptismal call by living out the everyday moments of their lives with faith, hope and love. This everyday witness is necessary for proclaiming the Gospel to family, friends, neighbors and society. In order to witness to the Gospel, Catholics must be strengthened through celebrating weekly Sunday Mass and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Pastors are encouraged to provide their parishioners with opportunities to deepen their faith during the Year of Faith through retreats, special liturgies, Bible studies, service opportunities and formation sessions on the catechism and sacraments.

6. What are some key resources for the Year of Faith? Catholics wishing to deepen their faith during the Year of Faith should start by exploring the Evangelization and Catechesis section of the USCCB website. Numerous catechetical resources, prayers and other resources have been prepared for the Year of Faith and the New Evangelization that can be viewed and downloaded for free. Catholics should also consider studying the documents of Vatican II and the catechism. Another resource is the United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, which takes the teachings of the catechism and shares them within a uniquely American context and highlights American Catholic saints and role models. Catholics can also talk to their pastors and other parish leaders to learn about what activities and opportunities will be taking place within their communities. Most importantly, Catholics seeking to deepen their faith should pray daily, study Scripture and celebrate weekly Sunday Mass.

ADVENT: Beginning the Church's liturgical year, Advent (meaning, "ad-venio in Latin or "to come to") is the season leading up to the celebration of Christmas. The Advent season is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and also to the anniversary of the Lord's birth on Christmas. Advent devotions remind us of the meaning of the season. Special Advent devotions include the lighting of the [Advent wreath](#); the Advent calendar which helps remind us of the season with daily thoughts and activities; Advent prayers that prepare us spiritually for the birth of Jesus Christ.

Advent Wreaths: Traditionally, Advent wreaths are constructed of a circle of evergreen branches into which four candles are inserted, representing the four weeks of Advent. Ideally, three candles are purple and one is rose, but white candles can also be used. The purple candles in particular symbolize the prayer, penance, and preparatory sacrifices and good works undertaken at this time. The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday, Gaudete Sunday, when the priest also wears rose vestments at Mass; Gaudete Sunday is the Sunday of rejoicing, because the faithful have arrived at the midpoint of Advent, when their preparation is now half over and they are close to Christmas. The progressive lighting of the candles symbolizes the expectation and hope surrounding our Lord's first coming into the world and the anticipation of his second coming to judge the living and the dead.

YEAR OF FAITH December 2012 SAINT: St. John Neumann, C.Ss.R.

Missionary and 4th bishop of Philadelphia. Founded the first diocesan Catholic school system in U.S. St. John Neumann learned pretty quickly what it meant to follow God's will with your whole heart and soul. He was certain that he was called to be a priest, but when the time came for ordination, the bishop fell ill and the ordination was cancelled. It was never rescheduled, because there was an over-abundance of priests in Europe. Knowing he was meant to be a priest, John traveled all the way from Bohemia to New York City to be ordained. He was one of only 36 priests, serving 200,000 Catholics: his 'parish' stretched from Lake Ontario throughout Pennsylvania. He became the founder of the first diocesan Catholic School system, going from only two schools to one hundred schools in his diocese.

Save the Date: February 9, 2013

**The 5th Annual St. Matthew
Men's Fellowship Mardi Gras Dance**

BYOF! (Bring your own food)

BYOB! (Bring your own bottle)

Ticket Price: \$15 per person (down from \$20 last year!)

Silent Auction	Door Prizes	50-50 Raffle
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Half of all proceeds to benefit St. Matthew Church

Set-ups provided.

Contact: Frank Cherry (410) 935-2123