



Saint Matthew Catholic Church

December 15, 2019

3rd Sunday of
Advent

229 South 28th Avenue
Wausau, WI 54401
715-842-3148
www.stmatthewausau.org



Advent Prayer

Dear Jesus, help us focus on You during this busy season. May we stay aware of the joy You bring into our lives. We want to find You in the everyday moments and come with hearts of gratitude to Your manger on Christmas. Amen.



Sunday, December 15th
6:30 pm
Advent
Communal Penance Service
at St Matthew Church
Several priests will be available
for individual confessions.

Mass Schedule - Horario de Misas

Weekends

Saturday: 4:30 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am

10:00 am

12:00 noon (Español-Spanish)

Weekdays

Monday: 8:00 am

Tuesday: 12:05 pm

Weds thru Sat: 8:00 am

Confessions

Saturday: 11 am - 12 noon or by Appointment

Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction

Wednesdays - after 8 am Mass until 5 pm
(Benediction at 4:50 pm)

1st Fridays - Benediction after 8 am Mass

Rosary

Daily before Mass & Wednesdays at 4:30 pm

Mon, Weds, Friday - with Prayer for Priests

Vespers - Evening Prayer: Wednesdays - 5 pm

Baptism

The parents are required to attend a Baptism Preparation Class. Godparents are encouraged to attend. You must register one week before the class by calling the Parish Center at 715-842-3148.

Next Baptism Class: Monday, January 13th
at 6:30 pm in the Parish Center Patio Room.

Bautismo

Para Bautismos los padres y padrinos deben tomar una clase de preparación. Generalmente las clases son el primer martes de cada mes a las 6:30 pm en el centro parroquial.

Para mayor informes y registrarse para la clase llame a Joy al 715-842-3148.

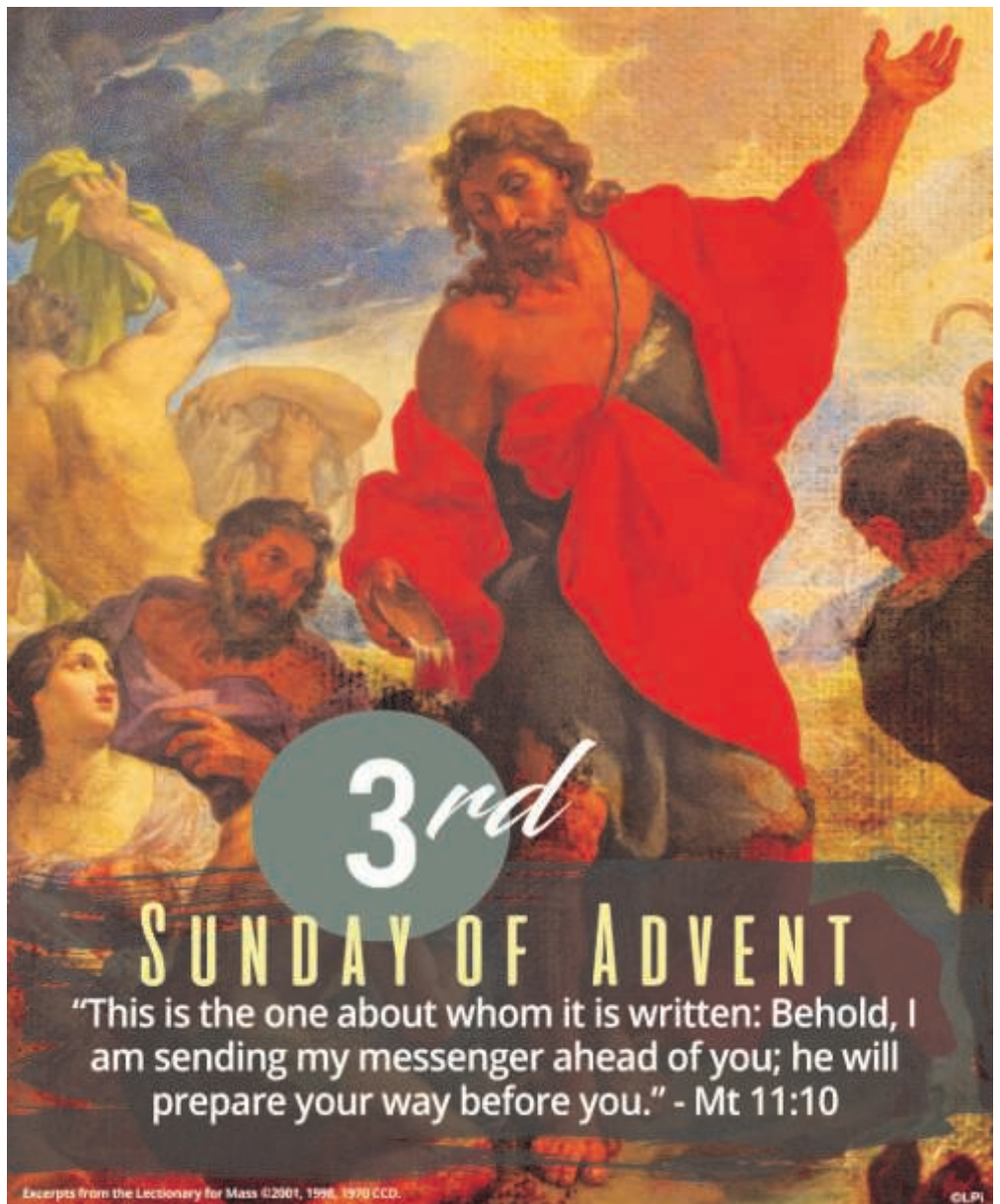
Parish Center Office (Oficina): 715-842-3148

221 S 28th Avenue

(Behind school/atrás de la escuela)

Hours/Horas: Monday-Thursday: 8 am - 4 pm

Friday: 8 am - 12 noon



3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"This is the one about whom it is written: Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way before you." - Mt 11:10



Saturday, December 7, 2019

Beatification of "Blessed James Miller"

Bishop William Patrick Callahan, OFM Conv.



Brother James Miller, born and raised in central Wisconsin, martyred in Guatemala, and living today in the Heavenly Jerusalem **was declared "blessed" Saturday, December 7, in Huehuetenango Guatemala.**

Like all others who have been declared "blessed" by the Church, Brother James was remarkable indeed and heroic in sanctity. He lived, served, loved, taught, and died after the example of Jesus.

Through Brother James's own flesh and blood, Jesus became incarnate to those whom Brother James served.

Yet, even in his holy heroism, James Miller was one like us. He was born in Stevens Point, raised on an Ellis dairy farm, and graduated from Pacelli High School. In these and many other respects, Brother James was no different from you or me.

Brother James entered the novitiate for the *Christian Brothers* in 1962, and eventually taught at Cretin High School in Saint Paul. In addition to teaching religion, Brother James taught English and Spanish, coached football, and worked in the maintenance of the **school building. "Brother Fix-it," in fact, became his nickname from his ability and desire to work with his hands. He is often depicted today with wrench in hand!**

Brother Miller would go on to take final vows as a *Christian Brother* in 1969. He would serve as teacher, director, and even builder of schools, both in Nicaragua and in Guatemala, serving the poor in **need of his and Christ's care.**

On February 13, 1982, Brother James Miller was shot multiple times and killed by three unknown gunmen. He was doing what **God had made him to do. Standing on a ladder, attending to his school's building, Brother Fix-it was restoring God's kingdom** - ordered, beautiful, and at the service of those in need - out of the rubble of a fallen, sad, and sinful world.

The ordinary ladder upon which he died, a tool of work in a **mundane world, is, by God's design, an extraordinary image of his own elevated path to heaven.** In some ways, this ladder, like the wrench in his hand, signifies his own life: an ordinary boy with Wisconsin roots rises to an extraordinary man of faith in Guatemala and radiates a blessed image of Jesus from heaven.

A "beatification," such as James Miller received on Saturday, is not simply another step along the road to an official declaration of "Saint." **To be declared "blessed", which is what the ceremony of "beatification" does, is to be declared joyful, blissful, and happy.** Being like Jesus makes us happy, and Brother James, in the service of Jesus to his people, was a happy, blessed man. Such is the lesson worth pondering in James Miller. Do the seemingly small things well - coach football, fix the fence, teach the children - and Jesus can radiate through you. And make you joyful.

Because Blessed James Miller was one like us, we can aspire to become one like him. In light of his beatification, reflect upon your own life: Where were you born? What are you doing today to further **God's kingdom in the ordinary life around you? How are you working for heaven?** From Wisconsin to the Heavenly Jerusalem, let us live our ordinary lives in an extraordinary way.



A clergyman distributes Communion during the beatification Mass of Blessed James Miller in Huehuetenango, Guatemala. (CNS/David Agren)

Blessed James Miller, pray for us!

Celebrating our Blessed Brother James Miller, FSC:

Loving and gracious God,
we thank you for the gift of our Blessed Brother James Miller.
By his example and intercession,
grant that we may follow his example
of selfless service to those entrusted to our care.
May we also carry on his work
of educating the poor and alleviating their oppression.
We ask this through
Christ Our Lord. Amen.
Saint John Baptist de La Salle, Pray for us!
Blessed Brother James Miller, Pray for us!
Live Jesus in our Hearts - Forever!

Prayer provided by the Christian Brothers of the Midwest

Bishop Callahan's Advent Prayer Request



Prayer is a joyful method of keeping us aware of the promises of future and realized glory as we make our way through the weeks of Advent. Remember you are in my daily prayers.

If you have a particular intention for which you would like me to pray at Christmas Mass, visit: diolc.org/pray or call 608-352-9565. Keep alert, maintain your vision in Christ.

Blessed Advent to you all!

Join Us on a 2020 Pilgrimage to Israel & Jordan

May 11-22, 2020 - 10 nights at 4-star hotels

Visit Bethlehem, Church of the Holy Sepulcher, Sea of Galilee, Amman, and many more sites. This is a trip of a life time!

Down payment due January 31, 2020 to hold a seat for you.

For a copy of the itinerary and more details, please contact Fr Janusz via:

- Email: frjktrips@gmail.com
- Call St Lawrence Parish: 715-421-5777
- or write to me at:

Fr Janusz Kowalski
St Lawrence Parish
530 10th Avenue N
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495



Our Aging Religious Give Thanks!!!



Thank you for supporting those who have given a lifetime!

“Thank you” hardly seems adequate to convey what it means to us,” says a Catholic sister of the financial assistance her community received from the Retirement Fund for Religious. Prayer-filled thanks for your donation to last week’s second collection.



Eucharistic Adoration in the Area

St Matthew: Wednesday - after 8 am Mass until 5 pm
Benediction at 4:50 pm

1st Friday - Benediction after 8 am Mass

Pax Christi Adoration Chapel Marathon:

Sunday: 12 noon - 11 pm, Tuesday: 9 am - 11 pm,
Wednesday: 9 am through 8 pm Thursday, Friday: 9 am - 3 pm

St Therese Rothschild: Tuesday after the 8 am Mass until 8 am Friday
After 6 pm, ring main entrance doorbell to enter. To volunteer: 715-359-8352.



Best Advent Ever

Advent is a time of preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus on Christmas. It is also a time for us to prepare to welcome Jesus more fully into our lives. The *Dynamic Catholic* organization has a simple, free and enjoyable program to help us do that during this Advent, called “Best Advent Ever.” Through short video reflections e-mailed to you each day, you can enter fully into this Advent season. More information on how to take advantage of this opportunity can be found at: <https://dynamiccatholic.com/best-advent-ever>

March for Life!

Chicago, Jan. 11, 2020:

Pro-Life Wisconsin is sponsoring buses from Wausau, Plover, Onalaska and Tomah. See www.dioc.org/respect-life for more information

Here is the diocesan Facebook link for this event:
<https://www.facebook.com/events/3033261200037070/>



Washington, D.C., Jan. 22-26, 2020:

Major diocesan pilgrimage for youth and adults. For information and online registration visit www.dioc.org/yva/march-4-life-2020/

Here is the diocesan Facebook link for this event:
<https://www.facebook.com/events/470858483538468/>



The Advent Spirit

In this season of Advent, consider that the “Advent spirit” is in the heart of every human person. It is one of longing, of yearning for a fulfillment that somehow lies beyond ourselves; for we long for the coming of the Lord. In the coming weeks before Christmas as we “prepare the way of the Lord” please remember those in need who are suffering and poor. At St Vincent de Paul, we seek to help the poor through our home mission, where Vincentians visit our neighbors and offer simple gifts of friendship and love, in addition to financial assistance if possible.
For more information, please call 715-848-1046.

That Man is You! Dec 18 - Week 13 - “Insurmountable Battle Wounds”



- The Cross We Give Our Children
- A Hopeless Relationship
- A Miraculous Conversion
- The Father Never Stops Looking for Us
- Never too Late
- An Epic Story of Divine Mercy

St Matthew's Pizza Night !
Saturday, December 21 at 5:30 pm
(or after 4:30 pm Mass)

at St Matthew School Cafeteria



Come and enjoy delicious Pizza and get to know other members of the parish family. Have fun!! Bring the whole family! If you have any questions or would like to help, call Deacon Tom at 715-297-5976 or email at: thomas.tierney@protonmail.com

Thank you for Freewill Offerings made to support this event.



Advent Candles and Wreaths

Available for purchase in the Angelorum.

\$5.00 - Advent Candles (1 box/set)

\$6.00 - Metal Wreath

Please place payment in the box on the table or in an envelope (with note for what money is for) and put in the Collection Basket.

Donations for Advent and Christmas Candles & Flowers



To beautify the church and sanctuary and to honor the birth of Jesus you may donate a candle or flowers in memory of loved ones.



Place your donations in an envelope, include your name and the name of the person you are remembering and put in the collection basket at Mass or mail to: St Matthew Parish Center
221 S. 28th Ave
Wausau, WI 54401

Thank You and May You have a Blessed Christmas Season!!!

“Plugged In”

Wonder if a TV show or movie is family friendly? *Plugged In* reviews movies, videos, music, TV and games from a Christian perspective. Their website can be accessed in both English and Spanish. It rates today’s entertainment and helps families make better entertainment choices. *Plugged In* is affiliated with Focus on the Family. Check out: www.pluggedin.com

Give a Gift this Christmas to Mount View Care Center Residents



Many residents don’t receive Christmas gifts. If you would like to donate a gift for someone this Christmas, contact North Central Health Care Volunteer Office at 715-848-4450 or email: volunteer@norcen.org for more information. Gifts don’t have to be wrapped and can be dropped off at Mount View Care Center, 2400 Marshall Street, Wausau.

Additional Events

- V December 15, Sunday: 5 pm, Cocktails: 6 pm, Dinner & Show - “Ye Olde Madrigal Feast” (St James Catholic Church Amherst - Call Michelle for questions at 715-600-4145) Featuring the Midwest’s Merry Carolers Madrigal Troupe. \$40/person (age 12 & under: \$25) To buy tickets call 715-572-3406
- V December 18, Wednesday: 6:30 pm - “Christmas Concert” by Tom Jaworski & Brian Chojnacki (St Ladislaus Parish, 173141 State Hwy 153, Hatley, 715-446-3060) Free will offering.
- V December 20, Friday: 6:30 pm - “Come Let Us Adore” - (St Mark Parish- 602 Military Road, Rothschild 715-359-5206) The Nativity Story told through contemporary music. Featuring a choir & orchestra from area parishes. Tickets available at the door: \$8 Adults, \$5 Children 6-12 yrs, Free-under age 5
- V Ongoing Need: Marathon County Literacy Council needs volunteers to help teach reading, writing, and other subjects. Please contact Connie Heidemann at 715.679.6170, e-mail: mclitofwausau.org.



This Week at Saint Matthew

Monday, December 16

Spanish Catechism Class - Parish Center Library: 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Tuesday, December 17

Gospel of Matthew Study - Church-**Emily's Rm: 10:30 am**-Noon & 6:30-8 pm
Buildings & Grounds Meeting - Parish Center Patio Room: 7 pm

Wednesday, December 18

That Man Is You! - Parish Center Patio Room: 6 am
Ray's Breakfast Club (all men) - Eagle's Nest Restaurant: 9 am
Marlene's Breakfast Club (all women) - Blue Willow Restaurant: 9 am
Peacemaker Quilters - Parish Center Patio Room: 1 pm
Religious Education Classes - Holy Name School: 6:15 - 7:30 pm
Gaudete Choir Practice - Church: 6:30 pm

Thursday, December 19

Staff Meeting - Parish Center Library: 9 am
Jubilee House Free Community Meal - School Cafeteria: 4:30 - 6:00 pm
Healing Fire of the Spirit Prayer Meeting - **Church, Emily's Rm: 6:00-7:30 pm**

Saturday, December 21

Pizza Night - St Matthew School Cafeteria: 5:30 pm

Sunday, December 22

Family Choir Practice for Children's Christmas Eve Mass - Church: 11 am
RCIA - Rectory: 6:30 pm



"Joy" Diocesan Annual Appeal 2019-2020

Target: \$71,505



All that we have has been given to us by God! Now is our turn to help with His work on earth by making a pledge to the Diocesan Annual Appeal, if you have not already done so. Please do so today! Large or small amounts will help us reach our target of \$71,505.

Any amount over our goal will be a rebate and comes back to our parish. Thank you and remember, we cannot out do our God.



Thank you for generously supporting Saint Matthew Parish!

Minimum budgeted amount needed weekly	\$9,612.00
Stewardship Last Weekend.....	\$10,709.09
Immaculate Conception Collection.....	\$1,155.18
Religious Retirement Collection.....	\$2,028.68

Celebration of Sacraments

Marriage - Arrangements must be made six (6) months in advance with Fr Bob.

Call **Dorothy** at 715-432-5519 to make arrangements for:

- ❑ Anointing of the Sick - available when you are seriously ill or before a scheduled surgery.
- ❑ Visits to the Homebound - visits to your home, assisted living facility, or nursing home.

Hospital Visits - Let the hospital know when you are admitted that you would like to have Fr Bob or Fr Peter visit you.

Intercessory Prayer - Call **Bonnie** at 715-675-9876 when you need extra prayer. Our prayer group is always ready to pray for you!

* You may also call the Parish Center at 715-842-3148

Parish Staff (715-842-3148)

Pastor - Rev. Robert Thorn	Plant Manager - Jason Seliger
Associate Pastor - Rev. Peter Kieffer	DRE & Hispanic RE - Joy Orozco
Deacon - Rev. Mr. Tom Tierney	Bulletin Editor - Rosemary Beever
Pastoral Care - Dorothy Giallombardo	rosemarybr@stmatthewwausau.org
Secretary - Ann Graveen	Deadline Next Bulletin: 3 pm Monday
Finance Secretary - Barb Splinter	



Mass Intentions

December 16 - 22, 2019



Pray for Us

Monday 8:00 am	†Robert & †Julie Bourguignon & †Deceased Schauer & Bourguignon Families
Tuesday 12:05 pm	†Arthur Hummer
Wednesday 8:00 am	Living & †Deceased Butzen & Beever Families
Thursday 8:00 am	†Lawrence & †Helen Mocello
Friday 8:00 am	†John Bauer
Saturday 8:00 am	†Ray Kirschhoffer
4:30 pm	†Michael "Mike" Lach
Sunday 8:00 am	†Scott Zernicke & †Mike Zelenka
10:00 am	†"Mr" Lou Przemicki
12 noon	Saint Matthew Parishioners



This Week's Scripture Readings

Monday, December 16

Nm 24:2-7, 15-17/Ps 25/Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday, December 17

Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72/Mt 1:1-17

Wednesday, December 18

Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72/Mt 1:18-25

Thursday, December 19

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25/Ps 71/Lk 1:5-25

Friday, December 20

Is 7:10-14/Ps 24/Lk 1:26-38

Saturday, December 21 - St Peter Canisius, Priest/Doctor of Church

Sg 2:8-14/Ps 33/Lk 1:39-45

Sunday, December 22 - 4th Sunday of Advent

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



Weekend - Liturgical Ministers

Saturday December 21 4:30 pm	Sunday December 22 8:00 am	Sunday December 22 10:00 am
Lectors		
Jeanne Alexejun	Bernie Dohr Mike Jilek	Cathy Orthscheid
Eucharistic Ministers		
S Crow J Alexejun J Bocke N Felty M Bourguignon F HEIL* L HEIL*	B Dohr M Jilek S Peterson J Pritzl A Seubert T HYNES* B HYNES*	P Sliwicki K Sliwicki K Tierney A Boller T Brzezinski V TIERNEY* J WITZELING*
Ushers and Greeters		
Dave Burish Marie Burish Al Butalla	D Krause D Janssen Tom Mullaley	B Charlier Sharon Charlier Dale Evert
Servers		
A Peek M Peek	The Hynes'	J DeByle A Leon E Leon
Musicians		
Gordon Crow N Losinski	Joel Stubbe Annette Southworth	Barb Britten Mary Lenard
Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW)		Debbie Kaiser

Sacrament of Baptism

"I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

We welcome into the Catholic Faith:

Baptized Sunday, December 8, 2019

Eli Simon Orlikowski
Son of Shawn and Samantha

Congratulations! May Jesus be your dearest companion!



He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain... Rev 21:4

Our Prayers & Sympathy go to the Family & Friends of:

Merlin Baur

He died December 8, 2019

He is the Father of Don Baur and the Father-in-Law of Mary Radtke-Baur and Brother of Glorianne Palm



Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. Amen



Advent Communal Penance Services

Several priests are available for individual confessions.



Sunday, December 15: 6:30 pm - St Matthew
Tuesday, December 17: 6:30 pm - St Michael
Wednesday, December 18: 5:00 - 6:00 pm - St Anne
Saturday, December 21: 10:00 am - Resurrection
Monday, December 23: 6:30 pm - St Therese



New This Year - Does Your Family Like to Sing?

Something new for the children's Christmas Eve Mass. We are inviting families who would like to help lead the singing at the 4:30 pm Christmas Eve Mass to join together in song.

One practice - Sunday, December 22 at 11:00 am in church. Please call the Parish Center at 842-3148 or Dorothy at 432-5519 if interested.

The Tradition of the "Nativity Scene"

Families are encouraged to set up the Christmas crib at home together so that **children learn the facts of the mystery of God's love that was revealed in the poverty and simplicity of the Bethlehem Grotto.** The **Nativity Scene** can help us understand the true meaning of Christmas because it **expresses the humility and merciful goodness of Jesus Christ, who though He was rich He made Himself poor for us (2 Corinthians 8:9).** Christmas brings joy, peace and **hope** to those who, **like the shepherds in Bethlehem, accept the angel's words:** "Be not afraid, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will come to all the people: for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a babe wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying **in a manger.**" (Luke 2: 10-12) This is still the true meaning of Christmas. We need a Savior; the Son of God came to us as a tiny infant in the poorest of circumstances. Jesus is the Savior because in Him and through Him is the grace necessary for us to overcome all of the dysfunction, sinfulness, shame and guilt which separates us from God and from one another. In Him is the grace to overcome all obstacles to friendship with God. In **Bethlehem "a Savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord."**



Buy St Matthew 2020 Calendar Raffle Tickets

Have you bought Raffle Tickets to win cash throughout the year of 2020 yet?

Ways to use St Matthew 2020 Calendar Raffle Tickets:

- Buy one or more for yourself
- Sell to your Hunting Camp Friends
- Give them as Christmas Gifts
- Buy some & resell them to relatives, friends, neighbors, co-workers, etc

Cash Prizes:

- \$150 Cash Prize drawn each week (you can win multiple times, up to 52 times!)
- **\$200 Cash Prize week of Mother's & Father's Day**
- **\$250 Cash Prize week of St Matthew's Feast Day**
- \$8,000 total to be awarded throughout 2020!!



Buy *St Matthew Calendar Raffle Tickets* now and give as Christmas Gifts! Tickets can be bought after weekend Masses or from the Parish Center.

Calendar Raffle Ticket Update

804 sold (54%) - 696 unsold (46%) - 4 weeks left to sell!

Thank you to all who have bought tickets and who are helping sell tickets! If you can help sell, please contact Sheila at 715-848-1106 or sheilay@charter.net. Thank you!

**Proceeds of the Calendar Raffle Tickets are used towards expenses of St Matthew Parish.

Marlene's Breakfast Club

Wednesday, December 18th at 9 am, **"all ladies"** are invited to breakfast at the Blue Willow Restaurant.

We will meet the 3rd Wednesday each month at various locations. Please join us for good food and good fellowship.



Ray's Breakfast Club

Wednesday, December 18th at 9 am, **"all men"** are invited to breakfast at the Eagle's Nest Restaurant.

Ray's Breakfast Club meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at various locations. All Men are Welcome!



Buy **SCRIP Gift Cards** for Everyone this Christmas!!! They make great gifts & help the parish!

SCRIP "Special Orders" need to be placed by December 15th, to receive them before Christmas!

(The SCRIP office is closed December 23rd - January 1st)

SCRIP is sold after weekend Masses in the Angelorum, can be bought at the Parish Center, and for special orders call the Parish Center: 715-842-3148. (If you can help sell SCRIP after weekend Masses, call the Parish Center.)

"Spotlighted SCRIP Businesses"

New Scrip Retailer: HuHot Mongolian Grill \$25 at 25% rebate

The following low denominations available for the Holiday Season, must be ordered by noon December 16th:

\$5 Cards: Barnes & Noble, Panera Bread, Starbucks, Taco Bell

\$10 Cards: Amazon, Applebee's, CVS, IHOP, Marcus Theatre, Walmart, Olive Garden, Home Depot

Thank you for buying SCRIP! Merry Christmas!



On Sunday, December 22nd at 1:15 pm

Mark Your Calendars and Join in the Fun!!!

Join us in decorating the Church and Angelorum for Christmas



Christmas Cantata - **"Christmas Presence"**
Sunday, December 15 at 12:00 noon in church
St Mary's Church in Marathon

A delightful telling of the Christmas Story in narration and song - lasts 40 minutes. Presented by the choir, musical instruments, and a narrator. Everyone is welcome to attend this free concert.

