SAINT MATTHEW CATHOLIC PARISH COMMUNITY
Established as a Parish in the Diocese of Hamilton in 1988

CONTACT INFORMATION
Parish Office: 1150 Monks Passage
Oakville, Ontario L6M 1M2
(905) 825-0219
FAX (905) 825-0802
www.saintmatthew.ca

PARISH OFFICE HOURS
Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Evening appointments available upon request.

Clergy residence: 1125 Pilgrims Way
Oakville, Ontario L6M 1J4

Baptism of Infants:
Baptisms are normally celebrated commonly on Sunday afternoons except for the Season of Lent. Preparation for first time parents is provided. Kindly contact the parish office at least 2 months prior to the desired date of baptism.

Becoming Catholic (RCIA):
For those not baptized, those baptized in another Christian Tradition and those baptized Catholic but have not completed their initiation, a process of Becoming Catholic involving inquiry, prayer and study is available. Please contact the parish office for more information.

School-aged children:
Preparation for children of the celebration of 1st Reconciliation, 1st Eucharist, and Confirmation is provided by our parish schools and through the program for children in public and private school. Further information will be provided in the bulletin during the school year.

Sacrament of Marriage:
Preparation is provided. Kindly contact the parish office about 1 year before the desired date of marriage.

Wedding Anniversary Blessing: Last Sunday of every month. All couples who have celebrated an Anniversary during that month are invited to meet in front of the altar immediately following the Mass to receive a blessing.

Priesthood:
For more information or assistance in discerning God’s call to the ordained priesthood or consecrated religious life contact the Vocation Service’s website: www.vocationinfo.ca

Funerals:
When death occurs in the family, please contact the parish office and we will assist you in liturgical arrangements.

Catholic Cemeteries:
For information about Catholic cemeteries, please visit their website: www.thecatholiccemeteries.ca or call 1-800-661-5985.

SUNDAY EUCHARIST
Saturday: 5:00 p.m.
Sunday: 9:00 a.m.; 10:30 a.m.; 12 noon, 7:00 p.m. (October - May)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
4:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

WEEKDAY EUCHARIST
Please consult the bulletin for the complete schedule.
HOLY WEEK
Mass of Chrism March 21, 2016
7:00 p.m. Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King
The Oils of Chrism, Sick and Catechumens are blessed at this Mass by Bishop Douglas Crosby.

Tuesday, March 22, 2016
Isaiah 49. 1-6; John 13.21-33,36-38
9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
7:00 p.m. Mass with the Intentions
  + Mary and Greg Podgorski
  + Jose P Manalo
  Intentions of Tom and Ethna Anderson
  + Yvette Ah-Kong

Wednesday, March 23, 2016
Isaiah 50. 4-9a; Matthew 26. 14-26
9:00 a.m. Mass with the Intention
  + Matthew Lynn

Holy Thursday, March 24, 2016
8:00 p.m. Mass of the Lord’s Supper
We gather to commemorate the institution of the Eucharist and priesthood at this Mass.

Good Friday, March 25, 2016
11:00 a.m. Liturgy for families with young children
3:00 p.m. Solemn Liturgy
7:00 p.m. Solemn Evensong
Good Friday is a unique day in the Church’s liturgy. We do not celebrate the Eucharist. Holy Communion is distributed from hosts consecrated on Holy Thursday. We venerate the Cross as a sign of our love for the Lord. Today is a day of universal fasting from food and abstaining from meat for all Catholics who are able.

Holy Saturday, March 26, 2016
12 Noon - Blessing of Easter Foods
8:00 p.m. Solemn Easter Vigil
Our last continues on Holy Saturday and culminates in the magnificent Easter Vigil - First Mass of Easter

Easter Sunday, March 27, 2016
Masses - 9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m. and 12 Noon
Please note - no 7:00 p.m. Mass today.

Parish Golf Tournament
Our parish golf tournament will return on Sunday, May 29th. It is once again being held at the Royal Ontario Golf Club. Registration forms are available in the main entrance area. If you have any questions please contact the parish office. Please book this date and plan to join us for an enjoyable day of golf and dinner with fellow parishioners and parish staff.

A Successful Fundraising Campaign
Our two week campaign has successfully raised enough funds that we are now able to make an application. The application will include a list of our committee members and indication that we have sufficient funds raised. It is sent to the Diocese of Hamilton Refugee Office. Then we wait until a refugee family is designated for our approval. We do not know how long we will have to wait for this, since there may be a previous list of parishes who have already submitted an application. Once we have news on the family, we will provide that information. Congratulations on your generosity and please pray for the family that we will receive.

Pontifical Collection of Good Friday for the Benefit of the Holy Land
This collection takes place on March 25th. Our parish, once a year on Good Friday is called to support Christians in the Holy Land. Many Christians in the Holy Land depend on the collection for their lives. As a Pontifical collection requested by Pope Francis, the annual Good Friday Collection offers a direct link for parishioners to be witnesses of peace and to help protect the Holy Places.

Reconciliation
A reminder that the Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated on Saturdays from 4:00 to 4:30 p.m. Our parish celebration is Wednesday, March 23rd at 7:00 p.m. with several area priests assisting Father Dave and Father Mark. Try to set some time aside to meet the merciful Christ in this beautiful Sacrament.

First Eucharist Celebrations
Congratulations for all of our First Eucharist candidates who will celebrate their reception of Holy Communion in the upcoming weeks. Please remember these children and their families in prayer.

Parish Golf Tournament
Are you celebrating your 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or 60+ Wedding Anniversary in the year 2016? If you are, you are cordially invited to join couples from across the Diocese of Hamilton for a Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday, May 29th at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King at 1:30 p.m. (Space allows room for Anniversary Couples ONLY – those married 60 years or more may bring 1 guest if you require assistance.) Please refer to the poster in the main entrance area of the church on how to register for the celebration or go to www.hamiltondiocese.com

Christopher Leadership Course in Effective Speaking
The Christopher Leadership Course provides a welcoming and supportive environment where you will build strong leadership skills and learn to overcome your fear of standing up in front of a group to speak. The 10-week course is a powerful asset and confidence-builder, and will be offered in our parish hall on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. beginning April 5th. For more information or to register, please visit www.clchamilton.com or speak with our music director, Dwayne Cahill, who is also one of the course instructors.

Masterworks of Oakville Concert
In Saint Matthew Church on Saturday, May 7th at 8:00 p.m. Mendelssohn’s Elijah 200 choir and orchestra. Tickets on sale in the Narthex starting the weekend of April 16th.

Share Lent Reflection
Get informed! Tuesday, March 22nd is World Water Day! Watch a Water Brothers video with f a m i l y a n d / o r f r i e n d s. Http://thewaterbrothers.ca
MARCH 20, 2016

Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass
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In Our Parish this Week....... Tuesday, March 22, 2016
9:30 a.m. Spanish Study Group
7:30 p.m. RCIA (Saint Matthew)

Wednesday, March 23, 2016
7:00 p.m. Parish Penance Celebration

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“Whoever lends a helping hand in time of need is truly merciful. Let us help those in need.” Romans 12:18

Next Young at Heart Get Together
Friday, April 8th after the 9:00 a.m Mass.
Join a fun activity with coffee, baking and great people!

Vocation Reflection
Blessed are they who come in the name of the Lord! If you feel God’s call to the priesthood or consecrated life, visit www.HamiltonVocations.com

Reconciliation
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Mark Your Calendar!!
50th Anniversary of Ordination
Fr. Matthew Strohmeyer, the founding pastor of Saint Matthew Parish, is celebrating his 50th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood this year. He was ordained a priest on May 28, 1966 and was appointed Pastor to found a new parish in Oakville in 1988. After 12 years he left a beautiful church and wonderful parish community. We are all reaping the blessing of his pioneering ministry. We want to give thanks to God and celebrate his priestly ministry in a special way. So, Father Strohmeyer will preside at a special Anniversary Mass on Saturday, May 28th at 5:00 p.m. Bishop Gerard Bergie, Bishop of Saint Catharines, who spent 7 years with Father Strohmeyer here at Saint Matthew Parish, will be here to preach at this Mass. Everyone is welcome to come out and join him in this celebration. Following this Mass there will be a reception with refreshments in our Narthex and opportunity to wish Father Strohmeyer congratulations.

Palm Sunday
Masterworks of Oakville Concert
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