

Fifth Sunday of Easter
St. Matthew Catholic Church
600 Crooks Ave. Ravenswood, WV 26164
304-273-2175

May 3, 2026
Sacred Heart Mission
2222 Jackson Ave. Point Pleasant, WV 25550



Weekend Mass Schedule
Saturday, 5:30PM STM
Sunday, 9:00AM STM
Sunday: 11:15AM SH

Daily Mass Schedule
Tuesday -Friday 9:00AM STM

Eucharistic Adoration
Friday Morning 8:30AM STM
First Friday of the Month 6:00PM STM

Confession Schedule
Saturday, 4:30-5:15 PM
All other days, 15 minutes prior to Mass or by appointment.

Pastor
Fr. Rayappa (Roy) Kurakula
304-905-2367

Secretary:
Cathy Engle (304-532-2451)

Asst. Secretary:
Sally Hildebrand (304-514-9002)

Email: stmatthewravens@gmail.com
Web Page: <https://stmatthewsvv.org/>

Office Hours – Tuesday and Thursday 10:00AM. to 2:00PM. (304-273-2175)

Contact Numbers
Deacon John Butler
304-531-2196
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Director of Religious Ed:
Tammy Spangler 304-532-9311

Accompanist:
Barbara White

Prayer Ministry:
Cathy Engle (304)532-2451

Knights of Columbus
Frank Nester Grand Knight 304-273-2022

In case of a Sacramental Emergency please call Fr. Roy: 304-905-2367 Deacon John Butler: 304-531-2196; Cathy 304-532-2451 or Sally 304-514-9002

Schedule for the Parish Hall

A Note from Fr. Roy

Dear Sisters and Brothers of St. Matthew's & Sacred Heart's Families,
Greetings on FIFTH SUNDAY of EASTER!

In the Gospel we often hear at funeral liturgies, Jesus speaks words that touch the deepest places of the human heart: *“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me.”* These are not words that deny our grief. The Church never asks us to suppress our tears after all, even Jesus wept. But she reminds us, as Sacred Scripture teaches, that we “do not grieve as those who have no hope” (1 Thessalonians 4:13).

Sorrow is real. Loss is painful. Yet for those who believe in Christ, despair does not have the final word. Jesus invites us into trust especially in moments when life feels uncertain, fragile, or broken. Faith does not remove the cross, but it gives us the strength to carry it. It does not eliminate suffering, but it assures us that we never suffer alone. In every trial, Christ walks with us. Our Lord also lifts our eyes beyond this world when He says, *“In my Father's house there are many dwelling places.”* This is the heart of our Christian hope and the foundation of Catholic teaching on eternal life. We are pilgrims on earth, journeying toward our true home with God. Death is not the end, but a passage into the fullness of life prepared for us by Christ. For those who die in His friendship, there is no more pain or sorrow—only the peace and joy of God's presence. This is why the Church proclaims with confidence: we do not say goodbye forever, but “until we meet again.”

As we enter the beautiful month of May, the Church turns our hearts in a special way to the Blessed Virgin Mary. In the richness of our Catholic tradition, May is dedicated to her because it reflects beauty, new life, and hope virtues perfectly embodied in Our Lady. Mary, the Mother of the Church, continues her maternal care for each of us. As a loving mother, she comforts us in sorrow, guides us in uncertainty, and gently leads us to her Son. At the wedding feast at Cana, Mary gave us a timeless instruction: *“Do whatever He tells you”* (John 2:5). These words remain her mission today to bring every heart closer to Jesus. In moments when our hearts are troubled, she whispers the same invitation: trust in Him.

One of the most powerful ways we welcome Mary into our homes is through the Holy Rosary. Rooted in Scripture and cherished in the life of the Church, the Rosary is not merely repetition, it is a meditation on the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus through the eyes of Mary. It is a school of faith, a path to peace, and a source of grace for families.

In a world filled with noise, distractions, and division, many homes experience tension, busyness, and spiritual emptiness. Yet the simple act of praying together can transform a house into a place of grace. The family Rosary brings healing where there is hurt, unity where there is division, and faith where there is doubt. Even beginning with one decade a day can open the door for God's presence to renew family life.

Dear friends, Jesus assures us: *“Do not let your hearts be troubled.”* When Christ is at the center of our lives, and Mary is welcomed into our homes, peace takes root even in the midst of trials. Let us strive to make every home a reflection of Nazareth a place of prayer, love, and trust in God.

May our hearts remain fixed on the eternal dwelling place prepared for us and may Our Blessed Mother walk with us each day now, and at the hour of our death.

I remain,
Yours in Christ,
Fr. Roy



Sunday, May 3; Fifth Sunday of Easter; Mass 11:15AM; + Barbara Sexton, Req. by the Sexton Family.

Wednesday, May 6; **No Communion Service or Mass this evening.**

Sunday, May 10; Sixth Sunday of Easter; Mother's Day; Mass 11:15AM; +Anthony & Robert Bekeska, Req. by Theresa Bekeska.

April 26: Collection Attendance:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Those who want to kneel to receive Holy Communion, please sit in the front pews.
- All are invited to a special Mass at the Basilica of th Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart on Wednesday, May 6 at 5:00PM. This special celebration is being held during the annual Priest Convocation and will honor several priests who are celebrating significant anniversaries of their ordination as well as celebrating the 175th anniversary of our diocese.
- If you would like to be a candidate to be trained to be a Tribunal Advocate to help with the ministry of the Marriage Tribunal please let Father know. It is an 8 week commitment and the training is done via Zoom.
- There is a sign-up sheet for Lawn Mowers in the back of the church. Please sign up to keep our landscape looking nice.
- The beautiful job of landscaping cost \$3000. A big Thank You to those who have already donated to help pay for this project. If you would like to donate put LANDSCAPE in the memo of your check or on a plain envelope and we will gratefully credit your contribution. We have received a total of \$425.
- The Finance Council meeting was changed to Tuesday, May 12 at 6:30PM.
- Have you experienced the loss of a loved one? Please join Father Roy and Deacon John for a five week bereavement experience called “Grieving with Great Hope”. Join with others who have suffered loss as we learn together in the love of Christ how to grieve with great hope. Sign up sheet and more information in the vestibule.
- On Saturday, May 9 at 3:00PM Sacred Heart will have a Pampered Chef party. This will be a great time for shopping fun & fellowship and the opportunity to get some basic kitchen utensils for the kitchen. Online orders will also be possible. More information later.
- Keep in mind our rumage sale on June 5 & 6 as you are spring cleaning. Donations & volunteers will be appreciated.
- Fr. Higgs invites you to join him on a spiritually enriching 12-Day pilgrimage to Catholic Italy October 11-22, 2026. Highlights include: Florence, La Verna, Assisi, Orvieto, Naples, Isle of Ischia, Sorrento, Rome, and The Vatican with an audience with Pope Leo XIV. The cost of \$6,499 includes flights to and from Charleston WV, breakfasts and dinners, tours, hotels, motor coach, a farewell dinner at a local restaurant in Rome and memories to cherish forever. Early bird discount for those who register before May 13th. For the itinerary, more details and the option to register online, go to: <https://bit.ly/HiggsItaly> or call Fr. Higgs at 304-685-2367.
- Those who want to kneel to receive Holy Communion, please sit in the front pew.

Birthdays: Willie Livingston 5/5, Charles Towner 5/8; David Shook 5/14; Daniel Williamson 5/22.

Please Pray for: Gracie Hanson, Jackie Mollett, Farther Pen's brother, Shannon Case-Perry, Ash Family, Lisa Green, The Family of Danny Richardson, Roy Enrico, Greg Milhoan; Bill Soulsby, Chase Smith, Shirley Livingston, Carl Mann, Jaycey Pittman, Greg Roush, Stephanie Sexton, Perry Estep, Ryan Park, Sharon Gardner, Ruth Angle, Beth Brannon, Doma Hern, Jean Henderson, Robert Bosworth, Stephanie McCausland, Matilda Dillard, Lawana Smith, Shawn Ross, Ray Matura.