

## FAITH FORMATION NEWS

**NO Faith Formation Class This Week:** There will be NO St. Matthew Faith Formation class on December 20, December 27, and January 3. Classes resume on Wednesday, January 10.



### END –OF-THE-YEAR-GIVING

There are benefits to making stock donation or direct transfer to the church.

If you make a direct transfer from your IRA to Saint Matthew's, you get to count that money toward your required minimum distribution – but because it's not actually distributed to you, it won't increase your adjusted gross income. This option is particularly beneficial if you don't itemize deductions on your tax return.

Gifts of stock can provide you with DOUBLE TAX BENEFITS. First, you may be able to claim a charitable contribution donation in the amount of the current market value of the stock (original cost plus any increase in value). Second, you avoid paying taxes on the appreciated value of the donated stock.

Please call the parish office and talk with John Riehle if you need help.

## COMMUNITY OF SAINTS NEWS

**Advent Season is Here!** Community of Saints is excited to announce that we will be hosting an Our Lady of Guadalupe Church Posada on Thursday, December 21st at 6pm. We hope to see school and sponsoring parish representation at the event as we prepare for the coming of Jesus!

For this year's Advent service project, Community of Saints is helping those in need this Advent Season, thanks to the amazing idea of one of our sixth graders, Isaac Garcia. We are collecting items to create "Blessing Bags" to be distributed to people who are homeless and/or in need this winter.

**Save the Date!** Our school benefit will be held on Saturday, February 3rd, in St. Matthew's Social Hall from 6-9pm. This year's theme is the "Souper" Bowl-the evening will include a food drive, local food tastings, appetizers, Mystery Bags, silent auction, games, and a WHOLE lot of fun! Look for ticket sales begin in the New Year!

## WOMEN'S DISCERNMENT RETREAT WITH BISHOPE COZZENS

**Saturday, February 17, 8 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

**Maternity of Mary Catholic Church, St. Paul**

Join us to gain a deeper understanding of consecrated life! Bishop Andrew Cozzens will celebrate Mass and speak on consecrated life. The retreat is for single Catholic women, ages 16 to 35. The retreat day will include consecrated women sharing their vocation stories, along with many opportunities for discerning women to chat and ask questions. Discover the steps of discernment, learn more about yourself, and listen to God speak to your heart. Retreat fee is \$20. Scholarships are available, if needed. Register online by February 9 at [www.10000vocations.org](http://www.10000vocations.org)