

Church of St. Matthew

A Catholic community that is a visible expression of God's love



Pentecost



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Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Friday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Sacraments

Please contact the Parish Office regarding Baptism, Marriage, First Communion and Confirmation information.

Bulletin

Announcements are due on Monday by 10:00 a.m. for the next Sunday's bulletin. *Items received after 10:00 a.m. will appear in the following week's bulletin.*

Readings for the Week of June 4, 2017

Sunday: Vigil: Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5/Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-30/Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39

Day: Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104:1, 24, 29-31, 34/1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13/Jn 20:19-23

Monday: Tb 1:3; 2:1b-8/Ps 112:1b-2, 3b-6/Mk 12:1-12

Tuesday: Tb 2:9-14/Ps 112:1-2, 7-9/Mk 12:13-17

Wednesday: Tb 3:1-11a, 16-17a/Ps 25:2-5ab, 6, 7bc-9/Mk 12:18-27

Thursday: Tb 6:10-11; 7:1bcde, 9-17; 8:4-9a/Ps 128:1-5/Mk 12:28-34

Friday: Tb 11:5-17/Ps 146:1b-2, 6c-10/Mk 12:35-37

Saturday: Tb 12:1, 5-15, 20/Tb 13:2, 6efgh-8/Mk 12:38-44

Next Sunday: Ex 34:4b-6, 8-9/Dn 3:52-56/2 Cor 13:11-13/Jn 3:16-18

Liturgy Schedule

Tuesday & Thursday 8:00 a.m.

Saturday - 4:00 p.m.

Sunday - 10:00 a.m.

Reconciliation

Saturday 3:00 p.m. - 3:40 p.m.

and by appointment

Prayer Line

Hope 651.457.0228 Cathy 651.455.5473

WHAT DO WE IMAGINE THE SPIRIT TO BE?



On Pentecost we celebrate one of three great Jewish feasts which, at the time of Jesus, every Jewish person within twenty miles of Jerusalem was legally bound to celebrate. Those three great feasts were the Feast of Tabernacles, the Feast of Passover, and the Feast of Weeks.

Of course, it is us Christians who substituted the Feast of Weeks with Pentecost which means "The Fiftieth." Because there are seven days per week and seven weeks passed, seven times seven is forty-nine so the Jews celebrated the completion of seven weeks after Passover.

Normally, Passover fell in the middle of April like it did this year. This meant that the Feast of Weeks would fall at the beginning of June which was the best time of the year to travel to Jerusalem. The weather would not be too hot and the roads would be dry and in good shape. This is the reason why there were people who spoke different languages present in Jerusalem on the First Pentecost.

What really happened at the first Pentecost that we heard about in today's readings is not known except that the disciples had an experience of the Holy Spirit which led them to imagine what they ought to do. With the help of the scriptures, we can imagine what that experience was like. So perhaps what is important for us to celebrate this Pentecost is the Holy Spirit's gift of imagination.

Imagination is something possessed only by human beings. The Twentieth century Marxist Philosopher Ernst Bloch wrote that, "Human beings are human beings because of their ability to dream of a better future and to strive to achieve it." No other living being has imagination except maybe God. Surely, God had to have imagination to create the world, its minerals, and all its living organisms.

Imagination is what allows us to drift back into the past to remember our social or personal histories, to relive important moments, to re-experience previous joys and sorrows. With imagination the past can be brought into the present and shaped according to our current needs and interests to meet the demands of our future.

During a summer day when we think it is too hot and humid outside, we can imagine ourselves back in a January snowstorm. Or at the age of sixty-seven when our arthritis is acting up we can again dance in the moonlight with a person we love. Or in our imagination we men can finally stand up to the bully who kicked sand in our face when we were trying to impress a girl at the beach. Or we can recall the moments spent with a person we loved with all our heart but who has died.

With imagination we can interpret our world. We can begin to pursue the truth, to come to an understanding of why a war is taking place, why people are starving, or why people are dying of Ebola. We can determine why, at times, we are willing to reach out in sympathy and why, at other times, we retreat in disgust.

Imagination helps us to find creative solutions to problems. How many of you who cook have been preparing a meal and find out that you are missing an ingredient and you make a substitution? It seems to me that great dishes, like great symphonies, have been created by the use of imagination.

The spiritual power of imagining can propel us into the future as we dream dreams, envision possibilities, set goals, and make plans. When a person says they will pray for us, there is an act of imagination. The person is imagining how God will respond to our needs. Students use imagination time and time again when they hope that they will be successful in their studies, in preparing for a career, in finding a fulfilling job position, in meeting the right partner. Parents use imagination when they decorate a nursery for an unborn child. "Should the wall paper be blue or pink?" We all use our imaginations when we contemplate dying. "What will it be like to die? What's heaven like? Is there a hell?"

In his book *The Religious Imagination*, Andrew Greeley points out that our imagination is shaped by the pictures and images which are stored up as a result of our personal experiences and our encounter with the symbols and stories of our religious tradition. His research suggests that Catholics who have warm and positive images of God, Christ, the Holy Spirit and the afterlife are more likely to be living happy family lives, participating in the life of the Church, and working on behalf of peace. This reminds us not only of the importance of our imagination and how it is shaped but from where our imagination comes from.

What really happened at the first Pentecost is not really known except that the disciples had an experience of the Holy Spirit. Perhaps our ability to imagine is one way that the Spirit of God comes to us. The Spirit opens up layers of experience hidden from our rational and linear thinking to connect us with the supernatural world and the divine God we wonder about.

Do we believe that our imagination is the Holy Spirit directing and guiding us towards the good things of this life and the next? If we don't, what do we imagine the Spirit to be?

News and Events

MASS INTENTIONS

Parishioners, if you have Masses scheduled in June, July and August they may be moved to a another date because of our new weekday Mass schedule. Please watch the bulletin to see if your Mass is moved to new date.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

On Sunday, May 28, 2017 Samson Alexander Kowal received his First Holy Communion. May God bless Samson and all the children who received their First Holy Communion this year. May our First Communicants continue to grown in their love of Our Lord Jesus Christ as they receive Him at Mass each week.



SUMMER MASS TIMES

Beginning June 6, weekday Masses will be on **Tuesdays & Thursdays** at 8:00 am. **There will not be a 9:30 am Mass at COS School during the summer months.**

On Labor Day, September 4, Mass will be celebrated at 9:00 am.

Beginning September 6, weekday Masses will return to **Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays**, at 8:00 am.

Funeral Masses will be celebrated as needed throughout the summer.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Father Bob will have Anointing of the Sick during the Mass on Saturday, June 10th and Sunday, June 11th. Those present during Mass who wish to be anointed can come forward for this blessing.

ARCHBISHOP HARRY J. FLYNN CATECHETICAL INSTITUTE – CLASSES BEGIN IN SEPTEMBER Register by July 1, 2017

Come discover the plan that will transform your work, your marriage, your family, your community... your life! This fall, the Archbishop Harry J. Flynn Catechetical Institute will offer the two-year course in two different locations. Classes will be held at Mary, Mother of the Church in Burnsville on Monday evenings and at the Church of St. Andrew in Elk River on Tuesday evenings. Taught by some of the best instructors in the Twin Cities, such as Bishop Andrew Cozzens, Jeff Cavins, Deacon Joe Michalak, Fr. John Klockeman, Dr. Bill Stevenson, Fr. Peter Williams, Christina Smith, Alyssa Bormes, and more, the program follows the four pillars of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* and will make sense of all things Catholic, deepen your faith, and lay out the roadmap to heaven. Classes are divided into four eleven-week modules with two Saturday morning formative sessions per module. Applications are now being accepted through July 1, 2017, for the class beginning in September. For more information and an application visit www.Clstudent.com or call (651) 962-5028.

WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS 5-28-17

Parish			
Plate	\$475	School	\$50
Envelopes	\$1,723		
Electronic Giving	\$902		
Ascension	\$115		
Vigil Lights	\$25		
Lights	\$1,369		
Mass Stipends	\$21		
		Total	\$50
Total	\$4,630		Thank you!

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, June 3

4:00 pm John & Dorothy Stevens†

Sunday, June 4

10:00 am Our Parish
Ted & Connie Rivera†

Tuesday, June 6

9:00 am Cole Luken, Healing

Thursday, June 8

8:00 am Raymond J. Galep†

Saturday, June 10

4:00 pm Ronald G. Crawford†

Sunday, June 11

10:00 am Our Parish
Helen & Art Savard†

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday, June 3

1:00 pm Liturgy Meeting PC

Wear Something Red For Pentecost

4:00 pm Mass

Sunday, June 4 Pentecost Sunday

Wear Something Red For Pentecost

9:00 am Choir Practice (final until fall)

10:00 am Mass

Monday June 5 - Friday - June 9

5:00-6:00 pm Loaves & Fishes SH

Monday, June 5

12:00 pm - 5:00 pm St. Mary's Clinic PC

Tuesday, June 6

Wednesday, June 7

8:00 am - 5:30 pm St. Mary's Clinic PC

7:30 pm Men's Club Board Meeting SH

Thursday, June 8

COS Last Day of School

Friday, June 9

Saturday, June 10 Food Collection

4:00 pm Anointing of the Sick Mass

Sunday, June 11 Food Collection

10:00 am Anointing of the Sick Mass

Children's Corner

BibleWise

Pentecost

The words below are taken from Acts 2, where we read the story of Pentecost. Circle the words as you find them in the puzzle.

P P R O S E L Y T E S A S S W
T A T N E P E R C Y R E N E I
H M E S O P O T A M I A A U N
O P E T E R E Y P I I T I G D
U H S S D F B L P B G P H N E
S Y G A L I L E A N S Y T O Z
A L V O L R V R D M N G R T I
N I J U D E A J O E I E A H T
D A R P E N T E C O S T P X P
R P O N T U S W I T H R E E A
O R O M E D E S A I S A X S B
L E G A U G N A L S E T E R C

PENTECOST
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LIBYA
ROME
PROSELYTES
ARABIANS

LANGUAGE
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JUDEA
PONTUS
PHRYGIA
EGYPT
CYRENE
JEWS
CRETES
DAVID

LORD
WIND
TONGUES
FIRE
REPENT
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Nell de Vries and Mary Currier. More Bible Activities You Can Do. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books Publisher, 1999.

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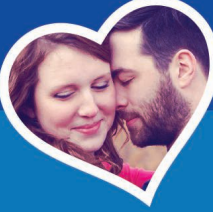
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