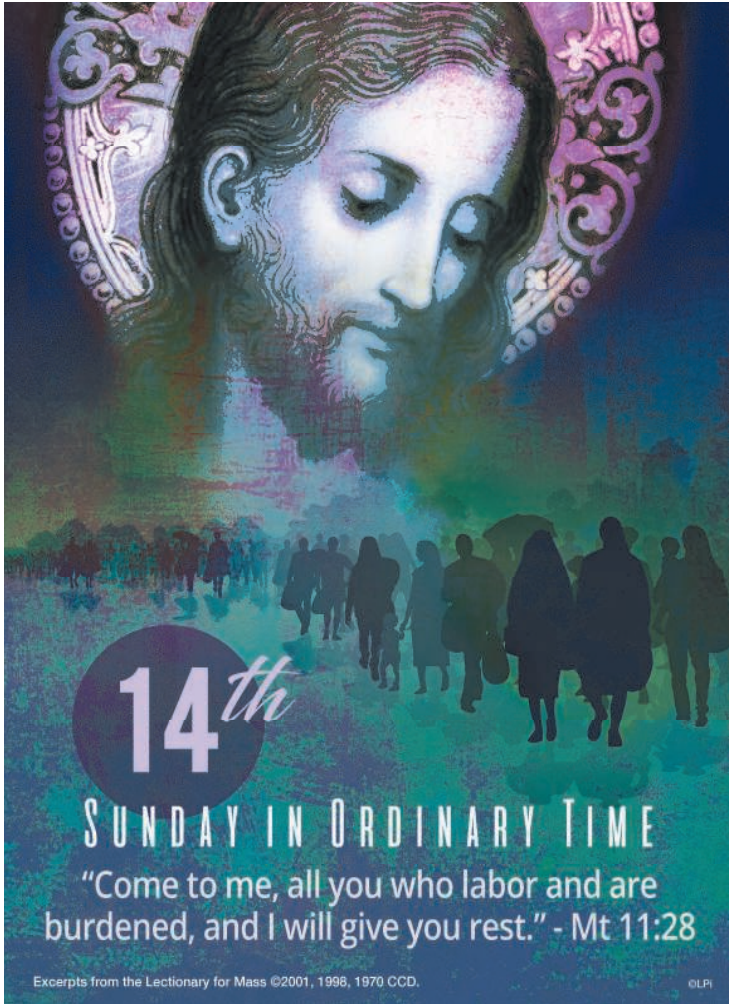


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All emails are

@st-matts.org

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frbobbkellyop

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Website: st-matts.org

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/churchofstmatthew

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.*

July 9, 2017

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

Readings for the Week of July 9, 2017

Sunday: Zec 9:9-10/Ps 145:1-2, 8-11, 13-14/Rom 8:9, 11-13/Mt 11:25-30

Monday: Gn 28:10-22a/Ps 91:1-4, 14-15ab/Mt 9:18-26

Tuesday: Gn 32:23-33/Ps 17:1b, 2-3, 6-7ab, 8b, 15/Mt 9:32-38

Wednesday: Gn 41:55-57; 42:5-7a, 17-24a/Ps 33:2-3, 10-11, 18-19/Mt 10:1-7

Thursday: Gn 44:18-21, 23b-29; 45:1-5/Ps 105:16-21/Mt 10:7-15

Friday: Gn 46:1-7, 28-30/Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40/Mt 10:16-23

Saturday: Gn 49:29-32; 50:15-26a/Ps 105:1-4, 6-7/Mt 10:24-33

Next Sunday: Is 55:10-11/Ps 65:10-14/Rom 8:18-23/Mt 13:1-23 or 13:1-9

LEARN FROM ME



I have always had a difficult time with the passage from the Gospel of Matthew that we hear on the Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time. I suspect that other people have a problem with it as well. This is because the passage presents us with a paradox that is worked out only through careful biblical interpretation of the passage and a thoughtful analysis of our own lives.

From my own experience, I know that yokes are very, very heavy. I use to sit in front of my family's black and white television set and watch "Death Valley Days," a weekly western series with former president Ronald Regan as the host. The weekly series opened with twenty mules staggering under the weight of heavy yokes which were attached to a three wagon caravan made up of a tank filled with water, a wagon loaded with borax, and a supply wagon loaded with tools and grub. Under the weight of their yokes and the heat of the sun, the mules trudged along unendingly never reaching their final destination.

And there was the weekly series called "Wagon Train" where pioneers were attempting to reach the green valleys and gold- filled mountains of California. Huge oxen whose necks were fitted with yokes pulled some of the wagons. I knew the yokes had to be heavy because all the years I watched the program the pioneers and their oxen never made it to California.

In the ancient world, yokes were fitted to the oxen that were to wear them. Measurements were taken and adjustments were made so that the oxen would not be overly burdened by the added discomfort of a poorly fitted yoke. Because yokes were usually built for two oxen, Jesus was promising to be the yokemate of those who would come to him as the Messiah.

In the early church, when believers tried to understand the way in which Jesus was the Messiah and still a yokemate, they sometimes went to the description of the promised Messiah found in the words of the prophets. In the Book of the Prophet Zechariah, the Messiah is described not as someone who would come among them as a warrior to lead them to sure victory over their enemies. Instead, the prophet depicts the Messiah as being just and meek, riding not on a horse, which was used for war but on a donkey as an ambassador of peace (Zech 9:9-10).

Scriptural exegesis tells us that the passage from Matthew's gospel can be understood as a different version of a passage in John's "Last Supper Discourse." In the gospel of John, Jesus says, "I am the way, the truth and the life." This statement captures the three fundamental concepts of the Jewish faith. The "way" which is what God promised to Moses and the Hebrew people as they left captivity in Egypt. The "truth" which was the moral integrity of a Jewish person shown by the way he or she lived their lives and the "life" which is the purposeful meaning of human existence.

Matthew's version is similar by including the brief part that ends with, "Take my yoke upon and learn from me for I am meek and humble of heart." Through these words, Jesus was offering himself, his attitude, and his teachings as the "lessons" to be learned by those who would follow him as the way, the truth, and the life.

Today's gospel is a conversation between Jesus, the Son, and God, the Creator. The conversation between the two of them is focused first on their relationship with each other and then with God's relationship with us through Jesus. The purpose of the conversation is to describe Jesus as the yokemate, the bridge that enables and empowers the will of God to be in relationship with us.

So how does the image of the yoke speak to us? Going back to my knowledge of yokes that came only from watching two dimensional black and white television and doing further research, I found out that with yokes a larger animal always is teamed with a smaller animal. While the larger animal is pulling most of the weight, the smaller animal is being shown how to pull the weight. Perhaps, just perhaps the key to solving the paradox of the gospel and maybe all the paradoxes in our lives are the three words "...learn from me."

ORDINATION NEWS

Congratulations to Peter Ly, son of Chong and Blia Ly, who was baptized at the Church of St. Matthew on April 3, 1983 and ordained a deacon by Archbishop Hebda on May 13, 2017.

News and Events

BELLS AT ST. MATTHEWS

The Bells of Saint Matthew will ring on Monday, July 10th for Jessica Lackner. On July 12th the Bells will ring to celebrate the 55th wedding anniversary of Gerald and Louise Breidel and Louise's birthday. God's blessing of all!

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, August 26th Picnic in Cherokee Park begins with 4:15 p.m. Mass. Watch for complete detail in future bulletins.



TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME

Miesville Mudhens – St. Matthew's Men's Club is hosting a bus trip to Miesville for Mudhens baseball game on Wednesday, July 12. We invite anyone (men, women, and accompanied children) to hop on the bus with us. Refreshments will be available on the bus. Ballpark admission is \$3 for adults and free for kids under 18. We leave St. Matthew's at 6:15 pm, arrive about 7 pm. Ballpark concessions will be open and there are 2 restaurants close to the ballpark (King's Bar & Grill or Wiederholt's Supper Club). Game time is 8 pm. Questions or to reserve a spot on the bus, contact Tim Nowak at @ 612-269-9471, email timothy.nowak@usfamily.net.



EVERYONE HAS SPIRITUAL GIFTS!

Go to the *Faith and Learning* tab on the Church of St. Matthew web page <www.st-matts.org> and complete the Spiritual Gifts Recognition Tool or pick up a printed copy at the Information Board at the southeast corner of the church. You may be surprised with what you learn about yourself

PLEASE REMEMBER

The Church of St. Matthew in a charitable will, trust, or gift annuity.

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for office volunteers to cover the reception area Monday afternoons 1 to 4 p.m. and Tuesday mornings 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. If you are interested in sharing your time and talent either of these days, please call the parish office.

THANK YOU

Our conversion to LED lights in the chapel and the church is near completion. While the reduction to our electrical bill remains to be seen, we can now see one another and the visitors and guests who we welcome each week. I am very grateful for the generous contributions totaling \$4,654. May we continue to walk in the light of Christ together.
Fr. Bob

WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS

Parish			
Plate	\$	School	\$
Envelopes	\$		\$
Electronic Giving	\$		
Update			
Next Week			
Total	\$	Total	\$

Thank you!

Cover art ©Liturgical Publications

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, July 8

4:00 pm Sarah & George Gubash†

Sunday, July 9

10:00 am Our Parish
Eugene & Susanna Allers†

Tuesday, July 11

9:00 am Paul Maslow†

Thursday, July 13

8:00 am Rudy Saucedo, Jr.

Saturday, July 15

4:00 pm David Andrews†

Sunday, July 16

10:00 am Our Parish
Wallace Borgan†

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday, July 8

4:00 pm Mass

Sunday, July 9

10:00 am Mass

Monday July 10 Friday - July 14

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

Monday, July 10

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

7:00 pm Oktoberfest Meeting PC

Tuesday, July 11

9:00 am Alums & Friends COS

Wednesday, July 12

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

6:15 pm Miesville Mudhens Baseball Game

Thursday, July 13

Friday, July 14

Saturday, July 15 Food Collection

4:00 pm Mass

Sunday, July 16 Food Collection

10:00 am Mass

Children's Corner

BibleWise

Seventy Times Seven

Peter asked Jesus if he should forgive someone seven times. Jesus answered, "Not seven times but seventy times seven."

We should go on-forgiving if a person is sorry for what he or she has done.

Use the code to find a verse about forgiveness. (See Col. 3:13.)

A	D	E	F	G	H	I	L
M	N	O	R	S	T	U	V

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

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