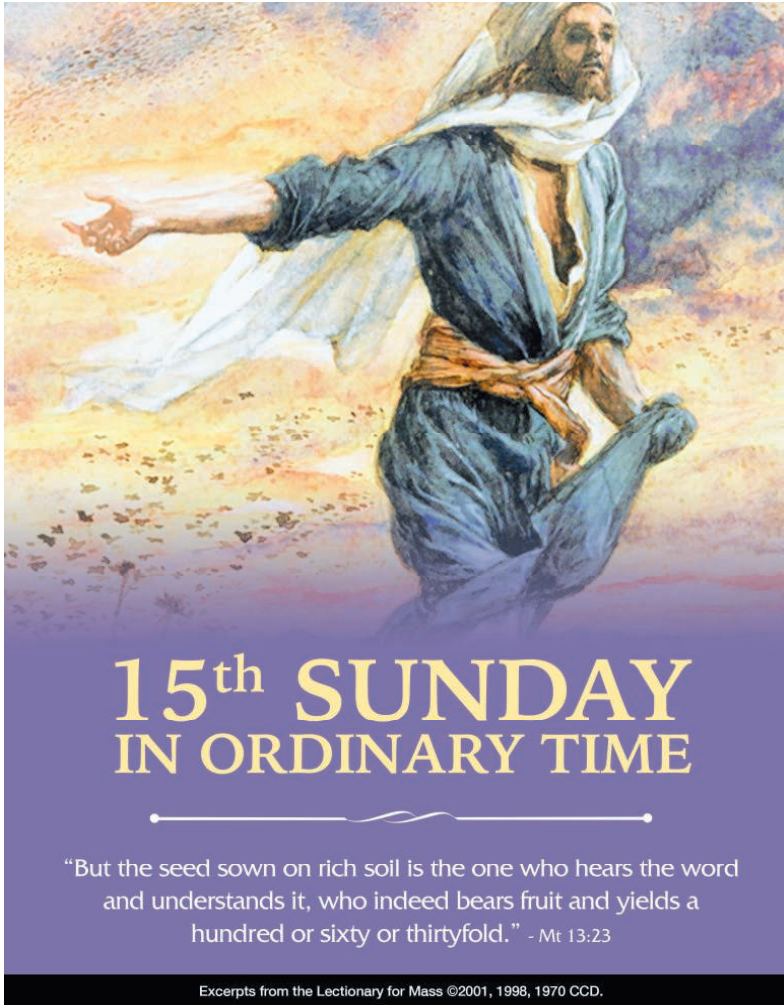




Church of St. Matthew

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



15th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“But the seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold.” - Mt 13:23

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Parish Staff

All emails are @st-matts.org

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frbobbkellyop
Deacon John Murphy
Deacon Gregg Sroder
Sister Anne Becker, Pastoral Ministry
srannebecker
Jill Kilzer, Music Ministry
jillkilzer
Steve Kowal, Maintenance Engineer
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John Riehle, Administrator
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Fax 651.222.2688

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 16, 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 16, 2017

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

Monday: Ex 1:8-14, 22/Ps 124:1b-8/Mt 10:34--11:1

Tuesday: Ex 2:1-15a/Ps 69:3, 14, 30-31, 33-34/Mt 11:20-24

Wednesday: Ex 3:1-6, 9-12/Ps 103:1b-4, 6-7/Mt 11:25-27

Thursday: Ex 3:13-20/Ps 105:1, 5, 8-9, 24-27/Mt 11:28-30

Friday: Ex 11:10--12:14/Ps 116:12-13, 15, 16bc-18/Mt 12:1-8

Saturday: Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17/Ps 63:2-6, 8-9/Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

Next Sunday: Wis 12:13, 16-19/Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16/Rom 8:26-27/Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30

OUR JOURNEY



Before embarking on a ship for a cruise, traveling in our cars to a new location, or flying in a jet to a popular tourist spot, many of us will ask our travel agents, search the Internet, and go to our public library for information about our long-awaited trip. And after we receive or find brightly colored brochures, detailed maps, and interesting articles we devour them, committing every bit of information to memory making the new-found knowledge part of who we are before we ever leave our homes.

For the next three Sundays, we journey through the parables of the Kingdom in Matthew's gospel. On the Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, we hear the Parable of the Sower (Mt 13:1-23). On the Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, we hear the Parable of the Weeds and Wheat, the Parable of the Mustard Seed, and the Parable of the Yeast (Mt.13:24-30). On the Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, we hear the Parable of the Buried Treasure, the Parable of the Precious Pearls, and the Parable of the Drag Net (Mt 13:44-52). But before embarking on our trip we should take a look at where we are going.

We should know that the gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke use different expressions for the "Kingdom." In Matthew's gospel, the Kingdom refers to the Kingdom of Heaven. The Kingdom of Heaven, is a place beyond us that is sometimes close at hand and at other times far away. A reality we can reach for but never quite get our hands on.

In the gospels of Mark and Luke, the Kingdom refers to the Kingdom of God. The Kingdom of God is the sovereignty or authority of God. It is an assurance that a power greater than ourselves is taking care of all things.

We should know that the coming of the Kingdom is the main theme of the Christian Scriptures. John the Baptist shouts out, "Do penance for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand!" (Mt 3:2). Jesus repeats the same message (Mt 4:17) but adds more. Jesus tells us that the kingdom is a craving, a desire, a hope. "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven" (Mt 5:3). "Truly I say to you, whoever does not receive the Kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it" (Mt 18:3).

Jesus tells us that the Kingdom is a location, a place, a physical reality. "Truly I say to you, I shall not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the Kingdom of God" (Mk 14:25). "I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John; yet they who are least in the Kingdom of God are greater than John" (Lk 7:28)

Jesus tells us that the Kingdom is a behavior, a way of life, a way of being. "Your Kingdom come, your will be done" (Mt 6:10). "Leave the dead to bury the dead, but as for you, go and proclaim the Kingdom of God" (Lk 9:60).

After learning more about the route we will be traveling these next few weeks, I think people will agree with me that there are many meanings and different understandings about the Kingdom. From my experience as a high school teacher I came to the conclusion that when a belief or idea has too many meanings, human beings avoid making any meaning their own. So that while over and over again we hear and pray about the Kingdom we fail to make the Kingdom part of who we are. Nevertheless, throughout history people have challenged us to grasp the Kingdom and make it our own.

In 1894 Leo Tolstoy wrote *The Kingdom of God Is Within You*. The book reveals Tolstoy's belief about the Kingdom after his conversion to Christianity. Tolstoy argues that the core teachings of the Kingdom by Jesus have been lost. Tolstoy writes that the Kingdom is within the reach of all of us through passive resistance to evil. Mohandas Gandhi and Martin Luther King, Jr. were both inspired by Tolstoy's explanation of the Kingdom.

After reflecting on scripture and reading the work of Tolstoy, I have come to believe that the Kingdom of God is a tone of mind, a state of consciousness. It is a deep human disposition whereby, with the grace of God, we try to become one with God and live according to God's call. The Kingdom is discovering God within us as well as in others. So yesterday, today, and tomorrow we continue the journey to the Kingdom of God that we began years ago with our baptisms.

News and Events

BELLS AT ST. MATTHEWS

The Bells of Saint Matthew will ring on July 17th for Diane Borgan Vasquez and July 20th for Jack St. Martin. Also, on July 20th Bells will ring for Adam A. Clark.

OKTOBERFEST MEETING

Our committee will meet Monday, July 17th at 7:00 p.m. at the Parish Center. We welcome new members to join the group, bring along your new thoughts and ideas. Needed this year are folks to head up individual events. Our annual Oktoberfest will be held October 7th & 8th this year. Oktoberfest can't be a success without volunteers, come be the success behind Oktoberfest 2017!!



BAPTISM PICTURES

If you had a child baptized by Deacon John Murphy and your group was photographed you may have photos at the parish office. Stop by Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. to look through the photos.

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, August 26th Picnic in Cherokee Park begins with 4:20 p.m. Mass. Watch for complete details in future bulletins.



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

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.

WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS 7- 2-2017 & 7-9-2017

Parish			
Plate	\$1,450.50	School	\$50
Envelopes	\$6,292	Peter's Pence	\$115
Electronic Giving	\$1,096		
Vigil Lights	\$46		
Hall Rental	\$925		
Rental Income	\$5,600		
Script Income	\$200		
Bells	\$30		
Total	\$15,639.50	Total	\$165

Thank you!

PLEASE REMEMBER

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, July 15

4:00 pm David Andrews†

Sunday, July 16

10:00 am Our Parish
Wallace Borgan†

Tuesday, July 18

8:00 am Living & Deceased Rosary
Society Members

Thursday, July 20

8:00 am Gerry Garvey†

Saturday, July 22

4:00 pm Joseph Karas Sr.†
Joseph Karas Jr.†

Sunday, July 16

10:00 am Our Parish
Arthur Geis†

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday, July 15 Food Collection

4:00 pm Mass

Sunday, July 16 Food Collection

10:00 am Mass

Monday July 17 Friday - July 21

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

Monday, July 17

12:00 pm - 5:00 pm St. Mary's Clinic PC
7:00 pm Oktoberfest Meeting PC

Tuesday, July 18

Wednesday, July 19

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

Thursday, July 20

Friday, July 21

Saturday, July 22

4:00 pm Mass

Sunday, July 23

10:00 am Mass



Puzzle

Children's Corner

Unscramble words from today's Gospel:

farmer	rocky	birds
soil	thorns	choked
root	path	seed

frarme	<u>f</u> <u>a</u> <u>r</u> <u>m</u> <u>e</u> <u>r</u>
sede	_____
ptah	_____
brisd	_____
rkyoc	_____
tohrsn	_____
rtoo	_____
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sil0	_____

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