

# Church of St. Matthew

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



## 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

"The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all who cause others to sin and all evildoers. They will throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father." *Mt 13:41-43a*

### **Parish Staff**

All emails are

**@st-matts.org**

Rev. Robert Kelly, OP, Parochial Administrator  
frbobbkellyop

Deacon John Murphy

Deacon Gregg Sroder

Sister Anne Becker, Pastoral Ministry

srannebecker

Jill Kilzer, Music Ministry

jillkilzer

Steve Kowal, Maintenance Engineer

skowal

John Riehle, Administrator

jriehle

Linda Rivera, Parish Secretary

lrivera

**Church** - 510 Hall Avenue

**Parish Center** - 490 Hall Avenue

St. Paul, MN 55107

**651-224-9793**

**Fax 651.222.2688**

**Website: st-matts.org**

**FACEBOOK:** [www.facebook.com/churchofstmatthew](http://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.*

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

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## July 23, 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 23, 2017**

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

Monday: Ex 14:5-18/Ex 15:1bc-6/Mt 12:38-42

Tuesday: 2 Cor 4:7-15/Ps 126:1bc-6/Mt 20:20-28

Wednesday: Ex 16:1-5, 9-15/Ps 78:18-19, 23-28/Mt 13:1-9

Thursday: Ex 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20b/Dn 3:52-56/Mt 13:10-17

Friday: Ex 20:1-17/Ps 19:8-11/Mt 13:18-23

Saturday: Ex 24:3-8/Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15/Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42

Next Sunday: 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12/Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-130/Rom 8:28-30/Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46

## WHAT IF . . . .?



We have all spoken words of magic. Think about the times when doors have been open, packages have floated through the air, heavy pieces of furniture have skated across the floor, and yes oh yes, a glass of cold milk and warm cookies suddenly appeared because you spoke the magic words, "Please and Thank-you!"

You may not know this but there is a process to learning magic. When we carefully study the education of the wizard in training Harry Potter, we see that the magic words he speaks like, "glissea," "immobolus," and "expecto protonum" are not effective unless they are accompanied by an outstretched hand or the wave of a magic wand. Both gestures and words are required to create magic until after years and years of training, words alone can create the magic.

In the Gospel of Matthew, we have been given a collection of parables about the kingdom of heaven. We can say that parables are words of magic that offer to the people who hear them an experience of Jesus and a deeper relationship with God. The magic of the parables brings the people who hear them face to face with the love of God and forces them to either receive God's love or to continue constructing their own self-centered lives.

The scripture scholar William Barclay explains the magic of parables: (1) Parables make the truth concrete by a turning it into a picture which people can envision and understand. (2) Parables begin from the here and now in order to lead to the there and then. In other words parables begin with the familiar in order to teach something new. (3) Parables, like most story-telling techniques, compel interest. (4) Parables enable a person to discover a truth or an idea for her or himself. Because the words were spoken and not read, the impact of the parable had to be immediate, making the truth flash upon a person as lightning suddenly illuminates a pitch-dark night. (5) For those unwilling to accept its message, the parable remains a mystery.

The magic words of the parable of the wheat and weeds that we hear on the Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time were spoken by Jesus because of the criticism he and his disciples received from the Sadducees and the Pharisees. The Sadducees and Pharisees separated themselves from the tax collectors and sinners whom they saw as unclean and outside the saving power of God. But Jesus made a point of searching sinners out to teach them of God's love in the words he spoke and the miracles he performed. So the magic of the parable of the weeds and wheat rejects elitism; stresses the fact that the human community is a combination of both good and bad; that all judgment belongs to God; that judgment will take place only at the end of the world; and that there is ample opportunity for every person to change and grow. Evil-doers can respond to God's offer of love and turn to goodness. Weeds can be transformed into wheat. What magic is greater than this?

The explanation of the parable that Jesus gives to his disciples after returning to the house does not come directly from Jesus. The words were spoken some eighty years after the resurrection of Jesus when members of Matthew's community are trying to prevent the community from splitting apart. Some members of the community believed that the community needed to be purified by tossing out the less than perfect Christians. While others believed that the church that follows Jesus should not play God. Any separation of people must be left to God at the last judgment. The work of the church is to preach repentance and practice patience not to question or condemn its members.

Through the magic words of the parables of the mustard seed and the leaven, Jesus taught that even insignificant beginnings, a small seed, a little yeast, a group of twelve followers, can bring forth a new and better world.

We have had years and years of training saying the magic words "please" and "thank-you" and reaching out for the help we need. Now we are able to use words alone to create the magic that is needed for the kingdom of heaven in our world. I suggest to you that the magic words are "What if. . . ."

What if everybody reached out with their hand?  
What if everybody sang out with their voice?

What if everybody cared with their heart?

What if everybody accepted change for the sake of our mission?

"What if, What if, What if" are words of magic that will open doors, remove obstacles, and lead us forth into a new and better tomorrow.

### **SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION CLASSES FOR THOSE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS**

Confirmation classes are available for persons with special needs, or mental or physical disabilities, age 16 or older. Classes will be held Saturday, August 12 and Saturday, August 26, 9:30—11:30 a.m. at the Church of St. Richard, Richfield. Both classes are mandatory for guardians and candidates. Pre-registration is required. Candidates will be confirmed during the Annual Mass for Persons with Disabilities on Sunday, September 17. To register, call [651-291-4488](tel:651-291-4488) or email [flomos@archspm.org](mailto:flomos@archspm.org).

# News and Events

## BELLS AT ST. MATTHEWS

The Bells of Saint Matthew will ring on July 25th for Patricia Kelly, rest in peace.

## OKTOBERFEST MEETING



The Oktoberfest Committee is meeting each Monday at 7:00 p.m. at the parish center, our next meeting is on July 24th. Please join us, new members are always welcome. Come share your ideas on how to make this year's event the best ever!! 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!!

## WE EXTEND OUR SYMPATHY

To the family of Dale Hertzog, whose funeral was held on July 17th. Please remember Mr. Hertzog and his family in your prayers. May he, all the faithful departed rest in God's peace and love.

## SAVE THE DATE

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



## EVERYONE HAS SPIRITUAL GIFTS!

Fifteen people have discovered their gifts and your gifts are waiting to be found. Go to the *Faith and Learning* tab on the Church of St. Matthew web page <[www.st-matts.org](http://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 VOLUNTEER NEEDED

We are looking for office a volunteer to cover the reception area Tuesday mornings 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. If you are interested in helping out, please call the parish office.

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday, July 22

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

### Sunday, July 23

10:00 am Our Parish  
Arthur Geis †

### Tuesday, July 25

8:00 am David Andrews †

### Thursday, July 27

8:00 am Linda Owens †

### Saturday, July 29

4:00 pm Pamela Stickler †  
Lucille Stickler †  
Robert Stickler Sr. †

### Sunday, July 30

10:00 am Our Parish  
Katie Rosas †

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Saturday, July 22

4:00 pm Mass

### Sunday, July 23

Monday July 24 Friday - July 28

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

### Monday, July 24

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

### Tuesday, July 25

9:00 am Alums & Friends Meeting COS

### Wednesday, July 26

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

### Thursday, July 27

### Friday, July 28

### Saturday, July 29

4:00 pm Mass

### Sunday, July 30

Children's Corner

## WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS 7-16-2017

### Parish

Plate	\$618	School	\$335
Envelopes	\$3,112		
Electronic Giving	\$702		
Vigil Lights	\$33		
Bells	\$20		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,485</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$335</b>

Thank you!

## PLEASE REMEMBER

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

BibleWise

## Joseph Facts

Use the word bank below to fill in the blanks and learn about Joseph.

Joseph had \_\_\_\_\_ brothers.


Jacob gave a colorful \_\_\_\_\_ to Joseph.

Joseph's brothers threw him in a \_\_\_\_\_.

The Pharaoh asked Joseph to interpret his \_\_\_\_\_.

Joseph \_\_\_\_\_ his brothers instead of punishing them.

\_\_\_\_\_ helped Joseph through every situation.



**WORD BANK**

PIT

COAT

DREAMS

GOD

ELEVEN

FORGAVE

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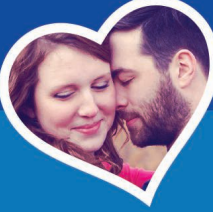
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