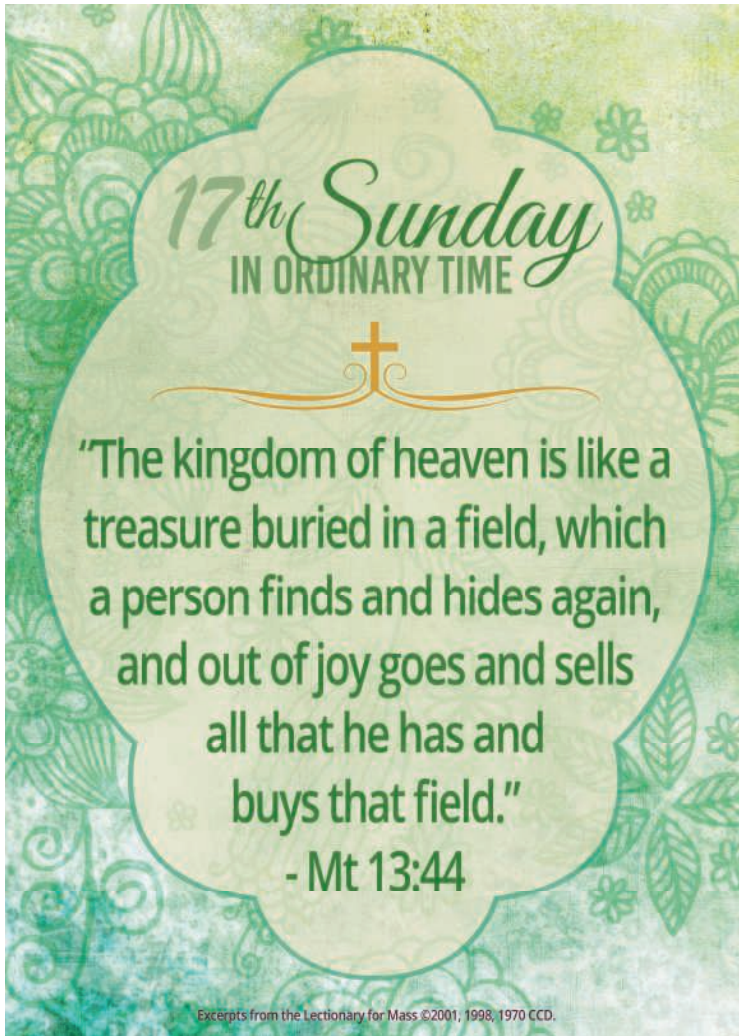




Church of St. Matthew

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



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

July 30, 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

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

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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

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 July 30, 2017

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

Monday: Ex 32:15-24, 30-34/Ps 106:19-23/Mt 13:31-35
Tuesday: Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28/Ps 103:6-13/Mt 13:36-43

Wednesday: Ex 34:29-35/Ps 99:5-7, 9/Mt 13:44-46

Thursday: Ex 40:16-21, 34-38/Ps 84:3-6a, 8a, 11/Mt 13:47-53

Friday: Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37/Ps 81:3-6, 10-11ab/Mt 13:54-58

Saturday: Lv 25:1, 8-17/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8/Mt 14:1-12

Next Sunday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9/2 Pt 1:16-19/Mt 17:1-9

THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN



For three Sundays, the gospel readings have been parables about the kingdom of heaven. We have heard the Parables of the Sower, Weeds and Wheat, Mustard Seed, Yeast, Buried Treasure, Precious Pearl, and Dragnet. What I find interesting about the telling of the first two parables is that after each one it appears that Jesus provides an explanation for their meaning. However, the Dominican Scripture Scholar, Barbara Reid, OP, reminds us that before the parables were written down, they were told and retold by people who added details according to the circumstances and situations in which they lived. First century story tellers used allegories to connect features of Jesus' parables with their own political, religious, and community happenings. Barbara goes on to say that people usually see God as the sower in the first parable. It is God, the farmer, who throws the word out to good people as well as to bad people. The parable is an illustration of God's all-inclusive love for human beings.

In the Parable of the Wheat and Weeds, the early Christian community recognized Jesus as the landowner. The field is the world, the good seed is the children of God, and the weeds are evildoers. The parable is an illustration of God's love for those who endure in a world of evil through their persistent patience and their enduring faith.

With all this said, we come to the Parable of the Buried Treasure and the Parable of the Precious Pearl. These two parables are found only in the Gospel of Matthew and they belong with each other as did the first two parables. The usual interpretation of these two parables is that Jesus is both the hidden treasure and the precious pearl. As we go through life, we are the unnamed person and the merchant who first seek Jesus and then someday find Jesus. It is up to us to sell all that we have to possess him.

But I suggest to you that because God and Jesus are the central characters of the Parable of the Sower and the Parable of the Wheat and Weeds, when it comes to the Parable of the Buried Treasure and the Precious Pearl, God is the unnamed person who is preoccupied with purchasing the field. God is the merchant who is infatuated with obtaining the precious pearl. In other words, God spends hours admiring the two prizes. God dreams about the two valuables all through the night. Most importantly, God tells Jesus that for the buried treasure and the precious pearl no cost is too great, not even his life. This makes us the valued treasure. This makes us the precious pearl. How then are we promoting the kingdom of heaven through who we are and what we do?

Through your thoughtful evaluation, generous financial contributions, and trusting patience, our worship space is becoming more and more inviting. The community of St. Matthew gathers and worships beneath LED lights that provide an inviting, welcoming, and comfortable space to worship.

But the Church of St. Matthew was built with clerestory windows. *Clerestory windows* are a series of *windows* along the top of a building's wall, usually at or near the roof line. According to biblical passages, the temple built by King Solomon had clerestory windows. Clerestory windows are often placed in basilicas and the naves of Romanesque and Gothic churches to provide indirect light that draws our eyes heavenward.

In the 1970's, plexiglass panes were a low-cost treatment for our clerestory windows. However, to help combat heat loss, fiberglass insulation was laid on top of the panes. This made a striking and unintended change in the character of our worship space.

Nevertheless, with parish volunteers instead of payed employees, with renting out space in the parish center and the social hall, with your weekly donations, with your special project contributions, and with your Scrip card purchases, we have a few but not all the dollars needed to replace the plexiglass with thermal glass.

In the very near future, the estimated cost to replace the windows will be known. Through our working together in projects like preparing strawberries for the State Fair, volunteering for and/or participating in the Fall Festival, purchasing tickets and attending the Fix-It Dinner where our funds are matched by the Catholic Foresters, and by your continued weekly contributions, everyone is involved in the life and direction of our parish. Because we are God's valued treasure; because we are God's precious pearl, the kingdom of heaven is in our hands.

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.

News and Events

BELLS AT ST. MATTHEWS

The Bells of Saint Matthew will ring on August 5th in memory of George Gubash.

OKTOBERFEST MEETING



The Oktoberfest Committee is meeting each Monday at 7:00 p.m. at the parish center, our next meeting is on July 31st. 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!!

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> 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

WITH GRATITUDE

Thank you to St. Matthew's Parish and Community for all of the prayers, cards and messages have I received these past several days/months. I am so grateful to be gaining strength each day and for being able to continue with my Deaconate Ministry. May God continue to bless you all.

Deacon John Murphy

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GIFT



On July 15 & 16, the third Sunday of the month 325 pounds of food and non-perishable items were collected for Neighborhood House from St. Matthew's parish. Through your generous donations friends and neighbors of the area are

able to access nutritious food for themselves and their families. Your donations make a difference to families who are hungry.

WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS 7-23-2017

Parish

Plate	\$995	School	\$70
Envelopes	\$3,268	Rental Ins.	\$1,100
Electronic Giving	\$1,268	Peter's Pence	\$10
Vigil Lights	\$30		
Stole Fees	\$400		
Staff Copies	\$10		
Mass Stipend	\$95		
Bells	\$10		
Total	\$6,076	Total	\$1,100

Thank you!

PLEASE REMEMBER

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, July 29

4:00 pm Beverly & Bob Thorson†

Sunday, July 30

10:00 am Our Parish
Katie Rosas†

Tuesday, August 1

8:00 am Fr. Raymond Monsour, healing

Thursday, August 3

8:00 am Lloyd Baker, healing

Saturday, August 5

4:00 pm George Gubash†

Sunday, August 6

10:00 am Our Parish
Deacon John Murphy, healing

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday, July 29

4:00 pm Mass

Sunday, July 30

Monday July 31 Friday - August 4

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

Monday, July 31

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

7:00 pm Oktoberfest Meeting PC

Tuesday, August 1

Wednesday, August 2

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

7:30 pm Men's Club Board Meeting SH

Thursday, August 3

Friday, August 4

Saturday, August 5

4:00 pm Mass

Sunday, August 6

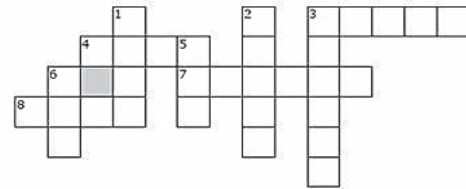
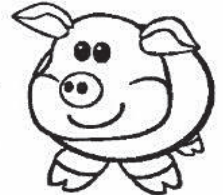
10:00 am Mass

Children's Corner

The Parable of the Lost Son

Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate. Luke 15:23-24 (NIV)

This puzzle is based on Luke 15:11-32 (NIV)



ACROSS

- When something which was lost has been relocated. (I _____ my dog).
- To not be able to be found. (I _____ my dog.)
- A large amount of money and other valuable possessions.
- To touch or press your lips against another person as a greeting or to express love.

DOWN

- Your male children.
- A large special meal to celebrate something or honor someone.
- A male parent.
- The number that is equal to one plus one.
- Farm animals with pink, brown, or black skin, short legs, and a flat nose.

FATHER	SONS	PIG	FEAST	TWO
FOUND	WEALTH	KISS	LOST	

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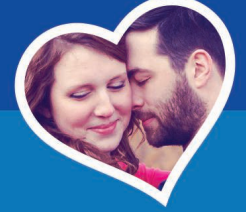
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