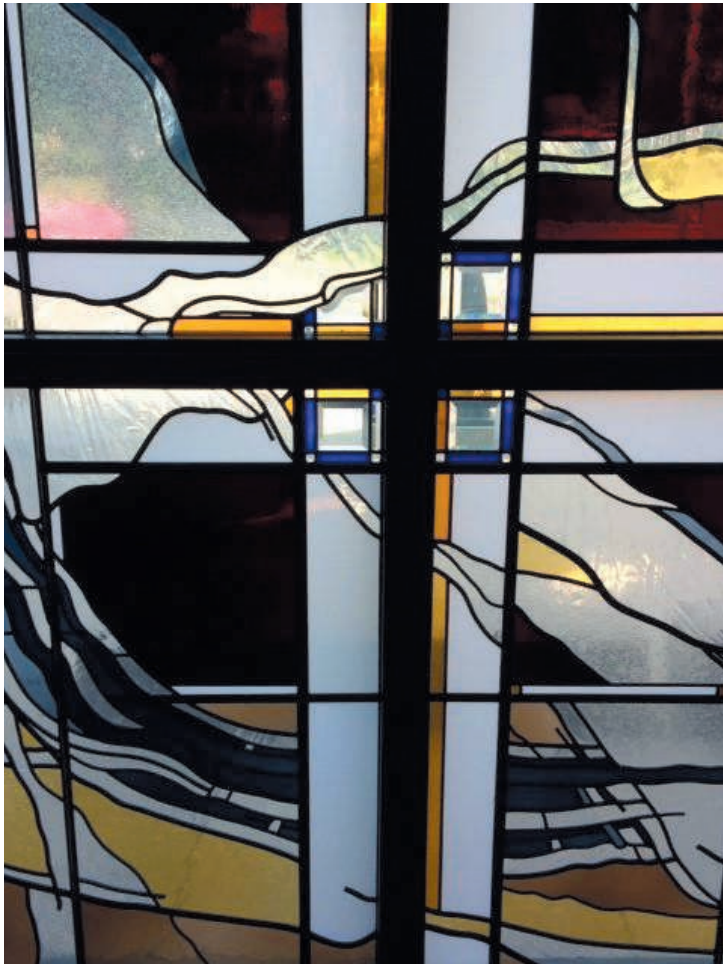


# Church of St. Matthew

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



## **Parish Staff**

**All emails are**

**@st-matts.org**

Rev. Robert Kelly, OP, Parochial Administrator  
frbobbkellyop

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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

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**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.*

**October 15, 2017**

**28th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

### **Liturgy Schedule**

**Monday, Wednesday & Friday** 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 October 15, 2017**

Sunday: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-6/Phil 4:12-14, 19-20/Mt 22:1-14 or 22:1-10

Monday: Rom 1:1-7/Ps 98:1-4/Lk 11:29-32

Tuesday: Rom 1:16-25/Ps 19:2-5/Lk 11:37-41

Wednesday: 2 Tm 4:10-17b/Ps 145:10-13, 17-18/Lk 10:1-9

Thursday: Rom 3:21-30/Ps 130:1b-6ab/Lk 11:47-54

Friday: Rom 4:1-8/Ps 32:1b-2, 5, 11/Lk 12:1-7

Saturday: Rom 4:13, 16-18/Ps 105:6-9, 42-43/Lk 12:8-12

Next Sunday: Is 45:1, 4-6/Ps 96:1, 3-5, 7-10/1 Thes 1:1-5b/Mt 22:15-21

## THE DIVINE LIFE OF GOD!



I believe that most people would agree with me that a parable about a wedding feast is a difficult one to understand. How do we make sense of a story where all the invited guests refuse to come? Because the invited guests refuse to come their city is destroyed. Some street people then find themselves invited to a wedding party they never dreamed of attending. Furthermore, one of the guests who the king calls "friend" but who really isn't a friend is singled out, confronted, bound, and thrown into the darkness for not wearing a wedding garment. At first, it is a very peculiar parable.

Scripture scholars tell us that the writer of Matthew's gospel adapted this parable to speak to the circumstances of his community. To do this, several allegorical features not spoken by Jesus were added. If you remember your high-school English class, an allegory is a metaphor in which people are given meanings that lie outside the story itself. Therefore an allegory is a story with two meanings, a literal meaning and a symbolic meaning. If we concentrate on the literal meaning, as most readers do, it is likely we will overlook the symbolic meaning.

A good example of an allegorical story whose symbolic meaning is explained is in the gospel of Luke. When a large crowd gathered, Jesus told them the parable of the Sower and the Seed. Then after withdrawing, his disciples asked Jesus what the meaning of the parable might be. Jesus responds, "This is the meaning of the parable: The seed is the word of God . . .," so on and so forth.

When we look at the symbolic meaning of the parable about being dressed for a wedding feast, God is the king who sent out servants. The first servants sent are the Old Testament prophets who called the guests to get ready for the celebration. The invited guests are the Israelites, God's chosen people. Some of them mistreated and even killed the servants. This mistreatment corresponds to the rejection of the prophets and their message. The destruction of the city probably represents the destruction of Jerusalem in the year 70 AD.

But the parable does not end here. After the king destroys the city, he sent servants out a second time to invite whomever they could find. These servants are the disciples of Jesus who without any discrimination invite people to follow Jesus. Scholars suggest that this shift in the guest list represents the extension of the church's mission to include not only gentiles but also the poor, the sinners and the disenfranchised as equals at God's great feast.

But the parable does not end here either. The part about the "friend" not wearing a wedding garment was like a separate parable told by itself at first. This explains the lack of continuity with the first parable. It is logical that a person called in from the streets would not have a wedding garment to wear. Some scripture scholars suggest that wedding hosts in the ancient world offered wedding garments to invited guests but this person refused it. It is suggested that the "friend" in the parable represented the people who were baptized but who did not truly put on Christ and live out their baptismal promises. Consequently, they were thrown out of the Christian community. Through the harsh treatment of the incorrectly dressed guest, the writer of Matthew's gospel warned against becoming lazy in living out the Christian life or taking the invitations of God for granted.

I believe that the challenge of today's readings is not to try to understand God but to be aware that God is real and speaks to us in the world that surrounds us. In his book *Theology of Culture* (1964), Paul Tillich describes human beings as creatures who orient our lives with meaning through our relationship with symbols. For Tillich, religion is the "dimension of depth" in all aspects of human life—a dimension expressed and opened up for us through religious symbols. In other words, our world is filled with the visual and the verbal presence of God, but nothing physical will ever give us a total grasp of the love, acceptance, forgiveness, and future that exists in the divine life of God.

### ABUNDANT THANKS!

In his own life, Jesus clearly showed us the dignity of human work and how work becomes ministry when done for the purpose of joining a community of people with God and each other. His family and followers knew him as the carpenter's son and he skillfully worked with the tools of his trade. By working with his own hands Jesus transformed work from an everyday burden into a source of abundant blessings when he called upon God in prayer. When we work together, in whatever it might be, to join people with God our work becomes ministry and joins us with God.

I want to thank Karen Thompson who planned and directed the Oktoberfest to make it a great success. I want to thank the members of the Oktoberfest Planning Committee who organized the events and saw them through with generous volunteers. I want to thank the members of the Rosary Society and the Men's Club who served wherever needed. I want to thank all the men and women chefs who shared their culinary skills. I want to thank the parishioners, friends of the parish, and business owners who contributed to the Oktoberfest as volunteers, with donated items, and with financial contributions. I want to thank John Riehle and the staff members of the Church of St. Matthew for providing support. I want to thank all the festival participants who hopefully enjoyed themselves.

As the money raised by all of you is used to replace the windows and improve the facilities at the Church of St. Matthew, let us pray in thanksgiving for all the ministry you have done and what we need from God to be successful in all the ministry that is yet to be done. Let us continue renewed by the Spirit of God who puts determination in our minds and kindness for all in our hearts and in our hands.

# News and Events

## THE BELLS AT ST. MATTHEW

The Bells at St. Matthew rang on October 11th for Pat Rolewicz. The Bells will ring on October 20th for Chris Rolewicz.

## TIME AWAY

From Monday, October 9 until Saturday, October 21, I will be in Colorado with my family. The 8 am weekday Masses will not be celebrated. Below you will find Mass times at nearby parishes and the Community of Saints School:

**ASSUMPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH**---Monday thru Friday 7am & 12 pm

**CHURCH OF ST. JOSEPH**---Monday thru Friday 7:30 am &  
Tuesday thru Thursday 5:30 pm

**COMMUNITY OF SAINTS**---Thursday 9:30 am

**OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE**---Tuesday 6:00 pm

**ST. JOHN VIANNEY**---Tuesday thru Friday 7:30 am

Fr. Patrick Tobin, OP will celebrate Masses on October 14-15.

**I will return to celebrate Masses on October 21-22.**

Fr. Bob

## FAITH FORMATION UPDATES

There will be no Faith Formation class on Wednesday, October 18. Regular weekly classes resume October 25 at 6:30 pm with drop-off in church and pick-up from the Parish Center at 7:45 pm. Please note that class on November 1 will include the All Saints Day Mass. And Coffee Sunday on November 5 will be hosted by Faith Formation—plan to join us! Faith Formation parents who would like to help with Coffee Sunday, please email Janelle Rohr, [janelle@st-matts.org](mailto:janelle@st-matts.org).

## MASS INTENTIONS

**Saturday, October 14**

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

**Sunday, October 15**

10:00 am Our Parish  
Christie Borgan  
Special Intention

**Monday, October 16**

**Wednesday, October 18**

**Friday, October 20**

**Saturday, October 21**

4:00 pm Arthur Minus †  
Joseph Karas, Jr. †

**Sunday, October 22**

10:00 am Our Parish  
Vern Achman †

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Saturday, October 14**

1:00 pm Liturgy Committee Meeting PC  
1:00 pm Wedding  
4:00 pm Mass

Food Collection Weekend

**Sunday, October 15**

10:00 am Mass  
Food Collection Weekend  
Coffee Sunday

**Monday Oct. 16 - Friday - Oct. 20**

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

**Monday, October 16**

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

**Tuesday, October 17**

**Wednesday, October 18**

8:00 am - 5:30 pm St. Mary's Clinic PC  
NO Faith Formation Classes

**Thursday, October 19**

**Friday, October 20**

**Saturday, October 21**

4:00 pm Mass

**Sunday, October 22**

9:00 am Choir Practice  
10:00 am Mass  
Coffee Sunday

## Children's Corner

### The Lost Sheep

"Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Does he not leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it?" Luke 15:4 (NIV)

Based on Luke 15:1-7



## WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS 10-8-2017

Parish			
Envelopes/Cash	\$3,638	School	\$76
Electronic Giving	\$1,096		
Vigil Lights	\$27		
Bells	\$10		
Meat Raffles	\$1,110		
Windows	\$5,675		
Faith Formation	\$790		
Rent	\$450		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$12,796</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$76</b>

Thank you!

## PLEASE REMEMBER

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

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