

Church of St. Matthew

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



Sixth Sunday of Easter



Parish Staff

All emails are

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Website: st-matts.org

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/churchofstmatthew

Office Hours

Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 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.*

Liturgy Schedule

Monday - Wednesday - Friday 8:00 a.m.

Thursday - 9:30 a.m. at Community of Saints School

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 May 21, 2017

Sunday: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17/Ps 66:1-7, 16, 20/1 Pt 3:15-18/Jn 14:15-21

Monday: Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b/Jn 15:26--16:4a

Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8/Jn 16:5-11

Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22--18:1/Ps 148:1-2, 11-14/Jn 16:12-15

Thursday: Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-9/Eph 1:17-23/Mt 28:16-20

Friday: Acts 18:9-18/Ps 47:2-7/Jn 16:20-23

Saturday: Acts 18:23-28/Ps 47:2-3, 8-10/Jn 16:23b-28

Next Sunday: Acts 1:12-14/Ps 27:1, 4, 7-8/1 Pt 4:13-16/Jn 17:1-11a



Perhaps some of you have heard, at one time or another, some version of the following story. One day, as Augustine of Hippo was strolling along the beach, he became lost in thought while meditating on the mystery of the Holy Trinity. Augustine walked aimlessly until he came upon a young child who had dug a hole in the sand. With his toy bucket in hand, the youngster had begun making trips back and forth to the ocean pouring buckets of water into the hole. After watching for a while, Augustine asked the child, "What are you trying to do?"

"I'm pouring the ocean into this hole," came back the reply. As kindly as he could manage, Augustine explained, "But you can never do that!" Whereupon the child responded, "And neither can you ever understand the mystery of the Holy Trinity." According to the legend, the child suddenly disappeared from sight because, in truth, the child was the Holy Spirit.

If you are questioning why I am sharing a story about the mystery of the Holy Trinity with an emphasis on the Holy Spirit, let me answer your question with a little background information. Research has shown that the gospel of Matthew was written about seventy years after the death of Jesus. It is theorized that the gospel was not written by a single apostle named Matthew but by a group of inspired people, most likely men, who knew Matthew the apostle. These men were Jewish rabbis who had become Christian and who wanted to write a catechism for Jewish people who were becoming Christian. Their teaching objective was to present Jesus as a rabbi, a teacher who was better than the Jewish rabbis of his time. They wanted to give the new Jewish Christians a role model for living a Christian life much like we try to give our children good role models today.

We know that in the gospel of Matthew Jesus is portrayed as a teacher. In his conversation with the crowds, Jesus encourages his students to follow the teaching of the Scribes and Pharisees but condemns their practices. The writers of Matthew's gospel are using the ancient and familiar motto "Do what I say not what I do" to describe the Scribes and Pharisees. They know that stories of Jesus' actions during his brief years of ministry say much more than the words that either the Pharisees or Scribes spoke. So the writers of Matthew's gospel have Jesus remove the Pharisees and the Scribes as role models for the crowd and replaces them with himself and the Holy Spirit who Jesus promises will be given to the apostles on Pentecost.

We know that Paul in his first letter to the Corinthians and in his letters to the Romans and Ephesians recognizes the Holy Spirit as the one person in God who gives us human beings the gifts to be servant to one another. These letters from Paul were written from fifty-four to fifty-eight years after the death of Jesus. So it is possible that the writers of Matthew's gospel had heard about Paul's teaching on how God works in our lives through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit and the spiritual gifts we each are given.

The role of the Holy Spirit in the lives of Matthew's and Paul's communities was to equip the members with gifts to build up the church. It is the same for us. The Holy Spirit equips us with gifts so that we can build up our church community. As I reflect on what I see take place each week in this community, from our Eucharistic celebrations to the volunteer work done by individuals, committees, and the non-profit organizations we support, it becomes quite easy to translate the twenty-one spiritual gifts named by Paul to the spiritual gifts found in the Church of St. Matthew community. Someday, but hopefully not too soon, I will be able to boast to Paul that the gifts of this community far outnumber the ones he named for his communities.

Around the Feast of Pentecost, a spiritual gift recognition tool will be placed on the Church of St. Matthew web page (www.st-matts.org). The tool will enable you to discover your spiritual gifts by using your lived experience to respond to different statements. After discovering your spiritual gifts, you will be invited to reflect on how you are using your gifts or how you might use them for the flourishing of your life and the lives of family, friends, and church community. Don't worry if you don't have a computer. A computer will be available in the Pastoral Center along with all the help you may need to use it. If you prefer not to use a computer, paper copies of the recognition tool will be available to discover your spiritual gifts using a pen or pencil.

While it can be argued that the activities of the Holy Spirit are unpredictable and illusive, spiritual gift recognition tools are the inspiration of the Holy Spirit who encouraged not only theologians, ministers, priests, and catechists to develop them but people like you and me to use them. What a wonderful opportunity to discover the working of the Holy Spirit in our life as Augustine discovered the working of the Holy Spirit in his life through the toy bucket of a young child. The Holy Spirit is closer than we think!

News and Events

SUMMER MINISTRY SCHEDULE - YOUR INPUT DUE NOW

The Ministry Schedule for the months of June through the end of August will be written on **May 22nd**. Please let Jan Lackner know your availability for these months by as soon as possible. You can contact Jan at jml3242@aol.com or 651.457.4766. Are you interested in joining St. Matthew's Ministry? Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers, Readers, and Ushers are welcome to join our Ministry. No experience is necessary, only the desire to serve the Lord. Call Jan if you are interested in joining our Ministry family. Please come share your time and talent with St. Matthew's.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

On Saturday, May 13, 2017 five children received their First Holy Communion. On Sunday, May 14th three children received their First Holy Communion. Looking on were happy parents, grandparents and friends as these children received Holy Communion for the first time. May our First Communicants continue to grow in their love of Our Lord Jesus Christ as they receive Him at Mass each week. Receiving Holy Communion on Saturday, May 13 were: Anna Brostrom, Layla Brostrom, Lucia Rodriguez, Leonardo Torres-Gonzalez, Karina Ortega. Receiving Holy Communion of Sunday, May 14 were Gustavo R. Gurrola, Mariosol A. Gurrola, Yazenia Lopez.



MEMORIAL/LABOR DAY MASS & SUMMER MASS TIMES

On Memorial Day, May 29, Mass will be celebrated at 9:00 am. Beginning June 6, weekday Masses will be on **Tuesdays & Thursdays** at 8:00 am.
On Labor Day, September 4, Mass will be celebrated at 9:00 am. Beginning September 6, weekday Masses will return to **Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays**, at 8:00 am.
Funeral Masses will be celebrated as needed throughout the summer.

COMMUNITY OF SAINTS NEWS

CSCOE Bash. A few members of the Community of Saints School community attended the Catholic Schools Center of Excellence (CSCOE) Bash last weekend. The event was to fundraise for another Archdiocesan-wide, All Schools Mass! This past fall the event took place at the St. Paul Saints' CHS field, and was celebrated by Archbishop Hebda. Students were amazed at how many students attended a Catholic school and were excited for share the commonality of worshiping together with a sea of students!

WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS 5-14-17

Parish			
Plate	\$753	School	\$5
Envelopes	\$2,054		
Electronic Giving	\$202		
Holyday	\$2		
Mass Stipend	\$200		
Vigil Lights	\$34		
Total	\$3,245		Thank you!

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, May 20

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

Sunday, May 21

10:00 am Our Parish
Deacon John Murphy, Healing

Monday, May 22

8:00 am Roberta Grady, Healing

Wednesday, May 24

8:00 am Wallace Borgan, Sr. †

Friday, May 26

8:00 am Caitlyn Foley, Healing

Saturday, May 27

4:00 pm David Andrews †

Sunday, May 28

10:00 am Our Parish

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday, May 20

4:00 pm Mass - Food Collection

Sunday, May 21

9:00 am Choir Practice
10:00 am Sunday Mass—Food Collection
First Holy Communion
11:00 am Coffee Sunday SH

Monday May 22 – Friday, May 26

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

Monday, May 22

12:00 - 5:00 p.m. St. Mary's Clinic

Tuesday, May 23

9:30 am Alums & Friends Mtg. COS

Wednesday, May 24

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

Thursday, May 25

9:30 am COS Student Mass at
COS Chapel

4:30-8:00 pm Finance/Parish Council PC

Friday, May 26

Saturday, May 27

4:00 pm Mass

Sunday, May 28 Ascension of the Lord

9:00 am Choir Practice
First Holy Communion
11:00 am Coffee Sunday SH

Children's Corner

Prayer

g p e i d e s p i t e f u l l y e h t
d f r m s f t r c e a s i n g u t k
k a e w a s r o n o i t a t p m e t c
r i h i e n e m t n s n c t b n s o i
e t t m f g n i s f r p g l n p u a s
y h a a c l g s b e l i e v i n g s u
a f f l i c t e d s i e c r s w u r d
r u m e n e h e s o i i e o r i s g
p l i d r s e m r l i t l h f u c s t
e e e f f s n o i t i t e p e r s v p

prayer	spirit	believing
confess	weak	faith
faithful	sick	humble
counsel	sing	name
prosperous	Father	strengthen
despitefully	repetitions	ceasing
temptation	afflicted	promise

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