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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.*

May 13, 2018

The Ascension of the Lord

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 May 13, 2018

Sunday: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13/Mk 16:15-20

Monday: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26/Ps 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [8]/Jn 15:9-17

Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27/Ps 68:10-11, 20-21 [33a]/Jn 17:1-11a

Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38/Ps 68: 29-30, 33-35a, 35bc-36ab [33a]/Jn 17:11b-19

Thursday: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11 [1]/Jn 17:20-26

Friday: Acts 25:13b-21/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab [19a]/Jn 21:15-19

Saturday: Morning: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31/Ps 11:4, 5 and 7 [7b]/Jn 21:20-25

WHY ARE YOU STANDING HERE LOOKING UP?



Having been born and raised in Colorado, one of the many things I learned while growing up was the names and locations of the fifty-eight mountain peaks that tower above fourteen thousand feet. I also learned to have a deep reverence, respect, and caution when climbing anyone of the “fourteeners” where a person often starts out in the warm sunshine, moves into the clouds, tramps through the rain, plods through sleet, and then struggles through a snow storm in the middle of July. From our own experiences on mountains today is easy to understand why from the beginning of the human race, people of all religions have gone to the top of mountain to ritualize their spirituality and then return from the top of the mountain to put their spirituality into practice.

For example, the Inca Indians of South America made their human sacrifices on the top of the Andes mountains, but then came back down to plant their crops and find out if their sacrifices were accepted. The Aztec Indians of Central America divided their world into the lower regions for humans and the upper regions for the gods. What took place in the heavens mirrored what took place on earth.

In the Bible there are stories where spiritual things happened on a mountain top and what is spiritual on the mountain top is brought down from the mountain top. Moses went up on Mount Sinai to receive the Ten Commandments and the Ten Commandments were brought back to us. Abraham went up a mountain called Moriah to sacrifice his son Isaac and came back to be the father of a chosen people. Noah’s ark landed on a mountain in Eastern Turkey and from the ark animals and people came down to populate the earth. Jesus went up a mountain to be tempted, to pray, to be transfigured, to be crucified, and finally to ascend into heaven.

But too often, I think we take our mountain top experiences too personally. We not only go to the mountain top alone but we leave our spiritual experience on top of the mountain when we come back down. Like the apostles, we stand on the mountain gazing up at the sky watching and waiting. We see this as a “significant pause” that belongs to us alone. Like the apostles we are afraid to share our “significant pause” in a culture where spirituality has been misconstrued as something exclusively personal and private concerning individual seekers or, at most, a specific group or religious institution. And how can our significant pause with its unique spiritual signs and symbols compete with the trademarks of designer clothes, luxury automobiles, and electronic devices that offer immediate gratification rather than inspiration and guidance in living a disciplined holy life?

As we prepare to celebrate Jesus sending us the Holy Spirit on Pentecost we ought not to forget the question that the two men dressed in white asked the Apostles in today’s first reading: “Why are you standing here looking up at the skies?” This is a rhetorical question. Its purpose is show the Apostles that there is a ministry to be planned for, a service to be done, and a mission to be accomplished. Gazing up into the heavens is not an option. In other words, on the mountain top, prayer is easy and talk is cheap, but going down from the mountain to do what we have prayed and talked about is the challenge.

Although the specific details of what the disciples did to respond to Jesus telling them to make disciples of all nations can be found in the Acts of the Apostles and in Paul’s letters, we have to look to own lives to decide on how we are going to respond to the call of Jesus before his departure.

Certainly, prayer alone and prayer together, like the disciples, is a good starting point. But we have to remember that we, like the disciples, have no power of our own. We possess no power and we cannot generate any power for ourselves. We have no claim and no cause for self-congratulations in the ministry we do. The power given to us to have the energy, courage, perseverance, and imagination, to offer our resources is given as a result of Jesus’ resurrection, his return to God, and his sending the Holy Spirit to us. So we never can begin our ministry with the questions, “What have we done?” or “What are we to do?” Our ministry must always start with the question, “What is the Holy Spirit calling us to do today?” When we ask this question, we stop looking up into the heavens and we continue the ministry we are doing as well as beginning the ministry we are yet to do because heaven is joined to earth.

On April 1, we began reflecting on the community of the Church of St. Matthew who rose from the 1968 fire to begin again. We met the Board of Trustees and members of the Parish Pastoral Council, some of who have labored beyond their terms and in additional ways to both maintain and advance the parish. We reviewed the parish constitution and bylaws which provide the means, like establishing standing committees and task forces, to address the physical needs of the campus and the spiritual needs of our community. On Pentecost, the Church of St. Matthew’s recommendations to de-cluster from the Churches of St. Michael and Our Lady of Guadalupe given to the Archdiocese Strategic Planning Task Force in 2015 will be in the bulletin for our prayerful consideration.

Come Holy Spirit, inspire and direct us to blaze forward!

News and Events

BELL OF SAINT MATTHEW

Celebrate a wedding anniversary, birthday, graduation or other memorable event in your family's life by ringing the Bells of Saint Matthew. Call Linda Rivera at the Parish Office to reserve your day.

NEW MINISTRY SCHEDULE DUE

We will be writing the next Ministry Schedule on May 22nd. Please let us know what dates you are not available to be scheduled or any dates that you want to be scheduled. Please send us this information by Monday, May 21st. Jan Lackner JML3242@aol.com or phone 651.457.4766.



Sunday
May 20, 2018

THANK YOU NEIGHBOR

On April 21 & 22 Saint Matthew's parish donated 233 pounds of food and personal care items to the food shelf at Neighborhood House. Through your monthly contributions our friends and neighbors are able to provide nourishing food for themselves and their families. **Our next food collection will be on May 19 & 20**, please be as generous as you are able. Thank you for feeding the hungry in our neighborhood.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

On Sunday, May 6, 2018 nine children from Saint Matthew's Faith Formation program and Community of Saint Regional Catholic School received their First Holy Communion. They were joined by family, friends and our parish community. We welcome to the table of Christ: Elayan Anderson, Flora Ann Bejblik, Andre Herman, Marco Antonio Silva, Javier VanDyke, Julian Smith, Jasmine A. Castillon, Arianna Marie Fortune and Simon Abdu.

IN SYMPATHY

The parish of Saint Matthew extends our condolences to the family of Gregory Bauer. Mr. Bauer's Funeral Mass was here on May 2nd. May he and all the faithful departed rest in God's peace and love.

WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS 05-06-2018

Parish		School	\$ 432
Envelopes/Cash	\$ 3,175		
Electronic Giving	\$ 1,094		
Vigil Lights	\$ 22		
Holy Day	\$ 12		
Mass Intentions	\$ 238		
Rent	\$ 810		
Total	\$ 5,351	Total	\$ 432
Thank You		Thank You	

PLEASE REMEMBER

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, May 12

4:00 pm Madeline Perron†

Sunday, May 13

10:00 am Our Parish

Rose Karas†

Monday, May 14

8:00 am Deborah Amacher,

Special Intention

Wednesday, May 16

8:00 am Marina Galep†

Friday, May 18

8:00 am Deacon John Murphy,

Special Intention

Saturday, May 19

4:00 pm Arthur Geis†

Sunday, May 20

10:00 am Our Parish

Arthur Minus†

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday, May 12 Ascension of the Lord Vigil

4:00 pm Mass with First Holy Communion

Sunday, May 13 Ascension of the Lord

9:00 am Choir Practice

10:00 am Mass with Children's Liturgy of the Word

11:00 am Coffee Sunday SH

Monday, May 14-Friday May 18

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

Monday, May 14

8:00 am Mass

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

Tuesday, May 15

Wednesday, May 16

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

Thursday, May 17

9:30 am Mass COS

Friday, May 18

8:00 am Mass

Saturday, May 19 12-9 pm Men's Club at Harmon Park

4:00 pm Mass Pentecost Vigil Mass

5:00 pm St. Matt's Class of '68 Reunion SH

Sunday, May 20 Pentecost

9:00 am Final Choir Practice

10:00 am Mass with Final Children's Liturgy of the Word

11:00 am Final Coffee Sunday SH

11:00 am Alums All School Reunion COS

The Ascension of Jesus

While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up to heaven. Luke 24:51 (NIV)

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.



X	W	V	D	J	Q	R	I	B	S	O	A	E	U	C	P	K	N	H	L	G	M	Y	Z	F	T
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

- 25-14-20-25-8-20-20-13-4 _____
- 11-16-13-18-13-4 _____
- 22-8-18-4-10 _____
- 10-15-7-8-16-26-14-7-13 _____
- 7-8-10-13 _____
- 7-13-16-13-18-26 _____
- 9-20-13-10-10-8-18-21 _____
- 26-12-17-13-18 _____
- 19-13-12-3-13-18 _____
- 2-11-7-10-19-8-16-13-4 _____

SCRIPTURE MINDS	RISE TAKEN	REPENT OPENED	HEAVEN WORSHIPED	BLESSING FULFILLED
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