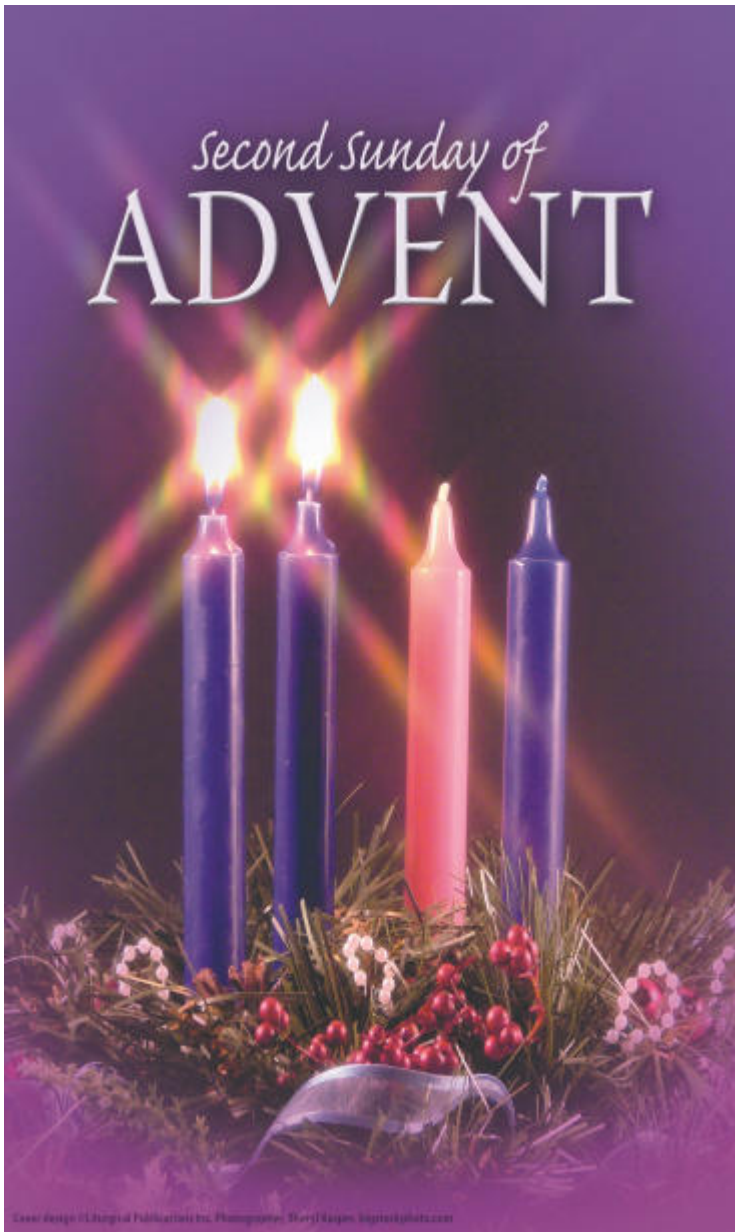


Church of St. Matthew

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



Decor: Design: © Digital Publications Inc. Photographs: © iStockphoto.com

Parish Staff

All emails are

@st-matts.org

Rev. Robert Kelly, OP, Parochial Administrator
frbobkellyop

Deacon Gregg Sroder

sroderg@archspm.org

Sister Anne Becker, Pastoral Ministry

srannebecker

Jill Kilzer, Music Ministry

jillkilzer

Bernie Klein, Accounts Payable

bklein

Steve Kowal, Maintenance Engineer

skowal

Mary Leibl, Volunteer Coordinator

mleibl

Parish Pastoral Council

parishcouncil

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

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 December 9, 2018

Sunday: Bar 5:1-9/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 [3]/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6

Monday: Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [Is 35:4f]/Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday: Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13 [Is 40:10ab]/Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19 [15:9d]/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab [8]/Mt 11:11-15

Friday: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [Jn 8:12]/Mt 11:16-19

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/Mt 17:9a, 10-13

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



HOPING IN GOD'S PROMISES

Fr. Bob

I think all of us have watched a child scoot or crawl along the floor to reach an object that has attracted his or her attention. If it is safe, we may cheer the child on and move the object closer. If it is unsafe, we may move the child away or place the object out of reach. Every year at this time, parents with a scooting or crawling child have to decide whether or not to put a Christmas tree, with all its bright lights and ornaments, on the floor or put it up high out of reach. Whether we know it or not, every time we move toward a reach for something, we are exercising the virtue of hope. Hope is part and parcel of who we are as human beings. It is hope that enables us to keep on crawling, to survive, and to conquer the tough times.

In the gospel reading from Luke for the Second Sunday of Advent, the words of the Prophet Isaiah are quoted: "A voice of one crying out in the desert: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths. Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and his shall be made low. The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

Originally, the prophet was speaking to the Israelite community that is in captivity in Babylon. Their captivity has taken the Israelites from their land and it has taken away their hope. But the prophet gives the people a message of hope. He promises them freedom when the Kingdoms of Judah and Jerusalem are restored.

We believe that the voice is coming from the prophet, but is it really? I propose to you that Isaiah is only putting into words what we all know but are perhaps afraid to say as people living in a world of turmoil and trouble. "We are a people of hope!"

Advent is not about hoping in God. Advent is about hoping in God's promises. There are no boundaries to hope, because there are no boundaries to God. God keeps pushing back the boundaries we try to set when we want to have only a reasonable hope in this world. God tries and tries to assure us that our suffering and dying in this world will bring us to new life in the world to come.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES & PARISH NEEDS

Then I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?" Then I said, "Here am I. Send me!" Isaiah 6:8

Mary Leibl,
Volunteer Coordinator

We need volunteers to continue the work of serving our parish and community. Currently we have 4 continuing opportunities.

MUSICIANS

In need of Choir members, Cantors & Instrumentalists. The choir sings for Sunday 10:00 am Mass and practices on alternate weeks September-May. Choir practice is 9:00 am. Cantors and instrumentalists are needed for any of the weekend Masses.



SUBSTITUTE PARISH CENTER RECEPTIONISTS

Need volunteers to be on call and fill in when needed. Duties include answering phone and greeting visitors. We have four 4-hour shifts and five 3-hours shifts. Hours are: Monday – Thursday 9:00 am – 1:00 pm & 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm. Friday 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Need teachers and teen helpers to assist with Children's Liturgy of the Word. This liturgy is offered during the school year at the Sunday 10:00 am Mass.

FAITH FORMATION

Looking for **Hospitality Coordinators**: Will plan & organize food, drinks, service, set-up, and clean-up at 2 events in early March. Planning would begin in January. Recruit helpers & contributors. Need to enjoy being around kids. Best if 2 people who work well together share the coordinating job.

I invite anyone who could help with these volunteer opportunities to contact me through the parish office or email me at mleibl@st-matts.org

THANK YOU!

Eight months ago, we began listing volunteer opportunities available in the parish. Fr. Bob often stressed that we are a Volunteer Parish! Since that time many parishioners have stepped forward to answer the call. Last Saturday, the first major snowfall of the season began at about 3:00 pm. As parishioners were walking through the heavy wet snow to attend the 4:00 pm Mass, no less than 4 people entered the church asking if we had a shovel they could use. They then went to work clearing the sidewalk and making it safe for those coming to church. That may be the finest example that we are a "Volunteer Parish". People seeing a need and stepping forward to serve. Thank you to those "volunteer shovelers"!!



News and Events

CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW WINTER WEATHER POLICY

During the winter months, the Church of St. Matthew Parish Center is closed whenever the St. Paul Public Schools are closed. Cancellation of Parish Center events and activities will appear on WCCO (Channel 4). Independent organizations using the Church of St. Matthew buildings should be contacted directly for their open or closed status



DECORATE THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS



As we enter the busiest time of the year, reserve some time to help decorate the church for the Christmas Season. **Decorating will take place on December 23rd**, immediately after the 10:00 am Mass. If you go to the Saturday Mass, consider returning on Sunday to help prepare the church for the Christmas celebration. This will also be a good opportunity for Faith Formation students to earn Service Hours. **Many volunteers will make for less work!!**

COMMUNITY OF SAINT NEWS

We would like to officially invite members of our sponsoring parishes to join us for our annual school Christmas concert! The concert is Thursday, December 20th, at 7:00 pm in the Church of the school.

It is one of our favorite times of the year as we prepare for the arrival of Jesus! At Community of Saints, we have the privilege of acknowledging Advent Season and will spend these next few weeks preparing for the birth of Jesus through prayer services, acts of servant leadership, and regular religious education lessons and activities.

This year's main act of service will once again focus on "Isaac's Blessing Bags". Isaac Garcia is a seventh grader at COS and began his mission a year ago to help support people without a home. His "Blessing Bags" are filled with toiletries, packaged food, and warm weather wear. If anyone is interested in donating to this amazing cause, please contact the school, or drop off items in the school office. Thank you!

WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS December 2, 2018

Volunteer Service

Hours in prayer	35	School	\$ 277
Hours in service	40		

Parish		Total	\$ 277
Envelopes/Cash	\$ 2,919	Thank You	

Electronic Giving	\$ 200
Vigil Lights	\$ 38
Fuel	\$ 25
Mass Intention	\$ 35
Rent	\$ 450
Memorials	\$ 385
Rosary/CCW Pymt	\$ 67
Flowers	\$ 75
Religious Retire.	\$ 25
Coffee Sunday	\$ 0

Total \$ 4,219

THE BELLS OF SAINT MATTHEW



The Bells of Saint Matthew will ring on December 13th in memory of Robert St. Martin.

Remember a loved one, celebrate an anniversary or birthday, announce an engagement. Call Linda Rivera at the Parish Office to schedule a date.

THE POWER OF PRAYER



You can request prayers for yourself, family and friends by calling St. Matthew's Prayer Line 651.457.0228. You can request prayers for healing, family unhappiness, help to find a job, addiction to name a few. All requests are confidential.



Puzzle

Circle these words from today's Gospel:

BAPTIZED

JOHN

CROOKED

FORGIVEN

DESERT

SMOOTH

ISAIAH

STRAIGHT

ROUGH

C	I	F	O	R	G	I	V	E	N
R	O	U	G	H	L	O	Y	U	L
O	N	B	D	I	F	T	S	M	V
O	I	A	S	M	O	O	T	H	E
K	C	P	T	W	S	H	R	I	J
E	Y	T	O	U	M	Y	A	S	O
D	U	I	L	I	S	A	I	A	H
R	J	Z	O	C	E	T	G	K	N
O	Y	E	M	K	Y	I	H	I	W
H	A	D	E	S	E	R	T	O	U

COFFEE SUNDAY

You are invited to the Social Hall most Sundays following 10:00 am Mass for coffee, donuts and other tasty treats. **All are welcome to attend.**



We are looking for families, friends or groups to host a Coffee Sunday, if you are interested contact Becky Montgomery at montgomery_bec@hotmail.com, she will let you know what Sundays are still open and how it all works.

SCRIP NEWS:

Every \$25 purchased from the scrip program provides another \$1.00 to St. Matthew's.

You can Christmas shop with Scrip without waiting in long lines.

Are you giving gifts cards to friends, families or employees this Christmas season?

Checkout the extensive list of retailers available through the Scrip program. Convenient shopping and St. Matthew's will benefit at no cost to you. **If we don't have it on hand, it can be ordered for you and received in a few days time.**



THANK YOU NEIGHBOR

Next weekend, December 15 & 16 we will collect non-perishable food and personal care items for the food shelf at Neighborhood House. Last month the parishioners of St. Matthew's collected an amazing 443 pounds of food and personal care items.



Please be as generous as you are able to be and thank you for feeding our neighbors.

ADVERTISER SPOTLIGHT

This bulletin is brought to St. Matthew's each week at no cost to the parish. It is paid for by the advertisers on the back of the bulletin. Please thank them by using their products and services whenever you able to do so.

**Walk In
Counseling Center
www.walkin.org
612.870.0565
179 Robie St. E.
St. Paul MN**

No appointment necessary

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 8, - Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

4:00 pm Katie Rosas†

Sunday, December 9

10:00 am Our Parish

Brian Ahern†

Monday, December 10

8:00 am Claudette Borgan, Special Intention

Wednesday, December 12 Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

8:00 am Living & Deceased Rosary/CCW Members

Friday, December 14

8:00 am Deacon John Murphy†

Saturday, December 15

4:00 pm The Karas Family, Rose, Joseph Sr. & Jr.

Sunday, December 16

10:00 am Our Parish

Bernard Anthony Bukowsky†

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday, December 8 - Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

4:00 pm Mass

5:00 pm Fr. Adrian's 50th Ordination Celebration

Light Refreshment in the Church for All

5:00 pm Prepaid Dinner in the Social Hall

Sunday, December 9

9:00 am Choir Practice CH

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

11:00 am Coffee Sunday

Monday-Friday December 10 - 14

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

Monday, December 10

8:00 am Mass

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

Tuesday, December 11

1:00 pm Rosary/CCW Meeting PC

Wednesday, December 12 Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

8:00 am Mass

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

6:30 pm Faith Formation Classes CH/PC

7:30 pm Men's Club Meeting SH

Thursday, December 13

9:10 am School Mass COS

Friday, December 14

8:00 am Mass

Saturday, December 15

1:00 - 4:00 pm Rosary Tea, Boutique & Bake Sale SH

4:00 pm Mass with Food Collection for Neighborhood House

Sunday, December 16

9:00 am - 1:00 pm Breakfast with Santa

Christmas Boutique & Bake Sale SH


9:00 am Choir Practice CH

10:00 am Mass with Children's Liturgy of the Word and Food Collection for Neighborhood House

Community means everything.
That's why we're proud to be here to help life go right!™



**Steve Stremski
Ins Agcy Inc**
Steve Stremski, Agent
1560 Livingston Ave., Suite 101
West St. Paul, MN 55118




**Thomas Stremski
Ins Agcy Inc**
Tom J Stremski, Agent
1560 Livingston Ave.
West St Paul, MN 55118
Bus: 651-457-6348



1601492 State Farm, Bloomington, IL

¿Necesita ayuda?
¿Conoce a alguien que la necesita?
¡Estamos cerca de usted!

- Asesoramiento profesional.
- ¡Gratis! No se necesita tarjeta del seguro de salud.
- Puede permanecer en el anonimato.



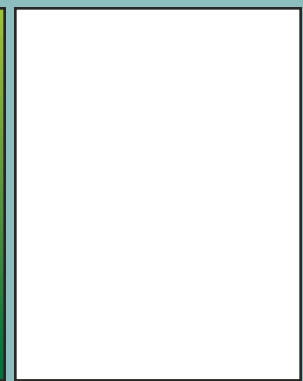
**Walk-In
Counseling Center**
www.walkin.org • 612-870-0565
179 Robie St. E • St. Paul, MN

**Center For A
Balanced Life, Inc**

Massage Stress Away
Sister M. Janine, Holistic Therapist
\$5.00 off First Visit with this ad!



1545 Livingston Ave.
Ste. 100
West St. Paul, MN
651-455-0473
www.centerforabalancedlife.com



Community of Saints Regional Catholic School **Small. Catholic. Affordable.**

Offering Preschool
8th grade education
Serving St. Paul's West Side,
West St. Paul, South St. Paul,
Inver Grove Heights
and Mendota Heights.

651-457-2510



**4LPi WE'RE HIRING
AD SALES EXECUTIVES**



- Full Time Position with Benefits
- Sales Experience Preferred
- Paid Training
- Overnight Travel Required
- Expense Reimbursement

CONTACT US AT
careers@4LPi.com
www.4LPi.com/careers

**CAMELOT
Cleaners**

Dry Cleaning and
Laundry Service

984 S. SMITH, W. ST.
PAUL, MN 55118
457-2909
Drive-thru window

**AVAILABLE
FOR A LIMITED TIME**

ADVERTISE YOUR
**BUSINESS
HERE**

Contact **Jim Byrne** to place an ad today!
jbyrne@4LPi.com or (800) 950-9952 x2596

**Ries
ELECTRIC COMPANY**

For All Your Residential
& Commercial Wiring Needs

777 N. Concord
S. St. Paul, MN 55075
651-451-2238
Celebrating 65 Years

Solid LLC
Is A Carpentry Subcontracting Labor Solutions Co.

Positions available & Now hiring!!
Carpenters: For Framing, Millwork & Trim
Applications can be found on line at www.gottabesolid.com

To make an appointment:
612-919-7070

Solid LLC is a West St. Paul
based company



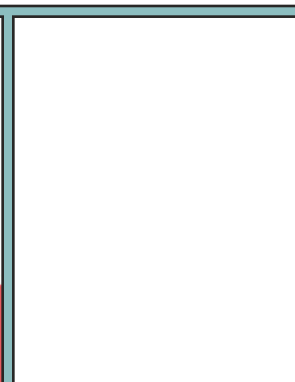
**PROTECTING SENIORS NATIONWIDE
MEDICAL ALERT SYSTEM**



\$29.95/MO
BILLED
QUARTERLY

PLUS
SPECIAL
OFFER

CALL NOW!
1.877.801.7772
WWW.24-7MEDALARM.COM

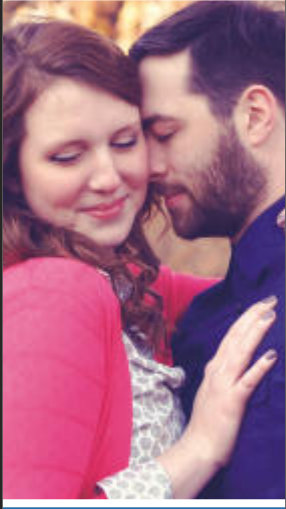


SPREAD THE WORD
A Thriving, Vibrant
Community Matters



**SUPPORT OUR
ADVERTISERS**

**catholicmatch®
Minnesota**



CatholicMatch.com/MN

**West Side
Community Health Services**

- Servicios Médicos y Dentales
- Persona Profesional Bilingüe
- Servicios Económicos basados en Ingreso

Horarios por la tarde y sábados
Farmacia en la clínica
Nuestras direcciones son:

La Clínica McDonough Homes Clinic
153 Cesar Chavez St., St. Paul 1544 Timberlake Rd., St. Paul

East Side Family Clinic
(servicios médicos y dentales) West Side Dental Clinic
895 E. 7th Street, St. Paul 478 S. Robert St., St. Paul

¡Haga una cita hoy!
Llame al 651-602-7500

**HELP PROTECT
YOUR FAMILY**

With a home security system monitored by ADT professionals 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. As an added benefit, installing a Security System may qualify you for a homeowners insurance discount.

CALL NOW! 1-888-891-6806



