



# Church of St. Matthew

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



**December 1, 2019**

**Advent I**

#### **Liturgy Schedule**

<b>Monday</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	Mass
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	Mass
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	Scripture/Communion Service
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>9:00 am</b>	Mass
<b>Friday</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	Mass
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>4:15 pm</b>	Mass
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>10:15 am</b>	Mass

#### **Reconciliation**

**1st & 3rd Saturday After 4:15 pm Mass**  
**2nd & 4th Sunday After 10:15 am Mass**

**Prayer Line 651.457.0228**

#### **Readings for the week of December 1, 2019**

Sunday: Is 2:1-5/ Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [cf. 1]/Rom 13:11-14/Mt 24:37-44  
Monday: Is 4:2-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 8:5-11  
Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 [cf. 7]/Lk 10:21-24  
Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [6cd]/Mt 15:29-37  
Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118: 1 and 8-9. 19-21, 25-27a [26a]/Mt 7:21, 24-27  
Friday: Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 [1a]/Mt 9:27-31  
Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

## Stewardship Bulletin Reflection

Today we begin the beautiful season of Advent. It is a season meant for preparation. For what exactly are we preparing? Two things: the celebration of our Savior's birth and the anticipation of His second coming.

These are weighty tasks with eternal consequences. So, let us stewards make the words of the Prophet Isaiah our motto for the season: "Come, let us climb the Lord's mountain to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may instruct us in his ways and we may walk in his paths."

In the weeks leading up to Christmas, it seems everywhere we turn we are pushed to do more to create a "perfect" Christmas day. But the Church's guidance to use these weeks to focus on our spiritual lives can indeed seem like a mountain-climb.

The intentional use of the gift of time is what the Christian steward is called to do, and with even greater intensity during Advent. How can we use our time to prepare for Jesus' birth on Dec. 25 and for His second coming at a date we do not know?

We can push back against the world's pressure to have the "perfect Christmas." Scale back on materialism so we have more time for spiritual preparations: Confession, weekday Mass, adoration, family prayer time, lighting the Advent wreath, acts of kindness.

In the end we will be prepared to celebrate a truly meaningful Christmas, be-come more like our Savior and be ready for Him to come again.  
*- The Catholic Steward*



Mary Leibl,  
Volunteer  
Coordinator

## 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

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

### BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING

Need Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs), Registered Nurses (RNs), Physicians and EMTs who would be willing to volunteer on the first weekend of the month, after Saturday & Sunday Masses. Blood pressure cuffs will be provided.

### LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Need volunteers to serve as Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers, at the Saturday 4:15 pm Mass. Will train.

### LITURGICAL MUSICIANS

In need of Choir members, Cantors & Instrumentalists. The choir sings for Sunday 10:15 am Mass and practices on alternate weeks September-May. The Choir practices at 9:15 am. Next practice will be Sunday, December 8th. Cantors and instrumentalists are needed for both weekend Masses. As we begin the Advent & Christmas seasons more volunteers would be appreciated!

### CHRISTMAS MUSICIANS

Do you love Christmas music? Please consider blending your talents with those of St. Matthew's Liturgical Musicians. Vocalists, guitarists, keyboardists, and other instrumentalists are most welcome and needed! Contact Jill Kilzer, Music Director, for more information. [jillkilzer@st-matts.org](mailto:jillkilzer@st-matts.org)

**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](mailto:mleibl@st-matts.org)**

THANK YOU!

**We are a Volunteer Parish!! The future of our parish depends on our dedicated volunteers!!**

**Thank You** to all who have donated to **Isaac's Blessings Bags**! We will be collecting items through the weekend of December 7/8. You may place your donations in the box near the Scrip Table. Donations may also be brought to the Parish Center during the week if that is more convenient.

## News and Events

### SAVE THE PLANET

**FIX-IT-CLINIC** Saturday, December 7th from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, 401 Concord St., St. Paul. An opportunity to repair household items at no cost! No oversized items Search "Ramsey County fix it clinic" or additional information.



### SAINT MATTHEW'S PARISH COUNCIL DECEMBER 5, 2019 AGENDA

1. Reflection
  2. Listening Weekend
  3. Finance Council Report
  4. Fix-It Dinner Update
  5. Ecumenical Service Wrap-Up
  6. "On our own" Discussion
  7. Updates:
    - a. Buildings and Facilities
    - b. Community of Saints
    - c. Loaves and Fishes
    - d. Casa Guadalupana
    - e. Saint Mary's Health Clinic
    - f. Men's Club
    - g. Rosary Society
    - h. Lay Advisory Board
    - i. Liturgy
    - j. Faith Formation
  8. Parish Priorities Updates:
    - Parish Council – new members bringing membership to (How many & who is off in 2020)
    - Facebook
    - Earth Care
    - Increased utilization of technology
    - Family Involvement
    - Adult Enrichment
  9. Other Business
- Next Meeting: January 23, 2020 Facilitator: Barb Strom  
Note Taker: Ellen Schneider

### ARCHBISHOPS DISCERNMENT RETREAT

**Saturday, December 28 at 5 p.m. – Monday, December 30 at 1 p.m., Christ the King Retreat Center, Buffalo, MN**

The Director of Vocations offers this annual retreat with talks by Archbishop Bernard Hebda. In addition to the talks given by the Archbishop, there will be times of prayer, an opportunity for the Rite of Reconciliation, times of recreation, and plenty of great food. This is for men discerning priesthood who are seniors in high school to age 50. This retreat is a wonderful opportunity to gain clarity in your discernment process and to meet other men who desire to follow Christ and to know his will for their lives. Register online at [10000vocations.org](http://10000vocations.org).



The Bells of Saint Matthew will ring on November 30th in memory of **Tom Steinbrenner**.

This is a lovely way to celebrate a wedding anniversary, remember a loved one who is no longer living, announce the great news of a new grandchild. Too many heartfelt reasons to name...contact Linda Rivera at the parish office to schedule your special day.

### BIBLE STUDY WITH FR. STEVE

Mark your calendar: Father Steve will present three semesters of Bible Study. The first will be about the Gospel of Matthew [as we begin the year of Matthew in Advent]. Three Saturday mornings, with some drink and a bit of food for the body; and lots of food for the mind and soul. Saturday mornings from 9:15 to 11:00 am. The first semester will be Saturdays, December 7, 14, and 21. **NEW LOCATION:** presentations will be in the Parish Center, lower level. (parking is possible on the playground)

Watch for a semester in Lent about the Passion Story in Matthew; then a semester in Eastertime about the Acts of the Apostles.

Pre-registration is not necessary, but it would be very helpful. Please call the office. 651.224.9793

### MONEY COUNTERS RETIRING

Please join together in giving a heartfelt "thank you" to two very faithful money counters; **Marcie and Leo Kegler**. They have been at the parish center on their assigned Mondays in every kind of weather. They have earned their retirement from this volunteer position. "Well done, good and generous servants!" If you are interested in this ministry please contact John Riehle at the parish office.

### FAITH FORMATION ADVENT MASS

Faith Formation students and families will celebrate Advent with a Mass on Wednesday, December 4. Students should come to their Parish Center classroom at 6:30 PM and later will go with their teacher to church for the 7 PM Mass. That evening, we will collect small nonperishable food items plus toiletries, hand warmers, and other useful items to add to Isaac's blessing bags, which will be given to the homeless at Christmas. Parents/guardians and parishioners are welcome to attend the Mass. We will have light refreshments afterwards. Students can be picked up from church at 7:45 pm.



### DECEMBER EVENTS

December 8 St. Paul Civic Symphony  
December 14 - Holiday Boutique & Tea, Bake Sale, Gift Baskets & Bottle Lotto  
December 15 - Breakfast with Santa and Bake Sale  
December 15 Communal Penance Service

***Please remember the Church of Saint Matthew in your estate plan, will or trust.***

**Parish Leadership**

All emails are @st-matts.org

Rev. Steve Adrian, Sacramental Minister  
sadrian

Rev. Rick Banker, Parochial Administrator  
rbanker@stedwardschurch.org

Sister Anne Becker, Pastoral Ministry  
srannebecker

John DelVecchio, Parish Trustee  
jdelvecchio

Scott Hertzog, Janitor

Jill Kilzer, Music Ministry  
jillkilzer

Bernie Klein, Accounts Payable & Receivable  
bklein

Steve Kowal, Maintenance Engineer  
skowal

Reyes Ledesma, Janitor

Mary Leibl, Volunteer Coordinator  
mleibl

John Riehle, Pastoral Administrator  
jriehle

Linda Rivera, Parish Secretary  
lrivera

Richard Schletty, website & social media  
webmaster

Deacon Gregg Sroder, Deacon  
sroderg@archspm.org

Karen Thompson, Parish Trustee  
kthompson

Parish Pastoral Council  
parishcouncil

**Members:**

Suzanne Clarke                      Becky Montgomery

Jerald Dosch                         Ellen Schneider

David Jondro                         Joanne Smith

Jackie Lackner                      Barbara Strom

John Riehle, Ex Officio

**Finance Council Members**

John DelVecchio                      Joe Stevens

Bernie Klein                         John Riehle

Becky Montgomery                      Joanne Smith

John Sekevitch                         Karen Thompson

**Church** - 510 Hall Avenue

**Parish Center** - 490 Hall Avenue

St. Paul, MN 55107

**Telephone** 651.224.9793

**Fax** 651.222.2688

**Website:** st-matts.org

**FACEBOOK:** www.facebook.com/churchofstmatthew

**Office Hours**

Monday - Thursday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

**Sacraments**

Please contact the Parish Office regarding Baptism, Marriage, First Communion and Confirmation information.

**Bulletin**

Announcements are due on **Monday by 10:00 am** for the next Sunday's bulletin. *Items received after 10:00 am will appear in the following week's bulletin.*

## **MASS INTENTIONS**

### **Saturday, November 30**

4:15 pm Mary Ann Rasmussen†

### **Sunday, December 1**

10:15 am Our Parish;  
Ted & Connie Rivera, Linda Owens†  
Pearl Bejblik†

### **Monday, November 25**

8:00 am David Andrews†

### **Tuesday, November 26**

8:00 am Living & Deceased Rosary/CCW Members  
Ted Snyder†

### **Friday, November 29**

8:00 am Marcus T. McEllistrem†

### **Saturday, November 30**

4:15 pm Mary Jane Sperl†

### **Sunday, December 1**

10:15 am Our Parish;  
Pam, Lucille & Robert Stickler, Sr.†

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

### **Saturday, November 30 Advent I**

4:15 pm Mass  
2nd Collection for COS  
Reconciliation after Mass  
Blood Pressure Screening

### **Sunday, December 1 Advent I**

10:15 am Mass with Children Liturgy of the Word  
2nd Collection for COS  
Coffee Sunday following Mass SH  
Blood Pressure Screening

### **Monday – Friday December 2 – December**

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

### **Monday, December 2**

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

### **Tuesday, December 3**

### **Wednesday, December 4**

8:00 am - 12:00 pm St. Mary's Clinic  
6:30 pm Faith Formation Classes PC/CH  
7:00 pm Faith Formation Advent Mass

### **Thursday, December 5**

9:10 am Mass at COS  
4:30 pm Finance Council Meeting PC  
6:00 pm Parish Leadership Dinner PC  
7:00 pm Parish Council Meeting PC

### **Friday, December 6**

### **Saturday, December 7 Advent II**

9:15 am Father Steve's Gospel Series PC/LL  
4:15 pm Mass

### **Sunday, December 8 Advent II**

9:15 am Choir Practice CH  
10:15 am Mass with Children Liturgy of the Word  
Reconciliation after Mass  
Coffee Sunday following Mass SH  
3:00 pm St. Paul Civic Symphony CH

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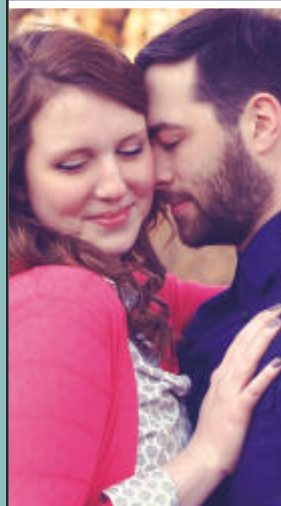
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