



Church of St. Matthew

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



December 22, 2019

**Advent IV
Hurry Up**

Liturgy Schedule

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| Monday | 8:00 am | Mass |
| Tuesday | 8:00 am | Mass |
| Wednesday | 8:00 am | Scripture/Communion Service |
| Thursday | 9:10 am | Mass at COS |
| Friday | 8:00 am | Mass |
| Saturday | 4:15 pm | Mass |
| Sunday | 10:15 am | 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 22, 2019

Sunday: Is 7:10-14/ Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [7c, 10b]/Rom 1:1-7/
Mt 1:18-24
Monday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/Lk
1:57-66
Tuesday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and
29 [2]/Lk 1:67-79
Wednesday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 [2a]/
Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25
Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3c]/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-
18 or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14
Thursday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab,
16bc and 17 [6]/Mt 10:17-22
Friday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Saturday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18

Stewardship Bulletin Reflection

As our Advent preparations draw to a close and Christmas fast approaches, it is fitting that today's readings demonstrate the intensity of the Father's perfect and passionate love for each us, culminating in the gift of His own Son, Jesus Christ, on Christmas Day. In response to such an overwhelming gift, what can we do except offer our lives as gift in return, embracing a stewardship way of life with all the love and strength we have to give?

In our Gospel passage from Matthew, we find an unparalleled example of one who embraced this way of life in St. Joseph, as he obeys God's call to him through the message of an angel. We never hear St. Joseph speak, but the Scriptures tell us he was always listening, attentive to the leading of the Holy Spirit for his family. It was Joseph who found the stable where the baby Jesus would be born. No doubt it was Joseph who cleaned it up and prepared it for Mary and Jesus since we know that Mary was about to give birth. Joseph protected the family, guarded them, tended to their safety, their comfort, and their well-being at the expense of his own plans and preferences. Though we do not hear any words from St. Joseph his actions clearly show that he offered himself, his whole life, as a gift to his family through his strong guidance, protection and service.

Let us imitate St. Joseph then as good stewards, giving our very lives to those around us in love and gratitude to God who has given us everything we have, especially His own Son, Jesus Christ.

- *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.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS AT CERENITY CAMPUS

Eucharistic Ministers to distribute Communion on Tuesday mornings, 9:30 – 10:30 at Cerenity Building 512. If interested contact Sister Anne Becker.

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. We practice weekly during Advent & Lent. The Choir practices at 9:15 am. Next practice will be Sunday, January 5th. Cantors and instrumentalists are needed for both weekend Masses. As we prepare for the Christmas season 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

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!

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

Thank You to all who donated to **Isaac's Blessing Bags!!** The large box by the Scrip table was overflowing multiple times during the past month. Add to that the countless contributions on the floor around the box and the many bags of items left at the Parish Center. This was a visible expression of the concern our parish has for those less fortunate. Thank You to **Kathy S** who suggested we help Isaac fulfill his dream!

Thank You to **Greg, Denny, Steve, Tom, Evan and Mike**, members of the Men's Club who, on a bitterly cold Sat. morning, put up the Christmas Manger Scene on the corner of Hall & Robie. For well over 70 years the Men's Club have taken on this project. A parish tradition!

Thank You to all who helped to make the Christmas Tea and Breakfast with Santa a success! To those who moved items from the Parish Center to the Social Hall Fri evening and then moved some items back to the Parish Center Sun. afternoon. To all who brought items for the Bakery booth and to those who worked the various booths. Thank you to the Scouts who sponsored the Pancake Breakfast and invited Santa to meet with the children. Finally **Thank You** to all who came and supported this fundraiser for our parish!

News and Events

ADVENT IV MESSAGE

Hurry Up!



CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Please join the choir and musicians for Christmas Carols before Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

On Christmas Eve we will begin at 4:00 pm and on Christmas Day we will begin at 10:00 am. Please come sing the songs of peace and joy of the Christmas season.



ST MATTHEW CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS ARE BACK!!

Last chance to purchase an ornament "In Honor Of" or "In Memory Of" a family member or a friend. It will be personalized with their name. \$3 for one ornament - \$6 for set of 2 ornaments. One will be put on a Sanctuary Christmas tree and you take one home for your Christmas tree.



Makes a nice Christmas gift too!

Ornaments will be sold in back of church after Masses December 21 & 22.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S CALENDAR

Christmas Eve - Tuesday, December 24: 8:00 am daily Mass; 4:00pm Carols; 4:15 pm Christmas Eve Mass

Christmas Day - Wednesday, December 25: Carols: 10:00 am; Mass at 10:15 am

New Year's Eve - Tuesday, December 31: 8:00 am daily Mass: 4:15 pm Mass

New Year's Day - Wednesday - January 1: 10:15 am Mass

2020 CALENDARS

These will be available next weekend. Thank you to Bradshaw Funeral and Cremation Services for these.

WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS December 15, 2019

Volunteer Service

Hours in prayer

Hours in service

| | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|
| Parish | | School | \$ | 57 |
| Envelopes/Cash | \$ 4,738 | | | |
| Electronic Giving | \$ 242 | | | |
| Vigil Lights | \$ 40 | Total | \$ | 57 |
| Masses | \$ 14 | | | |
| Holy Day | \$ 50 | | | |
| Funeral | \$ 525 | | | |
| Fix It Dinner | \$ 5,947 | | | |
| Bible Study | \$ 95 | | | |
| Rent | \$ 1,600 | | | |
| Flowers | \$ 490 | | | |
| Total | \$13,741 | | | |

Thank You



The Bells of Saint Matthew will ring on December 23rd for **Mae Gonsowski**. The Bells will ring on December 28th to celebrate **Aaron Andrew's** 18th birthday. The Bells will ring on December 28th in memory of **Fr. James Holl**.

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.

THANK YOU

"Thank you to **Camelot Cleaners**, who have been cleaning our altar linens and banners at no charge for many years - their expertise and generosity is greatly appreciated."

IN SYMPATHY

The parish family of Saint Matthew's offers our prayers and condolences to the families of Claudette Borgan and Mary Lind. Mrs. Borgan died on December 13th and her funeral Mass was held here on December 19th. Mrs. Lind died on December 8th and her funeral Mass was on December 20th.

May Mrs. Borgan, Mrs. Lind and all the faithful departed rest in God's peace and love.

CHRISTMAS DECORATING - THIS SUNDAY

We will begin decorating the church for the Christmas feast immediately **after the 10:15 am Mass on December 22nd**.

Please mark your calendars. If you attend the Saturday 4:15 pm Mass you are welcome to return on Sunday to lend a hand! We ask anyone who is available to help, to join us in this endeavor.

Confirmation Candidates: This will be a perfect time to work on your Confirmation projects.



FAITH FORMATION NEWS

NO Faith Formation Class This Week: There will be NO St. Matthew Faith Formation class on December 25 and January 1. Eighth graders *only* will return to class on January 8 in the Parish Center, and COS 8th graders being confirmed through St. Matthew should also attend class on January 8; class is from 6:30 to 7:45 pm. All grades of Faith Formation resume classes on Wednesday, January 15, 6:30 to 7:45 pm, drop-off at church and pick-up from the Parish Center.

ROSARY SOCIETY/CCW NEWS

Thank you to everyone who helped make our Tea, Bake Sale, Jewelry, Attic Treasures, Gift Baskets, & Bottle Lotto sales a success. We raised over \$2,000.00 to use for our donations. Gratefully the Rosary Society.

Don't forget year end contributions for tax filings. December 31st is right around the corner!

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, December 21

4:15 pm Sandra Saucedo, Special Intention

Sunday, December 22

10:15 am Our Parish;
Madeline Perron†

Monday, December 23

8:00 am Mae Gonsowski

Tuesday, December 24

8:00 am Rose, Joseph, Jr. & Joseph Karas, Sr. †

4:15 pm Ted DeGraw†

Wednesday, December 25

10:15 am Deusterman & Kegler Families†

Friday, December 27

8:00 am Pauline Dalzell†

Saturday, December 28

4:15 pm Jan Steinbrenner, Special Intention

Sunday, December 29

10:15 am Our Parish;
Rose Karas†

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday, December 21 Advent IV

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

4:15 pm Mass

Reconciliation after Mass

Sunday, December 22 Advent IV

9:15 am Choir Practice CH

10:15 am Mass with Children Liturgy of the Word

Church Decorating After Mass

Reconciliation after Mass

Coffee Sunday

Monday – Friday December 23 – December 27

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

CLOSED CHRISTMAS EVE & CHRISTMAS DAY

Monday, December 23

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

Tuesday, December 24 Christmas Eve

8:00 am Mass

4:15 pm Mass

Wednesday, December 25 Christmas Day

No St. Mary's Clinic

No Faith Formation Classes

10:15 am Mass

Thursday, December 26

Friday, December 27

Saturday, December 28

4:15 pm Mass

Sunday, December 29

10:15 am Mass with Children Liturgy of the Word

Reconciliation after Mass

ADVERTISER SPOTLIGHT

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If you are a business owner or know of someone who could use this bulletin service, please contact St. Matt's ad rep, Jim Byrne, at 1.800.950.9952 Ext. 2596 or jbyrne@LPi.com Help keep our bulletin going.

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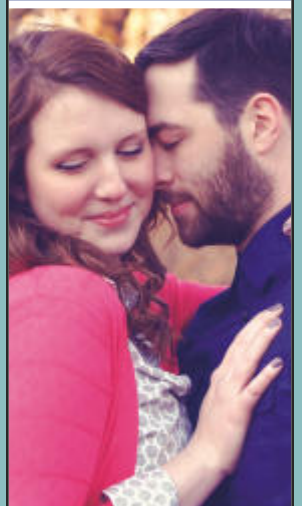
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