

Church of St. Matthew

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



November 29, 2020
First Sunday of Advent

Liturgy Schedule

Masses

In person 4:15 pm Saturday
Streamed 10:15 am Sunday

Reconciliation

2nd and 4th Saturday of the month
following 4:15 pm Mass

Baptism, Matrimony, Anointing of the sick
Please call the parish office for each

Prayer Line 651.457.0228

Readings for the week of November 29, 2020

Sunday: Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37

Monday: Rom 10:9-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [10]/Mt 4:18-22
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 [cf. Is 30:18d]/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

Stewardship Bulletin Reflection

Today we begin the beautiful and holy season of Advent. With all that we have going on this time of year, it's no wonder Advent that does not always seem to get the attention it deserves. But if we will commit to living this season well, we will experience a deeper conversion to Christ and find real transformation in our lives as Christian stewards.

Why? Advent calls us not only to look back in grateful contemplation of Christ's first coming, but it also calls us to look forward in preparation for His Second Coming. Advent is a time to reset and regroup, to repent over any misplaced priorities, to turn our minds and hearts back to God while we still have time. We do so not out of fear or guilt, but rather, out of gratitude for Love Incarnate lying in a manger bed.

Whatever we feel God calling us to do this Advent — committing to a daily Gospel reflection, visiting a lonely neighbor, or donating money to those in dire need — there is no time to waste.

Jesus makes this clear in our Gospel passage from Matthew. He tells the parable of a man going off on a journey. Before he leaves, he "places his servants in charge, each with his own work." We, of course, are the servants in this parable, each with a mission to accomplish in building the Kingdom of God. Jesus warns us over and over in this passage to remain vigilant to the work He has given us to do because we do not know when we will be called to give an account for it.

Our lives are a gift. This holy season is a gift. Let us recommit to living the stewardship way of life. Love came down to us as a Baby. And He is coming again. Be watchful!

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

COMMUNION TO HOMEBOUND

Do you have family, neighbors or friends who are unable to attend Mass? If you would like to take communion to them in their homes, call the Parish Center or see a sacristan **before** Mass. If you do not have a pyx one will be provided.

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

THANK YOU to the **102** parishioners, who attended our public Mass Saturday, November 14th. This includes family & friends of the 4 children who were baptized. As we continue to film that Mass for those who wish to attend the **Sunday Mass online**, we thank our celebrant **Fr. Adrian** who offers mass for us and through the words of his homily gives us strength & hope as we live through these trying days. To **John** who assists where needed and makes sure everyone & everything is where it needs to be. To our pianist **Jill** and our cantor **Kathy**. To **Jeanne and Mooreen** who presented the readings and to Eucharistic ministers **Janelle, Dave & Ginny**. Thank you to our ushers **Doris, Tim & Tom**. Thanks to **Ginny & Mary** our server/sacristans. Thank you to **Jeanne** who was the cantor at the Saturday Mass November 21st. We thank **Miles & Ginny** who read and to Eucharistic ministers **Maggie Lee & Paul**. We are all especially grateful to **Alan!!** He came forward last March and offered to film all our services. He then edits the production and puts it out on the web for all to view! He makes it possible for us to come together and worship as a parish, during an exceedingly difficult time. If you were not able to join the service as it happened, you can watch the Mass on the **st-matts.org Website/Facebook page** or on **YouTube**.

THANK YOU to **Marilyn, Chris, Ann & Mary** who helped to prepare the parish mailing.

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PARISH MAILING

Every parish household has received [or soon will receive] an envelope with these important things:

A greeting from the pastoral council and a letter from John Riehle;

A list of all the winners from the November "giving thanks" calendar event; an announcement of John Riehle's retirement;

A "blue book" with reflections for the seasons of Advent and Christmas; a "reverse Advent calendar"—a concrete way to do something for others during Advent;

Two envelopes—one for seasonal flowers and decorating the church; the other for Christmas;

A pledge card for 2021: please fill in an return so the finance council can keep a responsible budget.

News and Events

Saint Matthew's motto-to be the Good Samaritan on the banks of the Mississippi.

WITH NUMBERS RISING IN MINNESOTA, IT'S MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER TO DO THE FOLLOWING BEFORE ATTENDING MASS

While Saint Matthew welcomes all to our parish, we want to have a safe environment for everyone. Before attending Mass, please consider the following questions and if you answer "yes", please do not attend Mass in person, but rather follow us on our website.

1. In the past 14 days have you been exposed to Covid-19 or been in contact with someone who has been exposed?
2. Are you or any one you know experiencing any of the following symptoms you cannot attribute to another condition; fever, chills, new cough, new sore throat, new headache, new loss of smell or taste, new muscle aches or new shortness of breath?
3. **For everyone's safety and health, masks are required; distance is requested; and signing in for contact tracing is necessary.**

CHANGES FOR IN-PERSON MASS ATTENDANCE

1. The long-handled collection baskets will be used for the regular and any special collections. There will NOT be a basket near the entrance.
2. Please follow these guidelines for communion reception.
 - A. Use personal sanitizer [that you brought]
 - B. Come forward with your mask in place.
 - C. Keep distance as you come forward.
 - D. Keep your left hand as flat as possible.
 - E. Accept the host from the person distributing; take 2 or 3 steps to the side; move your mask up or down; communicate yourself; replace mask and return to your place. Thank you.

WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS November 15, 2020

Volunteer Service

Hours in prayer 22
Hours in service 29

Parish

Envelopes/Cash \$ 2,656
Electronic Giving \$ 245
Miscellaneous \$ 10
PayPal \$ 200
Piano \$ 50
Fuel \$ 215
Bells \$ 10
Holy Day \$ 0
Sanctuary Lamp \$ 0
Vigil Lights \$ 13
Faith Formation \$ 40

School

\$ 55
Food Shelf \$ 35
Total \$ 90

Thank You!

PayPal QR Code

simply scan with your phone to make an electronic stewardship offering

Total \$ 3,439
Thank You!

Contributions for both 11/22 and 11/29 will appear next week.



THE SOUNDS AND SIGHTS OF ST. MATT'S

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

The sanctuary lamp will be lit November 28-December 4 in memory of **Jacob & Anna Block**.

Contact Linda Rivera at lrivera@st-matts.org or 651.224.9793 by 1:00 pm Monday-Thursday if you would like to schedule a day to ring the bells, or a week to light the sanctuary lamp for your special memory or event.

GIVING THANKS fundraiser

Thank you to all our parishioners, their families and friends who participated in our fundraiser. Our first "Give Thanks in November" was a success because of you! More than \$16,000 was raised; that qualified us for a match of \$1,500 from the Catholic Order of Foresters.

Thanks to the winners who "refused" their winnings and returned the checks to St. Matt's.

The winners in the final week—Nov 23--\$100--Jim Casey; Nov 24--\$100--Kim Shirek; Nov 25--\$100--Meri Poppler; Nov 26--\$125--Bernie Grossman; Nov 27--\$125--Frank Prescott; Nov 28--\$150--Dave Haley; Nov 29--\$150--Larry Smith; and the Grand Prize Winner Nov 30--\$1,000--Brian Marketon.

STEWARDSHIP AND CARE FOR OUR CHURCH

Covid-19 has affected each of us in many ways...some of us are staying home more than ever, shopping online, visiting family via Zoom, watching Mass via Facebook and YouTube. Something that hasn't changed is the need to care for and support our Saint Matthew's parish.

It is up to us, the individual parishioner, to send in our weekly fair share envelope, or use the Pay Pal app, or speak with John Riehle about weekly or monthly EFT set-up.

Just as our homes need to pay monthly expenses, heating, repairs, electric, loans, etc., so does the Church of Saint Matthew. Please help us do this by contributing on a regular basis.

Thank you for your care and support today and help to see there will be a strong Saint Matthew's for many years to come.

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH

On Saturday, November 14th Father Adrian baptized four children. Martin, Jesus and Isaac Sosa De la Cruz sons of Jesus Sosa and Cynthia De la Cruz and Vera Van Dyke, daughter of Jenni Mancha and Jacob Van Dyke.



The parish community of Saint Matthew's welcomes our newest little members and we invite you to come back to Mass often! God's blessings to each of you as you grow in his faith and love.

BULLETINS

Because of deadlines from LPI [the bulletin publisher], the bulletin 11/29 had to be submitted earlier than normal. One result is that the weekly scoreboard will be updated on a delayed calendar.

Parish Leadership

All emails are @st-matts.org

Rev. Steve Adrian, Sacramental Minister

sadrian

John DelVecchio, Parish Trustee

jdelvecchio

Scott Hertzog, Janitor

Kevin Jack, website & social media webmaster

kevinjack

Jill Kilzer, Music Ministry

jillkilzer

Bernie Klein, Accounts Payable & Receivable

bklein

Steve Kowal, Maintenance Engineer

skowal

Reyes Ledesma, Janitor

Mary Leibl, Volunteer Coordinator

Mleibl

Rev. Biju Mathew, Parochial Administrator

frbijum@gmail.com

John Riehle, Pastoral Administrator

jriehle

Linda Rivera, Parish Secretary

lrivera

Janelle Rohr, Faith Formation

jdrohr@pro-ns.net

Karen Thompson, Parish Trustee

kthompson

Parish Pastoral Council

parishcouncil

Members:

Alan Christensen

Janelle Rohr

Suzanne Clarke

Linda Sellars

Jerald Dosch

Joanne Smith

Jackie Lackner

Barbara Strom

Tiffany Rivera-Prescott

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

YouTube: youtube.com/stmattswestside

Twitter: twitter.com/stmattswestside

Office Hours

Monday & Wednesday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Tuesday & Thursday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Closed on Friday

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

Friday, November 27

8:00 am Cancelled

Saturday, November 28/November 29

4:15 pm Our Parish
Ted Snyder†
Sara Christensen†

Monday, November 30

8:00 am Cancelled

Tuesday, December 1

8:00 am Cancelled

Friday, December 4

8:00 am Cancelled

Saturday, December 5/December 6

4:15 pm Our Parish
Ronald G. Crawford†
Lucille Finnegan†

Calendar of Events

Saturday, November 28

10:00 am AA Meeting Parish Center
9:30 am Harmony GTCYS—school building
4:15 pm Mass

Sunday, November 29

10:15 am Mass Streamed

Monday, November 30 - Friday December 4

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm Loaves & Fishes **Meals Are Being Served As Take-Out Only At This Time**

Monday, November 30

9:00 am - 1:00 pm Parish Office Open
St. Mary's Clinic Cancelled

Tuesday, December 1

9:00 am - 1:00 pm Parish Office Open
5:00 pm GTCYS Church

Wednesday, December 2

9:00 am - 4:00 pm Parish Office Open
1:00 pm St. Mary's Clinic - by appointment only

Faith Formation All Grades - At Home Learning

Thursday, December 3

9:00 am - 1:00 pm Parish Office Open
4:00 pm Finance Council Meeting via Zoom
7:00 pm Parish Council Meeting via Zoom

Friday, December 4

Parish Office Closed

Saturday, December 5

10:00 am AA Meeting Parish Center
9:30 am Harmony GTCYS—school building
4:15 pm Mass

Sunday, December 6

10:15 am Mass Streamed

Advertiser Spotlight

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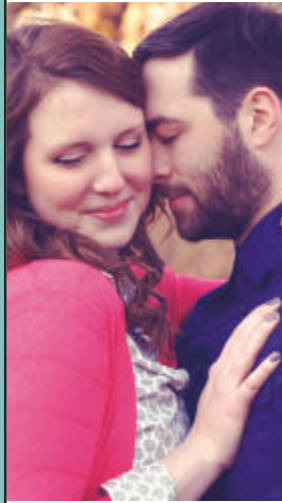
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