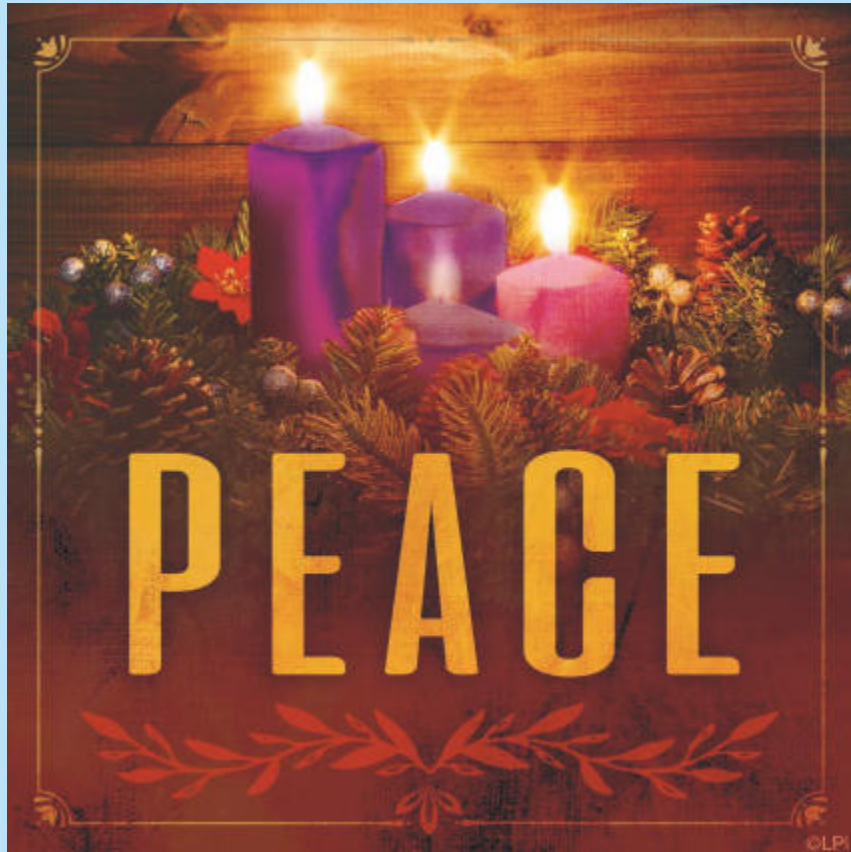


Church of St. Matthew

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



December 20, 2020
Fourth 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 December 20, 2020

Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 [2a]/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

Monday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 [1a; 3a]/Lk 1:39-45

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd]/Lk 1:46-56

Wednesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14 [cf. Lk 21:28]/Lk 1:57-66

Thursday: *Morning:* 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 [2]/Lk 1:67-79

Friday: *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. *Night:* Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 [Lk 2:11]/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14. *Dawn:* Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20. *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

Saturday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17 [6]/Mt 10:17-22

Stewardship Bulletin Reflection

There are just five days left until the celebration of Christmas begins. Let's live these last days of Advent well.

We read in today's Gospel passage from Luke the wonderful words of the Blessed Mother's "fiat," her "yes" to God's plan. "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." These are among the most beloved words in the Gospel. But the next sentence is also important for the Christian steward.

After Mary's fiat, we read, "Then the angel departed from her." Our Blessed Mother was left with a lot of unexplained details about God's plan for her! Yet, she followed God's will perfectly. She gave herself and her life fully to God as a gift. She was the first disciple. We are called to follow her example today.

This Christmas let us resolve to make our whole life a gift to the One Who has given us everything. He will give us all the help and strength we need.

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.

CHRISTMAS DECORATING

The church will be decorated for the Christmas season after the 4:15 pm Mass this weekend, Saturday, December 19th. Confirmation students have been asked to help, and this will **help** to fulfill their Service Projects needed for Confirmation. **We also invite any parishioners** who are able, to stay and help decorate the Christmas trees, bring statues from chapel, and decorate the sanctuary for the Christmas Feast!

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

**OUR WISH TO ALL OF OUR
PARISH VOLUNTEERS**

*Merry
Christmas*

The text "Merry Christmas" is written in a large, elegant, cursive font. The word "Merry" is on the top line and "Christmas" is on the bottom line. The text is decorated with several sprigs of holly leaves and berries. One sprig is positioned between the two lines of text, another is to the right of "Merry", and a third is to the left of "Christmas".

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 December 13, 2020

Volunteer Service

Hours in prayer 37
Hours in service 32

Parish
Envelopes/Cash \$ 4,352
Electronic Giving \$ 1,106
Miscellaneous \$ 1
PayPal \$ 0
Masses/Memorials \$ 25
Fuel \$ 170
Rent \$ 0
Holy Day \$ 375
Sanctuary Lamp \$ 0
Vigil Lights \$ 43
Flower Fund \$ 370
Bells \$ 0

School \$ 146
Food Shelf \$ 0
Religious \$ 632
Retirement
Total \$ 778

Thank You!
PayPal QR Code
simply scan with your phone to make an electronic stewardship offering



Total \$ 6,442
Thank You!



THE SOUNDS AND SIGHTS OF ST. MATT'S

The Bells of Saint Matthew will ring on December 27th in memory of **Parky Rodriguez**.

The sanctuary lamp will be lit December 19-26 in memory of **Bob and Vicky Traynor**.

Contact Linda Rivera at lriviera@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.

PARISH RECONCILIATION - This Sunday

All are invited to our annual Communal Service of the Sacrament of Penance on Sunday, December 20th at 2:00 pm.



ADVENT - CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE:

Individual Confessions

December 19 [after 4:15 pm Mass]

Monday, December 21, 7:00 pm

Tuesday, December 22, 5:30 pm

Reconciliation

Communal

Sunday December 20, 2:00 pm

Individual

Monday, December 21 - 7:00pm

Tuesday, December 22 - 5:30pm

Christmas Masses

Thursday, December 24, 4:15 pm Mass - in person

Friday, December 25, 10:15 am Mass - in person

Friday, December 25, 10:15 am Mass - online

Feast of the Holy Family

Saturday, December 26, 4:15 pm Mass - in person

Sunday, December 27, 10:15 am Mass online

New Year's Eve

Thursday, December 31, 4:15 pm Mass—in person

NO Mass on Friday, January 1



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

Saturday, December 19/December 20

4:15 pm Our Parish
Ronald Crawford†
Virginia Koenen†

Monday, December 21

Cancelled

Tuesday, December 22

8:00 am Cancelled

Thursday, December 24

4:15 pm Our Parish
Alice Scaramuzzo†
Connie Alavarz†

Friday, December 25

10:15 am Mary Ann Kosel†

Saturday, December 26/December 27

4:15 pm Our Parish
Fr. James Holl†
Parky Rodriguez†
Robert Gomez, Jr.†

Calendar of Events

Saturday, December 19

10:00 am AA Meeting Parish Center
4:15 pm Mass with 2nd Collection Neighborhood House
Food Shelf
Confessions follow Mass

Decorating church for Christmas after 4:15 pm Mass

Sunday, December 20 Fourth Sunday of Advent

10:15 am Mass Streamed
Please support Food Shelf by mailing in your donation
to Neighborhood House
2:00 pm Parish Reconciliation

Monday, December 21 - Wednesday, December 23

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

Monday, December 21

9:00 am - 1:00 pm Parish Office Open
7:00 pm - Individual Reconciliation

Tuesday, December 22

9:00 am - 1:00 pm Parish Office Open
5:30 pm - Individual Reconciliation

Wednesday, December 23

9:00 am - 4:00 pm Parish Office Open
1:00 - 5:00 pm St. Mary's Clinic

No Faith Formation classes this week

Thursday, December 24 Christmas Eve

Parish Office Closed

4:15 pm Christmas Eve Mass - in person

Friday, December 25 Christmas Day

10:15 am Christmas Day Mass - in person

10:15 am Christmas Day Mass - Streamed

Saturday, December 26 Feast of the Holy Family (Observed)

10:00 am AA Meeting Parish Center
4:15 pm Mass

Sunday, December 27 Feast of the Holy Family

10:15 am Mass Streamed

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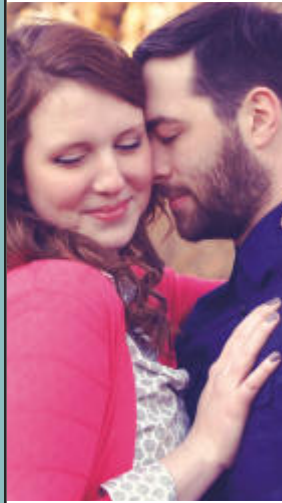
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