

## **Church of Saint Matthew – February 28, 2021**

### **SAINT MATTHEW WELCOMES ALL TO OUR PARISH**

New to the area, joining us for the first time or coming home again? Please contact Linda Rivera at [lrivera@st-matts.org](mailto:lrivera@st-matts.org) to register as a member of our parish family, we will be happy to get you signed up or welcome you back.

### **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.

### **CRS RICE BOWL**

On Ash Wednesday Rice Bowl Boxes were set out in church for anyone to take home and begin using. These are used throughout Lent and brought back to church on Good Friday filled with your "Lenten Offerings". Usually we "give up" that soda, candy bar, special coffee, perhaps your favorite cocktail or craft beer and those dollars go into the Rice Bowl Box. If you are not familiar with Catholic Relief Service, they have been around for decades helping starving children all around the world. Our small "Lenten Offerings" mean so much to a small child in a third world country. Please read below how your pennies, nickels, dimes and hopefully dollars helps.

#### **Bettors Meals in Madagascar**

In Madagascar, half of all children are undernourished. That means 50% of kids won't grow to reach their full potential. But communities are changing this by focusing on improving health and nutrition. What role has food played in your life? How can you help those who lack access to enough nutritious food? Visit [crsricebowl.org](http://crsricebowl.org) to learn more.

### **IMPORTANT NOTE FROM THE PARISH SEARCH COMMITTEE**

The members of the Search Committee for John Riehle's replacement are John Del Vecchio, Becky Montgomery, Ellen Schneider, Suzanne Snyder and Karen Thompson.

If you know of anyone who has an accounting or financial background that you believe would be a good candidate for part-time work please contact any one on the committee.

### **EASTER FLOWERS**

Recently all registered parishioners were mailed a packet which contained an Easter Flower Fund Envelope. You can use this envelope to make a contribution in memory of a loved one or in honour a special person in your life. Please have your envelopes into the parish office by March 21<sup>st</sup>. Your contributions are used to purchase the plants and flowers used to decorate the church for Easter.

If you did not receive an envelope and would like to make a contribution, send in the name of your loved ones, **if it is a memorial or in honour of**, along with your name and address.

### **MASS VIDEO**

We acknowledge and thank the many people both near and far who watch the weekly Mass that is on the website and the parish Facebook page. And we thank many people for their participation whether it is by watching, by praying along, by offering their time in service and by making donations to help the parish continue its mission...to be a visible express of God's love.

Thank you very much to a relative of parishioners who lives in the South. She sent three very generous gifts...one for the parish, one for Community of Saints, and one for the food shelf at Neighborhood house.

### **THANK YOU NEIGHBOR**

Thank you to all who donated non-perishable food item and personal care items to the food self at Neighborhood House. Due to Covid-19 many of our family, friends and neighbors are relying on food shelves now more than ever. We collected 84 pounds on Saturday, February 18<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for caring for our friends and neighbors.

### **PRAYERS FOR OUR PARISH FAMILY**

Please remember in your prayer our parish family and friends who are ill. Pray for their recovery and for their family members who are with them and caring for them. Especially, **Elena Vasquez, Michael Vasquez, Jim Swaink, Joe Savard, Terry Koves, Jan Steinbrenner, Keith Anderson and Rita Dubuc.**

**If you have a loved one you would like to add to this list, please call the Parish office, provide us with your name and the name of your loved one.** We are strong as a community praying together.

### **2021 CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL**

The Catholic continues, please support this important fundraiser as it helps people across the Twin Cities and across the State of Minnesota. Your dollars help care for the unborn, teens, the elderly and so much more. Send your support before the telemarketing begins!!

### **AMAZON SMILE WORKS!!**

Thanks to each person who has named St. Matt's and the charity to benefit from their shopping on Amazon. You can do it as well!! St. Matt's receives 1/2 of one percent for every dollar spent.

### **APARTMENT NEEDED**

Mom and young child in need of a reasonable priced two bedroom apartment located near St. Matthew's Church. Contact Jim Cahill with details 612.990.9029.

## A LITTLE SPIRITUAL HELP TO GET US THROUGH THESE TOUGH TIMES

### ACT OF CONTRITION

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In His name, my God, have mercy.

### SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

### AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOODS

#### ARCHDIOCESE COVID-19 ANOINTING CORPS

On your few moments throughout the day help the Covid-19 Anointing Corps by praying for the sick, their families and the priest. Please pray two times: one Our Father for the individual suffering; one Hail Mary for the family's comfort; and one Glory Be for the priest and the medical team ministering to them. Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us. St. Roch, pray for us.

### PRAYERS AND SUPPORT FOR HEALTH CARE WORKERS

Health care workers: Catholic faithful throughout the archdiocese are dedicated to praying for you! Visit [archspm.org/covid19prayers](https://archspm.org/covid19prayers) to submit a prayer request. On this page, you may also sign up for a weekly email, watch encouraging videos, and find resources for support.

Want to join in praying for health care workers? Commit to daily prayer for health care workers by texting archspm-healthcare to 55321 or signing up at [eva.us/archspm-healthcare](https://eva.us/archspm-healthcare). You will receive a weekly message with a link to names of health care workers to keep in your prayers.

### ON OUR LENTEN JOURNEY

As part of your Lenten Journey consider praying daily a decade of the Rosary (one **Our Father**, ten **Hail Marys** and one **Glory Be**) each day for justice and peace in our community. You may also wish to pray this **Prayer for an End to the Sin of Racism**.

God of Heaven and Earth, you created the one human family and endowed each person with great dignity.

Aid us, we pray, in overcoming the sin of racism.

Grant us your grace in eliminating this blight from our hearts, our communities, our social and civil institutions.

Fill our hearts with love for you and our neighbor so that we may work with you in healing our land from racial injustice.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

St. Peter Claver, pray for us.

### SYNOD AT HOME: TIPS AND TOOLS FOR GROWING FAITH

#### New sessions posted weekly February 18 – March 18

While the COVID-19 pandemic has delivered many struggles, it also yielded unexpected benefits - such as increased time for reflection and, in many cases, connection with those in our immediate families. As we see glimmers of hope for emerging from the pandemic, we may soon find ourselves caught up in the whirlwind: work functions, sports and social gatherings, with dinner table conversations becoming a rare occurrence once again. How can we continue making time to reflect and prioritize the most important aspects of our lives, even as our lives "return to normal"?

The Synod at Home series takes helpful videos, tips and tools for growing in faith, and pairs them with family-friendly activities based on four pillars: Prayer & Sacraments, Lifelong Learning, Generosity & Service, and Traditions & Fun. Families, couples and individuals will find their faith and relationships strengthened by Synod at Home. **Chris Stefanick, founder of Real Life Catholic, opens each session.**

**Find weekly videos and materials at [archspm.org/synod](https://archspm.org/synod), sign up for emails ([archspm.org/synod/updates](https://archspm.org/synod/updates)) or access through the Synod app: text APP to 88202, then in the app search for Archdiocesan Synod.**

- Gathering 1 of the Synod at Home is titled, "How & Why We Make Habits & Plans for our Faith," and is hosted by **Pat and Kenna Millea**, with an opening by **Chris Stefanick**.
  - Step 1: Gather to watch the video for the week.
  - Step 2. Be inspired by the testimonies you hear and the ideas in the materials provided (see below).
  - Step 3: Use this inspiration to complete your own faith plan, which can include fun and meaningful activities for all ages!

### LENTEN LECTURE SERIES: "ST. JOSEPH, MODEL FOR CHRISTIANS"

#### Fridays, February 19-March 26, 7:30-8:30 p.m. at Church of Saint Agnes

The Church of Saint Agnes is hosting its annual Lenten Lecture Series on Friday evenings during Lent following 7 p.m. Stations of the Cross in the Upper Church. This year's theme — "St. Joseph, Model for Christians" — features presentations on six titles and roles of St. Joseph as model of the Christian life with a wonderful line-up of speakers as we celebrate the Year of St. Joseph. All talks are free and open to the public.

## **NET VITURAL RETREAT**

### **Thursday, March 11, 6-9 p.m., virtual retreat**

Open to teens in grades 8-12 from around the country, this retreat will focus on the person of Jesus for the main large group presentation and is appropriate for teens preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation and for confirmed teens who are interested in a retreat experience. Each teen will need their own device and will receive a link via email to the retreat. Register at [netusa.org/confirmation](http://netusa.org/confirmation) provided at registration. The retreat is 3 hours and costs \$17 per teen.

## **GLOBAL SOLIDARITY UNDAY WEEKEND**

### **March 13 and 14**

An opportunity to share with your struggling brothers and sisters around the world during Lent! On the weekend of March 13 and 14, we observe Global Solidarity Sunday with the theme "For God so loved the world..." (Jn. 3:16). At this time, we share the love of God with those who still hunger and thirst for God's love, mercy and healing. A special Lenten collection will be taken for four global priorities of the U.S. Catholic Bishops: Africa, Latin America, Central and Eastern Europe, as well as humanitarian activities of Catholic Relief Services. Please be as generous as you are able and share God's love for your brothers and sisters around the world. Thank you.

## **HEART TO HEART**

### ***Exploring Women's Vocations with Archbishop Hebda***

#### **Tuesday, March 16, 6:30 p.m., Virtual Event**

Bishop Andrew Cozzens and Father David Blume, Director of Vocations, invite women, ages 16 – 35, who are discerning consecrated life to join us! The virtual event will include talks by a Pro Ecclesia Sancta Sister and a Handmaid of the Heart of Jesus Sister. Come for an evening of prayer and conversation with Bishop and consecrated women sharing their vocations testimonies. Find more information and register at the link below, or call the Office of Vocations at 651-962-6890.

## **FRATELLI TUTTI**

### **Three sessions remain: March 23, April 27, and May 25, 7-8:30 p.m. via Zoom**

The Center for Mission is hosting a five-part series of presentations and discussions to dive into this very important encyclical from Pope Francis. This online series will feature specially selected speakers to lead us to discern how Fratelli Tutti can influence and enrich our lives. This series is open to all. Visit [centerformission.org/whats-new/](http://centerformission.org/whats-new/) to sign up! Contact Adam Fitzpatrick for more information at [Fitzpatricka@archspm.org](mailto:Fitzpatricka@archspm.org), or 651.291.4410.