

## Church of Saint Matthew – April 11, 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.

### ADA RESTROOM UPDATE

The firewalls are up and mudded and rough plumbing is in. **Steve, Mario and Isidro** are all working very hard to get this project to the finish line. More photos will be shown as work progresses.

**This will be a much needed and welcome addition to our Social Hall.**



### SOWING SEEDS OF CHANGE, BUILDING COMMUNITY

This week, we offer two more book reviews: one suggesting the opposite of racist is not non-racist, but anti-racist, and the other offering structured reflection on attitudes and beliefs about white supremacy. There is also a link to a document called What is Systemic Racism, part of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' pastoral letter against racism. There are many words and terms we hear often, but may not fully understand. This document does a good job of defining systemic racism.

Book reviews by Linda Sellars

How To Be An AntiRacist by Ibram X. Kendi

In the wake of all the events following the death of George Floyd, discussions I was party to often centered on what each of us could and should do to address the injustices in our society. The term antiracist was new to me when a friend stated that he had just learned it was considered the true opposite of racist, not non-racist as both he and I had previously thought. Soon after I saw this book, How To Be An AntiRacist at the public library. Curious, I checked it out and began reading. The book is very approachable, with the author's life story woven throughout the concepts as illustrative thereof. I was particularly struck by how the author, a Black man, points out his own racism and need to learn to be antiracist. Each chapter begins with definitions of the two sides of concept he will present, giving the reader a touchstone to return to as necessary. I found it a good beginning for examining my own attitudes and beliefs about racism, people of color and what I need to change to be truly antiracist.

Me and white supremacy by Layla F. Saad

When I saw this at the library I was intrigued by the title, didn't even read the book flap, just checked it out. As I started, it was instantly clear that this was both a book for reading and structured reflection, with challenging, pointed, journaling prompts. To get the most out of this book, I needed to take time to reflect and respond. The book is intended to be a 4 week reflective process, one chapter with journaling each day. It's been a good guide for me in digging deeper into my life experiences, my attitudes toward, my beliefs about people of color, especially Black people.

What is Systemic Racism?

<https://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/racism/upload/racism-and-systemic-racism.pdf>

### 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.

### THANK YOU NEIGHBOR

Next Saturday is our monthly collection for neighborhood House. Folks continue to use the food shelf regularly as unemployment remains high. Please help by donating non-perishable food items and personal care products. Our last collection on March 20<sup>th</sup> 133 pounds. If you cannot donate in person, please consider sending a monetary gift to 179 E. Robie St., St. Paul, MN 55107. You can mention you are a member of Saint Matthew's Parish if you wish to do so. Thank you for helping to feed our friends and neighbors.

## **PRAYERS FOR OUR PARISH FAMILY**

Please remember in your prayer our parish family and friends who are ill or in need of our prayers. Pray for their recovery and for their family members who are with them and caring for them. Especially, **Erin Jack, Jerry Jenniges, and Jan Steinbrenner.**

**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.

## **COVID PRACTICES in LITURGY**

We, at St. Matthew, are taking a conservative [and safer] approach.

We are discouraging singing by any members of the assembly; the cantor is at least 12 feet from the assembly and at least 6 feet away from the keyboardist.

We continue to discourage socializing before or after Mass. It is wonderful to see each other gathered for worship, but we should not be "close" to each other and talking, even for short while.

We will have as little movement of members of the assembly as possible. The ushers are using the long handled baskets for the collection and everyone is required to wear their mask, and encouraged to keep 6 feet distant, as they come forward for communion.

Remember to keep your left hand as flat as possible to receive the consecrated host from the minister.

Thank you for your cooperation and helping St. Matthew to control the spread of COVID-19 and its variants as much as possible.

## **PARISH EDUCATION ENDOWMENT**

Twenty five [+/-] years ago St. Matthew established an endowment for education [for the parish school]. The original funding was through the "Red and White" annual dinners. Part of the earnings are given to the parish annually. Those earnings were used for the parish school. Since the parish school is now a consolidation, those earnings are sent annually to Community of Saints Regional Catholic School. This past week we forwarded the check we received-- \$13,400—to COS.

## **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.

## **SYNOD AT HOME: TIPS & TOOLS FOR GROWING IN FAITH**

**Learn more about the Archdiocesan Synod** and find past series, including Praying with Scripture, Healing and Hope Retreat, and Faith and Culture, at [archspm.org/synod](https://archspm.org/synod).

## **COVID-19 VACCINES (This information is from the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis)**

If you are concerned about ethical use of the Covid-19 vaccines the USCCB as well as the Vatican have put together several articles on this issue for Catholic. Please read the information first hand for yourself to be better informed.

- The USCCB Responds:
  - **U.S. Bishop Chairmen for Doctrine and for Pro-Life Address the Use of the Johnson & Johnson Covid-19 Vaccine**
  - **Answers to Key Ethical Questions about COVID-19 Vaccines**
- The Congregation of the Doctrine of Faith:
  - **Note on the Morality of using some anti-COVID-19 Vaccines**
- The Vatican Covid-19 Commission in collaboration with the Pontifical Academy for Life

## **CUPPA JOE: 10 TALKS ON THE 10 WONDERS OF SAINT JOSEPH**

**First Tuesday of the month, March – December 2021, 4 p.m.**

Cuppa Joe is a series of 10 talks by 10 theologians on the 10 wonders of Saint Joseph, taking place at 10 locations in our archdiocese entrusted to the patronage of our spiritual father. These talks will premiere the first Tuesday of the month, March – December, at 4 p.m. – just in time for your afternoon coffee. Talks will be posted on Facebook, YouTube and Instagram – and at [archspm.org/synod/stjoseph/](http://archspm.org/synod/stjoseph/)

## **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.

***Catholics at the Capitol 2021 "ON MISSION for LIFE and DIGNITY" April 15, 2021 | 8:00-3:30 p.m.***

***Registration begins at 7:30 a.m.***

There is no time more important than now to speak out in defense of life and dignity at the State Capitol! Even just a handful of people can influence the laws passed by our elected officials; just imagine the impact of every Catholic voice joining together!

**Catholics at the Capitol is designed for YOU!** Whether you are an "old pro" in the political arena, exasperated with divisive politics, or someone who doesn't know where to begin, "CatCap" will fortify your faith, provide you with the hope needed to heal the cynicism and division in politics, and equip you to speak with your lawmakers.

**Now is the time to become a missionary disciple advocating for life and dignity!**

### **Be FORMED in the Faith!**

Begin the day celebrating Mass...with Archbishop Hebda **Be INFORMED on the Issues!**  
Hear from Catholics defending Life & Dignity...

- President of the USCCB & Archbishop of Los Angeles, Jose Gomez
- Founder of Culture of Life Africa, Obiannuju Ekeocha

### **Be sent on a Mission!**

Join in a Eucharist Procession...from the Cathedral to the Capital **To TRANSFORM our State!**  
Advocate for life & dignity as a missionary disciple

**Get your tickets today - Ticket registration deadline is March 31st!**