

## **Church of Saint Matthew – May 9, 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 [lriviera@st-matts.org](mailto:lriviera@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.

### **Our readings today call us to love as Christ loves.**

In our Gospel, Jesus says, "Love one another as I have loved you." The ways Jesus has loved us and continues to love us are endless.

We are called to imitate this love. And He tells us the greatest way to do this when He said, "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends."

It is difficult to live that out in our humanity. Yet, it is made much easier when we faithfully love Christ. The fact of the matter is, as our love for Christ increases, so too does our capacity to love others.

There are countless moments when we can do just that — for instance, waking up Saturday morning to attend daily Mass instead of sleeping in, or talking to God in the car on the way to work instead of listening to music. These are simple ways to express our love for the Lord by laying down our lives for Him.

The more we find ways to love the Lord, the more we will find it easier to put aside our selfishness and serve others.

Christ's command to love others may seem daunting. Yet, Christ would never ask something of us that we cannot live out. All we need to do is take baby steps. Ask yourself, "How can I better love Jesus right now?" for it is in loving Christ that we will better love others, and it is in loving others that we love Christ Himself.

### **FAITH FORMATION NEWS**

**Please note this important information regarding Covid-19 measures at practices and during Masses.**

COVID-19 safety protocols will be followed, meaning everyone will wear a mask inside and we will keep physical distance from those who do not live in our household

#### **First Communion Practice**

Faith Formation and Community of Saints students planning to receive First Communion in mid-May should come to First Communion practice on Wednesday, May 12, at 6:30 pm in St Matthew Church. At least one parent or responsible adult must attend with the child. This is a required practice for all families. Questions? Contact Janelle Rohr, [Janelle@st-matts.org](mailto:Janelle@st-matts.org) or 651-242-6004.

### **THANK YOU NEIGHBOR**

Next weekend May 15<sup>th</sup> (and those of you attending the First Communion of Sunday, May 16<sup>th</sup>) is our regular monthly collection for Neighborhood House. Throughout the pandemic Neighborhood Houses' food shelf has been use more than ever before. Many people lost their jobs, some have still not returned to work, some only to limited hours. Therefore your continued support to the food self is needed just as much today as anytime in the past. Non-perishable food items are needed as well as personal care items.

If you are not attending Mass in person and are watching us on Facebook or YouTube and would like to contribute, please send a monetary donation to Neighborhood House Food Shelf, 179 E. Robie St., Saint Paul MN 55107. You can mention you are a member of Saint Matthew's parish if you wish to do so.

Let's continue to be "The Good Samaritan on the Banks of the Mississippi" and support our neighbors in need. Our last collection on March was 149 pounds of food and personal care items. Thank you all for helping to feed our friends and neighbors.

### **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.

## **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, **Pat Pendleton, Cecelia Glenn, Anita Mahler, Erin Jack, Jerry Jenniges, and Jan Steinbrenner.** **Let us pray for the people of India who are suffering from Covid-19 and pray especially for the family of Sister Toisey.**

**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.

## **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](http://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](http://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](http://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

## **SAINT JOSEPH PRAYER BOOK**

As a part of the celebration of the Year of Saint Joseph in our archdiocese, the Saint Joseph Business Guild is publishing and printing The Saint Joseph Prayer Book, available in both English and Spanish. This 4" x 6" prayer book has 100+ pages of prayers to and meditations on the wonders of Saint Joseph. Grow deeper in your faith and your love for Jesus' earthly father with the Saint Joseph Prayer Book. Pick up a copy at Leaflet Missal or order online at [leafletonline.com](http://leafletonline.com) (product #35105).

## **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.

## **ARCHDIOCESAN MARRIAGE DAY**

**Saturday, June 5, 10 a.m., Cathedral of Saint Paul**

This celebration includes Mass, renewal of vows, and a short reception. Couples celebrating their silver and golden anniversaries will be honored in a special way. Families and friends of all couples are welcome! In-Person Registration is required by contacting 651.291.4488. Social Distancing will be observed. Couples married one year or more may request a commemorative certificate signed by Archbishop Hebda. To request a certificate, please contact the Office of Marriage, Family & Life by May 30 at 651.291.4488