

Church of St. Matthew

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



So then the Lord Jesus, after he spoke to them, was taken up into heaven and took his seat at the right hand of God

May 16, 2021 The Ascension of the Lord

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 May 16, 2021

Sunday: *Ascension:* Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13/Mk 16:15-20 *Seventh Sunday of Easter:* Acts 1:15-17, 20a, 20c-26/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20 [19a]/1 Jn 4:11-16/Jn 17:11b-19

Monday: Acts 19:1-8/Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab [33a]/Jn 16:29-33

Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27/Ps 68:10-11, 20-21 [33a]/Jn 17:1-11a

Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38/Ps 68: 29-30, 33-35a, 35bc-36ab [33a]/Jn 17:11b-19

Thursday: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11 [1]/Jn 17:20-26

Friday: Acts 25:13b-21/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab [19a]/Jn 21:15-19

Saturday: *Morning:* Acts 28:16-20, 30-31/Ps 11:4, 5 and 7 [7b]/Jn 21:20-25

Reflection From Father Steve

It was a few weeks ago that John announced copies of my homilies for the past year – the year of the pandemic – are available in print. These homilies were part of the Sunday worship available through our website. Some parish members asked if I would again take up the writing of a weekly bulletin article.

So, I am going to give it a shot. There is no plan or direction for these weekly ramblings. They will simply be writings bubbling up out of my thoughts, reflections and musings.

For eighteen months now it has been my joy, once again, to be part of the Saint Matthew Community. It is wonderful to reconnect with so many people.

I look forward to our weekly worship, to seeing you. When you are missing, I do miss you. I have told some people that I really depend on their being at worship for my sake.

I truly believe that being a part of a physical community is a constitutive aspect of what it means to be a Christian. When we are members of a community we bound together; and in the good times and the difficult time, the ups and the downs we continue to stay together. The early church called that quality “fellowship”.

So, once again we gather weekly in this little spit of land known as the West Side; and there we strive to be more and more the Good Samaritan on the banks of the Mississippi.

Father Steve



Volunteer Opportunities & Parish Needs



Mary Leibl,
Volunteer Coordinator

“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 pyc one will be provided.

PROJECT SLIDE DECK during filming of Saturday 4:15 pm Mass: Need a 2nd volunteer to project, by use of an iPad, a prepared slide deck, containing the words to prayers & songs. These slides appear on the screen during airing of Sunday 10:15 am streamed Mass. An iPad is available. Training will be provided. If you know of someone who enjoys working with computers, please share this opportunity with them. It is preferable that more than one person would be available to take part in this ministry.

If you are interested in, or if you have questions, about these ministries email me at mleibl@st-matts.org. Or contact the Parish Center during office hours [or leave a message after regular hours].

THANK YOU to the **139 parishioners** who attended the in-person Mass last Saturday To **Fr. Adrian** who through his homily, gives us strength and hope. To **Karen** who handled the opening announcements. To our pianist **Jill** & cantor **Kathy**. Lectors **Miles & Ginny**, Eucharistic ministers **Maggie, Paul & Mary**, ushers **Tom, Tim & Doris**. Sacristan **Mary**, and slide operator **Ginny**. Thank you to **Alan**, who through his talent films our Masses, making it possible for many of our parishioners to take part on-line.

FAITH FORMATION THANK YOU'S

Saint Matthew's school year Faith Formation program ended on May 5 with a prayer service and games of bingo. Thanks to the 33 students from 18 families who attended and to their parents for enrolling and supporting their children in the program. Thank you to teachers **Lauren Brand, Lily Sullivan, Anthony Minus, Janelle Rohr, Ellen Schneider, and Dave Sondag**. Thank you to front desk helpers **Kathleen Thompson and Valerie Gerlich**. Thank you to the persons who subbed for us on the Wednesday evenings when one of the “regulars” could not make it to Saint Matthew. Thanks to the Men's Club for donating bingo prizes. Thanks to St. Mary's Clinic for sending two speakers to talk to our students on two evenings about being safe in the pandemic and following the public health guidelines. Hope to see many students back in September!

PART-TIME POSITION OPEN

Community of Saints is looking to hire a part-time financial assistant immediately. This role would support payroll and benefit processing, deposits, etc. To learn more about this position, please submit your resume and/or contact Bridget Kramer: bkramer@communityofsaints.org

News and Events

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

For St. Matthew's Covid-19 Mass attendance protocol please visit our website.

COVID-19 Vaccines: Many St Matthew parishioners have already been vaccinated and others are scheduling vaccination for themselves and family members. The sooner we get vaccinated, the safer our community is and the sooner we can enjoy being in close contact with others. Let's encourage our older teenagers and young adults to get vaccinated, too, so we can stop the coronavirus from spreading and protect younger children for whom there is not yet an approved vaccine to prevent COVID-19.

To start, go to the Minnesota Vaccine Connector: <https://vaccineconnector.mn.gov/en-US/> or call **1-833-431-2053**. Check with your healthcare provider about getting the vaccine. Some of the community vaccine sites now allow people to drop in to get the vaccine; the site at the State Fair grounds will allow walk-ups from May 26 to June 8. Or go to the website of a retail pharmacy to schedule an immunization. Sometimes pharmacies in rural Minnesota have quicker availability; see <https://www.thriftywhite.com/ovid19vaccine> to check open vaccine appointments and schedule yourself and family members for a vaccine against COVID-19. Pope Francis has stated that we have a moral obligation to be vaccinated against COVID-19, and the US Bishops also support vaccination against COVID-19 as an action that serves the common good.

WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS May 9, 2021	
Volunteer Service	Hours in prayer 24 Hours in service 26
Parish	School \$ 325
Envelopes/Cash \$ 5,175	Homily Book \$ 15
Electronic Giving \$ 245	
PayPal \$ 100	Total \$ 340
Fuel \$ 55	Thank You!
Masses/Memorials \$ 25	
Rent \$ 120	PayPal QR Code
Vigil Lights \$ 26	simply scan with your
Holy Day \$ 155	phone to make an electron-
Bells/ Lamp \$	ic
Faith Formation \$ 150	stewardship offering
Total	
Thank You!	



THE SOUNDS AND SIGHTS OF ST. MATT'S

The sanctuary lamp will be lit May 15 - May 22 in memory of **Delores Rodrigues**.

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.

BAPTIZED IN CHRIST

We welcome our newest member to our parish family, **Gisele Vences-Ortega**. Gisele was baptized on Saturday, May 8, 2021. Her proud parents are **Gabriela and Juaquin**.



PARISH COUNCIL OPENING

Next week is Pentecost, this is also traditionally the weekend elect new Parish Council Members.

This year two of our Council Members are retiring, thus leaving two seats open. We are asking you parishioners to give prayerful consideration to serving on the Council. Each term is three years.

If you are new to the parish, new to the area or have never served on the Council we love to have you serve as a new member. OR if you served on the Council years ago and would like to serve again we would be please have you back again.

Please call the parish office, contact a current Council member with your interest in serving, or be at Mass on Saturday, May 22nd for the election of new officers.

STRAWBERRY CLEANING

For several years, members of our parish would gather to clean strawberries for the owner of a booth at the State Fair. We would begin the day before the fair opened and our last day would be the Sunday before Labor Day. It was as fun and profitable! Last year COVID-19 brought this experience to an end. The governor has stated that there will be a State Fair this Summer!! In past years we have earned over \$5,000 for a few hours work each day. The more who volunteer the faster the job is completed each day.

If our friends from the Strawberry Booth can re-open this year and you would like to help our parish earn some much-needed income, please email me at mleibl@st-matts.org. You may also call the Parish center and leave your name and phone number or email address with the receptionist or on the answering machine.

GRIEF TO GRACE RETREAT HEALING THE WOUNDS OF ABUSE June 6-11 in Minneapolis

Still hurting from the trauma of sexual, emotional, physical, or spiritual abuse suffered during childhood, adolescence or as an adult? We offer a five-day, overnight healing retreat with therapeutic staff, self-compassion, and hope; and to explore an intimate encounter with Christ. Please contact Deacon Marty Meyer, deaconmeyer@outlook.com or diane@griegtogracesmn.org. Visit www.griegtogracesmn.org.

Parish Leadership

All emails are @st-matts.org

Rev. Steve Adrian, Sacramental Minister
sadrian

John DelVecchio, Parish Trustee
Jdelvecchio

Phil Grant, Pastoral Administrator
pgrant

Scott Hertzog, Janitor

Kevin Jack, website & social media webmaster
kjack

Jill Kitzer, Music Ministry
jillkitzer

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

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

Phil Grant, Ex Officio

Finance Council Members

John DelVecchio

Joe Stevens

Bernie Klein

Joanne Smith

Becky Montgomery

Karen Thompson

John Sekevitch

Phil Grant, Ex Officio

Church - 510 Hall Avenue

Parish Center - 490 Hall Avenue

St. Paul, MN 55107

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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

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Mass Intentions

Saturday, May 15

4:15 pm Our Parish
Eva Alvarez†
Thekla Simmons†
Helen & John Leibl†

Sunday, May 16

10:15 am Steamed Mass

Monday, May 17

8:00 am Cancelled

Tuesday, May 18

8:00 am Cancelled

Saturday, May 22 Pentecost Sunday Celebrated

4:15 pm Our Parish
Pam, Lucille & Robert Stickler, Sr.†
Jim Pirkl†

Sunday, May 23 Pentecost Sunday

10:15 am Steamed Mass

Calendar of Events

Saturday, May 15

10:00 am AA Meeting Parish Center
10:00 am GTCYS - School Building
4:15 pm Mass (in person) **First Holy Communion**

Sunday, May 16

10:15 am **First Holy Communion**
10:15 am Streamed
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm Piano Recital Church

Monday, May 17- Friday, May 21

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm Loaves & Fishes

Meals Are Being served As Take-Out Only At This Time

Monday, May 17

9:00 am - 4:00 pm Parish Office Open

Tuesday, May 18

9:00 am - 1:00 pm Parish Office Open
3:45 - 7:45 pm GTCYS Church

Wednesday, May 19

8:00 am - 5:00 pm St. Mary's Clinic
9:00 am - 4:00 pm Parish Office Open

Thursday, May 20

9:00 am - 1:00 pm Parish Office Open
7:00 pm AA Meeting Parish Center

Friday, May 21

Parish Office closed

Saturday, May 22

10:00 am AA Meeting Parish Center
10:00 am GTCYS - School Building
4:15 pm Mass (in person) **Pentecost Sunday**

Sunday, May 23 Pentecost Sunday

10:15 am Streamed

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