

Church of Saint Matthew – August 1, 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 to register as a member of our parish family, we will be happy to get you signed up or welcome you back.

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, **Louise Breidel, Doris Schillinger, Charles Rousseau, Michael Wood, John and Katie Degelmann, Grant Littler, Cecelia Glenn, 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.

SAINT MARY'S CLINICS VOLUNTEERS NEEDS

St. Mary's Health Clinics is a ministry of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet and provides high-quality, affordable, accessible healthcare to underserved communities. The St. Matthew Parish Center is a St. Mary's Clinic site on Wednesday afternoons. St. Mary's Clinics needs volunteer registered nurses, Spanish-language interpreters, and admitting clerks. For more information (including job descriptions) or to download a volunteer application, see www.stmaryshealthclinics.org/volunteer. Or send an email to info@stmarysclinics.org or call 651-287-7777.

WHAT IS EASIER THAN USING PAYPAL?

EFT or PayPal? When you use EFT versus PayPal 100% of your giving comes to Saint Matthew's. With PayPal you are charged a users fee and Saint Matthew's doesn't receive your total gift. For example with a gift of \$25.00 we receive \$23.89. That may not seem like a large amount, but weekly over 52 weeks it is \$57.72. Take into account many parishioners doing that. Or a larger amount of giving. Something to consider.

You can set up EFT giving on a weekly, biweekly or monthly giving schedule.

Contact Phil Grant, Parish Administrator, and he will help you get started. You can reach him at 651.224.9793 or pgrant@st-matts.org.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

Often, we live our lives striving for temporary happiness. But today, Jesus reminds us to "not work for food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life."

Our Eucharistic meal is the Spiritual Food that we consume — Jesus Himself, Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity. It will satisfy us as Jesus says, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst."

We all have the need to be satisfied. It is in our humanity. And in that incompleteness, we grab at what surrounds us to satisfy our hearts. It could be the next job promotion, the comforts in our homes, the next trip we plan to take. The list goes on. We might think to ourselves, 'then I will be happier.' Or maybe we don't even realize how we are relying on those things or events in our lives.

And while many of those things are good and bring us joy, they are only a small glimpse of the deeper, lasting happiness that the Lord offers us. They are gifts that should remind us of our Good and Gracious Creator. Instead of placing undue importance on those things or people, place it on Jesus, as He says, "Whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst." He is the One who fills our hearts.

As you go about your day-to-day lives this week, try to recognize the times you are "working for food that perishes" by seeking things of the world to satisfy your heart. In those moments, recall that everything we have is a gift from God. Instead of misusing that gift, offer a prayer of thanksgiving for all He has given to you.

SEASONED SINGERS AND NEW COMERS WE INVITE YOU TO COME JOIN SAINT MATTHEW'S CHOIR

It is so wonderful to be back in church and practicing the music we love! Won't you come join us? Please come be a part of Saint Matthew's Choir. New members are always welcome, former member are encouraged to return. We are practicing on Wednesdays August 11 & 25 at 7:00 pm.

We are also looking for instrumentalists to add more life and spice to our worship regularly or as they are able. Guitars, woodwinds, strings, keyboard— we'd love to have them with us.

IN SYMPATHY

Last week a long-time West Side resident died at his home in Wisconsin following a long illness.

Mario Verduzco was a friend to many parishioners of Saint Matthew's. He was a graduate of Humboldt High School. May he and all the faithful departed rest in God's peace a love.

