

Church of Saint Matthew – September 12, 2021

PRAYERS FOR OUR PARISH FAMILY

Please remember in your prayers 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, **Carolina Gomez, Louise Breidel, Doris Schillinger, Michael Wood, 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.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

Jesus addresses His disciples saying, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." We are Jesus' disciples, and He is speaking those same words to us here and now.

Living a life of discipleship is not always easy. It requires us to be imitators of Christ — who suffered, died, and rose from the dead out of total love for each one of us. This means we are called to share in Christ's sufferings by taking up our cross and following Him daily.

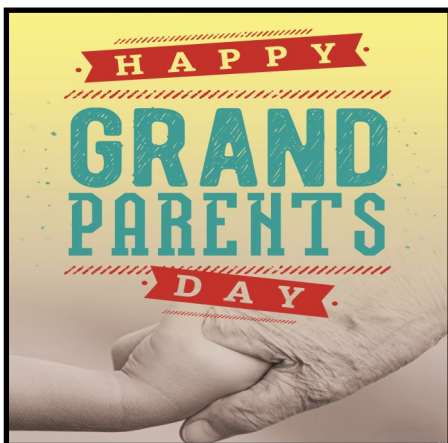
But what does this look like in our day-to-day lives?

We can start by making a firm resolution to follow Christ today, here and now, and renewing that resolution each day when we rise. This requires time with Him each day — speaking and listening.

We should also strive to pick up our crosses each day with Christ by our side. Our cross might be suffering from an illness, fighting an addiction, a day of screaming kids, or a period where things just don't seem to go our way. Instead of avoiding these sufferings or complaining about them, we are called to carry them with Christ, allowing Him to transform us through them.

If we live life constantly focused on us, we will ultimately lose ourselves, but if we surrender our lives for Christ and His mission, we will gain eternal life and become more alive than we could have ever imagined, "For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the gospel will save it." This takes daily commitment and requires endurance in our faith, which can only be done through active discipleship.

The Catholic Steward



New Members Welcome!

ALL ARE WELCOME AT THE CHURCH OF SAINT MATTHEW - PLEASE COME JOIN US!

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.

DISCERNMENT OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUNG WOMEN

Date(s): Friday, September 24 – Sunday, September 26

Location: Christ the King Retreat Center, Buffalo

More Information: Register Online

Single women ages 18-28 who are seeking to do God's will are invited to attend this Fiat Ministries Discernment Retreat. Religious sisters from various religious orders assist at the retreat by giving talks, leading small groups, giving their testimonies, and providing a joyful witness of what it means to be a consecrated religious sister. The retreat is unique in that it simply helps young women open their hearts to say yes to Jesus, in any vocation to which He is calling them. Cost is \$100 which includes meals, lodging and materials. Register by September 20.



MASS OF SOLIDARITY

(World Day for Migrants and Refugees, Immigration Sunday)

Date(s): Sunday, September 26

Start Time: 3:00 p.m.

Location: Cathedral of Saint Paul, St. Paul

September 26 marks the World Day for Migrants and Refugees and also Immigration Sunday in Minnesota. Join in this Mass of Solidarity featuring members of various ethnicities.

ANNUAL CANDLELIGHT ROSARY PROCESSION

Date(s): Friday, October 1

Time: 7 p.m. (Line-up begins at 6:15 p.m.)

Location: Procession from State Capital to Cathedral of Saint Paul; Also livestreamed on Facebook from the Cathedral

As a public witness to our Catholic faith during the month of October, come with family and friends to the annual Archdiocesan Candlelight Rosary Procession. You may also watch the livestream on the Cathedral's Facebook page.

Line up begins at 6:15 p.m. on the State Capitol grounds and the procession will begin at 7 p.m. Parishes are encouraged to bring banners to represent their communities.

Those who cannot walk the procession route may go directly to the Cathedral to pray the Rosary with those who are in procession. The event concludes at the Cathedral with Marian prayers, Eucharistic Adoration, and Benediction.

The event is sponsored by the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis in collaboration with the Family Rosary Processions Association. Additional information can also be found on their website at minnesotarosaryprocessions.org.