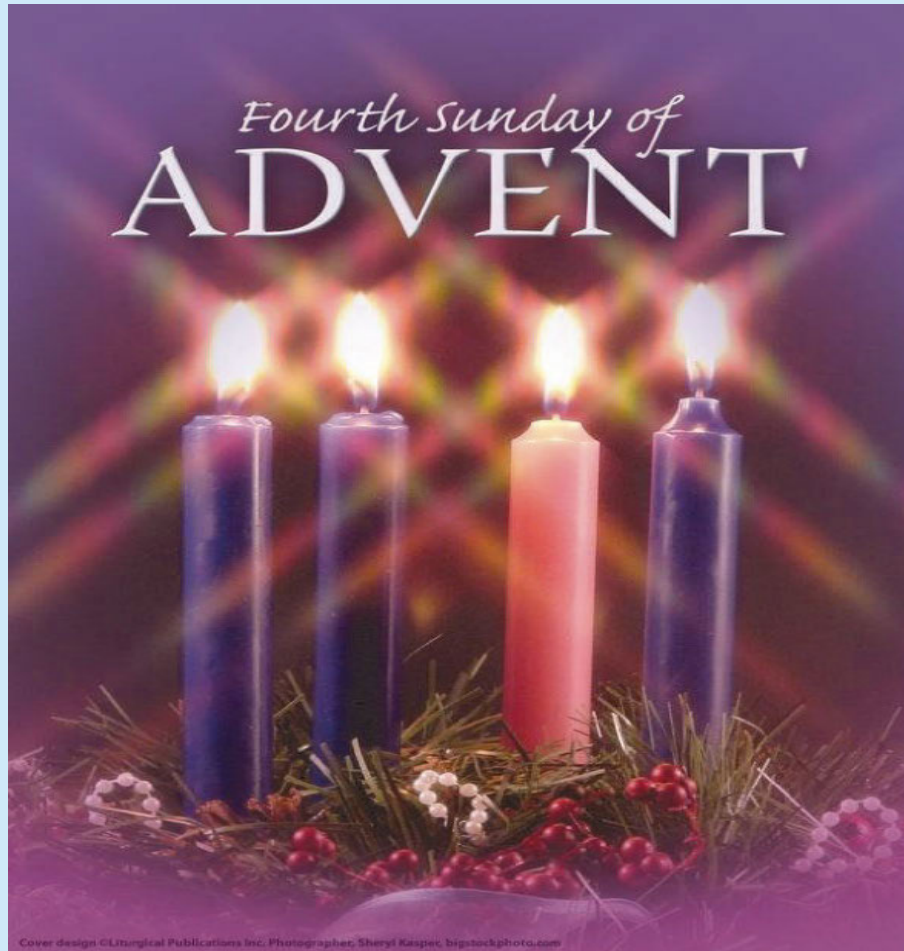




# Church of St. Matthew

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



**December 19, 2021**  
**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

## ***Liturgy Schedule***

### ***Masses***

**In person 4:15 pm Saturday**

**In person 10:15 am Sunday**

**Streamed 10:15 am Sunday**

### ***Reconciliation***

**2nd and 4th Saturday - 1st and 3rd Sunday  
of the month following Mass**

***Baptism, Matrimony, Anointing of the sick***

**Please call the parish office for each**

***Church*** - 510 Hall Avenue

***Parish Center*** - 490 Hall Avenue

St. Paul, MN 55107

**Telephone** 651.224.9793

**Fax** 651.222.2688

**Prayer Line** 651.457.0228

**Website:** [st-matts.org](http://st-matts.org)

**FACEBOOK:** [www.facebook.com/churchofstmatthew](https://www.facebook.com/churchofstmatthew)

**YouTube:** [youtube.com/stmattswestside](https://youtube.com/stmattswestside)

**Twitter:** [twitter.com/stmattswestside](https://twitter.com/stmattswestside)

### ***Office Hours***

**Monday & Wednesday** 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

**Tuesday & Thursday** 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

**Closed on Friday**

## Reflection from Father Steve

Next weekend is Christmas. For the past weeks, the Season of Advent, we have been looking forward to the annual observance of the mystery of God come among us.

The church has a theological term, the Incarnation; it simply means the awesome event when God slides into human life as the infant of Bethlehem.

It is inconceivable that the infinite could be contained in the finite, that God would choose to become one of us.

Why did this happen?

There are two answers to this question, and the Church holds both answers, no decision has been made as to which answer is the one.

The first: Creation had been alienated from God through sin. This sin consumed the very heart of all. God wanted to redeem and world, to take the world back to Himself and for this reason his Only Begotten Son took human flesh, became one of the human family, one of us. By his death and resurrection all of creation is redeemed.

The second: Even if there was no sin, God would still have come to dwell with human beings because of his passionate love for human beings. This love could not be adequately lived with out a flesh-to-flesh relationship with humans. God also knew hat the way he made humans it was impossible for the human to love anyone without getting his/her arms around the beloved.

So, during this final week of Advent, why not take some time to reflect on the mystery by which God comes to ransom me from sin, to take my sin upon his shoulders.

Also take some time to just sit and bathe in the truth of God's infinite love for you. Nothing will take his presence away from you. In fact the deeper we are in trouble – sin, distress, anxiety, illness – the closer He is. After all, He is Emmanuel – God With Us.

Father Steve

### Mass Intentions

If you are interested in scheduling a Mass for a deceased loved one or a special intention, please keep in mind we have only two weekend Mass. Also, many parishioners schedule Masses weeks, if not months in advance. If you wait until the of week or two of your desired Mass date your chances of that date being open are very small.

We make every effort to accommodate everyone's wishes but it helps to plan ahead. Thank you for your cooperation.

## 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**

### Musicians Needed

St Matthews Music Ministry is looking for more singers, cantors, guitarists, keyboardists, string players, & wind instrument players for **weekend Masses**. Contact **Jill Kilzer** Director of music and Liturgy [jillkilzer@st-matts.org](mailto:jillkilzer@st-matts.org).

### Christmas Decorating

**Decorating the Sanctuary for the Christmas season will take place this Sunday, December 19th immediately after the 10:15 am Mass.** The more volunteers we have, the sooner we will complete the decorating. If you attend Saturday Mass, consider returning on Sunday to help bring statues from the chapel, place Christmas trees in the sanctuary and put the decorations on the trees. We would appreciate any help possible from young people in Faith Formation! With enough people, the job can be completed in about 1 hour.

### Thank You

To all who attended the 4:15 pm Mass last Saturday, December 11th and the 10:15 am Mass Sunday, December 12<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to **Fr. Adrian** who through his homily, gives us strength and hope as we continue to deal with the pandemic. To **Linda** who handled the opening announcements for 4:15 pm Mass & **Ginny** at 10:15 am Sunday. To our pianist **Jill** on Saturday. & Sunday. Cantor **Linda** on Saturday. We thank lector **Tim** on Saturday & **Jerold** on Sunday. Eucharistic ministers **Maggie, Karen & Mary** - Saturday; **Paul, Mooreen & Dave** on Sunday. Ushers **Tim, Kevin & Doris** Saturday; **Ginny & Steve** on Sunday. Sacristans **Mary** - Saturday, **Joanne & Ginny** - Sunday. Thank you to all who took communion to parishioners unable to attend mass last weekend.

### Thank You

To all who attended the **Silent Auction** sponsored by the **Men's Club**. Money raised from this event make it possible for families in our parish and at Community of Saints Regional Catholic School to enjoy a very Merry Christmas!

### Thank You

To **Members of the Men's Club** who sponsor this event each year. You bring life to our motto of being **The Good Samaritan on the banks of the Mississippi!**

## News and Events

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

### Join Father Biju for Wednesday Morning Mass

**Father Biju Mathew**, Saint Matthew's Parochial Administrator, will celebrate Mass each Wednesday during Advent. Mass will be celebrated in the chapel and will be followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until Noon. Adoration is open to all, please come Adore Him in this special way.

We are looking for people to fill the hours of 10:00 am to Noon do you have time to spend with our Lord in Adoration?

### Faith Formation News

**Faith Formation Christmas Break:** Students in grades K to 10 do NOT have Faith Formation class on December 22, 29, and January 5. Wednesday evening classes resume on January 12, 2022. Parents of children preparing for First Reconciliation and First Communion should mark their calendars for February 2. Parents and students will meet in church that evening from 6:30 to 7:30. This is a required meeting and applies to Faith Formation and Community of Saints families with a child preparing for these sacraments through the Church of St Matthew.

### Help Wanted

The Church of St. Matthew seeks a part-time Administrative Assistant to begin in December. To apply, submit a resume and cover letter via email to Phil Grant, Pastoral Administrator. Email: [pgrant@st-matts.org](mailto:pgrant@st-matts.org)

For more information, go to the St. Matt's website: [www.st-matts.org](http://www.st-matts.org) or the Archdiocesan jobsite: <https://careers.archspm.org/job/administrative-assistant-4/>



### The Sounds and Sights of St. Matt's

The Sanctuary Lamp will be lit **December 18 - 25** in Claudette Borgon.

Contact Linda Rivera at [lrivera@st-matts.org](mailto:lrivera@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.

### Communal Penance

Father Adrian will provide the opportunity for you to receive the Sacrament of Penance this Advent Season at the parish communal penance service this Sunday, December 19th at 2:00 pm. Or you can have private confession following Saturday Mass on December 11th or Sunday, December 19.

### Christmas Ornaments

We have personalized red or gold Christmas ornaments for sale after Mass each weekend. The cost is \$5.00 each.



Purchase one in memory of a loved one or in honor of someone special. We will hang it on one of our Christmas trees that decorate the Sanctuary this year and every year to follow. Or buy a set and one will hang on our tree and take one home for your tree, or give it as a gift.

Gift idea: new baby, engagement, newly weds, anniversary or a new home.

**Please support this event: parish fund raiser. Thank you!!**

### Thank You Saint Matthew's

St. Matthew's School and church have played such a significant role in my faith since a young boy. This is the very reason when I seen a need in my community, I had the faith to dedicate myself and fill that need. My grandparents grew up on the West Side of St. Paul. My great grandmother raised her family on Oakdale Street, and her children also attended St. Matthew's School. I remember playing with my classmates in the playhouse in our kindergarten room. I also enjoyed walking over to the church for Mass with my 7th grade buddy. St. Matthew's School and parish taught me the importance of community, and giving back. I am fortunate to be part of a parish who continues to believe in my mission to help people in need. Thank you for showing me the importance of unconditional faith and love. Your support and faith in me, pushes me to be a man of dedication and unwavering faith. Together we can heal the world! Thanks and blessings,  
Isaac Garcia

### Early submission for the Christmas. Updated totals in future a bulletin.

Parish		School	\$
Envelopes/Cash	\$		
Electronic Giving	\$		
PayPal	\$		
Masses/Memorials	\$		
Christmas Flower	\$		
Rent	\$		
Vigil Lights	\$		
Funeral	\$		
Bells/ Lamp	\$		
Christmas	\$		
Mis. Donation	\$		
Fuel	\$		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>		

**Total**      **\$**

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Isaac is a shining example of why we support Community of Saints with a monthly collection, Catholic Education & Values!



## 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

Janelle Rohr, Faith Formation  
jdrohr@pro-ns.net

Karen Thompson, Parish Trustee  
Kthompson

## Parish Pastoral Council

parishcouncil

### Members:

Chris Avalos

Janelle Rohr

Alan Christensen

Linda Sellars

Suzanne Clarke

Joanne Smith

Jerald Dosch

Phil Grant, Ex Officio

Anthony Minus

## Finance Council Members

John DelVecchio

Joe Stevens

Bernie Klein

Joanne Smith

Becky Montgomery

Karen Thompson

John Sekevitch

Phil Grant, Ex Officio

## 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 following week's bulletin.*

## Readings for the week of December 19, 2021

Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

Monday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 7c and 10b]/Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 [1a; 3a]/Lk 1:39-45

Wednesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd [cf. 1a]/Lk 1:46-56

Thursday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14 [cf. Lk 21:28]/Lk 1:57-66

Friday: Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 [2]/Lk 1:67-79

Saturday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 [2a]/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, December 18

4:15 pm Our Parish  
✠Pam, Lucille and Robert Stickler, Sr.  
✠Michael Wood

### Sunday, December 19

10:15 am Mass (in person)  
Our Parish  
✠Artur Geis  
✠Roger Goldberg

### Monday, December 20

8:00 am Cancelled

### Wednesday, December 22

9:30 am Our Parish  
✠Rose Karas

### Friday, December 24

4:15 pm Our Parish  
✠Connie Alvarez  
✠Father James Holl

### Saturday, December 25

10:15 am Our Parish  
✠Living & Deceased Rosary Members  
✠Mabel & William Keenan

### Sunday, December 26

10:15 am Mass (in person)  
Our Parish  
✠Parky Rodriguez  
✠Ardelle Haas

## Calendar of Events

### Saturday, December 18 - 4th Sunday of Advent

10:00 am AA Meeting Parish Center  
4:15 pm Mass (in person)

### Sunday, December 19 - 4th Sunday of Advent

10:15 am Mass (in person)  
10:15 am Streamed Mass Today  
Reconciliation following Mass  
2:00 pm Communal Penance Service

### Monday, December 20 - Thursday, December 23

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

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

### Monday, December 20

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

### Tuesday, December 21

9:00 am - 1:00 pm Parish Office Open  
3:30 pm - 9:45 pm GTCYS Church

### Wednesday, December 22

8:00 am - 5:00 pm St. Mary's Clinic  
9:00 am - 4:00 pm Parish Office Open  
9:30 am Mass Chapel  
10:00 am - Noon Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
6:45 pm Faith Formation Parish Center

### Thursday, December 23

9:00 am - 1:00 pm Parish Office Open  
6:00 pm AA Parish Center

### Friday, December 24 Christmas Eve

Parish Office Closed

### 4:15 pm Mass (in person)

### Saturday, December 25 - Christmas Day

10:00 am AA Meeting Parish Center

### 10:15 am Mass (in person)

### Sunday, December 26

10:15 am Mass (in person)  
10:15 am Streamed Mass Today

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