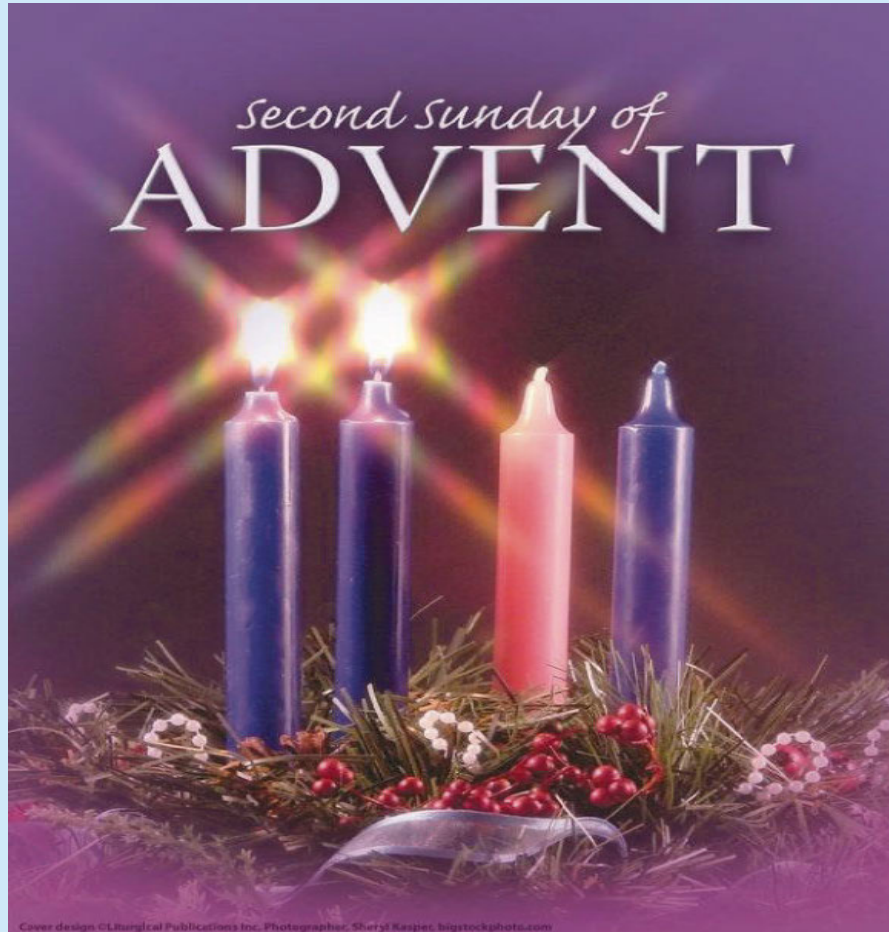




# Church of St. Matthew

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



**December 5, 2021**  
**Second 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

Friday, December 10<sup>th</sup> is the 53rd anniversary of the death of Thomas Merton. I remember that, because his death occurred two days after I was ordained a priest.

Merton was one of the great Catholic spiritual mentors and writers of the mid-twentieth century.

From his boyhood he wrestled with the question "Who am I?" He knew the answer to that question was at the core of his search for happiness. He was conflicted.

He wrote: "Why do I spend my life trying to be something I would never want to be, if I only knew what I wanted? Why do I waste time doing things which, if I only stopped to think about them, is just the opposite of what I was made for?"

His autobiography, *The Seven Story Mountain*, chronicles his search for identity and meaning. The book became an instantaneous phenomenon. It is not a self-help book, it is the chronicle of a man's descent into the depth of his soul and there discovering his identity and meaning.

In the post war world of the 40's whole populations struggled to find identity in a rapidly changing universe. The book touched the hearts and minds of people. It became the catalyst for many millions to rediscover their faith, or to discover faith for the first time. Merton's search for meaning resonated with so many, and in his writing many discovered that the uneasiness experienced within them was the cry for a North Star, the cry of one in search of God.

Citizens of the first part of the 21<sup>st</sup> century also hunger for meaning in a world torn asunder by: economic collapse, failed social interaction, poised on the edge of the earth's destruction, nationalism and racism, economic injustice and a sense that no one cares.

We need a fire for today as Merton's search for meaning lit a fire for the 40's and 50's and 60's.

Thomas, pray for us.

Father Steve Adrian

### 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

### Money Counters

We are looking for volunteers to serve as Money Counters for weekly collections. Time commitment would be 2 Sundays each month. (3 Sundays in months with 5 weekends.) You will work on teams of 3 – 4 people. Collection will be counted on Sunday mornings immediately after the last Mass. Ideally, we would like people from both Saturday & Sunday Masses to volunteer. On weeks when a Holy Day takes place, that collection too will be counted on the following Sunday. If you like working with numbers and feel you can contribute to this valuable service, contact **Mary** at [mleibl@st-matts.org](mailto:mleibl@st-matts.org) or call the Parish Center, leave your name & phone # and someone will return your call!

### 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

Mark your calendars!! Decorating the Sanctuary for the Christmas season will take place **December 19<sup>th</sup> immediately after the 10:15 am Mass**. The more volunteers we have, the sooner we will complete the decorating. If you attend Sat. mass, consider returning on Sunday to help decorate. Statues, and possibly Christmas trees, need to be carried up from the chapel. 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 the **96 parishioners** who attended the 4:15 pm Mass last Saturday, November 27<sup>th</sup> and the **56 parishioners** who attended the 10:15 am Sunday Mass. **Thank You to Fr. Adrian** who through his homily, gives us strength and hope as we continue to deal with the pandemic. To **Andy** who handled the opening announcements for 4:15 pm Mass & **Becky** at 10:15. To our pianist **Jill & Irish whistler Phil** on Saturday. To pianist **Jill & guitarist Chris** on Sunday. Cantor **Christina** on Saturday & **Shelley** on Sunday. We thank lector **Ellen** on Saturday & **Miles** on Sunday. Eucharistic ministers **Josie, Tom & Ann** - Saturday; **Maggie, Becky & Janelle** on Sunday. Ushers **Tom, Tim & Doris** Saturday; **Joanne & Steve** on Sunday. Sacristans **Mary** - Saturday, **Joanne** - Sunday. Thank you to **John, Tim, Dave & Kathy** who took communion to parishioners unable to attend Mass that weekend.

### Thank You!!!

To **Linda & Pete Rivera** who gifted the parish with the beautiful blue Advent vestment that Fr. Steve wore last weekend. We thank you for your dedication and generosity to our parish!!

## 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?

### Welcome To Our Parish Family

On Friday, November 26, 2021 Father Adrian baptized **Bernard Anthony Kupic**, son of **Tony and Kateri Kupic**. We congratulate the new parents on the birth of their son; we are honored to receive him as a member of our parish family.



On November 20th Father Adrian baptized **Avaleena Kathleen Rosas-Englund** daughter of **Reena Rosas and Jesse Englund**. We welcome to Avaleena to the St. Matthew's parish family.

We are here to help the parents and children grow in the Catholic faith and to love and serve the Lord. Please come back to worship with us often!

### Faith Formation News - Mass On December 8th

On December 8, parents and students should attend Mass in church to celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. We will NOT meet in the Parish Center that evening. Families will sit together in church and should follow our Faith Formation COVID-19 safety plan, which includes wearing a face mask covering nose and mouth. On December 8, all students should plan to arrive in church by 6:45. Note that we have regular in-person class on December 15, and then have a three-week break over the Christmas and New Year's holidays

### Weekly Contributions November 21 & 28, 2021

#### Volunteer Service Hours in Prayer 15 Hours in Service 38

Parish		School	
Envelopes/Cash	\$ 6,391	Food Shelf	\$ 120
Electronic Giving	\$ 1,290	Total	<b>\$ 470</b>
PayPal	\$ 100	<b>Thank You!</b>	
Masses/Memorials	\$ 1,016	<b>PayPal QR Code</b>	
Holy Day	\$ 30	simply scan with your	
Rent	\$ 500	phone to make an electronic	
Vigil Lights	\$ 91	payment	
Funeral	\$ 1,000		
Bells/ Lamp	\$ 60		
Christmas	\$ 10		
Mis. Donation	\$ 425		
Fuel	\$ 285		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 11,198</b>		



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

The Sanctuary Lamp will be lit **December 4 - 11** for **Tim Dalzell** as a thank you for his kindness for delivering meals on Thanksgiving Day.

The Bells of Saint Matthew will ring on **December 8th for the Living & Deceased Rosary Society Members.**

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.

### Christmas Boutique and Pancake Breakfast



On December 12th the Saint Matthew Men's Club, Community of Saint's Boy Scout Troop 288 and Saint Matthew's Rosary Society will all come together for a wonderful morning of breakfast, shopping and SANTA!!

Men's Club and the Boy Scouts will be making a tasty pancakes, scrambled eggs and sausage breakfast.

The Rosary Society will have theme baskets, jewelry and other items for your shopping pleasure. There will also be Bottle Lotto for the children.

And of course Santa will be here... bring the children to have their pictures taken with the jolly old gentleman.

The cost is \$8.00 for adults, \$5.00 for children, children under 5 are free with a paying adult. 9:00 am to 12:30 pm.

### 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/>

### 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 new home.

### Rosary Society News

All women are invited to the next **Rosary Society meeting**, which is **Tuesday, December 14<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 to 3:00 pm**. We meet in the lower level of the Parish Center. Our Program will be the *Mysteries of the Rosary*. In addition there will be holiday refreshments and games. Come and enjoy the company of one another. You do not need to be a member of the Rosary Society to come to a meeting. For the care and protection of one another, all attendees are requested to wear masks if possible.

## 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:

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 5, 2021

Sunday: Bar 5:1-9/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 [3]/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6

Monday: Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [cf. Is 35:4f]/Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday: Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13 [cf. Is 40:10ab]/Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [1]/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab [8]/Mt 11:11-15

Friday: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [cf. Jn 8:12]/Mt 11:16-19

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/Mt 17:9a, 10-13

## Mass Intentions

### **Saturday, December 4**

4:15 pm Our Parish  
✠Dorinda Martineau

### **Sunday, December 5**

10:15 am Mass (in person)  
Our Parish  
✠Jim Pirkl

### **Monday, December 6**

8:00 am Cancelled

### **Wednesday, December 8**

9:30 am ✠Claudette Borgan  
7:00 pm ✠John & Helen Leibl

### **Friday, December 10**

8:00 am Cancelled

### **Saturday, December 11**

4:15 pm Our Parish  
✠Living & Deceased Rosary Society Members  
Carolina Gomez, Special Intention  
Kendrick Morrison, Special Intention

### **Sunday, December 12**

10:15 am Mass (in person)  
Our Parish  
✠Phyllis Perez  
✠Patricia Kasheimer

## Calendar of Events

### **Saturday, December 4 - 2nd Sunday of Advent**

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

### **Sunday, December 5 2nd Sunday of Advent**

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

### **Monday, December 6 - Friday, December 10**

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

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

### **Monday, December 6**

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

### **Tuesday, December 7**

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

### **Wednesday, December 8 The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

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  
7:00 pm Mass

### **Thursday, December 9**

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

### **Friday, December 10**

Parish Office Closed

### **Saturday, December 11 - 3rd Sunday of Advent**

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

### **Sunday, December 12 - 3rd Sunday of Advent**

**9:00 am - 12:30 pm** Pancake Breakfast - Christmas  
Boutique Social Hall  
10:15 am Mass (in person)  
10:15 am Streamed Mass Today

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