



Church of St. Matthew

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



25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Summon the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and ending with the first.”
- Mt 20:1, 8

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

September 24, 2023 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Liturgy Schedule

Masses

Saturday 4:15 PM

Sunday 10:15 AM (*online Mass is on hiatus*)

Reconciliation

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

Please contact the parish office regarding Baptism, Matrimony, First Communion, Confirmation and Anointing of the Sick

Church

Parish Center (*Mailing Address*)

510 Hall Avenue

490 Hall Avenue

St. Paul, MN 55107

Telephone (651) 224-9793

Fax (651) 222-2688

Prayer Line (651) 424-6677

Website www.st-matts.org

Facebook www.facebook.com/churchofstmatthew

YouTube www.youtube.com/churchofstmatthew

Twitter twitter.com/stmattswestside

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Friday

Closed

Reflection from Father Steve

Today, Sunday, September 24, is the holiest day of the year for our Jewish neighbors. The time of repentance, begun on September 15 culminates today, the Feast of Yom Kippur, beginning at sundown on Sunday evening.

On the day before Yom Kippur, a special and bountiful meal is enjoyed with candle lighting at the end of the meal. Many people remember those who have gone before them. Some Jewish people visit cemeteries on this day before Yom Kippur.

Jewish congregations spend the eve of Yom Kippur and the entire day in prayer and meditation. Friends also ask and accept forgiveness from one another for past offenses on the evening before Yom Kippur, since obtaining forgiveness from one's neighbor signifies God's forgiveness. God forgives the sins of those who sincerely repent and show their repentance by behavior and good deeds.

"For on this day He will forgive you, to purify you, that you be cleansed from all your sins before God."
(Leviticus 16:30)

Yom Kippur concludes the "10 days of repentance" that begin with Rosh Hashana, New Year's Day. The Bible refers to Yom Kippur as Shabbat Shabbaton ("Sabbath of Solemn Rest," or "Sabbath of Sabbaths") because, even though the holy day may fall on a weekday, it is on Yom Kippur that solemnity and cessation of work are most complete. The purpose of Yom Kippur is individual and collective purification by the practice of forgiveness of the sins of others and by sincere repentance for one's own sins against God and neighbor.

For us, Ash Wednesday carries many of the aspects of Yom Kippur.

Let us pray that the grace of God may fill the hearts of our Jewish neighbors.

Fr. Steve Adrian



Jeremiah Baker, Jeff Blomgren, Jerry and Louise Breidel, Rey Del Angel, Elaine Goldberg, Dean Hinzman, The Karas Family, Judy O'Brien, Pam Perkovich, Marie Scanlan, Mary Lou Shields, Mary Lynn Vasquez, and Patricia Weisman.

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.*

Volunteer Opportunities and Parish Needs

Then I said, "Here am I. Send me!" ~ Isaiah 6:8

FAITH FORMATION TEACHERS: The St. Matthew Faith Formation program for public school students in grades 1 to 10 will resume September 20, and we have openings for teachers for the 2023-2024 school year. Classes are held on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 to 7:45 PM between September and early May. Volunteers should enjoy helping children learn more about their Catholic faith and do not need to be experienced teachers. Training and support are provided, in addition to supplies and curriculum that includes a lesson plan for each week. If a weekly commitment is too much, please consider being a substitute or helping with specific events such as parent meetings or sacrament meetings. To find out more, call or text **Janelle Rohr, 651-242-6004** or send an email to janelle@st-matts.org.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD: Thank you to **Ellen** and **Myrna** who have reinstated **Children's Liturgy of the Word**. This program will take place at the Sunday 10:15 AM Mass. A wonderful chance for your children to learn about Jesus through lessons and activities developed for their age group!

FIRST AID KITS: Thank you to **Kathy** and **Scott Goldenstein** who have donated two new fully stocked first aid kits for parish use. One kit will be kept in an upper cupboard in the main sacristy. The other will be in the Social Hall kitchen.

BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS: Thank you to **Suzanne Clarke, Scott Goldenstein, Josie Mike, and Kathleen Thompson** who have volunteered to perform the monthly blood pressure checks.

WE ARE A VOLUNTEER PARISH!

Mary Leibl
Volunteer Coordinator
mleibl@st-matts.org

FEAST OF ST. MATTHEW CELEBRATION Saturday & Sunday, September 23 & 24

Come join the parish in the Social Hall as we celebrate the Feast of Saint Matthew with food, fun and games!

Saturday, September 23, 2023

- Food and refreshments for purchase at 5:00 PM
- Bingo at 5:30 PM

Sunday, September 24, 2023

- Vikings game viewing at 11:30 AM
- A puzzle contest at half-time
- Food available from Men's Club

Parish Administrator's Note

BAPTISM & TOGETHERNESS

A couple of weeks ago, Fr. Steve's homily noted that "Liturgy holds us together."

Indeed! I saw a lot of togetherness at last Sunday's 10:15 Mass, when our community witnessed the baptism of Isaac Adrian Czaia, son of Zach and Cristina. In addition to our regular 10:15 Mass goers, many of Zach and Cristina's friends and family members joined us. Baptisms do have a way of bringing people together.

QUINCEAÑERA TOGETHERNESS

Last weekend, I also attended a **Quinceañera** (**Quince** for short) Mass here at St. Matt's. It was good to meet the many friends and family members who came together for the Mass.

I've enjoyed watching this ministry develop here at St. Matt's. I knew that Quinces are an important rite of passage for young women in Spanish speaking countries. What I didn't know until a couple of years ago is that there's an important religious component. Quinces are not just an opportunity for a nice party. They begin with Mass or a Word service. Friends and family gather to support the 15-year-old as she reflects on growing up. The liturgy's readings, prayers and songs also focus on a young woman's emerging adulthood.

GIVING THANKS FUNDRAISER

This fall, we're holding our fourth annual **Giving Thanks Fundraiser**. Tickets will be sold until late October, and there will be one winner for each day of November.

Last year's effort raised approximately \$14,000 to support security projects here, such as cameras. (Latest camera installation estimate: two months. We've talked to multiple vendors over the past several months, and we're close to signing a contract with our chosen vendor.)

Fundraiser tickets will be available starting this weekend. Look for them at Mass and in the parish office.

Let's work together to sell tickets, have some fun, and raise funds for this year's Giving Thanks goals: (1) Door security improvements and (2) Church fans.

Thank you for your support, and have a great week!

Phil Grant
pgrant@st-matts.org
651-224-9793

News and Events

BLOOD PRESSURE CHECK

As we return to pre pandemic normalcy, we will again offer blood pressure checks after Masses on the third weekend of the month. The next blood pressure check will take place the weekend of **October 14 and 15**.



ST. MATTHEW MEN'S CLUB

The next Men's Club meeting is **Wednesday, October 11 at 8:00 PM in the Social Hall**. All men of the parish are welcome to come to the meeting and check out what the group is all about! The St. Matthew Men's Club is active in hosting, organizing and volunteering at various events throughout the year for the parish. The group meets every second Wednesday of the month. For more information, contact the parish office at 651-224-9793.

Faith Formation News

FAITH FORMATION, FIRST COMMUNION, CONFIRMATION CLASSES ARE OPEN: Wednesday evening Faith Formation classes have begun for public school students, and registration is open for a few more weeks. Download the registration form from www.st-matts.org/faith-formation/ or complete a hard copy registration form when you bring your students to class on Wednesday, September 27. Students in grades K to 5 begin class at 6:30 PM and students in grades 6 to 10 begin class at 6:45 PM. Attendance at these classes is required for public school students who would like to make their First Communion or Confirmation in spring 2024. Children not in a sacrament year are also welcome to attend Faith Formation class. Parents and guardians, please attend the parent meeting at 6:50 PM in church on October 4. Questions? Email janelle@st-matts.org or call or text **651-242-6004**.

CONFIRMATION AND FIRST COMMUNION FOR COS STUDENTS: Community of Saints students in Grade 8 who would like to receive the sacrament of Confirmation are welcome in the St. Matthew program. Parents/guardians should complete a registration form that can be downloaded from www.st-matts.org/faith-formation/ and plan on bringing the 8th grader to class in the St. Matthew Parish Center on Wednesday, October 11, at 6:45 PM. Community of Saints students in Grades 2 and up who would like to make their First Communion may do so through the Church of St. Matthew. Parents/guardians should complete a registration form (downloadable from the web address above) and mark their calendars for Wednesday, November 8, 6:30 PM, when parents and children have a meeting and class in St. Matthew church.

Parish Leadership

Rev. Steve Adrian, Sacramental Minister
sadrian@st-matts.org

Rev. Antony Skaria, Parochial Administrator
frantony@sjvssp.org

Phil Grant, Pastoral Administrator/Safe Environment
Coordinator
pgrant@st-matts.org

Angela Rakow, Administrative Assistant
arakow@st-matts.org

Cristina Czaia, Director of Music and Liturgy
cczaia@st-matts.org

Mary Leibl, Volunteer Coordinator
mleibl@st-matts.org

Linda Rivera, Funeral Coordinator
lrivera@st-matts.org

Janelle Rohr, Faith Formation
janelle@st-matts.org

Accounts Payable & Receivable
accountspayable@st-matts.org

Steve Kowal, Maintenance Engineer
skowal@st-matts.org

Mario Medina Gonzalez, Maintenance

Scott Hertzog, Custodian

Jair Aguilar Vasquez, Custodian
jair@st-matts.org

John Del Vecchio, Parish Trustee
jdelvecchio@st-matts.org

Karen Thompson, Parish Trustee
kthompson@st-matts.org

Parish Council Members

Jerald Dosch	Tiffany Monita
Kathy Goldenstein	Tara Perron
Maggie Lee	Ellen Schneider
Anthony Minus	Katie Shetka
Phil Grant, Ex Officio	

Finance Council Members

Alan Christensen	Jackie Lackner
John Del Vecchio	Becky Montgomery
Richard Dunn	Karen Thompson
Phil Grant, Ex Officio	

Bulletin

Announcements are due on **Monday by 10:00 AM** for the next Sunday's bulletin. Items should be sent to Angela Rakow at arakow@st-matts.org. *Items received after 10:00 AM will appear in the following week's bulletin.*

Readings for the week of September 24, 2023

Sunday: Is 55:6-9/Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18 (18a)/Phil 1:20c-24, 27a/Mt 20:1-16a

Monday: Ezr 1:1-6/Ps 126:1b-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6/Lk 8:16-18

Tuesday: Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/Lk 8:19-21

Wednesday: Ezr 9:5-9/Tb 13:2, 3-4a, 4befghn, 7-8/Lk 9:1-6

Thursday: Hg 1:1-8/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/Lk 9:7-9

Friday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 4-5/Jn 1:47-51

Saturday: Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a/Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13/Lk 9:43b-45

Next Sunday: Ez 18:25-28/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9, (6a)/Phil 2:1-11 or 2:1-5/Mt 21:28-3

Mass Intentions

Saturday, September 23

4:15 PM Mass
Our Parish
+Pam, Lucille, and Robert Stickler, Sr.
+Sherry Simpson

Sunday, September 24

10:15 AM Mass
Our Parish
+Lisa Norton
+Mary Ann Roscoe

Monday, September 25

8:00 AM Cancelled

Tuesday, September 26

8:00 AM Cancelled

Wednesday, September 27

8:00 AM Cancelled

Thursday, September 28

8:00 AM Cancelled

Friday, September 29

8:00 AM Cancelled

Saturday, September 30

4:15 PM Mass
Our Parish
+Arthur Geis
+Carol Dvorak Johnson
+George Lackner

Sunday, October 1

10:15 AM Mass
Our Parish
+Colette Marie Morris
+Joseph Savard
+Shirley Smith

Calendar of Events

Monday, September 25 - Friday, September 29

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM Loaves & Fishes
Meals are available as to-go or dine-in.

Monday, September 25

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open
7:00 PM AA Meeting
7:00 PM - 10:00 PM GSVLOC Rehearsal

Tuesday, September 26

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open
6:30 PM West Side Collaboration Public Meeting
7:00 PM - 10:00 PM GSVLOC Rehearsal

Wednesday, September 27

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM St. Mary's Clinic
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open
6:30 PM - 7:45 PM: Faith Formation

Thursday, September 28

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open
4:30 PM Finance Council Meeting
7:00 PM Parish Council Meeting
7:00 PM AA Meeting
7:00 PM - 10:00 PM GSVLOC Rehearsal

Friday, September 29

Saturday, September 30

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM GSVLOC Rehearsal
4:15 PM Mass (in-person)

Sunday, October 1

10:15 AM Mass (in-person)
Confessions after Mass

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