



# Church of St. Matthew

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



## 33<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Well done, my good and faithful servant.”  
– Mt 25:21

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

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### **November 19, 2023** **33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

#### **Liturgy Schedule**

#### **Masses**

**Saturday** 4:15 PM  
**Sunday** 10:15 AM (*online Mass is on hiatus*)

#### **Reconciliation**

**1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday (after Mass)** 5:00 PM  
**2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday (after Mass)** 11:00 AM

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

**Church** 510 Hall Avenue  
**Parish Center (Mailing Address)** 490 Hall Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55107

**Telephone** (651) 224-9793  
**Fax** (651) 222-2688  
**Website** [www.st-matts.org](http://www.st-matts.org)  
**Facebook** [www.facebook.com/churchofstmatthew](http://www.facebook.com/churchofstmatthew)  
**YouTube** [www.youtube.com/churchofstmatthew](http://www.youtube.com/churchofstmatthew)  
**Twitter** [twitter.com/stmattswestside](http://twitter.com/stmattswestside)

**Office Hours**  
Monday - Thursday 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
Friday Closed

## Reflection from Father Steve

Thursday is Thanksgiving Day. This a “civic holy day” in which we remember with gratitude all that we have received. Nothing is so ennobling in a person as a life of gratitude, the ability to say and think “thank you”.

Cicero, the Roman philosopher-politician, declared gratitude as the parent of all virtues. He used examples to defend his belief and posed questions as relevant today as when he asked them 2,000 years ago.

“Do we really love our parents if we are not grateful to them for what they have given us?”

Are we good citizens if we don't recollect the kindness received from our community?

Isn't education an empty claim if we are ungrateful to our teachers and mentor?

Are we worthy of honors received if we are not grateful to God for them?

Can friendship exist between ungrateful people? Isn't life empty without friendship?”

Gratitude holds communities together. Without it we have no empathy, the ability to appreciate to one degree or another how a person feels or how our words and actions affect others.

Thomas Merton says that gratitude is a way of prayer:

*Gratitude therefore takes nothing for granted, is never unresponsive, is constantly awakening to new wonder and to praise of the goodness of God.*

Especially for us older folks gratitude can become way for life, a way of being at peace.

Gratitude becomes a habit of the heart. Gratitude is a habit that fosters the courage to live the last act, the final inning, as completely as possible.

*Fr. Steve Adrian*



**Jeremiah Baker, Jeff Blomgren, Jerry & Louise Breidel, Sue & William Brown, Rey Del Angel, Rita Eckert, Elaine Goldberg, The Karas Family, Judy O'Brien, Pam Perkovich, Michael Perron, Marie Scanlan, Mary Lou Shields, Larry Smith, James Stanger, Sr., Dorothy Stearns, 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*

**SNOWBLOWING:** Looking for volunteer(s) to clean snow off sidewalks of the square block of church property. This would be Hall Avenue, Winifred Street, Humboldt Avenue, Robie Street as well as walks leading up to buildings. Parish snowblower is available for use. If interested, please call the parish office at **651-224-9793**.

**LIBRARY MINISTRY:** We are in the process of organizing a parish library. This library will be in the SE corner of the main church. We already have a large number of books that are being cataloged and prepared to go onto the shelves that are being donated. We are looking for volunteers who are willing to help people select books to read, check books in and out and keep the shelves neat. This ministry would take place before and after weekend Masses. If you enjoy books and would like to help others who also like to read, please contact the parish office for more information.

**CORRECTION:** Confirmation candidate **Simon** has volunteered to be a Eucharistic minister and **Litzzy** has volunteered to be a lector. We apologize for the error in last week's bulletin.



**WE ARE THANKFUL FOR  
ALL OUR PARISH VOLUNTEERS!!**

*Mary Leibl*  
Volunteer Coordinator  
[mleibl@st-matts.org](mailto:mleibl@st-matts.org)



### THE SOUNDS AND SIGHTS OF ST. MATT'S

The Sanctuary Lamp will be lit November 18-24, 2023 for **Robert and Alice Deutsch**.

If you would like to schedule a day to ring the bells or a week to light the sanctuary lamp for your special memory, person or event, please contact the parish office at 651-224-9793 by 1:00 PM, Monday – Thursday.

## Parish Administrator's Note

### MORTALITY, LEGACY, AND GRATITUDE

One of this week's inserts promotes our free November 30 morning seminar, called "Preparing for Heaven." Check it out for details. I think it'll be a great morning, with food for body and soul, along with useful information.

I was originally thinking of calling this column, "You're Going to Die", based on an October 30 article in the *StarTribune*. That's a rather jarring headline, so I went with mortality.

When I was younger, I rarely thought about my mortality. I have to admit I'm thinking more about it these days—and not just because of stark headlines. I've lost my fair share of friends and family members over the years.

A much younger friend recently called me "spry". I guess it's a compliment. As someone else at the same table pointed out, "spry" is not a word used to describe young people.

At any rate, I'm looking forward to the seminar on Thursday the 30<sup>th</sup>. I have things to learn, for myself and others in my family. As a recent Giving Thanks Fundraiser winner (DH) put it to me, planning ahead is a great gift to others in our lives. My daughter will thank me for my preparation. I'd like my legacy to be something other than way too many boxes of her dad's stuff.

Meanwhile, those mortality reminders keep coming up. As I recently read, "In whatever you do, remember your last days, and you will never sin." (Sirach 7:36)

November is the month of the liturgical year during which we remember our beloved dead. We place our Book of the Dead in church, for you to write names in. I urge you to do so.

Let us be grateful for God's gifts to us: life, family, friends and all good things. Happy Thanksgiving!

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

*Phil Grant*  
[pgrant@st-matts.org](mailto:pgrant@st-matts.org)  
651-224-9793



## Thanksgiving Day Mass

Thursday

November 23, 2023

9:00 AM

## Faith Formation News

**FAITH FORMATION BREAK:** On Wednesday, November 22, Faith Formation students in grades K to 10 do NOT have class due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Faith Formation classes resume on Wednesday, November 29, with classes in the Parish Center that evening.

## News and Events



Join us this weekend to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick during Mass.

People of all ages who are in need of healing of body and soul and their caregivers and families are welcome to come forward and take part.

### BLOOD PRESSURE CHECK

Blood pressure check takes place this weekend after Mass.

### SAVE THE DATE

The Our Lady of Guadalupe Traveling Rosary is coming to Saint Matthew on **Monday, November 27 at 1:00 pm** in the Church Chapel. All are invited to come and pray this special rosary together.



Refreshments will be provided after the rosary.

### PREPARING FOR HEAVEN

Fr. Steve invites you to a free morning seminar on **Thursday, November 30**. Topics include sacramental preparation, funeral & burial planning, estate planning, and legacy charitable giving. The seminar will begin with breakfast in the Social Hall at 9:00 a.m. and conclude with Mass. See the insert for more information.

### ISAAC'S BLESSING BAGS

Isaac's Blessing Bags is accepting donations now through **December 1**. Please see the insert for a list of needed items and a letter from Isaac. Thank you!

### WANTED - Crafters, Artists and Sewers

Rosary Society is hosting its annual Bake Sale, Boutique and, new this year, Craft Sale during the weekend of December 9 and 10. They are looking for crafters, artists and sewers who would like to participate in this event. See the insert for more information.



See the bulletin insert for more news and events happening at the Church of St. Matthew.

*Due to early bulletin submission, some items may appear in later issues.*

## Parish Leadership

Rev. Steve Adrian, Sacramental Minister

Rev. Antony Skaria, Parochial Administrator

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

## Finance Council Members

Alan Christensen	Becky Montgomery
John Del Vecchio	Tony Postiglione
Richard Dunn	Karen Thompson
Jackie Lackner	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 November 19, 2023

Sunday: Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 (see 1a)/1 Thes 5:1-6/Mt 25:14-30 or 25:14-15, 19-21

Monday: 1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63/Ps 119:53, 61, 134, 150, 155, 158/Lk 18:35-43

Tuesday: 2 Mc 6:18-31/Ps 3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Lk 19:1-10

Wednesday: 2 Mc 7:1, 20-31/Ps 17:1bcd, 5-6, 8b and 15/Lk 19:11-28

Thursday: 1 Mc 2:15-29/Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15/Lk 19:41-44

Friday: 1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59/1 Chr 29:10bcd, 11abc, 11d-12a, 12bcd/Lk 19:45-48

Saturday: 1 Mc 6:1-13/Ps 9:2-3, 4 and 6, 16 and 19/Lk 20:27-40

Next Sunday: Ez 34:11-12, 15-17/Ps 23:1-2, 2-3, 5-6 (1)/1 Cor 15:20-26, 28/Mt 25:31-46

## Mass Intentions

### **Saturday, November 18**

4:15 PM Mass  
+Leo Kegler  
+Mary Jane Sperl  
Victor Mercado, Jr., Special Intention

### **Sunday, November 19**

10:15 AM Mass  
+Eleanor Bisciglia  
+Gerry Jenniges  
+Mary Ann Roscoe  
+Joseph Savard

### **Monday, November 20**

8:00 AM Cancelled

### **Tuesday, November 21**

8:00 AM Cancelled

### **Wednesday, November 22**

8:00 AM Cancelled

### **Thursday, November 23**

9:00 AM Mass

### **Friday, November 24**

8:00 AM Cancelled

### **Saturday, November 25**

4:15 PM Mass  
+Arthur Geis  
+Roger Goldberg  
+Carol Dvorak Johnson

### **Sunday, November 26**

10:15 AM Mass  
+Pam, Lucille, and Robert Stickler, Sr.  
+Sherry Simpson

## Calendar of Events

### **Monday, November 20 - Wednesday, November 22**

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM Loaves & Fishes  
*Meals are available as to-go or dine-in.*  
*No meal service on Thursday & Friday, November 23 & 24.*

### **Monday, November 20**

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM St. Mary's Mobile Dental Clinic  
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open  
7:00 PM AA Meeting

### **Tuesday, November 21**

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open

### **Wednesday, November 22**

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM St. Mary's Clinic  
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open

### **Thursday, November 23**

9:00 AM Mass  
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Closed

### **Friday, November 24**

### **Saturday, November 25**

4:15 PM Mass  
5:00 PM Confessions

### **Sunday, November 26**

10:15 AM Mass  
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Gifted and Belonging Meeting

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