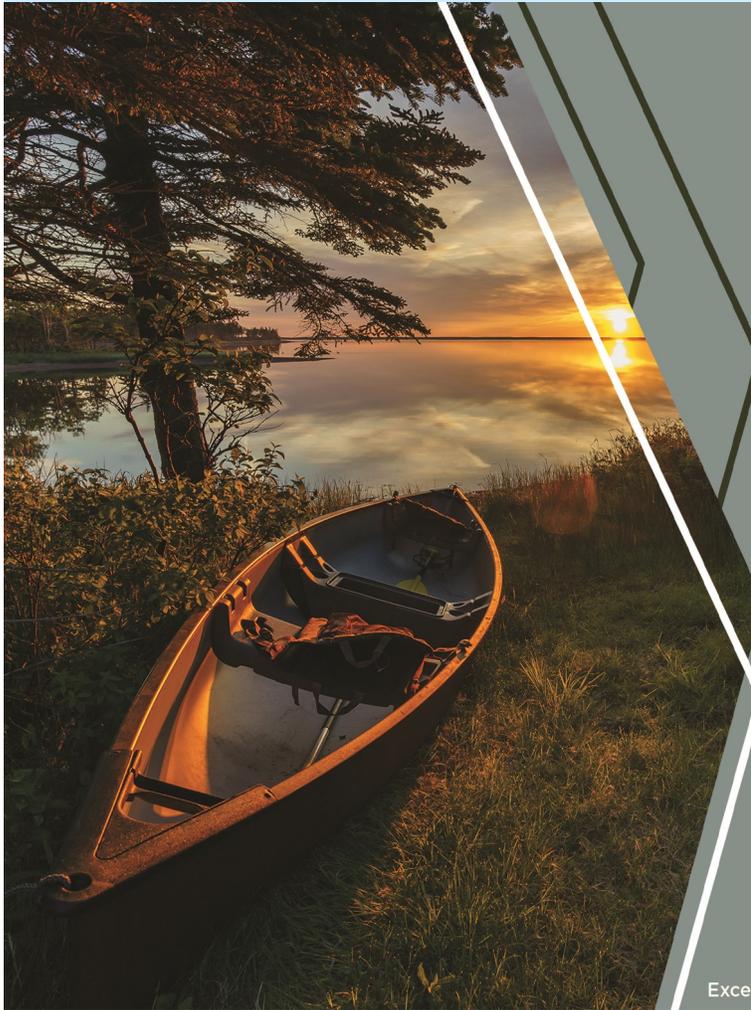




Church of St. Matthew

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



3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

He walked along a little farther and saw James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They too were in a boat mending their nets. Then he called them. So they left their father Zebedee in the boat along with the hired men and followed him. - Mk 1:19-20

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

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January 21, 2024 **Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Liturgy Schedule

Masses

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

Reconciliation

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

**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
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

This Thursday, January 25th, is the Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul — the patron saint of our local church and of our capital city. This date also marks the last day of the annual observance of prayer for Christian unity.

The great scandal of the church is the disunity within the body of Christ. The unity of the church is to call all people to faith in Jesus Christ. "I pray that they all be one, as you Father are in me and I am in you, that they may be one in us, that the world may believe that you have sent me."

Christian unity is not found in words, but in deeds. The partnership of believers in Jesus Christ, even though divided, is the way that Christian unity can come about.

Churches of various denominations, cooperating with each other in the works of the Gospel, are what build that unity. When we work together and get to know each other, we come to realize that there is more that unites us than divides us.

In the aftermath of Vatican Council II, there was much effort to mobilize interfaith, ecumenical efforts. In the Twin Cities, there were "Living Room Dialogues". A few Catholics and Lutherans or Methodists or Baptists would come together in each other's homes and share prayer, speak about their faith, get to know and respect the genuine faith in Jesus Christ which each held dear.

Church unity is built from the bottom up. Don't wait for Church hierarchies to take the lead. The beginning happens by the grace of the Holy Spirit in neighborhoods and between family members, especially in families where parents are of mixed religious traditions.

This month as we reflect on the mission of our parish community, let us not forget to commit to the work of Christian unity.

Fr. Steve Adrian

Fr. Adrian is on vacation

Fr. Adrian will be on vacation through the first week of February 2024. We thank **Fr. Thomas Kommers** and **Fr. Matthew Linn** who will be substituting for Fr. Adrian. We wish Fr. Adrian a restful and relaxing vacation!

Volunteer Opportunities and Parish Needs

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

Money Counters: We are looking for volunteers to help count the weekly collection twice a month. You would work with a team of 3 or 4 other volunteers. If you feel you have the talent or experience to help with this volunteer opportunity, please call the parish office, 651-224-9793.

Crafting Club: More than a few people have expressed an interest in forming a "Crafting Club." This would include knitting, crocheting, quilting, etc. A good chance to finish projects that have been set aside. Perhaps make articles to donate to Isaac's Blessing Bags next year! This is also an opportunity to meet new friends and enjoy the camaraderie of fellow crafters.

If you are interested in taking part in this activity, call the parish office at 651-224-9793. Men are invited to join too. In fact, it was a male parishioner who suggested this activity!

Thank You: Linda S., Kathy S., Chris W., and Patty K. who faithfully work in the front office of the parish weekly. When people call for information, these are the first voices they hear. Usually, their question needs to go no further than these four competent ladies. We are very lucky to have them serve as the "voice of the parish". Thank you for your dedication!

Thank You: To Zach who has offered to drive a parishioner to Mass each week.

Thank You: To Alan who brought his expertise to the table as we discussed with the security consultant how, going forward, the security cameras may be used to film the weekend Masses.

WE ARE A VOLUNTEER PARISH!

Mary Leibl
Volunteer Coordinator
mleibl@st-matts.org



The Sounds and Sights of Saint Matthew

The Sanctuary Lamp will be lit January 20-26, 2024 in memory of **Louise Rodriguez**.

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

Future Planning

I'm delighted that our Parish Council members are taking leadership roles in thinking about our parish's future. I sincerely hope many other parish members join the Future Planning Task Force being formed. Please consider attending the initial meeting on **Thursday, January 25 at 6:30 p.m.** We will meet in the Social Hall.

I meet monthly with fellow parish administrators from throughout the Archdiocese. We exchange stories, information and support. I know I've learned a lot at these gatherings.

I've also found it interesting to compare how we're doing with how other parishes are doing. At one level, we're all part of the same team, i.e., the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. At the same time, there can be a bit of friendly rivalry.

What's clear to me is how well St. Matt's is doing. We have our challenges, of course. At the same time, we have many, many positives. The Parish Council identified many at its November retreat. The January 25 Task Force meeting will build on the retreat's results, pointing the way for parish-wide discussions over the next several months.

That Darn COVID!

I do not much like working from home.

Unfortunately, I did not have much choice the week before last. What I thought was a garden variety cold (two negative tests) turned out to be COVID (test three).

Fortunately, my case wasn't very severe. I was able to get a few things done remotely, even though I didn't much feel like working at all. And I was relieved to know that our office staff and volunteers are very capable, and they could still get a lot accomplished.

At least, until several of them came down with COVID themselves! That meant several projects were put on hold for a week or more.

I value getting things done. I think it's good to be productive. (I know, that's a very American attitude.) So, I struggle with the reality that people—including me—are going to get sick once in a while.

My time off wasn't like a planned retreat or vacation. I just had to slow down and remember that at times, all we can do is rest, be patient, and pray.

Have a great week!

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



REMEMBER
in your prayers

Jeremiah Baker, Jerry & Louise Breidel, Sue & William Brown, Rita Eckert, Andrew McFarland, Diane McFarland, Elaine Goldberg, Carolina Gomez, The Karas Family, Carol Mike, Kendrick Morrison, Pablo Munoz, Pam Perkovich, Marie Scanlan, Doris Schillinger, Mary Lou Shields, Larry Smith, James Stanger, Sr., 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.*

Faith Formation News

Faith Formation This Week: On January 24, Faith Formation students in grades K to 10+ have class in the Parish Center. Class for students in grades K to 5 starts at 6:30 PM, and class for students in grades 6 to 10+ starts at 6:45 PM. Community of Saints 8th graders who are preparing to be confirmed with St. Matthew should come on January 24 for class from 6:45 to 7:50 PM in the Parish Center. There are no Faith Formation classes the following week, on January 31.

News and Events

January Grief Support Group Canceled

The Grief Support Group, which was scheduled to meet on Thursday, January 18, has been canceled.

Ministry Schedule

The new ministry schedule will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 14 through Sunday, May 19. Contact **Mary Leibl (mleibl@st-matts.org)** by **Sunday, January 28** with any weeks when you will not be available and any dates that you would prefer to serve. If you have availability issues for Holy Week, you can also include that information at this time. The schedule for Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter, which runs from March 24 through March 31, will be written separately at a later date.

Gifted and Belonging Meeting

Gifted and Belonging (GAB), a Catholic social club for young adults with disabilities seen and unseen, is having their next meeting on **Sunday, January 28, 6:00 - 8:00 PM** at the Church of St. Matthew Social Hall. This month's theme is Bible Trivia Night!

GAB welcomes all young adults to get together to share a time of prayer and reflection followed by games and social activities. For more information, contact Megan at giftedandbelonging@gmail.com.

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
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 January 21, 2024

Sunday: Jon 3:1-5, 10/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 (4a)/1 Cor 7:29-31/
Mk 1:14-20

Monday: 2 Sm 5:1-7, 10/Ps 89:20, 21-22, 25-26/Mk 3:22-30

Tuesday: 2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/Mk 3:31-35

Wednesday: 2 Sm 7:4-17/Ps 89:4-5, 27-28, 29-30/Mk 4:1-20

Thursday: Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22/Ps 117:1bc, 2/Mk 16:15-18

Friday: 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 7-8a, 10/Mk 4:26-34

Saturday: 2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17/Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 16-17/Mk 4:35-41

Next Sunday: Dt 18:15-20/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9 (8)/1 Cor 7:32-35/Mk 1:21-28

Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 20

4:15 PM Mass
+Don Leibl
+Lisa Norton
+Mary Ann Roscoe

Sunday, January 21

10:15 AM Mass
+Louise Rodriguez
+Shirley Smith

Monday, January 22

8:00 AM Cancelled

Tuesday, January 23

8:00 AM Cancelled

Wednesday, January 24

8:00 AM Cancelled

Thursday, January 25

8:00 AM Cancelled

Friday, January 26

8:00 AM Cancelled

Saturday, January 27

4:15 PM Mass
+Arthur Geis
+Carol Dvorak Johnson
+Helen Leibl

Sunday, January 28

10:15 AM Mass
+Deceased Members of Our Parish

Calendar of Events

Monday, January 22 - Friday, January 26

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

Monday, January 22

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM St. Mary's Mobile Dental Clinic
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open
6:30 PM - 8:00 PM AA Meeting

Tuesday, January 23

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

Wednesday, January 24

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

Thursday, January 25

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open
4:30 PM - 6:00 PM Finance Council Meeting
6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Parish Wide Task Force Meeting
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM AA Meeting

Friday, January 26

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

Saturday, January 27

4:15 PM Mass
5:00 PM Confessions (after Mass)

Sunday, January 28

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

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