



Church of St. Matthew

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



4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

In their synagogue was a man with an unclean spirit; he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!" Jesus rebuked him and said, "Quiet! Come out of him!"

- Mk 1:23-25

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

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January 28, 2024 **Fourth 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

Friday of this week, February 2nd, is the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. In many cultures, this feast marks the end of the Christmas Season.

As a young priest, I was assigned to a parish in South Minneapolis. At the end of the block was the Braecount House. Lavina Braecount, the lady of the house, was a gregarious and hospitable person.

Her ancestry was Eastern European and she held firmly to the conviction that the Christmas Season runs far beyond the "Twelve Days" of the West. For her, the Season came to an end on the evening of February 2nd.

She hosted a Christmas gathering on that evening for the neighbors. She provided fine foods and drink. Neighbors looked forward to the annual event.

At the end of the evening, before we were allowed to go home, Lavina would announce that it was now time to put Christmas to bed—it was time to undecorate her house!

She organized us into teams to "take down", "wrap up", and "box" the hundreds of Christmas items throughout the house. After the "boxing", all had to be hauled to the attic for storage.

The last task was the dragging of the Christmas tree to the front lawn. But before the tree left the house, a large branch of the tree was sawed off and taken to the attic and there nailed to the roof. This talisman of Christmas hung in the attic all year, extending the spirit of Christmas throughout the year.

National and cultural traditions bring meaning and soul to the human spirit. Lavina shared some of the "Christmas Soul" with her neighbors.

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!



The Sounds and Sights of Saint Matthew

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.

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.

Funeral Luncheons: Burying the Dead is one of the Corporal Works of Mercy. Helping to serve at funeral luncheons is a caring way to practice that Work of Mercy. It is a great gift to a grieving family to know that volunteers will take charge of serving the funeral luncheon for a deceased family member or friend. Can you offer some time to occasionally help serve a funeral luncheon? If so, call the parish office (**651-224-9793**) and leave your name and contact information.

Thank You: To **Shelley**, who, each time it snows, removes the snow from the four block parish complex. Her generosity has made it much safer for all of us as we move about the parish buildings.

WE ARE A VOLUNTEER PARISH!

Mary Leibl
Volunteer Coordinator
mleibl@st-matts.org

Faith Formation News

NO Faith Formation This Week: There are no Faith Formation classes for students in grades K to 10 on January 31. Classes resume the evening of February 7 in the Parish Center. Parents, mark your calendars for February 14, which is Ash Wednesday. Students have Mass that evening in church and families should plan to attend Mass with their students the evening of February 14 at 6:45 PM.



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.*

Parish Administrator's Note

What's in Your Imagination?

At last Sunday's 10:15 a.m. Mass, guest priest Fr. Thomas Kommers preached on the power of imagination. His examples included Jesus, who resisted the lack of imagination that reduced God to an idol; or the idea that God only loved certain groups of people.

Another example was Pope John XXIII, whose imagination led to the Second Vatican Council in the early 1960s. In Pope John's words, the Council would open the windows of the church and let in the fresh air of the Holy Spirit.

Here at St. Matt's, we often talk about Vatican II. The Council's teachings emphasized an openness to the world, which we reflect in our openness to our neighbors and new members. The Council also emphasized the importance of the laity in our church; that's reflected in our being a parish led by lay members.

Another set of Council teachings reflected generations of scholarship in liturgical theology. The Council wanted our worship to shift away from a narrow focus on rubrics* alone, to worship that encouraged active participation by everyone—not only priests.

**Rubrics* in liturgical matters refers to "how to" guidelines printed in red in liturgical books.

Even our church building reflects insights from Vatican II and the liturgical renewal of the 20th century. We use chairs, not pews. (Pews were a Protestant innovation a few hundred years ago.) Our building's size and shape support active participation by the entire assembly when we gather for worship. We also use our space for community gatherings such as talks, workshops and concerts.

Now our parish is engaged in planning our future. Our Parish Council began this process in the fall. This past Thursday, a task force gathered to discuss what we want St. Matt's to look like in three years. There will be additional discussions over the next few months, with opportunities for everyone to weigh in.

I wonder where the Holy Spirit is leading St. Matt's. I wonder, what's in your imagination?

Have a great week!

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

News and Events

Choir Practice

Please join us in the Sanctuary beginning **Wednesday, January 31 from 7:30 – 9:00 PM** as we begin to prepare for Lent and Easter. Rehearsals will take place every Wednesday evening. The choir will sing on Ash Wednesday and throughout the Easter Triduum. Please contact Cristina Czaia (cczaia@st-matts.org) with any questions.



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.

Community of Saints Catholic School Collection

Next weekend's second collection will be in support of Community of Saints Regional Catholic School. Thank you for your generous support!

Coffee Sunday

Our next Coffee Sunday is **February 11, 2024 after the Sunday 10:15 AM Mass**. Come down to the Social Hall after Mass and visit with your fellow parishioners. We hope to see you there!



St. Matthew's 35th Annual Fish Fry

The 35th annual dine-in with table service or curbside-to-go Lenten Fish Fry will return on **February 16 through March 29, 2024 from 4:30 to 7:30 PM** in the Social Hall. Meal includes fried or baked wild caught Alaskan pollock, baked potato, vegetable, coleslaw, roll, dessert, coffee, milk, and water. Prices: Adults \$15, Children 5-12, \$7, and under 5 free. Non-fish options, spaghetti or grilled cheese meals, are also available for adults \$13, children 5-12, \$6, and under 5 free. Beer, wine and pop are available for purchase at dine-in. Cash, check or card are accepted.

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

Linda Rivera, Funeral Coordinator
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Janelle Rohr, Faith Formation
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Accounts Payable & Receivable
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Steve Kowal, Maintenance Engineer
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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 28, 2024

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

Monday: 2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13/Ps 3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk 5:1-20

Tuesday: 2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30—19:3/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mk 5:21-43

Wednesday: 2 Sm 24:2, 9-17/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7/Mk 6:1-6

Thursday: 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12/1 Chr 29:10, 11ab, 11d-12a, 12bcd/Mk 6:7-13

Friday: Mal 3:1-4/Heb 2:14-18/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

Saturday: 1 Kgs 3:4-13/Ps 119:9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14/Mk 6:30-34

Next Sunday: Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (see 3a)/1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/Mk 1:29-3

Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 27

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

Sunday, January 28

10:15 AM Mass

Monday, January 29

8:00 AM Cancelled

Tuesday, January 30

8:00 AM Cancelled

Wednesday, January 31

8:00 AM Cancelled

Thursday, February 1

8:00 AM Cancelled

Friday, February 2

8:00 AM Cancelled

Saturday, February 3

4:15 PM Mass
+Leo Kegler
+Kevin Kleman
+Louise Rodriguez

Sunday, February 4

10:15 AM Mass
+Dan D. Roscoe
+Sam S. Roscoe

Calendar of Events

Monday, January 29 - Friday, February 2

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

Monday, January 29

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open
6:30 PM - 8:00 PM AA Meeting

Tuesday, January 30

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

Wednesday, January 31

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM St. Mary's Health Clinic
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open
7:30 PM - 9:00 PM Choir Practice

Thursday, February 1

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open
7:30 PM - 9:00 PM AA Meeting

Friday, February 2

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

Saturday, February 3

4:15 PM Mass

Sunday, February 4

10:15 AM Mass
11:00 AM Confessions (after Mass)

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