

# Church of St. Matthew - Bulletin Insert

January 7, 2024  
*The Epiphany of the Lord*

## 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!



## Rebuilding Catholic Community

The Center for Catholic Social Thought is presenting a Spring 2024 Speaker Series at the Church of the Assumption titled *Rebuilding Catholic Community*.

The dates and topics are:

- **Thursday, February 15, 7:00 PM:** "Why Church Community and Why Don't We Have Any?" with Colin Miller and Fr. Byron Hagan.
- **Thursday, February 22, 7:00 PM:** "Dorothy Day and Catholic Community" with Renée Darline Roden and James Murphy, Chicago Catholic Workers.
- **Thursday, February 29, 7:00 PM:** "Community and Parish Life" with Bishop Joseph William.
- **Thursday, March 7, 7:00 PM:** "How To Build Thick Community" with Leah Libresco, author of *Building the Benedict Option*.

Visit [www.catholicsocialthought.org](http://www.catholicsocialthought.org) to register and learn more.

## Future Planning Task Force

**1<sup>st</sup> Meeting - Thursday, January 25, 2024,  
6:30 pm in the Social Hall**

Building on the synod process, St. Matthew's Parish Council is assembling a task force made up of diverse members of our community to address the following questions:

- *What do we want St. Matthew's parish to look like in three years?*
- *What do we need to do to achieve that vision?*

Beginning in January and over the next 3-4 months, the Task Force will work together to develop a future vision for how we will grow as a faith community over the next three-years. It will also identify specific steps we must take to bring the vision to life.

### Who Will Serve on the Task Force?

Any members of our faith community who share an enthusiasm for St. Matthew's future, have an open mind and listening heart, are welcome and encouraged to participate. It's also crucial that the Task Force be a diverse representation of our community with respect to age, gender, ethnicity, and life experience. The Task Force will collaborate with our trustees, the parish council, parish administrator, and Fr. Steve.

### Your Voice Matters

St. Matthew's is in the uncommon position of being led by lay members. That gives us a unique opportunity to shape the future of our faith community, but only if we are proactive. At St. Matthew's, your involvement and your voice can make a real difference.

If you have questions or would like more information about the Task Force, you can email your questions to [parishcouncil@st-matts.org](mailto:parishcouncil@st-matts.org).

*St. Matthew Parish Council - Jerald Dosch, Kathy Goldenstein, Maggie Lee, Anthony Minus, Tara Perron, Ellen Schneider, Katie Shetka*

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## Community of Saints School Collection

This weekend is our monthly second collection in support of Community of Saints Catholic School. Thank you for your generous support!

## Pope's Monthly Prayer Intention - January 2024 For the gift of diversity in the church

*We pray that the Spirit help us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.*

## St. Matthew Welcomes All to Our Parish

New to the area, joining us for the first time or coming home again? Please contact Angela Rakow at [arakow@st-matts.org](mailto:arakow@st-matts.org) to become a member. It would be great to have you join our parish community!



Funeral Mass for **Carlos Cordova** was held at St. Matthew on Thursday, December 28, 2023.

Funeral Mass for **Jose Alvarez** was held at St. Matthew on Friday, January 5, 2024.

*Please remember Carlos, Jose and their families in your prayers.*

## The Gift of Empathy Book Discussion Groups

Lumen Christi Catholic Community invites you to join a three-part book group discussions on "The Gift of Empathy."

The dates are January 18, 25 and February 1 from 8:30 - 10:00 am (after morning Mass) or 6:30 - 8:00 pm.

"The Gift of Empathy" is an easy read and a powerful yet practical message on how to demonstrate empathy with others at home, at work, and in all aspects of your life.

You can register or get more information by calling the church office at **651-698-5581** or register at the church website at [www.lumenchristicc.org](http://www.lumenchristicc.org).

The book can be purchased and paid for at the church office. The cost of the book for the study is \$7.

## The Treasure within Our Tears: Reflections on Grief, Hope and Resurrection by William C. Wacker (local author)

Parishioners have found this book to be helpful when dealing with grief and loss. A copy of the book is available for purchase at the parish office for \$10.

*You will be able to pick it up in the Parish Center during normal business hours, Monday through Thursday from 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM.*

