

Church of St. Matthew - Bulletin Insert

March 17, 2024
Fifth Sunday of Lent

2024 Lenten and Easter Worship Schedule

Stations of the Cross

Mondays during Lent – 7:00 pm
Tuesdays during Lent – 12:30 pm

Saint Matthew's Fabulous Fish Fry

ALL Fridays during Lent
4:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Communal Reconciliation Service

Sunday, March 17 – 2:00 pm

Palm Sunday

Saturday, March 23 – 4:15 pm
Sunday, March 24 – 10:15 am

Private Confessions in the Chapel

Saturday, March 23 after Mass
Sunday, March 24 after Mass



Holy Thursday – March 28

Celebration of the Supper of the Lord – 7:00 pm
*Collection for the Poor & Food Drive
Altar of Repose – 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Good Friday – March 29

Stations of the Cross – Noon
Good Friday Service – 3:00 pm
Altar of Repose - 11:00 am – 12:00 pm,
12:30 – 3:00 pm, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Easter Vigil, Saturday – March 30

7:00 pm

Easter Sunday – March 31

10:15 am

**The Collection for the Poor always takes place on Holy Thursday. This year we will also be collecting food items to go toward the Neighborhood House March Food Drive. Start collecting your goods now! CRS Rice bowls will also be collected at that time.*

A Reflection on Washing of the Feet

The tradition of the Washing of the Feet on Holy Thursday tends to make people anxious. People don't seem to have a problem with *washing* another person's feet. The problem is *having* their own feet washed. Even at the Last Supper, Peter says, "Lord, you will *never* wash my feet."

Lent is a time when we are called to acts of service and alms giving. But it's not often that we stop to reflect on what it means to receive someone else's act of service. It requires vulnerability, courage and grace. You have to allow your own weaknesses to be exposed. You have to say out loud that you have a need, and you are not currently able to rely on yourself to meet it. Especially in our consumer-capitalist society that venerates independence above all else, it is really hard to accept support.

But Jesus replies to Peter, "Unless I wash you, you will have no inheritance with me." When we live in a place of pride, thinking we are able to meet all of our needs on our own, we refuse the lesson that Jesus is trying to teach us. And our service to others means nothing if we only serve their transient needs, but do not honor their humanity.

We see ourselves as a social justice parish. Because of this, it is even more important for us to reflect on the difference between serving a meal and sharing a meal, between working at a shelter and knowing the reasons why someone ended up there in the first place, between praying for people who are sick and sitting with them in their pain.

The Washing of the Feet is an opportunity for grace. Let's continue to challenge each other to enter more deeply into service this Lenten season, but let's connect more deeply with those we are serving. Participating in the Washing of the Feet is a tangible way to enter into Jesus' call to be servant-leaders in the community. The greatest must become the least. Jesus humbled himself and became obedient, obedient to death on the cross.

Cristina Czaia
Director of Music and Liturgy
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Blessing of Liturgical Ministers Holy Thursday, March 28

At the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, March 28, there will be a special blessing of all of our liturgical ministers. Anyone who participates as a Eucharistic minister, lector, usher, greeter, sacristan, or someone who brings Communion to the homebound will be invited to come forward to receive the blessing. We hope you are able to be there.

Holy Land Appeal Friday, March 29

Good Friday is the annual Holy Land collection. Pope Francis asks parishes to help as best they can to support Catholics in the Holy Land, which also includes Damascus. Thank you for your generous support of your brothers and sisters in the Holy Land. God bless you!

Neighborhood House Collection

This weekend is the monthly Neighborhood House collection. There will be a basket by the main entrance for you to place your non-perishable or monetary donation.

During the months of January and February 2024, St. Matthew donated **202 pounds** of food. On behalf of Neighborhood House and the people it serves, thank you for your generosity!

Gifted and Belonging

Gifted and Belonging (GAB), a Catholic social club for young adults with disabilities seen and unseen, is having their next meeting on **March 24, 6:00 - 8:00 PM** at the Church of St. Matthew Social Hall. This month's theme is Prepare the Way.

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**.

People never forget being in a band.

People never forget being in a choir.

People never forget being in an orchestra.

You never forget the music, friendships, feelings, concerts, laughter, emotion, or the sense of belonging.

There's nothing like making music with other people.

-Vaughan Fleischfresser

St. Matthew's Choir

Wednesday evenings at 7:30 PM

Prayer Requests

Due to a long list of names on our prayer list, the names are divided into groups and rotated weekly for Prayers of the Faithful. Email Angela (arakow@st-matts.org) or call the parish office (**651-224-9793**) with changes to keep our list up to date.

When requesting to add a loved one's name to our bulletin and Prayers of the Faithful, we kindly ask you obtain the individual's permission. Thank you!

Our parish has several ways in which we can pray for others:

1. We include names of those who need our prayers in our bulletin.
2. We include names of those who need our prayers in the Prayers of the Faithful during Mass.
3. You can include names in the Book of Intentions, found in the back of the church.



Funeral Mass for **Kathryn Thurstin** was held at St. Matthew on Thursday, March 14, 2024.

Please remember Kathryn and her family in your prayers.

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Growing Through Loss - 2024 Spring Series

Growing Through Loss (GTL), which provides support for adults who have experienced loss, is hosting 2024 Spring Speaker Series.

GTL is sponsored jointly by The Interdenominational South Suburban Grief Support Coalition, a coalition of 16 churches in the south suburban Minneapolis-St. Paul area.

Location: St. James Lutheran Church
3650 Williams Drive
Burnsville

Dates & Times: Tuesdays, 7:00 - 9:00 pm
April 9, 16, 23, 30 & May 7, 2024

*Registration: 6:30 - 7:00 pm
Speaker: 7:00 - 7:50 pm
Support Groups: 8:00 - 9:00 pm*

Suggested Donation: \$4.00 per session

Each session is complete in itself. You are welcome to attend one or all.

For more information, call **651-452-8261** or visit www.growingthroughlossstcsouth.com

The Breathing Space by DARTS

Are you a caregiver in need of a break? If so, The Breathing Space by DARTS provides supervision and social engagement for care receivers while caregivers receive up to a four-hour break.

It is designed for individuals with early-to-mid stage memory loss or other conditions that require some supervision.

Eagan

Easter Lutheran Church (4545 Pilot Knob Road)
2nd and 4th Fridays from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

West St. Paul

Augustana Lutheran Church (1400 S. Robert Street)
1st and 3rd Thursdays from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

This program is free and open to all. Pre-registration is required. Call **651-455-1560** to register or visit dartsconnects.org/caregiver-services to learn more.

Loaves and Fishes

Loaves and Fishes, which provides healthy meals to Minnesotans in areas where need is greatest, is a long time partner of St. Matthew. Meals are in the lower level of the Saint Matthew church building, Monday – Friday, 5:00 - 6:00 pm.

St. Matthew's Community Meal Site served just over **5,000 meals** in the month of February, making it the highest serving site of Loaves and Fishes.

Visit www.loavesandfishesmn.org/ to learn more or volunteer.



Little Sisters of the Poor - Spring Meat Drive

**Saturday, March 23, 2024
11:00 am - 3:00 pm**

Help create some delicious dining experiences for the residents of Holy Family Residence! The Little Sisters of the Poor is hosting a Spring Meat Drive and could use:

Ham, Beef Roast, Sausage Links, Bacon, Lunch Meat and Ground Beef

Cash or check donations are also gladly accepted. Checks can be made out to the Little Sisters of the Poor with "Meat Drive" in the memo line.

Please come by anytime between 11:00 am – 3:00 pm to drop off your meat donation. Thank you for sharing of your bounty to help the residents celebrate Easter!

Little Sisters of the Poor - Holy Family Residence

**330 Exchange Street S.
St. Paul, MN 55102
651-227-0336**