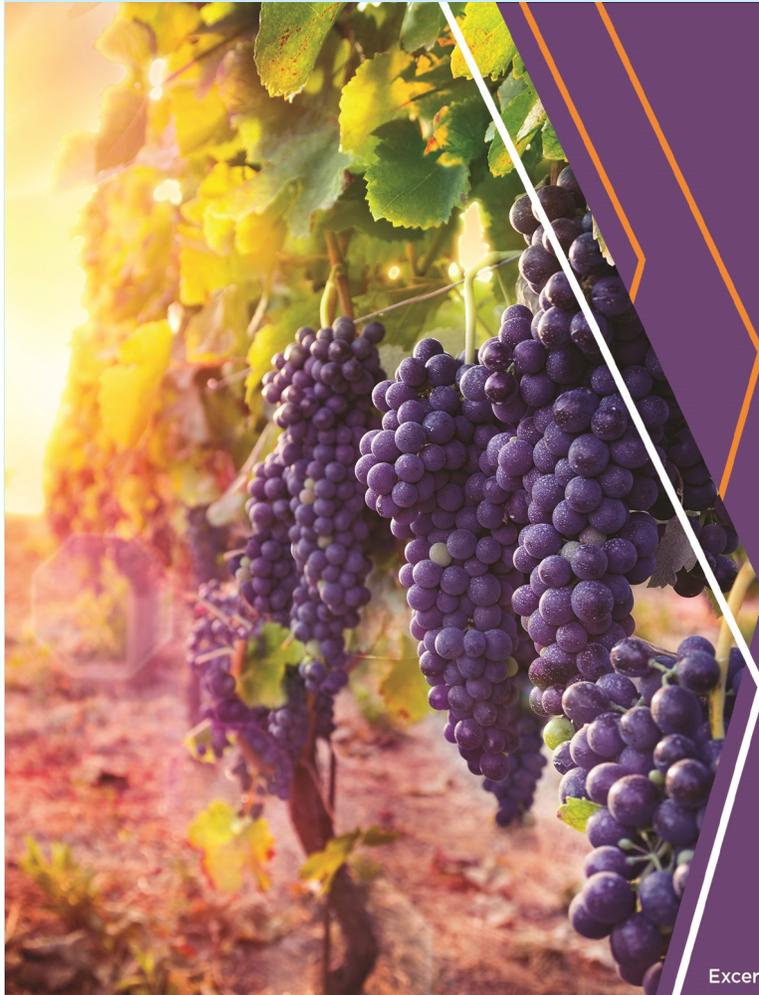




Church of St. Matthew

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



5th SUNDAY OF EASTER

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and everyone that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit.”
- Jn 15:1-2

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

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April 28, 2024 **Fifth Sunday of Easter**

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

During Fr. Steve Adrian's break from active ministry, we will look back at his previous reflections. Below is his reflection from the June 26, 2022 bulletin.

Are you a follower of Jesus? How do you become a follower of Jesus? Fr. Gerhard Lofink says, "there is no New Testament noun for followers of Jesus.

The word used is *disciple*. Disciple means student; and to be a disciple means that you are under the tutelage of a teacher. Jews had many opportunities to find a teacher, yet when a teacher was chosen, the student pledged fidelity to the teacher.

Disciples learned to see the world, and to hear words through the eyes and ears of the teacher. The teacher was a life mentor to the disciple.

In the New Testament, we have some incidents in which a student seeks Jesus as a mentor. The inquiry is meant to provide the student with an understanding of this teacher and thus help the student make a choice.

"Teacher, which is the greatest commandment?" This is the question of a would-be disciple.

Often one Jew would ask another, "Who is your rabbi?" Through whose eyes do you see the world? Through whose ears do you hear the word? One finds identity by who is one's rabbi.

We are called to be disciples of Jesus. We are called to take Jesus as our rabbi. We are called to see the world through Jesus' eyes; to hear the word through Jesus' ears.

If I see the world through the eyes of Jesus, I agree to suspend my judgment. In facing a situation, the disciple asks "What does Jesus see?" In light of the answer the disciple takes action.

Who is your rabbi?

Fr. Steve Adrian



REMEMBER
in your prayers

Fr. Stephen Adrian, Jeremiah Baker, Jeff Blomgren, Jerry & Louise Breidel, Sue & William Brown, Holly Casillas, Esperanza Cenicerros, Sue Derringer, Elaine Goldberg, Sean Kane, Michael Karas, The Karas Family, Floro Luque, Diane McFarland, Roberta Otte, Marie Scanlan, Doris Schillinger, Mary Lou Shields, James Stanger, Sr., Patricia Weisman, and Thomas & Kasi Wright.

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

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.

Sanctuary Carpet: Thank you to the parishioners who bought and installed the new sanctuary carpet. The former carpet went missing and for safety purposes, needed to be replaced. The new carpet brightens up the sanctuary and highlights the altar!

Thank You to All Our Volunteers: Six years ago this month, Fr. Bob Kelly suggested that St. Matthews become a **Volunteer Parish**. He realized we were taking a chance, yet he was sure the parishioners would respond. **And you have!!** Not only the response to ministry opportunities, but for "hands on work" around the parish.

From the volunteers who serve funeral luncheons to those volunteers who answer phones four days a week. When we take a day to clean the church and grounds, our dedicated volunteers show up with cleaning supplies and lawn and garden equipment. And we can't forget Tom, Bob and Tony, the "go to guys!" When a machine isn't working correctly, or repairs are needed in one of our buildings, they get a call. They are not only professional in their work; for employees in the office, it is like watching re-runs of Tool Time when these men are on site! They bring joy and laughter to the building. When Fr. Bob began this "experiment" he said, "We just may become an example for other parishes who are struggling." We just may be, because our volunteers make it look easy and productive! When you see a "volunteer request" in the bulletin, take a minute and ask yourself if this is something you could do.

WE ARE A VOLUNTEER PARISH!

Mary Leibl
Volunteer Coordinator
mleibl@st-matts.org

St. Matthew Welcomes All to Our Parish!

New to the area, joining us for the first time or coming home again? Please consider registering with our parish. You can download the registration form from our website or contact Angela at the parish office.



Parish Administrator's Note

Trees

I've been thinking about trees lately. They're beginning to bud, and that's a lovely sight. In addition, last Monday was Earth Day and last Friday was Arbor Day. I note that both days honor ways of caring for the earth, our common home.

One of the articles I read recently argued for the importance of preserving mature trees as well as planting new trees. (You might have noticed we have two new trees near the Parish Center. The city replaced two old, dying trees last year.)

It's not like we have a lot of trees on our campus. We have a few, though, and plans are to keep them when possible. That's why we're contracting with professionals to trim the big linden tree next to Casa Guadalupana (parking lot side), rather than take it down. That helps us do our share to preserve the urban forest. For me, it's a form of stewardship.

And speaking of stewardship of the environment, I'm delighted to report that **our solar project has been approved by the Archdiocese!** That makes possible the 30%+ rebates on that project cost, plus 30% on the cost of the electric panel, plus 10%+ of the cost of roof project costs from last year. If everything goes as expected, we might see total rebates over \$100,000 in 2025. That's good to know, as we want to complete payments on the school elevator project (\$800,000 loan from 2016) and begin paying down the roof costs. Recall that we financed the roof projects last year, by taking out a line of credit from Catholic Finance Corporation.

All of these projects—particularly the solar installation—have taken more than a year to get to this point. We've learned a lot, we made a better case to the Archdiocese, and we've positioned our parish to help other parishes interested in solar projects.

For more information on any of these projects, or forthcoming projects (e.g., the parking lot), please email or call me.

Have a great week!

*Phil Grant, Administrator
Safe Environment Coordinator
pgrant@st-matts.org
651-224-9793*



The Sounds and Sights of Saint Matthew

The Bells of Saint Matthew will ring on April 28, 2024 in memory of **Brian Eldridge**.

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.

Faith Formation News

Faith Formation End-of-School-Year Celebration: This Wednesday, May 1, is the last evening of Faith Formation for the 2023-2024 school year. All Faith Formation students in grades K to 10+ and their families are invited to come to church at 6:30 PM for a short prayer service. After the service, we will play bingo with prizes and enjoy some refreshments. Registration for the 2024-2025 school year will start in August from the web page www.st-matts.org/faith-formation/. The first evening of class will be on September 18, and it will be class for students plus a parent meeting that evening.

News and Events

St. Matthew Youth Group

The next Youth Group meeting is **Sunday, April 28 after the 10:15 AM Mass until 1:00 PM in the Social Hall**. Please join us for lunch, community building and more! All youth are welcome. Younger children (under 10) should be accompanied by an adult. Older children can attend on their own.

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 **April 28, 6:00 - 8:00 PM** in the Social Hall. This month's theme is *Celebrate the Resurrection*.

GAB welcomes all young adults 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!



See the insert for additional news and events happening at the Church of Saint Matthew.

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
czaia@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

John Del Vecchio	Tony Postiglione
Richard Dunn	Karen Thompson
Jackie Lackner	Phil Grant, Ex Officio
Becky Montgomery	

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 April 28, 2024

Sunday: Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 (26a)/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8

Monday: Acts 14:5-18/Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16/Jn 14:21-26

Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21/Jn 14:27-31a

Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122: 1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/Jn 15:1-8

Thursday: Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10/Jn 15:9-11

Friday: 1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Jn 14:6-14

Saturday: Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5/Jn 15:18-21

Next Sunday: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 (see 2b)/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17

Mass Intentions

Saturday, April 27

4:15 PM Mass
+Dan D. Roscoe
+Sam S. Roscoe
+Pam, Lucille, and Robert Stickler, Sr.

Sunday, April 28

10:15 AM Mass
+Maurie Grundei
+Stanley Raway

Monday, April 29

8:00 AM Cancelled

Tuesday, April 30

8:00 AM Cancelled

Wednesday, May 1

8:00 AM Cancelled

Thursday, May 2

8:00 AM Cancelled

Friday, May 3

8:00 AM Cancelled

Saturday, May 4

4:15 PM Mass
+Kathy Blair
+George Lackner

Sunday, May 5

10:15 AM Mass
+Carol Dvorak Johnson
+Mary Ann Roscoe

Calendar of Events

Monday, April 29 - Friday, May 3

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM Loaves & Fishes

Monday, April 29

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

Tuesday, April 30

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

Wednesday, May 1

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
7:30 PM Men's Club Board Meeting

Thursday, May 2

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open
6:00 PM Crafting Group
7:00 PM AA Meeting

Friday, May 3

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

Saturday, May 4

4:15 PM Mass

Sunday, May 5

10:15 AM Mass
No Confessions after Mass due to First Communion

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