



Church of St. Matthew

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



LIFTING UP HIS EYES TO HEAVEN,
JESUS PRAYED.

JOHN 17:1

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

©LPI

May 12, 2024 **Seventh 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

Open Letter to 2024 Graduates:

Your graduation marks a significant milestone in life. You are completing a course of learning, and beginning the next stage of life.

You have acquired a set of skills that outfit you for particular life challenges. It is these skills and capacities that so often form the definition of your successes.

I suggest to you that there are qualities or strengths that you have which mark and reflect who you are. I speak of character. A person's character has to do with acquired values, strengths, virtues—being a virtuous person.

You have learned to collaborate with others in reaching a goal. Collaborative efforts bring strength to an endeavor, make the most out of the best each brings to the effort, allows for teamwork that issues in something far more valuable than any one person could achieve alone.

The ability to listen is the first step in collaboration. Listen with your mind, but more importantly listen with the ear of your heart. Such listening affirms the dignity and value of the other. In growing international partisanship, fundamental institutions of society fail to serve the common good, and thus fail to serve the human family. Partisanship is not "all about me."

You have learned that leadership is about encouraging others to embrace a goal, to expend energy to accomplish, and to value being part of a winning team.

A leader takes delight in his/her team and regards the value of the team is more than the sum of its parts.

Scripture teaches that the spread of the Good News of God's mercy, justice and love is the work of a team. Jesus sends out the disciples in small teams of two. He prays that all his disciples may be "one as He and the Father are one." Jesus calls his disciples to "Servant leadership." "If you wish to be first, you must be the servant of all."

Pope Francis teaches that the work of the Church is rooted in synodality—the posture of openness to hear the voice and heart of the other. This opening and listening issues in an encounter. This encounter issues in being together in the name of Jesus—"where two or three gather in my name, I am there in their midst." Sometimes we crowd each other, are more interested in our idea than in listening to the other, seek to persuade rather than discover. When this happens, there is no midst into which Jesus can stand.

Congratulations on undertaking a "new beginning".

Fr. Steve Adrian

Volunteer Opportunities and Parish Needs

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

Office Receptionist: We are looking for a volunteer to answer phones and greet visitors on Tuesday mornings from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm. Volunteer will occasionally help with parish mailings and other clerical jobs. Typing is helpful but not a requirement! If you are able to donate 4 hours/week on Tuesdays please contact the parish office at 651-224-9793.

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.

Cerentry Ministers: Thank you to **Maggie, Ellen, Josie, Kathleen** and **Joe** who are now bringing the Eucharist to residents in the Cerentry Health Care Center. For many years, ministers from our parish took Communion to the residents at Cerentry. This important ministry stopped in 2020 due to COVID. These five volunteers have now revived that ministry and visit the residents weekly!

Church Environment: Thank you to **Mary B.** who continues to decorate our sanctuary during the Easter season. Many people have commented on how beautiful our church is decorated. Thank you to all who contributed for Easter flowers this year. Your generosity has helped to decorate our worship space!

WE ARE A VOLUNTEER PARISH!

Mary Leibl
Volunteer Coordinator
mleibl@st-matts.org



Fr. Stephen Adrian, Jeremiah Baker, Jeff Blomgren, Jerry & Louise Breidel, 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.*

Parish Administrator's Note

Transition: Sacramental Minister

"It's like they're Vatican III priests!"

That was a friend's comment to me several weeks ago, comparing Fr. Steve Adrian with Fr. Thomas Kommers.

What my friend was pointing at was similarities between these two excellent priest-pastors. Both of them celebrate the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965), with its teachings about the importance of everyone in the church—not just clerics. Both are committed to social justice. Both are skilled preachers and presiders.

And now we are in a time of transition from one sacramental minister to another: Archbishop Hebda has officially accepted Fr. Steve's resignation. The Archbishop also officially appointed Fr. Thomas as our sacramental minister, effective May 1.

I've been fortunate to have overlapped with Fr. Steve for the past three years. I've also been fortunate to have known Fr. Thomas since 1974. We overlapped for a year at St. John Vianney college seminary, located at the University of St. Thomas—and we've stayed in touch ever since. (Oh, the stories we can tell.)

We're fortunate to have Fr. Thomas now officially on board. He could easily retire and take it easy, but—again like Fr. Steve—he's passionate about priestly ministry. He's repeatedly said he's been attracted to ministry here ever since he began subbing during Fr. Steve's vacations over the past few years.

Blowing My Own Horn

The Lex-Ham Community Band is giving a free concert here at St. Matt's. It will be at 2:00 pm on Sunday, May 19. All are invited. I'm grateful to the Rosary Society for providing cookies and lemonade after the concert.

It looks like the opening number of the May 19 concert will be a brass piece I wrote years ago. I think it's pretty good. If you hear it and agree, you're welcome to let me know.

As for blowing my own horn? I play trombone with Lex-Ham. And parishioner Keith H. plays tenor sax. You can attend and say, "We're with the band."

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



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



News and Events

Coffee Sunday

Our last Coffee Sunday of the year is **May 12 after the 10:15 AM Mass**. Come down to the Social Hall after Mass and visit with your fellow parishioners. Coffee Sunday will be on break during the summer months.



Rosary Society May Meeting

All women of the community are invited and encouraged to attend the **May 14th** Rosary Society meeting, which will be from **6:00 to 7:30 pm** in the Parish Center Lower Level meeting room. Please enter the Parish Center lower level door, which is off of the church parking lot. We will be reviewing our activities for the past year and discussing activities for the next year. In addition, we will be choosing the officers for next year. There will be refreshments and time to socialize with one another. You do not need to be a member of the Rosary Society to attend and participate in the meetings.

Neighborhood House Collection

Next 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. On behalf of Neighborhood House and the people it serves, thank you for your generosity!



Join us on **June 1 and 2, 2024** for the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick during Mass. This is the time to pray for and with those in our community who are struggling with illness or other difficulties. People of all ages who are in need of healing of body and soul are welcome to come forward and take part.



Fr. Thomas M. Kommers has been named the Sacramental Minister of the Church of Saint Matthew effective May 1, 2024. Fr. Kommers is the founding Pastor of the Catholic Community of Saint Thomas Becket in Eagan, MN. He later served at Saint Joseph in Red Wing until his retirement. Please show Fr. Kommers a warm St. Matt's welcome!

Parish Leadership

Rev. Antony Skaria, Parochial Administrator

Rev. Thomas M. Kommers, Sacramental Minister

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

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 May 12, 2024

Sunday: Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 (6)/Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13/Mk 16:15-20

Seventh Sunday of Easter: Acts 1:15-17, 20a, 20c-26/

Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20 (19a)/1 Jn 4:11-16/Jn 17:11b-19

Monday: Acts 19:1-8/Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab/Jn 16:29-33

Tuesday: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26/Ps 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8/Jn 15:9-17

Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38/Ps 68: 29-30, 33-35a, 35bc-36ab/ Jn 17:11b-19

Thursday: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11/Jn 17:20-26

Friday: Acts 25:13b-21/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab/Jn 21:15-19

Saturday: Morning: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31/Ps 114, 5 and 7/Jn 21:20-25

Next Sunday: Vigil: Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5/Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29, 30 (see 30)/ Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39 Day: Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34 (see 30)/1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Gal 5:16-25/Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 15:26-27; 16:12-15

Mass Intentions

Saturday, May 11

4:15 PM Mass
+Bill Brengman
+Leo Kegler
+Kevin Kleman

Sunday, May 12

10:15 AM Mass
+Bennett Alward
+Leona Jenniges
+Deceased Rosary Society Members

Monday, May 13

8:00 AM Cancelled

Tuesday, May 14

8:00 AM Cancelled

Wednesday, May 15

8:00 AM Cancelled

Thursday, May 16

8:00 AM Cancelled

Friday, May 17

8:00 AM Cancelled

Saturday, May 18

4:15 PM Mass
+Don Leibl
+Dan D. Roscoe
+Sam S. Roscoe

Sunday, May 19

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

Calendar of Events

Monday, May 13 - Friday, May 17

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

Monday, May 13

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

Tuesday, May 14

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open
6:00 PM - 7:30 PM Rosary Society Meeting
6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Knights of Columbus Meeting
7:00 PM - 8:15 PM Baptism Preparation Meeting

Wednesday, May 15

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

Thursday, May 16

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

Friday, May 17

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

Saturday, May 18

4:15 PM Mass

Sunday, May 19

10:15 AM Mass
After Mass Confessions
2:00 PM Lex-Ham Community Band Concert

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