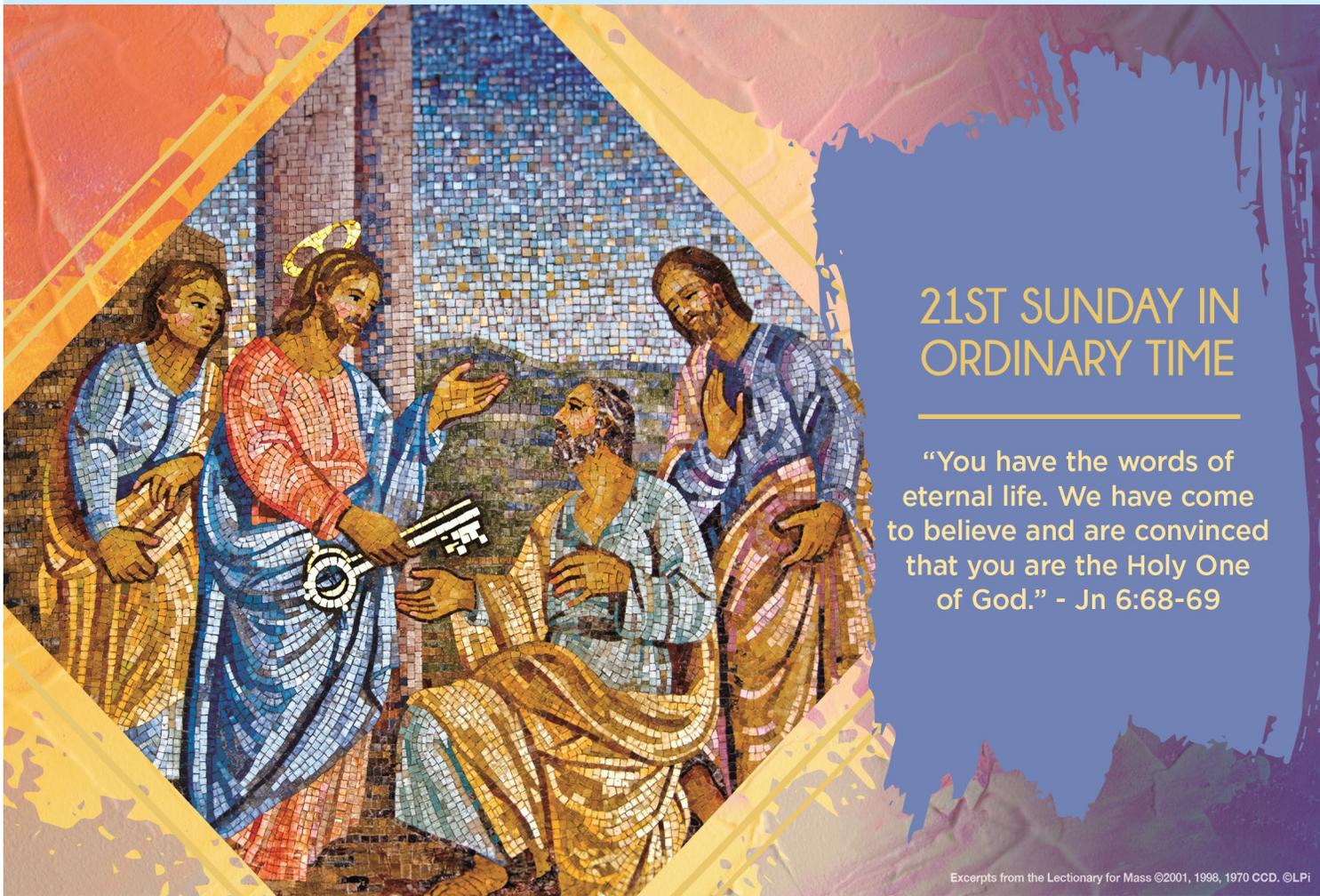




# Church of St. Matthew

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



## 21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God.” - Jn 6:68-69

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

### **August 25, 2024** **21st Sunday in Ordinary Time**

#### **Liturgy Schedule**

#### **Masses**

- Saturday at 4:15 PM
- Sunday at 10:15 AM (*online Mass is on hiatus*)

#### **Reconciliation**

- Saturdays 3:00 - 3:30 PM
- Sundays after Mass upon request or by appointment, by calling the parish office

**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](http://www.st-matts.org)  
**Facebook** [www.facebook.com/churchofstmatthew](http://www.facebook.com/churchofstmatthew)  
**YouTube** [www.youtube.com/churchofstmatthew](http://www.youtube.com/churchofstmatthew)  
**Twitter** [twitter.com/stmattswestside](http://twitter.com/stmattswestside)

#### **Office Hours**

Monday - Thursday 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
 Friday Closed

## Reflection from Father Steve

Every three years, the six Sundays from the end of July to the end of August showcase a continuous and uninterrupted reading from the Fourth Gospel — chapter 6, the Bread of Life Discourse.

John's Gospel situates the teaching on the Eucharist in Galilee and not the Last Supper in Jerusalem.

Following the multiplication of the loaves and fishes, Jesus says to those he just fed: "I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world" (John 6:51).

The Second Vatican Council describes the Eucharist as "the source and summit of the Christian life" (*Lumen Gentium* 11).

The Eucharist is transformative; we are recreated. The People of God make the Eucharist, and the Eucharist makes the People of God.

Eucharist is an action, a work. We do Eucharist at the altar and we do Eucharist in our daily lives.

"This is what we are called to be: to become what we eat, to become "Eucharistic", that is, people who no longer live for themselves. (cf. Rm 14:7) We do not live in the logic of possessions and consumerism, but rather people who know how to make their own life a gift for others. When we cultivate bonds of fraternity, when we participate in the suffering of our sisters and brothers and share bread and resources with those in need, when we make our talents available to everyone, then we are breaking the bread of life, like Jesus" (Pope Francis, June 2, 2024).

*Father Steve Adrian*



**REMEMBER**  
*in your prayers*

**Fr. Stephen Adrian, Jeremiah Baker, Jeff Blomgren, Jim & Betty Boeckman, Jerry & Louise Breidel, Holly Casillas, Sue Derringer, Sean Kane, Michael Karas, The Karas Family, Ken Kasheimer, Floro Luque, Diane McFarland, Doris Schillinger, Mary Lou Shields, James Stanger, Sr., Chris Stevens, 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*

**State Fair Strawberry:** Strawberry cleaning has begun! The first truckload of berries arrived last Wednesday morning and cleaning began at 8:00 AM. We will continue cleaning strawberries for the Minnesota State Fair each morning beginning at 8:00 AM through Sunday, September 1. Cleaning is generally completed by noon each day, sometimes even earlier! The amount of berries to be cleaned depends on the weather and crowd size at the fair. Many of our volunteers look forward to this project as it is a time to socialize with fellow parishioners while earning money for our parish. Everyone is invited to take part in this fundraising project! Reserve at least one day on your calendar and see if you too might find the experience **enjoyable. The Social Hall will be open by 7:30 AM each day.** Come to our own Great St. Matthew Get-Together!

**Front Desk Receptionist:** We are in need of a volunteer to serve as the receptionist on Thursday mornings. In addition to answering phones and greeting visitors, the Thursday receptionist also puts the inserts into the weekly bulletin and prepare bulletins to be mailed to our homebound parishioners. (A chance to read the bulletin before anyone else.) If you are able to help between 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM, please contact the parish office (651) 224-9793.

**Thank You:** To **Patty Kane** who has volunteered as our Thursday receptionist for the past six years. When Fr. Bob first suggested that we become a volunteer parish, Patty was one of the first to step forward to volunteer. We thank Patty for her six years of dedicated service to our parish!

**WE ARE A VOLUNTEER PARISH!**

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



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

**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 (arakow@st-matts.org) at the parish office.



## Parish Administrator's Note

### Notes From Another Parish

"Dad, his homilies are church repellent!"

So said my daughter Bea several weeks ago, with regard to another Catholic parish in the Archdiocese. She played piano there for several Masses this summer, in addition to playing at St. Matt's while she was in town.

"Tell me more," I said. And so she did. She said that this other priest's homilies were usually about 20 minutes long, but with little content. As I understood her comments, this other homilist usually said that "God is good, and we should listen to God."

So far, so good. Bea went on, however, to note that he didn't really develop this idea, by contrast with what she enjoyed about Fr. Steve's and Fr. Thomas's homilies. She noted that here at St. Matt's, homilies connect to the Gospel and other readings, with applications to everyday life, and calls to social justice and care for the poor. According to Bea, our preachers say more in six minutes than this other priest says in 20 minutes.

By itself, this was disappointing. What was worse was Bea's other observation: this other priest's comments that "Catholics are good. Non-Catholics aren't. Let's convert everyone to Catholicism."

Can I get a "Yikes!?"

I'm old enough to remember when Catholic supremacy was still part of Catholic culture. I'm glad that changed—thanks in large part to the Second Vatican Council. Here's what John O'Malley wrote in his book, *When Bishops Meet: An Essay Comparing Trent, Vatican I, and Vatican II*:

"If after Vatican II the Catholic church emerged as a major voice promoting human rights, it also emerged as the most conspicuous and important voice urging reconciliation among religious traditions . . . . It gave Catholics a new job description. They were now to be agents of reconciliation among the religions of the world. No more crusades! Indeed, no more belittling other religions or persecuting their faithful. On the contrary, Catholics needed to make every effort to understand them and work with them for the good of society at large."

I'm glad to be part of a Vatican II parish. I find it "church attractive". How about you?

Thank you for your support, and have a great week!

*Phil Grant, Administrator*  
*Safe Environment Coordinator*  
[pgrant@st-matts.org](mailto:pgrant@st-matts.org)  
651-224-9793



Labor Day Mass  
Monday, September 2, 2024  
9:00 AM

## News and Events

### Liturgical Ministers

Beginning in September, we will have two lectors reading at each Mass. Any individual in 7<sup>th</sup> grade or older may serve in this ministry. We are also inviting anyone who has been confirmed to join the Liturgical Ministry as a Eucharistic minister.

If you are interested in serving in one or both of these ministries, contact Mary at [mleibl@st-matts.org](mailto:mleibl@st-matts.org) or call the Parish Center at **651-224-9793**. A workshop for **all liturgical ministers** will take place on **Saturday, September 7 at 9:00 AM** in the church.

### Liturgy Training Workshop

The workshop will take place on **Saturday, September 7 at 9:00 AM** in the church.

Please consider joining a liturgical ministry. Because the best way to learn is to do. Ministers new and old are invited to participate. We will hone our crafts as:

- Lectors
- Eucharistic ministers
- Cantors
- Greeters

Individuals age 12+ are welcome to lector. Eucharistic ministers must be confirmed. For questions, contact **Cristina Czaia** ([cczaia@st-matts.org](mailto:cczaia@st-matts.org)).

### Office Closure for Labor Day

The parish office is closed on Monday, September 2, 2024.



## Faith Formation News

**Faith Formation Teachers/Assistants Needed:** The St. Matthew Faith Formation program for public school students in grades K to 10 will resume on September 25, and we have openings for assistants and teachers for the 2024-25 school year. Classes are held on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 to 7:45 PM.

Volunteers should enjoy helping children learn more about their Catholic faith; they do not need to be experienced teachers. We provide a curriculum that includes ready-made lesson plans, supplies, and training. Most classes have 3 to 8 students. If a weekly commitment is too much, consider being a substitute teacher, a Spanish language interpreter on certain evenings, or helping with specific events such as registration and parent meetings. To find out more, call or text Janelle Rohr, 651-242-6004 or send an email to [janelle@st-matts.org](mailto:janelle@st-matts.org).

## Parish Leadership

Rev. Antony Skaria, Parochial Administrator

Rev. Thomas M. Kommers, Sacramental Minister

Phil Grant, Pastoral Administrator/Safe Environment Coordinator  
pgrant@st-matts.org

Cristina Czaia, Director of Music and Liturgy  
cczaia@st-matts.org

Angela Rakow, Administrative Assistant  
arakow@st-matts.org

Mary Leibl, Volunteer Coordinator  
mleibl@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

Ralph Brown	Maggie Lee
Isaac Garcia	Tara Perron
Kathy Goldenstein	Ellen Schneider
Terry Grundtner	Katie Shetka
Phil Grant, Ex Officio	

## Finance Council Members

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

### **Readings for the week of August 25, 2024**

Sunday: Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b/Ps 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19, 20-21, 22-23 (9a)/Eph 5:21-32 or 5:2a, 25-32/Jn 6:60-69

Monday: 2 Thes 1:1-5, 11-12/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 4-5/Mt 23:13-22

Tuesday: 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17/Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13/Mt 23:23-26

Wednesday: 2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18/Ps 128:1-2, 4-5/Mt 23:27-32

Thursday: 1 Cor 1:1-9/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk 6:17-29

Friday: 1 Cor 1:17-25/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11/Mt 25:1-13

Saturday: 1 Cor 1:26-31/Ps 33:12-13, 18-19, 20-21/Mt 25:14-30

Next Sunday: Dt 4:1-2, 6-8/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5 1a/Jas 2:1-5/Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27/

## Mass Intentions

### **Saturday, August 24**

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

### **Sunday, August 25**

10:15 AM Mass  
+Leona Jenniges  
+Jim Lannon  
+Eileen Norton

### **Saturday, August 31**

4:15 PM Mass  
+Arthur Geis  
+Don Leibl  
+Nanette Sobaski

### **Sunday, September 1**

10:15 AM Mass  
+Lee F. Maruska  
+Agnes C. and Gordon B. Roscoe  
+Jason Skogseth

## Calendar of Events

### **Monday, August 26 - Friday, August 30**

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

***During the Strawberry Cleaning, Loaves and Fishes is takeout only.***

### **Monday, August 26**

8:00 AM - Noon Strawberry Cleaning  
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open

### **Tuesday, August 27**

8:00 AM - Noon Strawberry Cleaning  
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open

### **Wednesday, August 28**

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

### **Thursday, August 29**

8:00 AM - Noon Strawberry Cleaning  
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open  
6:00 PM Crafting Group  
7:00 PM AA Meeting

### **Friday, August 30**

8:00 AM - Noon Strawberry Cleaning  
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Closed

### **Saturday, August 31**

8:00 AM - Noon Strawberry Cleaning  
3:00 PM - 3:30 PM Confessions  
4:15 PM Mass

### **Sunday, September 1**

8:00 AM - Noon Strawberry Cleaning  
10:15 AM Mass

### **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.*

### **Support Our Advertisers**

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