



# Church of St. Matthew

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



SURELY NOT  
LOSE HIS  
**REWARD.**

— MARK 9:41 —

**TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

©LPI

**September 29, 2024**  
**26th 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

Friday, October 4<sup>th</sup> is the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi. There is no saint more admired and loved by Christian and non-Christian alike as is Saint Francis.

Francis was a “peace maker.” He was a lover of nature and saw in the created universe the plan of God for all people.

For all too long, we have misused the gift of God’s creation, and we continue to do so at our own peril and that of future generations.

We deny the moral dimensions of our decisions and we conflate progress with activity.

The idea of infinite and unlimited growth, so attractive to economists, financiers and experts in technology, is based on the lie that there is an infinite supply of the earth’s goods, and this leads to the planet being squeezed dry beyond limit.

Some believe that economics and technology will solve all environmental problems; the problems of global hunger and poverty will be resolved by market growth.

The market cannot guarantee integrated human development.

The false assumptions we hold are three in number.

- Everything is here for our use and whoever can find and market that use is entitled in doing so.
- The system that created these problems will also solve them.
- Technology, aided by science and fostered by the profit motive and consumerism, is the foundation of progress, prosperity, freedom, and happiness.

Much of the world’s wealth has come from exploiting the global south so as “to satisfy markets in the industrial north.” This exploitation has left a legacy of environmental damage.

There is a debt that the wealthy owe to the poor, debt that our market-based economies don’t address.

Climate change is the failure of a system that says profit “is the sole criterion to be taken into account.”

Our failure to care for creation is the result of a world-view that looks for solutions only in things that can be bought and sold.

In the spirit of Saint Francis, Pope Francis teaches: “Market economy and a culture of consumption are locked in a dance of death, leading to the spiritual impoverishment of those who control it, material

*Continued in the next column*

impoverishment for those who don’t, and environmental impoverishment across the globe.”

Pope Francis closes his letter on care for the creation by asking all people to pray this prayer.

*All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures.*

*You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.*

*Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty.*

*Fill us with peace that we may live as sisters and brothers, harming no one.*

*O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes.*

*Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty and not pollution and destruction.*

*Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor of the earth.*

*Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey toward your infinite light.*

*We thank you for being with us each day.*

*Encourage us, we pray in our struggle for justice, love and peace.*

The words of this article find their source in the writings of Pope Francis, especially his Encyclical on climate change and inequality, May 24, 2015.

*Father Steve Adrian*

## Volunteer Opportunities and Parish Needs

**Cross Bearer:** The entrance procession is now led by a volunteer carrying the Processional Cross. Youth (12 years and older) and adults (male and female) are invited to join this ministry. If you would like to carry the cross at weekend Masses, call the Parish Center. You may also talk to the sacristan at the weekend Masses.

**Thank You:** To **Mary B.** who decorated the sanctuary for the Feast of St. Matthew and to **Donis G.** who tended to the flowers. We thank **Karen T.** who procured the cookies to enjoy after Masses and also **Cristina** who supplied the chocolate gold coins. A tasty reminder that St. Matthew had been the tax collector!

**WE ARE A VOLUNTEER PARISH!**

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

## Parish Administrator's Note

### APBA, Stewardship

I recently attended a meeting of my professional organization, the Association of Parish Business Administrators (APBA). I find it useful to learn from colleagues throughout our Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. At the same time, I can share things I've learned.

One of the meeting's highlights was a talk by Jeanne Schaaf\* of the Catholic Community Foundation of Minnesota (CCF). Jeanne spoke on Stewardship as a Way of Life. Jeanne also shared this thoughtful piece, from our Archdiocesan Stewardship website:

"Who is a Christian disciple? One who responds to Christ's call, follows Jesus, and shapes their life in imitation of Christ's.

"Who is a Christian steward? One who receives God's gifts gratefully, cherishes and tends them in a responsible and accountable manner, shares them in justice and love with others, and returns them with increase to the Lord."

As Jeanne summed up, "Stewardship is a disciple's response."

I recall hearing good messages about stewardship back in the 80s, when the catch phrase was "Time, Treasure, Talent." That's evolved over the years, and I'm now hearing the phrase, "Prayer, Participation, Generosity."

I like the additional nuances in the new phrasing, as there are multiple ways to be generous—dare I say, through time, talent and treasure? I also welcome the emphasis on prayer and participation.

\*Jeanne helped organize our first Preparing for Heaven (PFH) workshop last November, so some of you might recall meeting her then. PFH workshops feature information about funeral planning, estate planning, and more—as well as a spiritual message from a priest.

I'm delighted to announce that we are organizing another PFH workshop. **Please save Thursday, November 7**, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. We'll have more information in future bulletins.

*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.



**REMEMBER**  
*in your prayers*

**Fr. Stephen Adrian, Jeremiah Baker, Jeff Blomgren, Jerry & Louise Breidel, Holly Casillas, Sue Derringer, Mike Giefer, Sean Kane, Michael Karas, The Karas Family, Ken Kasheimer, Bernie Klein, Floro Luque, Joe Maidl, Diane McFarland, John Saldivar, Doris Schillinger, 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.*

## Faith Formation News

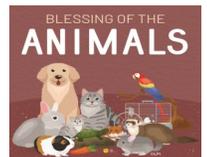
### Faith Formation, First Communion, Confirmation Classes Are Open

Wednesday evening Faith Formation classes have begun for public school students, and registration is open for a couple more weeks. Download and type responses into the fillable registration form (in English or Spanish) from [www.st-matts.org/faith-formation/](http://www.st-matts.org/faith-formation/) or complete a hard copy registration form when you bring your students to class in the Parish Center on Wednesday, October 2. Students in grades K to 5 begin class at 6:30 PM and students in grades 6 to 10 begin class at 6:45 PM. **Parents and guardians who missed the September 25 meeting, please plan to attend a makeup parent meeting at 7:00 PM in church on October 9.** Questions? Email [janelle@st-matts.org](mailto:janelle@st-matts.org) or call or text 651-242-6004.

## News and Events

### Blessing of the Animals

Friday, October 4, is the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals. Father Thomas will bless animals after Mass on Saturday, October 5 at **5:30 PM**. It will take place outside in the square around the Saint Matthew status. Bring your pets for this special blessing!



### Baptism Preparation Meetings

The next baptism preparation meetings are on:

- **Tuesday, October 15 at 7:00 p.m.**
- **Saturday, October 19 at 10:30 a.m.**

**Registration is required, at least one week in advance.** To register — or for more information — please contact Cristina Czaia or call the Parish Office (651-224-9793). See the insert for more information about baptism preparation at St. Matthew.

## 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 September 29, 2024

Sunday: Nm 11:25-29/Ps 19:8, 10, 12-13, 14 (9a)/Jas 5:1-6/  
Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

Monday: Jb 1:6-22/Ps 17:1bcd, 2-3, 6-7/Lk 9:46-50

Tuesday: Jb 3:1-3, 11-17, 20-23/Ps 88:2-3, 4-5, 6, 7-8/Lk  
9:51-56

Wednesday: Jb 9:1-12, 14-16/Ps 88:10bc-11, 12-13, 14-15/  
Mt 18:1-5, 10

Thursday: Jb 19:21-27/Ps 27:7-8a, 8b-9abc, 13-14/Lk 10:1-  
12

Friday: Jb 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5/Ps 139:1-3, 7-8, 9-10, 13-  
14ab/Lk 10:13-16

Saturday: Jb 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17/Ps 119:66, 71, 75, 91, 125,  
130/Lk 10:17-24

Next Sunday: Gn 2:18-24/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 (see 5)/Heb  
2:9-11/Mk 10:2-16 or 10:2-1

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, September 28

4:15 PM Mass  
+Carol Dvorak Johnson  
+Mary Ann Roscoe

### Sunday, September 29

10:15 AM Mass  
+Eileen Norton  
+Joseph Savard  
+Jason Skogseth

### Saturday, October 5

4:15 PM Mass  
+Lee F. Maruska  
+Agnes C. and Gordon B. Roscoe

### Sunday, October 6

10:15 AM Mass  
+Bill Brengman  
+Veronica Roethler  
+Robert A. and Jeanne M. Stadt

## Calendar of Events

### Monday, September 30 - Friday, October 4

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

### Monday, September 30

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

### Tuesday, October 1

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open  
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Liturgy Committee Meeting  
5:30 PM Facilities Committee Meeting

### Wednesday, October 2

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM St. Mary's Health Clinic  
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open  
6:30 PM - 7:45 PM Faith Formation Classes  
7:30 PM Men's Club Board Meeting

### Thursday, October 3

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

### Friday, October 4

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Closed  
6:30 PM - 8:00 PM St. Matthew Community Band

### Saturday, October 5

3:00 PM - 3:30 PM Confessions  
4:15 PM Mass  
5:30 PM Blessing of the Animals

### Sunday, October 6

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.*

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