



Church of St. Matthew

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



EVERYONE WHO
BELONGS TO THE
TRUTH LISTENS TO
MY VOICE.

— JOHN 18:37 —

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

©LPI

November 24, 2024 ***Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe***

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

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

Thursday is Thanksgiving Day, that annual civic holy day on which all are invited to remember the graces with which we have been blessed, and to simply say “thank you” to the giver of all good things.

Many families will gather under one roof to celebrate the Feast. I write this especially to young people, high school, college age and those young in spirit.

My friend Fr. John Forliti gave the following advice to young people who are invited to Thanksgiving dinner.

- Arrive early, in time to lend a helping hand in getting ready for the feast. It may be help in the kitchen or setting the table in the dining room. Be ready to lend a hand.
- Come with a willingness to share with others what it is for which you are thankful and why.
- Come with a story. Part of the joy of the Feast is that people tell stories about their lives and share what is important to them. Bring a story with you that you can share around the table. Be part of the conversation.
- Do not forget to thank those who prepared the meal and express your delight; also plan to spend some time after dinner to hang around and help clean up and put away so the chore does not fall only on the host or hostess.

This is the same advice I offer for being a good worshipper at Sunday Mass. Come early, greet those who join you, offer assistance to any who need it. Be willing to be a minister of hospitality.

Come with a willingness to be an active member of the worshipping community. Take the hymnbook and worship aid, sing and pray with a full spirit. Sunday worship is not a spectator sport, neither is Thanksgiving dinner.

Come with a remembrance of God’s gracious mercy to you and reflect on the many ways you have been blessed. Praise and thank God. Eucharist is a Greek word that means “Thanksgiving.”

Don’t hurry out the door at the end of Mass. Stay and visit with others. Inquire about the lives of others, especially those who did not show up this Sunday. Then help clean up the worship space and get things ready for the arrival of the next congregation.

Being a good guest on Thanksgiving and being an active member of the worship community are very similar. After all, Thanksgiving Dinner and Sunday Eucharist share so much in common.

Father Steve Adrian
Pastor Emeritus

Continued in next column

P.S.: This Thanksgiving, I remember and give thanks for all of you. You have been and are instruments of God’s grace in my life and so I pray in the spirit of Paul’s prayer for the Christians of the young church at Philippi:

I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the way of Jesus Christ. ⁷It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God’s grace* with me. ⁸For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. ⁹And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight ¹⁰to help you to determine what is best, so that on the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, ¹¹having produced the harvest of justice that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God (Philippians 1:3-11).*

Volunteer Opportunities and Parish Needs

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

Isaac’s Blessing Bags: This is the last week to donate to Isaac’s Blessing Bags. You can help many children and adults feel the Christmas spirit through your donations. Donations are being accepted through **December 1st**. There are two decorated boxes in the back of the church. In past years, those boxes were overflowing by December. Let us again be **THE GOOD SAMARITAN ON THE BANKS OF THE MISSISSIPPI!**

Thank You: In most households, this is generally the busiest time of the year. So too it is in our parish. There are multiple services, each needing an “individual” worship aid. Decoration planning and how to change the environment is just a few of many things that need to be done. That Advent wreath doesn’t just grow through the ceiling. Thank you to **Cristina**, our Director of Music and Liturgy, who designs the décor with input from the Liturgy Committee. Thank you to **Mary and Bob B., Tom and Tony**, who through their hard work, make this season **“Merry and Bright”!**

WE ARE A VOLUNTEER PARISH!

Mary Leibl
Volunteer Coordinator
mleibl@st-matts.org

Parish Administrator's Note

Love the Poor

What do you do when you encounter someone who's begging for help? How about when a panhandler directly asks you for money? I often wonder what to do.

Jesus said that we'll always have the poor among us (Mt 26:11 and Mk 14:7). I fear that comment sometimes misleads people into thinking we need not do anything on behalf of the poor. That seems a pretty selective reading of Scripture. After all, Jesus goes on to say (in Mark) that "Whenever you wish you can do good to them . . ."

One of the many things I appreciate about our St. Matt's community is that we visibly express our wish to do good for the poor. Ministries such as Loaves & Fishes, Casa Guadalupana, and St. Mary's Health Clinic come immediately to mind.

We have other examples where members of our community help the poor: with food (Neighborhood House's food shelf); clothing and gifts (Isaac's Blessing Bags); and with every interaction when we treat everyone with kindness. I'm reminded of Mother Theresa's line, "Whoever the poorest of the poor are, they are Christ for us. Jesus under the guise of human suffering."

I'm also glad that we support the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) each year. Flyers were in last week's bulletin and are available on the back table, along with dedicated giving envelopes. You may still contribute, if you wish.

I wish to help the poor. I do give food and money as an individual. But I'm only one person.

Which is why it's good to do good together. I encourage everyone to connect with other do-gooders, whether in our parish, through the CCHD, or other groups.

This is a time of year when the flow of requests for contributions becomes a flood. Give what you can, in terms of your time, talent and treasure.

I'm grateful for your support. Happy Thanksgiving and have a great week!

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

Prayer Requests

Fr. Stephen Adrian, Jeremiah Baker, Jeff Blomgren, Jerry & Louise Breidel, Holly Casillas, Sue Derringer, Philip Heitzinger, Sean Kane, Michael Karas, The Karas Family, Ken Kasheimer, Bernie Klein, Janette Koegel, Floro Luque, Diane McFarland, John Saldivar, Doris Schillinger, Richard Smith, Chris Stevens, Patricia Weisman, and Thomas & Kasi Wright.

A name will remain on the prayer list for two months after which time it will be removed unless you ask to keep the name on the list. Please contact the parish office (651-224-9793) or email Angela (arakow@st-matts.org) to keep the list current.

We kindly ask you to obtain the individual's permission for bulletin publication and inclusion in the weekend Prayers of the Faithful.

We are strong as a community praying together.

Faith Formation News

NO Faith Formation This Week

Faith Formation students do NOT have class this Wednesday, November 27, due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Parents/guardians, mark your calendars for December 4, when Faith Formation families (students and parents) have Mass in church instead of regular classes.

News and Events

Parish Office Closure

St. Matthew parish office will be closed for Thanksgiving on Thursday, November 28, 2024.

Communal Reconciliation Service

Communal Reconciliation Service will be on **Sunday, December 1 at 3:00 PM** in the church.



Saint Paul Civic Symphony Returns to St. Matthew

Saint Paul Civic Symphony presents "Winter Romance" with guest soloist, Cecilia Belcher playing violin. The concert is on **Sunday, December 8 at 3:00 PM** at the Church of Saint Matthew. See the insert for more information.

St. Matthew Welcomes All to Our Parish!

New to the area, joining us for the first time or coming home again? Consider registering with our parish. You can download the registration form from our website or contact Angela (arakow@st-matts.org) in the parish office.



See the insert for additional events and news happening at the Church of Saint 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 November 24, 2024

Sunday: Dn 7:13-14/Ps 91:1, 1-2, 5 (1a)/Rv 1:5-8/Jn 18:33b-37

Monday: Rv 14:1-3, 4b-5/Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 21:1-4

Tuesday: Rv 14:14-19/Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13/Lk 21:5-11

Wednesday: Rv 15:1-4/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 7-8, 9/Lk 21:12-19

Thursday: Rv 18:1-2, 21-23; 19:1-3, 9a/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Lk 21:20-28

Friday: Rv 20:1-4, 11—21:2/Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6a and 8a/Lk 21:29-33

Saturday: Rom 10:9-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11/Mt 4:18-22

Next Sunday: Jer 33:14-16/Ps 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14 (1b)/1 Thes 3:12—4:2/Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

Mass Intentions

Saturday, November 23

4:15 PM Mass
+Don Leibl
+Pam, Lucille, and Robert Stickler, Sr.

Sunday, November 24

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

Saturday, November 30

4:15 PM Mass
+Leo Kegler
+Kevin Kleman
+Eileen Norton

Sunday, December 1

10:15 AM Mass
+Agnes C. and Gordon B. Roscoe
+Robert A. and Jeanne M. Stadt

Calendar of Events

Monday, November 25- Wednesday, November 27

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

Loaves and Fishes Meal Site is closed on Thursday, November 28 and Friday, November 29, 2024.

Monday, November 25

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

Tuesday, November 26

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

Wednesday, November 27

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM St. Mary's Health Clinic
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Choir Practice

Thursday, November 28

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Closed
7:00 PM AA Meeting

Friday, November 29

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Closed
5:00 PM Volunteer Appreciation Event -
Liturgical New Year's Eve Party

Saturday, November 30

3:00 PM - 3:30 PM Confessions
4:15 PM Mass

Sunday, December 1

10:15 AM Mass
3:00 PM Communal Reconciliation Service

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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