

Church of St. Matthew - Bulletin Insert

December 1, 2024
First Sunday of Advent

2024 Advent and Christmas Schedule

Communal Reconciliation Service
Sunday, December 1 • 3:00 pm

Private Confessions
Saturdays • 3:00 to 3:30 pm
Sundays • after the 10:15 am Mass

Saint Paul Civic Symphony Concert
Sunday, December 8 • 3:00 pm

Men's Club Auction
Wednesday, December 11 • 7:00 pm

Christmas Bake Sale, Boutique and Craft Fair
Saturday, December 14 • 12:00 pm to 5:30 pm
Sunday, December 15 • 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Breakfast with Santa
Sunday, December 15 • 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Christmas Story and Carols
Tuesday, December 24 • 3:45 pm

Christmas Eve Mass
Tuesday, December 24 • 4:15 pm

Christmas Day Mass
Wednesday, December 25 • 10:15 am

The Feast of the Holy Family
Saturday, December 28 • 4:15 pm
Sunday, December 29 • 10:15 am

Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God
Wednesday, January 1, 2025 • 10:15 am

Saint Paul Civic Symphony presents "Winter Romance"

Sunday, December 8, 2024, 3:00 PM
Church of Saint Matthew

Beethoven: Overture "Leonore" No. 3 in C major, Op. 72b

Beethoven: Romance for violin and orchestra Nos. 1 & 2 (Cecilia Belcher, violin)

Diamond: Symphony No. 4

Dukas: The Sorcerer's Apprentice

As always, the concert is free of charge!



No Children's Liturgy of the Word This Sunday

Children's Liturgy of the Word is on break this Sunday, December 1. It will return on Sunday, December 8.

Parish Mailing

We recently sent out our Advent mailing. If you have not received it, please notify Angela in the parish office (651-224-9793 or arakow@st-matts.org). We want to make sure everyone's address is up to date.



No Coffee Sunday in December



There is no Coffee Sunday in December. It will return on January 12, 2025.

Men's Club Holiday Auction

Wednesday, December 11, 2024, 7:00 PM
Church of Saint Matthew Social Hall

The Men's Club Holiday Auction to raise funds for Parish and Community of Saints Regional Catholic School families will be held at 7:30 pm on Wednesday, December 11. Doors open at 7:00 pm. Food and refreshments will be provided.

Items auctioned include: gift cards, homemade foods, fruit boxes and donated items. Accepting donations of gift cards, homemade foods (cookies, holiday candies, your home canning specialties) and gift baskets. Contact Tim Nowak for more information.



The Sounds and Sights of Saint Matthew

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.

WANTED

**CRAFTERS, ARTISTS, SEWERS, ETC.,
for the
Christmas Bake Sale, Boutique, and Craft Fair**



at Saint Matthew's Catholic Church Social Hall
510 Hall Avenue, Saint Paul

**Saturday, December 14
12:00 pm to 5:30 pm**



and

**Sunday, December 15
9:00 am to 1:00 pm**

Table Fees: \$30 for Saturday, \$50 for both Saturday & Sunday

For more information, contact Becky at: montgomery_bec@hotmail.com

Calling All Bakers, Treat and Candy Makers!



*Your skills and creations are needed for the
ROSARY SOCIETY CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE
the weekend of December 14 and 15*

As you begin baking and making items for this holiday season, please bake and make some extra and donate it to the **Rosary Society's Christmas Bake Sale.**

This is our biggest fundraiser of the year. The money raised is used to cover our operational costs and the annual donations we make to charitable organizations, including Saint Matt's, Casa Guadalupana, Loaves and Fishes, Neighborhood House, Neighbors, Inc., and Our Lady of Peace Hospice Home.

Please drop off your creations at the **St. Matthew Social Hall on Saturday, December 14, starting at 9:00 am.** Call the office (651-224-9793) and leave a message if you need someone to pick up your donation.

Thank you in advance, for your support.

Saint Matt's Rosary Society

Isaac's Blessing Bags - Last Day to Donate!

This fall, I was invited back to speak once again at the "Night of Light" Aim Higher Foundation Gala. I was honored to connect with over 700 people to highlight the importance of Catholic education. I spoke from my heart regarding my ongoing mission to help our unsheltered relatives in need.

Every year, we continue to work together to gather items for Isaac's Blessing Bags, and every year St. Matthew's Parish reminds me how blessed I am to be part of such a loving community!

Please consider giving again this year. Each item donated makes a huge difference in someone's life. I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for always supporting my mission!

Sincerely,
Isaac Garcia

2024 List of Items Needed

Warm socks • Hats • Gloves
Hand warmers • Toothpaste • Toothbrush
Tarps • Travel size tissue
Water/Drinks • Snacks
Deodorant • Soap

Place your donations in large bins in the back of the church by **THIS Sunday, December 1**. Thank you!

Community Band - First Fridays

Next St. Matt's Community Band session is on **Friday, December 6 at 6:30 PM in the Social Hall.**

All levels and instruments are welcome, from beginning musicians on up. Children 12 or younger must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Those aged 13-17 may come on their own. However, they must bring a signed permission slip from a parent or guardian.

For more information, please email Phil Grant (pgrant@st-matts.org) or call the office.



Thank you, Men's Club!

Many thanks to our St. Matt's Men's Club. The Club donated the cost of asphalt needed for patching our worst potholes before winter—and then members donated their labor to patch those potholes.

This is a great example of our Men's Club support for St. Matt's. The Club is an important part of our community. For more information about the Club, talk to Tony Postiglione.



Phil Grant

Giving Thanks in November Fundraiser Winners

November 25 - Peggy Finnegan (\$50)
November 26 - Ann Contreras (\$25)
November 27 - Joanne Smith (\$100)
November 28 - Janet Lackner (\$50)
November 29 - Tom Kegler (\$125)
November 30 - Janet Lackner (\$1,000)

Congratulations to all the winners!

Thanks to all who participated in our fifth annual Giving Thanks in November Fundraiser!



Come Join Boy Scout Troop 288

Boy Scout Troop 288, chartered by Community of Saints Regional Catholic School, has spots available to join our Troop. The first four boys, age 10 or in the 5th grade and above, who sign up, will have their registration fee (\$205.00 value), paid for the first year. There will be fundraisers available to help pay for the second year.

For more information contact Scoutmaster Simon Haeg at Simonhaeg@gmail.com or call 651-308-8622.

Neighborhood Development Alliance is Hiring!

Neighborhood Development Alliance (NeDA) is hiring a full-time, bilingual (Spanish and English) Home Ownership Advisor.

In this role, you will provide customer service support for NeDA's programs and be the first point of contact for consumers seeking information about homeownership, financial counseling, foreclosure assistance, and home improvement. For more information, visit nedahome.org/job-openings or email info@nedahome.org.

NeDA is a bilingual (Spanish/English) HUD-certified housing Counseling agency that focuses its resources on providing housing and financial coaching services to Minnesota's Latino and low-income communities.



ECFFF Leader Training

St. Matthew is starting an ECFFF (Early Childhood Family Faith Formation) program in January 2025 for families with children birth to five years old.

To help our program succeed, we need:

- 1. Parent Leaders**, to facilitate parent conversations. Parent leaders are expected to attend training sessions*.
- 2. Early Childhood Leaders**, to facilitate parent/child group time, circle time, and children's play. Early Childhood Leaders are also expected to attend training sessions*.
- 3. Early Childhood Assistants**, to assist the leaders. Assistants must be age 12 or older.

Training will take place at St. Matthew on Saturday, December 14 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

Training is free and sponsored by St. Matt's and run through the Early Catholic Family Life (ECFL) program. There is no cost to you.

For more information or to sign up, please contact Cristina Czaia at cczaia@st-matts.org

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

Baptism Preparation for Children 6 years and younger

At St. Matthew, Baptism Preparation meetings are offered on a regular basis — usually the third week of every month.

The next meetings are on:

- **Tuesday, December 17 at 7:00 PM**
- **Saturday, December 21 at 10:30 AM**

Preparation meetings are required for parents and guardians with children aged six or younger. If you have had a child baptized at St. Matt's in the last five years, you may waive this requirement — but you're invited to attend a meeting if you wish.

Registration is required, at least one week in advance. To register — or for more information — please contact **Cristina Czaia** (cczaia@st-matts.org) or call the Parish Office (651-224-9793).

Community of Saints Regional Catholic School Collection



This weekend is our monthly second collection in support of Community of Saints Catholic School. Thank you for your continued generous support!

Minnesänger WINTERFEST



GERMAN CAROLS & MOTETS

St. Boniface Catholic Church

629 NORTHEAST 2ND STREET MINNEAPOLIS

Sunday, December 8th at 7pm

GERMANCHOIR.COM

\$20

St. Matt's Director of Music and Liturgy, Cristina Czaia, sings with this choir!