



Church of St. Matthew

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



THE SPIRIT
OF THE LORD
IS UPON ME.

— LUKE 4:18 —

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

©LPI

January 26, 2025 **Third 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

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

Gospel Meditation

A young couple in my parish told me they were expecting their second child, a baby boy. I knew that their five-year old only child Emma had been desperately wanting to be a big sister for years, so I said, "Emma must have been so happy when you told her the news." "Actually," they said, "she burst into tears. She wanted a baby *sister!*" How often in life God wonderfully fulfills our desires and we are sad because we don't approve of the way he does it. We want to control the gift and the delivery method.

The same thing occurs in the Gospel this week when Jesus announces in his hometown that the promise of an Anointed One bringing glad tidings to the poor is "**fulfilled in your hearing**" (Luke 4:21). After a moment of elation, his fellow townsfolk realize *this man* is the way God is fulfilling his promises, and they erupt into a violent outburst. So Jesus departs. How sad for them.

Every single Sunday at Mass, including this one, some version of this happens to many of us. God's word announces the fulfillment of God's promises in Christ, and we easily overlook or disdain it. His way is almost never according to our narrow expectations. What's required of us is to set these aside, and to embrace a new openness to God's gifts, no matter how he wishes to give them. God is fulfilling his promises the way He likes — why be sad?

— *Father John Muir*

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Prayer Requests

Jeremiah Baker, Jeff Blomgren, Jerry & Louise Breidel, Philip Heitzinger, Sean Kane, Ken Kasheimer, Bernie Klein, Janette Koegel, Diane McFarland, Geriann Raway, John Saldivar, Doris Schillinger, and Richard Smith.

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.

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Volunteer Opportunities and Parish Needs

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

Greeter: We are in need of a volunteer to serve as a greeter at the **Saturday 4:15 pm Mass**. Duties include welcoming those attending the Mass and offering a hymnal, worship aid and a bulletin. An excellent opportunity for a Confirmation candidate to serve the parish! Any student or adult who may be interested in serving the parish in this way may contact the Parish Center at 651-224-9793 or speak to a greeter or sacristan at the Saturday 4:15 pm Mass.

Offertory Gifts: At each Mass, we would like two members of the congregation to carry forward the offertory gifts. Families are welcome to come forward together. This is a good chance for our younger members realize they too can have a role in the Mass. Call the Parish Center for more information or speak to a sacristan or greeter at your Mass.

Thank You: To **Kathy and Al** who make sure there are fresh vigil candles available for each Mass.

Thank You: To **Mooreen, Sandy, Marge, Joanne and Mary** who serve as sacristans at our parish funerals.

WE ARE A VOLUNTEER PARISH!

Mary Leibl
Volunteer Coordinator
mleibl@st-matts.org



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.



Parish Administrator's Note

Stories

I'm glad that this weekend's Masses lead to "Soup and Stories" about Fr. Steve Adrian, our long-time pastor, mentor and friend. We had a wonderful funeral Mass for him last month. Now it's time to celebrate his life and legacy with a shared meal and shared memories. (Downstairs in our Social Hall. All are welcome.)

Stories inspire laughter, learning and love. Stories form friendships, communities and traditions. Story-telling is part of being human.

Lately, I've heard a few friends make defeatist talk. They point to the many, real problems in the world. Some bring up the change in presidency. Others wonder who has "the hope and courage necessary to motivate risky collective action for a more just society."*

Seems to me Fr. Steve had hope and courage in abundance. I've heard many stories of his motivating this community to take risky collection action for a more just society. We'll be hearing some of those stories this weekend.

And what motivated Fr. Steve to have his great hope and courage? Seems to me it was his Catholic faith, undergirded by deep learning, particularly of Scripture. And he clearly loved Mass, prayer and people. I recall his saying how he drew faith and courage from this community of St. Matt's. I hope you do, too. I know I do.

So what do we do with our hope and courage in 2025? Let us:

- Share our stories of Fr. Steve and all who inspire us.
- Continue with our parish ministries, friendships, prayer and sacraments.
- Volunteer at St. Matt's and elsewhere. What good works call to you this year?

* From the January 2025 issue of *Commonweal*. *Commonweal* was one of Fr. Steve's favorite magazines. We're starting a discussion group in February. Let me know if you're interested.

Have a great week! Thank you for your support!

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



The Sounds and Sights of Saint Matthew

The Sanctuary Lamp will be lit January 25-31, 2025 in memory of **Virgil Roethler**.

The Bells of Saint Matthew will ring on Monday, January 27, 2025 for the **Living and Deceased Rosary Society Members**.

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.

Faith Formation News

Faith Formation Classes This Week

On Wednesday, January 29, all Faith Formation public school students in grades K to 10 have class in the Parish Center. Grades K to 5 are in class from 6:30 to 7:45 PM, and Grades 6 to 10 are in class from 6:45 to 7:50 PM. Parents of children preparing for sacraments, remember to turn in proof of baptism for your student if you have not already done so. We can make a copy of your document on Wednesday evening if you bring the document to the front desk in the Parish Center. If your child was baptized at another church and you do not have proof of baptism, please contact that church as soon as possible and ask them to issue proof of baptism for your child.

News and Events

Contribution Statements

If you would like an **annual contribution statement for 2024**, call the parish office. We send these statements out upon request. (According to the IRS, it is the donor's responsibility to ask for such statements.)

Regardless of how you contribute, thank you! We could not sustain our service to our community without your generous support.

Ministry Schedule

The next ministry schedule will be written on Monday, February 24. This schedule will begin on the weekend of March 8 and 9 and run through Memorial Day, Monday, May 26.

Holy Week is in mid-April. As in the past, Holy Week, April 13 - 20, will be a separate schedule, to be written at a later date.

Please send your availability for March 8 and 9 through Memorial Day, excluding Holy Week, to **mleibl@st-matts.org by Wednesday, February 19**. Also, let us know which days you are not available. Thank you for your continued service to St. Matthew's Parish!

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
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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 January 26, 2025

Sunday: Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15 (see Jn 6:63c)/1 Cor 12:12-30 or 12:12-14, 27/Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21

Monday: Heb 9:15, 24-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6/Mk 3:22-30

Tuesday: Heb 10:1-10/Ps 40:2 and 4ab, 7-8a, 10, 11/Mk 3:31-35

Wednesday: Heb 10:11-18/Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4/Mk 4:1-20

Thursday: Heb 10:19-25/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Mk 4:21-25

Friday: Heb 10:32-39/Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 23-24, 39-40/Mk 4:26-34

Saturday: Heb 11:1-2, 8-19/Lk 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75/Mk 4:35-41

Next Sunday: Mal 3:1-4/Heb 2:14-18/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 25

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

Sunday, January 26

10:15 AM +Robert A. and Jeanne M. Stadt

Saturday, February 1

4:15 PM +Byron Larocque
+Dorinda Martineau

Sunday, February 2

10:15 AM +Agnes C. and Gordon B. Roscoe

Calendar of Events

Monday - Friday, January 27-31

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

Monday, January 27

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

Tuesday, January 28

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

Wednesday, January 29

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM St. Mary's Health Clinic

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

6:30 PM Faith Formation

7:00 PM Choir Practice

Thursday, January 30

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

6:00 PM Crafting Group

7:00 PM AA Meeting

Friday, January 31

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

Saturday, February 1

3:00 PM - 3:30 PM Confessions

4:15 PM Mass

Sunday, February 2

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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