

Church of St. Matthew - Bulletin Insert

February 9, 2025
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Life Celebrations Blessing

As a community of faith, we are often asked to pray for those in need of physical, emotional, and spiritual healing. Our prayers can comfort and strengthen each other.

We can also be a source of support during the highlights of life: birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, and other accomplishments or milestones.

On the last weekend of each month, we will acknowledge any celebrations people want to share.

Members can stand or wave to receive a blessing and the congregation's well-wishes. This is just one more way to build a sense of connection in our St. Matt's community.

St. Matthew Liturgy Committee

CRAFT GROUP

Have an unfinished project?

Want to start something new?

Come share, create, learn and socialize

Thursdays at 6:00 pm in the Social Hall

*Crochet, needlepoint, knit, quilt, sew,
paint, wood working, scrapbooking,
anything else you can think of*



Know Your Rights Red Cards

Red Cards feature information about constitutional rights immigrants have, regardless of immigrant status. These Red Cards contain helpful tips and inform carriers of their rights. These cards are available in our parish office and at the back of the church. You can check out the card at www.ilrc.org/red-cards-tarjetas-rojas

Black Catholic History

Saint Josephine Bakhita was born in the Sudan, Africa in 1869. When she was nine years old, she was kidnapped from her family in the Sudan, and sold into slavery.

Finally, when she was sold to an Italian diplomat, at age 14, St. Josephine Bakhita received Christian instruction for the first time from the Sisters of Charity in Venice, Italy.

She was baptized, confirmed, and received the Eucharist in 1890 and became a Canossian sister in 1896. For the rest of her life, she lived a holy life at a convent school in Italy. She was declared saint on October 1, 2000 by Pope John Paul II. Her feast day is February 8.



Sources:

Archdiocese of Detroit website: <https://info.aod.org/articles/black-saints-and-notable-figures>

Archdiocese of Chicago website: <https://bci.archchicago.org/resources/black-catholic-saints>

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Open Window Theater presents *Tolkien* February 28 - March 30

The worlds of Narnia and Middle Earth may never have come to be were it not for an unlikely friendship between J.R.R. Tolkien and C.S. Lewis.

TOLKIEN by Ron Reed tells the stirring story of the transformative relationship between Tolkien and Lewis, from 1926 through 1963, amidst global tumult and personal trials. Tolkien and Lewis pushed each others' imaginations, faith and curiosity. Tickets & info are available at openwindowtheatre.org or by phone at **612-615-1515**.

Thank You Letter from the Parish

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.)

In addition to the annual contribution statement, we have customarily sent thank you letters whenever an individual donation was \$250 or more. Our Finance Council recently recommended an increase in the threshold for those letters. The new threshold is \$500. That is, we will send a letter of appreciation whenever someone donates \$500 or more.

Regardless of how much you give, know that we greatly appreciate your generous support of our parish!

Phil Grant

10th Annual Women's Leadership Luncheon The School Sisters of Notre Dame

The School Sisters of Notre Dame will celebrate the 10th annual Women's Leadership Luncheon on **Thursday, March 27** at the University of Saint Thomas.

The theme is *The Nun Study: Transforming the Future of Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias*. The Nun Study began in 1986 right here in Minnesota with the Sisters on Good Counsel Hill in Mankato. The study continued for many years at the University of Minnesota, working to examine the prediction, prevention, and treatment of Alzheimer's and other dementias.

EVENT IS FREE, but registration is required by **March 17, 2025**. For more information or to register contact Heather Spann at **507-389-4230** or **hspann@ssndcp.org**.

Job Opening: Loaves and Fishes Site Coordinator at St. Matthew

Loaves and Fishes, a nonprofit organization with a mission to serve free, healthy meals to Minnesotans where the need is greatest, is seeking **passionate and dedicated** individuals to join their team as a Site Coordinator at St. Matthew Community Meal Site (full-time position).

More information on the position can be found at **www.loavesandfishesmn.org/careers/community-meal-site-coordinator-1/**

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!

The Center for Catholic Social Thought Spring 2025 Speaker Series

Land and Labor, City and Homestead: Working Towards a Local Economy

How can small farms, urban homesteads, crafts, gardens, chickens, good work, and local economies help us build stronger communities and be better Christians?

Thursdays, February 20 - March 13, 6:30 PM
Assumption Church, St. Paul

February 20 - *What is a Local Economy and Why Does It Matter?*

- Colin Miller, Director of the Center for Catholic Social Thought

February 27 - *Reflections on the Preferential Option for Localism*

- Professor Christopher Thompson, Dean of Saint Paul Seminary and author of *The Joyful Mystery: Field Notes Towards a Green Thomism*

March 6 - *Catholic Land Movements*

- Tim Strieff, Catholic Rural Life

March 13 - *Localism and Catholic Social Teaching*

- Dale Ahlquist, Speaker and author/editor of many books, including, *Localism: Coming Home to Catholic Social Teaching*

Register online at **catholicsocialthought.org**