



Church of St. Matthew

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

SECOND SUNDAY OF

Lent

©LPi

March 16, 2025
Second Sunday of Lent

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

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Friday

Closed

Gospel Meditation

St. Thomas Aquinas said that friends share three things: time, possessions and secrets. For example, how do I know if you're my friend? Well, let's say we've been to Mexico together, you've tried my shaky attempts at pasta carbonara, and you know what ridiculous costume I wore in a music video I filmed in my early twenties. We, dear reader, are definitely friends. We've shared time, possessions and secrets.

How does friendship with Jesus develop? The same way. Jesus lives and eats with his disciples. Then he takes Peter, James and John to Mount Tabor and there reveals to them his deepest secret: his glorious, divine Sonship. The majesty of God shines from within his humanity in a way that goes beyond description. God the Father confirms this "secret," saying, "**This is my chosen Son, listen to him**" (Luke 9:35). It's all so precious that "**they fell silent and did not at that time tell anyone.**" Do we take time to be alone with Christ, to allow him to mystically share this "secret" with us as his dear friends?

Lenten challenge: This week, identify one time when you experienced an awareness of some specific aspect of Jesus — perhaps on a retreat, at Mass, in prayer or in an act of service. Spend ten minutes consciously re-living that experience in your heart. If you can't recall one, set aside at least two hours this Lent as a mini retreat, either alone in nature or in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. Focus on him and ask him to share the secrets of his heart with you. He will. Then, as his friend, share the secrets in your heart.

— *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.

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. You may call the Parish Center for more information or speak to a sacristan or greeter at your Mass.

Thank You: To First Communion candidate **Abel** and his family who carried the offertory gifts at the Saturday 4:15 pm Mass last week.

Thank You: For many months, a committee of parishioners have been at work updating the parish website. As of Friday, March 8, the **new** parish website is up and running. Tweaking will still take place when necessary. However, we can be proud of this new website! The address is the same as the previous website. We want to thank the hardworking members of this committee who have given many hours creating a new and easy to navigate website. Almost any questions you may have regarding the parish can be answered there. We want to thank the members of the **Communications Committee** who worked for many months creating this website. Thank you to **Maggie Lee** (Chair), **Peg Lindlof**, **George Derringer**, **Angela Rakow**, **Phil Grant**, **Judy Brown**, **Cristina Czaia**, and to **Kathy Goldenstein** for pitching in on some of the writing. Take a look at **www.st-matts.org** and let committee members know how much their hard work is appreciated.

Thank You: To **Richard Schletty**, who has been the St. Matthew webmaster for the last several year. He has maintained our parish website for many years and has been instrumental in archiving Fr. Steve's homily videos. He has also been an integral part of transitioning the parish website from the old to the new platform.

WE ARE A VOLUNTEER PARISH!

Mary Leibl
Volunteer Coordinator
mleibl@st-matts.org

Parish Administrator's Note

Parking Lot News

As is widely known, our parking lot is in bad shape. Recall that we wanted to renew it last summer. (Many thanks to all who contributed last summer or since!)

For several reasons outside of our control, we were not able to move ahead. As a result, we had to make do with pothole patching for the *n*th year in a row. That was better than nothing, but the lot still needs major work—a complete reconstruction, for the most part.

Our current thinking is to start this summer with the south half of the lot. That section has the most problems. We've learned more about the subsurface, thanks to core samples that Bituminous Roadways conducted last fall. Our increased understanding of the lot will contribute to a better job this summer.

As for the north half, we're holding off until we complete our analysis of that area of our campus. Over the past several months, we've received a structural engineering report that focused on the north end of the school building. The good news is that the structure is relatively sound. The bad news is that we need to solve a drainage problem. Some of the campus water runoff apparently seeps into the northwest corner of the school building, in the area of the old bowling alley. We don't want to pave the parking lot's north end until we've successfully addressed those drainage issues.

I'm very grateful to members of our parish Facilities Committee. Their skills, knowledge and questions really help us be better stewards of our campus.

Fish Fries

Kudos to the Men's Club for a great Fish Fry on March 7! I enjoyed seeing so many people connecting over good food. *Fish Fries continue throughout Lent. All are welcome!*

I was happy that our St. Matt's Community Band was able to jam at 6:30 p.m., providing live dance music for the last part of the Fish Fry. The band will return on the first Friday of April—that's April 4.

Have a great week! Thank you for your support!

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

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.



Faith Formation News

Faith Formation This Week

On **Wednesday, March 19**, Faith Formation students in Grades K to 10 have class in the St. Matthew Parish Center. Grades K to 5 start at 6:30 PM and grades 6 to 10 start at 6:45 PM. Confirmation candidates from Community of Saints also have class on March 19 in the Parish Center from 6:45 to 7:50 PM.

Confirmation Blessing Mass and Meeting

Confirmation candidates, their sponsors, and families should plan to attend the 10:15 AM Mass at the Church of St. Matthew on **Sunday, March 23**. Students will be blessed during the Mass at St. Matthew. After Mass, the Confirmation group will have a short meeting in church about the Confirmation Mass at the Cathedral, which is at 2:00 PM on April 6.

News and Events

Monthly Scripture Study - Gospel of Luke

St. Matthew is offering a monthly Scripture Study, centering on the Gospel of Luke, facilitated by Zach Czaia. The next meeting is on **March 18 from 5:30 to 7:00 PM in the Parish Center Community Room** (first floor). Let Zach know if you're planning to come, or if you have any questions at zczaia@hotmail.com.

Lenten Friday Afternoons - Volunteers Needed

Looking for opportunities to get together with others? Come and join Rosary Society members and others as we prepare the condiments and desserts for the famous Saint Matt's Lenten Fish Fry. We begin at **1:00 pm in the Social Hall**, and meet every Friday during Lent, **now through April 18**. Come to help and socialize with others as we work together to make the Fish Fry a success. And as a bonus, volunteers get half off their Fish Fry meal!



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.

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 March 16, 2025

Sunday: Gn 15:5-12, 17-18/Ps 27:1, 7-8, 8-9, 13-14/Phil
3:17—4:1 or 3:20—4:1/Lk 9:28b-36

Monday: Dn 9:4b-10/Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13/Lk 6:36-38

Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/Mt
23:1-12

Wednesday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and
29/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

Thursday: Jer 17:5-10/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 16:19-31

Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-
21/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12/Lk
15:1-3, 11-32

Next Sunday: Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 11
(8a)/1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12/Lk 13:1-9

Scrutiny: Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 (8)/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn
4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 15

4:15 PM +Arthur Geis
+Don Leibl

Sunday, March 16

10:15 AM +Dorothy Williams

Saturday, March 22

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

Sunday, March 23

10:15 AM +Carol Grundei
+Deceased Rosary Society Members

Calendar of Events

Monday - Thursday, March 17-20

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

Loaves and Fishes Community Meal at St. Matthew is closed on Fridays during Lent.

Monday, March 17

8:30 AM - 4:30 PM St. Mary's Mobile Dental Clinic
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open

Tuesday, March 18

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open
12:30 PM Stations of the Cross
5:30 PM Scripture Study - Gospel of Luke

Wednesday, March 19

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

Thursday, March 20

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

Friday, March 21

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Closed
4:30 PM - 7:30 PM Fish Fry
5:30 PM Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 22

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

Sunday, March 23

10:15 AM Mass
After Mass Confirmation Class Meeting
2:00 PM Lex-Ham Community Band Concert
6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Gifted and Belonging Meeting

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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