



# St. Matthew's

## CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

*St. Matthew's Catholic Community exists in the world as a visible expression of God's love.*

FOURTH SUNDAY OF

Lent

©LPi

**March 30, 2025**  
**Fourth Sunday of Lent**

#### Mass Times

- 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

Parish Office (*Mailing Address*)

510 Hall Avenue  
490 Hall Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55107

Telephone (651) 224-9793

Fax (651) 222-2688

Website [www.st-matts.org](http://www.st-matts.org)

Facebook [www.facebook.com/churchofstmatthew](http://www.facebook.com/churchofstmatthew)

YouTube [www.youtube.com/churchofstmatthew](http://www.youtube.com/churchofstmatthew)

#### Office Hours

Monday - Thursday

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Friday

Closed

## Gospel Meditation

A man looking a bit downtrodden approached me as I filled my car's gas tank. He asked, "May I share with you my testimony about how good God is?" "OK," I skeptically answered. He went on to tell me that he had been an alcoholic and drug addict, and that God had healed him; now he was four years sober. He said, "I didn't deserve it, but now I'm a different person. God is so good! Have a terrific Tuesday!" A few minutes later, as I drove away, I saw him smiling and handing a homeless person some money. I was confronted with a choice: either he was a total fraud or God had changed him. *Something* had happened to him, and it didn't seem fake. Maybe it was God.

When Jesus heals the man born blind, the man becomes a challenge to everyone who meets him. They must decide. Is he the same blind person who they knew before? Who healed him and how? And what is the status of the one who can heal such infirmities? We shouldn't be surprised at the storm of doubt, hatred and animosity that swirls around the healed man — so it often goes when Jesus heals someone even to this day.

Like we often do, the religious leaders confronting the healed man declare that God is not at work. They ask with mocking superiority and dismissive disdain, "**You were born totally in sin, and are you trying to teach us?**" (John 9:34). And they cast him out. When Jesus clearly works in our lives, in us or around us, we should accept it, and give praise and thanks for this wonderful manifestation of his goodness.

**Lenten challenge:** Think of one way the Lord has healed you. Perhaps he healed a form of selfishness, a physical ailment, or something else. This week, find a person to whom you can share that testimony, and share it. Don't worry if they don't accept it was God who did it.

— *Father John Muir*

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### 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.



## Volunteer Opportunities and Parish Needs

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

**Office Receptionist:** We would like a volunteer to work in the reception area on Thursday mornings. The hours would be 9:00 am – 1:00 pm. You may choose to volunteer for the whole four hours or any duration of time that works for your schedule. Duties would include answering phones and taking messages as well as putting the inserts into the weekly bulletins. Occasionally, join a team of volunteers to prepare parish-wide mailings. If interested, call the Parish Office at 651-224-9793.

**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, while offering them 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 Office at 651-224-9793 or speak to a greeter or sacristan at the Saturday 4:15 pm Mass.

**Thank You:** To **Mary** and **Kathy** who lead Mary's Way of the Cross on Tuesday afternoons and to **Anthony** and **Izzy** who lead the traditional Way of the Cross on Friday afternoons. Thank you also to all who attend these services. A meaningful Lenten tradition!

**Thank You:** To members of the **Men's Club, Rosary Society, Scouts, Community of Saints** and **Youth Group** who help with the weekly Fish Frys. Also to all parishioners and friends of the parish who attend and contribute to the success of the weekly meals!!

**WE ARE A VOLUNTEER PARISH!**

*Mary Leibl*  
Volunteer Coordinator  
mleibl@st-matts.org

## 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.*

## Parish Administrator's Note

### Connections

How easy is it for you to connect with other people?

I ask because I'm aware that some of us find it easy to connect: *I'm looking at you, extroverts*. Others might struggle a bit: *hey there, introverts*.

I was thinking about this the past few weeks, as our new website has come online. One of the purposes of our website redesign was to help people connect here at St. Matt's.

And, unlike some tech platforms that seek to promote connections, our website doesn't have a pay wall.

How else do we promote connections here? Consider nametags at Mass. I know I like to see people's names at Mass. If they're new, seeing their names speeds up the connection. If they're not new—and my memory is failing—it saves me a bit of embarrassment.

Social events also come to mind, such as Fish Fries. I think it's great that well over 300 people come together every Friday during Lent. Dining together is an age-old human practice that helps people connect with each other. (And the food is delicious! Thank you, Men's Club.)

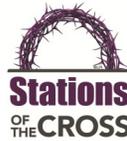
Other social opportunities coming up soon include:

- The First Friday Community Band jam session on Friday, April 4. We start the music at 6:30 p.m. *Details in the insert.*
- The *Commonweal* Magazine discussion group, meeting next at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 5. *Details in the insert.*
- Ham Bingo after Mass on Saturday, April 5.

Let's not forget Mass itself. Yes, the primary purpose is worship—a way to connect with God, and a way to support each other's faith. However, it can also be good to connect with others before and/or after Mass.

Have a great week! Thank you for your support!

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



All Tuesdays during Lent – 12:30 pm

Fridays during Lent – 5:30 pm

## Faith Formation News

### Faith Formation Spring Break

Faith Formation students in Grades K to 10 do NOT have class on Wednesday, April 2, due to spring break at area public schools. Students in grades 8 to 10, our Confirmation candidates, will be confirmed at the Cathedral on Sunday, April 6, at 2:00 pm. Students in grades K to 7 resume Faith Formation classes in the St. Matthew Parish Center on Wednesday, April 9.

## News and Events

### Rosary Society April 8th Meeting

All women of the community are invited to the **Tuesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>** Rosary Society meeting. The meeting will be held from **12:25 to 2:00 pm**. We will meet in the Church at 12:25 pm and lead the Stations of the Cross using Mary's Way of the Cross. Afterwards, we will go to the Parish Center's Lower-Level Meeting Room for our meeting, which will include information about Eastern Orthodox decorated eggs and a display of Romanian decorated eggs. Refreshments will be served.

### Ham Bingo - Saturday, April 5

All are invited to St. Matthew Men's Club's annual Ham Bingo, featuring twelve games for hams and three games for cash on **Saturday, April 5. Doors open at 5:00 PM and games start at 5:30 PM.** Food, beer, wine and pop available for purchase. Expected completion time is between 8:30 to 9:00 PM.



### Community of Saints Catholic School Collection



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

### 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	Katie Quinlan
Terry Grundtner	Ellen Schneider
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 30, 2025**

Sunday: Jos 5:9a, 10-12/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 (9a)/2 Cor 5:17-21/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Scrutiny: 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 (1)/ Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

Monday: Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b/Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday: Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18/Jn 5:17-30

Thursday: Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23/Jn 5:31-47

Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday: Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12/Jn 7:40-53

Next Sunday: Is 43:16-21/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 (3)/Phil 3:8-14/Jn 8:1-11 Scrutiny: Ez 37:12-14/  
Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (7)/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

## Mass Intentions

### **Saturday, March 29**

4:15 PM +Fr. Steve Adrian  
+Kevin Kleman

### **Sunday, March 30**

10:15 AM +Joan Smevoll  
+Deceased Members of Our Parish

### **Saturday, April 5**

4:15 PM +Fr. Steve Adrian  
+John Leibl

### **Sunday, April 6**

10:15 AM +Lee F. Maruska  
+Robert B. and Stephen J. Roscoe

## Calendar of Events

### **Monday - Thursday, March 31 - April 3**

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

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

### **Monday, March 31**

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

### **Tuesday, April 1**

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open  
12:30 PM Stations of the Cross  
5:30 PM Facilities Committee Meeting

### **Wednesday, April 2**

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM St. Mary's Health Clinic  
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open  
12:00 PM Liturgy Committee Meeting  
6:30 PM - 7:30 PM Confessions  
7:30 PM Men's Club Board Meeting

### **Thursday, April 3**

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

### **Friday, April 4**

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Closed  
4:30 PM - 7:30 PM Fish Fry  
5:30 PM Stations of the Cross  
6:30 PM St. Matthew Community Band

### **Saturday, April 5**

10:00 AM Commonweal Discussion Group  
3:00 PM - 3:30 PM Confessions  
4:15 PM Mass  
5:30 PM Ham Bingo

### **Sunday, April 6**

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.*

### **Support Our Advertisers**

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