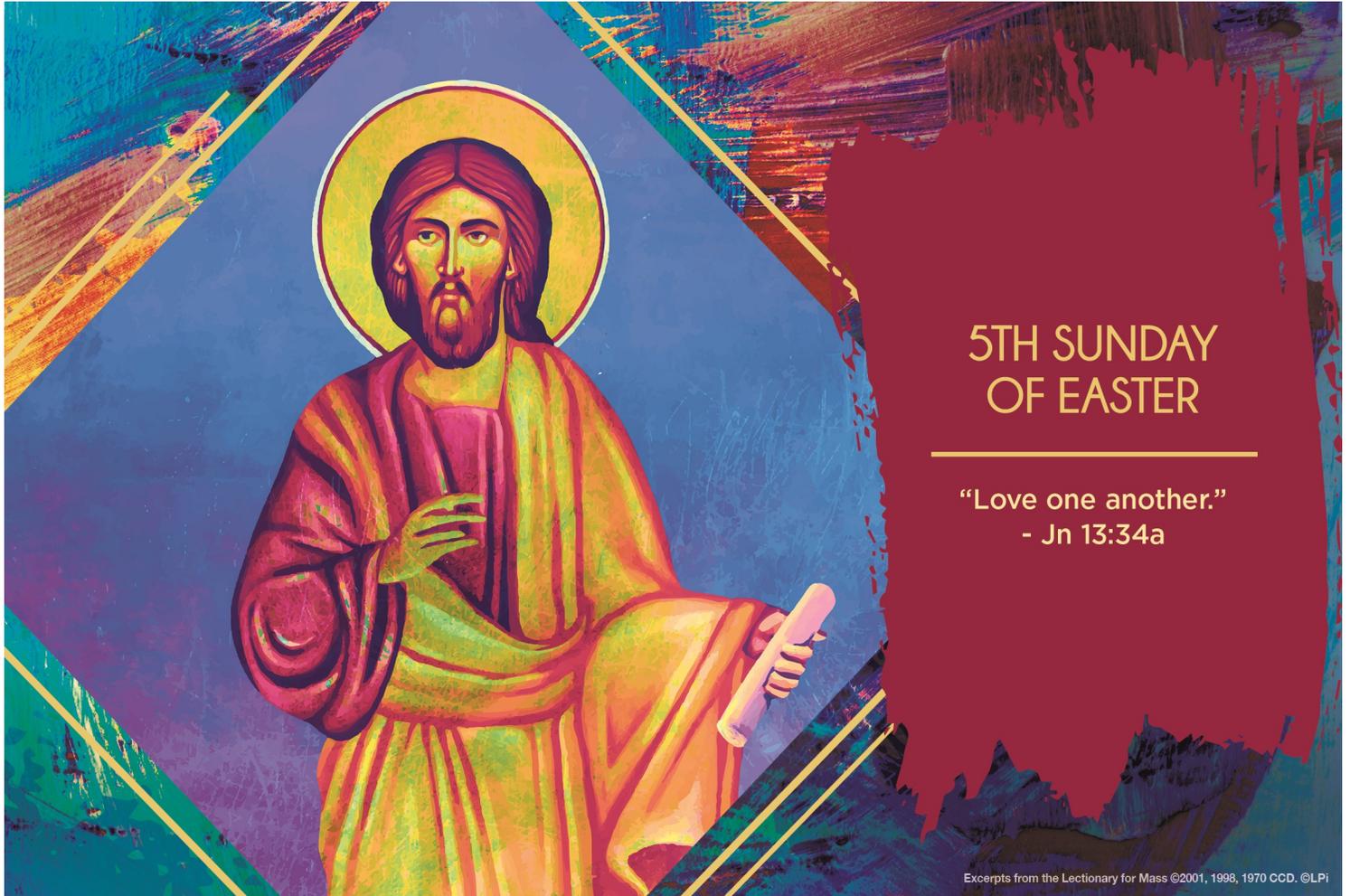




St. Matthew's

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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



5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

"Love one another."
- Jn 13:34a

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

May 18, 2025 Fifth Sunday of Easter

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

Facebook www.facebook.com/churchofstmatthew

YouTube www.youtube.com/churchofstmatthew

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Friday

Closed

Gospel Meditation

I've always found it amazing that Jesus never says to his disciples the straightforward and bumper sticky words "I love you" or "I will always love you" (a la Dolly Parton's song). Why doesn't Jesus say, "I love you"?

Well, actually he does, but in particular ways. He says, "**As the Father loves me, so I love you**" (John 15:9) thereby rooting his love for us in the space of the Holy Trinity. This week he commands, "**Love another as I have loved you**" (John 13:34). He presents his love for us as a completed action which continues into the present moment. How *has* he loved us? By becoming one of us, one with us, and finally giving his life for us in his suffering on the cross. We weren't there when he did that, but neither were his Apostles (except one). Still, that action is his great "I love you" to us.

His love is also hedged in a command: "**Love one another.**" So how can we practically follow it? The great St. John XXIII wrote in his diary that each day he followed this rule: "Only for today, I will do one good deed and not tell anyone about it." The hidden nature of a good deed is a sign that it is truly loving. This week, take on St. John XXIII's practical method of following Jesus' great commandment of love. It's a splendid way to say, "I love you."

— *Father John Muir*

©LPi

Prayer Requests

Jeremiah Baker, Jeff Blomgren, Jerry & Louise Breidel, Johnny Edwards, Philip Heitzinger, Sean Kane, Ken Kasheimer, Bernie Klein, , Diane McFarland, Geriann Raway, 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

Sprinkling Rite: The sprinkling rite will take place throughout the Easter Season, up through the weekend of June 7-8. We are looking for volunteers to be sprinklers. This individual will carry a bowl of Holy Water and brush. After the Renewal of Baptismal Promises, you will walk through the church sprinkling Holy Water on the congregation. If you are interested in taking part in this ritual, you may contact the Parish Center and leave your name and contact information.

Thank You: To **Alice Baier**, our new front desk volunteer on Thursdays!

Thank You: Many people are involved in planning and executing our weekly Masses. We thank **Fr. Kommers** who faithfully comes each weekend to hear confessions and offer Mass. We thank our weekly sacristans **Ginny, Kathy** and **Mary** who arrive an hour before Mass to prepare the altar, have wine and hosts ready for offertory procession etc. We thank our greeters **Tim, Tom, Chris, Ginny, Kathy & Joanne**. We thank all who volunteer to bring forward the gifts at the Offertory. We thank our lectors who practice and prepare to read the weekly readings, as well as our Eucharistic ministers who offer the Body of Christ to those coming forward at Communion. We thank our Director of Music and Liturgy, **Cristina** who plans our liturgies, chooses the music to be sung, and directs the choir. We thank our cantors and pianists who lead us in song. We thank all of our parishioners and visitors who join in the prayers and singing as well as show hospitality to all who worship with us. Many times, visitors have mentioned how welcome they have felt when attending services at St. Matthews!

WE ARE A VOLUNTEER PARISH!

Mary Leibl
Volunteer Coordinator
mleibl@st-matts.org



The Sounds and Sights of Saint Matthew

The Bells of Saint Matthew will ring on Wednesday, May 21, 2025 in memory of **William Postiglione's Birthday**.

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 Administrator's Note

What Lies Beneath

Do you remember how we launched a big effort a year ago, to renew our parking lot? Let's review.

- Our lot is not in good shape, as it's been many years since a complete redo.
- We've raised a bit over \$60,000 in cash, pledges, and Capital Needs contributions in the past 12 months.
Thank you for your generosity!
- To preserve our cash position, we pursued financing through Catholic Finance Corporation (now called Emmaus Partners). CFC-EP financed the school elevator and boilers in 2016. More recently, they financed the school roof project in 2023.
- CFC-EP could not finance the parking lot last year, as we had not yet signed a lease extension with our charter school tenant (Quantum STEAM Academy) for the school year 2024-2025. That was finally signed earlier this year. (We're now negotiating a new lease to take effect July 1.)

Meanwhile, over the past 12 months, we've had multiple visits from asphalt companies and engineering consultants. Our Facilities Committee and I have learned a great deal.

The overall project is going to be more complicated, more costly, and of higher quality than if we'd simply paved everything last year. That's because of several realities:

- (A) We're not ready to do it all at once. The north portion has drainage issues we're still researching with engineering consultants. City permits and watershed restrictions will affect our project.
- (B) Accordingly, we're dividing the project into two phases. The first phase will renew the south half of the lot; the second phase will renew the north half.
- (C) A further complication is what lies beneath the lot: there's a tunnel from the church building to the school building, and another tunnel from the church to the Parish Center. We want to be absolutely sure that heavy asphalt trucks do not damage our tunnels or the room underneath the northeast corner of the church building. (That's why there's a big yellow box painted in that area.)

In sum, we've made a lot of behind-the-scenes progress. We're solving problems we didn't even know existed twelve months ago. We plan to do this project at a high quality level.

Once we have additional information from engineers and others, we'll share when we can start the paving.

Have a great week! Thank you for your support!

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



Communal Anointing of the Sick

There will be Anointing of the Sick during Mass on **Saturday, May 31 at 4:15 pm and Sunday, June 1 at 10:15 am**. People of all ages who are in need of healing of body and soul are welcome to come forward and take part.

Faith Formation News

Formation Thank You

Faith Formation classes for the 2024-2025 school year have ended. Thank you to the 35 public school students in grades K to 10 for their participation. Thank you to parents and guardians for getting their students to and from classes and for supporting their learning and growth in the Catholic faith. Thank you to catechists, helpers, and substitutes who volunteered their time and talent. Thanks to Men's Club for donating gift cards for our final evening celebration. Classes start again in late September. Watch the St. Matthew website in August for the registration form for 2025-2026 classes.

News and Events

Monthly Scripture Study - Gospel of Luke

St. Matthew's monthly Scripture Study, centering on the Gospel of Luke, has its final meeting on **Tuesday, May 20 from 5:30 to 7:00 PM in the Parish Center Community Room** (first floor). Let Zach Czaia know if you're planning to come, or if you have any questions at zczaia@hotmail.com.

Neighborhood House Donations

This weekend is the monthly Neighborhood House collection. There will be a basket by the main entrance for you to place your non-perishable or monetary donation. **During the month of April, St. Matthew donated 105 pounds of food**. On behalf of Neighborhood House and the people it serves, thank you for your generosity!

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 Rakow (arakow@st-matts.org) in the parish office.



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 May 18, 2025

Sunday: Acts 14:21-27/Ps 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13 (see 1)/Rv 21:1-5a/Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35

Monday: Acts 14:5-18/Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16/Jn 14:21-26

Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21/Jn 14:27-31a

Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/Jn 15:1-8

Thursday: Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10/Jn 15:9-11

Friday: Acts 15:22-31/Ps 57:8-9, 10 and 12/Jn 15:12-17

Saturday: Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5/Jn 15:18-21

Next Sunday: Acts 15:1-2, 22-29/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 (4)/Rv 21:10-14, 22-23/Jn 14:23-29

Mass Intentions

Saturday, May 17

4:15 PM +Don Leibl
+Dorothy Williams

Sunday, May 18

10:15 AM +Eileen Norton
+Lisa Norton

Saturday, May 24

4:15 PM +John and Helen Leibl

Sunday, May 25

10:15 AM +Betty Hermann

Calendar of Events

Monday - Friday, May 19-23

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

Monday, May 19

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

Tuesday, May 20

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open
5:30 PM - 7:00 PM Scripture Study - Gospel of Luke

Wednesday, May 21

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM St. Mary's Health Clinic

Thursday, May 22

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open
6:00 PM Crafting Group
6:30 PM Parish Council Meeting

Friday, May 23

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

Saturday, May 24

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

Sunday, May 25

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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