



St. Matthew's

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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



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May 25, 2025

Sixth 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

Jonathan Haidt's 2024 book entitled "The Anxious Generation" argues that today's kids are marked by significant increases in anxiety, as the title suggests. Smartphones, social media, economic uncertainty, the chaos of a global pandemic, fear regarding climate change, and the so-called "meaning crisis" all contribute to strikingly high levels of anxiety in young people today. I'm a bit older than this generation, but I feel it, too. The world can be too much to handle.

The Gospel this week offers a stunning solution for troubled souls. To his overwhelmed and anxious disciples, the risen Jesus says, "**Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you**" (John 14:27). His peace is that of the one who was overwhelmed on the cross and then conquered death by the power of his divinity, his bond of love with the Father. He offers us this unshakeable peace.

Of course, mental illness does not magically disappear because of the risen Jesus. But he does walk with us and offer us his peace in the midst of our suffering. The peace the world gives is not like his because it is weak, uncertain, and self-generated. Jesus' peace is strong, sure, and given as a gift from God. He gives it to us amid our anxiety. Will you receive it as a gift? I hope so. He wants to fill the hearts of this generation with his peace.

— Father John Muir

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Prayer Requests

Jeremiah Baker, Jeff Blomgren, Jerry & Louise Breidel, Johnny Edwards, Philip Heitzinger, Sean Kane, 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

Greeter: We are in need of a greet at the **Saturday 4:15 pm Mass**. Duties include welcoming those attending the Mass and offering a hymnal, worship aid and a bulletin. 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.

Confirmation Students: Will you or a member of your family be a Confirmation candidate next year? It is not too early to begin working on "Service Hours" needed for Confirmation. The two requests above would be opportunities to get a start on your preparation for Confirmation. If you attend a school that requires "Service Hours" as a requirement for graduation, think about volunteering some time to serve your parish. If interested, you may email Mary at mleibl@st-matts.org, or call the Parish Center.

Thank You: To **Al and Kathy Schowalter** for donating the Aspergillum (sprinkler) used in the "Sprinkling Rite" during Eastertide.

Thank You: To **Fr. Kommers, Cristina Czaia, Janelle Rohr, the teachers and parents** who, throughout the year, prepared the children to receive Eucharist for the first time! There were many comments on the beauty and specialness of that service. May these children continue to experience that same joy each time they receive the Eucharist!

WE ARE A VOLUNTEER PARISH!

Mary Leibl
Volunteer Coordinator
mleibl@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.

Parish Administrator's Note

Third Places: on Hospitality and Security

What do you do when you meet someone new at Saint Matt's?

I've been reflecting on that question recently, stimulated by two recent meetings.

One meeting was the May get-together of business administrators. Adam Fitzpatrick came from the Archdiocesan Center for Mission to talk to us about "future proofing" our parishes. He had some good ideas and information about facilities, reducing energy costs and opportunities for grants and rebates.

What really caught my attention, however, was when he started talking about our parishes as "Third Places". That's a concept that sociologists use to describe places outside of home (the first place) and work (the second place). Third places are where people go to converse with others, build community, and foster a sense of belonging. Examples, (besides churches) include coffee shops, book clubs, playgrounds, libraries, and more.

I'm glad that we at Saint Matt's provide a third place for people: weekend Masses, social events (Fish Fries, Spring Tea, Bingo, etc.) and activity groups. Our community's attention to **hospitality** really enhances our third *placeness*. (is that a work? It is now.)

We welcome all, including strangers. In so doing, we want to be mindful of our **security**.

That topic came up in an Archdiocesan mental health awareness presentation on "Crisis Intervention Training". In that session, Gennae Falconer talked about how to help people with mental health issues. It's understandable that many people are unsure how to help. What happens if we meet a person who seems like they might have a mental health issue? How do we balance hospitality and security?

For starters, I recommend these basic steps:

- When you meet someone, ask for their name.
- Listen for stories.
- Acknowledge their dignity.

If possible, let me know of your encounters. We're working to increase our capacity to help.

Please keep in mind that person with mental illness are no more likely to be violent than anyone else in the general population.

To be continued...

Have a great week! Thank you for your support.

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

**Due to early bulletin submission, some items may appear in later issues.*

Memorial Day Mass

Monday, May 26, 2025

9:00 AM



News and Events

Parish Office Closure

The parish office is closed on Monday, May 26, 2025.



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!

St. Matt's Community Band - May 30

The band's next jam session is **Friday, May 30**. (Please note the date change). We meet in the Social Hall, starting at 6:30 p.m. If you play, are learning to play, or want to play an instrument—you're welcome to join. Music's a great way for people to connect! Reminder: children 12 and under need a parent or guardian. Teens need a note. If you have any question, contact **Phil Grant** (pgrant@st-matts.org).

Baptism Preparation Meeting - age 6 and younger

Preparation meetings are required for parents and guardians with children aged six or younger for baptism. The next meeting is on:

- **Saturday, June 21 at 10:00 AM**

Registration is required, at least one week in advance. To register — or for more information — please contact **Cristina Czaia** (cczaia@st-matts.org) or call the Parish Office (651-224-9793).



The Sounds and Sights of Saint Matthew

The Bells of Saint Matthew will ring on Sunday, May 25, 2025 in memory of **Jerry Schillinger**.

The Bells of Saint Matthew will ring on Wednesday, May 27, 2025 in memory of **William Postiglione**.

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 May 25, 2025

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

Monday: Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/Jn 15:26—16:4a

Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8/Jn 16:5-11

Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22—18:1/Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14/Jn 16:12-15

Thursday: Acts 18:1-8/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 16:16-20
Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 (6)/Eph 1:17-23 or Heb 9:24-28; 10:19-23/Lk 24:46-53

Friday: Acts 18:9-18/Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Jn 16:20-23

Saturday: Zep 3:14-18a or Rom 12:9-16/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6/Lk 1:39-56

Next Sunday: Acts 7:55-60/Rv 22:12-14, 16-17, 20/Jn 17:20-26
Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 (6)/Eph 1:17-23 or Heb 9:24-28; 10:19-23/Lk 24:46-53

Mass Intentions

Saturday, May 24

4:15 PM +John and Helen Leibl
+Deceased Members of Our Parish

Sunday, May 25

10:15 AM +Betty Hermann
+Deceased Members of Our Parish

Monday, May 26

9:00 AM +Deceased Veterans of St. Matthew

Saturday, May 31

4:15 PM +Dorinda Martineau
+Marian Wolters

Sunday, June 1

10:15 AM +Agnes C. and Gordon B. Roscoe
+Robert A. and Jeanne M. Stadt

Calendar of Events

Tuesday - Friday, May 27-30

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

St. Matthew Loaves and Fishes Meal Site is closed on Memorial Day, Monday, May 26.

Monday, May 26

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

Tuesday, May 27

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

Wednesday, May 28

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

Thursday, May 29

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

Friday, May 30

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Closed
6:30 PM - 8:00 PM St. Matthew Community Band

Saturday, May 31

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

Sunday, June 1

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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