



St. Matthew's

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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



PENTECOST SUNDAY

"We will come to him and
make our dwelling with him."
- Jn 14:23

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1996, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

June 8, 2025 **Pentecost Sunday**

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

When I was a seminarian almost 20 years ago, a bank vice president taught us etiquette classes. She said, "Gentlemen, please make sure your breath isn't bad. Take some breath mints before you hear confessions, okay?" We nervously laughed because the proximity that makes breath noticeable (whether pleasant or not) can be a bit awkward.

When Jesus breathes on his Apostles (John 20:22), he must have been within inches of at least some of them. This closeness of his breath has a purpose: the purpose of forgiveness of sins. **"Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them" (John 20:23)**. Why in the world would the almost uncomfortable closeness of his breath forgive sins?

In the Bible, breath is spirit or wind. It comes from above and makes that which is below to have identity. To not have a single identity is to be multiple, divided. The word "sin" comes from an ancient word that means "to split" or "render asunder." Sin divides us sinners and the world around us; our spiritual "breath" leaves us and our identity splinters. Only breath from above restores. For example, a shattered vase is rendered whole because the craftsman breathes the spirit of the vase back into it when he repairs it. A human being shattered by sin is made whole by the breath of God, breathed by Jesus through his priests. His breath alone forgives sins. It's always done with his gentle, loving closeness.

— *Father John Muir*

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Prayer Requests

Jeremiah Baker, Jeff Blomgren, Jerry & Louise Breidel, Johnny Edwards, Philip Heitzinger, Sean Kane, Bernie Klein, Nicole Liskiewicz, 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 another 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. 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: Last week, we celebrated the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick at our weekend Masses. Many people came forward to receive this important sacrament. We also had many parishioners volunteer to help those who came forward to receive the sacrament. We thank **Fr. Thomas Kommers, Fr. Tim Dolan and Fr. Terry Rassmussen** who anointed all who came forward. Thank you to **Cristina Czaia and Phil Grant** who planned the logistics for the service. To **Mary** who organized volunteers to direct and aid those coming forward to receive the sacrament. We thank the following who volunteered for that mission: **Tim Dalzell, Kathy Goldenstein, Scott Goldenstein, Tom Kabesh, Maggie Lee, Jeanne Maanum, Chris Mattson, Josie Mike, Ginny Roethler, Al Schowalter, Kathy Schowalter, Dave Sunday, Mooreen Sunday, and Karen Thompson**. We also thank all the parishioners and friends of the parish who came forward to receive this important sacrament.

WE ARE A VOLUNTEER PARISH!

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

Parish Administrator's Note

Who's In? Who's Out?

How do we decide who belongs to our community?

That age-old question has renewed importance these days, given what's happening in the world--especially as people migrate from one country to another.

Consider the Acts of the Apostles, the source of many of our Mass readings throughout the Easter season. Again and again, we see early church leaders struggling to figure out who belongs. It was quite a wrench to some of the Jewish followers of Jesus when it was decided to accept Gentiles as Christians.

Good call. I'm all in favor of including more followers of Jesus, rather than fewer. After all, Jesus commissioned his followers to go and "teach all nations". (Matthew 28:16-20) Jesus didn't tell us to leave out people who don't look like us, or come from another country, or speak other languages.

To help us teach all nations, Jesus promised the coming of the Holy Spirit. Today's scripture readings tell us what that looked like on Pentecost. What an amazing experience that must have been for those present!

We continue to receive the Holy Spirit in our lives, though perhaps less dramatically than at the first Pentecost. Openness to the Spirit helps us follow Jesus, keep his commandments, and be open to others.

I believe one of our parish community's greatest strengths is our openness to others. I'm always glad to hear newcomers to our St. Matt's community comment on how welcome they feel here.

This Pentecost, I pray that the Holy Spirit strengthens you to be open to others, do good in the world, and bring God's reign into being in its fullness.

Have a great week! Thank you for your support!

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

News and Events

Rosary in Cherokee Park will be happening once again this summer, hosted by the Rosary Society. Join us on **Tuesday, June 10th, at 10:00 am** at the large Picnic Pavilion as we pray the Rosary together. Other dates are **July 8th and August 12th**, also at 10:00 am. All are welcome.



Contribution Envelopes

If you have not received your contribution envelopes in the mail recently, please call the parish office and let Angela know. We are aware some parishioners have not received their envelopes, and we are working to figure out the issue. If you are missing your envelopes, please use a regular envelope to send in your contribution via mail or during plate collection. Thank you for your patience.

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).

Gifted and Belonging at the Park

Gifted and Belonging will meet at Harmon Park (230 Bernard St West in West St Paul) during the summer months. The dates are:

- **June 13, 6:30 - 8:00 pm**
- **July 11, 6:30 - 8:00 pm**
- **August 8, 6:30 - 8:00 pm**

The group meets at the **corner of Bidwell and Bernard Sts.** Bring chairs, outdoor games, snacks, water or a beverage for yourself.

For more information about the group, check out their website: <https://www.giftedbelonging.com/>



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 June 8, 2025

Sunday: *Vigil*: Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5/Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29, 30 (see 30)/Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39 *Extended Vigil*: Gn 11:1-9/Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b/Ez 37:1-14/Jl 3:1-5/Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29, 30 (see 30)/Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39 *Day*: Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34 (see 30)/1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Rom 8:8-17/Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 14:15-16, 23b-26

Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20 or Acts 1:12-14/Ps 87:1-2, 3 and 5, 6-7/Jn 19:25-34

Tuesday: 2 Cor 1:18-22/Ps 119:129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 135/Mt 5:13-16

Wednesday: Acts 11:21b-26; 13:1-3 (580)/Ps 99:5, 6, 7, 8, 9/Mt 5:17-19

Thursday: 2 Cor 3:15—4:1, 3-6/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Mt 5:20-26

Friday: 2 Cor 4:7-15/Ps 116:10-11, 15-16, 17-18/Mt 5:27-32

Saturday: 2 Cor 5:14-21/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12/Mt 5:33-37

Next Sunday: Prv 8:22-31/Ps 8:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 (2a)/Rom 5:1-5/Jn 16:12-15

Mass Intentions

Saturday, June 7

4:15 PM +Lee F. Maruska
+Robert B. and Stephen J. Roscoe

Sunday, June 8

10:15 AM +Fr. Steve Adrian
+Mary Lou Shields

Saturday, June 14

4:15 PM +George Beran
+Leo Kegler
+John Leibl

Sunday, June 15

10:15 AM +Joseph Savard

Calendar of Events

Monday - Friday, June 9-13

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

Monday, June 9

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

Tuesday, June 10

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open
10:00 AM Rosary in the Park at Cherokee Park
6:00 PM Facilities Committee Meeting

Wednesday, June 11

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM St. Mary's Health Clinic
8:00 PM Men's Club Meeting

Thursday, June 12

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open
4:30 PM Finance Council Meeting
6:00 PM Crafting Group

Friday, June 13

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

Saturday, June 14

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

Sunday, June 15

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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