



# St. Matthew's

## CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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



## 16<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

The Lord said to her in reply,  
"Martha, Martha, you are anxious  
and worried about many things.  
There is need of only one thing.  
Mary has chosen the better part  
and it will not be taken from her."

- Lk 10:41-42

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

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### July 20, 2025 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### Mass Times

- Saturday, 4:15 PM
- Sunday, 10:15 AM

#### 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

One of my close friends is a hermit priest who lives on a desert mountain. Recently I found myself in a group conversation about him. One vehemently objected, "What does he do up there all day? Nothing! Priests are down here working, running parishes, making a difference, and he...he is doing nothing! What a waste." The words dripped with indignation and resentment. Most of the group quietly nodded in silent agreement. Were they correct?

No! To see why, consider a similar scenario in this week's gospel. Jesus visits his friends Martha and Mary. A hardworking and exasperated Martha complains to Jesus that her sister is attending to him rather than to urgent household tasks. Our Lord, rather than praising hospitality, explicitly celebrates the less-productive sister for doing the "**one necessary thing.**" He praises her for she "**has chosen the better part**" (Luke 10:42). Mary is busy doing what matters.

Before we freak out like Martha, consider that all work—domestic, manual, professional, ministerial, contemplative—is done to help us (sooner or later) to experience the love that makes us happy. We should be thankful for those who focus on the "better part" of radical, ceaseless prayer. They invite us to remember the purpose of all work is the enjoyment of love. Contemplatives, hermits, anyone fervently committed to prayer—they invite us to cast aside our forgetful, resentful, and self-aggrandizing attitudes in exchange for hearts ready to do what is finally necessary.

— Father John Muir

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## Prayer Requests

**Jeremiah Baker, Jeff Blomgren, Jerry & Louise Breidel, Johnny Edwards, Joann Gallagher, Philip Heitzinger, Sean Kane, Bernie Klein, Nicole Liskiewicz, Diane McFarland, Geriann Raway, and Doris Schillinger.**

*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*

**Faith Formation Teachers Needed:** The St. Matthew Faith Formation program for public school students in grades K to 10 will resume in the fall, and we have openings for teachers for the 2025-26 school year. Classes are held on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 to 7:45 PM between late September and early May.

Volunteers should enjoy helping children learn more about their Catholic faith and do not need to be experienced teachers. We provide supplies, a curriculum that includes a ready-made lesson plan for each week, plus training and support. Most classes have 3 to 8 students. We also need assistants, including bilingual Spanish-English helpers. If a weekly commitment is too much, consider being a substitute or helping with specific events such as parent meetings or sacrament meetings. To find out more, please call or text **JanelleRohr**, 651-242-6004 or send an email to [janelle@st-matts.org](mailto:janelle@st-matts.org).

**Strawberries:** In just 4½ weeks, we will begin our annual strawberry cleaning for a booth at the State Fair. Cleaning will begin on Wednesday, August 20 at 8:00 am and the last day to clean will be Sunday, August 31. It involves only a few hours each morning. The more help we have the sooner the task is completed each day! Our volunteers not only enjoy helping to earn money for our parish, but even more the socialization that takes place during the berry cleaning. Please, mark your calendars and reserve some time to help earn income for the parish. Sign-up sheets are on tables in the back of the church.

### **WE ARE A VOLUNTEER PARISH!**

*Mary Leibl  
Volunteer Coordinator  
[mleibl@st-matts.org](mailto:mleibl@st-matts.org)*



### **The Sounds and Sights of Saint Matthew**

The Bells of St. Matthew will ring on Monday, July 21 for the **Living and Deceased Rosary Society Members.**

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

### Parking Lot Update

Imagine my surprise when Mike from Bituminous Roadways (BitRoads) called me on Thursday, July 10. He wanted to see if they could squeeze in our parking lot project (Phase I), to start last Tuesday, July 15.

Of course, I said yes! We've been planning to renew the parking lot for over a year. We raised significant funds with an appeal last summer, and people have been contributing to our Capital Needs Fund ever since. Also, Quantum STEAM Academy, our tenant, is between sessions. That simplified things greatly.

The scope of the project changed considerably over the past 12 months. That's partly because we're developing a plan to improve the quality of the overall project—and avoid possible problems in the future. The biggest change came from our decision to split the project into two phases.

As you may have noticed, the southern portion of the lot is now brand, spanking new. Between the time I wrote this column and when you read it, much happened. The BitRoads crew excavated the old asphalt, put in new Class 5 subsurface material, and laid two two-inch layers of asphalt.

Now we're giving the fresh asphalt 7-10 days to cure, i.e., harden up. That will greatly help the longevity.

The question naturally arises: what about Phase II, the north half of the lot?

That's where it gets complicated. We've had drainage issues in that area, with some water seeping into the northwest corner of the school building. We must solve those drainage problems. To make sure we do that portion of the lot correctly, we're talking to engineering consultants. We want to do this once-in-a-generation project properly.

My best guess is that we won't get to Phase II until next summer. It's taking time to get all the engineering reports.

Thank you for your support, and have a great week!

*Phil Grant, Administrator*  
*Safe Environment Coordinator*  
[pgrant@st-matts.org](mailto:pgrant@st-matts.org)  
651-224-9793

## Save the Date

St. Matthew's annual Mass and Picnic in the Park will be on **Sunday, August 17 at 10:30 AM** at the Cherokee Regional Park in St. Paul. We hope to see you there!



## News and Events

### 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. On behalf of Neighborhood House and the people it serves, thank you for your generosity!

### Save the Date - 2025 Unite the Night

St. Matthew will host National Night Out on **Tuesday, August 5 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM**. A good time for fellowship with other parishioners and people living in our parish neighborhood. Come join us!

### Archdiocesan Passport Adventure: We are 175 years strong

Catholics around the world are marking 2025 as a Year of Jubilee, while at the same time we as an Archdiocese celebrate 175 years since our founding on July 19, 1850. Archbishop Hebda invites you to become an Archdiocesan Jubilee Pilgrim:

- This summer through October 12, visit seven or more parishes.
- Include our Jubilee co-cathedrals: the Cathedral of Saint Paul and the Basilica of Saint Mary, and look for the Jubilee Cross in each of them.
- Visit one of our oldest, newest and/or newly renovated churches.
- Participate in a Mass that expands your liturgical experience.
- Come together on October 12 for Mass followed by an ice cream social on the lawn of the Cathedral of Saint Paul.

Visit [archspm.org/passport](http://archspm.org/passport) to download and print your passport, and to learn more information.

### 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](mailto: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	Tara Perron
Isaac Garcia	Katie Quinlan
Terry Grundtner	Defina Reynolds
Maggie Lee	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 July 20, 2025

Sunday: Gn 18:1-10a/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 5 (1a)/Col 1:24-28/Lk 10:38-42

Monday: Ex 14:5-18/Ex 15:1bc-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 12:38-42

Tuesday: Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

Wednesday: Ex 16:1-5, 9-15/Ps 78:18-19, 23-24, 25-26, 27-28/Mt 13:1-9

Thursday: Ex 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20b/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/Mt 13:10-17

Friday: 2 Cor 4:7-15/Ps 126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6/Mt 20:20-28

Saturday: Ex 24:3-8/Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15/Mt 13:24-30

Next Sunday: Gn 18:20-32/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6-7, 7-8 (3a)/Col 2:12-14/Lk 11:1-13

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, July 19

4:15 PM +Bill Brengman  
+Don Leibl

### Sunday, July 20

10:15 AM +Arthur Geis  
+Jim Russell

### Saturday, July 26

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

### Sunday, July 27

10:15 AM +Virgil Roethler

## Calendar of Events

### Monday - Friday, July 21 - 25

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

### Monday, July 21

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

### Tuesday, July 22

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

### Wednesday, July 23

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

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM St. Mary's Health Clinic

### Thursday, July 24

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

6:00 PM Crafting Group

6:30 PM Parish Council Meeting

### Friday, July 25

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

### Saturday, July 26

3:00 PM - 3:30 PM Confessions

4:15 PM Mass

### Sunday, July 27

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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