



St. Matthew's

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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



KNOCK
AND THE DOOR
WILL BE OPENED
TO YOU.

LUKE 11:9

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

©LPI

July 27, 2025
17th 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

Facebook www.facebook.com/churchofstmatthew

YouTube www.youtube.com/churchofstmatthew

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Friday

Closed

Gospel Meditation

Once I went to a hospice facility to celebrate Last Rites for an elderly dying man. His family had told me that he had been uncommunicative for days. At the conclusion of the ritual, we began to recite the Our Father prayer. To everyone's surprise, his lips moved, clearly mouthing the words to the Lord's prayer. Stripped of most of his faculties, the man could still pray those precious God-given petitions. A lifetime of prayer had planted the words even deeper than his failing consciousness.

Do we want the Lord's prayer to be as deeply embedded in us? If we want to be people of hope, we should. Recall that our Lord immediately follows the prayer by saying: "**Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you**" (Luke 11:9). We only ask, search and knock because we hope that the request is not in vain. Everything we could possibly hope for is contained in the prayer. Praying the Our Father deepens our hope.

We should consciously pour all our hopes into the Lord's prayer; we should allow it to be an expression of hope, not simply rote words. Then, over time, it builds up our hope in God. It sinks deep into our souls and bodies. How blessed we are when these words of hope are on our lips, even when everything else seems to fail.

— Father John Muir

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Prayer Requests

Jeremiah Baker, Jeff Blomgren, Jerry & Louise Breidel, Johnny Edwards, Johanna (VandenBosch) 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

Strawberries: In just 3½ 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. Cleaning is usually done by noon. If you think you may be able to help during any of this time, there are sign-up sheets on the tables in the back of the church. The more help we have, the sooner we can finish each day!

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 and offering them a song book, 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 Center at 651-224-9793 or speak to a greeter or sacristan at the Saturday 4:15 pm Mass.

Thank You: If you call the Parish Center, or come into the office, the first person you encounter is our Parish Receptionist. We are very fortunate to have friendly, knowledgeable volunteers answering the phones and greeting visitors coming into the office. We thank **Linda, Josie, Chris and Alice** who each volunteer one day a week to serve as our Parish Receptionist!

WE ARE A VOLUNTEER PARISH!

Mary Leibl
Volunteer Coordinator
mleibl@st-matts.org



The Sounds and Sights of Saint Matthew

The Bells of St. Matthew will ring on Saturday, July 26 in honor of **Thomas and Nancy Maloney's 73rd wedding anniversary.**

The Bells of St. Matthew will ring on Wednesday, July 30 in memory of **Scott Patrick.**

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

More on the Parking Lot

I see that we raised \$42,577 for the parking lot last year. That's great! In addition, we have a \$10,000 pledge. Thank you, parking lot and capital needs donors! Your support is essential in getting these projects done.

Speaking of which, I was recently asked, "How come you're getting these things done, Phil?"

Let's rephrase the question: "How come **we're** getting these things done?" I emphasize the "we" because I'm just one of many people making things happen. Great credit goes to our Facilities Committee. Members of that committee have been invaluable in researching the details of all of our recent big projects, whether it be for the parking lot (2025), the main electric panel (2024), or the roofs (2023).

Additional credit goes to our Finance Council, whose members diligently review monthly financial reports, ask great questions, and recommend where to commit our funds.

All of us have roles to play here at St. Matt's. I see one of my roles as director of attention. That is, which project(s) are most urgent and critical? Which projects can wait a year or more?

With all that in mind, where do we stand with regard to paying the \$73,410 we're likely to owe to Bituminous Roadways for Phase I of the parking lot project? (I say likely, because we haven't seen the final bill yet.)

In the short run, we're going to finance that amount with a microloan from Emmaus Partners (EP) (formerly Catholic Finance Corporation, or CFC). By doing that, we preserve a cash cushion for regular operations.

Again, thank you for your support. Have a great week!

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

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).



Faith Formation News

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 **Janelle Rohr**, 651-242-6004 or send an email to janelle@st-matts.org.

News and Events

St. Matthew Community Band

The community band's next session is **Friday, August 1** 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. We'll concentrate on folk dance tunes, including jigs, reels, and marches, among others. Music's a great way for people to connect! Children 12 and under need a parent or guardian. Teens need a note. For questions, contact **Phil Grant** (pgrant@st-matts.org).

Commonweal Study Group

All are welcome to join our monthly *Commonweal* magazine's next meeting. It is this coming **Saturday, August 2, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.** in the Parish Center. *Commonweal* covers the arts and literature, as well as current events. For a copy of the article, as well as a quick introduction to how we conduct our discussion, please email **Phil Grant** (pgrant@st-matts.org).

Community of Saints Catholic School Collection

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



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	Delfina 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 27, 2025

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

Monday: Ex 32:15-24, 30-34/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23/Mt 13:31-35

Tuesday: Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28/Ps 103:6-7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13/Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42

Wednesday: Ex 34:29-35/Ps 99:5, 6, 7, 9/Mt 13:44-46

Thursday: Ex 40:16-21, 34-38/Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6a and 8a, 11/Mt 13:47-53

Friday: Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37/Ps 81:3-4, 5-6, 10-11ab/Mt 13:54-58

Saturday: Lv 25:1, 8-17/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8/Mt 14:1-12

Next Sunday: Eccl 1:2; 2:21-23/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14, 17 (1)/Col 3:1-5, 9-11/Lk 12:13-21

Mass Intentions

Saturday, July 26

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

Sunday, July 27

10:15 AM +Virgil Roethler

Saturday, August 2

4:15 PM +Fr. Steve Adrian

Sunday, August 3

10:15 AM +Carol Dvorak Johnson
+Marian Wolters

Calendar of Events

Monday - Friday, July 28 - August 1

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

Monday, July 28

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

Tuesday, July 29

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

Wednesday, July 30

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

Thursday, July 31

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

Friday, August 1

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

Saturday, August 2

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM Commonweal Study Group
3:00 PM - 3:30 PM Confessions
4:15 PM Mass

Sunday, August 3

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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