



# St. Matthew's

## CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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

ALREADY  
**BLAZING!**

— LUKE 12:49 —

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

©LPI

**August 17, 2025**  
**20<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

During my baseball career, my best coach often said, "You shouldn't be worried if I yell at you. Be worried if I don't. If I stop pushing you, it means I don't think you have any more potential." He demanded a lot, and I knew it meant he saw that I could be something special on the baseball field.

Jesus says some demanding words to us this week. "**Do you think I have come to establish peace on the earth?**" he asks, "**No, tell you, but rather division**" (Luke 12:51). He wants you and me—in fact, all the earth—to participate in the luminous glory of God. That's why he speaks of himself as a divine arsonist. Divine fire is like a good coach: it demands the removal of all that obstructs the achievement of the lofty goal.

How is your life demanding right now? That inconvenient family situation, the unfair boss at work, the kids who reject their parents' wishes, the nagging health issue? Maybe things would be more peaceful devoid of these seemingly arbitrary difficulties. But for us who believe in the one who comes to set the earth on fire, we should be much more worried if he stops demanding so much from us. In fact, let's thank him for it. He sees how glorious we can become.

— Father John Muir

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## Prayer Requests

Jeremiah Baker, Jerry & Louise Breidel, Johnny Edwards, Johanna (VandenBosch) Gallagher, Philip Heitzinger, Sean Kane, Bernie Klein, Nicole Liskiewicz, Tom Maloney, Miguel Martinez, Diane McFarland, Geriann Raway, Linda Rivera, 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

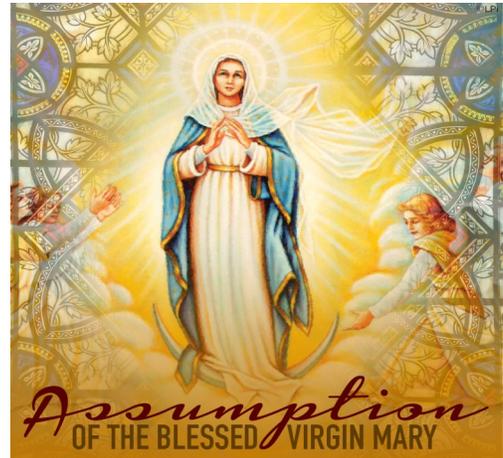
*Then I said, "Here am I. Send me!" ~ Isaiah 6:8*

**Strawberries:** In only **two days**, we will begin cleaning strawberries for a booth at the Minnesota State Fair. **Cleaning will begin at 8:00 am Wednesday, August 20! The last day to clean berries 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. Thank you to all who have already signed the sheets or have personally let us know that you will be helping with the strawberries. Thank you to the many volunteers who signed up after seeing Pope Leo XIV wearing the sign that read, "See You at Strawberry Cleaning!" He will be in the Social Hall for the 12 days of berry cleaning!

**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 Friday, August 22 in memory of **Sister Alene Kuhn, SSND.**

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

### Facilities Updates

- The old play structure adjacent to the school is gone. Many thanks to our head of maintenance, Steve, for handling this. (He's in the Bobcat in one of the insert photos. The other photo shows the dumpster rolling off a truck. That dumpster is where Steve put the disassembled structure.)
- With the play structure gone, we're ready to dig (literally) into the problem of water seeping into the northwest corner of the school building. (Available evidence indicates it's been happening for years.) We're seeking engineering consultants to provide comprehensive recommendations for dealing with those drainage issues. Those recommendations will enable us to move ahead with Phase II of the parking lot renewal project, likely in 2026.
- Phase I of the lot is largely complete, and it looks great! With time and some cool days, the fresh asphalt is hardening up nicely. (And just in time, too: our tenant, Quantum STEAM Academy, resumes classes on Monday, August 25. Plus, strawberry cleaning begins on Wednesday, August 20. I'm glad the lot can now handle the delivery truck.)
- Meanwhile, our electrician (Dan) has been busy taking care of important items noted on the recent annual inspection report from Catholic Mutual (our insurance company). Most items are in the school building, and a few are in our other buildings.
- Which brings me to the overhead church fans: with Dan's help, we can replace them properly. I'm glad that pending project can finally move ahead.
- However, our church building's air conditioning fans are another story. They can be noisy, and we had that hot weekend several weeks ago, when the system was down.

Background: Our AC system is controlled by an old, pneumatic system. Those old controls are a challenge, as the necessary parts and technical skills are increasingly difficult to find. Even as we manage the old controls, we're looking into how the controls might be updated.

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

## Faith Formation News

**Faith Formation, First Communion, Confirmation Registration Now Open:** Families with students in Grades K-10 attending public schools, please register your children for Wednesday evening Faith Formation classes for the 2025-2026 school year. The registration form is available at [www.st-matts.org/faith-formation/](http://www.st-matts.org/faith-formation/) and at the Parish Center front desk. This is also the time to sign up children to receive the sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Communion, and Confirmation in winter and spring 2026; indicate what sacraments you are seeking on the registration form. Students are prepared for those sacraments during the Wednesday evening classes, which run from September 24 through April 29. Return the completed registration form via email to [janelle@st-matts.org](mailto:janelle@st-matts.org) or bring it the first evening of class. Community of Saints (COS) Regional Catholic School parents can sign up their children at the sacraments table at the COS Back to School Night on August 28.



## News and Events

### Neighborhood House Collection

This weekend is the monthly Neighborhood House collection. There will be a basket by the main entrance of the church for you to place your non-perishable or monetary donation. For Sunday, August 17<sup>th</sup> at Mass in the Park, please put your monetary donation in an envelope, clearly marked Neighborhood House, and place it in the collection basket. On behalf of Neighborhood House and the people it serves, thank you for your generosity!



**Save the Date: The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Festival of Rights**  
Beautiful Laundrette is hosting its 4<sup>th</sup> annual Festival of Rights on **Saturday, August 23, 4:00 - 7:00 PM**. Come check out the resource fair and stay for family fun, community picnic and music. Beautiful Laundrette is located at **625 Stryker Avenue in St. Paul**.

### 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)).



## 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 August 17, 2025**

Sunday: Jer 38:4-6, 8-10/Ps 40:2, 3, 4, 18 (14b)/Heb 12:1-4/  
Lk 12:49-53

Monday: Jgs 2:11-19/Ps 106:34-35, 36-37, 39-40, 43ab and  
44/Mt 19:16-22

Tuesday: Jgs 6:11-24a/Ps 85:9, 11-12, 13-14/Mt 19:23-30

Wednesday: Jgs 9:6-15/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mt 20:1-16

Thursday: Jgs 11:29-39a/Ps 40:5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Mt 22:1-14

Friday: Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22/Ps 146:5-6ab, 6c-7, 8-9a, 9bc  
-10/Mt 22:34-40

Saturday: Ru 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17/Ps 128:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Mt  
23:1-12

Next Sunday: Is 66:18-21/Ps 117:1, 2 (Mk 16:15)/Heb 12:5-7,  
11-13/Lk 13:22-30

## Mass Intentions

### **Saturday, August 16**

4:15 PM +Bill Brengman  
+Don Leibl

### **Sunday, August 17**

10:30 AM +Connie Grundei  
+Deceased Rosary Society Members

### **Saturday, August 23**

4:15 PM +Eileen Norton  
+Mary Ann Roscoe

### **Sunday, August 24**

10:15 AM +Arthur Geis  
+Mary Lou Shields

## Calendar of Events

### **Monday - Friday, August 18-22**

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

### **Monday, August 18**

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

### **Tuesday, August 19**

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

### **Wednesday, August 20**

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM: Strawberry Cleaning  
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open  
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM St. Mary's Health Clinic

### **Thursday, August 21**

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM: Strawberry Cleaning  
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open  
6:00 PM Crafting Group

### **Friday, August 22**

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM: Strawberry Cleaning  
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Closed

### **Saturday, August 23**

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM: Strawberry Cleaning  
3:00 PM - 3:30 PM Confessions  
4:15 PM Mass

### **Sunday, August 24**

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM: Strawberry Cleaning  
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.*

### **Support Our Advertisers**

Advertisers on the back of this bulletin pay for this weekly bulletin. Thank them by using their services and products.