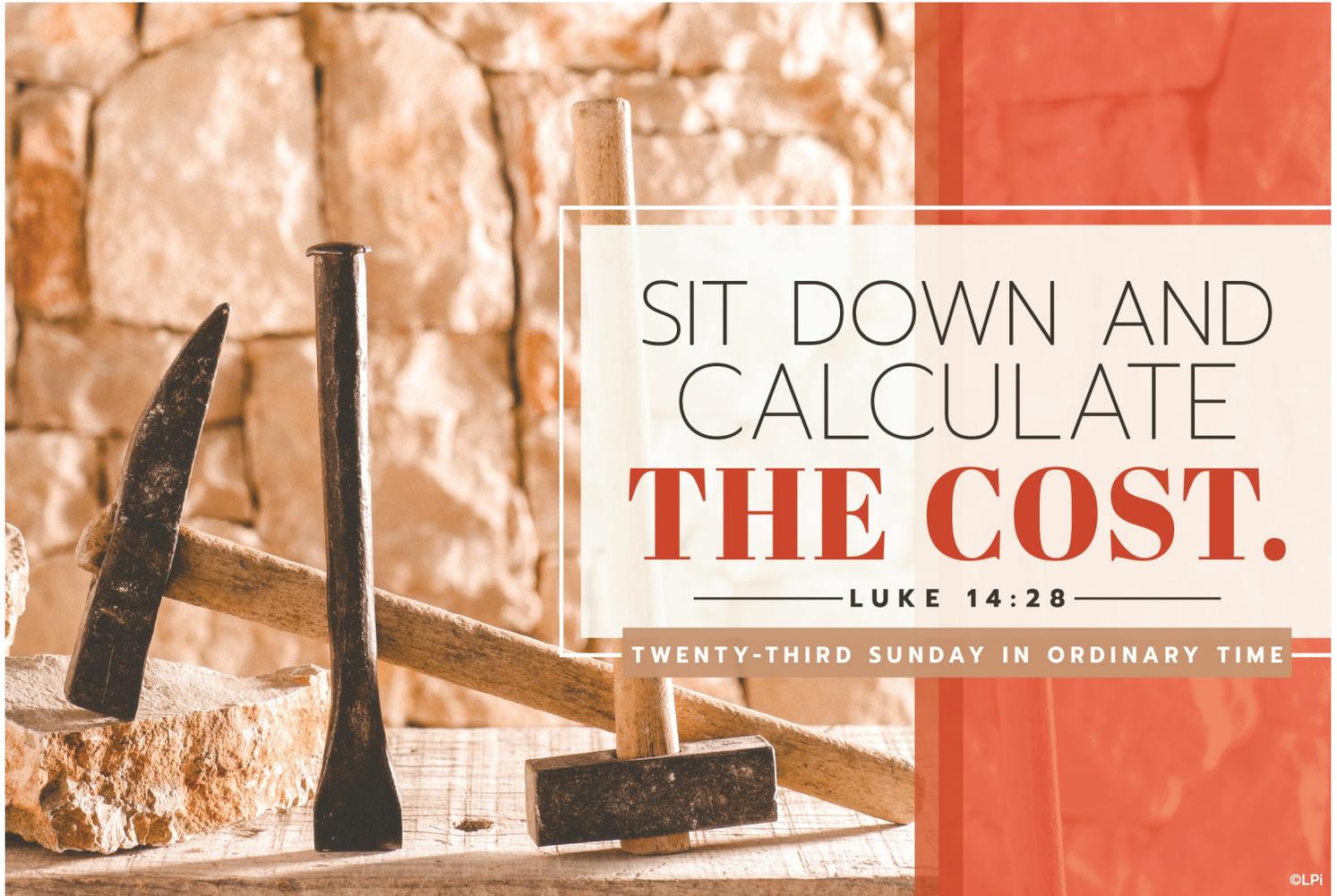




# St. Matthew's

## CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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



# SIT DOWN AND CALCULATE **THE COST.**

— LUKE 14:28 —

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

©LPI

### **September 7, 2025** **23<sup>rd</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 hot Arizona summer afternoon my car ran out of gas. I phoned the parish office and begged for help. My secretary came and helped me fill the gas tank. She chided me, "If you can't manage getting your car from A to B, how can we expect you to guide the parish where it needs to go?" Point taken, Julie. I vowed to always make sure I have plenty of gas in my car.

The Lord Jesus chides us in this week's Gospel, too. He uses the two images of a man building a tower and a king marching soldiers into war to make this single point: acquire what is needed to follow him or look ridiculous. We rightly mock the builder who lacks money for his tower and the king with a short-handed army. But our mocking boomerangs back on us. How do we expect to follow Jesus to the end with insufficient detachment from our possessions and divided hearts?

The good news is, there is still time. Jesus is building a great tower to heaven—his own body. So we renounce all and give ourselves to him as his precious stones. Jesus is waging a battle against our enemy. So we forsake all and swear allegiance and march under his banner. In this way, we will finish what has begun in our discipleship. Or better put, our Lord will have the stones and soldiers required to see his great work through.

— Father John Muir

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## Prayer Requests

**Jeremiah Baker, Jerry & Louise Breidel, Johnny Edwards, Johanna (VandenBosch) Gallagher, Philip Heitzinger, Joan Johnson, Sean Kane, Bernie Klein, Nicole Liskiewicz, Tom Maloney, Miguel Martinez, Diane McFarland, Stephen Mike, 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.*

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

## Volunteer Opportunities and Parish Needs

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

**Processional Cross:** Beginning the first weekend in September, we will begin Mass with a procession. We are looking for volunteers to carry the processional cross. Women, men, Confirmation candidates etc. are all welcome to carry the cross in the opening procession. If you are willing to take part in this part of the Mass, please contact Mary at [mleibl@st-matts.org](mailto:mleibl@st-matts.org) and leave your name, contact information and which Mass you prefer. You may also speak to a sacristan or greeter when attending Mass.

**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.

### 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, September 8 for **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.

### 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).



## Parish Administrator's Note

### Annunciation tragedy; healing

All of us are undoubtedly still processing last week's tragedy at Annunciation Church and School in Minneapolis. I know I am.

When something like this happens, it's common to wonder what we can do.

I'm confident we're keeping the Annunciation community in our prayers. That's a given.

However, I'm reminded of an old saying: "Pray as if everything depends on God. Work as if everything depends on you."

How, then, might we work together regarding the Annunciation tragedy? Some first thoughts:

- Stay connected to friends and families. Community support is essential at all times, especially when processing trauma so close to home.
- Listen. Listen well. One of the most healing things we can do for each other is to listen. Don't try to "solve" anyone's grief. Everyone's journey through grief is different.
- Be patient with yourself and others. It takes time to grieve. Better to take time than to rush towards "closure".
- Pay attention to "red flags" in people you know who seem very troubled. Experts tell us that many violent acts have been prevented because someone noticed warning signs **and reported them to helpers**. Helpers include counselors, therapists, officials, the police, and more. If you have no one else to turn to, let me know. I can help refer people.

In times like this, I recall the wisdom I received from a mentor, many years ago. "Take care of injured people. Then take care of everyone else."

I heard this during a folk dance, back in the 1980s at Danebod Family Camp. An older dancer tried to join a circle in motion. She failed, fell, and broke her hip. We called first responders, who took her to the hospital. They took good care of her.

After that, the rest of us continued dancing. The emotional support of moving to music while holding hands did a lot to help take care of everyone else. We were glad to hear, later in the week, that our dancer friend was recovering nicely.

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

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

## Faith Formation News

### Public School Family Registration for Faith Formation, First Communion, Confirmation:

Families with students in Grades K-10 attending public schools or attending non-Catholic private 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/), in the back of church, 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; indicate what sacraments you are seeking on the registration form. Return the completed registration form via email to [janelle@st-matts.org](mailto:janelle@st-matts.org). Mark your calendars for September 24, the first evening of classes held in the Parish Center starting at 6:30 pm. Parents, plan to attend a parent meeting in church at 6:50 pm that evening.

**Community of Saints Sacrament Registration Now Open:** Community of Saints (COS) Regional Catholic School families who would like their students to receive sacraments with the Church of St. Matthew are invited to register by completing the form at [www.st-matts.org/faith-formation/](http://www.st-matts.org/faith-formation/). Email the completed form to [janelle@st-matts.org](mailto:janelle@st-matts.org). COS 8th graders may be signed up for the sacrament of Confirmation, and their first class evening is October 22. COS students in Grades 2 and above who would like to make their First Communion and First Reconciliation this school year may sign up using the same form, and their first class evening is November 12. Watch the school newsletter for more details. If your student is not yet baptized, see [www.st-matts.org/sacraments](http://www.st-matts.org/sacraments) and complete a separate registration form for baptism. The completed baptism registration form should be emailed to [arakow@st-matts.org](mailto:arakow@st-matts.org).

## News and Events

### Coffee Sunday Returns on September 7!

On **Sunday, September 7 from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM**, the Minus family invites all to breakfast in the Social Hall in remembrance of Arthur Minus and other deceased members of our parish.



This is an opportunity to connect with other parish members while we remember Arthur and others we lost.

A free will offering for the St. Matthew's Catholic Community is welcome. Beginning in October, Coffee Sunday will be on the second Sunday of each month. We hope to see you there!

## 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 September 7, 2025**

Sunday: Wis 9:13-18b/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14-17 (1)/Phlm 9-10, 12-17/Lk 14:25-33

Monday: Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Ps 13:6ab, 6c/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23

Tuesday: Col 2:6-15/Ps 62:6-7, 9/Lk 6:12-19

Wednesday: Col 3:1-11/Ps 145:2-3, 10-11, 12-13ab/Lk 6:20-26

Thursday: Col 3:12-17/Ps 150:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 6:27-38

Friday: 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14/Ps 16:1b-2a and 5, 7-8, 11/Lk 6:39-42

Saturday: 1 Tm 1:15-17/Ps 113:1b-2, 3-4, 5a and 6-7/Lk 6:43-49

Next Sunday: Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17

## Mass Intentions

### **Saturday, September 6**

4:15 PM +Fr. Steve Adrian

### **Sunday, September 7**

10:15 AM +Carol Dvorak Johnson  
+Lori Ann Dvorak Simonson  
+Dorothy Williams

### **Saturday, September 13**

4:15 PM +Bill Brengman  
+Arthur Geis

### **Sunday, September 14**

10:15 AM +Sister Anne Becker, SSND  
+James Stanger, Sr.

## Calendar of Events

### **Monday - Friday, September 8 - 12**

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

### **Monday, September 8**

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

### **Tuesday, September 9**

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open  
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Liturgy Committee Meeting  
12:30 PM - 2:00 PM Rosary Society Meeting

### **Wednesday, September 10**

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, September 11**

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open  
4:30 PM - 5:30 PM Finance Council Meeting  
6:00 PM Crafting Group

### **Friday, September 12**

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

### **Saturday, September 13**

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

### **Sunday, September 14**

10:15 AM Mass  
6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Gifted and Belonging Meeting

### **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**

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