



**Children's Liturgy  
of the Word  
Starts this Sunday!**

**Vatican II**

When I was interviewing for my position in early 2021, I asked if St. Matt's is a "Vatican II" parish. I was glad to hear the answer, "Yes".

I was thinking of this the other day. A young parishioner asked me, "What's Vatican II?"

The Second Vatican Council (1962-1965) convened church leadership from around the world, for major sessions in Rome each year. The Council's teachings led to Mass in English, architectural changes (look around our building!), liturgical renewal, an emphasis on care for the poor, and a shift from a culture of clericalism to one that recognizes the importance of everyone's baptism.

And that's just for starters. When I began work here and got to know Fr. Steve Adrian—our long-time pastor who died last December—I saw how his emphasis on Vatican II really helped make this a "Vatican II parish."

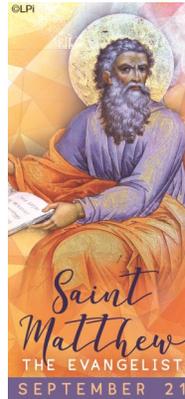
The Council ended almost 60 years ago. Let us continue to celebrate its legacy, Fr. Steve's legacy, and our community's dedication to its teachings.

*Phil Grant*

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

**Feast of Saint Matthew**



This weekend we celebrate the Feast of Saint Matthew. Matthew was a tax collector, a publican, someone associated with sinners and outcasts.

In the famous painting by Caravaggio, Matthew's head is bowed low over a table full of coins, a symbol often associated with this saint. Often when we are caught up in activity that is not just or fair, we have a difficulty meeting the gaze of

those around us, as we are overcome with our own shame or guilt.

Our patron saint reminds us of the importance of God seeing us, loving us and choosing us even though we are all sinners.

Pope Francis says: "Jesus' gaze always lifts us up... never lets us down... It invites us to get up... to move forward. The gaze makes you feel that He loves you. This gives the courage to follow Him. And "Matthew got up and followed Him'."

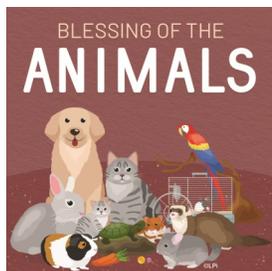
*Today's Catholic* says, "Matthew abandoned earthly wealth and dishonest practices to follow Jesus who summoned him away from earthly gain to receive a greater treasure."

Pope Francis says, "The gaze of Jesus gives rise to missionary activity, service, self-giving. Jesus' love heals our short-sightedness and pushes us to look beyond, not to be satisfied with appearances or with what is politically correct."

After Mass, greeters will be at the door, passing out small gold chocolate coins in honor of our patron. Enjoy this token as a feast day treat, and a reminder of God's loving gaze and our call to pay forward that love to everyone around you - especially anyone you see who is scorned or rejected.

*Cristina Czaia*  
*Director of Music and Liturgy*

## Blessing of the Animals



Saturday, October 4  
2:45 PM

Outside in the square  
around the Saint Matthew  
status. Bring your pet for  
this special blessing!

## Annunciation Hope and Healing Fund

In response to the mass shooting at the Church of the Annunciation, the Catholic Community Foundation of Minnesota (CCF) has established the Annunciation Hope and Healing Fund.

This is a charitable fund at CCF that will provide financial support to the Church of the Annunciation for the needs of the church and school, as well as support to those affected by the tragedy. **100% of net contributions will benefit the community.** To find out more or to make a donation, please visit [www.ccf-mn.org/annunciation-hope-and-healing-fund/](http://www.ccf-mn.org/annunciation-hope-and-healing-fund/)

## The Center for Catholic Social Thought 2025 Fall Speaker Series

### Localism, Good Work and Technological Society

Technology is reaching into ever more remote corners of our lives, and at the same time there is increasing interest in reconnecting with the land as the source of our material life, finding good work, and living locally. Co-taught by Colin Miller (Ph.D., Duke University) and KC Flynn (Baylor University).

**Thursdays, October 2-December 11, 5:30-7:00 pm**  
(No class on October 9 or November 27)

**Church of the Assumption, St. Paul**

Register free of charge: [catholicsocialthought.org](http://catholicsocialthought.org)

### We Are the Body of Christ: An Ignatian Approach to Restoring the Humanity of Migrants

How does our faith call us to accompany migrants, who face kidnapping, exploitation, and criminalization? Fr. Brian Strassburger, SJ, Director of the Del Camino Jesuit Border Ministries based in Brownsville, Texas, will talk about the dynamic of migration on the U.S.-Mexico border and in cities throughout the country. Fr. Brian will also offer practical suggestions for stopping the dehumanization of migrants. The talk will be livestreamed or you may come in person on **Monday, October 6, 7:00 pm, St. Thomas More Church, St. Paul.** For more information and registration: <https://ignatianspiritualitycenter.org/event/we-are-the-body-of-christ/>

## "MIGRANTS, MISSIONARIES OF HOPE"

Join us for an Archdiocesan Mass of Solidarity for  
the World Day of Migrants and Refugees



**Sunday, October 5, 2025**

5 p.m. Cultural Celebration  
5:30 p.m. Mass  
*The Basilica of Saint Mary*

"In a world darkened by war and injustice, even when all seems lost, migrants and refugees stand as messengers of hope. Their courage and tenacity bear heroic testimony to a faith that sees beyond what our eyes can see and gives them the strength to defy death on the various contemporary migration routes."

— Message of Pope Leo XIV for the 11th World Day of Migrants and Refugees 2025

**All are invited to share the richness of their culture by wearing the clothes of their native culture or ethnicity.**

The Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis is home to more than 800,000 Catholics celebrating Mass regularly in 11 different languages.



## Center for Catholic Social Thought 2025 Fall Public Speaking Event

### "Consumerism and Idolatry in Amazon's World" Dr. William T. Cavanaugh

Professor of Catholic Studies and Director of the Center for World Catholicism and Intercultural Theology at DePaul University

**Thursday, October 9, 2025, 6:30 pm**  
**The lower church at Assumption, St. Paul**

Dr. Cavanaugh's research focuses on the Church's encounter with social, political, and economic realities. He is especially interested in the social implications of traditional Catholic beliefs and practices, such as the Eucharist.

Visit [www.catholicsocialthought.org/](http://www.catholicsocialthought.org/) to learn more and register.