



St. Matthew's

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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



THE PERSON TRUSTWORTHY
IN SMALL MATTERS IS
ALSO TRUSTWORTHY IN
GREAT ONES.

— LUKE 16:10 —

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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September 21, 2025 **25th 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

Before I was a priest, I was a lazy worker for a retail Apple store. Hearing a rumor that my boss was going to fire me, I secretly sold iPhones for half-price, gave away dozens of free iPads, and donated several brand-new laptops to managers in other stores in the mall. After a week, my boss called me into his office. He knew what I was up to. He said I had cost the store thousands of dollars. "Really great work, John," he said. "I am going to recommend you to be my assistant manager and double your pay." I was amazed.

And so are you. Which is understandable because it never happened. How could it? My tall tale is a retelling of Jesus' brow-furrowing parable we hear this week. A lazy, dishonest steward defrauds his boss and then the "**master commended the dishonest servant for acting prudently**" (Luke 16:8). What is the Lord saying to us?

Most of us treat our spiritual lives like a lazy teenager at an Apple store. We really don't care. We go through the motions. Then, if we are lucky, something happens that shakes us to spiritual action; to employ whatever time, money, and resources we have to build around us a strong network of love. Every saint did that. Our Lord is so good he *wants* us to use his stuff to forgive debts and to bless others. He wants us to ensure our future. So do it!

— 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

Volunteer Mentors for Students: School Sisters of Notre Dame partners with AARP at East Side Learning Center to provide one-on-one reading tutors for local public elementary schools. More tutors are needed for this school year. Training and support are provided. See <https://eastsidelearningcenter.org> or call **651-758-0660** for more information.

Greeter: We are in need of more volunteers to serve as greeters at the Saturday 4:15 pm Mass. Duties include welcoming those attending Mass, while offering them a hymnal, worship aid and a bulletin. An excellent opportunity for a Confirmation candidate to serve the parish!

Cross Bearer: We are looking for individuals or families that are willing to process into church with the cross at the beginning of Mass. This procession will be led by an individual carrying the processional Cross, followed by an individual carrying the Book of the Gospels.

Lectors: We need at least two more lectors for the Saturday 4:15 pm Mass. Scheduling is based on your availability. Training is provided.

For more information on how to get involved in Liturgy at St. Matt's, please contact the **Parish Center at 651-224-9793, Mary Leibl at mleibl@st-matts.org or Cristina Czaia at cczaia@st-matts.org**. You can also speak to a greeter or sacristan before or after Mass.

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 Wednesday, September 24 in memory of **Ed Millerbernd** on the 13th anniversary of his passing.

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

No to Violence

I was greatly saddened with the recent killing of Charlie Kirk, a prominent political activist. Such violence betrays everything our faith stands for.

All too often, violence begets violence. Inflamed passions can readily lead to a horrible cycle of violence. It feels to me like we're well into such a cycle.

What to do? For one thing, follow Christ's teaching: be peaceful; turn the other cheek.

Hard as that is to do, it leads to better outcomes. It's not just the Bible and church teaching that call us to peace. Modern political science has demonstrated that peaceful words and actions are far more effective than violence, when it comes to reaching political goals. (I'm referring to political goals that serve the common good, not the power hungry.) I've read many articles that support this thinking with strong evidence.

I'm now reading a book by Gene Sharp, *From Dictatorship to Democracy: A Conceptual Framework for Liberation*. Sharp recounts specific examples showing how non-violence has worked well. In addition, an appendix lists 198 "Methods of Nonviolent Action".

For example, Sharp's very first method is "public speeches". I am gladdened when religious and political leaders decry violence. I encourage everyone to send letters or emails to our leaders. We have power to influence them to say and to do the right thing, to help make it easier for us to be good.

Closer to home, I'm reminded of something St. Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa) wrote.

"I heard the Pope John Paul II speak about peace, and one thing he said was this: 'No to violence and yes to peace.' What is violence? In the first place, we think of weapons, knives, killings. We never think of connecting violence with our tongues. But the first weapon, the cruelest weapon, is the tongue. Examine what part your tongue has played in creating peace or violence. We can really wound a person, we can kill a person, with our tongue."

May you have a peaceful week.

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

Faith Formation News

Faith Formation Starts This Week: Faith Formation is a weekly religious education program for public school students in Grades K-10. Our classes for the 2025-26 school year start on **Wednesday, September 24**, in the St. Matthew Parish Center. Students in Grades K to 5 start class at 6:30 pm, and students in Grades 6 to 10 start at 6:45 pm. **Parents, please plan to attend a meeting in church at 7:00 pm that evening.** Register students ahead of time using the English-language or Spanish-language registration form at www.st-matts.org/faith-formation/; the English and Spanish forms are also in the back of church and at the Parish Center front desk. Or register students the first evening of class. Children who have not made their First Communion yet who are in Grades 2 and up are prepared for that sacrament, and students in Grades 8 to 10 who would like to receive the sacrament of Confirmation are prepared during the Wednesday evening classes.



News and Events

Celebrate St. Matt's – Sunday, Sept. 21st Parking

Note the following for this Sunday's celebration:

- There will be limited parking at the south end of the lot, for those who need to use the elevator in order to attend 10:15 am Mass. We will set out cones and signs.
- After Mass, when the celebration begins, we'll close the parking lot gate. We want to make things safe for activities happening on the parking lot. Thank you!

Monthly Scripture Study

St. Matthew's monthly Scripture Study returns on **Tuesday, September 23 from 5:30 to 7:00 pm in the Parish Center Community Room (first floor).**

This year, it will focus on reading and discussing the Gospel readings for the upcoming Sunday Masses and celebrations. Facilitated by Zach Czaia, the Scripture Study will be on the fourth Tuesday of each month. Let Zach know if you're planning to come, or if you have any questions at zczaia@hotmail.com.

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 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 21, 2025

Sunday: Am 8:4-7/Ps 113:1-2, 4-6, 7-8 (see 1a, 7b)/1 Tm 2:1-8/Lk 16:1-13 or 16:10-13

Monday: Ezr 1:1-6/Ps 126:1b-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6/Lk 8:16-18

Tuesday: Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/Lk 8:19-21

Wednesday: Ezr 9:5-9/Tb 13:2, 3-4a, 4befghn, 7-8/Lk 9:1-6

Thursday: Hg 1:1-8/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/Lk 9:7-9

Friday: Hg 2:1-9/Ps 43:1, 2, 3, 4/Lk 9:18-22

Saturday: Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a/Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13/Lk 9:43b-45

Next Sunday: Am 6:1a, 4-7/Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 (1b)/1 Tm 6:11-16/Lk 16:19-31

Mass Intentions

Saturday, September 20

4:15 PM +Don Leibl
+Mary Ellen Wegner

Sunday, September 21

10:15 AM +Michael Giefer
+Donald Giesel

Saturday, September 27

4:15 PM +George Lackner
+Pam, Lucille, and Robert Stickler, Sr.

Sunday, September 28

10:15 AM +Adam Paul Roscoe
+Mary Ann Roscoe

Calendar of Events

Monday - Friday, September 22 - 26

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

Monday, September 22

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

Tuesday, September 23

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open
5:30 PM - 7:00 PM Scripture Study

Wednesday, September 24

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM St. Mary's Health Clinic
6:30 PM - 7:45 PM Faith Formation

Thursday, September 25

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

Friday, September 26

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

Saturday, September 27

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

Sunday, September 28

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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