



St. Matthew's

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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



FAITH

THE SIZE OF A MUSTARD SEED.

— LUKE 17:6 —

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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October 5, 2025 **27th 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

A priest friend of mine received a call from a family whose elderly mother was dying. Within thirty minutes, he was at her bedside, offering the consolation of the sacraments, anointing her with the oil of the sick, and commending her soul to God. She passed not long after, and for months, her family spoke of their deep gratitude for his presence. When I phoned him to commend his faithful ministry, he simply said, "I was just doing my job."

His words brought to mind Jesus' teaching this week in Luke 17:10: "**So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.'**" In a world that often seeks recognition and applause, the Lord invites us into a different mindset — one of humble service. The priest did not see his response as extraordinary; he saw it as a grace to fulfill his vocation.

How tempting it is to seek affirmation for doing what I ought to do! Yet Jesus reminds us that true discipleship is not about grandstanding but about quiet faithfulness. It is enough to have served. It is enough to have loved. It is enough to be grateful that we were given the chance to do our duty in the first place. Whether in priesthood, parenthood, or any vocation, what peace-soaked freedom there is in simply doing what is asked of us. No more, no less. Jesus, that is how you quietly love us.

— *Father John Muir*

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Prayer Requests

Jeremiah Baker, Jerry & Louise Breidel, 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, Doris Schillinger and Keith Woodson.

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

Each week, I end this column with the words, "**We are a Volunteer Parish!**". Newer parishioners may wonder why I emphasize that weekly. Haven't volunteers always been the "backbone" of this parish? The answer would be "No!" It wasn't until March 2017 when Fr. Bob Kelly, along with the Parish Trustees and Parish Council, decided that we needed to have volunteers, who could be ready and available, to help the parish with many of the jobs that were being done by paid staff. I remember the date because I retired from US Bank on Tuesday, March 28 and received the call from Fr. Bob on Thursday, March 30. He asked me to come to the Parish Center as soon as I could. He then explained how he and the Parish Council wanted to go forward as a "Volunteer Parish". He asked me to be the Volunteer Coordinator.

As I drove home, I remember asking myself, "**What are you thinking?!**" I had never worked in a "leadership" role. At the bank, I was the coordinator in my department. However, there were only two of us working together and not a lot of decisions had to be made at 2:00 AM. Our biggest decision was whether on our lunch break, should we get food from the vending machines in the cafeteria or get take-out from Perkins!

As they say, "God is good!" I had helpful, knowledgeable people to help me. Fr. Bob Kelly, pastor, John Riehle, administrator, Linda Rivera, parish secretary, and Karen Thompson & John Del Vecchio, trustees. However, my greatest help came from our parishioners. Rarely did anyone say "no" when I asked to help in a volunteer position. This parish would not be as successful as it is today without the dedication of our volunteers. When we needed to paint all of the outside doors on every building in the complex, a former parishioner happened to send an email. He was a Youth Director at a parish in Iowa. He wanted to know if we had any projects where his youth group might be of help. The group spent a week with us and painted every exterior door on the parish buildings. Visible proof that God does hear and answers our prayers!

Last year, we thanked all our volunteers with a **Liturgical New Year's Eve Party**. This year, on **November 28**, we will again host a Liturgical New Year's Eve Party for all parish volunteers!! Save the Date!!

WE ARE A VOLUNTEER PARISH!

*Mary Leibl
Volunteer Coordinator
mleibl@st-matts.org*

Parish Administrator's Note

The Common Good

From time to time, I refer to “the common good”. What does that mean for Catholics?

“The *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, following Pope John XXIII in *Mater et Magistra* and Vatican II, defines the common good as: “the sum total of social conditions which allow people, either as groups or as individuals, to reach their fulfillment more fully and more easily.”

The *Catechism* names three essential elements of the common good in our age (CCC #1906, emphasis original): **respect for the person, the well-being and development of the ‘group’, or social community of which the person is a member, and peace.**”

My first reaction upon reading these statements is simply, “Of course.” I’ve long believed in these teachings, whether derived from Vatican II, papal statements, our *Catechism*, or the many homilies I heard from our late pastor, Fr. Steve Adrian—and more recently, our sacramental minister, Fr. Thomas Kommers.

Let’s keep these important church teachings in mind as we deal with problems in our society. How can we best take action for the benefit of **everyone**? What can we do to bring peace to the world?

Financial Reporting

By now, I hope you have received a copy of our annual parish financial report in the mail. If not, please let the office know. Feel free to send me questions about our parish finances.

In addition to an annual report to the parish, we also submit a much more detailed **Annual Parish Financial Report (APFR)** to the Archdiocese. Thanks to our people at PASC (Parish Accounting Service Center), we were able to file on time. That gave us an added quarter of a per cent discount off our annual Archdiocese assessment—more than \$2,000 in savings!

May you have a peaceful 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, First Communion, Confirmation Classes: Registration closes soon for our weekly Wednesday evening Faith Formation classes, and public school students may still join by attending class this Wednesday, October 8, in the Parish Center. Students in Grades K to 5 begin class at 6:30 PM and students in Grades 6 to 10 begin class at 6:45 PM. Parents/guardians may register their students in person when they bring them to class on Wednesday evening, or they may download the registration form from www.st-matts.org/faith-formation/ (available in English and Spanish), fill it out, and email the completed form to janelle@st-matts.org.

The Faith Formation program prepares students in Grades 8 and above for the sacrament of Confirmation and students in Grades 2 and above for the sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Communion. Our weekly classes help children learn and practice their Catholic faith, whether they are in a sacrament year or not; all public school kids are welcome to join. Students do NOT have class on October 15, due to the Education Minnesota fall break.

News and Events



See all the news and events happening at St. Matthew in the bulletin insert.



The Sounds and Sights of Saint Matthew

The Bells of St. Matthew will ring on Monday, October 6 in memory of **Bill Brengman**.

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 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 October 5, 2025

Sunday: Hb 1:2-3; 2:2-4/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 (8)/2 Tm 1:6-8, 13-14/Lk 17:5-10

Monday: Jon 1:1—2:2, 11/Jon 2:3, 4, 5, 8/Lk 10:25-37

Tuesday: Jon 3:1-10/Ps 130:1b-2, 3-4ab, 7-8/Lk 10:38-42

Wednesday: Jon 4:1-11/Ps 86:3-4, 5-6, 9-10/Lk 11:1-4

Thursday: Mal 3:13-20b/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 11:5-13

Friday: Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2/Ps 9:2-3, 6 and 16, 8-9/Lk 11:15-26

Saturday: Jl 4:12-21/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Lk 11:27-28

Next Sunday: 2 Kgs 5:14-17/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 (see 2b)/2 Tm 2:8-13/Lk 17:11-19

Mass Intentions

Saturday, October 4

4:15 PM +Fr. Steve Adrian
+Bill Bregman

Sunday, October 5

10:15 AM +Deacon John Murphy and Carol Murphy
+Veronica Roethler

Saturday, October 11

4:15 PM +Carol Dvorak Johnson
+Don Leibl
+Lori Ann Dvorak Simonson

Sunday, October 12

10:15 AM +AnnaMarie Karas

Calendar of Events

Monday - Friday, October 6-10

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

Monday, October 6

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

Tuesday, October 7

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open
12:00 PM Liturgy Committee Meeting
6:00 PM Facilities Committee Meeting

Wednesday, October 8

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
8:00 PM Men's Club Meeting

Thursday, October 9

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

Friday, October 10

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Closed
5:30 PM - 7:30 PM Women's Social Hour

Saturday, October 11

10:00 AM Baptism Preparation Meeting
3:00 PM - 3:30 PM Confessions
4:15 PM Mass

Sunday, October 12

10:15 AM Mass
After Mass Coffee Sunday
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.*

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