



St. Matthew's

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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



November 16, 2025 **33rd 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

When I was a kid growing up in New England, I'd occasionally go on a whale watch. Once we went out with calm waters and clear skies. But on the way back in, the sea got rough. I was just a kid, and I remember thinking we should turn left or right toward the shoreline I could see. But the pilot of the boat kept going straight — right into the waves — focused on a small, discouragingly distant lighthouse. Even when it flickered in and out of sight, he stayed the course. He knew where he was going.

That image comes to mind when I hear Jesus' words in today's Gospel regarding false messiahs: **"Do not follow them" (Luke 21:8)**. In times of chaos or uncertainty, there are always voices offering easier routes, promising false safety, claiming to speak for God. But Jesus isn't found in the loudest voice or the nearest shoreline. He is steady, like a lighthouse in the storm.

The tribulation of which Jesus speaks — it's real. It happened to the Temple, it happened to him, it happens in the Church, and it will come to each of us. But the command is not to panic. It's to endure. To keep steering toward him. Faith isn't about having all the answers or dodging every wave. It's about knowing where the lighthouse is — and trusting it enough to keep going, especially when false safety beckons us to stop.

— *Father John Muir*

©LPi

Prayer Requests

Jeremiah Baker, Jerry & Louise Breidel, Kevin Fleming, Jr., Philip Heitzinger, Joan Johnson, Sean Kane, Bernie Klein, Tom Maloney, 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.

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Volunteer Opportunities and Parish Needs

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

Eucharistic Ministers: When we enter the Christmas season, and offer wine with the Eucharist, we will need more volunteers to distribute Communion at all Masses. Eucharistic Ministers must have already received the sacrament of Confirmation.

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.

Thank You: To all our volunteers who help to set up and serve at funeral luncheons. Our volunteers set the tables, receive the food from the caterer and serve the guests. After the luncheon, they clean up and have the hall ready for Loaves and Fishes. We thank the following volunteers: **Mary Bejblik, Suzanne Clarke, Diane Hanzal, Anita Hottinger, Barb Larson, Chris Mattson, Jackie Minus, Becky Montgomery, Jackie Morales, Janet Odalen, Denise Quinlan, Ann Reidell, Kathy Schowalter, Mary Helen Sperl, Susan Sperl, Florida Stevens, Kathleen Thompson and Chris Wilfahrt.** On behalf of every family who has held a luncheon in our Social Hall, THANK YOU!

WE ARE A VOLUNTEER PARISH!

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

WE  OUR VOLUNTEERS CLP



The Sounds and Sights of Saint Matthew

The Bells of St. Matthew will ring on Saturday, November 22 in memory of **Bea Koehnen.**

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

Safety & Security

What would you do if a stranger approached you at Mass? In our Social Hall? On the sidewalk outside one of our buildings?

I imagine most of us might say hello, or ask the person's name, or ask how we can help. Those are some of my usual responses, and I know that I'm not alone in such responses. They're all good and courteous. Such responses will be appropriate almost 100% of the time. (And St. Matt's has a deserved reputation as a hospitable community.)

Such responses aren't always sufficient, however. I've met a few people who seemed troubled enough that I was concerned. I've helped as best as I can, and I've made referrals for additional help. Very occasionally in my career, there have been times when I needed to say something like, "You have to leave."

Those rare occasions were on my mind a couple of weeks ago, when I attended an all-day conference put on by the Catholic Mutual Group (our insurance and risk-reduction company) and a new Archdiocesan group called SMIG. That's short for Security Managers Information Group. CMG and SMIG accelerated their plans for the conference in the wake of August's tragic shooting at Annunciation School and Church in Minneapolis.

Much of the conference was devoted to school safety, not surprisingly. School shootings, while extremely rare, are especially tragic.

The conference provided a lot of information that could be useful for our community, along with resources we could look into. It's too much for any one person, so I'd like to set up a safety and security task force early in 2026. Goals would include setting expectations, collecting information, focusing on the most probable events, and establishing training plans. Training could include standard response protocols, de-escalation skills, and how to refer.

Let me know if you'd be interested in joining such a committee, or would be willing to contribute questions and ideas.

May you have a peaceful week. Thank you for your support.

*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 This Week: On Wednesday evening, November 19, Faith Formation weekly students have class in the St Matthew Parish Center. Students in Grades K to 7 meet from 6:30 to 7:45 PM, and weekly students in Grades 8 to 11 meet from 6:45 to 7:50 PM. Note that there are no classes on November 26 due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

News and Events

Neighborhood House Collection

This weekend is the monthly Neighborhood House collection. There will be a basket by the main entrance for you to place your non-perishable or monetary donation. During the month of October 2025, St. Matthew donated **38 pounds** of food. On behalf of Neighborhood House and the people it serves, thank you for your generosity!

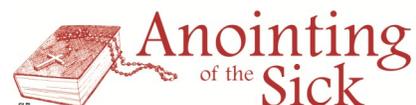
Casper's of Eagan Thanksgiving Dinner

The wonderful tradition of free Thanksgiving dinner with all the trimmings will continue this year! All meals will be curbside pick-up only.

Meals will be available for pick up on Thanksgiving Day, **November 27** at the **Church of Saint Joseph parking lot, 1138 Seminole Avenue, West Saint Paul**. There are two time slots for pick up: **11:00 AM or 1:00 PM. Meal delivery is available for the morning time only.**

Tickets are needed for the meal and they are available at the parish office. You can call the parish office at (651) 224-9793 to reserve your ticket. Call the parish office by **Wednesday, November 19** to place your order for tickets. Specify 11:00 AM or 1:00 PM pick-up time.

*Communal Anointing of the Sick
during Mass the Weekend of
November 22 and 23*



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 November 16, 2025

Sunday: Mal 3:19-20a/Ps 98:5-6, 7-8, 9 (see 9)/2 Thes 3:7-12/Lk 21:5-19

Monday: 1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63/Ps 119:53, 61, 134, 150, 155, 158/Lk 18:35-43

Tuesday: 2 Mc 6:18-31/Ps 3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Lk 19:1-10

Wednesday: 2 Mc 7:1, 20-31/Ps 17:1bcd, 5-6, 8b and 15/Lk 19:11-28

Thursday: 1 Mc 2:15-29/Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15/Lk 19:41-44

Friday: 1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59/1 Chr 29:10bcd, 11abc, 11d-12a, 12bcd/Lk 19:45-48

Saturday: 1 Mc 6:1-13/Ps 9:2-3, 4 and 6, 16 and 19/Lk 20:27-40

Next Sunday: 2 Sm 5:1-3/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5 (see 1)/Col 1:12-20/Lk 23:35-43

Mass Intentions

Saturday, November 15

4:15 PM +Bill Brengman
+Don Leibl

Sunday, November 16

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

Saturday, November 22

4:15 PM +James Stanger, Sr.
+Pam, Lucille, and Robert Stickler, Sr.

Sunday, November 23

10:15 AM +Jolanda Bungue
+Joseph Savard
+Mary Lou Shields

Calendar of Events

Monday - Friday, November 17 - 21

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

Monday, November 17

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

Tuesday, November 18

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open
6:30 PM Catholic Order of Foresters Meeting

Wednesday, November 19

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, November 20

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

Friday, November 21

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

Saturday, November 22

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

Sunday, November 23

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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