



St. Matthew's

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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



YOUR FAITH
HAS SAVED
YOU.

— LUKE 17:19 —

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

©LPI

October 12, 2025
28th 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

Dorothy Day, the great Catholic activist, doubted God's existence. At least in her early adult years. But something changed when after giving birth to her daughter, she experienced an overwhelming gratitude. She later described how, as she held her daughter, the only appropriate response was a kind of unlimited gratitude. She had done nothing to deserve such a gift — this tiny, miraculous life — but there she was, flooded with gratitude, completely undone by the love of such a Giver.

Something similar occurs in Luke 17:19 when Jesus tells a healed leper, "**Stand up and go; your faith has saved you.**" This man had already received physical healing through his faith. But the moment of an even deeper transformation came when he turned back, fell at Jesus' feet, and gave thanks. Like Dorothy, this man's gratitude led him to encounter the Giver.

Isn't that what we want, too? Gratitude to God has the power to break our chains of sadness, bitterness, and disenchantment. It empowers us to step out of the prison of self-pity and into the reality of God's abundant love. It shifts our focus from what we lack to what we have received, from what wounds us to what heals us.

Where do we learn this? The Mass. The priest prays: "It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks." Always. Everywhere. Not just when life is easy. Not just when prayers are answered as we expect. Gratitude is not a passive feeling; it is an act of faith. In the eucharist, we remember that Christ himself has given everything for us. And in this act of gratitude, we are healed.

— *Father John Muir*

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Prayer Requests

Jeremiah Baker, Jerry & Louise Breidel, 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

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 czaia@st-matts.org.** You can also speak to a greeter or sacristan before or after Mass.

Thank You: To **Donis** who regularly comes to water the plants and flowers in the church sanctuary. To **Mary B.** who changes the banners, ambo and altar cloth to the proper liturgical color. The purificators, covers on credence tables and towels used to dry chalices etc. are also washed and ironed by a volunteer. If anyone would like to offer their help for that job, you may call the office or leave your contact information with a greeter at a weekend Mass.

WE ARE A VOLUNTEER PARISH!

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



The Sounds and Sights of Saint Matthew

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

Autumn Preparedness

Catholic Mutual Group (CMG) handles our insurance needs. That means they do a lot to help us (and all Catholic parishes and schools) reduce risk as much as possible.

For example, their autumn newsletter had these reminders:

- *Fill potholes in parking lots.* I'm glad we were able to do half of our lot this past summer. We intend to do the north half next summer. Thanks to staff and volunteers for patching in the meantime!
- *Check exterior lighting.* We were alerted by a CMG inspector about a light that needs replacing. It's on our electrician's work list. If you notice other lights that need attention, please let me know*.
- *Install or update your building's cameras.* Recall that thanks to your generosity (in a November Giving Thanks Fundraiser) a couple of years ago, we raised money to install security cameras throughout our church and Parish Center buildings. They've been useful. We're looking into adding one or two more cameras, based on what we've learned since the original installation.
- *Lock doors after meetings or events have begun.* This is a sad necessity these days; recent tragedies have reminded us to be ever more careful. I'm glad we added a fob reader to our Parish Center main door when we installed cameras.

De-escalation Tactics

CMG's newsletter also had these helpful tips to de-escalate difficult situations. They all require a state of calm, and they're built on a foundation of active listening.

- Respect personal space
- Maintain safe body positioning
- Give clear, concise direction
- Set obvious boundaries
- Convey empathy
- Establish a positive tone of voice

If you'd like more information about any of these tactics, please send me an email. We intend to schedule training sessions for everyone who's interested.

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

NO Faith Formation Classes This Week: Faith Formation students in Grades K to 10 do NOT have class on October 15, due to the Education Minnesota fall break. Regular weekly classes resume on Wednesday, October 22, in the St. Matthew Parish Center, at 6:30 PM. On October 22, students in Grades 8 to 10 start at 6:45 PM and will be joined by Community of Saints 8th graders who are seeking the sacrament of Confirmation with our St. Matthew group. Registration for sacrament preparation for public school students closes in October.

Sacrament of Confirmation for Catholic School Students: Students in Grades 8 and above who attend a Catholic school and would like to be confirmed in April 2026 are invited to join the St. Matthew Confirmation group. Register by downloading and completing the form at st-matts.org/faith-formation/, then email the registration form to janelle@st-matts.org. Community of Saints and other Catholic school students attend classes monthly in the St. Matthew Parish Center, on Wednesday evenings from 6:45 until 7:50 PM. The first monthly class is October 22. Also mark your calendars for Sunday, November 2, 10:00 AM to noon, which is the Confirmation launch Mass and meeting. Students and their parents/guardians are required to attend the Mass and meeting on November 2, held in church.

News and Events

Coffee Sunday

Our next Coffee Sunday is **October 12th after the Sunday 10:15 AM Mass.**



October Coffee Sunday will be hosted by **the Saint Matthew's Court of the Catholic Order of Foresters (COF)**. COF is a Catholic fraternal benefit society dedicated to helping members achieve financial security through life insurance while supporting the Catholic community through fraternal/social outreach. COF has provided a matching grant for our Giving Thanks fundraiser since it began, and prior to that, for our Fix-It Fundraiser.

Come down to the Social Hall and visit with your fellow parishioners. 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 October 12, 2025

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

Monday: Rom 1:1-7/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Lk 11:29-32

Tuesday: Rom 1:16-25/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Lk 11:37-41

Wednesday: Rom 2:1-11/Ps 62:2-3, 6-7, 9/Lk 11:42-46

Thursday: Rom 3:21-30/Ps 130:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6ab/Lk 11:47-54

Friday: Rom 4:1-8/Ps 32:1b-2, 5, 11/Lk 12:1-7

Saturday: 2 Tm 4:10-17b/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18/Lk 10:1-9

Next Sunday: Ex 17:8-13/Ps 121:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (see 2)/2 Tm 3:14-4:2/Lk 18:1-8

Mass Intentions

Saturday, October 11

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

Sunday, October 12

10:15 AM +AnnaMarie Karas

Saturday, October 18

4:15 PM +Don Giesel
+Nancy Maloney

Sunday, October 19

10:15 AM +Jim Russell

Calendar of Events

Tuesday - Friday, October 14 - 17

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

Loaves & Fishes St. Matthew Meal Site closed on Monday, October 13.

Monday, October 13

8:30 AM - 4:30 PM St. Mary's Dental Clinic
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open
5:30 PM - 7:30 PM ECFFF

Tuesday, October 14

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

Wednesday, October 15

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM St. Mary's Health Clinic

Thursday, October 16

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

Friday, October 17

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

Saturday, October 18

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

Sunday, October 19

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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