



St. Matthew's

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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



CHOSEN
ONES WHO CALL
OUT TO HIM
DAY AND NIGHT.
— LUKE 18:7 —

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

©LPI

October 19, 2025 **29th 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 woman in my parish has an adult son who has rejected his faith. She prays for him every day. She lights candles, says rosaries, and asks God again and again to bring him back. But nothing changes. Is God listening? Is He delaying? She told me once that she feels like the widow in Jesus' strange parable — crying out for justice, but hearing only silence. And yet, she said, she is at peace. I asked why. She responded, "God is *already* answering. I just can't see it yet."

She embodies something of the mystery in Jesus' parable this week in Luke 18. A powerless widow demands justice from a corrupt judge. This isn't about wearing God down until He gives in. It's about faith in the justice that is already coming. The widow isn't just persistent; she believes that justice is inevitable. And when Jesus points to the judge's words — his fear of being "struck" — He hints at something deeper: God's justice does not creep in gradually. It strikes. It comes like lightning.

Blessed Mary is, of course, the ultimate widow demanding justice. At the foot of the cross she stands before what looks like the ultimate injustice — the brutal execution of her son. But she did not despair. She did not beg for a last-minute rescue. She knew that justice was not delayed. In fact, it was happening. The power of the cross was already unleashing justice upon the world — suddenly, decisively, like a blow that would topple every corrupt power, making even the most corrupt fear her strike.

This parable asks us: will the Son of Man find faith on earth? Or will we mistake God's silence for absence? The cross proves that justice is not slow. It is only hidden. The lightning has already struck. In the cross, justice is speedily being done.

— *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 **Mooreen, Marge, Sandy, Mary and Joanne** who serve as sacristans at parish funerals. Sacristans arrive in the morning to meet the florists, funeral home, the family and assist with coordinating the service. If anyone is interested in volunteering as a sacristan, contact the parish office or **Mary at mleibl@st-matts.org**. We also thank **Jair and Paul**, who prepare the Social Hall and church for funerals and make sure parking is reserved for the family and the funeral home.

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

Who's Your Master?

I bet most of us can recall that Jesus said, "You cannot serve God and mammon." (Luke 16:13)

I was reminded of that quote at a recent event at our neighboring parish of Assumption. Dr. William Cavanaugh* gave a great talk on "The Uses of Idolatry"—the title of his latest book.

Some of Cavanaugh's key points—besides not serving two masters:

- People in our modern era are in some ways caught in "an iron cage of rationality." They might say they have no use for God or religion, even to the point of saying they're atheists.
- Acquiring things seems to be many people's main goal in life. Cavanaugh recounted a fascinating history of the rise of advertising, as it switched its purpose from providing information to persuading people to buy things.
- When it comes to idolatry, the Bible speaks more about behavior than belief. What does our behavior say about our values?

Cavanaugh's basic argument is that "worship has not waned in our supposedly 'secular' world. Rather, the target of worship has changed, migrating from the explicit worship of God to the implicit worship of things."

He concluded by noting that everyone worships *something*. It's important to examine our beliefs and behavior, so that we continue to focus on the worship of God. This is a challenge in today's society, since many structures (capitalism, politics, entertainment, etc.) can distract us from God.

I'm reminded of our parish mission statement, that St. Matt's Catholic Community is a visible expression of God's love.

When we're raising money for the parish, it's in support of that mission to express God's love visibly. Money and things can **support** our mission. Acquiring things is not our mission.

**Dr. Cavanaugh taught at the University of St. Thomas for 15 years. He is now a professor at DePaul University.*

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 Classes Resume This Week: Faith Formation students in Grades K to 10 have class on October 22 in the St Matthew Parish Center. Grades K to 5 start at 6:30 PM and Grades 6 to 10 start at 6:45 PM. October 22 is the last evening that registration for sacrament preparation from public school families will be accepted for the 2025-2026 school year.

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 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

Ministry Schedule

The next schedule for the liturgical ministers will be written on Monday, November 3. This schedule will begin November 22 and 23 (first Sunday of Advent) and run through February 14 and 15 (weekend before Ash Wednesday). If you know of weekends/holidays, during this time frame when you will not be available, or special dates you would like to be scheduled, please contact Mary Leibl before **Wednesday, October 29** at mleibl@st-matts.org. Thank you all for your dedication to your ministries and to your parish!

Help Wanted: AV System

We're looking for volunteers to help us put Mass back online this winter. To do that, we need people who know how our liturgy works, and are willing to learn how to use our audio-visual system. If you're interested, or if you know someone who might be interested, please talk to **Cristina (cczaia@st-matts.org)** or **Phil (pgrant@st-matts.org)**. Thanks!

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 19, 2025

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

Monday: Rom 4:20-25/Lk 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75/Lk 12:13-21

Tuesday: Rom 5:12, 15b, 17-19, 20b-21/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17/Lk 12:35-38

Wednesday: Rom 6:12-18/Ps 124:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8/Lk 12:39-48

Thursday: Rom 6:19-23/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 12:49-53

Friday: Rom 7:18-25a/Ps 119:66, 68, 76, 77, 93, 94/Lk 12:54-59

Saturday: Rom 8:1-11/Ps 24:1b-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 13:1-9

Next Sunday: Sir 35:12-14, 16-18/Ps 34:2-3, 17-18, 19, 23 (7a)/2 Tm 4:6-8, 16-18/Lk 18:9-14

Mass Intentions

Saturday, October 18

4:15 PM +Don Giesel
+Nancy Maloney

Sunday, October 19

10:15 AM +Jim Russell

Saturday, October 25

4:15 PM +Charles Ketchmark
+Pam, Lucille, and Robert Stickler, Sr.

Sunday, October 26

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

Calendar of Events

Monday - Friday, October 20 - 24

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

Monday, October 20

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

Tuesday, October 21

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

Wednesday, October 22

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
6:45 PM - 7:50 PM Catholic School Students
Confirmation Class

Thursday, October 23

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

Friday, October 24

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

Saturday, October 25

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

Sunday, October 26

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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