



St. Matthew's

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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



O GOD,
BE MERCIFUL TO
ME A SINNER.

— LUKE 18:13 —

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

©LPI

October 26, 2025 **30th 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

Every now and then readers of these reflections write letters in which they object to something. Years ago, this Gospel of Luke 18 prompted such an email. A man wrote to me: "I find it deeply offensive that you suggest we are still sinners once we are God's sons and daughters." His objection stirred in me a profound awareness of the paradox at the heart of our faith. Are we sinners or beloved children of God?

In this Gospel (Luke 18:9-14), a tax collector appears as one who has missed the mark. His sins have isolated him. His breast-beating is not an act of self-flagellation for pride's sake but a heartfelt admission of his failure and unworthiness. Remarkably, Jesus honors the candid humility of the parable's penitent. Why? Because we are always in need of mercy, always. But even more, perhaps because on the cross, Jesus will fully embrace a similar place of humiliation and rejection. He will enter into the most shameful, offensive place of the sinner so that we might "go home justified."

There is a sacred tension in admitting that we are sinners and yet have profound hope. We are beloved sons and daughters of God, growing precisely through our honest acceptance of failure. When we cry, "Have mercy on us," during Mass or when we repeat the "Jesus Prayer" in quiet moments, or in the confessional, we embrace our imperfections as fertile ground for divine grace. In doing so, we follow Christ's example — finding true exaltation in the humble acknowledgment of our human frailty.

— *Father John Muir*

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Prayer Requests

Jeremiah Baker, Jerry & Louise Breidel, Kevin Fleming, Jr., 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 all the individuals who helped get Early Childhood Family Faith Formation (ECFFF) started, especially, **Kathy Goldenstein** and **Gloria Deziel**. Also, to **Amy Berardinis, Cristina Czaia, Margarita Ledesma** and **Neelia**. To **Kathleen Thompson** for sewing the dress up clothes, and **Kathy Schowalter** for donating additional materials.

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 Sunday, October 26 for **Linda and Pete Rivera's 40th Anniversary**.

The Bells of St. Matthew will ring on Monday, October 27 for the **Rosary Society Members**.

The Bells of St. Matthew will ring on Wednesday, October 29 for **Vicki and Greg Baker's 49th Anniversary**.

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

Facilities updates

Here's a new one: we are planning to repair or replace the clay roof tiles on the north end of the school building. We want to stop water (and critters) from getting into the building. In addition, the building will look better.

This project came into view within the last few months, when one of our consultants said, "If you do nothing else before winter, do the tile project." Our Facilities Committee helped with the bidding process, and we've selected Garlock-French. They specialize in clay tile.

The project's estimated cost is \$45,000. We will finance it out of our existing line of credit with Emmaus Partners (formerly known as Catholic Finance Corporation).

The good news here is that we'll be protecting our building better. The bad news is that we're adding to our line of credit. However, there is good news in that regard: next May, 2026, we will make the final payment on our 2016 elevator loan. That will free up several thousand dollars each month, which we'll use to pay on our other loans.

One thing I've learned in the past year or so: we are one of the leading landlords in the Archdiocese. We have multiple tenants in our several buildings, more than most of our sister parishes. Our many tenants do keep me busy.

In other facilities news, we repaired one set of classroom windows in the north (1928) portion of the school building, because we know that area was source of leaks. We know more windows need repair, so I anticipate this being a project next year.

Also on our list: more work on our church building's HVAC system. It's old, it's cranky, and parts are increasingly hard to find. We're studying possible steps to update the systems involved. We want to improve efficiency, reliability, and scheduling (so that the noisy fans don't go off during Mass and events).

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 Mass This Week: Instead of regular class, Faith Formation students in Grades K to 10 plus their parents/guardians should come to the church on October 29 by 6:30 PM for a "Mass of Explanation." Our presider will celebrate a Mass and teach us about the Mass, too. We will finish by 8:00 PM. Parishioners are also welcome at Mass on October 29.

Sacrament of Confirmation Launch Mass and Meeting: On Sunday, November 2, 10:00 AM to noon, families with Confirmation candidates should attend Mass at St Matthew and stay after Mass for a short meeting. Spanish translation will be provided. This required event is for weekly Faith Formation students in Grades 8 and 9 and for Community of Saints and other Catholic school students in Grades 8 and 9 who wish to be confirmed with our St Matthew group.

First Reconciliation / First Communion Meeting: If you have a student in Grades 2 and up who would like to receive First Communion in May 2026, mark your calendar for November 12, 6:30 to 7:45 PM. In church that evening, First Communion students will have class and parents/guardians are required to attend a meeting. This is for public school students who are registered and have been attending weekly Faith Formation classes. It is also for Community of Saints and other Catholic school students in Grades 2 and up seeking these sacraments. Students who are not yet baptized must be registered by their parents for baptism by November 5 with the Parish office. The first baptism class is on November 12 at 5:30 PM in the Parish Center. The baptism registration form can be downloaded from st-matts.org/sacraments.

News and Events

Monthly Scripture Study

St. Matthew's monthly Scripture Study is on **Tuesday, October 28 from 5:30 to 7:00 PM in the Parish Center Community Room** (first floor). It will focus on 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.

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 26, 2025

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

Monday: Rom 8:12-17/Ps 68:2 and 4, 6-7ab, 20-21/Lk 13:10-17

Tuesday: Eph 2:19-22/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Lk 6:12-16

Wednesday: Rom 8:26-30/Ps 13:4-5, 6/Lk 13:22-30

Thursday: Rom 8:31b-39/Ps 109:21-22, 26-27, 30-31/Lk 13:31-35

Friday: Rom 9:1-5/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Lk 14:1-6

Saturday: Rv 7:2-4, 9-14/Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/1 Jn 3:1-3/ Mt 5:1-12a

Next Sunday: Wis 3:1-9/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Rom 5:5-11 or Rom 6:3-9/Jn 6:37-40

Mass Intentions

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

Saturday, November 1

4:15 PM +Margaret Mortenson

Sunday, November 2

10:15 AM +Fr. Steve Adrian
+John and Carol Heitzinger

Calendar of Events

Monday - Friday, October 27 - 31

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

Monday, October 27

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

Tuesday, October 28

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

Wednesday, October 29

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 - Mass of Explanation

Thursday, October 30

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

Friday, October 31

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

Saturday, November 1

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

Sunday, November 2

10:15 AM Mass
After Mass Confirmation Student & Parents 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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