



**St. Matthew's**  
CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

## Bulletin Insert

November 2, 2025  
*The Commemoration of  
All the Faithful Departed*

### Isaac's Blessing Bags

Hello St. Matthew's Parishioners,

As we enter into fall, I am grateful for this nice weather. This pleasant weather means more comfortable conditions for our unsheltered relatives. Once again, Isaac's Blessing Bags will be collecting donations to support community members in need. We will have labeled boxes located in the back of the church again this year.

Each and everyone of you have contributed in your own way and for that I am thankful. Isaac's Blessing Bags is possible because of folks like you! Together, we will continue to create a brighter future! Donation drop-off will end **December 1st**.

Warm regards,  
*Isaac Garcia*  
Isaac's Blessing Bags  
<https://isaacsblessingbags.com/>

#### 2025 List of Items Needed

- Warm socks
- Warm gloves
- Hygiene items
- Bottled water
- Granola bars
- Gift cards (local fast food restaurants or convenience stores)



### Turkey Bingo

**Saturday**  
**November 8, 2025**  
**St. Matthew Social Hall**

*12 games for turkeys  
(cash if there are  
multiple winners in a  
game),  
3 games for cash  
prizes and a raffle for  
turkeys*

**Doors open at 5:00 PM and bingo starts at 5:30 PM.**

Children, accompanied by an adult, are eligible to play bingo.

Food, beer, wine and pop are available for purchase.

Featured meal will be turkey wild rice hot dish.

Burgers and hot dogs will also be available.

Non-bingo players are welcome to join us for dinner as well!

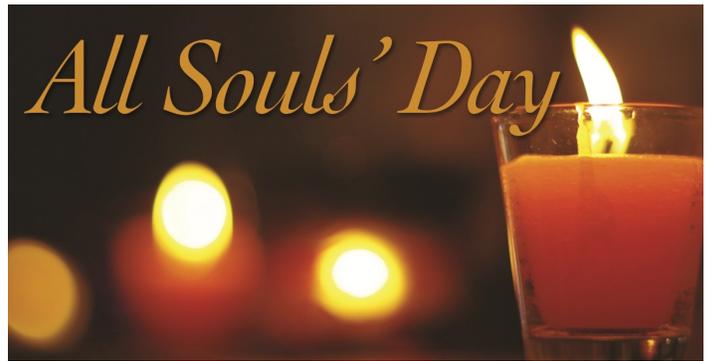
**Giving Thanks in November  
Fundraiser Winners**

November 1 - Betsy Gonwa (\$25)

November 2 - Karen Nowak (\$50)

Congratulations to all the winners! Watch the bulletin for next set of winners.

Thanks to all who participated in our fifth annual Giving Thanks in November Fundraiser!



**Community of Saints School Collection**



This weekend's second collection will be in support of Community of Saints Regional Catholic School. Thank you for your generous support!

**St. Matthew Community Band**

The community band's next session is **Friday, November 7** in the Social Hall at **6:30 PM**. If you play, are learning to play, or want to play an instrument—you're welcome to join. Music's a great way for people to connect! Children 12 and under need a parent or guardian. Teens need a note. For questions, contact **Phil Grant** (pgrant@st-matts.org).



**Election Day - November 4, 2025**

Once again, St. Matthew Parish Center is a polling site on Tuesday, November 4. Please keep this in mind when you are coming to the Parish Center as parking may be limited.

**WANTED**

***CRAFTERS, ARTISTS, SEWERS, ETC., for the  
Christmas Bake Sale, Boutique and Craft Fair***

Saint Matthew's Catholic Church Social Hall  
510 Hall Avenue, Saint Paul



**Saturday, December 6  
11:00 am to 5:30 pm**

and

**Sunday, December 7  
9:00 am to 1:00 pm**



**Table Fees: \$30 for Saturday, \$50 for both Saturday & Sunday**

For more information, contact Joyce at [osbornejoyce44@gmail.com](mailto:osbornejoyce44@gmail.com) or  
Becky at [montgomery\\_bec@hotmail.com](mailto:montgomery_bec@hotmail.com)

## Baptism Preparation Meetings for Age 7 - 13

**Registration Deadline: November 5!**

For baptism of children ages 7-13, parents and the child must attend a series of three baptism preparation meetings. Godparents are strongly encouraged to attend also.

The meetings will be held in the St. Matthew Church at 510 Hall Avenue (unless noted otherwise) on the following Wednesday evenings from **5:30 PM to 6:45 PM**.

**\*November 12, 2025  
December 17, 2025  
January 14, 2026**

*\*November 12<sup>th</sup> meeting will be in the Parish Center at 490 Hall Avenue.*

Attendance is required for parents/guardians, and their children.

Registration deadline is **Wednesday, November 5**. To register, please contact **Cristina Czaia (cczaia@st-matts.org)**, **Angela Rakow (arakow@st-matts.org)** or call the Parish Office (651-224-9793).

***Families with children who are preparing for the sacrament of First Communion and Confirmation in Spring 2026 and need to be baptized, must register for Baptism Preparation Meetings by Wednesday, November 5.***



## Baptism Preparation Meeting (Age 6 and Younger)

Preparation meeting is required for parents and guardians with children aged six or younger for baptism. The next meeting is on:

- **Saturday, November 8 at 10:00 AM**

**Registration is required, at least one week in advance.** To register — or for more information — please contact **Cristina Czaia (cczaia@st-matts.org)** or call the Parish Office (651-224-9793).

## Ofrenda - Offering

The month of November is a time when we honor and remember our deceased loved ones, beginning on All Saints & All Souls Day. In Spanish and Latin traditions, this is known as Dia de los Muertos. Dia de los Muertos is a celebration of both life and death, and a reminder that the dead remain alive in our hearts and community. An important part of this tradition is the Ofrenda, meaning offering. It is also the traditional altar constructed to honor departed family members. An ofrenda symbolizes the connection between the living and the dead, and that death is not the end.

During the month of November, families are invited to place framed photos of departed family and friends, items that remind you of them, or things they enjoyed on our ofrenda in the back of church.

*Cristina Czaia  
Director of Music and Liturgy*

## 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. Please provide your name, phone number, and number of meals you will be picking up.

Call the parish office by **Wednesday, November 19** to place your order for tickets.





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



**A Conversation That Matters:  
Planning for the End of Life**

Church of St. Stanislaus  
398 Superior Street  
St. Paul, MN 55102

Join us for **Graceful Journey: A Workshop about Making End-of-Life Decisions** at the Church of St. Stanislaus on **Saturday, November 15, 9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.** in the Church Hall (lower level; elevator available).

Led by **Pat Tommet**, an Advance Care Planning Facilitator, retired nurse practitioner, and member of St. Stan’s, this free workshop will help you start conversations with loved ones and complete a healthcare directive. We’ll reflect on experiences with death and decision-making, consider wishes and concerns for the end of life, review common treatment choices, discuss how to choose a healthcare agent, and explore ways to overcome barriers to these conversations. **Lunch will be served** (free-will offerings appreciated).

**Pre-registration is required**—please contact **Kim Myers, Parish Administrator, at 651-224-7998.**

**Vatican Unveiled is coming to Mall of America  
January 10 - February 1, 2026**

Experience interesting historical perspectives, artistic items with old-world craftsmanship, and papal artifacts that show the humanity behind the leaders with Vatican Unveiled, the largest collection of papal artifacts outside of Rome. Visit **archspm.org/vaticanunveiled** to learn more!

**Gifted and Belonging Meeting**

Gifted and Belonging will hold their next meeting at St. Matthew on **Sunday, November 9 from 6:30 - 8:00 PM** in the Social Hall. This month’s theme is Pie Night!

Gifted and Belonging aims to provide Catholic fellowship for young adults with disabilities, seen and unseen. The group invites you to get together to share a brief time of prayer and reflection followed by games and social activities. For more information, visit **www.giftedbelonging.com/**

**Volunteering with Loaves & Fishes**

Loaves & Fishes is a nonprofit organization with a mission to serve free, healthy meals to Minnesotans where the need is greatest. Loaves & Fishes has been serving free community meals from the St. Matthew Social Hall since 2006. Currently, St. Matthew hosts one of the largest free community meals for the organization.

Loaves & Fishes is in need of more volunteers! To volunteer at St. Matthew, go to **https://app.initlive.com:443/JE/sn85yp14q9vcal** to sign up.

*Attention All Volunteers!*

**You’re invited to our  
Liturgical New Year’s Eve Party**

*Join us as we celebrate the end of Liturgical Year C*

- Who: All Volunteers & their families
- What: An evening of appreciation for all the work of our volunteers over the past year
- When: Friday, November 28, 2025
- Where: Church of Saint Matthew Social Hall

