



2025 Advent and Christmas Schedule

Communal Reconciliation Service
Sunday, November 30 – 2:00 pm

Reflections on Fr. Steve Adrian's Legacy
Guest Speaker: Fr. Michael Joncas
Tuesday, December 2 – 6:30 pm

Christmas Bake Sale, Boutique and Craft Fair
Saturday, December 6 – 11:00 am to 5:30 pm
Sunday, December 7 – 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Breakfast with Santa
Sunday, December 7 – 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Saint Paul Civic Symphony Concert
Sunday, December 7 – 3:00 pm

Men's Club Auction
Wednesday, December 10
Doors open at 7:30 pm
Auction starts at 8:00 pm

Christmas Eve Mass
Wednesday, December 24 – 4:15 pm

Christmas Day Mass
Thursday, December 25 – 10:15 am

The Feast of the Holy Family
Saturday, December 27 – 4:15 pm
Sunday, December 28 – 10:15 am

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 7**.

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)



Thanksgiving Day Mass

This year, St. Matthew will not have a Thanksgiving Day Mass. Here are nearby parishes with Mass on Thanksgiving Day:

Church of Saint John Vianney - 8:30 AM
840 19th Avenue North
South St Paul, MN 55075

Church of the Assumption - 10:00 AM
51 West Seventh Street
St. Paul, MN 55102

Parish Office Closure

The parish office will be closed on Thursday, November 27, 2025.





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
and Welcome Year A!*

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

5:00 PM - Social Hour

5:30 PM - Dinner (catered by Chin Chin Chinese Restaurant)

7:00 PM - Ball Drop and Dancing

Where: Church of Saint Matthew Social Hall

***Please RSVP to Angela Rakow (arakow@st-matts.org or 651-224-9793)
with number of attendees by **Monday, November 24.*****

Reflections on Fr. Steve Adrian's Legacy: Guest Speaker - Fr. Michael Joncas

Tuesday, December 2, 2025
6:30 PM

Church of Saint Matthew
490 Hall Avenue
Saint Paul, MN 55107

We are delighted to host Fr. Michael Joncas for a talk on Tuesday, December 2.

Fr. Mike will reflect on Fr. Steve Adrian's legacy and Vatican II. In a recent email, Fr. Mike added that he plans to add reflections on his half century of composing liturgical music.

While "On Eagle's Wings" is Fr. Mike's best-known work, he's composed many other memorable hymns and acclamations. In fact, we can expect to hear some at his December 2nd talk.

All are welcome. Tell friends. There is no charge.

Calling All Bakers, Treat and Candy Makers!



Your skills and creations are needed for the annual

ROSARY SOCIETY CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE

the weekend of December 6th and 7th.

As you begin baking and making items for this holiday season, please bake and make some extra and donate it to the **Rosary Society's Christmas Bake Sale**.

This is our biggest fundraiser of the year. The money raised is used to cover our operational costs and the annual donations we make to charitable organizations, including Saint Matt's, Casa Guadalupana, Loaves and Fishes, Neighborhood House, Neighbors, Inc., and Our Lady of Peace Hospice Home.

You can drop off your creations at the Social Hall on Saturday, December 6^h, starting at 9:00 AM. Please call the office (651-224-9793) by December 2nd and leave a message if you need someone to pick up your donation.

Thank you in advance, for your support.

Saint Matt's Rosary Society

Giving Thanks in November Fundraiser Winners

November 17 - Deb Krier (\$100)
November 18 - Duane Wesp (\$25)
November 19 - Cathy Goaley (\$75)
November 20 - Dave Haley (\$100)
November 21 - Don Grant (\$150)
November 22 - Steven Grundei (\$50)
November 23 - Chris or Sue Stevens (\$75)

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

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



YOU ARE INVITED TO Youth Club and Isaac's Blessing Bags

**Sunday, December 7
11:15 AM - 1:00 PM**

St. Matthew Parish Center
490 Hall Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55107

Join us after 10:15 AM Mass in
St. Matthew Parish Center
to create blessing bags.
Together we can give back
through small acts of kindness.

Treats • Pizza • Beverages

Rosary Society December Meeting DATE CHANGE

The date of the December Rosary Society meeting has been changed to **Tuesday, December 2nd**. All women of the community are invited to the meeting, which will be from **12:30 to 2:00 PM** in the lower level of the Parish Center.

This month we will be sharing Christmas traditions and memories, and finalizing the plans for our December 6th and 7th Christmas Bake Sale, Boutique and Craft Fair. Christmas themed refreshments will be served. You do not need to be a member to participate in the meeting.

Saint Paul Civic Symphony Concert at St. Matthew

Sunday, December 7, 2025, 3:00 PM

Samuel Barber - "School for Scandal" Overture
Margaret Bonds - "Montgomery Variations"
Arthur Bliss - Two Studies for Orchestra
Igor Stravinsky - Firebird Suite (1919)

As always, the concert is free of charge! For more information, visit spcsmusic.org.



Baptism Preparation Meeting (age 6 and younger)

Baptism preparation meetings for parents and guardians with children aged six or younger for baptism are scheduled for:

- **Saturday, December 13 at 10:00 AM**
- **Saturday, January 10 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).

Parish Mailing

We recently mailed out Advent mailing, which include *The Little Blue Book*. If you have not received the mailing, please notify Angela in the parish office (651-224-9793 or arakow@st-matts.org). We want to make sure everyone's address is up to date.