



Mass of Explanation

St. Matthew Church
October 29, 2025
6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

Father Tim Dolan will preside and lead Faith Formation families in a Teaching Mass on Wednesday, October 29. **ALL parishioners are invited to attend.**

Father will offer context and background to help all of us gain a deeper understanding of:

- What happens during Mass and why
- What the rituals and prayers mean
- How the Prayers are meant to help us be closer to Jesus, follow his example, and share his love in our community



Please join us!

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 sock
- 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

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 hotdogs will also be available. Non-bingo players are welcome to join us for dinner as well!

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

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!

Thank You!

Thanks to all who participated in our sixth annual Giving Thanks in November Fundraiser! We will start announcing the winners next week. Check out the weekly bulletin and website for the list.

If you missed the raffle deadline, but would still like to donate to replace the church and chapel skylights, it's never too late!

You can use the Capital Needs Fund envelope in the back of the church to make your donation. Put "skylights" in the memo line on your check, or write "skylights" on the envelope if contributing cash.

Thank you for your generosity!

Boy Scout Wreath and Popcorn - Last Weekend!



Boy Scout Troop 288, chartered by the Community of Saints Regional Catholic School, will be taking orders for their annual Wreath and Popcorn Sale **through THIS Sunday, October 26, 2025.**

Your order will be distributed before and after each Mass the weekend of November 22 and 23.

You can find the order forms and contact information at the back of the church.

Please see flyers in the church for pictures of the wreaths.



Community of Saints School Collection



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

Commonweal Study Group

All are welcome to join monthly *Commonweal* magazine's next meeting on **Saturday, November 1, 10:00-11:30 AM** in the Parish Center.

Commonweal covers the arts and literature, as well as current events. For a copy of the article, and a quick introduction to how we conduct our discussion, please email **Phil Grant** (pgrant@st-matts.org).

Baptism Preparation Meetings (Ages 7 - 13)

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 12th 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 meetings are 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*

Book of Remembrance

During November, a book will be placed at the front entrance to the church where you may write the names of deceased family and friends. This book will then be moved to the sanctuary at the beginning of each Mass throughout the month of November.



Funeral Mass for **Jose "Pepe" Sanchez** was held at St. Matthew on Thursday, October 9, 2025.

Please remember Jose and his family in your prayers.

Vatican Unveiled January 10 - February 1, 2026 Mall of America, Bloomington

In celebration of the 175th anniversary of the Catholic Church in Minnesota, the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis is hosting Vatican Unveiled, an exhibit of the largest collection of papal artifacts outside of Rome. Father Richard Kunst, a priest of the Diocese of Duluth, serves as curator of the exhibit. Father Kunst has a deep knowledge of the items and a passion for telling their stories. Find more information at archspm.org/vaticanunveiled.