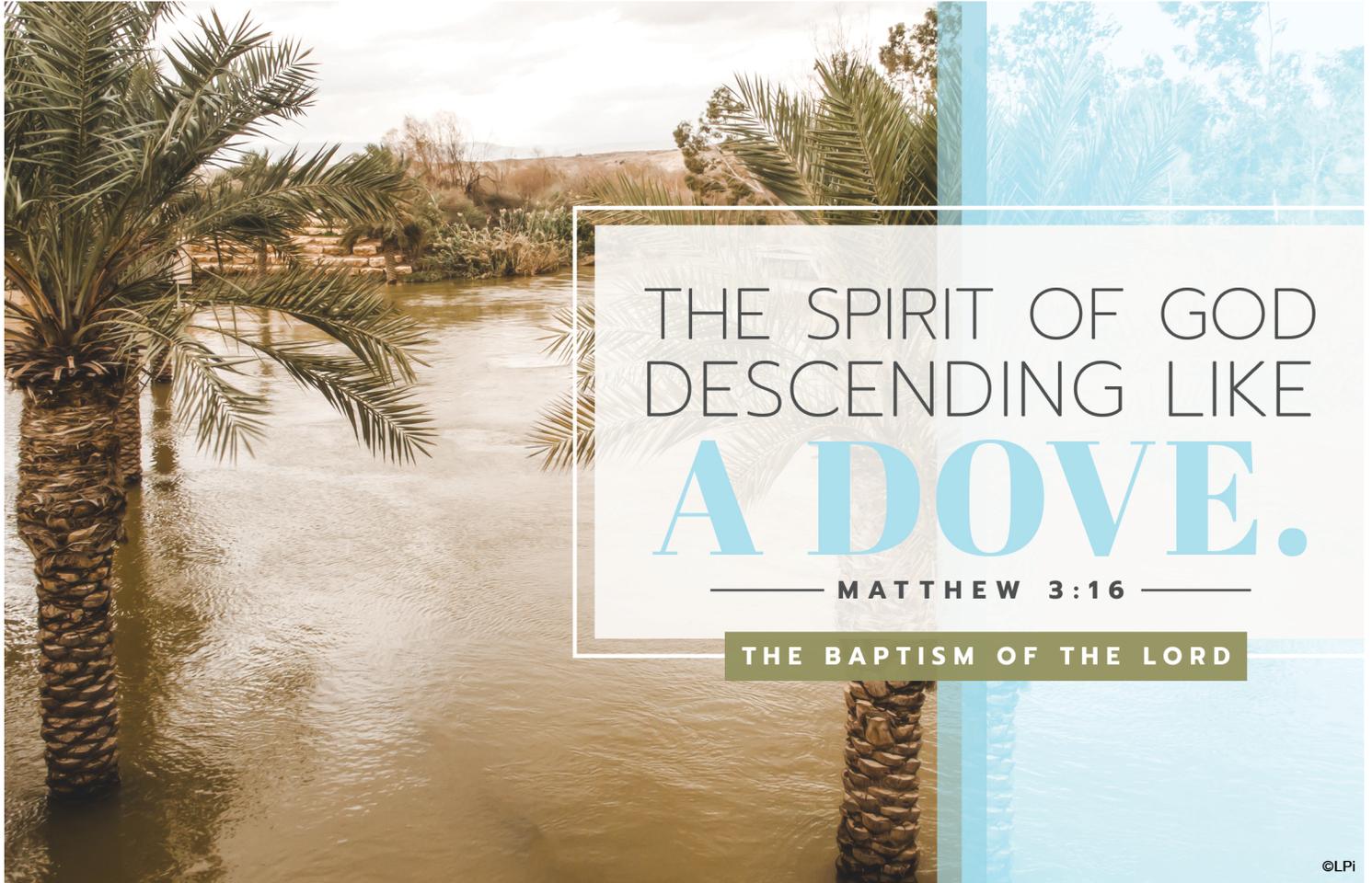




St. Matthew's

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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



THE SPIRIT OF GOD
DESCENDING LIKE
A DOVE.

— MATTHEW 3:16 —

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

©LPI

January 11, 2026

The Baptism of the Lord

Mass Times

- **Saturday, 4:00 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

Apple ran a commercial not long ago called “Behind the Mac – Greatness.” It shows artists and creators, such as Kendrick Lamar, Billie Eilish, and Lady Gaga, working behind their MacBooks. The narration says, “There’s a certain kind of person who doesn’t wait for greatness. They make it.” It’s a compelling message. There’s beauty in using our gifts with passion and purpose. But there lies a hidden weight in that idea: If you are what you make, what happens when you can’t anymore? When the project fails, the passion fades, or the spotlight moves on, where is greatness then?

Today’s Gospel offers a differing vision of greatness. Jesus steps into the Jordan River. He hasn’t preached, healed, or performed a single miracle. Then the heavens open, and the Father speaks: “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.” It’s not a reward for success. It’s not earned. Before he does anything “great,” Jesus receives the greatness of his identity from the Father.

And so do you. At your baptism, God said the same thing over you: “You are my beloved.” That is your true identity, not constructed or earned but received. When we see ourselves and others this way, everything changes for the better. We discover a greatness that can never be taken away.

This week, reflect on your baptism: look up the date, thank God for it, pray for those baptized with you, or visit the church where it happened. Let your identity be rooted there.

— *Father John Muir*

©LPi

Prayer Requests

Jeremiah Baker, Jerry & Louise Breidel, Alesia Brown, Alan Christensen, Tony Elizondo, Kevin Fleming, Jr., Philip Heitzinger, Joan Johnson, Sean Kane, Bernie Klein, Don Luna, Tom Maloney, Diane McFarland, Stephen Mike, Geriann Raway, Linda Rivera, and Doris Schillinger.

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

Greeters:, St. Matthews seeks additional Greeters to extend a warm welcome to those arriving for Mass. Your friendly smile and enthusiasm for the Church of St. Matthew parish are all that’s needed. To help, contact mleibl@st-matts.org or the parish office.

Thank You: To all who helped make Christmas a beautiful experience. To **Fr. Kommers**, who offered Mass with us on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Through his homilies we felt “The Glory of Christmas”! To **Cristina**, who introduced dimming the lights and using candles at the Christmas Eve service, helping us to understand the words, “Light came out of the Darkness!” We thank our **choir**, who under Cristina’s direction, brought beautiful music to our services. We thank **the Faith Formation students & their parents** who decorated the sanctuary for the Christmas season. We thank all who attended the Christmas Masses. We especially thank parents, who brought their children and in doing so helped the children realize the true “Miracle of Christmas”! We again want to thank **the Ahern Family**. This year, as they have for many years, they donated the large wreath hanging in the church as well as all the garland inside and outside the church. We thank **Members of the Men’s Club** who put up the manger scene in the front yard of Guadalapana. A reminder of the true meaning of Christmas to all who pass by our church!

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 Tuesday, January 13 in memory of **Virgil and Donna Roethler’s Anniversary**.

The Bells of St. Matthew will ring on Tuesday, January 13 in memory of **Jerry Schillinger’s 94th Birthday**.

The Sanctuary Lamp will be lit January 17- 23, in memory of **Virgil Roethler**.

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

The Power of Community

I recently heard a radio program on loneliness. One of the speakers was former U.S. Surgeon General Vivek Murthy, who advised that there is an epidemic of loneliness in this country. He wrote that "loneliness is far more than 'just a bad feeling' and represents a major public health risk for both individuals and society."

Loneliness can affect all ages. Harvard researchers have learned that people between 30-44 years of age were the loneliest group, with 29% of people in this age range saying they were frequently or always lonely. Those same researchers identified leading causes of loneliness, including technology, insufficient time with family, overwork, mental health challenges, our individualistic society, and no religious or spiritual life.

Hmmm. No religious or spiritual life? Let's reflect on the power of St. Matt's Catholic Community to serve as an antidote to loneliness. When we gather for worship on weekends, our presence can strengthen each other.

In addition, we have many other opportunities for community connection, such as Rosary Society and Men's Club activities; Faith Formation and Youth Club; and Bible study and Commonweal discussion groups—to name just some of our activities.

The Harvard researchers made several recommendations. They stressed the need "to promote a culture that cares and serves others. 'Collective service can provide important connections that relieve loneliness,' they state, as well as 'cultivate meaning and purpose and mitigate mental health challenges.'"

It sounds like the Harvard folks could have been reflecting on St. Matt's, where we definitely promote a caring culture. We offer many opportunities for service.

I frequently hear the advice to "develop a personal relationship with Jesus." Amen to that. In our parish, we have an additional opportunity: develop a communal relationship with Jesus.

Thanks for worshipping with us today. See you again soon!

*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

Faith Formation Classes in January: Faith Formation students in Grades K to 11 who attend public school have class on January 14 in the Parish Center. Grades K to 7 start at 6:30 PM and Grades 8 to 11 start at 6:45 PM. On January 21, weekly Faith Formation students have class, plus Community of Saints 8th graders preparing for Confirmation attend class in the Parish Center at 6:45 PM. The evening of January 28, only students preparing for First Communion plus their parents have class, and we meet at 6:30 PM in church on January 28, not in the Parish Center.

News and Events

Saturday Mass Time Change

Beginning THIS Saturday, January 10, 2026, the Saturday Mass will begin at **4:00 PM**. Our Sunday Mass time will stay at 10:15 AM.

Coffee Sunday Returns

Our next Coffee Sunday is January 11 after the Sunday 10:15 AM Mass, hosted by the Parish Council. Come down to the Social Hall and visit with your fellow parishioners. We hope to see you there!

Contribution Statements

If you would like an annual contribution statement for 2025, call the parish office. We send these statements out upon request. (According to the IRS, it is the donor's responsibility to ask for such statements.)

Regardless of how you contribute, thank you! We could not sustain our service to our community without your generous support.

Neighborhood House Collection

Next weekend is the monthly Neighborhood House collection. There will be a basket by the main entrance for you to place your non-perishable or monetary donation. On behalf of Neighborhood House and the people it serves, thank you for your generosity!

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 January 11, 2026

Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10/Acts 10:34-38/Mt 3:13-17

Monday: 1 Sm 1:1-8/Ps 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19/Mk 1:14-20

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sam 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Mk 1:29-39

Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/Mk 1:40-45

Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/Mk 2:1-12

Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk 2:13-17

Next Sunday: Is 49:3, 5-6/Ps 40:2 and 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10/1 Cor 1:1-3/Jn 1:29-34

Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 10

4:00 PM +Deceased Members of Our Parish

Sunday, January 11

10:15 AM +Don Giesel

Saturday, January 17

4:00 PM +Don Leibl
+Deceased Members of Rosary Society

Sunday, January 18

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

Calendar of Events

Monday - Friday, January 12 - 16

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

Monday, January 12

8:30 AM - 4:00 PM St. Mary's Dental Clinic
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open

Tuesday, January 13

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

Wednesday, January 14

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
8:00 PM Men's Club Meeting

Thursday, January 15

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

Friday, January 16

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

Saturday, January 17

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

Sunday, January 18

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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