



Holy Hour at Our Lady of Guadalupe

Thursday, February 5

Confessions: 4:30 PM
Holy Mass: 5:30 PM
Adoration: 6:15 PM
Reception: 7:00 PM

Our Lady of Guadalupe Diocesan Shrine
401 Concord Street
St. Paul, MN 55107

Our Lady of Guadalupe invites you to pray for vocations and healing in the presence of monstrance that was blessed by Pope Benedict XVI.

After praying for vocations and healing, food will be served in the social hall with free-will donations going to support families in the parish who are struggling.



Temporary Informal Food Shelf

We have set up a Temporary Informal Food Shelf in our Parish Office. Generous donors have already contributed more than \$1,000 in food. Volunteers are distributing this food to neighbors in need.

This is in addition to our monthly food collection for Neighborhood House, on the 3rd weekend of each month.

If you would like to contribute and/or help distribute the food, please let the office know. Thank you!

Phil Grant

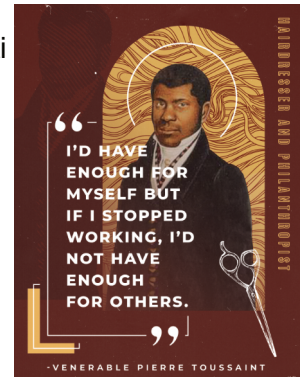
Black Catholic History

In February, we honor Black History Month. Each weekend this month, we will highlight one or two of the seven African American men and women who are currently in the formal canonization process. Please join us as we learn and pray with these holy individuals.

From United States Conference of Catholic Bishops website: www.usccb.org/venerable-pierre-toussaint

Venerable Pierre Toussaint (1766-1853)

Venerable Pierre Toussaint was born into slavery in Haiti in 1766. He moved to New York with his family and the Bérard family, where he worked as a skilled hairdresser. He supported both his family and Mrs. Bérard until her passing.



Toussaint and his wife Juliette transformed their home into a sanctuary for the marginalized—welcoming orphans, the sick, and anyone in need, regardless of race or status.

A devout Catholic, Toussaint attended Mass regularly and lived his faith with unwavering commitment. Though he was once denied entry to St. Patrick's Old Cathedral because of his race, he is now buried beneath the altar of St. Patrick's Cathedral in Manhattan—the only layperson to receive that honor.

Commonweal Study Group

All are welcome to join monthly *Commonweal* magazine's next meeting on **Saturday, February 7, 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).



New Ministry Schedule

The next ministry schedule will be written on Tuesday, February 3. This schedule will begin Ash Wednesday, February 18 and run through Memorial Day, Monday, May 25. This schedule includes 7:00 AM/7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Services.

As in the past, Holy Week, March 29 - April 5, will be a separate schedule to be written at a later date.

Please send your availability for February 18 - Memorial Day, excluding Holy Week before Monday, February 2 to Mary Leibl (mleibl@st-matts.org). Especially let us know which days you are not available. Thank you for your continuing service to St. Matthew's Parish!

Community Band - First Fridays

Next St. Matt's Community Band session is on **Friday, February 6 at 6:30 PM in the Social Hall.**

All levels and instruments are welcome, from beginning musicians on up. Children 12 or younger must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Those aged 13-17 may come on their own. However, they must bring a signed permission slip from a parent or guardian.

For more information, please email Phil Grant (pgrant@st-matts.org).

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.

Save the Date

St. Matthew's Annual Fish Fry

The annual Lenten Fish Fry returns on **Fridays, February 20 through April 3, 2026** in the St. Matthew Social Hall.



Franciscan Retreats and Spirituality Center

2026 Retreat Theme
"Open the Door: I Make All Things New"

The **Franciscan Retreat Center in Prior Lake is offering winter weekend retreats for Women, Married Couples, Men, and weekday Lenten Day of Prayer opportunities.** Please note there are 2 Silent Retreat offerings - one for women in March, and one for men in April.

Restore your soul, reconnect with God, pray, relax, and meditate among 60 acres of secluded nature - or sit by the fireplace, or in the library and visit with God. Enjoy daily Mass, Confession, Adoration, Guided Prayer, 1:1 Spiritual Direction, 4 themed conferences, and meals cooked onsite.

Learn More and check specific retreat dates on our website:

<https://www.FranciscanRetreats.net/Calendar-1> or call 952-447-2182.