



Rosary Society Meeting - Preparing for Lent

Tuesday, February 10, 2026
12:00 to 2 p.m.

Lower level of the St. Matthew Parish Center

This month's program, Preparing for Lent, begins at 1:00 p.m. **Guest speaker is Deacon Luis Rubi of Our Lady of Guadalupe Church.** A light lunch will be available. All members of the St. Matthew Parish Community are invited.

Please note the start time change for this month.

Black Catholic History

In February, we honor Black History Month. Each weekend this month, we will highlight one 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-mother-mary-lange

Venerable Mother Mary Lange (1784-1882)

Born in Santiago de Cuba, Venerable Mother Mary Lange, OSP, migrated to Baltimore during a time of racial exclusion and educational neglect. She saw the need for schools to educate African American youth and opened a free school to educate children of color.



Later, she was approached by Father James Hector Joubert, SS, who recognized the need for a religious congregation that would serve and uplift Black women. At the time, no existing religious orders would accept women of African descent.

Mother Lange and a group of black women made their religious vows and founded the Oblate Sisters of Providence, the first Catholic religious order for women of African heritage in the United States. Their mission was to educate and empower children of color and the poor, and to embody the Gospel in a world that refused to see Christ in Black bodies.

Questions for Tuesday's meeting (February 10)

Here are starter questions for our initial **Safety & Security Task Force** meeting this Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. in our Social Hall

- What is happening in our neighborhood?
- What are people's concerns?
- What opportunities do we have to improve safety and security here?
- What are our priorities?
- Who's willing to help, and in which capacities?
- What are our immediate, mid-term, and long-term next steps?
- When will we meet again?

All are welcome to attend.

Phil Grant

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!

The Sounds and Sights of Saint Matthew



The Bells of St. Matthew will ring on Monday, February 9 in honor of **Doris Schillinger's Birthday.**

A Resource

Braver Angels is a secular, non-partisan non-profit that helps with difficult conversations. I attended one of their workshops before COVID, where I learned useful communications skills. Here's what their website asks of people who attend their workshops:

"If you're here, we hope you'll bring the same spirit we try to live by:

- Curiosity – Come to learn, not just to be heard.
- Humility – None of us has it all figured out.
- Courage – Speak honestly, even when it's tough.
- Commitment – Stick with it. Show up. Help build something better."

<https://mn.braverangels.org/home>

Phil Grant

2026 Catholic Services Appeal

This year's Catholic Services Appeal focuses on:

- o Educating in Faith
- o Helping Those in Need
- o Discipleship and Evangelization

In the back of the church, you will see donation cards and a QR code. Both give you access to the 2026 Catholic Services Appeal website. You can also fill out the pledge card and return it in the collection. Make checks payable to Catholic Services Appeal. Thank you for your generous support.



St. Matthew's 37th Annual Fish Fry

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



Stations of the Cross

All Tuesdays during Lent – 12:30 pm
Fridays during Lent – 5:30 pm



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.

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.