



Safety & Security Task Force Meeting

Last Tuesday, twenty volunteers met in our Social Hall to begin work on a St. Matt's EOP, or Emergency Operations Plan. They generated useful lists of safety & security concerns, opportunities and priorities, all of which will guide our working group.

We'll publish a more detailed report soon. In the meantime, let me know if you have specific questions or would like to join the working group.

Thanks to everyone helping with this important project!

Phil Grant

Stations of the Cross

All Tuesdays during Lent – 12:30 pm

Fridays during Lent – 5:30 pm



Parish Center Front Desk Volunteers

We are looking for volunteers who are willing to work at the Parish Center reception desk. Duties include greeting visitors, answering telephones and light office work.

Until March 16, we need a volunteer on Mondays. Indefinitely, we need a volunteer on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Our office hours are 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, but you can volunteer hours that work for your schedule.

If you are interested in serving your parish in this way, please call the Parish Center (651-224-9793) and leave your name and contact information.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

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: <https://www.usccb.org/venerable-mother-henriette-delille>

Venerable Mother Henriette Delille (1812-1862)

Venerable Mother Henriette Delille, SSF, was born in 1812 in New Orleans, Louisiana, a free woman of African descent in a society shaped by racial caste and colonial legacy.

Raised within the oppressive plaçage system—a social structure that commodified women of color—Henriette rejected the path laid before her. Her confirmation marked a spiritual turning point, and in her prayer book she wrote with conviction: “I want to live and die for God.”

Henriette experienced a call to religious life at a time when no Catholic religious orders would accept women of color. Rather than abandoning her vocation, she founded her own: The Sisters of the Holy Family in 1842. Her mission was rooted in social and racial justice. She and her sisters cared for the poor, the sick, the elderly, and especially those who were vulnerable.

Mother Delille's life calls the Church today to deeper conversion: to recognize the sanctity of Black lives, to honor the faith of Black women, and to build communities of reconciliation where justice and mercy meet.



Thank You!

Thanks to the Men's Club for hosting Coffee Sunday in March. The White Castle breakfast sandwiches were delicious and well received!

Thank You!

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



Funeral Mass for **Victor "Vic" Meysenburg** was held at St. Matthew on Saturday, February 7, 2026.

Please remember Vic and his family in your prayers.

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.

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.



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.