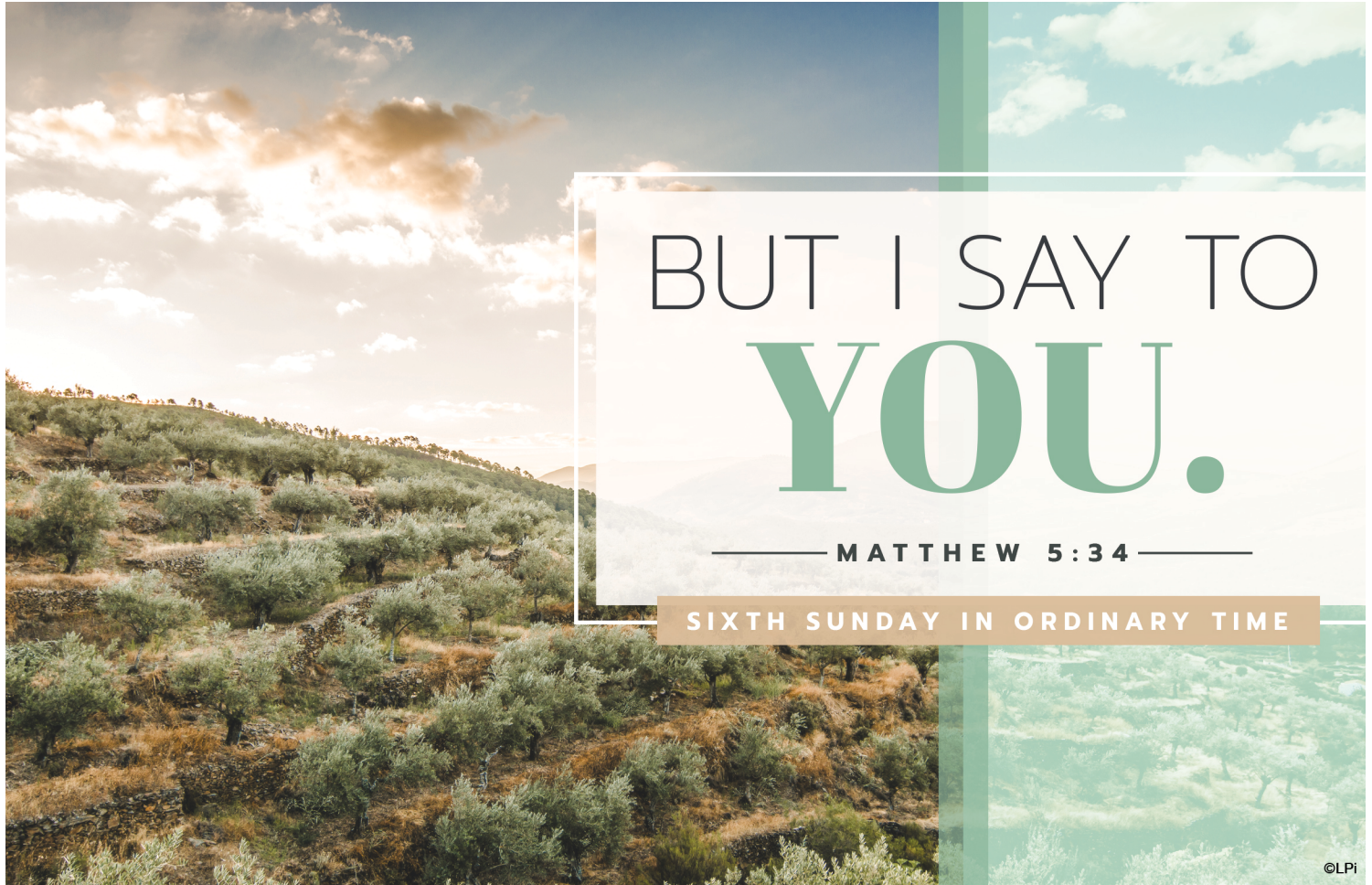




St. Matthew's

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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



BUT I SAY TO
YOU.

— MATTHEW 5:34 —

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

©LPI

February 15, 2026

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

A few years into my priesthood, I hit a wall. I had taken on too many commitments: Masses, meetings, ministries, projects. I couldn't keep up. I was double-booking, forgetting things, running late, and letting people down. My boss at the time, a wise priest, and our shared secretary, noticed. For my birthday, the two gave me a stack of 100 flashcards, each with one word printed in a different language: "NO." It was funny, but also painfully true. If I couldn't say no, my yes was in danger.

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus says, "**Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes,' and your 'No' mean 'No.' Anything more is from the Evil One**" (Matthew 5:37). He's not just giving advice about polite speech. He's showing us something about the freedom of Christian discipleship. The follower of Christ is called to speak clearly, simply, and honestly. There is joy in that kind of freedom.

The Church Fathers often linked this kind of straightforward truthfulness with spiritual maturity. The devil is the father of lies, but Jesus is the Word made flesh. When we hedge, flatter, exaggerate, or avoid, we open space for the shadows to creep in. That little stack of flashcards reminded me that God does not want us enslaved to the expectations of others or to the fear of disappointing them. He wants us to enjoy the peace of saying yes and meaning it, and saying no, and meaning it, too.

Lenten Challenge: Practice one moment of honest, peaceful speech this week. Maybe it's a sincere "yes" to something important, or a humble "no" to something you cannot do. Let it be a quiet step into the freedom Jesus offers.

— Father John Muir

©LPi

Prayer Requests

Donald Baier, Jeremiah Baker, Jerry & Louise Breidel, Alesia Brown, Norma Cahill, 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

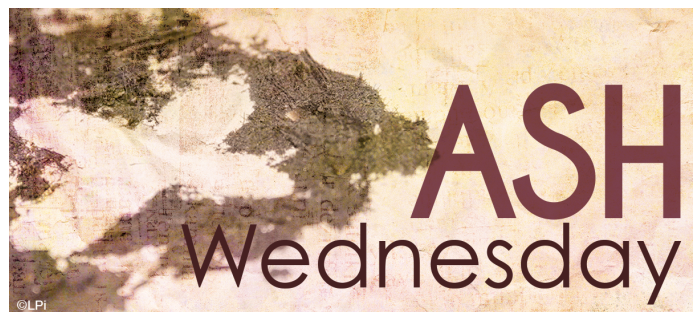
A few weeks ago, I explained how we became a "Volunteer Parish". This was Fr. Bob Kelly's idea. His first project was to paint all of the outside doors on the parish buildings. One parishioner who immediately stepped forward was **Tim Dalzell**. Last weekend, a parishioner asked me to write a little bit more about Tim because many people don't realize all that Tim does.

Like many of our volunteers, Tim attended St. Matthew grade school. He too was taught by the School Sisters of Notre Dame. Those women taught us that there was more to being a parishioner than just attending Mass on Sunday and putting an envelope into the collection basket. We needed to give of ourselves - volunteer our time. Tim is a perfect example of this teaching.

Tim arrives for Saturday Mass, shortly after 3:00 pm. He stands at the main entrance and offers worship aids and hymnals to all who enter. If he sees someone struggling to get out of their car, he hurries out to help them into the church. When Fr. Kommers arrives, Tim meets Father at the car and walks in with him. At Communion, he goes throughout the church taking Communion to those unable to come forward to receive. After Mass, Tim goes throughout the building, locking up all the doors. He also helps Fr. Kommers and other parishioners to their cars. Tim brings to life our parish motto!

WE ARE A VOLUNTEER PARISH!

Mary Leibl
Volunteer Coordinator
mleibl@st-matts.org



The Sounds and Sights of Saint Matthew

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

About that crackdown

This Tuesday, February 17, our St. Matt's community is gathering in our Social Hall at 6:00 pm to focus on the federal government's **immigration crackdown**. All are welcome. I expect we'll wrap up by 7:30 pm. Parish leadership can stay for another 20-30 minutes, in case of individual questions.

This meeting is for people to express their feelings about the crackdown—and to be heard. Both are important as we decide what we can do, individually and as a community. We've already witnessed community organizing, e.g., creating a Temporary Informal Food Shelf (TIFS) in our parish office, helping people get to work and children to school, and supporting increased neighborhood watchfulness.

Possible questions for Tuesday:

- When it comes to the federal government crackdown, what comes to mind?
- What are your questions about the crackdown?
- What concerns you?
- What inspires you?
- What can our community do together, as a response to the crackdown?
- What can individuals do?

If you can't make this meeting, no worries. We'll have others. And if you wish, you can email our office with your responses to the questions above.

Our Parish Council has already discussed the crackdown, and it will continue to do so.

Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)

Last Tuesday, we began work on our parish EOP. Many thanks to all who came. Special thanks to **Gloria** and **Tom** for planning and running the meeting. Note that our EOP work was triggered by the tragedy at Annunciation Parish and School last August. All parishes in our Archdiocese are creating or updating their EOPs.

Lent begins this week. Seems to me that daily prayer and reflection are more important than ever. Do you have a copy of the *Little Black Book*?

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 at Mass This Week: Faith Formation students in grades K to 11 and their families should please come to the church building at 6:45 pm on Wednesday, February 18. We will be part of the Ash Wednesday Mass that evening. Parents/guardians should also attend.

First Communion Retreat Next Sunday: All students preparing for First Communion at the Church of St Matthew this spring and their families are invited to our retreat on February 22. Arrive by 10:00 am for the 10:15 am Sunday Mass, After Mass, come downstairs to the Social Hall for lunch and activities. We will finish by 3:00 pm. This event is required for First Communion families, those in the weekly Faith Formation program and those from Community of Saints and other Catholic schools. Questions? Email janelle@st-matts.org.

News and Events

Neighborhood House Collection

This 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 Mailing

We recently sent out our Lenten mailing. If you have not received it, please notify Angela in the parish office (651-224-9793 or arakow@st-matts.org). We want to make sure everyone's contact information is up to date.



Ash Wednesday, February 18

Communion Service - 7:00 AM

Mass - 7:00 PM



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	Delfina Reynolds
Terry Grundtner	Ellen Schneider
Maggie Lee	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 February 15, 2026

Sunday: Sir 15:15-20/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34/1 Cor 2:6-10/Mt 5:17-37 or 5:20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37

Monday: Jas 1:1-11/Ps 119:67, 68, 71, 72, 75, 76/Mk 8:11-13

Tuesday: Jas 1:12-18/Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15, 18-19/Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17/2 Cor 5:20-6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday: Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 9:22-25

Friday: Is 58:1-9a/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19/Mt 9:14-15

Saturday: Is 58:9b-14/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 5:27-32

Next Sunday: Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17/Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/Mt 4:1-11

Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 14

4:00 PM +Bill Brengman
+Dorinda Martineau
+Joseph Savard

Sunday, February 15

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

Saturday, February 21

4:00 PM +Charles Ketchmark
+Don Leibl

Sunday, February 22

10:15 AM +Deceased Rosary Society Members

Calendar of Events

Monday - Friday, February 16 - 20

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

Monday, February 16

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

Tuesday, February 17

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open
6:00 PM Community Meeting

Wednesday, February 18

7:00 AM Ash Wednesday Communion Service
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Open
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM St. Mary's Health Clinic
7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Mass

Thursday, February 19

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

Friday, February 20

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Parish Office Closed
4:30 PM - 7:30 PM Fish Fry
5:30 PM Stations of the Cross

Saturday, February 21

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

Sunday, February 22

10:15 AM Mass
After Mass First Communion Retreat

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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