



THE GOOD NEWS

FROM ST. MATTHEW

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



The Ketchmark siblings in 1978 at a family wedding.
Front row, left to right:
Diane '68, John '50,
Ted '49, Charlie '67.
Back row left to right:
Karen '61, Mary '54,
Fran '52, Helen '60.

Ketchmark Family Makes Gift to Scholarship Fund

The Ketchmarks are one of a growing number of families who've chosen to make a Family Gift to Alums & Friends Scholarship Fund. As with others who've chosen to give as a family, the Ketchmarks made the gift to honor St. Matthew's 125th Anniversary. But the gift is also a way for them to honor and strengthen the family connections they want to maintain.

Not a Lot of Money Growing Up

Frank and Catherine Ketchmark's eight children grew up in a small house on West Congress about one mile from St. Matt's. The house was torn down years ago, but back then it was close quarters. The three bedroom dwelling was home to Frank and Catherine, their eight children, one grandmother and a steady stream of foster children their mother took care of for Catholic Services.

Money was tight for the family and there weren't many luxuries. Karen Ketchmark Kachel '61 was the sixth child and the fourth daughter in the family. She recalls what a big deal her First Communion Dress was. "It was the first time I didn't have to wear a hand-me-down dress," she said. "It was all my own."

When John Ketchmark '50 was in high school, he helped out by getting a job as a pin-setter at St. Matt's bowling alley. "I could make \$6 a night setting two lanes — that was \$12 a week," John said. "I knew we didn't have any money. I didn't want to burden the family so I bought my own clothes and took care of myself."

All eight Ketchmarks graduated from St. Matthew's and looking back, all of them appreciate how difficult it was for their parents to pay for a private school.

Helen Ketchmark Sigmeth '60 summed it up, "Our parents struggled to afford tuition, but they wanted us to have a Catholic education," she said. "It was hard for them to

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MESSAGE FROM **father steve**



Fr. Steve's homilies are available on-line at www.st-matts.org

Dear St. Matthew School Alums and Friends:

School year 2011-2012 marks the 125th anniversary of St. Matthew's School.

In 125 years St. Matthew's School has reinvented it self over and over again; meeting new times, new demographics, new cultural shifts, new community standards, new populations and new opportunities.

Change and transformation is not easy, but it is necessary to continue the mission of providing a strong academic foundation for young students.

We have never glamorized "yesterday". We embrace the opportunities of today and plan for tomorrow.

The mission is always centered on the student and the student's family. The mission is always the same: we save lives and we change lives; we seek the success of each student; each student is respected as a unique image of the living God.

I am deeply grateful to Mr. John Riehle, parish pastoral administrator, for his many commitments to the mission of Saint Matthew's, not the least being his commitment to oversee and direct alum activities and generous giving.

I am grateful to Mr. Doug Lieser, St. Matthew Director of Education, for his professional and energetic leadership in making sure that the mission is carried out in every aspect of our educational programs.

I am proud of our teachers and staff who bring a passion for the advancement of the students of St. Matthew and who invest so much in their success.

I am so thankful for you, the alums and friends of St. Matthew's School who make it possible for us to offer an education of high quality to the students and families of the West Side of Saint Paul. Without your commitments so many families would not be able to send their children to St. Matthew's School.

We are 125 years old and poised for tomorrow.

Yours truly,

Stephen Adrian, Pastor

**A & F
Scholarship Fund
Financial Update —
We're Getting Close!**

You can help us make our goal!

**MONEY RAISED TO DATE: \$115,000
GOAL: \$150,000**

Thanks to your support, we're ahead of where we were at this date last year and the number of individual gifts is up 78%. Help push us over the top!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL — JULY 25-29

Inviting Children & Adult Volunteers

St. Matthew's, St. Michael's and Our Lady of Guadalupe will be partnering to offer a Vacation Bible School at OLG. Classes will run from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. for children ages 4-12. All children are welcome! Volunteers are needed to help in the classroom, assist with lunch or lend a hand in other ways.

To find out more, call the Parish Center at 651-224-9793.

Ketchmark Family Gift, continued from page 1

send all of us there. We were so lucky to have parents that were willing to make that sacrifice.”

Helen recognizes there are many families in the same situation today. “If we can help a little bit, that would be good.”

Her brother, John, agrees and observes that outside support has a long tradition at St. Matt’s. He recalls the tuition back in his day was around \$3 per month and if you had more than three kids in school, they went for free. Even so, “Most people could not afford the cost of that education,” he said. “There were a lot of local, Catholic-owned businesses that supported the school.”

Maintaining Family Connections

Making a Family Gift is another example of the high priority the Ketchmarks place on maintaining strong family ties. Karen explained, “After Mom and Dad died, we decided that we didn’t want to all go our separate ways.”

Their family traditions now include gatherings at Helen’s home in Canon Falls for a Labor Day picnic and on Christmas Day for a big potluck dinner. In addition, the five sisters try to see each other as often as they can; for the last three years, they’ve attended Reunion Sunday together. This year, in honor of the 125th Anniversary, the sisters invited their brothers to join them.

St. Matt’s Was A Busy Place

The Ketchmarks were in school during the height of the baby boom. John recalled “It was an awfully busy place. Much more so than any modern Catholic parish,” he said. “In the grade school there were 900 kids. It was very busy, crowded and disciplined.”

Karen, the only one in the family who still lives in the neighborhood, remembers the playground. “When you went outside for recess, it was packed,” she said. “The younger kids would play on the Winifred side and the older on the Robie side. I recall sneaking up to the Robie side to be with my sister. She always protected me.”

Karen’s Class of ’61 was St. Matt’s largest graduating class ever with 130 students. Having sent her own two sons to St. Matt’s, Karen’s been in the classroom often since graduating and she still wonders, “How did we fit 40 desks in — plus a big one for the teacher?”

Karen also remembers the fun she had at St. Matt’s outside of the classroom. When she was 12, Art Beatty, who ran the bowling alley, taught her how to bowl. “I was good so I got picked to appear on Junior Pin Pounders, a local TV show,” she said. “My dad was so nervous driving me over there that I got more nervous. I did terrible!”



Seven of the eight Ketchmarks attended Reunion Sunday this year. Front row: Ted Ketchmark, Diane Ketchmark Bruecker, John Ketchmark. Back row: Mary Ketchmark Ceeth, Fran Ketchmark Steen, Helen Ketchmark Sigmeth, Karen Ketchmark Kachel.

Giving Back

When reflecting on the Ketchmark Family Gift, John sums up a sentiment expressed by other family members. “I’m not wealthy — I can’t give a lot — but we all went to school there,” he said. “Looking back you realize that other people have done a lot for us, too.”

Thank you to the Ketchmarks and all the families that have given a Family Gift this year. If you’d like more information about how your family can make a gift, contact John Riehle at 651-224-9793.

Family Gifts – We’re Looking for 125!

We’d like to receive one family gift for each of St. Matt’s 125 years. In addition to the Ketchmarks, a number of families have risen to the challenge including the Hottinger, Cullen, Riehle and Rolewicz families. All 12 members of one of the Schadegg family recently joined together to give a gift so as not be outdone by their old neighbors, the Cullens and Ketchmarks.

St. Matt’s School has always been a family experience; making a Family Gift is a great way to acknowledge that fact, while helping to make the same experience available to current West Side families. Ask your family to join together to make a Family Gift to Alums and Friends Scholarship Fund. For more information, contact John Riehle at 651-224-9793.

Katie Shea Survives Stroke, Returns to Choir

Editor's Note: I was attending the Easter Vigil service this year when choir member, Katie Shea, rolled up in a wheelchair and began singing with the group. Katie is one of the regular cantors at St. Matt's and the last time I'd seen her was in December, when she'd been standing in front of the congregation, leading us in song with her strong, beautiful voice.

In January, Katie suffered a cascade of medical problems which led to a stroke, coma and near death. But Katie survived and during Holy Week she rejoined the choir for the first time since becoming sick. In the following article, Katie shares the story of her illness and recovery.

Katie Shea first learned about St. Matt's five years ago through Bonnie Faber, St. Matthew's Director of Music and Liturgy and Katie's voice coach for the last 15 years. At the time, Katie had been singing with a liturgical music group but was looking to make a change. Bonnie invited her to check out St. Matt's.

"I went to the church, sat in the congregation and really liked it," Katie said. "So I joined the church and choir and have been there ever since." Katie brought along her husband, Sam, her 16 year-old son, Theo, and 11 year-old son Shea, who also sings with the choir.

Katie's health problems started last January, around the time she'd gone to New York City with members of St. Matthew's choir to sing at Carnegie Hall. Her illness began with a bronchial infection, which was nothing new for Katie, who has asthma. But this time antibiotics didn't work and the infection developed into

Sepsis, a severe illness in which the bloodstream is overwhelmed by bacteria. The day after singing at Carnegie Hall, her condition took a serious turn. She didn't realize it at the time, but the Sepsis had triggered a stroke.

"Singing at Carnegie Hall was a high point. It doesn't get much better than that," Katie said. "The next day, Bonnie told me 'you don't look right and you don't sound right.' She wanted me to go to the hospital right then but I was a thousand miles from home — I didn't want to go to a hospital."

After returning home, she went to a doctor who continued her treatment of antibiotics, but within two days she was struggling to breathe and her husband drove her to the emergency room. Since no one knew she'd had a stroke, she was given medication to help her breathing, but it had the unintended consequence of





◀ **St. Matt's choir members in New York, outside Carnegie Hall. Left to right: Bonnie Faber, Katie Shea, Sr. Stephanie Spandl, SSND, Buffy Effinger, Chrissy Fritzen.**

making her stroke much worse. Katie went into a coma. That was when the hospital performed an MRI and began to fully understand her condition.

Initially, Katie's doctors didn't expect her to survive. The first night, her family was told she had a one percent chance of recovery and that if she did survive, she'd never walk again.

Katie's parents had driven from Iowa and were there when the doctors gave the family the news. Katie recalls her mom telling her about it later. "Mom said at first she cried, then she went to her hotel room and prayed for a miracle." Katie said, "And she got one."

Katie was in a coma for over a month. When she emerged, she learned the stroke had affected her physically but had not touched her cognitive abilities. "I can read," she said. "I didn't lose memory or speech." The doctors didn't know how much she would recover, but advised her to go to a good transitional rehab center. Her family chose Courage Center in Golden Valley.

She recalls her first meeting with the Courage Center staff in early March. "They said I'd be there until August. I said, 'No way — I am not going to be here that long.' I was so frustrated. I have these sons, a job — I felt like my life was passing me by."

Katie's father was also at the meeting and he offered the rehab staff a suggestion. "My dad is a pretty quiet guy," Katie said, "but at that meeting he told them, 'I know my daughter. If you set a goal for her, she'll do it. My advice to you is — don't get in her way.'" Not long after that they had another meeting and the discharge date was moved up to June 9th. In the end, she left the rehab center in late May. Katie adds wryly, "That'll teach them to mess with me."

Katie worked hard at her rehab and while she appreciates the staff who helped her, she admits it was a

challenge. "Institutional living is hard," she said. "I'm an independent person. I don't like being told what to do."

At Easter, Katie was in a wheelchair; a few weeks later, she was walking. She hopes to be driving soon and plans to return to work this summer. "I don't want to rush headlong into anything. I'll go back part-time and ease my way into it."

While Katie's very matter-of-fact about her experience, she still pauses when she observes, "One day I'm singing my heart out in Carnegie Hall and a few days later, this..."

Katie has rejoined the choir but says she isn't really singing yet. Her vocal chords were damaged when she was in a coma and tubes were put down her throat. But they're healing and she expects to recover her singing voice. "This whole experience has been an exercise in patience," she said, adding that it's not her best virtue.

Despite the challenges, Katie looks for the good that's come from her experience and includes in that all the support she's received from the St. Matt's community. "So many people have come up to say, 'we're praying for you,'" she said. "It's such an amazing group of people. We're so grateful to be part of it."

At this point, Katie is determined to get back to where she was before the stroke. "There's more work to do but I'll keep chugging," she said. "Returning to St. Matt's as a cantor is one of my most important goals."

St. Matt's Choir Invites New Members

Bonnie Faber, who directs St. Matthew's choir, likes to say that Katie Shea has lived the Resurrection Story right in our midst. What makes that especially poignant is that over the last 18 months, two other choir members have passed away. Bonnie notes that for such a small choir, it's been a heavy blow.

Last year, Michelle Bauer died and this May, Dana Demarest passed away. Both women were long-time choir members and both deaths were sudden.

Bonnie takes great pride in the choir, not only for their work ethic, but also for the way they take care of each other. "We live what we sing. You can't sing about being the eyes and ears of Jesus without doing the work."

Bonnie invites new people to consider joining the choir. The choir has summers off but will sing at 10:30 a.m. Sunday Mass from September–May. For more information, call the Parish Center at 651-224-9793.

◀ **Front row, left to right: Linda Sellars, Bridget Goldenstein, Katie Shea, Andy Scheiber, Katie's son Shea, Rachel Goldenstein, Sr. Stephanie Spandl, SSND, Choir Director Bonnie Faber. Back row, left to right: Becca Goldenstein, Jesse Garceau, Ralph Brown, Richard Kraft, Jack Heitzinger. Not pictured: Larry Sachi, Shelly McMonigal, Jill Kilzer, (accompanist).**

This year's Reunion Sunday was the largest yet!



So many of you attended the Reunion, we couldn't fit in all your photos! Look for them in coming issues.



Four members of the Class of 1936.

Class of '61 – In addition to attending Reunion Sunday, classmates gathered the night before to celebrate their 50 year reunion.



Small images taken from around St. Matthew were photographed by Terry Bebertz.

Alums who graduated after 1962.



LEFT: The oldest alum attending — Marie Ferber, 1931.



BELOW: The youngest alum attending — Bridget Goldenstein, 2010.



Alums graduating from 1952 – 1959.



Members of the Class of 1951 celebrated their 60 year reunion. Joining them was one of their 8th grade teachers, Sr. Therese Even, SSND, seated in the center of the first row, wearing a red jacket and floral skirt.

Alums Share Their Memories

The Stevens Family History at St. Matthew's Parish

SUBMITTED BY CHRIS STEVENS

The Stevens family has had a circular history with membership in St. Matthew's and St. Michael's parish. Our parents, James and Helen Stevens, were life long West-Siders. Jay was born in the house that stood where RC Dicks grocery now sits, on the corner of Smith and Dodd. (There's a photo of the family house up on the wall where you pick up your shopping cart.) He came from a large Irish Catholic family of 10 children. Helen was born in a house on Wyoming Street to a family of 12 of French-Dutch descent. Both Jay and Helen attended St. Michael's grade school and were members of the parish.

Jay and Helen both graduated from Humboldt High School. They were married in 1933 and sent their first seven children to St. Mike's, initially at the old school where the Torre de San Miguel now stands. When the new school was built in West St. Paul, the kids started attending up there.

That brings us to the story of how the Stevens family became members of St. Matthew's. In 1949, the family moved from their house on East George Street to 110 West Winifred, just three blocks from St. Matt's. Since we were an Irish family, and St. Matt's was a German parish, we were not allowed to join St. Matt's. When the youngest 3 children were ready for school age, Helen didn't want to send them all the way up to West St. Paul. There is some uncertainty about exactly how the events unfolded, but as Chris remembers it being told to him by Helen, she sent her son Pat, who at that time was a seminarian and had learned to speak German, down to meet with Monsignor Ziskowski to see about getting Chris into the first grade at St. Matt's. Since there was some Dutch in the family tree, I guess that was close enough to German and we were allowed to become parishioners at St. Matt's.

Chris was the first member of the family to attend St. Matt's grade school, beginning first grade in 1959 in Sister Roswitha's class. He and his younger sisters Anne and Kate attended St. Matt's all 8 years of grade school, and members of the family have been at St. Matt's ever since.



James and Helen Stevens were lifelong West-Siders.



Left to right — Bob, Ceil, Helena, John, Anne '64, Chris '67, Kate, Pat, Joe in front.

My St. Matt's Career

SUBMITTED BY BOB STEVENS

In the fall of 1950, I enrolled as a freshman at St. Matt's. A number of my classmates from St. Mike's did also. My first choice was St. Agnes, but St. Agnes gave preference to grade school students taught by Notre Dame nuns, and we shanty Irish were taught by St. Joseph nuns. Also, it must be said that I had a rebellious reputation from 7th grade, and it followed me. In 8th grade at St. Mike's, I was elected captain of the school patrol, but the teacher voided the election because of my shady past.

But St. Matt's provided me a fresh start. As one of the few elected posts I held in my lifetime, I was chosen class president. I was a mostly A student, and received a certificate (suitable for framing) for general excellence. When I got my first report card (all A's), I couldn't wait to rush back to St. Mike's to wave it at the nun who had boycotted me for chief of police. Among other signs of my reformation, I sang in the church choir, and was a volunteer worker at the Red Cross blood bank.

Sophomore year, I had the use of mom's car to get to my job at Verstraete's grocery store, so I was sometimes drafted to give the nuns a ride. I remember Sister Evangelista as a nervous back seat driver. I was driving her over the high bridge, doing about 30 mph, and she shouted, "CUT IT IN HALF, CUT IT IN HALF." I drove the rest of the trip at an obedient 15 mph.

All in all, I remember St. Matt's two year high school as a happy place.

**Marie's 1st Communion in 1929:
Left to Right - Louis (Bud), Mary
(Marie) and Frankie Sapletal. Marie is
seen holding a rosary.**

**Far right: Marie, age 91,
still says the rosary every day.**



Memories from Marie Sapletal as told to Susan Deleo

Marie Sapletal graduated from St. Matthew's in 1934. Her mother (Mary Anne Licha Sapletal) attended St. Matt's school and was buried from that church as well. It has also been said that Marie's grandfather (John Licha) was instrumental in providing financial support for the building of the church. Marie attended St. Matt's along with her sister Margaret, and three brothers Bud, Frank and Spark. Marie is now almost 92 years old and recently shared some of her school day memories with her niece, Susan Deleo.

Marie remembers:

YOUR NAME AT SCHOOL

You were not allowed to be called by your nickname in school, only by your baptismal name.

Marie was named after her mother Mary, but the family called her Marie. At school, she had to be called Mary. It was the same with her two brothers who both had nicknames. But at school they had to go by the name on their baptismal certificate. Bud was called Louis and Spark was called Harold. Oh, how they hated that!

THE SCHOOL UNIFORM

The girl's school uniform was a solid light blue pleated dress, long sleeved with white removable cuffs. The colors of the uniform signified the colors of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The white cuffs were on the uniform to "dress it up" a bit. But also, if you got your cuffs dirty, your mother just had to remove the cuffs only and wash them instead of the entire uniform. Once you got into 8th grade, you wore a pleated black uniform with the removable white cuffs.

The boy's uniforms were black knickers to the knee, long black socks, white shirt and black tie.

Marie's twin brother, Frankie, hated wearing his tie and was forever in trouble for tearing off the tie and not wearing it in school.

THE BELL RINGER

Mr. Sheppard was the bell ringer and janitor at the school.

Every day at 1:00 pm he rang the bell, and all the school kids went into the church for 45 minutes of prayer.

He also played the very important role of escorting anyone who needed "to go" to the bathroom.

END OF SCHOOL DAY

At the end of the school day, all the kids were divided into "walking-home" groups, to keep the kids together and safe. Marie was in Group 2-Section 1 which walked from Stryker Avenue.

Group 1 was the Library building group with Group 2 walking from Baker Avenue up past the Funeral Home. The School Police were always there on the corner waiting for all the kids to get to their Group location.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

You had to come to school prepared with: one tablet of paper, one ruler and two #2 pencils.

After the first day of school, Marie's older brother Bud (Louis) told his mother and dad that he had lost his pencils. But not only did he need to replace his TWO pencils but he also needed FOUR MORE. Their mother went to the store and bought him the needed pencils. The next day he came home and said they were told that they now need more than one tablet of paper.

So his mother bought more. The day after that he said he lost his ruler, but that one was not enough... he needed more than just one.

Needless to say, the parents were wondering why a kid that age needed all those school supplies. They were also upset that Bud was so careless. After his mother talked to the Sister and asked why this child needed so many school supplies, the Sister responded and said... "No they only need one tablet, one ruler and two pencils." It turns out there were children in Louis' class who could not afford to buy them. So Louis said, "My Pop's a contractor, he's got money...I'll bring you what you need!" (How do you punish a kid for that?)

Join us in celebrating our 125th Anniversary! St. Matthew's Annual Fall Fest – September 17-18, 2011

Join us for a weekend of games, food and memories as St. Matt's celebrates its 125th anniversary. Things to look for at this year's Annual Fall Fest:

- Sit down dinner on Saturday evening with walk around food all day Sunday.
- A beautiful hand-made quilt that will be raffled off will be on display at church starting in July.
- Matt's Bookstore — the greatest collection of used books for sale on the West Side.
- Anniversary Bingo offering lots of opportunities to win big!
- Children's Art Gallery
- Remembrance Booth — see sidebar on page 11 for details.

To get involved or find out more, contact Joanne Smith, 651-455-4367 or email transitgranny@aol.com.

LOOKING FOR DONATIONS

- Bottle lotto items and plastic bottles to put them in (peanut butter jars are great!)
- Gently used baskets for the Basket Booth. Use your imagination to create an interesting package to be sold at the Booth.
- Fun vintage jewelry and accessories.
 - Books, CD's & DVD's
 - Silent Auction Items

You can bring your items to the parish center on weekdays or to the church on weekends.

NEW THIS YEAR AT FALL FESTIVAL – TO CELEBRATE 125TH ANNIVERSARY

Christmas Ornaments to Honor Your Loved Ones

The ornaments will be sold in sets of two, each of which can have a name of someone you'd like to honor or remember inscribed on it. One ornament can be taken home and the other one will be hung on the Christmas tree at church every year.

Mark Your Calendar for Other 125th Anniversary Events

MASS & PICNIC IN THE PARK ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 14TH AT 11 A.M.

St. Matthew's annual Mass & Picnic in the Park will take place on Sunday, August 14th at Cherokee Park. In addition to the usual potluck dinner, the 125th Committee is organizing games for the day including three-legged races and a water balloon toss. Your ideas are welcome! To share them or find out more, contact the Parish Center at 651-224-9793.



COMPOSER & THEOLOGIAN, FR. MICHAEL JONCAS ON OCTOBER 1ST

Fr. Michael Joncas, who composed the song "On Eagle's Wings" among many others, will be coming to concelebrate Mass with Fr. Steve on Saturday, October 1st. In addition to composing contemporary Catholic music, Fr. Joncas is a theologian who teaches at St. Thomas University. Following Mass, he will give a talk and share stories about his music.



From the Editor

Regional School Discussion Update

In early June, I attended a public meeting at Our Lady of Guadalupe along with a few hundred people. It was a chance to get an update on the work of the planners from the five schools/six parishes about Regional Schools in the area. It was also an opportunity for everyone from the affected parishes to provide input.

The five schools include, St. Michael's and St. Joseph's in West St. Paul; St. John Vianney and Holy Trinity in South St. Paul and St. Matthew's. Our Lady of Guadalupe is also participating in the planning.

The meeting began with a presentation explaining the issues the committee is working on, after which everyone participated in small group discussions to provide feedback on specific questions the committee posed.

At the end of the night, it was clear there are far more questions than answers. Given that, here are some of the highlights.

- One of the principle values guiding the discussion is a belief that's been embraced by the St. Matthew's community for many years – a commitment to provide Catholic education for all students, regardless of a family's ability to pay tuition.

- Given current enrollment, capacity and future potential, the committee believes the five school buildings currently operating should be reduced to three. How that would be accomplished is completely undecided. For instance, it could involve establishing a K-5 school in one building and a middle school in another.
- Going forward, there is a strong recommendation that the responsibility for funding Catholic schools be shared by all churches in the Archdiocese. If that happens, the burden will no longer be solely on those parishes that have a school.
- Major issues have to be decided such as the governance structure of the schools, transportation and school staffing.

Because of the many complicated logistical issues involved as well as the distinct history and culture of each school, the committee estimates that any plan, even if decided on this year, will take several years to fully implement.

We will continue to provide updates in future issues of the Good News.

— Maggie Lee, Editor

Fall Festival Remembrance Booth — Collecting an Oral History of St. Matt's.

Everyone's got a story, a memory or an experience from their days at St. Matt's that's worth preserving. At this year's Fall Festival, we want to collect as many of those remembrances as possible — but we need you to help us do it.

At Fall Festival we are setting up a booth for the purpose of recording as many of your memories as possible. People attending the Festival can come, sit down for a few minutes and share their favorite memories. All stories related to St. Matt's, or that took place on the West Side, are welcome.

And we don't just want your story, we also want stories from your mom and dad, aunts and uncles, grandparents, cousins, neighbors, friends and classmates — so bring them in, too. There are a million great memories out there — let's not lose them. Help us record an oral history of St. Matthew's first 125 years. For more information, contact the Parish Center at 651-224-9793.





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Pastor: Fr. Steve Adrian

Parish Office: 651-224-9793

Weekend Liturgies:

Saturday - 5 p.m.

Sunday - 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

www.st-matts.org

EVENTS calendar

MEN'S CLUB MONTHLY MEETING — August 10 & September 14, at 8 p.m. in the Social Hall

Come and find out more about one of the most active groups at St. Matt's. They do a lot for the parish and school but have fun while they're at it. For more information contact timothy.nowak@usfamily.net.

SCHOOL PARISH WORK MORNING — August 13, 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.

There are lots of projects to work on in the school as well as other buildings on the campus. Projects involving carpentry, plumbing and painting are available. Breakfast will be available at the start and pizza will be served at noon. RSVP your presence and preferred work. Contact: school at 651-224-6912 or parish at 651-224-9793.

MASS AND PICNIC IN CHEROKEE PARK — August 14, 11 a.m.

Join us for this annual celebration! Hot dogs & hamburgers will be provided by the Men's Club — bring a dish to pass and enjoy the evening. Special games and activities are being planned to celebrate our 125th Anniversary (*see pg. 10 for details.*) In case of rain, Mass will be at church.

BACK TO SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE — August 31, 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

LABOR DAY MASS — September 5 at 9:00 a.m.

FALL FESTIVAL — September 17 & 18

Plans are in the works for this year's Festival and like always, they'll include good food, fellowship and fun. To celebrate the 125th Anniversary, special events are planned including Personalized Christmas Ornaments to honor loved ones (*see pg. 10*) and a Remembrance Booth to record an oral history of St. Matt's (*see pg. 11.*) The committee is looking for people willing to lend a hand or make a contribution to the many auctions and sales — see pg. 10 for details or contact Joanne Smith, 651-455-4367 or email transitgranny@aol.com.

FR. MICHAEL JONCAS, COMPOSER & THEOLOGIAN — October 1

Composer of the popular song "On Eagle's Wings," among many others, Michael Joncas will concelebrate 4 p.m. Mass with Fr. Steve Adrian and will give a talk afterwards. *See pg. 10 for details.*