

# The Community of St. Matthew



*... exists  
in the world  
as a visible  
expression of  
God's love.*



Dear Saint Matthew Community and Friends,

We stand on the very edge of the Christmas Feast and Season. Below you will find the schedule for worship at Saint Matthew for the Season.

I encourage you to invite someone to come with you to celebrate the Feast and Season, perhaps a person who has not been all that frequent at worship, or a person who does not feel all that comfortable with church. Often it is the invitation of a friend or family member that allows such a person to reconnect with church and the practice of his/her faith.

Yours truly,



Stephen Adrian  
Pastor

**Advent and Christmas  
Church of Saint Matthew  
510 Hall Avenue  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55107  
651-224-9793**

### **Individual Reconciliation**

In the Chapel  
Monday, Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup>, 7 pm  
Tuesday, Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>, 7:15 am & 4 pm

### **Feast of Christmas**

Vigil Mass, Wednesday, Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>, 4 pm  
11:30 pm Carols & Mass at Midnight  
Mass at Dawn, Thursday, Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>, 8 am  
Mass of Christmas Day, Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 am

### **Feast of the Holy Family**

Saturday, Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>, 5 pm  
Sunday, Dec. 28<sup>th</sup>, 8 and 10:30 am

### **New Year**

Thursday, Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>, 10 am

### **Feast of the Epiphany**

Saturday, Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5 pm  
Sunday, Jan. 4<sup>th</sup>, 8 and 10:30 am

## PARISH EVENTS

### COFFEE FOR A CAUSE

Coffee for a cause this Sunday after both masses is hosted and served by Camille and Grace Creamer and all proceeds are being donated to the Men's Club to support their work throughout the year for the Community of St. Matthew.

### PASTORAL CARE NEEDS

As Christmas nears, are there sick or lonely parishioners who would like a visit and/or Communion from a parish visitor? If you know of anyone; friends, family, a fellow parishioner who used to sit next to you but can't get to church anymore, please call the parish office, 651-224-9793.

### A THANK YOU FROM THE ROSARY SOCIETY!

The Rosary Society thanks all of you who contributed to a very successful bake sale. Thank you bakers, candy makers, crafters, shoppers, and workers. The raffle winner of the Hummel figure is Tim Nowak. Corinne Brengman won the Dozing Santa.

### SUNDAY MISSALS

The St. Joseph's Sunday Missals are available at the back of church; the suggested donation is \$5.00. These are printed in Canada and have the same translation of the readings we use at weekend liturgy. [There are some small differences in the translation that encourage better proclamation and better listening and hearing.] Another great use for these missals is the ability to prepare the readings during the week at home. In that way, they will be more familiar when they are heard on Sunday.

## EDUCATION AND FAITH FORMATION NEWS

### SAINT MATTHEW'S ALUMS

The undergraduate senior class at the University of Saint Thomas numbers 1500 students. 26 of those students have been nominated for the Tommie Award. Two of the nominees are Saint Matthew School Alums of the class of 2001 – Emily Kessel and Alfonso Wenker. “The Tommie Award is presented each spring to a University of Saint Thomas Senior who, according to UST students, faculty and staff, best represent the ideals of Saint Thomas Aquinas through scholarship, leadership and campus involvement.” The Saint Matthew class of 2001 numbered 15 students. The quality of these students is remarkable as attested by the fact that two of this number are now nominated for the highest senior student award at the University of Saint Thomas. Saint Matthew’s School is small, local and highly effective in producing first rate alums that excel academically, socially and spiritually.

### VISITATION SCHOOL TO HOLD OPEN HOUSE FOR GRADES 9-12

Convent of the Visitation School, Located at 2455 Visitation Drive in Mendota Heights, will hold an *Upper School Open House on Wednesday, January 14, 2009 at 7:00 PM*. This informational Open House is planned for prospective families interested in grades 9-12 at Visitation. An overview of the school programs, philosophy and curriculum will be presented. Families will also have the opportunity to tour the facilities and speak with faculty, students, administrators and current parents. Financial grant and transportation information will also be available. Visitation seeks students from a variety of socioeconomic, religious and cultural backgrounds. For more information, please contact the Admissions Office at 651-683-1707 or visit our website at [www.visitation.net](http://www.visitation.net).

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

A BIG thank you to all the parishioners who contributed to this year's Giving Tree. Because of your generosity we were able to help about 50 families and provide gifts for over 125 children! Thank you to two of our parishioners who helped underwrite the gifts for teens and thank you to our Confirmation students, who gave their time to sort and hand out the gifts.

***And the angel said to her in reply, “The holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God.” - Lk 1:35***

*Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD*

## THIS WEEK AT SAINT MATTHEW

<b>Sunday</b> 9:00 AM, PC	<b>December 21</b> Finance Council
<b>Monday</b> 3:00 PM, SH 6:30 PM, XC	<b>December 22</b> Loaves and Fishes Boy Scout Meeting
<b>Tuesday</b> 3:00 PM, SH	<b>December 23</b> Loaves and Fishes
<b>Wednesday</b> 12:00-7:00 PM, PC 3:00 PM, SH 4:00 PM, MC 11:30 PM, MC 12:00 AM, MC	<b>December 24</b> St. Mary’s Clinic Loaves and Fishes Vigil Mass Carols Mass at Midnight
<b>Thursday</b> 8:00 AM, MC 10:30 AM, MC	<b>December 25</b> Mass at Dawn Mass of Christmas Day
<b>Friday</b>	<b>December 26</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>December 27</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>December 28</b>

### Abbreviations:

MC – Main Church  
CH – Chapel  
PC – Parish Center  
SH – Social Hall  
SC – School  
CC – Child Care  
XC – Extended Day

STEWARDSHIP

*In the first reading, God promises King David that his house and his kingdom will endure forever. In the Gospel, we see that it is through Mary's "Yes"—"I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be done to me as you say."—that the promise finds fulfillment.*

Prayer: Daily spiritual reading; daily rosary; daily morning and evening prayers; prayed with the people at Casa Guadalupana

Service; Most sincere thanks and appreciation to Sister Stephanie for her words last weekend [so wonderfully constructed and delivered]—connecting to the readings and making a great case for support of the Religious Retirement fund.

Thanks to the members of the Men's Club for their most recent service: the erection of the manger scene at Hall and Robie. Thanks, men!

Sharing : \$7,248 this past weekend; \$217,912 year to date. Thank you very much. That last number is \$7,238 behind budget [yet we are still greater than last year by \$2,129]. Other money given: \$408 in holyday envelopes [Assumption, Immaculate Conception and Christmas]; \$354 for Religious Retirement; \$50 in school envelopes and \$5 for the food shelf.

Notice to those giving electronically: 1) for those new to this method: the first transfer will be in January—as you requested [either weekly, on the 5<sup>th</sup> or the 20<sup>th</sup>]; 2) for those who are changing amounts: the new amount will also begin in January—on the date you requested; 3) for those who have not made any changes: the same amount will be transferred on the same dates as in the past

Young People's Stewardship: \$2.45, Thank you! They wrote: Tutored a fellow student, helped fold laundry.

WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the Week of December 21, 2008

- Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Rom 16:25-27/ Lk 1:26-38
- Monday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/Lk 1:46-56
- Tuesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Lk 1:57-66
- Wednesday: Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Lk 1:67-79
- Thursday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25  
Midnight: Is 9:1-6/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14  
Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20  
Day: Is 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14
- Friday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Mt 10:17-22
- Saturday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Jn 20:1a, 2-8
- Next Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/ Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

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PARISH DIRECTORY

Saint Matthew Church Office..... 651-224-9793  
Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 AM-4:00 PM  
Web site: st-matts.org  
Bulletin Email: bulletin.editor@st-matts.org

Pastoral Staff

Pastor..... *Father Stephen Adrian*  
Deacon..... *Rev. John Murphy*  
Parish Pastoral Administrator..... *John Riehle*  
Dir. Education & Formation.....*Doug Lieser*  
Dir. Music & Liturgy .....*Bonnie Faber*  
Dir. Child Care..... *Shar Lavelle*  
Dir. KLT Kids .....*Shar Lavelle*  
Dir. Marketing & Development..... *Maureen Gitlin*  
Bookkeeper ..... *Cindy Hoffman*  
Administrative Assistant ..... *Nicole Johnson*  
Dir. Food Service ..... *Alice Schletty*  
Parish Engineer.....*David Rosas*

Phone Numbers

Fax..... 651-228-9448  
Parish School..... 651-224-6912  
KLT Kids ..... 651-665-0786  
Child Care Center..... 651-224-1459  
Liturgy and Music Voicemail..... 651-310-0830  
Prayerline ..... 651-686-5463 or 651-455-6886

Schedule of Services

Weekend Liturgies Saturday: 5:00 PM  
Sunday: 8:00 & 10:30 AM  
Weekday Liturgies Monday-Friday: 6:45 AM  
1st Friday: 6:45 AM & 5:15 PM

Reconciliation

Tuesday..... 7:15 AM  
Saturday..... 4:00 PM

Sacrament of Baptism

Parents who are parishioners make arrangements with the Pastor or the Deacon one month prior to baptism.

Sacrament of Marriage

Couples make arrangements with the Pastor or the Deacon six months prior to wedding. Must be a member of the parish

Parish Council Members

Parish Council email: *parishcouncil@st-matts.org*

Becky Montgomery Nicole Johnson  
Connie Aligada Anthony Minus  
Jason Delmont Mark Thomford  
Chris Stevens Joyce Osborne  
Stephen Adrian