

The Community of St. Matthew

JOIN US FOR ST. MATTHEW'S TROOP 107 BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

We're having breakfast with Santa
On Sunday, December 14, 2008
8:30 AM until 12:00 PM
Breakfast includes: sausage, eggs,
beverages, and all-you-can eat pancakes!



\$6.50 for ages 12 and up
\$3.50 for ages 11 and under

Have your picture taken with Santa for only \$3.00!



Rosary Society Bake Sale In the Social Hall

Saturday, December 13, 2008
Selling from 1:00 PM to 6:00 PM
Sunday, December 14, 2008
Selling during the Santa Breakfast

Christmas cookies, fruitcake, breads,
Caramels and other holiday treats!

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

Dear Saint Matthew Community and Friends,

This weekend marks the 40th anniversary of my ordination as a priest of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis. Over recent weeks I reflected on the years and also on my faith – what I believe. Today I choose to share with you this statement of faith.

Yours truly,



Stephen Adrian
Pastor

I believe in God, Architect and Maker of all that is. I believe God is not only the source of truth, but God is Truth. I believe that in God all that is true comes together – the truth of science, the truth of logic, the truth of faith, the truth of reason.

I believe each and every human being bears the image of God and is passionately loved by God.

I believe Jesus of Nazareth is son of David and Son of God, the perfect revelation of God; and in His death and resurrection He brings all that is into union with God. I believe the life, death and resurrection of Jesus is the pivotal event in cosmic history and Jesus is Lord and transcends time and space and is present and active today in His paschal mystery.

I believe the Spirit of God suffuses every nook and cranny of creation and ignites all reality with the fire of God's

goodness and love. The Spirit of God drives and herds and moves all of creation into right relationship with God.

I believe the Church of Jesus Christ is the sacrament by which the mystery of Christ is proclaimed and witnessed in the world. I believe the Church of Jesus Christ while not of the world is truly in the world. I believe the hopes and dreams, the fears and anxieties of human beings are the hopes and dreams, the fears and anxieties of the Church of Jesus Christ. I believe the presence of God is found where ever the hungry are fed, the thirsty are given drink, the stranger is welcomed, the naked are clothed, the sick are comforted and the imprisoned are visited. I believe the fullness of God's compassionate love, justice and presence know no bounds – racial, sectarian, geographic, ethnic, political, gender or religious.

I believe human beings have a destiny, and are perfectly ordered to God in their diversity. I believe sin enters the world through the free choice of human beings, and yet sin can in no way destroy the goodness, grandeur and intrinsic order of God's creation. I believe the work of God is entrusted into human hands and that human beings are partners with God in the work of redemption.

I believe the Church of Jesus Christ is a community of faith nourished and nurtured on the Book and the Cup; and that in Word and Sacrament the community of faith is ever more deeply conformed to the very death and resurrection of Jesus.

I believe death is the door through which we pass into perfect union with God and all creation.

PARISH EVENTS

COFFEE FOR A CAUSE

All are invited to the Social Hall after the Saturday evening mass and both Sunday masses to honor Father Adrian's 40th anniversary of ordination. Come on down for hot coffee, delicious treats provided by Jerabek's and fellowship. Thanks to Doris Bisciglia, Diane Krammerer, Carol Gilberg, and Carol Murphy for serving on Saturday and Jeanne Snaza Mannum, Juliana Mannum and Esther Snaza for serving on Sunday. All proceeds will be donated in the name of Fr. Adrian to St. Matthew School Alums and Friends Tuition Assistance Fund.

DONATIONS FOR BAKE SALE

St. Matthew's Rosary Society Christmas Bake Sale will be held on Saturday, December 13, 1 to 6:30 p.m., and Sunday, December 14, 8 to 12:30, in the social hall. Donations of baked goods, candies and small craft items from members and parishioners would be appreciated. Items can be brought to the social hall after 10 a.m. on Saturday.

ROSARY SOCIETY MEETING

The Rosary Society will meet on Tuesday, December 9 at 6:45 pm in the social hall. Join us for our Christmas celebration.

EDUCATION AND FAITH FORMATION NEWS

COFFEE FOR A CAUSE-THANK YOU

St. Matthew's Loaves and Fishes Ministry thanks all who supported last weekend's C4aC. \$76.00 was raised to support their work. Thanks to Marcie and Leo Kegler, Cheryl McNellis, Esther Sanza and Diane Heitzinger and Jack Heitzinger for serving.

ORDER HOLIDAY FRUIT BASKETS

Orders are being taken for holiday fruit baskets which will be ready for pickup or delivery on December 14. Stop by the Scrip table to see a sample basket or to place an order. Local delivery is available for a nominal fee. Questions, call Tim 612-269-9471.

CHRISTMAS GIFT GIVING

Once again this year the Confirmation class is coordinating Christmas gift giving. We need your help to make Christmas brighter for the families of our Community. Please bring your unwrapped gifts to church prior to Friday, December 12 and place them in the gift area in the back of church. If you prefer to make a donation of cash or SCRIP please do so at the SCRIP table. The families we are helping have children ages birth-18. There is a definite need for gifts for the teens.

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.

**Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
(Holy Day of Obligation)
Monday, December 8, 2008
Mass Times:
6:45 AM, 9:15 AM, 5:15 PM**

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.

THIS WEEK AT SAINT MATTHEW

Sunday	December 7
Reception for Fr. Adrian's 40th Anniversary of Ordination after each Mass	
Monday	December 8
6:45 AM, CH	Mass
9:15 AM, MC	School Mass
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
5:15 PM, MC	Mass
6:30 PM, XC	Boy Scout Meeting
6:30 PM, SC	EAC Meeting
Tuesday	December 9
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
6:45 PM, SH	Rosary Society mtg.
Wednesday	December 10
12:00-7:00 PM, PC	St. Mary's Clinic
2:45 PM, MC	Children's Choir
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
5:00 PM, MC	HummDingers
6:30 PM, SC	Religious Education, Grades 1-10
7:00 PM, MC	Adult Choir
8:00 PM, SH	Men's Club Annual Holiday Auction
Thursday	December 11
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
6:30 PM, MC	School Christmas Concert
Friday	December 12
6:00 PM	Rosary and Open House at Casa Guadalupana
Saturday	December 13
9:00 AM, MC	Advent Morning Prayer
Sunday	December 14
Abbreviations:	
MC – Main Church	
CH – Chapel	
PC – Parish Center	
SH – Social Hall	
SC – School	
CC – Child Care	
XC – Extended Day	

STEWARDSHIP

John the Baptist's call to repentance is echoed in the US bishops' pastoral letter on stewardship: "Christians must beg God for the grace of conversion: the grace to know who they are, to whom they belong, how they are to live—the grace to repent and change and grow, the grace to become good disciples and stewards."

Service Helped a lady for an hour—cleaning and organizing her kitchen; brought communion to some in a nursing home; spent three hours supporting Saint Matthew's school; gave someone a ride to a nursing home in Hastings; gave some neighbors a ride to church; volunteered at Neighborhood House.

Special thanks to those who are serving by spear-heading the ordination anniversary dinner: Kitchen side: Steve and Josie Mike and John and Mary Plante; House side: Jan, Samantha, and Pete Casillas and Pat and John Sekevitch.

Sharing Through the four normal channels: \$8,422. Thank you. That is a bit below the budget: \$7,228 behind year-to-date—about 3.5%. Still, the amount is greater than last year at this time by \$6,716.

Other donations: school envelopes: \$73; fuel: \$15; food shelf \$30; the Thanksgiving collection—\$150—is being given to the Cherokee Sirlain Room to assist with costs of the Thanksgiving meal.

Special thanks to the Westside Boosters for their generous gift to the parish and school. This is—at least partially—in thanks for the spaces that they have used for some of their events.

Young People's Stewardship: \$4.00, Thank you! They wrote: played with cousin... helped with Thanksgiving meal... laundry.

2009 Stewardship: thanks to all who have returned the form; please do so, if you haven't taken the opportunity.

The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe and Casa Guadalupana. Next Friday—Dec. 12, come and celebrate the feast at "the Casa". There will be an open house from 6—9PM during which [7:15PM] there will be a bi-lingual recitation of the rosary. All are welcome.

Retirement Fund for Religious: Next weekend, Sister Stephanie Spandl, from the SSND formation community, will preach; envelopes for that collection will be in the bulletin; please return them the following weekend. Thank you.

WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the Week of December 7, 2008

- Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8
- Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38
- Tuesday: Is 40:1-11/Mt 18:12-14
- Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Mt 11:28-30
- Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Mt 11:11-15
- Friday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Lk 1:26-38 or 1:39-47
- Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Mt 17:9a, 10-13
- Next Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

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
 Tony Palmer Chris Stevens
 Joyce Osborne Stephen Adrian