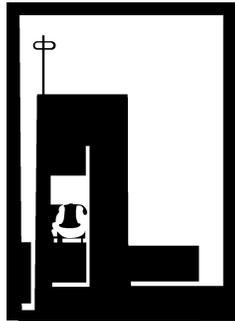


The Community of St. Matthew

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



Dear Saint Matthew Community and Visitors:

This weekend we observe the Feast of the Epiphany, Little Christmas or Twelfth Night. This Feast and celebration marks the end of the Twelve Days of Christmas. This is not the end of the Church observance of the Christmas Season – that occurs next weekend with the Feast of the Baptism of Jesus.

In many places today is the Feast of Christmas. Orthodox Christians – especially Eastern European and Middle Eastern keep this Feast of Epiphany as their traditional day for the celebration of Christmas.

My ancestry is rooted in Eastern Europe – the old Austro-Hungarian Empire, the Slavic Cartel, raging hordes of Magyars crossing the steppe and wily Hungarian gypsies on the prowl.

The magic of the star and the allure of three mysterious travelers fill tales of wonder and awe that are associated with this Feast.

Children leave bundles of hay and bowls of fresh water at the foot of their beds on Twelfth Night – food for determined and long enduring camels who carry gift laden Magi – Magi who bring gifts for children too.

In some cultures the mysterious travels are royalty – kings, in other traditions they are sorcerers, wizards, wise men. In some places they are astrologers and court soothsayers.

In the lore of the day they travel for years in following the star, a unique and never before seen star, a star that portents the rise and fall of nations, a star that beckons and entices, a star of

destiny and promise.

The story found in Matthew's Gospel is the story of God's manifestation (epiphany) before all nations, the inclusive invitation of God for all peoples and the smashing of the Israelite hold on the promise of redemption.

Tradition holds that the three travelers came from different lands and were of different races – God is an “equal opportunity” Savior.

No one race, one culture, one nationality, one religious tradition can limit, contain, control the immensity of the plan of God. God's plan is cosmic!

The travelers bring gifts for this “new born king” – gifts of gold – fit for a king, gifts of frank incense – fit for the worship of God, gifts of myrrh – to anoint a body for burial. The gifts proclaim Jesus Christ – God, Messiah and Savior.

Perhaps no part of the Christmas story is laden with so much mystery and awe as this – and perhaps this is right and just, in so far as this part of the story over reaches the imagination and desire of the human heart.

May the Feast bring you to follow the star and embrace a God who is bigger than life.

Yours truly,



Stephen Adrian
Pastor

PARISH EVENTS

SAINT MARY'S CLINIC

Beginning the second week of January, Saint Mary's Clinic will operate at Saint Matthew's two afternoons a week – Wednesday and Thursday. This clinic is under the sponsorship and direction of the Saint Joseph Sisters. Saint Matthew's is one of a number of neighborhood clinics that seek to serve the medical needs of uninsured persons. Appointments can be made by calling 651-690-7029. Our parish provides space and hospitality for this ministry. The staffing and the working of the clinic are directed by the Saint Joseph Sisters.

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL CANCER HOME COLLECTION

Next weekend, January 11 and 12, is the annual collection for Our Lady of Good Counsel Cancer Home. This collection is sponsored by St. Matthew's Rosary Society/CCW. The home is run entirely by donations and at no charge to any of its terminally ill patients. Small individual size puddings, cream soups, non-acid fruit juices, canned goods, dry staples, paper products; i.e. toilet tissue, kleenex, small tubes of toothpaste and toothbrushes are all much needed items. Donated goods may be left in the side room at the front entrance of the church. Rosary Society members will be at the doors of the church after all the Masses next weekend, to accept monetary donations. Checks may be made out directly to “Good Counsel Cancer Home”.

LOAVES AND FISHES

St. Matthew's will be serving at Faith Lutheran on Monday, January 6th. Any questions please call Lu Kepplinger at 227-1441.

SANTA CLAUS AND THE SCOUT LEADERS OF TROOP 107 want to thank everyone who came to the Breakfast with Santa on December 15th. Many thanks goes out to the adults and scouts who worked hard to put the breakfast on.

SAINT MATTHEW'S LEISURE CLUB

Our regular monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 8th at 1:30 PM in the Social Hall. Membership dues (\$6.00) are now due for the year 2003. Our membership is open to anyone 50 years of age or older. It is not necessary to belong to St. Matthew's Parish to be a member. Attendance prizes will be given and refreshments will be served.

ST. JOSEPH SUNDAY MISSALS FOR 2003 CYCLE B

We are removing our display after this weekend. The missals will still be available just ask the MC/Sacristan or an Usher. The cost: \$5.00.

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS will be taken down following the 10:30 mass next weekend. If you can stay to help that would be great. The process is very well organized — last year we were all done in about an hour. More hands make less work! Hope you can lend a hand!!

ALTERNATIVE SPRING BREAK

Alyssa Rowe, daughter of Dennis and Vicki Rowe and student at Saint Benedict's College is participating in an alternative spring break program sponsored by St. Ben's and St. John's. She will spend her spring break in New Mexico working on an irrigation project — and the emphasis is working — digging, hauling, etc. She is raising money for this project and will be at Saint Matthew's next weekend selling the original "Johnny Bread" after each of the weekend Masses. This is the original recipe bread that has been baked at Saint John's for generations.

CHILD CARE CENTER

Are you looking for something new to do in the New Year. The Center is looking for guest readers! Call Maureen at 651-224-1450 if you are interested. We are also in need of a girl's outdoor coat size 6, as well as hats and mittens for infants and toddlers. Please call or stop by if you wish to donate.

HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSES

Saint Bernard's School—January 9, 2003, 7:00 PM. Come visit us to discover how our small school setting offers big school experience.

DeLaSalle High School Open House—January 14, 2003, 7:00 PM until 9:00 PM.

**THIS WEEK AT
SAINT MATTHEW**

Sunday	January 5
12:00 PM, CH	Baptism
12:30 PM, CH	Baptism
Monday	January 6
8:05 AM, SC	Day school resumes
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
Tuesday	January 7
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
Wednesday	January 8
12:00 –7:00 PM, PC	St. Mary's Clinic
1:30 PM, SH	Leisure Club
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
6:30 PM, SC	Religious Education, Grades 1-10
Thursday	January 9
12:00-7:00 PM, PC	St. Mary's Clinic
3:00 PM	Loaves and Fishes
Friday	January 10
Saturday	January 11
After 5:00 Mass	Good Counsel Cancer Home Collection
Sunday	January 12
After Masses	Good Counsel Cancer Home Collection

Abbreviations:

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

STEWARDSHIP

Sunday offering for December 22nd: \$8,284.93. *Youth offering for December 22nd:* \$25.00 donated in children and young peoples' envelopes. *Sunday offering for December 29th:* \$9,273.20. *Youth offering for December 29th:* \$19.20. The weekly budgeted amount from plate and envelope is \$10,000. We are behind the target amount for this calendar year. *Christmas offering, 2002:* \$11,592.00. *Youth Christmas offering, 2002:* \$44.00.

Stewardship is a way of life — a graciousness by which I return to God a portion of what God has lavished on me.

s.j. adrian

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS DONATIONS

The following donations were missed in last week's flyer of donations made to our Christmas decorations. In honor of Gail Langston, given by your little angel, Phillip. In memory of deceased member of the Fischer and Janisch family, given

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, January 5	Parishioners
Monday, January 6	Frank Jack (anniversary) Clarence & Irene Bunde
Tuesday, January 7	Genevieve Hays
Wednesday, January 8	James Fee (anniversary) Frank Jungbauer
Thursday, January 9	Robert Stickler
Friday, January 10	
Saturday, January 11	Bernard Ferber Helen Whebbe John and Irene Pacht
Sunday, January 12	8:00 AM Marcella Lawrence Living and Deceased members of the Rosary Society 10:30 AM Parishioners

WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the Week of January 5, 2003
 Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12
 Monday: 1 Jn 3:22-4:6; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
 Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10; Mk 6:34-44
 Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18; Mk 6:45-52
 Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19-5:4; Lk 4:14-22a
 Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Lk 5:12-16
 Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Jn 3:22-30
 Next Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7; Acts 10:34-38; Mk 1:7-11

PARISH DIRECTORY

Saint Matthew Church Office 651-224-9793

Pastoral Staff

Pastor *Father Stephen Adrian*
 Priest in Residence.....*Father Marty Warren*
 Deacon *Rev. John Murphy*
 Pastoral Administrator
 Dir. Education & Formation*Scott Breimhorst*
 Dir. Music & Liturgy..... *Dana McCarthy*
 Dir. Pastoral Ministry..... *Mary Colleen Hau, SSND*
 Dir. Child Care.....*Maureen Gitlin*
 Business Administrator*Patty Flynn*
 Administrative Assistant.....*Nicole Johnson*
 Dir. Food Service*Alice Schletty*
 Parish Engineer..... *David Rosas*

Phone Numbers

Fax..... 651-228-9448
 Parish School..... 651-224-6912
 Extended Day..... 651-228-1535
 Child Care Center..... 651-224-1450
 Liturgy and Music Voicemail..... 651-310-0830
 Prayerline Receiver 651-222-3622 or 651-224-2903-

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

Monday.....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 three months prior to wedding.

Parish Council Members

Kathy Goldenstein	Linda Sellars
Marty Olson	Jeff Gilberg
Paul Kempe	Suzanne Clarke
John Finnegan	Tim Jack
Doug Kennedy	Becky Montgomery
Wally Nelson	John Sekevitch

Committee Chairs

Finance.....Peter Grayson
 Education Advisory Michele Edwards
 Liturgy