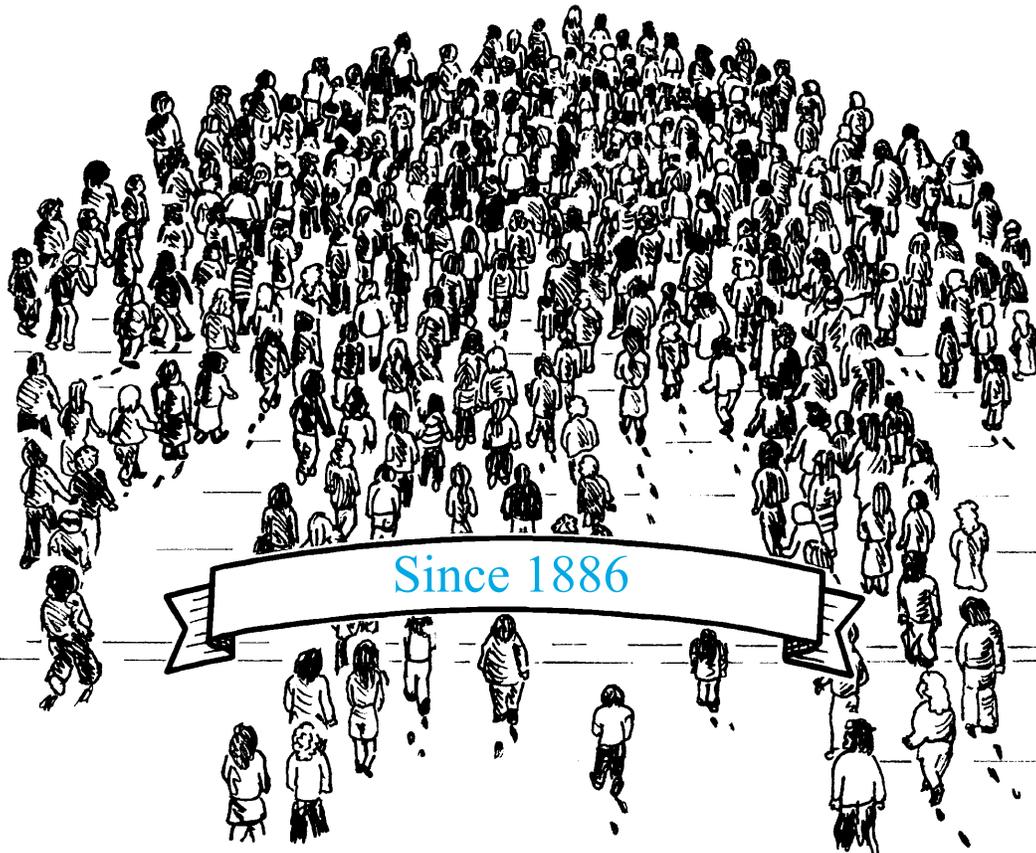


# The Community of St. Matthew



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



Dear Saint Matthew Community and Visitors:

All the kerfuffle emanating from the firing of Don Imus lays bare the hypocrisy of a discordant society finding a scapegoat. For a generation Don Imus was tolerated amid his daily doses of arrogant, racist, sexist language. He was a “poster child” for the lack of civility which so marks the national culture. With the demise of Imus so many other voices are now excused and continue to spew vituperation and close down the opportunity for any responsible dialogue.

Ann Coulter’s toilet mouth is tolerated on the airwaves and on college campuses in the name of free speech. So many “religious leaders” are free to defame and damn anyone who does not embrace their narrow, self proclaimed “divinely inspired” gospel. Religious extremists – Christians, Muslims and Jews – by the rejection of reason make of religion a cudgel to beat their opponent into submission – it is the 21<sup>st</sup> century version of “conversion by the sword”.

Benedict XVI repeatedly reminds us, “The mistaken conviction that reason and faith are two distinct realms weakens society and has brought it to the edge of catastrophic collapse. There exist pathologies in religion that are extremely dangerous and that make it necessary to see the divine light of reason as a ‘controlling organ.’ ... However ...there are also pathologies of reason ... there is a hubris of reason that is no less dangerous.”

Bill O’Reilly, Sean Hannity and others via FOX news, with anything but “a fair and balanced” approach, stake out the questions of the national debate in such a manner as to preclude meaningful and responsible conversation.

The ultimate obscenity is not the sexist or racial slur, it is the lie told again and again that justifies our refusal to negotiate with our opponent, talk with our enemy, and seek a way with those who oppose us. It is an ultimate obscenity to still maintaining, in the face of incontrovertible evidence, that Saddam had a close terrorist connection with Osama Bin Laden and thus our aggression in Iraq is justified. It is the ultimate obscenity that in the face of nuclear war we would refuse to have honest, open, respectful bi-lateral negotiations with Iran and North Korea without pre-conditions. Collaboration and negotiation in the search for truth is no weakness. The arrogance of asserting that there is only one truth and that truth is my truth is the weakness that shakes the foundation of society and the church.

My mother used to tell me: “don’t listen to so-and-so, he has a potty mouth.” Well, Don Imus has a “potty mouth” and ought to be shut down. Yet, far more obscene than Don Imus are those who make reasoned discourse into a weakness and champion as virtue the extreme rhetoric and action that brings our society to the edge of collapse.

The only way we will be able to once again achieve a sense of the common good and be able to pursue the common good for all is to step beyond the shrill rhetoric that denounces reason and once more embark on a spirited and honest search for those truths we can hold to be self-evident.

Yours truly,



Stephen Adrian, Pastor

## PARISH EVENTS

### WELCOME FATHER SCHWINGHAMER

We welcome to St. Matthew’s this weekend, Father David Schwinghamer, MM who will be presiding at mass while Father Steve continues to enjoy a few days out of town.

### COFFEE HOUR THIS SUNDAY

Coffee Hour after both Sunday masses is being served by The Plante Family: Mary, John, Ben and Samantha – Thanks. All are welcome to stop by for a hot cup of coffee and good things to eat in the Social Hall.

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS TOOTSIE ROLL DRIVE

The second collection on Saturday, April 28 and Sunday, April 29, will be taken up for the Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll Drive. The Knights will be in the back of church after masses to give out Tootsie Rolls. The proceeds from the donations will go to programs for the developmentally disabled. The drive is sponsored by the West St. Paul Knights of Columbus. The Knights will also be selling chances to win a beautiful framed painting by Robert Lau of the St. Paul Cathedral. The chances are \$10 a piece, or 3 for \$20. You may see the painting and buy a chance after each Mass. The painting is valued at \$1,400. The proceeds from the painting will be used to fund the Wakota Life Care Center. Thank you for your support.

## EDUCATION AND FAITH FORMATION NEWS



### RED AND WHITE ENDOWMENT DINNER WINNERS

Congratulations to the Red and White winners; \$300—Krissy Lieser, \$750—Jean Jack, and \$1500—Tim Nowak. Thank you to everyone who attended and helped make this event a success. Special thank you to everyone who worked hard behind the scenes especially the Red and White Committee.

### NEW PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS BEING SOUGHT

We are now beginning the discernment process for new Parish Council members which culminates on Pentecost Sunday, May 27. If you feel you are called or you know someone who you believe might be a good candidate, please give the name to the parish center office. These people will be contacted by a member of the current Parish Council. There will be an informational meeting next Sunday, April 29 at 9:00 AM in the parish center for those interested in learning more about the role of the parish council member. This is a very important position in our parish and we are looking for persons who are willing to help give direction to our ongoing mission. If you have any questions, please contact a current council member or call the parish office at 651-224-9793.

### OUR EASTER ENVIRONMENT

This year finds the Paschal Candle prominently displayed in the midst of the assembly. Its presence there reminds us that we -- as baptized members of the Body of Christ -- are all called to be the light of Christ in the world. At the great Easter Vigil, the Easter Fire was processed through the assembly as we proclaimed "Christ, our Light!" The light of individual candles lit from this fire filled the dark church with the warm glow of Christ as we listened to the history of our faith in the great Exultet.

The baptismal font is featured in the Sanctuary -- with the water & oil of baptism. The waters of Baptism blest during the Vigil fill the entrance fonts & can be carried home from the large font by St. Matthew's statue. May the Easter fire warm us and the waters of Baptism cleanse and refresh us. Surrounded by an Easter garden, may our spirits grow in wisdom & new life.

### BE A FABULOUS FRIEND

Hang out with the guys! Through activities such as board games, walks, conversation or going on outings; interact with one or more of the four adult male residents of a group home. Flexible schedule is available; including weekend hours, and a team of two volunteers can work together.

Learn more by contacting the Volunteer Coordinator at Guild Incorporated: (651)457-2248 ext. 36 or email at [volunteer@guildincorporated.org](mailto:volunteer@guildincorporated.org) Check out our website at [www.guildincorporated.org](http://www.guildincorporated.org) for more information. A variety of volunteer positions are available.

## THIS WEEK AT SAINT MATTHEW

<b>Sunday</b> 9:00 AM, PC	<b>April 22</b> Council Candidates Informational Meeting
<b>Monday</b> 3:00 PM, SH 6:45 PM, XC	<b>April 23</b> Loaves and Fishes Boy Scout Meeting
<b>Tuesday</b> 3:00 PM, SH 7:00 PM, SC	<b>April 24</b> Loaves and Fishes Boy Scout Committee Meeting
<b>Wednesday</b> 12:00-7:00 PM, PC 3:00 PM, SH 5:00 PM, PC	<b>April 25</b> St. Mary's Clinic Loaves and Fishes Finance Committee
<b>Thursday</b> 3:00 PM, SH 4:00 PM, SC  7:00 PM	<b>April 26</b> Loaves and Fishes Cub Scout Committee Meeting Confirmation at the Cathedral
<b>Friday</b>	<b>April 27</b>
<b>Saturday</b> 9:00 AM, PC 5:00 PM, MC	<b>April 28</b> Centering Prayer First Communions
<b>Sunday</b> 10:30 AM, MC	<b>April 29</b> First Communions

### Abbreviations:

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

## STEWARDSHIP

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells Peter again and again, "If you love Me, feed my sheep." He says the same to each of us, "If you love Me, use the gifts I have given you to serve your brothers and sisters."

*Thank you for the following examples and encouragement witnessed on the stewardship envelopes:*

**Prayer:** Differing amounts were reported: 15 minutes per day; a half-hour per day; one hour per day; two hours per day. How about the rest of us? Are willing to witness to the amount we are praying.

**Service:** Different liturgical ministries were performed: greeter, music ministry, serving on liturgy committee, serving as a MC/sacristan, helping during the Triduum; reading with school students; visiting the homebound; visiting 3<sup>rd</sup> graders; being a money counter. How about us? What have we done to serve our brothers and sisters, whether within or beyond the parish community?

**Sharing:** \$9913 was given in the three usual ways: [envelopes, plate, electronic]. Thank you. For the fiscal year-to-date, the total given is \$400,641 in the regular fund. That is an average of \$9,539; it is an average of \$1,560 less than the amount in the original budget.

Additionally, \$432 was given in Easter envelopes, \$250 was in school envelopes, \$65 was given for Romanian orphans. Thanks for each of these donations.

**Young people's sharing:** \$3.00 Examples of time spent in service this week were helped Nana with yard work and helped a friend swim.

**Window project** We are within striking distance—we have less than 10% to go. [Thanks to all who have given, especially to someone who was able to purchase 15 windows.] There is still time. We want to replace the window air-conditioners [they are old, loud, inefficient, and won't fit into the new spaces.] Any "extra" funds will be used for that purpose.

## WEEKLY READINGS

### Readings for the Week of April 29, 2007

Sunday: Acts 13:14, 43-52/Rv 7:9, 14b-17/  
Jn 10:27-30  
Monday: Acts 11:1-18/Jn 10:1-10  
Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26/Jn 10:22-30  
Wednesday: Acts 12:24—13:5a/Jn 12:44-50  
Thursday: 1 Cor 15:1-8/Jn 14:6-14  
Friday: Acts 13:26-33/Jn 14:1-6  
Saturday: Acts 13:44-52/Jn 14:7-14  
Next Sunday: Acts 14:21-27/Rv 21:1-5a/  
Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35

## 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 ..... *Dana McCarthy*  
Dir. Child Care..... *Dimary Rosado*  
Dir. KLT Kids .....*Jennifer Slaten*  
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

### 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](mailto:parishcouncil@st-matts.org)

Becky Montgomery Larry Sachi  
Nicole Johnson John Sekevitch  
Connie Aligada Sister Joanna Illg  
Lucus Ecker Mark Thomford  
Sheila Brunelle Stephen Adrian

### Committee Chairs

Finance.....  
Education Advisory..... Richard Dunn