

The Community of St. Matthew



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



Dear Saint Matthew Community and Visitors:

Two weeks from now school year 2009-2010 begins – a late beginning because Labor Day falls on the September 7th.

Over the past fifteen months the enrollment at Saint Matthew's School has increased by 40%. I am confident we will begin this school year with 200 students.

This enrollment increase has been made possible because of a tuition assistance program that can guarantee no child will be denied an education at Saint Matthew's because of financial concerns.

The sources of tuition aid are varied. Some families qualify for Kids First, and they receive a tuition grant each year by a local consortium of businesses that support private education. The Catholic Community Foundation provides more than \$40,000 tuition assistance annually. Almost \$50,000 comes from FOCUS (Friends of Catholic Urban Schools) to assist families who qualify for the free and reduced federal lunch program. Saint Matthew's Alums and Friends have raised more than \$120,000 this year for tuition assistance. Our sister parish, St Francis of Assisi through Partners in Education provide \$15,000 for tuition aid. The Archdiocese provides more than \$1000 assistance per student through a grant of \$210,000 from the Catholic Services Campaign (previously known as the Annual Catholic Appeal). In addition to this, there are foundations, businesses and individuals who make gifts annually to assist Saint Matthew's School. More than \$500,000 from a variety of sources makes it possible for us to provide tuition grants to many low and moderate income families.

Every school family pays some tuition – but a negotiated tuition that fits the family's financial situation.

Saint Matthew's School provides a high quality education. Our graduates achieve high honors in the high schools and colleges they attend.

We have a waiting list in kindergarten and first grade; but other grades have openings for incoming students. If you are looking for a small, safe, value centered, high achieving educational opportunity for your child or grandchild take a look at Saint Matthew's. If you have neighbors or friends or co-workers seeking a school, invite them to visit Saint Matthew's. More often than not, once a family sets foot in the door and visits with staff and teachers they make the decision to place their student in Saint Matthew's.

Saint Matthew's also offers a strong pre-school program and an extended day and vacation time program for students.

We work hard to continue the tradition of Saint Matthew's commitment to the education and formation of children.

Yours truly,



Stephen Adrian
Pastor

PARISH EVENTS

BP GAS CARDS AT SCRIP TABLE!

Rainbow shoppers – We now have an inventory of \$50 BP gas cards available at the scrip table. Use them when you redeem your fuelperks and St. Matthew's will also benefit from your purchase.

HELP YOUR NEIGHBOR IN NEED

Every weekend, food is collected at St. Matthew's to help those who are struggling to put food on their table. Some of the groceries are taken by, or to parish members on the weekend. The remaining food is taken to the Neighborhood House Food Shelf. We depend on contributions from YOU. Please help us by bringing a non-perishable food item with you as part of your weekly Eucharistic celebration, or make a monetary offering in the yellow envelopes provided in the back of church. A few extra grocery bags along with your donations would also be much appreciated. St Matthew's Food Ministry thanks you.

Jesus then said to the Twelve, "Do you also want to leave?" Simon Peter answered him, "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God." - Jn 6:67-69

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

EDUCATION AND
FAITH FORMATION NEWS

SCHOOL UNIFORM REQUEST

The school year is coming upon us quickly. If there are any of you with family or neighbors or friends that may have some school uniforms still around please send them into school. The uniforms can be dropped off at School Church or the Parish Center. We are in special need of skirts, shorts, jumpers. Thanks and Happy Hunting.

SEPARATED AND DIVORCED SUPPORT GROUP

Holy Spirit Church of Saint Paul is sponsoring a Support Group for persons who are Separated or Divorced. This Support Group will meet Wednesday evenings 6:30 - 8:30PM, September through the end of May in the Church Annex, located at 515 Albert Street South, Saint Paul. There is no charge and you do not have to be a member of the Parish to attend. This group is hosted by facilitators trained by Catholic Charities of Saint Paul. For more information contact Rich Greiner Jr. @ 651-698-3353: ext #247 or sepdiv@holy-spirit.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION TEACHERS NEEDED

If you are interested in sharing your faith with the young people of our parish, please call Doug Lieser at the school office at 651-224-6912. Training is provided. Thank you to all our teachers who give so generously of their times. Religious Education classes for students in grade 1-10 will beginning on September 16. Registration for students will be the weekend of September 12-13 after all masses. Questions, please call the school office.

LIGHT OF THE WORLD

Prayer with our children often begins with a game. At sunset we turn off the lights and sit close together in a quiet, darkening house. We hold the younger children close so they won't get frightened in the dark, and we say, "Let's see how quiet we can be." After a few moments the squirming and giggling begin to fade. A few minutes more and the silence starts to build. Slowly we find ourselves embraced by an ever-deepening sense of stillness. As the quiet grows, we feel the hushed amazement of our children as they suddenly realize that our silent room is actually teeming with sound. They begin to sense neighbors talking, playing, shouting, living. Gradually, fainter sounds begin to claim a place: a factory whistle, the hum of machinery somewhere, a far-off siren. The longer we listen, the more we hear of the world around us. We let this life-filled silence build in us until it seems ready to burst. Then we light our candle, proclaim Jesus Christ "the light of the world," and begin our prayer, much more receptive, much more aware of our connections to others, than we had been a few minutes before.

THIS WEEK AT
SAINT MATTHEW

Sunday	August 23
Monday 3:00 PM, SH	August 24 Loaves and Fishes
Tuesday 12:00-7:00 PM, PC 3:00 PM, SH 7:00 PM, SC	August 25 St. Mary's Clinic Loaves and Fishes Boy Scout Troop 107 Committee Mtg.
Wednesday 12:00-7:00 PM, PC 3:00 PM, SH 6:30 PM, PC Parish All-Staff Evening	August 26 St. Mary's Clinic Loaves and Fishes Festival Meeting
Thursday 3:00 PM, SH	August 27 Loaves and Fishes
Friday	August 28
Saturday	August 29
Sunday	August 30

Abbreviations:

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

STEWARDSHIP

In today's first reading, Joshua challenges the people to decide whom they will serve. Recalling God's faithfulness to them and to their ancestors, they people declare, "We also will serve the Lord, for He is our God." May we, too, be mindful of god's gifts to us and renew our commitment to serve Him with grateful hearts.

Jesus asks a similar question in the Gospel: "Will you also go away?" What is our answer?

Prayer: Regularity is the theme this week [as many weeks]: daily...chaplet of Divine Mercy.. spiritual reading.. prayer.. rosary.. Mass.. 15 minutes in prayer; as well: prayers for the military in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Service: Baked for a festival bake sale; did errands for another; gave produce from the garden to another parishioner; help as a Mass sacristan on Saturdays. Thank you to those involved in putting together our annual Assumption picnic at Cherokee Park: those involved with sound set up, liturgy, the Rosary Society, and the Men's Club.

Sharing \$6,359 was given last weekend. Thank you. To year-to-date total is \$61,127; that is \$1,873 behind the budget [which is much lower—\$9,000 each weekend—during the summer]. Other dollars donated: \$125 for the food shelf; \$100 in school envelopes; \$540 for Assumption; \$5 for Peter's Pence. Thanks for remembering that the expenses of the parish don't take a vacation, even though we might. Perhaps electronic giving might be something you and your family is interested in. Please call John at the parish office.

Young People's Stewardship: \$3.25 Thank you! They wrote: Mowed lawn... helped clean.

WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the Week of August 23, 2009

- Sunday: Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b/Eph 5:21-32 or 5:2a, 25-32/Jn 6:60-69
- Monday: Rv 21:9b-14/Jn 1:45-51
- Tuesday: 1 Thes 2:1-8/Mt 23:23-26
- Wednesday: 1 Thes 2:9-13/Mt 23:27-32
- Thursday: 1 Thes 3:7-13/Mt 24:42-51
- Friday: 1 Thes 4:1-8/Mt 25:1-13
- Saturday: 1 Thes 4:9-11/Mk 6:17-29
- Next Sunday: Dt 4:1-2, 6-8/Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27/Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

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 and KLT *Shar Lavelle*
 Bookkeeper *Cindy Hoffman*
 Administrative Assistant *Nicole Johnson*
 Dir. Food Service *Donna Jenniges*
 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
 Prayer Line 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*

Karen Thompson Georgann Henjum
 Connie Aligada Joyce Osborne
 Jason Delmont Anthony Minus
 Dean Steinbrenner Chris Stevens
 Stephen Adrian David Burrows