

# The Community of St. Matthew

## ROSARY SOCIETY BAKE SALE In the Social Hall

Saturday, December 11, 2010  
Selling from 12:00 PM to 5:30 PM  
Sunday, December 12, 2010  
Selling during the Santa Breakfast

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



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

We're having breakfast with Santa  
On Sunday, December 12, 2010  
9:00 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

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

Dear Saint Matthew Community and Visitors:

For more than 40 years and up until the last two years we have had the custom of celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation before Christmas and before Easter using the Third Form of the Sacrament – The Rite of Reconciliation of Several Penitents with General Confession and Absolution.

The Archbishop indicated clearly that he does not want this form of the Sacrament celebrated in the Archdiocese as we have been doing.

During the past two years we have been celebrating a non-sacramental Penitential Service of Forgiveness and Healing on the Sunday before Christmas and on Palm Sunday.

The description of this service is found in the official liturgical books of the Church:

*Penitential celebrations are gatherings of the People of God to hear the proclamation of God's word. This invites them to conversion and renewal of life and announces our freedom from sin through the death and resurrection of Christ.*

Conversion is a process, the ongoing surrender to Christ and the Gospel that marks the life of each and every person and community.

Conversion is fundamentally a “change of heart”, a “turning back” to the Lord. The journey of Christian life is truly a conversion story.

Penitential Service of Forgiveness and Healing  
Non-sacramental  
Church of Saint Matthew  
Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup>  
2:00 pm

As you make your final preparations for the Christmas Feast and Season and as you plan your observance of the Feast and Season I encourage you to make sure that there is time and space for the worship of God. I also invite you to invite a friend or family member or co-worker to join you for worship; especially if that person has been away from church for a while.

Often such an invitation is just what is needed to encourage a person to reconnect with his/her faith practice.

The second largest religious denomination in the United States, after Roman Catholics, is former Roman Catholics. Some of these people have joined other denominations, but most of them have simply dropped out of the picture – they may consider themselves Catholic, although they don't get around to practicing their faith. Sometimes it is easier to reconnect with the church if you can come to church with a family member or a friend.

Yours truly,



Stephen Adrian  
Pastor

## PARISH EVENTS

### FRUITCAKE SALES

Jerry Smith from the South St. Paul Lions will be back with fruitcakes on December 18th and 19th, in response to community requests.

### PRAYER CHAIN

Please contact Marge at 651-455-6886 or Judy at 651-686-5463 with your request for the prayer chain. The information that you give to us will be treated confidentially.



### HOLIDAY SCRIP PURCHASES

We will continue to maintain an inventory of popular items through the holidays. Orders for non-stocked items must be received by 12/15 for delivery prior to Christmas. Stop by the Scrip table, email [timothy.nowak@usfamily.net](mailto:timothy.nowak@usfamily.net) or call 612-269-9471 to place your order.

### APPLEBY'S BREAKFAST

The West St. Paul Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a breakfast at Appleby's at 1755 S. Robert on Saturday, December 18, from 8 to 10 AM. Have breakfast before you go shopping, it's the last weekend before Christmas! The breakfast includes coffee, juice, “all you can eat” pancakes, eggs, and toast. The tickets sell for \$5 per person. \$4 will go back to the Knights for their use. Tickets will be sold in the back of church by some of the Knights after each mass. Any questions, call Joe Stevens at 651-224-8270.

EDUCATION AND  
FAITH FORMATION NEWS

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION TEACHER NEEDED

We are looking for a middle school religious education teacher. Class is Wednesday evening from 6:30 to 7:45. We have 12 classes remaining through April 6th. We have a curriculum with teacher's resources and it is a nice small group of 8 students. If you are interested, please contact Doug Lieser by calling the school or emailing him at [dli eser@st-matts.org](mailto:dli eser@st-matts.org)

OUR CHURCH ENVIRONMENT

We will be decorating the church for Christmas on Thursday Dec. 23 starting at 10am and finishing whenever we finish.....it is a big task. The more parishioners we have to help the faster it goes! Please consider coming to assist us, the more the merrier!!!

We want to thank Evergreen Industries, particularly the Ahern family, for the beautiful greenery in and around our church. Thank you!

We have a group of very diligent and hard working St. Matthew's parishioners who keep a plan working for our Liturgical Space. They are the Environment Consulting Committee, and they keep our space updated.

Updates to note:

The Giving Space/Gifting Area

This is the area in the far corner of the church. There you will find the Scrip table, the slat-board with parish announcements and Care Notes. The baskets for collecting soup labels, cereal box-tops, milk bottle caps for the school are located there. The Lions Club collecting of used eye-glasses is there.

If you need Holy Water for your home you may get water from the Baptismal Font, or from the Holy Water container located in the Giving Space/Gifting Area.

The Community Room

This room was completed last year. It is used as the Crying Room for children during mass, and in this room you will find a rocking chair and Activity Bags for children.

This room is used as the Bride's Room for weddings, and as a Family room during funerals.

An AED

Our AED is located in the sacristy in a well marked cupboard. Ask a sacristan for assistance, if needed.

Assisted Listening Devices are also located in the sacristy. Ask a sacristan for assistance.

THIS WEEK AT  
SAINT MATTHEW

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>December 12</b>
<b>Monday</b> 3:00 PM, SH	<b>December 13</b> Loaves and Fishes
<b>Tuesday</b> 2:00-6:00 PM, PC 3:00 PM, SH	<b>December 14</b> St. Mary's Clinic Loaves and Fishes
<b>Wednesday</b> 1:00-6:00 PM, PC 2:45 PM, MC 3:00 PM, SH 7:00 PM, MC	<b>December 15</b> St. Mary's Clinic Children's Choir Loaves and Fishes Adult Choir
<b>Thursday</b> 3:00 PM, SH	<b>December 16</b> Loaves and Fishes
<b>Friday</b>	<b>December 17</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>December 18</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>December 19</b>

**Abbreviations:**

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

## STEWARDSHIP

*Each of us has his or her own role to play in the coming of the Kingdom of God. John the Baptist was called to be the herald of the Messiah, preparing the way of the Lord. To what is the Lord calling me?*

Sharing Last weekend: \$14,005! Thanks to faithful and 'making-up' stewards. That amount improved the year-to-date picture by more than \$4,300. We are slightly more than \$16,000 behind budget.

Thanks, too, for other donations: \$1,087 in school envelopes and plate; \$25 for fuel; \$60 for food shelf; \$38 for holidays and CCHD.

Service: Choir... funeral sacristan... cleaning for elderly... helped clean off bookshelves... money counting... funeral lunches... Loaves & Fishes... Eucharist to homebound

Prayer: Daily prayer, mass, rosary, spiritual reading... watched mass on television

Young: \$8.00, Thank you! Shoveled... cleaned rabbit cage.

Coffee Sunday: thanks for last week: School; this week is Santa Breakfast; next week the 8<sup>th</sup> graders in school will host.

Hosts are being sought for January...will you/your family host the opportunity for community building. [There is no cost; all expenses are reimbursed.] Please call the parish office if you are interested.

House-sitting: A responsible couple is interested/available for house-sitting if that is a service that you would like/need. Please call John Riehle with questions or interest.

## WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the Week of December 12, 2010

Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11  
 Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Mt 21:23-27  
 Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Mt 21:28-32  
 Wednesday: Is 45:6c-8, 18, 21b-25/Lk 7:18b-23  
 Thursday: Is 54:1-10/Lk 7:24-30  
 Friday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Mt 1:1-17  
 Saturday: Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25  
 Next Sunday: Is 7:10-14/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

## PARISH DIRECTORY

Saint Matthew Church Office..... 651-224-9793  
 Fax.....651-228-9448  
 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

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 (Mar-Oct)  
 4:00 PM (Nov-Feb)  
 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 (Mar-Oct), 3:00 PM (Nov-Feb)

### 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)

Karen Thompson	Georgann Henjum
Mark Thomford	Joyce Osborne
Jason Delmont	Anthony Minus
Dean Steinbrenner	Chris Stevens
Stephen Adrian	Becky Montgomery
Judy DeNardo, at large	