

The Community of St. Matthew



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

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“**B**ehold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means “God is with us.” When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home.

— Mt 1:23-24 NAB

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Dear Saint Matthew Community and Visitors:

Each year I try to find a small gift for each of the more than 75 full time and part time employees at Saint Matthew. Christmas is a gifting season, and the gift expresses gratitude for others and thanksgiving for the graciousness of God,

I scratch my head, fantasize, and imagine – what would be an appropriate gift?

The answer came to me a few months ago as I took a day trip to Saint John's Abbey and Saint John's University at Collegeville, Minnesota.

I have always liked and appreciated the campus and spirit of Saint John's.

This year I spent a fair amount of time in the Hill Manuscript Library and was enthralled with the Saint John's Bible.

The Saint John's Bible is truly a rare and extraordinary project – for the first time in more than 450 years a hand calligraphied and illuminated manuscript of the Bible is being produced. The work is stunning and truly a product of Minnesota.

The ink is made from the earth and foliage of Stearns County, the quills are made from the feathers of local birds, and the velum is locally produced.

This year I chose to purchase a reproduction of the opening pages of Saint Matthew's Gospel for you, the community of Saint Matthew. This gift comes to you in the name of the employees of Saint Matthew's. After all, you are the reason there is a Saint Matthew's, you are the source of strength and commitment that makes Saint Matthew's work, you are the mission of this parish and those for whom we all work.

It seems appropriate the at this Christmas Season the full time and part time staff of Saint Matthew gift you. Enjoy the gift. May it be an inspiration to you as together we continue to walk our faith life.

The reproduction is on display in the church this weekend.

Yours truly,



Stephen Adrian
Pastor

PARISH EVENTS

DO YOU HAVE YOUR NEW CYCLE A ST. JOSEPH MISSAL?

They may be purchased in the back of church before and after weekend masses. The cost is \$5.00. (They make great stocking stuffers!)

ATTENTION LITURGICAL MINISTERS!

Our 10:00 AM New Year's Day mass needs lectors, communion ministers, ushers/greeters and altar servers. If you can minister at this mass, please sign up on the Ministry Sheet next to our Check-In Board in the main sacristy.

YEAR END CONTRIBUTIONS

End of year contributions will be accepted through Tuesday, January 4, 2005. The parish center will be open until 5:00 PM on January 4, if you would like to drop off your contribution. Please specify that these contributions are for 2004.

Christmas Season 2004-2005

Communal Reconciliation Service, Main Church	Sunday, December 19, 2:00 & 4:00 PM
Sacrament of Reconciliation (in the chapel)	Monday, December 20 –4:00 PM
	Tuesday, December 21—7:15 AM
	Wednesday, December 22—7:00 PM
	Thursday, December 23—4:00 PM 7:00 PM
Christmas Worship	Friday, December 24 Vigil Mass, 4:00 PM
	Thursday, December 25 Mass at Midnight, Service of Carols, 11:30 PM Midnight Mass, 12:00 AM
	Mass at Dawn, 8:00 AM
	Mass of Christmas Day, 10:30 AM
	Feast of the Holy Family



FIRST COMMUNION CLASS

Parents and students preparing for their First Communion are reminded of their class on Tuesday, December 21 at 7:00 PM in the church.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

Please note that the Parish Office will be closed from Wednesday, December 22 at 5:00 PM until Monday, December 27 at 9:00 AM. The answering service will be taking phone calls and will be in contact with Father Steve.

SCHOOL OFFICE CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY

St. Matthew's school office will be closed beginning at 1:00 PM on Wednesday, December 22, the office will re-open at 7:30 AM on Monday, January 3. Voice mail will be checked daily. Scrip will be available after all masses on the weekends but not during the week.

ROSARY SOCIETY BAKE SALE RESULTS

The Rosary Society/CCW thanks all the Christmas cookie and bread bakers and candy makers who so generously donated their delicious delights to our Annual Christmas Bake Sale. More than 50 gourmet cooks, both Rosary members and other parishioners, contributed their home-made treats, usually packaged and all set to sell. Thanks to the Boy Scouts for allowing us to be part of their Breakfast with Santa event. We are grateful to all the shoppers and cash donors. We gave bakery items to several parish groups. Because of your generosity we raised more than \$1,400 which will allow us to fund several projects. May all of you have a blessed Christmas.

CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES COORDINATE CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

Thank you to all parishioners and visitors who so generously filled up the space under our Christmas Tree with 14 tables worth of gifts, toys and clothes for children, teens and adults. Confirmation candidates coordinated the sorting and distributing of these gifts to 29 needy families in our community. Through the generous support of the South Robert Street Business Association and the St. Matthew's Men's Club each family received gift certificates to help provide a holiday meal. We also distributed the excess gifts to several community organizations for distribution to their clients. Once again this year the Community of St. Matthew's opened their hearts to bring Christmas joy to those in need in our community. Thank you.

MEALS ON WHEELS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed to deliver Meals on Wheels. Time commitment is about 1 hour per week. Days needed: Monday, 1st, 3rd, 5th of the month; Thursday, 1st, 3rd, 5th of the month; Friday, 4th, 5th of the month. Call Shirlee at 651-789-2545, or Mai at 789-2541 if you have any questions or would like to volunteer.

**THIS WEEK AT
SAINT MATTHEW**

Sunday	December 19
2:00 PM, MC	Communal Penance Service
4:00 PM, MC	Communal Penance Service
Monday	December 20
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
4:00 PM, CH	Private Reconciliation
6:45 PM, XC	Boy Scout Meeting
Tuesday	December 21
7:15 AM, CH	Private Reconciliation
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
7:00 PM, MC	First Communion Class
Wednesday	December 22
9:00 AM, MC	School Mass
12:00-7:00 PM, PC	St. Mary's Clinic
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
7:00 PM, CH	Private Reconciliation
Thursday	December 23
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
4:00 PM, CH	Private Reconciliation
7:00 PM, MC	Adult Choir
7:00 PM, CH	Private Reconciliation
Friday	December 24
Parish Office, KLT Kids and Child Care Closed	
Saturday	December 25
Merry Christmas!	
Sunday	December 26
Abbreviations:	
MC – Main Church	
CH – Chapel	
PC – Parish Center	
SH – Social Hall	
SC – School	
CC – Child Care	
XC – Extended Day	

STEWARDSHIP

DONATIONS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 12, 2004

Sunday Envelopes and Plate	\$12,861.52
Youth and Children's Envelopes	\$ 4.00
School Fund	\$115.00
Holy Day	\$1,042.00
Fuel Collection	\$60.00
Religious Retirement	\$4,082.50

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, December 19	8:00 AM Ed Maher Dan Patton 10:30 AM Parishioners
Monday, December 20	World Peace
Tuesday, December 21	Eleanore Krambeer
Wednesday, December 22	Shirley Capistrant Marie Wiler
Thursday, December 23	
Friday, December 24	4:00 PM Helen Clemens Jim & Jeanette Dieter Robert Stickler
Saturday, December 25	Midnight George Lackner Deceased members of Fee & Lang Family 8:00 AM Joseph Karas Alice Marthaler 10:30 AM Bernice DeNardo Gladys & Ben Blaeser
Sunday, December 26	8:00 AM Phyllis Exley Agnes Allers Bertha & Tom Einberger 10:30 AM Parishioners Bernard Buckowski (ann'y)

WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the Week of December 19, 2004

Sunday:	Is 7:10-14/ Rom 1:1-7/ Mt 1:18-24
Monday:	Is 7:10-14/ Lk 1:26-38
Tuesday:	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/ Lk 1:39-45
Wednesday:	1 Sm 1:24-28/ Lk 1:46-56
Thursday:	Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/ Lk 1:57-66
Friday:	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/ Lk 1:67-79
Saturday:	Vigil: Is 62:1-5/ Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/ Mt 1:1-25
	Midnight: Is 9:1-6/ Ti 2:11-14/ Lk 2:1-14
	Dawn: Is 62:11-12/ Ti 3:4-7/ Lk 2:15-20
	Day: Is 52:7-10/ Heb 1:1-6/ Jn 1:1-18
Next Sunday:	Sir 3:2-7, 12-14 / Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/ Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

PARISH DIRECTORY

Saint Matthew Church Office..... 651-224-9793
Web site: st-matts.org

Pastoral Staff

Pastor..... *Father Stephen Adrian*
Priest in Residence *Father Marty Warren*
Deacon..... *Rev. John Murphy*
Dir. Education & Formation..... *Beth Behnke*
Dir. Music & Liturgy *Dana McCarthy*
Dir. Child Care *Dimary Rosado*
Dir. Marketing & Development *Maureen Gitlin*
Business Administrator *Debra Lindstedt*
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 651-224-1450
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

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 three months prior to wedding.

Parish Council Members

Linda Sellars	Becky Montgomery
Marty Olson	John Sekevitch
Suzanne Clarke	Doug Kennedy
Larry Sachi	Connie Aligada

Committee Chairs

Finance..... Linda Sellars
Education Advisory Richard Dunn
Liturgy