

The Community of St. Matthew

Advent



Quietly, in whispered
softness the curtain of night
descends. A restless world
stands hushed,
a special
time begins...



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

Dear Saint Matthew Community and Visitors:

Saturday evening, December 6th was a wonderful opportunity to be with and celebrate with parish members, family and friends. I am deeply grateful to the committee who organized the event: Kathy Goldenstein, Jan Casillas, Josie Mike, Stephen Mike, Pat Sekevitch, Becky Montgomery, Cheryl Kempe and Tim Nowak. Thank you to Nicole Johnson who kept track of the reservations and contributions.

Stephen Mike, master chef and culinary wizard prepared a memorable Lebanese meal with the able assistance of his kitchen associates: Barry Maanum, Carol Casey, Jim Casey, Kim Karas, Georgia Kessel, Brian Schletty, Pat Schletty, Richard Schletty, Sara Mike, Josie Mike, Jan Casillas, Peter Casillas, Debbie Jackson, Butch Joseph, Samantha Casillas, Anne Schletty and Jeanne Maanum and Scott Goldenstein.

Cakes were baked by John Plante, Jeanne Maanum, Jan Casillas and Pat Sekevitch.

The hall was prepared and decorated by John Delvecchio, Tori Alojado, Daniel Goldenstein, Bridget Goldenstein, Theresa Schletty, Anne Schletty, Elizabeth Nelson, Nikki Karas, Rachel Goldenstein, Becca Goldenstein, Jan Casillas, Peter Casillas, Ariel Behnke, Kim Karas, Julianna Maanum, Jeanne Maanum, Samantha Casillas, Holly Casillas, Doug Lieser and the Saint Matthew School 7th Grade class.

Saint Matthew's Men's Club handled the bar, Jim Brengman, Paul Kempe and Wayne Gilbertson.

Students helped serve the meal and clear the tables: Courtney Sekevitch, Mary Schletty, Anne Schletty, Therese Schletty, Emily Kessel, Rachel Goldenstein, Becca Goldenstein, Nikki Karas, Chelsea Behnke, Jose Garcia, Paul Nowak and Samantha Casillas.

I am grateful to the 185 people who attended and the many people who made gifts to the Scholarship Fund but were unable to attend. I am so gratified that through the generosity of so many people \$27,105.00 has been contributed and pledged to the Scholarship Fund. If anyone wishes to make a gift to the scholarship fund, you can still do that. This fund is a true endowment and is managed by the Community of Faith Foundation. Only a portion of the earned income of this endowment is spent each year on the education of young people. Your gift is always at work, and is never used up.

My life as a pastor has been associated with children and schools for 35 years; and for the last 25 and a half years the education of the children of this community has been a high priority for me. It gives me immense joy to be able to have my anniversary celebration enhance the education of young people.

Thank you, one and all!



Stephen Adrian
Pastor

PARISH EVENTS

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

Please note that the Parish Office will be closed from Tuesday, December 23 at 5:00 PM until Monday, December 29 at 9:00 AM. The answering service will take phone calls and will be in contact with Father Steve.

SCHOOL OFFICE CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

The school office is closed until January 5, 2004 at 8:00 AM. Scrip will not be available during the next two weeks except after all Masses on the weekend. Thank you.

WISH LIST TREE ON CHURCH BULLETIN BOARD

The Religious Education Program, St. Matthew's School, the Child Care Center, and Music Ministry have developed a wish list for the holidays. If you are interested in donating an item, take a "gift tag" off the back bulletin board describing the requested item. The purchased item and tag can be turned in to the Parish Center, and the wish list items will be distributed. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

The Annual West Side Community Blood Drive will be on Sunday, December 28th from 9:00 AM until 2:00 PM at the Neighborhood House-El Rio Vista. Call Gilbert at 651-789-2544 for an appointment. Saint Matthew's volunteer blood drive callers will also be making calls from the list of donors from St. Matthew's. Please give the "Gift of Life" this holiday season

Christmas Season 2003-2004	
Sacrament of Reconciliation (in the Chapel)	Monday, December 22—4:00 PM
	Tuesday, December 23—7:45 AM
	4:00 PM
	7:00 PM
	Wednesday, December 24—10:00 AM
Christmas Worship:	Wednesday, December 24
	Mass of Christmas Eve, 4:30 PM
	Thursday, December 25
	Mass at Midnight, 12:00 AM, Midnight
	Mass at Dawn, 8:00 AM
	Mass of Christmas Day, 10:30 AM
Feast of the Holy Family	Saturday, December 27, 5:00 PM
	Sunday, December 28, 8:00 & 10:30 AM
New Year:	Wednesday, December 31, 5:00 PM
	Thursday, January 1, 2004, 10:30 AM
Feast of the Epiphany	Saturday, January 3, 5:00 PM
	Sunday, January 4, 8:00 & 10:30 AM

THIS WEEK AT SAINT MATTHEW

Sunday	December 21
11:30 AM, MC	Decorate the Church for Christmas
12:00 PM, CH	Baptism
Monday	December 22
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
4:00 PM, CH	Private
	Reconciliation
6:45 PM, XC	Boy Scout Meeting
Tuesday	December 23
7:45 AM, CH	Private
	Reconciliation
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
4:00 PM, CH	Private
	Reconciliation
7:00 PM, CH	Private
	Reconciliation
Wednesday	December 24
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
4:30 PM, MC	Mass of Christmas Eve
Thursday	December 25
12:00 AM, MC	Mass at Midnight
8:00 AM, MC	Mass at Dawn
10:30 AM, MC	Mass of Christmas Day
Friday	December 26
Saturday	December 27
Sunday	December 28

Abbreviations:

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

STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship numbers for Sunday, December 14 were not available before we went to press. Stewardship numbers for December 14 will be in the Bulletin of December 28. End of year contributions will be accepted through December 31. The parish center will be open until 5:00 PM on December 31, if you would like to drop it off.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, December 21 8:00 AM Living and Deceased members of St. Matthew's Catholic Aid
Gerald Allers
10:30 AM Parishioners

Monday, December 22 Marie Wiler
Robert Hinze

Tuesday, December 23 Robert Stickler
Gerald Husman

Wednesday, December 24 6:45 AM Helen Clemens
4:30 PM James Dieter
Bill O'Donnell
Deceased members
Lang & Fee Families

Thursday, December 25 8:00 AM Fred Vanderbeek
Bernell Osterman
10:30 AM Parishioners

Friday, December 26

Saturday, December 27 Bernard Bukowski

Sunday, December 28 8:00 AM James Fee
Ed Maher
10:30 AM Parishioners

WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the Week of December 21, 2003

Sunday: Mic 5:1-4a; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

Monday: 1 Sm 1:24-28; Lk 1:46-56

Tuesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Lk 1:57-66

Wednesday: 2 Sam 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Lk 1:67-79

Thursday: Is 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18

Friday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22

Saturday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Next Sunday: Sir 3:2-7, 12-14; Col 3:12-21;
Lk 2:41-52

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.....*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
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

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

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

Committee Chairs

Finance.....Peter Grayson
Education AdvisoryMichele Edwards
Liturgy