

# The Community of St. Matthew



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

We're having Breakfast with Santa  
on Sunday, December 10  
8:30 AM until 12:30 PM  
Breakfast includes: Sausage, eggs, beverages  
and all-you-can eat pancakes!  
Costs are: \$6.00 for ages 12 and up  
\$3.50 for ages 11 and under



Have your photo taken with  
Santa for only \$3.00

ROSARY SOCIETY  
BAKE SALE  
Saturday, December 9  
before and after 5:00 PM Mass  
Sunday, December 10  
during the Santa Breakfast  
Christmas cookies, fruitcake,  
breads, caramels, and other holi-



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

Dear Saint Matthew Community and Visitors:

Last Saturday evening a gala celebration took place to celebrate the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Church of Saint Matthew. The Social Hall was beautifully decorated and the kitchen rocked and rolled with excitement as Chef Stephen Mike orchestrated the preparation and cooking of a traditional German stuffed pork roast dinner.

The idea for this celebration came to me via John and Pat Sekevitch on the morning of Labor Day. A small committee was formed – John and Pat Sekevitch, Sheila and Tom Brunelle, Pete and Jan Casillas, Josie and Stephen Mike, and Kathy and Scott Goldenstein.

This committee had less than 100 days to organize and produce this anniversary celebration. To my knowledge the committee met only four times in the 100 days – a fine example of efficiency. Between meetings the committee had a mountain of work to do, and they did it.

At the first meeting the decision was made to produce a DVD depicting the history of the Church of Saint Matthew and the ministries we currently undertake. Kathy Goldenstein and Jason Delmont planned and produced the DVD. Copies of the DVD are available for purchase at \$10 each at the Parish Center. They make fine Christmas presents to family and friends who have shared in the history of our parish and may have moved from the area.

Individuals and local business: Anchor Bank, American Bank, Bank Cherokee, Gateway Bank, Beissel Windows, Captain Ken's, Joseph's Grill, Bradshaw Funeral Homes, Willwerscheid's Funeral Homes, Caribou Coffee and A to Z Rentals, donated the funds to underwrite all expenses of the

celebration, including the meal. So, the \$35.00 price per ticket all went to the fund for window replacement at the Parish Center.

In addition to the committee, who worked in every aspect of the event from conception to birth, the following contributed so much to make the event a success: Ministers for 5:00 PM Mass: Music ministry; Dana McCarthy, Jackie Steinhoff, Linda Sellars, Stephanie Spandl, Lori Dalhoff, Dennis Emerson and Anne Becker (rarely has the community participation been so robust and moving). Those who worked to set up the hall on Friday and do the meal preparations: Diane Heitzinger, Pat Schletty, Mary Bejblik, Tami Phillippi, Becca Goldenstein, Rachel Goldenstein, D. J. Goldenstein, Bridget Goldenstein, Samantha Casillas and Holly Casillas. Finally those who helped work, cook and serve on Saturday afternoon and evening: Diane Heitzinger, Pat Schletty, Becca Goldenstein, Samantha Casillas, Rachel Goldenstein, John Schwartz, D. J. Goldenstein, John DelVecchio, Bridget Goldenstein, Richard Schletty, Akoni Garcia, Anne Schletty, Sabrina Garcia, Theresa Schletty, Dani Garcia, Mark Heinen, Joanne Brown, John Plante, Mary Schletty, Nick Benish, Dan Schletty, Tom Conlon, Courtney Sekevitch, Debbie Jackson, Bob Nowak, Shirley Smith, David Rosas, Larry Smith.

A finally, a grateful thank you to all who participated in the evening and came together to remember our past, celebrate our present and dream our tomorrow.

Yours truly,



Stephen Adrian, Pastor

## PARISH EVENTS

### COFFEE HOUR THIS WEEKEND

Coffee Hour after both Sunday masses is being served by St. Matthew's School Student Council. Council members Akoni Garcia, Marcel Romo, Samantha Fischbach, Marissa Franco, Alicia Lopez, Anthony Sontoya, and their faculty advisor, Mrs. Wende Diaz, made it happen – thanks. All are welcome to stop by for a hot cup of coffee, good things to eat and fellowship. Treats are welcome and helpers are needed to staff future coffee hours too. Contact John at 651-221-0871.

### ORDINATION CONGRATULATIONS!

Father Steve was ordained on December 8, 1968. On Friday we observe the 38<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his ordination. He has been pastor at St. Matthew's since June, 1978—exactly 75% of his priesthood!

### FOUND

A silver and crystal chandelier style earring was found after the Gala. Please call Nicole at the parish office to retrieve it.

### ST. MATTHEW'S MEN'S CLUB HOLIDAY AUCTION

On Wednesday, December 13, the Annual Men's Club Holiday Auction will take place in the social hall. Everyone is invited to attend, the auction will begin at 8:00 PM. Proceeds will go to the St. Matthew's Holiday Giving Tree. Donations are needed and pick-up is available. Contact Brian Osborne at 651-230-1518 or at mensclub@st-matts.org

### FESTIVAL CHOIR REHEARSALS

Choir rehearsals have already begun for our Christmas Midnight Mass -- but it's not too late to join in the preparations. Come to our Thursday night Choir Practice at 7:00 PM in the Church. We finish up about 8:00 PM and we would love to have you join us. Leave Dana a message @ 651-310-0830 if you have any questions. She'll get back to you!

### ROSARY SOCIETY BAKE SALE

Please consider contributing one of your family's favorite Christmas cookies or breads to the sale. You may bring your donation to the Social Hall from 9:00 AM to 1:30 PM next Saturday, December 9 or during the hours of the sale. We need volunteers at 11:00 AM to help package bakery and prepare for the sale.

EDUCATION AND  
FAITH FORMATION NEWS

FIRST RECONCILIATION CLASS

Parents and students preparing for First Reconciliation will have class on Tuesday, December 5 at 6:30 PM in the chapel. Students should complete the first two chapters of their book.

STEWARDSHIP RENEWAL

Before phoning began: 302 households returned the stewardship renewal form; 13 chose not to make a pledge at this time, though most of those promised to give on a weekly basis. The rest pledged an average of \$6,986 each Sunday, compared to their recorded giving during the 9 months of 2006 with a weekly average of \$5,817. That is an increase of 20% [pledge greater than current giving]. Thank you very much. Follow-up phoning began last weekend—a report will follow next week. Thanks to Doug, Connie, Sheila, Michael, Ed, Fenton, Richard and Lucas for a collective 16 hours of phoning, trying to reach 490 parish families. [There were 70 households for whom we have no phone number so there could be no phone follow-up; another letter was sent.]. All this work, and the data collected will enable us to use solid numbers for budgeting for next year. Thanks to everyone who participated by sending in a form, making calls, answering the phone or responding to the mail.

GIFT GIVING WEEKEND

Next weekend, December 9th and 10th, we invite you to make Christmas a joyous occasion for needy families by bringing NEW, unwrapped gifts to place under the Christmas tree in the church. Gifts for all ages are appreciated, don't forget the teenagers and adults! Gift certificates from the SCRIP table are a great idea for those hard to buy for teens. Your sharing will add to the happiness of the recipient's Christmas, as well as your own.

If you are a parish family who is in need or if you know of a family in need at this time, please call Nicole at the parish center, 651-224-9793 before December 8. All names will be kept confidential.

THE RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

This weekend's bulletin insert includes information about the Retirement Fund for Religious and envelope to make a contribution to this fund. Please return your envelope next weekend, there will be a second collection next weekend for the Retirement Fund. Thank you for generous support of this effort.

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OUR GIFTING TREE

Our tree comes from Cherokee Avenue this year. Thank you to parishioners Becky Montgomery & Dave Haley. Once again, we have a really beautiful tree gracing our worship space for the Advent / Christmas seasons.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CORPORATE COMMUNION

The Lucien Galtier Council 4184 of the Knights of Columbus, West St. Paul Chapter will have a Corporate Communion at the 8:00 AM Mass at St. Matthew's this Sunday, December 3. Afterwards the Knights will meet at Joseph's Grill for breakfast. If anyone is interested in joining the Knights, call Grand Knight, Joseph Stevens at 224-8270.

ROMANIAN TRIP

THIS WEEK AT  
SAINT MATTHEW

<b>Sunday</b> 9:30 AM, PC	<b>December 3</b> Liturgy Committee Meeting
<b>Monday</b> 3:00 PM, SH 6:45 PM, XC	<b>December 4</b> Loaves and Fishes Boy Scout Meeting
<b>Tuesday</b> 3:00 PM, SH 6:30 PM, CH	<b>December 5</b> Loaves and Fishes First Reconciliation Class
<b>Wednesday</b> 12:00-7:00 PM, PC 3:00 PM, SH 6:30 PM, SC	<b>December 6</b> St. Mary's Clinic Loaves and Fishes Religious Education Class, Grades 1-10
<b>Thursday</b> 3:00 PM, SH 5:00 PM, MC 7:00 PM, MC	<b>December 7</b> Loaves and Fishes Youth Choir Adult Choir
<b>Friday</b> <b>Feast of the Immaculate Conception</b> 6:45 AM, MC 9:00 AM, MC 5:30 PM, MC	<b>December 8</b> Mass Mass Mass
<b>Saturday</b> 9:00 AM, MC  9:15 AM, MC  11:00 AM, SH  4:00 PM, MC	<b>December 9</b> Advent Morning Prayer Reflections on the Stories of the Birth of Jesus Package and Prepare for Rosary Society Bake Sale Rosary Society Bake Sale
<b>Sunday</b> 8:00 AM—noon SH  6:45 PM, PC	<b>December 10</b> Breakfast with Santa Rosary Society Bake Sale Parish Council Meeting

**Abbreviations:**

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

## STEWARDSHIP

“Be on guard,” Jesus warns in today’s Gospel, “lest your spirits become bloated with indulgence.” Let us heed His warning and follow the advice of St. Paul, conducting ourselves in a way pleasing to God, overflowing with love for one another.

Prayer: [Chapel is open each weekday—6:00AM to 6:00PM for visits and prayer.] As Advent begins, what do we wait for? why do we wait? what fills our waiting— anxiety or hope? Interesting...in Spanish the word of wait [esperar] is the same word used for hope. For what do we hope? why?

Service: Thanks to so many who worked on scene and behind-the-scenes toward the successful 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. Thanks to the people who did follow-up phoning for the stewardship renewal process [see below]. Thanks to Brian, Bob and Rick for the securing and delivery of a palette of janitorial and maintenance goods. This should give us a temporary reduction in expenses over the next year. Thanks, gentlemen.

Sharing: Thanks to all for \$8,229 recorded last weekend: \$6,309 in envelopes; \$850 in the plate; \$1070 electronically. As well, thanks for the \$340 in the “fuel” envelope—every dollar will help with our bills this winter. \$534 was collected at the Thanksgiving Mass—that money will be sent to the Cherokee Sirloin Room to help defray their cost for Thanksgiving generosity—for the past many years they have had to pay for food supplies; and this year there was a call for almost 1,000 meals more than in the past.

## MASS INTENTIONS

Mass intentions may be found on the monthly calendar available in the back of church.

## WEEKLY READINGS

### Readings for the Week of December 3, 2006

Sunday: Jer 33:14-16/1 Thes 3:12—4:2/  
Lk 21:25-28, 34-36  
Monday: Is 2:1-5/Mt 8:5-11  
Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/Lk 10:21-24  
Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a/Mt 15:29-37  
Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Mt 7:21, 24-27  
Friday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38  
Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8  
Next Sunday: Bar 5:1-9/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6

This weekend marks the beginning of Cycle C in our Liturgical Year. We still have a few St. Joseph Cycle C missals for sale in the back of church. The cost: \$5.00.

## 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. Marketing & Development..... Maureen Gitlin  
Business Administrator..... 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  
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