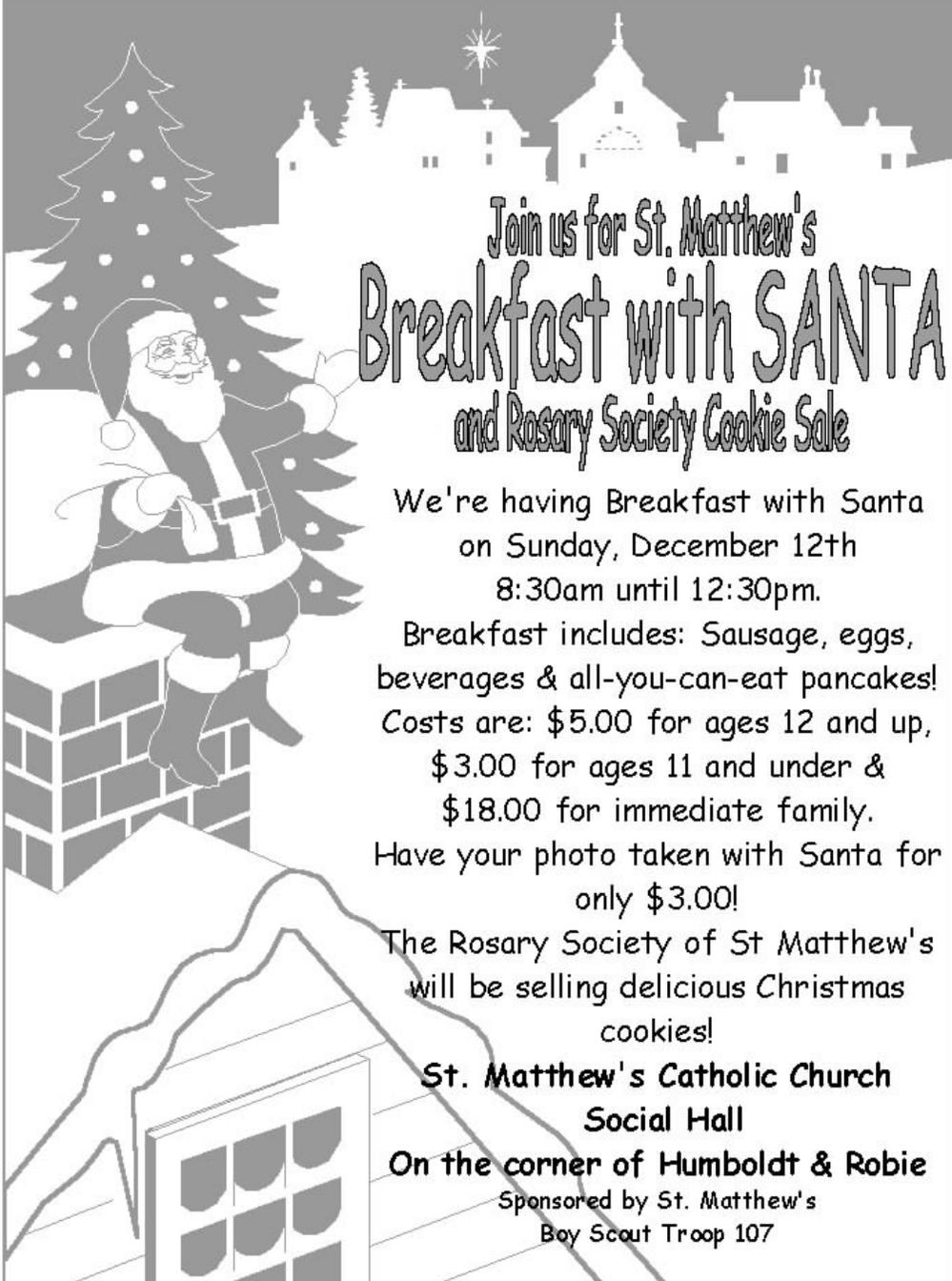


The Community of St. Matthew

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



Join us for St. Matthew's
Breakfast with SANTA
and Rosary Society Cookie Sale

We're having Breakfast with Santa
on Sunday, December 12th
8:30am until 12:30pm.
Breakfast includes: Sausage, eggs,
beverages & all-you-can-eat pancakes!
Costs are: \$5.00 for ages 12 and up,
\$3.00 for ages 11 and under &
\$18.00 for immediate family.
Have your photo taken with Santa for
only \$3.00!
The Rosary Society of St Matthew's
will be selling delicious Christmas
cookies!

**St. Matthew's Catholic Church
Social Hall**
On the corner of Humboldt & Robie
Sponsored by St. Matthew's
Boy Scout Troop 107

Dear Saint Matthew Community and Visitors:

Advent places us in immediate preparation for the Christmas Feast and Season. It is the time we decorate our homes, shop for gifts for family, and prepare the Christmas cookies and fruitcake. There are those who would want us to step outside of all this activity and truly keep this time as quiet time, silent time, waiting time.

You and I know that is not going to happen. Culture overcomes logic. We are immersed in our culture and we must find God there.

What we can do is to be very intentional about what we are preparing to celebrate. As we clean and prepare our homes, as we shop for gifts, as we cook and bake – we can be clear about the reason for this season.

We can see the hosting and gifting of others as a genuine act of goodness, a genuine expression of love, a genuine expression of gratitude to God for the incredible gift of Jesus the Son.

We can be patient with others, we can be gracious toward others; we can give without any expectation of return, without any desire for recognition. We can give in the image of God – a free and gracious act made in our behalf.

As we gaze on the decorated homes and trees, as we hear the strains of Christmas Carols, as we push our carts through Target or Kohl's or K Mart or Rainbow or Cub or Dick's – as we go about our advent days – we can be clear about what this is all about – we can redeem the commercialism, we can do all that we do in thanksgiving for the gift of Jesus.

Yours truly,



Stephen Adrian
Pastor

PARISH EVENTS

LEISURE CLUB NEWS

There will NOT be a meeting of the Leisure Club on Wednesday, December 8th. That day we will travel to Eau Claire, Wisconsin, to the Fanny Hill Dinner Theatre. Those who are going will be picked up at Cub on Robert Street at 10:00 AM. There will be no Leisure Club meeting in January.

ST. MATTHEW'S MUSIC MINISTRY INVITES YOU TO JOIN OUR "FESTIVAL CHOIR" FOR THE COMING CHRISTMAS FEASTS

The Festival Choir is comprised of Adult Choir Members and other singers or musicians who (while they may not be able to join the regular choir) wish to share their gifts with the community during this special season. The Festival Choir will be singing for the Midnight Christmas Mass this year. We could also use some extra voices and/or instruments at our 10:30 Christmas Day mass. Come join us and get in the spirit! Rehearsal are every Thursday from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM. Call Dana for more information. Leave Dana a message at 651-310-0830 and she'll get back to you.

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
HOLY DAY
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2004
PATRON FEAST OF THE UNITED STATES

MASS AT ST. MATTHEW'S
6:45 AM
9:00 AM
5:15 PM

CALLING ALL COOKIE, BREAD AND CANDY MAKERS

Once again St. Matthew's CCW/Rosary Society will be holding their popular Cookie, Bread and Candy Sale on Saturday and Sunday, December 11 and 12. We are asking all the men and women bakers of the parish to round up your ingredients and bake us a batch or two of your favorite mouth-watering treats. These items can be brought to the Social Hall on Saturday, December 11 between 9:00 AM and 12:00 noon. Contributions will also be accepted before and after the masses. Baked goods will be sold before and after the 5:00 PM Mass in the church on December 11. On Sunday, bakery items will be sold from 8:00 AM – 12:00 noon in the social hall during the Boy Scouts' Breakfast with Santa

EDUCATION AND
FAITH FORMATION NEWS



THE GIFT OF MUSIC

The students of St. Matthew's School will present their annual Christmas Concert on Thursday, December 9 at 7:00 PM in the church. Everyone is welcome to come share in the music of the season.

FIRST RECONCILIATION CLASS

Parents and students preparing for their first reconciliation are reminded of their meeting on Tuesday, December 7 at 7:00 PM in the church.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

There will be religious education classes from grades 1-10 on Wednesday, December 8 at 6:30 PM in the school. Next Wednesday, December 15 the religious education classes will be celebrating mass. Students should go to their classrooms and they will come over to the church as a class. Parents, families and parishioners are invited to join us for mass.

SCRIP SPECIAL ORDERS

We keep a large selection of SCRIP from various merchants on hand for immediate purchase every week, but did you know you can special order SCRIP from even more merchants. Check out the list at the SCRIP table and place your order this week to guarantee delivery by Christmas.

A HEARTFELT THANK YOU TO TONY & CHRISTINE WILFAHRT FOR OUR MAJESTIC GIFTING TREE

Christine planted it herself in their front yard and it has served as a backdrop for many a family photo over the years. Thank you for your generosity.

IT'S TIME TO GET IN THE SWING OF THINGS

We still need 1 more Bell Ringer to complete our Adult Hand Bell Choir. It's easier than it looks: you don't need to read music—just count and offer a “wiling hand”—or two. We practice about three times a month, from 9:00 AM-10:0 AM on Sundays in the church. Interested (or just curious)? Leave Dana a message at 651-310-0830 and she'll get back to you.

LISTENING HOUSE—PAPER PATISSERIE FUNDRAISER

Paper Patisserie (Selby and Western) will be donating 20% of their profits to Listening House on December 9 and 10 from 4:30 PM-9:00 PM. Paper Patisserie has a nice assortment of great gifts for the holidays, paper products, etc.

SCHOOL ACCREDITATION

Our school is currently working on the self-study portion of accreditation by the Minnesota No-Public School Association (MNSAA). One of the most valuable pieces of the process is the revisiting of our School Improvement, which is required of all accredited schools. If you are interested in becoming involved in his process, please contact Beth Behnke at 651-224-6912. The final document will be available in late spring.

THIS WEEK AT
SAINT MATTHEW

Sunday	December 5
12:00 PM, MC	Baptism
12:30 PM, MC	Baptism
Monday	December 6
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
6:45 PM, XC	Boy Scout Meeting
Tuesday	December 7
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
7:00 PM, MC	First Reconciliation Class
Wednesday	December 8
Feast of the Immaculate Conception	
6:45 AM, MC	Mass
9:00 AM, MC	Mass
12:00-7:00 PM, PC	St. Mary's Clinic
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
5:15 PM, MC	Mass
6:30 PM, SC	Religious Education Class, Grades 1-10
Thursday	December 9
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
5:00 PM, MC	Youth Choir
7:00 PM, MC	School Christmas Concert
7:00 PM, PC	Adult Choir
(please note change of venue)	
Friday	December 10
Saturday	December 11
Sunday	December 12
3:30 PM, MC	Confirmation Class
5:00 PM, CH	Confirmation Mass

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 NOVEMBER 28, 2004

Sunday Envelopes and Plate	\$7118.25
Youth and Children's Envelopes	\$10.85
School Fund	\$40.00
Holy Day	\$10.00
Fuel	\$173.00
Thanksgiving Collection	\$406.00

*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 5	8:00 AM Elias Uribe Living & deceased members of the Rosary Society 10:30 AM Agnes DeFoe Parishioners
Monday, December 6	Parishioners
Tuesday, December 7	James L. Fee (anniversary)
Wednesday, December 8	6:45 AM Anna Snaza Leonard Snaza 9:00 AM School Mass 5:15 PM Parishioners
Thursday, December 9	Parishioners
Friday, December 10	
Saturday, December 11	George Lackner Alice Marthaler Dorothy O'Day
Sunday, December 12	8:00 AM Robert Stickler, Sr. Larry Simmons Bertha & John Einberger 10:30 AM Parishioners

WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the Week of December 5, 2004

Sunday:	Is 11:1-10/ Rom 15:4-9/ Mt 3:1-12
Monday:	Is 35:1-10/ Lk 5:17-26
Tuesday:	Is 40:1-11/ Mt 18:12-14
Wednesday:	Gn 3:9-15, 20/ Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/ Lk 1:26-38
Thursday:	Is 41:13-20/ Mt 11:11-15
Friday:	Is 48:17-19/ Mt 11:16-19
Saturday:	Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/ Mt 17:9a, 10-13
Next Sunday:	Is 35:1-6a, 10/ Jas 5:7-10/ Mt 11:2-11

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