

Dear Saint Matthew Community and Visitors:

During June, July and August of 2005 a series of meetings occurred in which almost 150 parish members were asked to reflect on the life of Saint Matthew's, to indicate what we do well and what we do poorly, and to indicate what we are doing that we need to stop doing.

I, at random, chose those invited to the first meeting. Participants in meeting one drew up the invitation list for meeting two, and the participants in meeting two drew up the invitation list for meeting three. Thus, the invitations were issued somewhat randomly.

Pages of recommendations emerged from these "brain storming" meetings. Those who participated in the summer meetings and the committee, board, organization people of all parish groupings were invited to a meeting in October to determine the three areas of focus and the nine initiatives to be undertaken by the Church Council between then and June 30, 2006. These nine initiatives represented some of the opinions, desires, advice and recommendations that arose out of the summer meetings

One of the nine initiatives is to prepare for and hire a Parish Administrator.

For four years we have not had an administrator and the day-to-day coordination of parish mission and ministry has become a part of my work. This is not working, and it hasn't been working. I am torn between the daily administration and the spiritual care of the parish. As a result both suffer.

It will cost \$50,000 a year to provide salary and benefits for a parish administrator. This is new money. We do not have \$50,000 to trim from our current bare bones parish operating budget.

Two weeks ago I invited 40 parish households to a meeting. I presented the need we have for this position and encouraged their willingness to help support the cost of it. Those who were present at the meeting agreed that Saint Matthew's does need a Parish Administrator. They also agreed to increase their weekly/monthly giving to help pay for this position. Nine people at the meeting agreed to join a committee to implement the raising of the needed monies and the other tasks necessary to recruit a Parish Administrator by July 1, 2006.

They agreed to help seek financial support from parish members so as to underwrite the cost of this position for three years. In the mean time an effort will take place to increase weekly parish stewardship to be able to fund the position from the operating budget.

We have a current operating budget that needs weekly stewardship of \$10,000. With the cost of a Parish Administrator we will need \$11,000 as weekly stewardship -- that is a 10% increase in parish giving. It may well take us a period of time to meet that goal.

The coordination, efficiency, effectiveness and support for the many parish ministries and works demand the full time attention of a manager. I ask that you seriously consider your willingness to help underwrite this effort for the next three years and to help build a strong, parish-wide sense of stewardship that will fund our mission and ministries.

Yours truly,



Stephen Adrian
Pastor

PARISH EVENTS

A NEW LOOK AT LENT

Spend an hour between Masses on Sunday, February 26, preparing to enter the season of Lent in a new way. We will share old traditions, explore new approaches and discuss the fundamental and foundational elements of Lent: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Mary Lou Logsdon will lead us in this reflection from 9:15-10:15 a.m. in the Chapel. An expanded version is also being offered at Loyola Spiritual Center in St. Paul on February 28 from 6:30-8:30 PM There is a charge of \$20 for the Loyola offering. To register for Loyola call 651/222-2121. There is no fee or registration requirement for the St. Matthew session

COFFEE HOURS AFTER SUNDAY MASSES (8:00AM & 10:30 AM) TODAY!

All are welcome to stop by after the 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM masses Sunday (02/12/06) for coffee and donuts sponsored and staffed by the St. Matthew's Scouting Community. Stop by and see what's going on with the Scouting programs and enjoy fellowship as well. To the folks bringing in baked goods thanks from all of us who enjoy your work (including St. Matts school kids at lunch). If you and/or your family/group would like to help in the future or if you can commit to bringing baked good items for a future coffee hour contact John Del Vecchio at 651-221-0871.

OLD CELL PHONES HELP GIVE KIM A SECOND CHANCE AT LIFE

Please help a St. Paul woman who is awaiting a lifesaving but expensive double lung transplant. Every old cell phone donated earns \$3 toward her medical expenses. Leave old cell phones (regardless of age or condition) in the box in the back of church. For more information call Rich or Pat Schletty at 651-224-6037.

EDUCATION AND FAITH FORMATION NEWS



ST. MATTHEW'S HOSTS BOYS BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

St. Matthew's School is hosting an 8th grade boys basketball tournament on Saturday, February 18 and Sunday, February 19. All games will be played in the St. Matthew's School gym. Admission is \$4.00 for adults and \$3.00 for students and seniors. Children ages 5 and under are free. Delicious concessions will be offered. The St. Matthew's team will play at 10:30 AM and 4:30 PM on Saturday. The friendship, 3rd place and championship games will be played on Sunday, beginning at 12:00 PM. Come cheer on our St. Matthew's Boys! St. Matthew's School acknowledges the kind and generous assistance provided to our tournament effort by the St. Matthew's Men's Club. They're always there when we need them and we appreciate their consistent willingness to step in and help. For more information, please contact the school office (651) 224-6912.

ARBY'S/S'BARRO NIGHT

Join the St. Matthew School community at Arby's on Thursday, February 16 from 4:00 to 8:00 PM. If you let them know that you are from St. Matthew's the school will receive 20% of your order. Thank you for your continued support of the programs of St. Matthew's School.

CHILD CARE FAMILY FUN NIGHT

The St. Matthew's Child Care Center is hosting their February Family Fun Night on Thursday, February 23rd from 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM. Join the staff of the center for dinner and February crafts. This is a great chance to see the center, the children and families that attend, and to meet some of our fabulous staff members. Please call the child care center at 651-224-1450 to RSVP so the appropriate number of dinners are available. Everyone is welcome to join in this event!

SOCK COLLECTION FOR LISTENING HOUSE

In honor of Sister Colleen, the Rosary Society is again collecting socks for the homeless. We will take your donations to Listening House, a drop-in center that is about two blocks from the Assumption Church. Many of these people are on the streets due to drug addiction and/or mental illness. An increasing number of homeless are women and children. We are seeking socks—athletic, white, tube sock—for men, women, and children. We are also collecting personal care products such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, etc. We will also accept new or slightly used clothes. Please bring your donations to the back of church by February 26. Thank you for your kindness.

"FOLLOW THE SPIRIT" EVENINGS

If you are single between the ages of 20-40 and wonder about the next steps in your career, job, relationships or vocation, read on. Men and women are invited to come to the Catholic Studies Building at the University of St. Thomas (corner of Cleveland and Summit) to learn discernment skills for good decision-making. Each session will include a presentation, conversation and prayer. Mark your calendar for these 3rd Tuesdays: February 21, March 21, April 18, 7:00-8:30 PM. Evenings will be facilitated by Sister Katherine Mullin, VHM and Sister Margie Klein, SSND. Call 612-529-8215 or email mullinkf@aol.com for more information.

THIS WEEK AT SAINT MATTHEW

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| Sunday | February 12 |
| 10:30 AM, MC | Scout Sunday |
| 4:00 PM, MC | Confirmation Class |
| 5:00 PM, CH | Confirmation Mass |
| 5:45 PM, SH | Confirmation Dinner |
| Monday | February 13 |
| 3:00 PM, SH | Loaves and Fishes |
| 6:45 PM, XC | Boy Scout Meeting |
| Tuesday | February 14 |
| 3:00 PM, SH | Loaves and Fishes |
| Wednesday | February 15 |
| 12:00-7:00 PM, PC | St. Mary's Clinic |
| 3:00 PM, SH | Loaves and Fishes |
| Thursday | February 16 |
| 3:00 PM, SH | Loaves and Fishes |
| 4:00-8:00 PM | Arby's/S'barro Night |
| 5:00 PM, MC | Youth Choir |
| 7:00 PM, MC | Adult Choir |
| Friday | February 17 |
| Saturday | February 18 |
| Sunday | February 19 |
| 12:00 PM, SC | St. Matthew's Boys Basketball Tournament |
| 4:00 PM, SH | Blue and Gold Dinner |

Abbreviations:

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

STEWARDSHIP

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|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| Plate and envelope-January 29 | \$9,685.01 |
| Needed per week: | \$9,457.00 |
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| Plate & envelope to date: | \$282,451.00 |
| Need to date: | <u>\$302,627.00</u> |
| | -\$20,176.00 |
| | |
| School Fund | \$1,189.6 |

Stewardship is a way of life—a graciousness by which I return to God a portion of what God has lavished. s.j. adrian

MASS INTENTIONS

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| Sunday, February 12 | 8:00 AM Helen Savard Richard Charbonneau, Jr. 10:30 AM Bernard Bukowski, Eugene Kubiszewski |
| Monday, February 13 | Parishioners |
| Tuesday, February 14 | World Peace |
| Wednesday, February 15 | Parishioners |
| Thursday, February 16 | Vickie Traynor |
| Friday, February 17 | |
| Saturday, February 18 | Joseph Palermo Bernard Ferber Robert Norton (ann'y) |
| Sunday, February 19 | 8:00 AM Larry Simmons Helen Savard Robert J. Stickler, Sr. 10:30 AM Parishioners |

WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the Week of February 12, 2006

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| Sunday: | Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/ 1 Cor 10:31-11:1/ Mk 1:40-45 |
| Monday: | Jas 1:1-11/ Mk 8:11-13 |
| Tuesday: | Jas 1:12-18/ Mk 8:14-21 |
| Wednesday: | Jas 1:19-27/ Mk 8:22-26 |
| Thursday: | Jas 2:1-9/ Mk 8:27-33 |
| Friday: | Jas 2:14-24, 26/ Mk 8:34-9:1 |
| Saturday: | Jas 3:1-10/ Mk 9:2-13 |
| Next Sunday: | Is 43:18-19, 21-22, 24b-25/ 2 Cor 1:18-22/ Mk 2:1-12 |

PARISH DIRECTORY

Saint Matthew Church Office 651-224-9793
 Web site: st-matts.org
 Bulletin Email: bulletin.editor@st-matts.org

Pastoral Staff

Pastor..... *Father Stephen Adrian*
 Deacon.....*Rev. John Murphy*
 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
 Prayerline Receiver 651-222-3622 or 651-454-5021

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

Parish Council email: parishcouncil@st-matts.org

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| Becky Montgomery | Larry Sachi |
| Marty Olson | John Sekevitch |
| Connie Aligada | Sister Joanna Illg |
| Lucus Ecker | Mark Thomford |
| Tony Joe Wenker | Stephen Adrian |

Committee Chairs

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