

The Community of St. Matthew



Your meal includes
Baked Potato,
Vegetable, Salad Bar,
Milk, Coffee, Dessert
and
**ALL THE FISH YOU
CARE TO EAT !**
Fried or Baked

SENIORS SPECIAL - \$7.00 (4PM – 5PM)

Adults.....\$8.50
Children (ages 4-13).....\$5.00
3 yrs and younger.....FREE

**St. Matthew's Parish Social Hall
February 23, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
Served from 4:30 P.M. - 7:30 P.M.**

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

Dear Saint Matthew Community and Visitors:

Fifty years ago a state of the art convent was completed on the corner of Winifred and Hall. This was the first local work done by Rauenhurst Construction, now OPUS Corporation. Dozens of School Sisters of Notre Dame, teachers at Saint Matthew's School, moved into the convent. I remember visiting my aunt, Sister Lois, and her proudly showing me through the public areas of the convent.

Twenty years ago the numbers of Sisters had diminished and they desired to live in "small community", rather than an institutional convent. This prompted the parish to renovate the convent – create four apartments on the second and third floors. The first floor became the Parish Center – church offices and meeting rooms. The lower level became a fledgling child care center.

Today the Parish Center also houses the office for the site coordinator of Saint Matthew Loaves and Fishes, Saint Mary's Clinic, Catholic Charities Hispanic Outreach / St Paul and in the lower level KLT – Kids Learning Together, a before and after school program for community grade school age children. On the first floor is a small Eucharistic Adoration Chapel open during parish office hours.

In the past five years the roof has been replaced, the elevator refurbished, and painting and carpeting in some rooms.

The building is well used and serves a wide variety of purposes. The building is solid construction and in good shape – except for the 50 year old single pane crank-out windows. They are an energy waster, the wood is rotting and in their current condition they no long meet fire code and must be replaced.

A committee met off and on since July and chose an energy efficient double hung window for replacement. Windows have been installed on the west facade of the building and ordered for the east side. These replacements are paid for through dedicated funds from the Capital Campaign of 2001, \$10,000 proceeds from the 120th Parish Anniversary Dinner and donations from individuals, The Century Club and the Saint Matthew Rosary Society.

The windows on the north and south sides of the building are yet to be replaced – by far the largest number of window openings – 104. The average cost for each window opening is \$677.00

On March 1st I will mail a letter to each parish household inviting you to contribute toward the purchase of a window or to purchase a window in memory of a loved one, family member, favorite Notre Dame Sister or in honor of a family member. A plaque will be erected in the parish center acknowledging contributors and the persons memorialized and/or honored.

You also have the opportunity to pledge an amount to be paid off during the current calendar year. You may use the monthly "Capital Campaign" envelope in your packet of envelopes to make contributions or pay pledges toward the window replacement.

Following the Masses next Sunday coffee and rolls will be served at the parish center and you will have the opportunity to inspect the windows installed on the West Side of the building.

Yours truly,



Stephen Adrian, Pastor

PARISH EVENTS

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULES ARE READY FOR PICK-UP!

We have wrestled the new schedules into being. Please pick yours up at the back of church and save the postage. If you want to receive yours by e-mail and would like to do so in the future please notify Ginny at GBD1252@comcast.net I will not automatically put you on the e-mail list unless you specifically tell me

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Jack Ekdahl who received his *Parvuli Dei* Award last Sunday. Jack is a Cub Scout of Pack 107.

PARISH MINISTRY FAIR THIS WEEKEND

After all masses this weekend come to the social hall and learn more about the many ways that the Community of St. Matthew reaches out in service to others. Refreshments will be served .

LENTEN SCRIPTURE STUDY

For five Saturdays during the Season of Lent Father Steve will offer a Scripture Study on the Passion, Death and Resurrection of the Lord as recorded in the four Gospels. The purpose of this study is to delve more deeply into these pivotal scripture texts and to help us all enhance our appreciation and understanding of these texts. We shall compare the four texts and see the differing emphasis given by each of the evangelists. This scripture study begins on Saturday, February 24th from 9:30-11:00 am in the Social Hall.

EDUCATION AND FAITH FORMATION NEWS



FIRST COMMUNION CLASS THIS TUESDAY

Parents and students preparing for First Communion will have class on Tuesday, February 20 at 6:30 PM. We will meet in the social hall to make bread. If you are unable to attend please call the parish center at 651-224-9793.

RED AND WHITE DINNER TICKETS

This year's Red and White Endowment Dinner is the kick off to the school's celebration of its 120th Anniversary. The dinner and silent auction will take place on Saturday, April 14. Tickets are available after all masses beginning this week. Tickets may also be purchased at the school office or parish office during regular office hours. If you received an invitation through the mail detach the response card and return to the parish or school office.

LENTEN OBSERVANCE

All Fridays through the year, and especially during Lent, are penitential days.

ABSTINENCE: All who have reached their 14th birthday are to abstain from eating meat on **Ash Wednesday and on all Fridays during Lent.**

FASTING: All those who are 18 or older, until their 59th birthday, are to fast on **Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.** Only one full meal is allowed on days of fast. Two other meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to one's need; but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids are allowed. The obligation does not apply to those whose health or ability to work would be affected seriously.

SOCK DRIVE

Next weekend is the last time to donate to the Listening House Sock Drive. Thanks to generous donors last week the box was overflowing after the 5 o'clock mass. What a simple gift to a homeless person or one debilitated by mental illness, a pair of socks. Also, please consider donating personal hygiene items or outdoor gloves or mittens. Let's have the donations spill over the box by the Scrip Table. Thank you.

WARNING: LENTEN SUNDAY EPISTLES ARE SO SHORT THIS YEAR YOU MIGHT MISS THEM.

Yes, most of this the Cycle C second readings are brief passages from St. Paul's letters. Paul says much in a few words and sometimes he seems a bit obscure at first reading. The St. Matthew Enrichment Committee is offering an opportunity for us to incorporate these readings into our Lenten prayer and reflection.

How? Gather in the chapel for a half hour of *lectio divina* (a meditative reading of scripture), time for personal reflection on the reading and time for sharing reflections. The sessions will be led and will start/end on time.

When: Starting on the First Sunday of Lent through Passion Sunday.

Saturday 4:15-4:45 PM and Sunday 9:15-9:45 AM.

Where: Chapel (at Church, not the parish center)

Next week is time for our first gathering to reflect and pray over the second reading for the day: Paul's Letter to the Romans 10:8-13. Paul discusses the relationship of faith to salvation.

THANK YOU

I want to say a "Big Thank You" to all of you at St. Matthew's Parish community for your prayers, cards, and well wishes while I was being treated for cancer. I received the reports last week and I have had a surgical cure. Again, thank you and God bless you all. Vern Vasseur

THIS WEEK AT SAINT MATTHEW

Sunday	February 18
Ministry Fair following both Masses	
Monday	February 19
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
6:45 PM, XC	Boy Scout Meeting
Tuesday	February 20
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
6:30 PM, SH	First Communion Class
Wednesday	February 21
	Ash Wednesday
6:45 AM, MC	Mass
9:00 AM, MC	Prayer Service
12:00-7:00 PM, PC	St. Mary's Clinic
12:10 PM, MC	Prayer Service
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
5:00 PM, PC	Finance Committee
5:30 PM, MC	Mass
6:30 PM, SC	Religious Education Class, Grades 1-10
7:00 PM, MC	Prayer Service
Thursday	February 22
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
5:00 PM, MC	Youth Choir
6:30 PM, SC	Cub Scout Committee Meeting
7:00 PM, MC	Adult Choir
Friday	February 23
4:30 7:30 PM, SH	Lenten Fish Fry
Saturday	February 24
9:00 AM, MC	Morning Prayer
4:15 PM, CH	Lectio Divina
Sunday	February 25
9:15 AM, CH	Lectio Divina

Abbreviations:

MC – Main Church

CH – Chapel

PC – Parish Center

SH – Social Hall

SC – School

CC – Child Care

XC – Extended Day

STEWARDSHIP

Today's Gospel has encouraging words for good stewards—"give and it shall be given to you. For the measure you measure with will be measured back to you." What encouragement to give generously of the resources entrusted to our care!

Thank you for the following examples and encouragement witnessed on the stewardship envelopes:

Prayer: listened to a speaker on Catholic spirituality; prayed the rosary every day; was faithful to mealtime prayers; attended Mass more than once during the week.

Service: volunteered at my child's school...at Roosevelt School...at Visitation School...at St. Matthew's School library; visited the sick; delivered Meals on wheels; made visits to a nursing home. Thank you.

Sharing: Weekly stewardship: \$10,755. Thank you.
Other contributions [beyond stewardship]: school envelopes: \$167, holyday: \$50, fuel envelope: \$190 [see below].

Young people's stewardship: A few of them wrote about the time they spent in prayer at mealtime and bedtime, examples of time spent in service this week were helping with household chores such as folding towels. Contributions by the young people of the parish : \$6.05

Financial note: every household has energy costs and they are higher during the winter. A parish perspective: for the month ending January 24 [before the REAL cold weather] the Xcel bill for gas and electric for all our buildings: \$17,975.

Annual Catholic Appeal Report: Total pledges: \$11,439.00.
Total cash: \$4,629.00

END OF YEAR FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AVAILABLE

Financial statements for both the regular giving and for the capital campaign are prepared. If you would like yours, please call the parish office; they can be picked up in person or sent through the mail.

WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the Week of February 18, 2007

Sunday: 1 Sm 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23/1 Cor 15:45-49/Lk 6:27-38
Monday: Sir 1:1-10/Mk 9:14-29
Tuesday: Sir 2:1-11/Mk 9:30-37
Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18/2 Cor 5:20—6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday: 1 Pt 5:1-4/Mt 16:13-19
Friday: Is 58:1-9a/Mt 9:14-15
Saturday: Is 58:9b-14/Lk 5:27-32
Next Sunday: Dt 26:4-10/Rom 10:8-13/Lk 4:1-13

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 AssistantNicole Johnson
Dir. Food ServiceAlice 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

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