

The Community of St. Matthew

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



When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child. All who heard it were amazed by what had been told them by the shepherds. And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart.

- Lk 2:17-19

Dear Saint Matthew Community and Visitors:

Each year the Pope issues a call for peace and offers a reflection on peace at the beginning of the new year. Below are selections from Pope Benedict XVI's first such reflection.

Yours truly,



Stephen Adrian
Pastor

The theme I chose for this year's reflection - 'In truth, peace' - expresses the conviction that wherever and whenever men and women are enlightened by the splendor of truth, they naturally set out on the path of peace.

Peace cannot be reduced to the simple absence of armed conflict, but needs to be understood as 'the fruit of an order which has been planted in human society by its divine Founder,' ... As the result of an order planned and willed by the love of God, peace has an intrinsic and invincible truth of its own, and corresponds to an irrepressible yearning and hope dwelling within us'.

Whenever there is a loss of fidelity to the transcendent order, and a loss of respect for that 'grammar' of dialogue which is the universal moral law written on human hearts, whenever the integral development of the person and the protection of his fundamental rights are hindered or denied, whenever countless people are forced to endure intolerable injustices and inequalities, how can we hope that the good of peace will be realized? The essential elements which make up the truth of that good are missing.

PARISH EVENTS

THE GREAT CHRISTMAS "TAKE-DOWN"

Begins immediately after the 10:30 AM Mass on January 8th. Once again, we are asking for help in returning the worship space to "ordinary time". Last year the task was done in less than one hour, with members of the Liturgy Committee supervising the various tasks involved. This year, our massive tree will be a challenge, but I bet we can still do it all in an hour -- More Hands Make Less Work! Please plan on staying after mass to help out.

WHAT MUST COME DOWN, FIRST WENT UP!

Thank you to the people who helped create our Christmas environment this year: Jeanne & Tony E., Sheila B., Jan C., Lu F., Mary Ann K., Ann R., Pat S., Joanne & Gerry S., Lynn V. & the Schletty task force of perimeter candle "put-er-uppers".

We need to regain an awareness that we share a common destiny which is ultimately transcendent, so as to maximize our historical and cultural differences, not in opposition to, but in cooperation with, people belonging to other cultures. These simple truths are what make peace possible.

The truth of peace calls upon everyone to cultivate productive and sincere relationships; it encourages them to seek out and to follow the paths of forgiveness and reconciliation, to be transparent in their dealings with others, and to be faithful to their word.

As a means of limiting the devastating consequences of war as much as possible, especially for civilians, the international community has created an international humanitarian law. International humanitarian law ought to be considered as one of the finest and most effective expressions of the intrinsic demands of the truth of peace. Precisely for this reason, respect for that law must be considered binding on all peoples. Its value must be appreciated and its correct application ensured; it must also be brought up to date by precise norms applicable to the changing scenarios of today's armed conflicts and the use of ever newer and more sophisticated weapons.

Nowadays, the truth of peace continues to be dramatically compromised and rejected by terrorism, whose criminal threats and attacks leave the world in a state of fear and insecurity.

In view of the risks which humanity is facing in our time, all Catholics in every part of the world have a duty to proclaim and embody ever more fully the 'Gospel of Peace,' and to show that acknowledgment of the full truth of God is the first, indispensable condition for consolidating the truth of peace.

FOURTH ANNUAL WEST SIDE DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BREAKFAST

St. Matthew is privileged to host this annual event for the second time. Celebrate Dr. King's birthday with your neighbors! Enjoy a free, hot breakfast and listen to a key not presentation by Representative John Lewis, a member of Congress and a civil rights activist.

MONDAY, JANURAY 16, 2006
BREAKFAST: 7:00-7:45 AM
PROGRAM BEGINS AT 7:30 AM

Reservations are required: The event is free, but space is limited.
Register at www.spacc.org or (651)646-8805 ext. 56 between December 27 and January 10.

EDUCATION AND FAITH FORMATION NEWS



RECONCILIATION CLASS THIS TUESDAY

Parents and students preparing for their first Reconciliation will have class this Tuesday, January 3 from 7:00 PM. We will meet in the chapel. It is important that everyone attend this meeting. Parents and students should have completed the first four chapters of their books before class.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASS THIS WEDNESDAY

Students from grades 1-10 will have class this Wednesday, January 4 from 6:30 to 7:45 PM.

ALUMINUM CAN RECYCLING NEXT WEEKEND

Troop 107 will again be collecting ALUMINUM CANS ONLY after all Masses on January 7 & 8. Please bring your cans to the Scout Trailer in the parking lot between the school and the social hall. All proceeds go to Scout campouts and activities.

THANK YOU

Thank you to all our music makers who put in hours of preparation to support & enhance our Christmas liturgies. "Thank You" to the **FESTIVAL CHOIR & Instrumentalists:** Jack H., Ralph B., Anthony M., Rich S., Hugh G., David N., Larry S., Rick K., Denny E., Jaentra G., Mary B., Carol Steele, Samantha C., Theresa S., Jeanne M., Sr. Anne B., Dana D., Linda S., Rachel G. Zita S., Liza M., Theresa B., Vickie M., Jackie S., Chris S., Christine N., Joanne B., Nicole J., Kevin Z., Mark E. & John D. And "Thank You" to the **Parish Youth Choir:** Samantha C., Rebecca, Daniel & Bridget G., Tiana H., Maya H., Tristan L., Christine N., Anne S., Jasmine E., Shaughn A., Alicia L., Sheala O., Lexie E. & Alayna T.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 8

The parish council will meet next Sunday, January 8 in the parish center. The meeting will begin with reflection at 6:45 PM with the meeting commencing at 7:00 PM. The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

AGENDA

Sunday, January 8, 2006

6:45 pm Gathering and Reflection

7:00 pm Parish Council Meeting.

- I. Approval of November 30, 2006 meeting minutes.
 - II. Open Forum (St. Matthew Community members welcome to comment).
 - III. Report from Rectory Task Force.
 - IV. Report from Parish Council members on approved 2006 Initiatives.
 - V. Trustee Update
 - VI. Other Business
 - VII. Executive Session (Parish Council members only): Review of procedures and guidelines related to the proposed parish council constitution/by-laws, and working together effectively as a governing body.
- Adjourn
Agenda prepared by Marty Olson, Facilitator for January 8 Meeting

CONFIRMATION CLASS NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 8

Confirmation students will meet on Sunday, January 8 at 4:00 PM in the main church for class. We will celebrate mass at 5:00 PM in the chapel, all are welcome. After mass we will have a light supper in the social hall.

THIS WEEK AT SAINT MATTHEW

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Sunday | January 1 |
| Monday | January 2 |
| | Parish Office, KLT and Child Care Closed |
| 3:00 PM, SH | Loaves and Fishes |
| 6:45 PM, XC | Boy Scout Meeting |
| Tuesday | January 3 |
| | St. Matthew School Resumes |
| 3:00 PM, SH | Loaves and Fishes |
| 7:00 PM, CH | First Reconciliation Class |
| Wednesday | January 4 |
| 12:00-7:00 PM, PC | St. Mary's Clinic |
| 3:00 PM, SH | Loaves and Fishes |
| 6:30 PM, SC | Religious Education Class, Grades 1-10 |
| Thursday | January 5 |
| 3:00 PM, SH | Loaves and Fishes |
| 7:00 PM, MC | Adult Choir |
| Friday | January 6 |
| Saturday | January 7 |
| Sunday | January 8 |
| 4:00 PM, MC | Confirmation Class |
| 5:00 PM, CH | Confirmation Mass |
| 5:45 PM, SH | Confirmation Dinner |

Abbreviations:

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

STEWARDSHIP

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| Plate and envelope-December 25: | \$9,093.77 |
| Needed per week: | \$9,457.00 |
| | |
| Plate & envelope to date: | \$225,310.00 |
| Need to date: | <u>\$245,882.00</u> |
| | -\$20,572.00 |
| | |
| Youth & Children's Envelopes | \$3.55 |
| Holy Day | \$7,552.50 |

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

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Sunday, January 1 | 8:00 AM Agnes DeFoe John Meyers, Living & deceased members of the Rosary Society 10:30 AM Carol Munkwitz Parishioners |
| Monday, January 2 | Parishioners |
| Tuesday, January 3 | World Peace |
| Wednesday, January 4 | Charles Otte |
| Thursday, January 5 | |
| Friday, January 6 | 6:45 AM Parishioners 5:15 PM World Peace |
| Saturday, January 7 | Owen F. Klockeman |
| Sunday, January 8 | 8:00 AM James J. Fee (ann'y) 10:30 AM Parishioners 5:00 PM Confirmation Candidates |

WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the Week of January 1, 2006

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Sunday: | Nm 6:22-27/ Gal 4:4-7/ Lk 2:16-21 |
| Monday: | 1 Jn 2:22-28/ Jn 1:19-28 |
| Tuesday: | 1 Jn 2:29-3:6/ Jn 1:29-34 |
| Wednesday: | 1 Jn 3:7-10/ Jn 1:35-42 |
| Thursday: | 1 Jn 3:11-21/ Jn 1:43-51 |
| Friday: | 1 Jn 5:5-13/ Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38 or Lk 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38 |
| Saturday: | 1 Jn 5:14-21/ Jn 2:1-11 |
| Next Sunday: | Is 60:1-6/ Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/ Mt 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
 Extended Day..... 651-228-1535
 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

| | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| 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