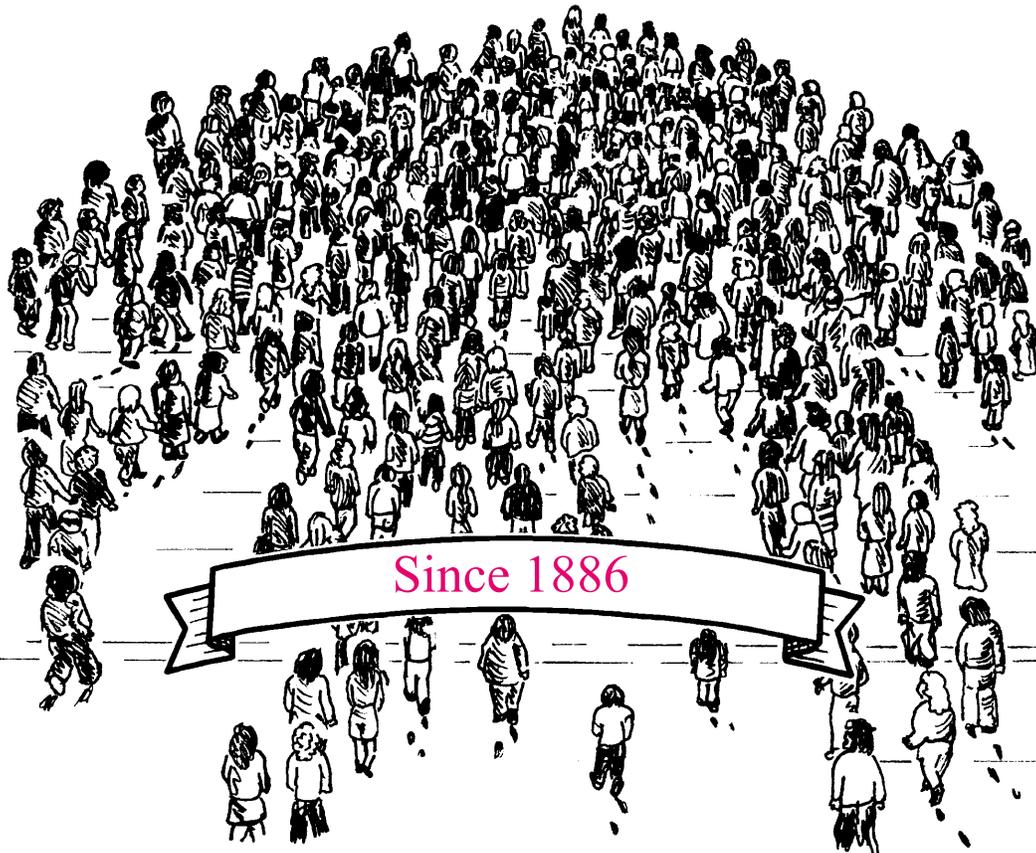


The Community of St. Matthew



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



Dear Saint Matthew Community and Visitors:

Today we celebrate the final moment of the Christmas Season; Epiphany, Twelfth Night.

This season calls us to so much reflection on the mystery of God and the mystery of the human person -- all wrapped up in flesh -- the flesh of an infant child.

Children are the most voiceless, most vulnerable, most dependant members of society. They are also the most easily exploited and destroyed.

My hope is that this Season can reawaken in all of us the challenge to stand with children -- and to do that as a fundamental expression of faith in the Incarnation.

I do not believe that there is one single member of Congress or the Senate who is a consistent and dedicated defender of the rights of children and the value of a child. There are many anti-abortion members of Congress -- those folks are pro-birth, not pro-life. They find it repulsive to discard an unborn child, but seem to feel it is tolerable to dispose of a child once born.

The protection of a child from the moment of conception through full human growth and development is pro-life!

Today tens of thousands of children are conscripted into military service and forced to bear arms. They become the cannon fodder of insurgent efforts.

Those plush, gorgeous oriental rungs from Egypt are the work of small children -- grade school age children -- who are all but indentured slaves and are forced to work 12 and 14 hours a day.

Hundreds of thousands of children are sold into the international sex trade each year.

Children are the victims of war -- they are killed and maimed in international conflict and in civil wars. Millions of children die each year, the victims of hunger and disease.

We continue to import goods and enter into trade relations with nations that exploit the work of children.

Our foreign policy places children close to the bottom of the list.

Domestically we ignore children as well. Tens of millions of children are denied adequate and minimal health care. We are slow and half hearted in promoting good nutrition for children. We consistently devalue quality child care and refuse to make such services available for those who are poorest. The number of homeless families increases as the housing boom explodes and the economy revs up.

At Saint Matthew's we commit the vast majority of our financial and personnel resources to the service of children. We do this, not because children are cute, not

because children are easy to work with, not because we have always done that. We do it because at the very center of the Gospel is found a child -- the ultimate revelation of God. We do this as an act of faith.

I encourage all of us to reflect on the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of the Child.

- The right to a name and nationality.
- The right to affection, love, and understanding and to material security.
- The right to adequate nutrition, housing and medical services.
- The right to special care if handicapped, be it physically, mentally or socially.
- The right to be among the first to receive protection and relief in all circumstances.
- The right to be protected against all forms of neglect, cruelty and exploitation.
- The right to full opportunity for play and recreation and equal opportunity to free and compulsory education, to enable the child to develop his individual abilities and to become a useful member of society.
- The right to develop his full potential in conditions of freedom and dignity.
- The right to be brought up in a spirit of understanding, tolerance, friendship among peoples, peace, and universal brotherhood.
- The right to enjoy these rights regardless of race, color, sex, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, and property, birth, or other status.

And I would add: The right to be instructed in faith and to search for God with the encouragement and help of faith communities.

Yours truly,



Stephen Adrian
Pastor

PARISH EVENTS

ALUMINUM CAN RECYCLING THIS 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.

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.

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL CANCER HOME COLLECTION

Next weekend, January 14 and 15, is the annual collection for Our Lady of Good Counsel Cancer Home. This collection is sponsored by the St. Matthew's Rosary Society/CCW. The home is run entirely by donations and at no charge to any of its terminally ill patients. Small individual size puddings, cream soups, non-acid fruit juices, canned goods, dry staples, paper products: toilet tissue, kleenex, small tubes of toothpaste and toothbrushes are all much needed items. Donated goods may be left in the side room at the front entrance of the church. Rosary members will be at the doors of the church after all the masses next weekend to accept monetary donations. Checks may be made out directly to "Good Counsel Cancer Home."

COFFEE HOUR AFTER 8:00 AM AND 10:30AM MASSES THIS SUNDAY

Coffee Hour after both Sunday masses on Jan 8 are served by KLT Kids staff members - thanks. All are welcome to stop by for a hot cup of coffee, donut and fellowship. Gratitude goes out to all who have been volunteering and all who say "yes" when asked to staff Coffee Hours for Sundays to come. John Del Vecchio 651-221-0871.

SUPER BOWL PARTY — SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH

The St. Matthew's Men's Club is hosting their annual Super Bowl Party on Sunday, February 5th, at 5 pm in the Social Hall. Watch the game and those great commercials on an 8 foot by 12 foot screen. Everyone is welcome to attend! There will be activities for children and cribbage for the adults. Food, snacks, and refreshments will be served. Adult admission is \$10.00, children, 13-18 \$5.00 and children under 13 are free. Questions, call Tim, 651-450-4975.

THIS WEEK AT
SAINT MATTHEW

Sunday January 8
Coffee Sunday after both Masses
4:00 PM, MC Confirmation Class
5:00 PM, CH Confirmation Mass
5:45 PM, SH Confirmation Dinner
6:45 PM, PC Parish Council Meeting

Monday January 9
3:00 PM, SH Loaves and Fishes
6:45 PM, XC Boy Scout Meeting

Tuesday January 10
3:00 PM, SH Loaves and Fishes

Wednesday January 11
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 12
3:00 PM, SH Loaves and Fishes
5:00 PM, MC Youth Choir
7:00 PM, MC Adult Choir

Friday January 13

Saturday January 14
Our Lady of Good Counsel Cancer Home Collection

Sunday January 15
Coffee Sunday after both Masses
Our Lady of Good Counsel Cancer Home Collection
12:00 PM, CH Baptism
12:30 PM, CH Baptism

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:	\$10,879.00
Needed per week:	\$9,457.00
Plate & envelope to date:	\$236,189.00
Need to date:	<u>\$255,339.00</u>
	-\$19,150.00
School Fund	\$825.82
Holy Day	\$2,995.00

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 8	8:00 AM James J. Fee (anny) 10:30 AM Parishioners
Monday, January 9	
Tuesday, January 10	John Williams
Wednesday, January 11	
Thursday, January 12	Ann Adrian
Friday, January 13	
Saturday, January 14	Vickie Traynor
Sunday, January 15	8:00 AM Larry Simmons Robert J. Stickler, Sr. 10:30 AM Parishioners

WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the Week of January 8, 2006

Sunday:	Is 60:1-6/ Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/ Mt 2:1-12
Monday:	Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 55:1-11 or Acts 10:34-38 or 1 Jn 5:1-9/ Mk 1:7-11
Tuesday:	1 Sm 1:9-20, or 1 Sm 1:1-8 and 1 Sm 1:9-20/ Mk 1:21-28, or Mk 1:14-20 and Mk 1:21-28
Wednesday:	1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/ Mk 1:29-39
Thursday:	1 Sm 4:1-11/ Mk 1:40-45
Friday:	1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/ Mk 2:1-12
Saturday:	1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/ Mk 2:13-17
Next Sunday:	1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/ 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/ Jn 1:35-42

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
 Child Care Center 651-224-1450
 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