

# The Community of St. Matthew

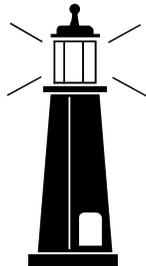
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## **Catholic Order of Foresters**

A Fraternal Benefit Life Insurance Society (since 1883)

**Matching Funds**

**Fish Fry Dinner**  
**Friday, March 18, 2005**



Professionally Prepared and Served

Includes: Baked Potato, Vegetable, Salad, Dessert, Milk, Coffee  
and All the Fish you can eat.

Serving from 4:30 to 7:30 PM

**Catholic Order of Foresters will contribute up to \$1,500 for this  
fundraiser to support St. Matthew's School**

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

Dear Saint Matthew Community and Visitors:

I recommend the following article which discusses the struggle over Social Security in light of our traditional Catholic teaching.

Stephen J. Adrian  
Pastor

#### THE CASE FOR THE COMMON GOOD

In their May 1999 statement on Social Security -- "A Commitment to All Generations: Social Security and the Common Good" -- the U.S. bishops' administrative board had it right. "Changes in Social Security," they said, "should not put at risk those individuals and families whose resources are already very limited." Put another way: The nation's public retirement and disability program should have a preferential option for the poor.

That six-year-old statement was necessitated by the debate of that moment. Recall that President Clinton pledged to use the nation's growing budget surplus to "save Social Security first," that the stock market was booming, and that the Republican-controlled House and Senate began debating various proposals that would allow a percentage of the Social Security payroll tax to be diverted to "personal" or "private" investment accounts. Today, by contrast, President Bush and congressional tax cutters have squandered the surplus and we're emerging anemically from a four-year stock market "correction." Still, the push for private Social Security accounts persists.

It's an issue that should engage Catholics. After all, we've been part of the debate from the very beginning. Msgr. John A. Ryan of the National Catholic Welfare Conference was a key player on the committee appointed by Franklin Roosevelt and led by Labor Secretary Francis Perkins that drew up the outline for what became the Social Security program. Ryan, drawing heavily on the teachings of Leo XIII's *Rerum Novarum*, helped convince a key constituency that a publicly funded, insurance-style, old-age pension system was both good public policy and in accordance with Catholic social teaching.

The program has been an enormous success. In the 1950s, more than 30 percent of elderly Americans lived out their last years in poverty; today that figure is about 10 percent.

But, we are told, the program is broken. Over the next decades, fewer and fewer workers will be asked to support more and more retirees. As early as 2018 the Social Security system will begin taking in less revenue than it pays out in benefits. By 2042 the reserves will be depleted, say the system's trustees. It is, we are told, a "crisis."

But is it?

To be sure, the Social Security system -- a compact between the generations -- has problems, many of them of our own making. The

Clinton-era budget surpluses, for example, would have secured the program for the remainder of the 21st century. But they are now gone. And there is no doubt that the retirement of the baby boom generation coupled with ever-extending life expectancies will begin to place a burden on the system that must be addressed before the problem really does become a crisis.

The solution will lie, more than incidentally, in how one frames the question.

"Ownership society" has an engaging ring to it. If the question is how to best allow those with access to "own" their retirement to the fullest without interference from government, then the president's solution is a logical answer. It would allow workers to divert a hefty percentage of their payroll taxes toward private accounts. There, the "magic" of compound interest and a growing economy might pay off handsomely. All of it might contribute to the creation of individual wealth.

If, however, the question turns not so much on how to create individual wealth as on how to prevent widespread poverty in old age, the consideration on the minds of the system's founders, then the focus broadens beyond purely personal concerns to the wider society.

The ownership society, in this case, presumes -- without any specific plan and certainly without government programs -- that the creation of individual wealth will best serve the goals of the larger society.

The inherent risk of relying on the stock market, an arena in which some will certainly lose and many others will feel entirely lost, could place a worker's retirement in jeopardy. The president's ownership society approach to Social Security would also institutionalize the kind of extreme individualism and disregard for the greater good that has been at the heart of Pope John Paul II's criticism of the West. We have nothing against wealth. We are all engaged, no matter what the work, in some manner of pursuing wealth, even if it is only to fund the most altruistic of nonprofit ventures.

Our objection to "privatizing" Social Security has to do with what we'll be losing besides money.

We'll lose the agreement that we've maintained for the past half-century that we're all somehow in this together.

We'll lose faith with the understanding that all workers, poorest to richest, contribute to something in common and that everyone gets something in return.

We'll lose the sense that despite differences in political outlook and social standing we all believe that it is good for a society to guarantee a minimum standard of economic security for its eldest citizens.

The "ownership society" model is available for those who have both the means to lay aside significant sums of money and the skill to invest it, whether or not government is involved.

Concern for the common good, a concept that seems to recede further and further each year from our political conversation, is as much in need of rescue as Social Security.

## PARISH EVENTS

### FISH FRY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED.

Help is needed for set-up, serving and clean-up at the last fish fry night. The March 18 fish fry is the Catholic Order of Foresters matching grant night. The foresters will provide up to \$1,500 in matching funds. Sign-up sheets are at the Scrip table in the back of church or call Tim Nowak at 651-687-2850 days, 651-450-4975 evenings. Set-up is from 2-4:30, serving is from 4-7:30, and clean-up is from 7:30-9:30.

### HELP!!!!

We need to prepare two special worship aids for our Triduum and Easter Sunday liturgies. If you can give an hour or two (or three), to help fold, col- late and staple these booklets this week, you'll be keeping Dana out of the looney bin. (Granted, that may be where she belongs; but not during Holy Week.) Call the Parish Center (224-9793) OR stop by the piano to talk to Dana after mass regarding when you can help.

### THE BLOODMOBILE IS COMING TO ST. MATTHEW'S

The American Red Cross Bloodmobile will be here at St. Matthew's in the Social Hall on Saturday, March 26 from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM. We have a goal of 48 units of whole blood. Please consider being a donor. Give the Gift of Life. Appointments are being made and if you're able to donate, please call Carol at 457-6067. Thank you.

# EDUCATION AND FAITH FORMATION NEWS



**RED AND WHITE TICKETS ON SALE NOW!**

Don't forget to purchase your tickets for the Red and White Endowment Dinner on Saturday, April 23. This year's dinner has been underwritten by a generous donor. Tickets are available after all Masses this weekend, at the school during regular business hours and at the parish center. Come and enjoy a delicious meal, the silent auction and the game. Don't delay get your tickets today!

LENT COMMUNAL RECONCILIATION  
PALM SUNDAY  
MARCH 20, 2005  
2:00 PM AND 4:00 PM

**MARCH FOOD DRIVE - NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE**

Help fill our food shelves! Your gift of money or food will feed children, the elderly, the disabled, and people facing economic crisis in their families. Neighborhood House's goal for March 2005 is 105,000 dollars or pounds of food. This month only, all donations will be matched by a proportional amount from Minnesota FoodShare and the Feinstein Foundation. Please give generously to help your neighbors in need! Contact Christi Anderson at 651.789.2503 for more information.

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE TRIDUUM LITURGIES:**

Please check out the Sign-Up Sheets at the back of church. We still need volunteers to participate in our Holy Thursday (March 24th @ 6:00 PM) foot washing ritual, eucharistic procession to the chapel, and chapel vigil. We also need volunteers for carrying the cross at our 3:00 PM Good Friday Stations of the Cross on March 25th (it will be inside the church this year); and for the Dressing of the Altar with Flowers at our 8:00 PM Easter Vigil Mass on Saturday, March 26th. These ritual opportunities come only once a year. Your participation is much needed and appreciated.

***Lenten Potluck Conversations***  
Based on the Pastoral Constitution  
Gaudium et Spes  
Wednesday, March 16, 2005  
The Fostering of Peace and the Promotion of a  
Community of Nations  
"The political community exists for the sake of the common good, in which it finds its full justification and significance, and the source of its inherent legitimacy."  
Potluck Supper: 5:45 PM  
Discussion: 6:30 PM  
School Library  
All are welcome.

**ARBY'S/S'BARRO NIGHT**

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day, Thursday, March 17 at the Arby's on Robert Street. From 4:00-8:00 PM if you tell them you are from St. Matthew's, 20% of your order will come back to our school.

# THIS WEEK AT SAINT MATTHEW

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>March 13</b>
3:30 PM CH	Confirmation Class
4:00 PM, MC	Lenten Panel Discussion
<b>Monday</b>	<b>March 14</b>
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
6:45 PM, XC	Boy Scout Meeting
7:00 PM, MC	Stations of the Cross
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>March 15</b>
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>March 16</b>
12:00-7:00 PM, PC	St. Mary's Clinic
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
5:45 PM, SC	Lenten Potluck
6:30 PM, SC	Religious Education Class, Grades 1-10
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>March 17</b>
	<b>Happy St. Patrick's Day!</b>
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
5:00 PM, MC	Youth Choir
7:00 PM, MC	Adult Choir
<b>Friday</b>	<b>March 18</b>
	<b>This is the last Fish Fry of Lent!</b>
4:30-7:30 PM, SH	Lenten Fish Fry
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>March 19</b>
5:00 PM, MC	Blessing of Palms & Mass
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>March 20</b>
	<b>Palm Sunday</b>
8:00 AM, MC	Blessing of Palms & Mass
10:30 AM, MC	Blessing of Palms & Mass
2:00 PM, MC	Communal Penance
4:00 PM, MC	Communal Penance
<b>Abbreviations:</b>	
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 MARCH 6

Sunday Envelopes and Plate	\$11,413.95
School Fund	\$1,300.02
Holy Day	\$115.00
Archdiocese Assessment	\$85.00

*Stewardship is a way of life—a graciousness by which I return to God  
a portion of what God has lavished on me.  
sj. adrian*

## MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, March 13	8:00 AM Ed Maher 10:30 AM Parishioners
Monday, March 14	6:45 AM Parishioners
Tuesday, March 15	
Wednesday, March 16	6:45 AM Alice Marthaler
Thursday, March 17	6:45 AM Deceased members of the Fee & Devlin Families
Friday, March 18	6:45 AM Parishioners 5:15 PM World Peace
Saturday, March 19	5:00 PM Joseph Karas Tim Jack Deceased members of the Ferber Family
Sunday, March 20	8:00 AM Robert Stickler, Sr. Larry Simmons 10:30 AM Parishioners

## WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the Week of March 13, 2005

Sunday, March 13:	Ez 37:12-14; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45
Monday, March 14:	Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62; Jn 8:1-11
Tuesday, March 15:	Nm 21:4-9/ Jn 8:21-30
Wednesday, March 16:	Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Jn 8:31-42
Thursday, March 17:	Gn 17:3-9; Jn 8:51-59
Friday, March 18:	Jer 20:10-13; Jn 10:31-42
Saturday, March 19:	2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a
Next Sunday, March 20:	Mt 21:1-11; Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Mt 26:14-27:66

### 500 CARD CLUB WINNERS—FEBRUARY

1st place—3080—Charlotte St. Martin & Gayle Stelter;  
2nd place—2370—Tecla Ambrose & Linda Brooks.

## 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.....  
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

### 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