

The Community of St. Matthew



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



Dear Saint Matthew Community and friends,

March 17th is the Feast of Saint Patrick; it is also the Feast of Joseph of Arimathea; that little known Jewish leader who sought Jesus' body from Pilate, removed it from the cross and was responsible for the care and burial of Jesus' body. It would be well to reflect on the saints who the Gospels portray as part of the story of the passion and death of Jesus.

All that is known for certain concerning Joseph of Arimathea is derived from the Gospels. He was born at Arimathea -- hence his surname -- "a city of Judea" (Luke 23:51), which is very likely identical with Ramatha, the birthplace of the Prophet Samuel, although several scholars prefer to identify it with the town of Ramleh. He was a wealthy Israelite (Matthew 27:57), "a good and a just man" (Luke 23:50), "who was also himself looking for the kingdom of God" (Mark 15:43).

He is also called by St. Mark and by St. Luke a *bouleutes*, literally, "a senator", whereby is meant a member of the Sanhedrin or supreme council of the Jews. He was a disciple of Jesus, probably ever since Christ's first preaching in Judea (John 2:23), but he did not declare himself as such "for fear of the Jews" (John 19:38). On account of this secret allegiance to Jesus, he did not consent to His condemnation by the Sanhedrin (Luke 23:51), and was most likely absent from the meeting which sentenced Jesus to death (cf. Mark 14:64).

The Crucifixion of Jesus quickened Joseph's faith and love, and suggested to him that he should provide for

Christ's burial before the Sabbath began. Unmindful of personal danger, a danger which was considerable under the circumstances, he boldly requested from Pilate the body of Jesus, and was successful in his request (Mark 15:43-45). Once in possession of Jesus' body, he -- together with Nicodemus (another leader of the Sanhedrin), whom his courage had likewise emboldened, and who brought abundant spices -- wrapped up Christ's Body in fine linen cloths and bands, laid it in his own tomb, new and yet unused, and hewn out of a rock in a neighboring garden, and withdrew after rolling a great stone to the opening of the sepulcher (Matthew 27:59, 60; Mark 15:46; Luke 23:53; John 19:38-42). Thus was fulfilled Isaiah's prediction that the grave of the Messiah would be with a rich man (Isaiah 53:9). The Greek Church celebrates the feast of Joseph of Arimathea on 31 July, and the Roman Church on 17 March.

Yours truly,



Stephen Adrian
Pastor

PARISH EVENTS

COFFEE FOR A CAUSE

Coffee hours after both Sunday masses are hosted and served by Pat and Ken Kasheimer and Shirley and Larry Smith in support of the Neighborhood House Food Shelf. All are invited to the Social Hall for hot coffee, treats and time together. Thanks to all who supported last week's C4aC benefiting the Family Fun Night program. \$103.00 was raised.

ST. LOUIS JESUITS IN CONCERT

The St. Louis Jesuits will be in concert Sunday, March 29 at 3:00 PM at O'Shaughnessy Auditorium. Tickets are \$25 and are available at Ticketmaster or O'Shaughnessy. The concert proceeds will assist the School Sisters of Notre Dame with their ministries in the Metro Area.

Worship at Saint Matthew Season of Lent

Sunday Liturgy

Saturday: 5 pm

Sunday: 8 & 10:30 am

Weekday Liturgy

Monday: 6:45 am

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 6:45 am & 12:10 pm

Friday: 6:45 am & 5:15 pm

Sacrament of Penance

Tuesday: 7:15 am

Saturday 4 pm

Stations of the Cross

Monday: 7 pm

EDUCATION AND
FAITH FORMATION NEWS

“As I have done, so you must do.”

Everyone will be invited to participate in the foot washing ritual this Holy Thursday. As a parish we want to build on the power and meaning of the symbolic “12” that have participated in the past. To witness this ritual is significant itself. To join in the action is to open ourselves to a deeper sense of the command of Jesus to do as he did.

Several stations will be set up for the ritual on Holy Thursday. You will be invited forward to have your feet washed. You will then be invited to wash the feet of the next person in a act of humble service. We present ourselves; young and old, broken and whole, joy-filled and struggling, all members of the body of Christ, called to be Christ to each other.

Watching the ritual likely changes us in a moving, faithful way. Participating invites all of us to a deeper experience of Jesus command, “As I have done, so you must do.”

Support For Members of Military Serving In Iraq & Afghanistan:

We want to be supportive to military who are deployed in Iraq and Afghanistan and to their families. If you have a family member, co-worker, neighbor or friend who is deployed please call the church office and give us that person’s name and address. I would like to form a small committee of parish people who would plan and direct efforts of support. If you are willing to help, please call the Church office – 651-224-9793. Father Steve

SOCK DRIVE RESULTS

Thank you for donating so generously to the Listening House Sock Drive. We collected 494 pairs of socks, 79 T shirts, 1 bag of women’s items, 1 bag of men’s shirts, 1 large bag of personal care items, and 73 pairs of underwear. Two clients from Listening House helped carry the bags into the center. A few men started to rifle through the bags saying they needed socks until they were stopped by staff. Such excitement and need for socks!

PRESCHOOL PREVIEW: COME GROW WITH US!

Learn more about St. Matthew’s Preschool! Launching our second year providing Pre-Kindergarten preparation, St. Matthew’s Pre-K program offers children ages 3-5 hands on learning to foster their social, emotional, cognitive and physical growth with daily opportunities in art, math, science, dramatic play, and literacy. This is a great step in preparing for Kindergarten and will give your child a strong foundation for life long learning success. For more information call 651-224-1450 or join us at one of the information sessions below. Explore the options for your preschool child at St. Matthew’s!

Information Nights: March 16th and April 16th at 6:30 p.m.

THIS WEEK AT
SAINT MATTHEW

Sunday	March 15
Monday	March 16
6:45 AM, CH	Mass
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
6:30 PM, XC	Boy Scout Meeting
7:00 PM, MC	Stations of the Cross
Tuesday	March 17
6:45 AM, CH	Mass
12:10 PM, CH	Mass
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
Wednesday	March 18
6:45 AM, CH	Mass
12:00-7:00 PM, PC	St. Mary’s Clinic
12:10 PM, CH	Mass
2:45 PM, MC	Children’s Choir
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
5:00 PM, MC	HummDingers
6:30 PM, SC	Religious Education, Grades 1-10
7:00 PM, MC	Adult Choir
Thursday	March 19
6:45 AM, CH	Mass
12:10 PM, CH	Mass
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
6:30 PM, SC	Girl Scout Meeting
Friday	March 20
6:45 AM, CH	Mass
4:30-7:30 PM, SH	Lenten Fish Fry
5:15 PM, MC	Mass
Saturday	March 21
Sunday	March 22

Abbreviations:

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

STEWARDSHIP

“You shall not covet” is perhaps a difficult commandment to keep in our consumer society. But as Christian stewards, we know that we are the recipients and caretakers of God’s many gifts. May this understanding that all is gift help us to be less resentful of the gifts of others.

[For 10:30AM—RCIA Mass] When Jesus asked the Samaritan woman for a drink of water, He opened the door for a life-changing relationship with Him. Scripture says her testimony drew many others to Him as well. We, too, must be ready to respond whenever and wherever the Lord speaks to us and be prepared for it to change our lives!

Sharing Last weekend: \$11,116 via the usual four methods. Thank you. Year-to-date \$330,290 is \$11,560 short of the budget—3.4%.

Additional donations: \$323 to help pay the parish assessment [that is 9% of all donations] to help fund the budget of the archdiocese; \$232 in school envelopes; \$130 for the food shelf; \$10 in fuel envelopes. Thank you.

Service: Served my family by attending a family wedding in Belize; visited a friend in the hospital; worked with another to mend a misunderstanding; sang in the parish choir; helped with doing dishes after a meeting; helped re-organize a meeting room.

Prayer: spent time reflecting: how God has touched me; prayed for those without jobs; prayed Stations of the Cross; spent 2 hours in prayer; prayed for 10 hours this week; daily: spiritual reading...rosary...prayers at meals and bedtime...

Young People’s Stewardship: \$4.00 Thank you! They wrote: washed dishes... 1 hour of prayer.

2009 Catholic Services Appeal [formerly: Archbishop’s Annual Appeal]. Thanks to 140 parishioners who have responded. Please join them. Two reminders: 25% of all that is pledged and given is returned to the parish for educational programs—that rebate ends after the parish part of the appeal. There will be follow-up phone calls made to every household from whom a response has not been received—save both them and you a phone call. Please return the response form regardless of the amount [if any] you are able to give.

Fall Festival News: Festival weekend will be September 19-20. The committee has begun to meet; its first decision was to authorize a parish-wide raffle. The details of the raffle [amount of prizes, amount and distribution of tickets] will be decided at the next committee meeting: April 1, 6:30PM in the social hall.

New ideas and new “blood” are always welcome. Come and offer your help, your suggestions and ask questions.

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*Bonnie Faber*
 Dir. Child Care..... *Shar Lavelle*
 Dir. KLT Kids*Shar Lavelle*
 Dir. Marketing & Development..... *Maureen Gitlin*
 Bookkeeper *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
 Child Care Center..... 651-224-1459
 Liturgy and Music Voicemail.....651-310-0830
 Prayerline 651-686-5463 or 651-455-6886

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	Nicole Johnson
Connie Aligada	Anthony Minus
Jason Delmont	David Burrows
Chris Stevens	Joyce Osborne
Stephen Adrian	