

# The Community of St. Matthew



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



Dear Saint Matthew Community and Friends,

I have undertaken re-reading some of Pope John XXIII's Journal of a Soul during the season of Lent. It is rare to have the experience of looking into the soul of another, especially a person who so touched and inspired not only the Church, but the world.

John was a man of absolute trust and confidence – trust and confidence in the presence of God and the power of the Holy Spirit to renew the lives of individuals and peoples. Some criticize him as overly optimistic. Some say that he gave too much of the benefit of the doubt. Some say he was simplistic in his confidence.

I disagree. To the skeptical mind the simple and unencumbered Christian hope he lived is difficult to appreciate, much less understand.

Today, as in John's day, so many doubt that Christian faith is any longer relevant to contemporary life. Who is Jesus Christ and what possible meaning can he have for our time? Is there any reality beyond that which I experience here and now? Is there any truth that is more than what human beings can touch, examine, analyze and dissect?

John was convinced that as long as people continue to question the meaning of life, their purpose in life and try to sort out and understand the events of their day that searching, questioning human being is thirsting for God.

John sought to engage the Church in a respectful and serious partnership with the world. John believed that the Church had for too long a time abandoned any serious

efforts to walk in the shoes of ordinary human beings – the shoes of people of faith and the shoes of people of no faith at all. John firmly believed in what were to become the opening words of the Vatican Councils Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World – *The joys and the hopes, the griefs and the anxieties of the people of this age, especially those who are poor or in any way afflicted, these are the joys and the hopes, the griefs and the anxieties of the followers of Christ. Indeed nothing genuinely human fails to raise an echo in the heart of the followers of Christ. For theirs is a community composed of human beings. United in Christ, they are led by the Holy Spirit in their journey to the Kingdom of their Father and they have welcomed the news of salvation which is meant for every person. That is why this community (the Church) is truly linked with all of humanity in its history by the deepest bonds.*

What keeps the Church from a serious engagement with the world is fear. What is needed is that confident and trusting hope which John encouraged. He said; "I live by the sun, from day to day. But the sun is faithful. Every now and then it seems to hide, but it soon comes back more glorious than ever."

Let us live in the light.

Yours truly,



Stephen Adrian  
Pastor

## PARISH EVENTS

### COFFEE FOR A CAUSE

Coffee hours after both Sunday masses are hosted and served by St. Matthew's Parish Council in support of Family Fun Night, a program offering social gathering time for St. Matt's families to enjoy food, fun and fellowship in the Social Hall. The most recent Family Fun Night featured complimentary food and a screening of the movie "Wall-E". Thanks to Jason and Jennifer Delmont and Brian and Joyce Osborne for their work on Family Fun Night. Thanks to all who supported last week's C4aC benefiting the Rosary Society's ongoing ministries. \$52.00 was raised.

### 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

LENTEN REFLECTION OPPORTUNITY

"SAVE THE DATE": Wednesday, March 11th, 6:30-8. Looking for a way to bring Lent alive in the context of today's social justice issues? Please join Casa Guadalupana Catholic Worker for a viewing of the powerful short film "When Did I See You Hungry?" in the social hall. Challenging us to respond personally to the Gospel call of Matthew 25, award winning documentary film-maker Gerald Thomas Straub presents a photographic meditation on the plight of the poor and our responsibility to help create a more just world. Narrated by Martin Sheen, we are invited to contemplate not only the suffering that often comes amidst poverty but also the hidden humanity of the poor and the spirit of joy in their will to survive. Group discussion will follow the film, facilitated by Casa Guadalupana & St. Matt's own SSND's! Child care provided. Call Casa Guadalupana with questions or to register: 651-222-7668.

ARE YOU THE MISSING LINK?

We are recruiting new participants, men or women, for St Matthew's Prayer Chain. As a network of individuals, we receive confidential prayer requests, forward it on to one person, who forwards it on to the next person on the chain. Then he/she prays immediately for the need, praise or thanksgiving of the caller. If this is something you would like to join us in, call Judy at 651-686-5463.

ROSARY SOCIETY MEETING

The Rosary Society would like invite parishioners to their meeting on Tuesday, March 10 at 6:45 PM in the Social Hall. Fr. Adrian will give a talk at the meeting titled, "Women in the Scriptures and Early Church".

ST. LOUIS JESUITS IN CONCERT

The St. Louis Jesuits popularized a contemporary style of church music set biblical texts following Vatican II. Songs like: "Here I Am, Lord", and "Be Not Afraid." They will present a concert on Sunday, March 29, 2009, 3 pm at O'Shaughnessy Auditorium, College of St. Catherine, 2004 Randolph Ave., St. Paul. Tickets (\$25.00) are available at Ticketmaster outlets. www.ticketmaster.com. To charge by phone call 651-989-5151. Tickets are also available through the O'Shaughnessy ticket office: 2004 Randolph Ave. Proceeds benefit the mission and ministries of the *School Sisters of Notre Dame*.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR 2008

Financial statements are available for pick up or mailing. These may be helpful as tax returns are prepared. Please call the parish office if you would like yours. Remember that your records are more "official" than is the Church statement.

THIS WEEK AT  
SAINT MATTHEW

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>March 8</b>
4:00 PM, MC	Confirmation Class
<b>Monday</b>	<b>March 9</b>
6:30 PM, SC	EAC meeting
6:45 AM, CH	Mass
5:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
7:00 PM, MC	Stations of the Cross
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>March 10</b>
6:45 AM, CH	Mass
12:10 PM, CH	Mass
5:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
6:45 PM, SH	Rosary Society mtg.
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>March 11</b>
6:45 AM, CH	Mass
9:15 AM, MC	School Mass
12:00-7:00 PM, PC	St. Mary's Clinic
12:10 PM, CH	Mass
2:45 PM, MC	Children's Choir
5:00 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
8:00 PM, SH	Men's Club
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>March 12</b>
6:45 AM, CH	Mass
12:10 PM, CH	Mass
5:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes

<b>Friday</b>	<b>March 13</b>
6:45 AM, CH	Mass
4:30-7:30 PM, SH	Lenten Fish Fry
5:15 PM, MC	Mass

**Saturday**      **March 14**

**Sunday**        **March 15**

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

STEWARDSHIP

*Abraham was prepared to sacrifice his only son, Isaac. Saint Paul reminds us that God Himself "did not spare his own Son." Are my gifts to the Lord—of my resources, of my talent for service, of my time in prayer—also sacrificial?*

Sharing: Thanks to faithful stewards: \$9,726 was given, most through Sunday envelopes. The total of \$311,840 is \$10,410 behind budget [3.2%]; but \$3,693 ahead of the same period last year.

Other monies: \$1,063 in school envelopes and loose; \$150 for the food shelf; \$50 for holydays; \$25 for fuel and \$3 for initial. Thanks to each donor—these amounts will be directed to the proper programs. [A reminder: half of all given to the food shelf stays here to help people who come "off the street." The other half is given to Neighborhood House food shelf.]

Service: Donated clothing for the needy...spent hours helping a lady in need...sang in the choir...helped in school...served at Coffee Sunday...made a salad for Rosary Society meeting...was Eucharistic minister...served at funeral lunch...was a money counter...tutored 3<sup>rd</sup> graders

Prayer: attended stations of the cross with school children...made short visits to the chapel...attended my prayer group...participated in centering prayer...spent two plus hours in prayer...daily: spiritual reading; rosary; prayers.

Reminder about weekly bulletin: the bulletin is produced and delivered to us at no cost; and we receive a small rebate each year [\$500]. The cost is borne by the advertisers. Please show them thanks by patronizing them.

Reunion Sunday: any and all alums are invited to return for Mass, brunch, and school tours. Sunday, May 3 is the date. Come to the social hall before Mass to get re-acquainted [rumor has it that some of the nuns who taught will also be present]; the brunch is complimentary for you and your family [RSVPs required]; and Sousa music is promised during the school tours—so all can remember the rite of dismissal!

Two members of the class of 1929 have already RSVPed. Join them.

WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the week of March 8, 2009

- Sunday: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Rom 8:31b-34/  
Mk 9:2-10
- Monday: Dn 9:4b-10/Lk 6:36-38
- Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20/Mt 23:1-12
- Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20/Mt 20:17-28
- Thursday: Jer 17:5-10/Lk 16:19-31
- Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/ Mt 21:33-43,  
45-46
- Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
- Next Sunday: Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17/1 Cor 1:22-  
25/Jn 2:13-25

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 Chris Stevens  
Joyce Osborne David Burrows  
Stephen Adrian