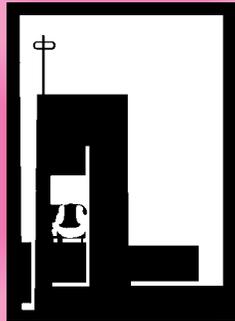


The Community of St. Matthew



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



Dear Saint Matthew Community and Visitors:

This week we celebrate the annual Thanksgiving Holiday. Perhaps no other national holiday comes so close to being a Holy Day as does Thanksgiving. In fact, I have often wished that the Catholic Bishops of the United States drop some of our holidays that seem less relevant to the American Catholic population and devotion and instate Thanksgiving Day as a Holy Day.

It is on this day that we remember the truth that all good things, all gifts, come from the hand of God. We do this at a time when the harvest has been gathered and the produce of the land is abundant. Such an annual celebration is found in all cultures through history.

At Saint Matthew's we are also in the middle of our annual Stewardship Drive, a time when we remember how the goodness of God, the opportunities of life and the God-given talents which each of us possess are not to be taken for granted.

We acknowledge that all that we are and all that we possess is a gracious gift of God, and that in faith we are called to return to the Lord a portion of what He has given to each of us.

One of the ways I give thanks is to take seriously my church stewardship. The weekly financial stewardship that I give is a tangible and "sacramental" reminder of my thankfulness.

If you have not yet returned your stewardship card, please do so by November 30th. Stewardship cards are available at the doors of the Church.

Mass at Saint Matthew's on Thanksgiving Day is at 9:00 AM. The collection at the Thanksgiving Mass will be given to the Cherokee Sirloin Room to help underwrite the annual Community Thanksgiving Meal that serves more than 2,500 people.

The West Side Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service takes place on Tuesday, November 25th at 7:00 PM at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church on Stevens Street.

Yours truly,



Stephen Adrian
Pastor

PARISH EVENTS

THANKSGIVING PARISH CENTER HOURS

The Parish Center will be closed Wednesday, November 26th through Monday, December 1 at 9:00 AM due to the Thanksgiving

GIFT GIVING WEEKEND

On the weekend of December 5th & 6th we invite you to make Christmas a joyous occasion for needy families by bringing NEW, unwrapped gifts to place under the Christmas tree in church. Gifts for all ages are appreciated, don't forget the teenagers and adults! Your sharing will add to the happiness of the recipient's Christmas as well as your own.

If you are a parish family who is in need or if you know of a family in need at this time, please call Nicole at the Parish Center, 651-224-9793. All names will be kept confidential.

CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE

Saint Matthew's Christmas Bake Sale is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, December 13th and 14th. This is an opportunity for all women to donate their time and talents. We are looking for baked items such as cookies, candies, sweet breads, etc. Please watch the bulletin for future notices. This event is sponsored by the Rosary Society.

NOVEMBER 500 CARD CLUB WINNERS

1st Place 3070-Jean St. Martin & Arlene Kempe
2nd Place-2720-Gayle Stelter & Charlotte St. Martin

WEST SIDE ECUMENICAL THANKSGIVING SERVICE

This year's Ecumenical Service will be held Tuesday, November 25th, 7:00 PM, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church at 225 W, Stevens Street.

HOLIDAY FUNDRAISER

The Child Care Center will be hosting a fundraiser from Monday, November 17th until Monday, December 1st. A catalog filled with quality merchandise, ranging from \$5.50 to \$29.50, is available in the back of the Church. Funds raised will be used for outdoor equipment and classroom materials. This is an easy way to complete much of your holiday shopping while helping the Child Care Center to be even better! For additional information, please call Dimary at 651-224-1450. Thank you for your support!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP IN THE SOCIAL HALL RENOVATION!!

Jobs completed include removal of carpet from the columns, removal of base from the walls for the painters, building new storage facilities for Loaves and Fishes, the Rosary Society and Funeral Luncheon committees, fundraising to purchase new round tables, carpentry necessary for removal of the stage, and the largest job, removal of the stage. Thank you to Bill Brengman, Jim Brengman, Ryan Brengman, Tony Stelter, David Rosas, Brian Osborne, John Schwartz, Joe Maidle, Bob Nowak, Tim Nowak, Tim Jack, Joe Stevens, Cheryl Kempe, Jan Casillas. Special thanks to Wayne Gilbertson who oversees this project.

HOLIDAY SCRIP SALES

Stop by the Scrip table for your holiday gift certificates. There is always a large selection of businesses to choose from. Order early, relieve the shopping pressures, and enjoy the holidays.

EDUCATION AND
FAITH FORMATION NEWS

CHILD CARE NEWS

For the past 15 years, as a mission of the Parish, Saint Matthew's Child Care has provided high quality care for the children of the West Side. We currently have openings for children ages six weeks to five years. We offer a long term dedicated staff, a strong school readiness curriculum, a diverse environment, ongoing relationships with Saint Matthew's School as well as the community, and daily home-cooked meals. If you would like to tour the Center and/or enroll a child, please call Denise or Dimary at 651-224-1450.

CELEBRATE FATHER STEVE'S JUBILEE DINNER

Please join us as we celebrate Father Steve's 25 years as Pastor of Saint Matthew's Church and his 35 years in the Priesthood. For 25 years Father Steve has been here for us through thick and thin. We are honored to have him as our Pastor and friend. December 6th is your chance to thank him. The Parish is planning an evening of festivities, good food and storytelling by some of Father's longtime friends. Your donation of \$35.00 per person will go to the Pastor's Scholarship Fund. Father Steve has been a staunch supporter of Saint Matthew's Parish children and he has requested all proceeds from the evening go to this Fund. Drop your RSVP at the table in the back of church this weekend. Call your friends and family. This opportunity to celebrate comes once in a person's lifetime. See you there.

NEW ST. JOSEPH'S SUNDAY MISSALS

The first Sunday of Advent, November 30th, will see a new cycle of readings begin. Since every calendar year brings a new set of special feasts that interrupt the regular cycle of readings, your OLD Cycle C missal probably will not be adequate. You can purchase an up-to-date missal for the new liturgical year before or after Mass this weekend. Price per missal: \$5.00

FESTIVAL CHOIR OPPORTUNITIES

The liturgies of Christmas are fast approaching. If you would like to participate in our Festival Choir, now is the time to give Dana a call at 651-310-0830. We have music ministry needs for Christmas Eve at 4:30 PM, Midnight Mass and Christmas Day at 8:00 & 10:30 AM. We can use singers (young, old, families, couples, etc.) as well as instrumentalists. Our regular rehearsals are on Thursdays, in the church, from 7:00 to 8:30 PM. If you are eager to participate, or just have a few questions, call Dana or stop by the piano after Mass.

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULES

This is the last weekend for our old schedule. New schedules covering November 30th through February 22nd are ready for pick-up in the back of church. If you are an Altar Server, Communion Minister, Lector, Gift Bearer, or Usher/Greeter, there is a schedule for you. Thanks in advance for saving postage costs.

WE'RE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS!

There will be a special Mass at 9:00 AM on Thanksgiving Day. There will also be an extra Mass at 5:15 PM on Monday, December 8th, to celebrate the Immaculate Conception. We need liturgical ministers for these Masses. If you can help out, there are sign-up sheets in the main sacristy next to the check-in board.

THIS WEEK AT
SAINT MATTHEW

Sunday	November 23
12:00 PM, CH	Baptism
12:30 PM, CH	Baptism
Monday	November 24
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
6:45 PM, XC	Boy Scout Meeting
Tuesday	November 25
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
Wednesday	November 26
12:00-7:00 PM, PC	St. Mary's Clinic
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
NO Evening Religious Education Classes-Thanksgiving Break	
Thursday	November 27
Thanksgiving Day	
Parish Office Closed	
9:00 AM, MC	Mass
Friday	November 28
Parish Office Closed	
Saturday	November 29
Sunday	November 30

Abbreviations:

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

STEWARDSHIP

Sunday, November 16

Envelope and Plate offering	\$8,168.24
Youth & Children's Envelopes	\$ 5.52
School Fund Envelopes	\$ 95.00

Last weekend 239 parish households returned pledge cards for Stewardship 2004. This represents 25% of the parish households. The weekly commitment by these households is \$5,670.00. Of the 239 cards returned, 19 represent persons and/or households asking to join St. Matthew's Parish Community.

I am deeply grateful to all who have responded; and I encourage those who did not take the opportunity this past weekend to make their stewardship pledge to do so before November 30th.

Thank you to Kathy Goldenstein, Becky Montgomery, Jeanne Maanum, Nicole Johnson and Linda Sellars who developed the materials and prepared the follow-up mailings.—Stephen Adrian, Pastor

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, November 23	8:00 AM Gerard & Leona Jenniges
	10:30 AM Parishioners Juli Hafiz
Monday, November 24	Parishioners
Tuesday, November 25	Mary Mike
Wednesday, November 26	Parishioners
Thursday, November 27	9:00 AM Bernard Bukowski
Friday, November 28	
Saturday, November 29	Agnes Stefaniak
Sunday, November 30	8:00 AM Jig Masek Clarence and Irene Bunde
	10:30 AM Parishioners Irene Wimmer (Birthday)

WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the Week of November 23, 2003

Sunday:	Dn 7:13-14; Rv 1:5-8; Jn 18:33b-37
Monday:	Dn 1:1-6, 8-20; Lk 21:1-4
Tuesday:	Dn 2:31-45; Lk 21:5-11
Wednesday:	Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28; Lk 21:12-19
Thursday:	Dn 6:12-28; Lk 21:20-28
Friday:	Dn 7:2-14; Lk 21:29-33
Saturday:	Dn 7:15-27; Lk 21:34-36
Next Sunday:	Jer 33:14-16; 1 Thes 3:12-4:2; Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

MEN'S CLUB LIVE AUCTION—DECEMBER 10 AT 9:00 PM

The annual auction for needy families will be opening the public for the first time this year. If you have an item to donate for a worthy cause, we would be happy to accept your donations. Contact Tim Nowak 651-687-2850 during normal business hours or stop the Scrip table after mass.

PARISH DIRECTORY

Saint Matthew Church Office..... 651-224-9793
Web site: st-matts.org

Pastoral Staff

Pastor.....	<i>Father Stephen Adrian</i>
Priest in Residence	<i>Father Marty Warren</i>
Deacon.....	<i>Rev. John Murphy</i>
Dir. Education & Formation.....	<i>Beth Behnke</i>
Dir. Music & Liturgy	<i>Dana McCarthy</i>
Dir. Child Care.....	<i>Maureen Gitlin</i>
Business Administrator	<i>Debra Lindstedt</i>
Administrative Assistant	<i>Nicole Johnson</i>
Dir. Food Service	<i>Alice Schletty</i>
Parish Engineer.....	<i>David Rosas</i>

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 651-224-2903-

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

Kathy Goldenstein	Linda Sellars
Marty Olson	Jeff Gilberg
Paul Kempe	Suzanne Clarke
John Finnegan	Tim Jack
Doug Kennedy	Becky Montgomery
John Sekevitch	

Committee Chairs

Finance.....	Peter Grayson
Education Advisory	Michele Edwards
Liturgy	