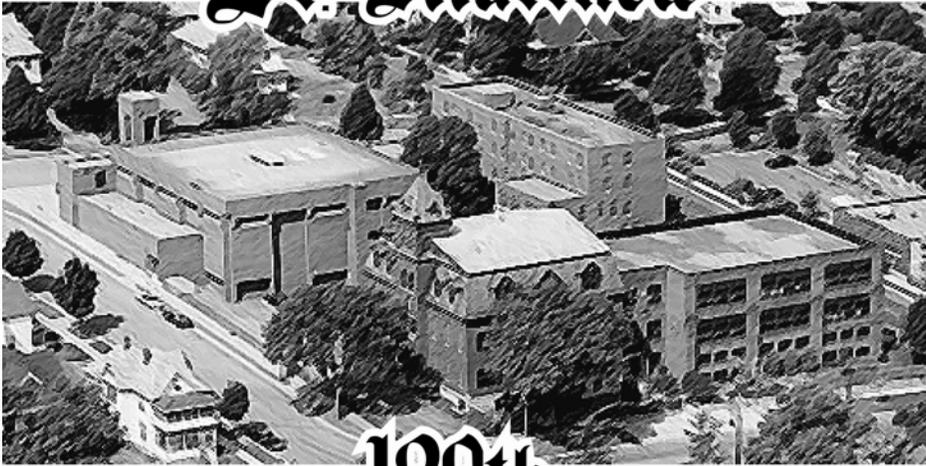


The Parish Community of

St. Matthew



120th Anniversary Gala

Saturday, November 25
1886-2006

Honor the Past
Celebrate the Present
Dream the Future

Mass 5:00 PM

Social 6:00 PM

Dinner 6:45 PM

DVD Presentation and A Look to the Future

Tickets (\$35) available after all Masses
or at the Church Office

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

Dear Saint Matthew Community and Visitors:

We are a few weeks away from the Feast of Thanksgiving. The harvest is in, the produce is abundant. Once again, the gifts of the earth will provide for us during the winter months. We are a rich people, and we have been greatly blessed. Not because of who we are or what we have done – we live where we do “as an accident of birth”. The challenge in the midst of our great wealth is to grow rich in what matters to God.

What is it to be “rich in what matters to God?” Jesus tells us that accumulating the things of this life are not what matters to God. And Jesus admonished the person in the Gospel story to “guard against greed” because one’s “life does not consist of possessions.” So being wealthy isn’t bad, being greedy is. Having possessions isn’t the concern, making those possessions an end in themselves is the danger.

This dilemma is an old one with current freshness in our world. The wealth disparity between countries and economies, and between people within countries, is staggering. How can wealth in this world and being rich in what matters to God be reconciled? The September 18, 2006 cover story of Time magazine was “Does God Want You to be Rich?” The focus was on an emerging group of religious organizations that theologically justify wealth accumulation as a sign of God’s love for us. Accumulating things is emotionally attractive, because it satisfies one of our most basic instincts – survival. As the man in the Gospel story indicates, once he has many things stored up he can rest, secure that his needs will be met.

I think the key is perspective. Life does not consist of possessions, but possessions are a necessary part of life.

Things do not matter to God, but what we do with things does matter. Some of us have great wealth and good health, others have poverty and physical afflictions. All of us, though, are called to use what we have been given to bring us closer to God. All of us are called to discern whether we are using the things we have been given as God intended for us to use them. All of us are called to be generous with our gifts, whatever those gifts might be. All of us are called to be detached from our possessions, and not to hold them greedily.

We are greedy if we are focused on keeping what we have for us, instead of using what we have been given for the greater glory of God. We are greedy if we dwell on our misfortunes, ill health or other seemingly negative gifts with regret and bitterness, instead of using these possessions as paths to find greater comfort in God’s arms. If we selfishly keep what we have, and do not find the way to respond generously to what we have been given, we are not rich in what matters to God.

And so my prayer today is for the grace to discern where I am greedy and to then generously respond to God’s call to me. I respond by returning to God a portion of what I have been given. Stewardship is the road to walk in the discovery of what being “rich in what matters to God” is all about.

Yours truly,



Stephen Adrian

Pastor

PARISH EVENTS

MEN’S CLUB BORDER BATTLE PARTY

First 2006 Vikings/Packers showdown is at HIGH NOON on Sunday November 12. Watch it on the big screen in the Social Hall. Adult admission \$10 and it includes refreshments, snacks, and food at half time. All Viking and Packer fans, adults & children, are welcome!! Doors open at 11:30 AM.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING—NOVEMBER 12

The Parish Council will meet on November 12 at 6:45 PM for prayer and reflection with the meeting immediately following at 7:00 PM. The agenda is posted in back of church or may be found on the church website.

CHRISTMAS WREATH SALE

The Boy Scouts are again selling Christmas wreaths this year and many of you probably have already ordered your wreaths from individual Scouts. They are now done taking orders, but you will have one last opportunity to purchase a wreath at all Masses the weekend of November 18 & 19. Standard wreath sizes and swags will be available to bring home that day.

ALUMINUM CAN RECYCLING

Boy Scouts from Troop 107 will be collecting aluminum cans on this weekend, November 4 & 5 at all Masses. Please bring aluminum cans only to the Scout trailer in the parking lot. Scouts will be there to accept your cans. Thank you again for your continued support

COFFEE HOUR TODAY

Coffee hour after both Sunday masses is served by St. Matthew’s School - Thanks. Everyone is invited to come on down to the social hall for a hot cup of coffee, good things to eat and fellowship. Volunteers are need to staff future coffee hours. Call John at 651-221-0871

MASS INTENTIONS

Mass intentions may be found on the monthly calendar available in the back of church.

EDUCATION AND FAITH FORMATION NEWS



IT'S A BAKE SALE FOR SCIENCE!

On Sunday, November 12th there will be a Bake Sale in the Social Hall after the 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM masses. Proceeds from the sale will be used for a special project the school is planning with the Science Museum of Minnesota. So when you eat those homemade cakes and cookies, remember, you'll be doing it for science!

ANNUAL LITURGICAL MINISTRY MORNING

Our Prayer-at-Table Brunch & In-Service is scheduled for 9:00 AM in the Social Hall on Saturday, Nov. 11th. If you are active in Liturgical Ministry or an activity that supports our worship you should have received an invitation by now. Let us know if we missed you. RSVP (family & friends are welcome) on a sign-up sheet at the back of church, OR call Nicole at the Parish Center OR leave Dana a message at 651-310-0830. We need to know whether or not you plan to attend, how many places to set for you, and what you are bringing to share -- breads, juices, fruit, vegetable, cheese, meat, etc.

HOUSEKEEPING IN THE HOUSE OF GOD

We're still looking for someone to come in on Fridays to prepare the Worship Space for our Sunday liturgies: update the Community Slat Board, dust off the hymnal carts & tables, etc. It should take less than an hour of your time. Leave a message for Dana at 651-310-0830. Also -- that altar cloth is still kind of wrinkly -- any Men or Women of IRON out there?

VOICES OF HOPE—SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Voice of the Faithful, Solidarity and Call to Accountability present "Voices of Hope: Educating about nuns who sexually abuse within the Catholic Community" on Saturday, November 11, 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM at Mary, Mother of the Church, Burnsville. Presentations by Dr. Noel Larson, Ph.D., an expert in the treatment of sexual abuse, survivors of abuse by nuns and Sr. Catherine Bertrand, Provincial Leader, SSND. Question & Answer period will follow presentations. Free and open to the public.

THE ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

The Annual Catholic Appeal happens each year in February and March. 25% of the money pledged and donated by parishioners is returned to the parish for Catholic education and formation. We just received \$3688 in the first of two distributions. The other 75% is used in many different diocesan programs.

Community Thanksgiving Dinner

For 23 years the Casper Family and the employees of the Cherokee Sirloin Room have offered a free community Thanksgiving Dinner.

Individuals and families have taken advantage of this opportunity each year. More than 2500 meals are served every Thanksgiving. More than 1700 meals are delivered to people's homes and more than 800 people choose to eat their dinner at the restaurant.

Dinner at the Restaurant is served at 12:00 noon and 1:30 PM. If you would like a ticket for dinner at the restaurant or for home delivery, call Nicole at the church office to make a reservations—651-224-9793. If you would like to help deliver meals, please call Nicole and indicate your willingness.

THIS WEEK AT SAINT MATTHEW

Sunday	November 5
10:30 AM, MC	Baptism
Monday	November 6
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
6:45 PM, XC	Boy Scout Meeting
Tuesday	November 7
	Election Day
	Remember to Vote
	(Polls Open 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM)
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
Wednesday	November 8
12:00-7:00 PM, PC	St. Mary's Clinic
1:30 PM, SH	Leisure Club
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
6:30 PM, SC	Religious Education Class, Grades 1-10
8:00 PM, SH	Men's Club Meeting
Thursday	November 9
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
5:00 PM, MC	Youth Choir
7:00 PM, MC	Adult Choir
Friday	November 10
Saturday	November 11
9:00 AM, SH	Liturgical Ministry In-service
Sunday	November 12
12:00 PM, SH	Men's Club Border Battle Party
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

Abbreviations:

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

STEWARDSHIP

*What percentage does God ask of me as a good steward?
All of my heart, all of my soul, all of my mind, and all of
my strength!*

Prayer: [Remember that the chapel is open for visits and prayer each weekday from 6:00AM to 6:00PM. A daily visit would be a great habit to have!] This week an object of our prayer might be everyone involved in the electoral process. Let's pray for gracious losers, and more importantly: gracious winners. Let's pray for all those elected and re-elected: that they remember the mandate that has been given to them and the service they are to render. Let's pray for all the judges who commit 14-15 hours on Tuesday to ensure an orderly and honest election.

Service: This week take a few moments at bedtime to remember all the acts of service that we did and give thanks for the talents that were given to us to share. Are we amazed at the many different talents that we have? and the different ways we serve? Are we holding back?

Sharing: Thanks to each parishioner and visitor who used envelopes, the plate, or electronic means [\$945] to contribute \$8795. Upon what do we base our weekly contribution? what our parents gave...what we gave 10 or 20 years ago...the amount we earn in an hour's work...as a percentage of the gross income for our family/household?

Stewardship Renewal: The process of renewal began last weekend. Every registered "parish family" should have received a letter from Father Steve. We want to receive a response from each, regardless of the amount of the pledge [even if the pledge is "0"]. The deadline is next Sunday. Parish leaders will do a phone follow-up, so each response will reduce the number of calls that need to be made. Remember the possibilities of electronic giving as well as receiving parish news via e-mail.

New Envelopes will be used beginning in January. These envelopes will have a place to indicate not only the financial sharing but also the kind of service, and the kind of prayer. Hence, there will be reasons to bring an envelope each week that we come to Mass: to indicate the kind of sharing, service, and prayer that we have given during the week as well as demonstrate our commitment to this kind of involvement in and for the parish community [and beyond]. Watch for a sample in early December.

WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the Week of November 5, 2006

Sunday: Dt 6:2-6/ Heb 7:23-28/ Mk 12:28b-34
Monday : Phil 2:1-4/ Lk 14:12-14
Tuesday: Phil 2:5-11/ Lk 14:15-24
Wednesday: Phil 2:12-18/ Lk 14:25-33
Thursday: Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12/ 1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17/
Jn 2:13-22
Friday: Phil 3:17-4:1/ Lk 16:1-8
Saturday: Phil 4:10-19/ Lk 16:9-15
Next Sunday: 1 Kgs 17:10-16/ Heb 9:24-28/
Mk 12:38-44 or 12:41-44

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 *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
KLT Kids 651-665-0786
Liturgy and Music Voicemail651-310-0830

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	Larry Sachi
Nicole Johnson	John Sekevitch
Connie Aligada *	Sister Joanna Illg
Lucus Ecker	Mark Thomford
Sheila Brunelle	Stephen Adrian
* - Facilitator	

Committee Chairs

Finance.....
Education Advisory Richard Dunn