

# The Community of St. Matthew



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



WELCOME TO THE COMMUNITY OF SAINT MATTHEW • ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

Dear Saint Matthew Community and Friends:

Tuesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> saw the beginning of school year 2008-2009 at Saint Matthew's School.

For more than 15 years Saint Matthew's School and other urban schools have experienced a slow decline in enrollment. This is true of public as well as private schools.

This year the trend at Saint Matthew's was turned around. Last school year ended with an enrollment of 139 students. This September we begin the school year with more than 180 students, a 30% increase in enrollment!

For years the challenge has been to provide excellent education while down-sizing. Our challenge this year is to provide excellent education for a significantly larger student body.

We are still a small school, one class room per grade; teachers and staff know each individual student and family. Saint Matthew's provides a family atmosphere in which each student is seen and treated as an individual and is challenged according to his/her gifts and talents. This has not changed and will not change. Our mission is to be a small, high quality, urban, community school.

I have believed for a long time that many moderate and low incomes families desire a Catholic education for their children, but do not inquire because they assume the costs of private education make this option unavailable to them.

18 months ago I gathered a small group of alums and friends of Saint Matthew's School to test this assumption. They set the audacious goal of increasing school enrollment by 50 students and raising \$150,000 in additional scholarship money by the beginning of school year 2008-2009.

Many partners came together in this development and recruitment effort.

--Bimonthly edition of the magazine The Good News Of St Matthew, telling the story of our parish ministries and school is sent to parish members, alums and friends of Saint Matthew. Hundreds of people have responded positively to this magazine

--Establishment of the annual All School Reunion each year on the first Sunday of May.

--The commitment on the part of school administration to

person the office throughout the summer to welcome and receive inquiries over the phone or drop in at the front door; on one evening a prospective new family called at 8 pm and there was someone to take the call.

--Every parish employee was asked to seek ways to expand and encourage new families to enter our educational programs and was asked to report semimonthly on what he/she had done.

--School staff. Educational Advisory committee members and parish staff were present at dozens of community and church gatherings to provide information and answer questions about Saint Matthew's School, Child Care and KLT after school programs.

--Parish members, school families and West Side community leaders made personal contacts and issued invitations to families to take a serious look at Saint Matthew's for their student.

--Dozens of parish members placed Saint Matthew School lawn signs on their property to attract attention; at least one new family came to register their children in our school because they kept seeing those lawn signs.

--To date more than 160 Alums and friends of Saint Matthew have contributed more than \$113,000 of our \$150,000 goal to provide scholarship assistance.

The assumption is validated: Families choose Saint Matthew's School for their children when the word gets out that no student will ever be denied a Catholic education because of financial reasons, and that at Saint Matthew's a student receives a high quality academic education ( a local public high school administrator said "when a student comes to us from Saint Matthew's we immediately place that student in honors classes, they come to us with a strong academic background." )

This marvelous success is possible because of the commitment of hundreds of individuals, and you are part of this success story. God has given us this opportunity to grow and offer the best we have to many parish and neighborhood families; the challenge is to produce the best for these students and families.

Yours truly,



Stephen Adrian  
Pastor

## EDUCATION AND FAITH FORMATION NEWS

### ROSARY SOCIETY MEETINGS BEGIN

New and long time members - Rosary Society will meet on Tuesday, September 9th at 6:45 p.m. **The meeting location will be in the Parish Center due to voting.** We are looking forward to a fun and productive year.

### CONFIRMATION CLASS FOR 2008-2009

Students, tenth grade and older, who are interested in participating in the Confirmation program are invited to attend our first Confirmation meeting on Sunday, September 14 at 4:00 PM in the church. The first meeting is for both students and parents, registration materials will be available that day. Confirmation class is the second Sunday of the month from September through March. Confirmation will take place at the Cathedral on Thursday, April 30, 2009.

### LEISURE CLUB

The Leisure Club will meet in the Social Hall at St. Mathew's on Wednesday, September 10, at 1:30 PM.

### ANNUAL MASS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Archbishop Harry Flynn's Annual Mass for Persons with disabilities will take place on September 14, 2008; 2:30 PM Music, 3:00 PM Mass, at St. Mary's Chapel at the St. Paul Seminary, 2260 Summit Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105

### PRAYER CHAIN

Please contact Marge at 651-455-6886 or Judy at 651-686-5463 with your request for the prayer chain. The information that you give to us will be treated confidentially.

### 2008 BORDER BATTLE HOSTED BY THE ST. MATTHEW'S MEN'S CLUB

The new football season starts off with a Vikings/Packers showdown! Border Battle #1 on Monday September 8. Watch it on the big screen in the Social Hall. Adult admission is \$5 and includes refreshments, snacks and hot dogs/coneys. All Viking and Packer fans, adults & children, are welcome!! Doors open at 5:45 PM. Questions, Tim 612-269-9471.

### FOOD SHELF

Every day some of our neighbors struggle to put food on their table. Helping them is as easy as bringing food or paper products to weekend worship. Every week food is collected here and brought to Neighborhood House. You'll find wish lists or envelopes for cash donations on the bulletin board in back of church. The food shelf is always in need of grocery bags too. Thank you for your help. The Food Shelf Committee.

## MASS INTENTIONS

Readings for the Week of September 7, 2008

Sunday: Ez 33:7-9/Rom 13:8-10/Mt 18:15-20  
 Monday: Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Mt 1:1-16,18-23 or 1:18-23  
 Tuesday: 1 Cor 6:1-11/Lk 6:12-19  
 Wednesday: 1 Cor 7:25-31/Lk 6:20-26  
 Thursday: 1 Cor 8:1b-7, 11-13/Lk 6:27-38  
 Friday: 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22b-27/Lk 6:39-42  
 Saturday: 1 Cor 10:14-22/Lk 6:43-49  
 Next Sunday: Nm 21:4b-9/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17

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## THIS WEEK AT SAINT MATTHEW

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>September 7</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>September 8</b>
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
6:30 PM, SC	EAC Meeting
6:45 PM, XC	Boy Scout Meeting
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>September 9</b>
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
6:45 PM, PC	Rosary Society mtg.
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>September 10</b>
12:00-7:00 PM, PC	St. Mary's Clinic
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
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>September 11</b>
3:00 PM, SH	Loaves and Fishes
<b>Friday</b>	<b>September 12</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>September 13</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>September 14</b>
9:00 AM, PC	Finance Committee
4:00 PM, MC	Confirmation Class

### Abbreviations:

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

STEWARDSHIP

*Am I my sister's keeper? Am I my brother's keeper? All three readings today suggest that for the Christian steward the answer is definitively: "Yes!" "I have made you a sentinel for the house of Israel...love is the fulfilling of the law...where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."*

Prayer: daily spiritual reading; prayed one hour each day; daily rosary and prayers; prayed for the safety of convention-goers and for a successful parish festival.

Service: cooked and did errands for the elderly; volunteered at Neighborhood House; listened to some who are very sick; watered flowers for another person; lectured at a wedding; helped a lady in her home for two hours; worked hard raising my children.

Sharing; Last weekend [end of summer; 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of month; holiday weekend]--\$7101 was given through electronic means, in the mail, in envelopes and in the plate. The total, year-to-date: \$80,344. That amount, while being \$1928 greater than last year is \$1106 less than the budget for the first nine weeks of the fiscal year.

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Rectory and Casa Guadalupana We have received notice that the necessary papers have been signed by Archbishop Neinstedt and Father Piche [the vicar general]. These signatures will allow the parish corporate board to vote in favor of the lease contract that has been negotiated with Casa. The formal agreement and formal occupation will begin about October 1.

Thanks to all parishioners—and others—for prayer and support during this lengthy process. Special thanks to the members of the committee who worked behind and on the scene to make this a reality: David Haley, Bob Denardo, Joe Wenker and Tim Nowak.

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	Joyce Osborne
Jason Delmont	Mark Thomford
Tony Palmer	Anthony Minus
Chris Stevens	Stephen Adrian