

Church of Saint Matthew – January 10, 2021

SAINT MATTHEW WELCOMES ALL TO OUR PARISH

New to the area, joining us for the first time or coming home again? Please contact Linda Rivera at lrivera@st-matts.org to register as a member of our parish family, we will be happy to get you signed up or welcome you back.

THE POWER OF PRAYER

You can request prayers for yourself, family and friends by calling St. Matthew's Prayer Line 651.457.0228. You can request prayers for healing, family unhappiness, help to find a job, addiction to name a few. All requests are confidential.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Faith Formation Resumes: Confirmation candidates from the Faith Formation program and from Community of Saints have class on Wednesday, January 13, from 6:50 to 7:50 pm in church. For students in grades 1 to 7, parents, check your email for an update on whether January 13 will be an in-person class in the Parish Center or an at-home family learning evening for the younger grades. All Faith Formation students in grades 1 to 10 will have in-person classes on January 20 and January 27. As we have been doing since September, the COVID-19 precautions apply: Anyone coming inside the church or parish center buildings needs to wear a mask, students' temperatures will be taken at the door, and classroom spaces are set for physical distancing to keep everyone as safe as possible. Families who have been exposed to someone with a positive coronavirus test should not come to in-person classes until they are out of quarantine. Students who are not feeling well should not come to in-person classes until they have recovered.

2020 TAX STATEMENTS

Giving Statements are no longer automatically issued by the Parish Office, if you would like one, please call the Parish Office to request one. Leave your name, address and telephone number. Statements will be issued once per week.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTORAL ADMINISTRATOR

You should have received by now a special mailing from the parish office, please help us by responding soon.

1. Please return a financial pledge card for 2021. Your pledge allows the parish to project what the parish income will be in 2021. Your pledge will help the parish finance council and parish council make important decisions regarding projects and improvements to our church and grounds. Remember: it is not a binding contract, Circumstances change and we understand, we do hope that your pledged amount would be an amount you are able to maintain.
2. The pastoral council wants to continue "keeping in contact" with all parishioners...as was done in April and May. Someone will attempt to call you during January. Would you be willing to call a dozen other parish families? Please see the mailing about this ministry of hospitality and care.

Thank you to those we have responded; and we ask God's blessing for you in the New Year. Be safe and well.

John Riehle, Pastoral Administrator

PRAYERS FOR OUR PARISH FAMILY

Please remember in your prayer our parish family members who are ill. Pray for their recovery and for their family members who are with them and caring for them. Especially, **Dorinda Martineau, Keith Anderson and Rita Dubuc.**

If you have a loved one you would like to add to this list, please call the Parish office, provide us with your name and the name of your loved one. We are strong as a community praying together.

IN SYMPATHY

The parish community of Saint Matthew extends its condolences to the family and friends of **William McElumry** who died on Saturday, December 26, 2020. Mr. McElumry's Funeral Mass was on Wednesday, January 6th, 2021.

Mr. McElumry was a St. Matthew's School alumnus and lifelong parishioner. Please remember William and his family in your prayer. May he and all the faithful departed rest in God's peace and love.

FOOD THANKS

Thank you to the parish families who followed the "Reverse Advent Calendar" that was included in the November mailing. The boxes of food will be added to all that is brought to Church on **January 16.**

Remember: you can send a check to the parish center and that money will be forwarded to Neighborhood House food shelf. We collected 217 pounds of non-perishable food and personal care items during our last collection for the Neighborhood Food Shelf on December 19, 2020. Thank you neighbor!

AMAZON SMILE WORKS!!

Thanks to each person who has named St. Matt's and the charity to benefit from their shopping on Amazon. You can do it as well!! St. Matt's receives ½ of one percent for every dollar spent.

A LITTLE SPIRITUAL HELP TO GET US THROUGH THESE TOUGH TIMES ACT OF CONTRITION

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In His name, my God, have mercy.

SPRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOODS

ARCHDIOCESE COVID-19 ANOINTING CORPS

On your few moments throughout the day help the Covid-19 Anointing Corps by praying for the sick, their families and the priest. Please pray two times: one Our Father for the individual suffering; one Hail Mary for the family's comfort; and one Glory Be for the priest and the medical team ministering to them. Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us. St. Roch, pray for us.

PRAYERS AND SUPPORT FOR HEALTH CARE WORKERS

Health care workers: Catholic faithful throughout the archdiocese are dedicated to praying for you! Visit archspm.org/covid19prayers to submit a prayer request. On this page, you may also sign up for a weekly email, watch encouraging videos, and find resources for support.

Want to join in praying for health care workers? Commit to daily prayer for health care workers by texting archspm-healthcare to 55321 or signing up at eva.us/archspm-healthcare. You will receive a weekly message with a link to names of health care workers to keep in your prayers.

FAITH AND CULTURE SERIES

Four sessions, January 21 – February 9 7:00 – 8:30 pm Virtual Event – Registration Required to Participate Live at archspm.org/registration-for-the-archdiocesan-synod-faith-and-culture-series/

Inspired by the thousands of participants at the Prayer and Listening Events, this series connects their stories to the story of the Church.

Each virtual event includes a talk, testimonials, and a live panel discussion. **Registration is required to participate live.** Dates and topics are listed below; all events begin at 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, January 21: Sources of Catholic teaching (Scripture, tradition and magisterium)

- **Thursday, January 28:** The Church's teaching on sexual morality and the family
- **Thursday, February 4:** The Church's understanding on the dignity of women
- **Tuesday, February 9:** The priesthood (both baptized and ordained)

Register online to participate and submit your questions! Zoom links will be sent to registrants prior to each event

PRAYER SERVICE FOR LIFE

Friday, January 22, 10:30 a.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Paul, St. Paul and via livestream

Please join us for this prayer service to commemorate the millions of lives lost to abortion and the many women and men wounded by abortion's aftermath. Limited seating will be available, and COVID-19 protocols will be followed. The prayer service will also be livestreamed on the Cathedral's Facebook page: facebook.com/cathedralsaintpaul.

NEWLY MARRIED RETREAT

Saturday, February 6, 9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m., Online (Link sent to registrants)

All newly married couples (0-7 years) are invited to attend the 2021 Newly Married Retreat. Led by Brad & Libby Dupont from the Archdiocese of Kansas City, KS, this year's topic is Communication— talking with purpose. Cost is \$25 per couple. Registration opening soon at archspm.org/nmr. Questions? Contact Katie Walker at walkerk@archspm.org or 651-291-4488.

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING (NFP)

Classes teach couples the Church approved methods on how to achieve or postpone pregnancy while embracing the beauty of God's gift of sexuality. For a complete list of classes offered throughout the Archdiocese, visit www.archspm.org/family or call 651-291-4489.