

Church of Saint Matthew – August 8, 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.

PRAYERS FOR OUR PARISH FAMILY

Please remember in your prayer our parish family and friends who are ill or in need of our prayers. Pray for their recovery and for their family members who are with them and caring for them. Especially, **Louise Breidel, Doris Schillinger, Charles Rousseau, Michael Wood, John and Katie Degelmann, Grant Littler, Cecelia Glenn, Jerry Jenniges, and Jan Steinbrenner**

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.

BLOOD DRIVE AT SAINT ANNE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH: AUGUST 13th

The Red Cross has issued emergency calls for blood: they are experiencing a severe donor shortage. To help with this urgent need, **Saint Anne's and Spirit of Hope are sponsoring a community blood drive at Saint Anne's on Friday, August 13th, from Noon - 6 PM.** This event is open to everyone: please invite friends and family, and share widely on your social media networks.



Everyone must register this year. Walk-ins not allowed due to protocols as a result of Covid. To register: Call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter "Spirit of Hope". From there you will be directed regarding scheduling an appointment time.

If we don't get 25 people signed up by Monday the 9th, then they will cancel the drive, so again: **Call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: Spirit of Hope to schedule an appointment.**

St. Anne's Episcopal Church is located at 2035 Charlton Road in Sunfish Lake.

BOOK DISCUSSION: THE COLOR OF COMPROMISE Sunday, September 16, 7 p.m. at Saint Thomas More Catholic Church

Jemar Tisby's book "The Color of Compromise" addresses the many ways in which the American church has been actively supportive of and complicit in racism over the last several centuries. In addition to exploring the history, Tisby explores ways our churches might move forward to address racism. Read (or listen to) the book and join us for this discussion! Register at morecommunity.org/color-compromise.

VIDEO MESSAGE FROM SACRAMENTS FOR SENIORS

While COVID-19 social distancing and isolation policies have been hard on everyone, the consequences have been especially difficult for seniors living in long-term care facilities. Watch the video at youtube.com/watch?v=R2icUavkGYI to learn how you can help.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

Jesus tells us in our Gospel that He is this Food that sustains us as He says, "I am the living bread that came down from heaven...and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world." This bread He is referring to is His Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity that we receive. This bread becomes the flesh of Christ Himself.

And in consuming Him, we receive every grace we need to live forever in eternal life. We are strengthened in virtue and united more closely to Christ. This is the Food that will fill us as we journey through this life.

Mistakenly we often take the Eucharist for granted. Maybe we come to Mass to "check the box" instead of actively partaking in this intimate exchange or we receive Jesus in the Eucharist and then forget about Him the second we leave the church after Mass.

To receive all that God wants to give us in the Eucharistic, we must do our part in being receptive to His grace and living out active discipleship in our day-to-day lives.

Let us approach the Lord acknowledging His Divine Presence and be open to all the graces He desires to pour out on us. Then we must go forth, being attentive to the moments that the Holy Spirit is calling us to act as He acts — in total love and sacrifice.

SEASONED SINGERS AND NEW COMERS WE INVITE YOU TO COME JOIN SAINT MATTHEW'S CHOIR

It is so wonderful to be back in church and practicing the music we love! Won't you come join us? Please come be a part of Saint Matthew's Choir. New members are always welcome, former members are encouraged to return. We are practicing on Wednesdays August 11 & 25 at 7:00 pm.

We are also looking for instrumentalists to add more life and spice to our worship regularly or as they are able. Guitars, woodwinds, strings, keyboard— we'd love to have them with us.

MUSIC ON THE PATIO WITH CELLIST DOUG STARKEBAUM

Saturday, August 14, 7-8 p.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Community, New Hope

Music lovers of all ages are invited to celebrate the heat of summer with a fiery tango and other thrilling music for cello and piano with cellist Doug Starkebaum, director of music ministry at St. John Neumann in Eagan. We have chairs for you or you are welcome to bring a blanket and spread out in the grass. Your well-behaved, four-legged fur friends are welcome!

Purchase tickets until noon the day of the event for \$10 or at the door for \$12, proceeds to benefit our new organ from Orchestra Hall coming Fall 2021! Visit stjosephparish.com/upcoming-events for more information.

Applications are now being accepted through August, 20, for the class beginning in September. For more information and an application to become part of the Class of St. Joseph at any location call 651-962-5072 or visit semssp.org/ci.