

Church of St. Matthew - Bulletin Insert

October 1, 2023
26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

WE'RE ALMOST THERE!



The thermometer shows that we're 84% of the way to raising the full \$109,000 cost of replacing the electric panel. That's awesome! Many thanks to all who have contributed!

Special thanks to the Men's Club, which recently donated \$20,000.

Other contributions continue to arrive. Some of them come through the Capital Needs envelopes found in your envelope packets and at the back of church. Others come through monthly EFTs (Electronic Funds Transfers). Yet others come through DonorBox.

However you contribute, thank you! I'm hopeful we can raise the final 16% in the next couple of months. Will you help?

For more information on contribution methods, please call or email me. Thank you for your support!



Phil Grant

NEW COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

The Parish Council is forming a Communication Committee to review and update St. Matthew's website and develop materials such as a Welcome Packet for new members.

If you are interested and have skills to contribute, we'd love to hear from you. For more information email parishcouncil@st-matts.org or call the parish office at 651-224-9793.

ST. MATTHEW CENSUS

Help us update our database with your most current information. Stop by the table at the back of church after Masses **this weekend (September 30 - October 1) and next (October 7 - 8)** to be a part of our census gathering.

Volunteers will check to ensure that your information is correct and make any changes as needed. We are especially looking to collect as many emails as we can to facilitate faster communication.

Not a member? Registration forms are also available at the table for you to complete.



BLOOD PRESSURE CHECK

As we return to pre pandemic normalcy, we will again offer blood pressure checks after Masses on the third weekend of the month. The next blood pressure check will take place the weekend of **October 14 and 15**.



BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Wednesday, **October 4**, is the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals. Since Faith Formation will be meeting on this day, Father Adrian will bless animals that evening at **6:15 PM**. You are welcome to bring your dog, cat, birds, rabbits, hamsters, or any other animal you can safely get to church for a blessing.

Father will also bless animals after **the 4:15 PM Saturday Mass on October 7**.

It will take place outside in the square around the Saint Matthew status. Bring your pets for this special blessing.



BLESSING OF ANIMALS
AT ST. MATTHEW

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READING AND MATH TUTORS AT LOCAL CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

We are looking for tutors to help in our local Catholic Schools. **Dick McGuire**, the president of **Catholic Tutor Corps**, has contacted our parish asking for volunteers who would be willing to help bring students up to grade level proficiency in reading and/or math. A couple of tutors are needed at Community of Saints Regional Catholic School (COS) for reading and also for upper-level math. There is also a need at Holy Trinity Catholic School in South St. Paul for tutors in all grade levels. Simple lesson plans are provided.

Our parishioners have a history of reaching out to students who need one on one tutoring. In the early 2000's, Sr. Audrey Lindenfelser, SSND, a teacher at St. Matthew School, began a tutoring program for students enrolled in our parish school. Many of our "senior citizens", as well as other parishioners who were free during the day, volunteered to come in one day a week and work one-on-one with a student needing help with reading. This program continued successfully, with a large number of volunteers, until St. Matthew School moved to the COS campus.

If you enjoy working with students and would like to help them achieve success in their school work, please contact Mary at mleibl@st-matts.org, or you may also call the parish office at **651-224-9793**.



REMEMBER
in your prayers

Jeremiah Baker, Jeff Blomgren, Jerry and Louise Breidel, Rey Del Angel, Elaine Goldberg, Dean Hinzman, The Karas Family, Judy O'Brien, Pam Perkovich, Marie Scanlan, Mary Lou Shields, Jim Stanger Sr., Mary Lynn Vasquez, and Patricia Weisman.

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.*

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

We recently mailed out our annual Financial Report. It summarizes our parish finances for the fiscal year 2023, which ended June 30. If you do not receive this mailing by the end of this week, please notify the office. Thank you!

BOY SCOUT WREATH AND POPCORN SALE

Boy Scout Troop 288, chartered by the Community of Saints Regional Catholic School, will be taking orders for their annual Wreath and Popcorn Sale from **now through Sunday, October 22, 2023**.

Your order will be distributed before and after the Masses the weekend of November 18 and 19. Payments will be collected at distribution.

You can find the order forms at the back of the church. Please see flyers in the church for pictures of the wreaths.

If you have any questions or would like to place an order, contact Joan Smith: **651-271-3236** or **2023BoyScoutWreaths288@gmail.com**.

JOIN BOY SCOUT TROOP 288

Boy Scout Troop 288, chartered by the Community of Saints Regional Catholic School (COS), has some spots available to join the Troop.

The **FIRST** 2 boys, age 10 or in the 5th grade and above who sign up will have their registration fee, a \$205.00 value, paid for the first year.

The **NEXT** 4 boys, age 10 or in the 5th grade and above who sign up will have half of the registration fee, a \$105.00 value, paid for the first year.

There will be fundraisers available to help pay for the second year. For more information, contact the Scoutmaster Simon Haeg: **Simonhaeg@gmail.com** or **651-308-8622**.

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BAPTISM AT ST. MATTHEW

The Church of St. Matthew welcomes a child and his or her parents for the Sacrament of Baptism. We invite you to be a living part of our faith community.

For baptism, complete baptism registration form and submit it to the parish office. You can find the baptism registration form and additional information online at <https://st-matts.org/baptism/> or by calling the parish office at 651-224-9793.

If you have children making First Communion in the next year or two who have not been baptized, it is important to begin taking steps now for their baptism.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

In-Person Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLW) returns **Sunday, October 1 at the 10:15 AM Mass!** During CLW, young children ages 3 - 6 leave the sanctuary at the start of the Liturgy of the Word to hear the scripture readings proclaimed and explained at an age-appropriate level. Father calls the children to the altar and says a short blessing over them as they are dismissed. The children return to the Mass at the time of offertory.



COFFEE SUNDAY

Coffee Sunday returns **October 8, 2023 after the 10:15 AM Mass.** Faith Formation will host the first Coffee Sunday of the year.

Coffee Sunday is after the 10:15 AM Mass on the second Sunday of each month through May 2024.



THE SOUNDS AND SIGHTS OF ST. MATT'S



The Sanctuary Lamp will be lit September 30 - October 6, 2023 in memory of the deceased members of the **Snaza family.**

The Bells of St. Matthew will ring on October 1, 2023 for **Joseph and Hope Savard's** 63rd wedding anniversary.

The Bells of St. Matthew will ring on October 6, 2023 in memory of **Bill Brengman.**

If you would like to schedule a day to ring the bells or a week to light the sanctuary lamp for your special memory, person or event, please contact the parish office at 651-224-9793 by 1:00 PM, Monday – Thursday.

COMMUNITY OF SAINTS SCHOOL COLLECTION

This weekend's second collection will be in support of Community of Saints Regional Catholic School. Thank you for your generous support!

YOUTH MINISTER

We're looking for a youth minister to serve our parish and St. Stan's. (Interviews have begun.) In St. Stan's case, they're renewing a successful youth ministry program. In our case, we're starting a program. I'm helping to recruit and interview youth ministry candidates in partnership with St. Stan's. I'm also looking for youth group members and for adults interested in helping with this ministry. If interested, let me know.

Phil Grant

"...IN THIS WORLD I CANNOT SEE
THE MOST HIGH SON OF GOD WITH
MY OWN EYES, EXCEPT FOR HIS
MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD."
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

