

Church of St. Matthew - Bulletin Insert

September 24, 2023
25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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.



CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

In-Person Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLW) returns **Sunday, September 24 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.

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.

COFFEE SUNDAY

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

Volunteers are needed to help organize this event. If interested, please contact the parish office at **651-224-9793** to see how you can help.



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

GIFTED AND BELONGING MEETING

Gifted and Belonging (GAB), a Catholic social club for young adults with disabilities seen and unseen, is returning to St. Matthew on the fourth Sunday of the month.

The next meeting will be **September 24 from 6:00 - 8:00 PM** at the Church of St. Matthew Social Hall. This month's theme is Bingo Night.

GAB welcomes all young adults to get together to share a time of prayer and reflection followed by games and social activities.

For more information, contact Megan at giftedandbelonging@gmail.com.

THE SOUNDS AND SIGHTS OF ST. MATT'S



The Bells of St. Matthew will ring on September 24, 2023 in memory of **Brian Eldridge**.

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.

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COMMUNITY CONVERSATION TUESDAY

Our next meeting is this **Tuesday, September 26, at GAP** (the Guadalupe Area Project). GAP is located at 381 East Robie.

The meeting begins at **6:30 p.m.** The purpose is to continue the conversations St. Matt's hosted in May and June. It's important to listen to our fellow West Siders.

All are welcome. It's not necessary to have attended the earlier sessions.

COMMUNITY OF SAINTS SCHOOL COLLECTION

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

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**.

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

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**.

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 inside the bulletin. 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.

BOOK MINISTRY

I'm looking for more volunteers to manage books going onto our library shelves: helping people select books to read, checking books in and out, and keeping the shelves tidy. We already have books. Shelves are being donated. Who likes books? Give me a call!

Phil Grant