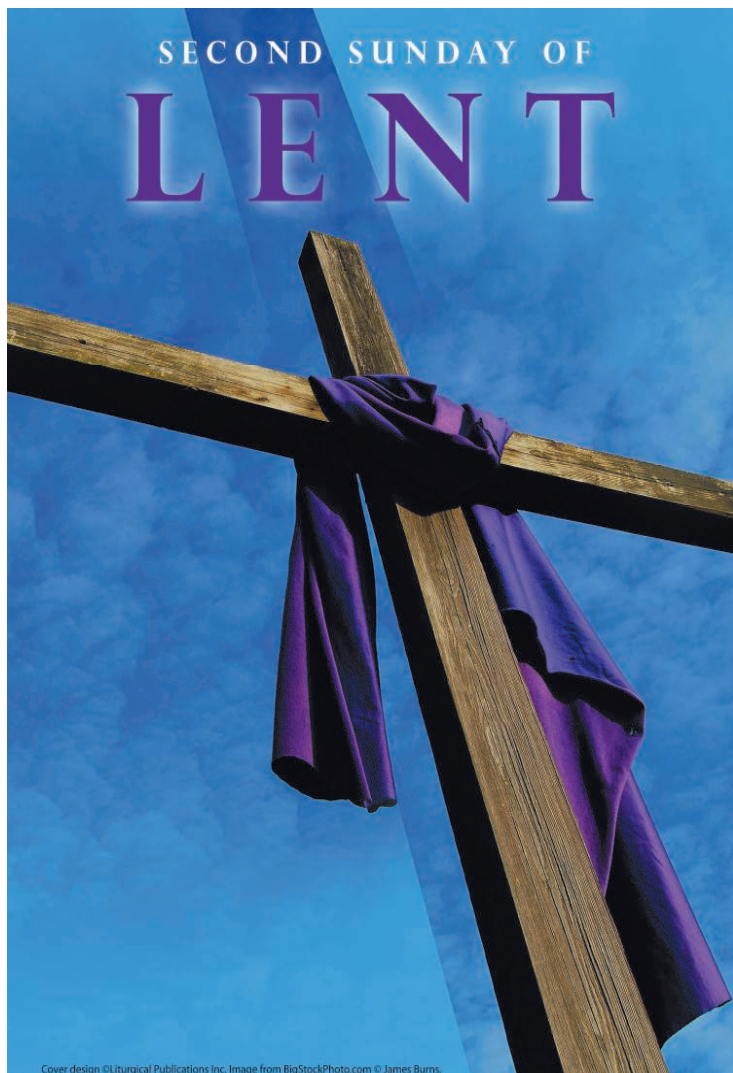




Church of St. Matthew

A Catholic community that is a visible expression of God's love



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All emails are

@st-matts.org

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frbobbkellyop

Deacon John Murphy

Deacon Gregg Sroder

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srannebecker

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choffman

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jillkilzer

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skowal

John Riehle, Administrator

jriehle

Linda Rivera, Parish Secretary

lrivera

Church - 510 Hall Avenue

Parish Center - 490 Hall Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55107

651-224-9793

Fax 651.222.2688

Website: st-matts.org

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/churchofstmatthew

Sacraments

Please contact the Parish Office regarding baptism, marriage, first communion and confirmation information.

Bulletin

Announcements are due on Monday by 10:00 a.m. for the next Sunday's bulletin. *Items received after 10:00 a.m. will appear in the following week's bulletin.*

Liturgy Schedule

Monday - Wednesday - Friday 8:00 am

Thursday - 9:30 am at Community of Saints School

Saturday - 4:00 pm

Sunday - 10:00 am

Reconciliation

Saturday 2:30 pm - 3:45 pm

Sunday 9:00 am - 9:45 am

and by appointment

Prayer Line

Hope 651.457.0228 Cathy 651.455.5473

Readings for the Week of March 12, 2017

Sunday: Gn 12:1-4a/Ps 33:4-5, 18-20, 22/2 Tm 1:8b-10/
Mt 17:1-9

Monday: Dn 9:4b-10/Ps 79:8-9, 11, 13/Lk 6:36-38

Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23/Mt
23:1-12

Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20/Ps 31:5-6, 14-16/Mt 20:17-28

Thursday: Jer 17:5-10/Ps 1:1-4, 6/Lk 16:19-31

Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Ps 105:16-21/Mt
21:33-43, 45-46

Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 103:1-4, 9-12/Lk 15:1-3,
11-32

Next Sunday: Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-9/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/
Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

OUR STORY, JESUS' TRANSFIGURATION



There is a story in the Second Book of Kings (2 Kgs 6:8-23) that for some reason is never read for the celebration of the Eucharist. In the story, the Israelites are at war with the Syrians. The prophet Elisha, an Israelite, is using his prophetic power to reveal the battle plans of the Syrian army to his people. At first, the King of Syria thinks that one of his own officers is giving his battle plans to the Israelites. But when the king finds out that it is really Elisha who is telling the Israelites, he sends his army to capture Elisha. The Syrian troops move in under the cover of darkness and surround the city of Dothan where Elisha is living.

In the morning, one of Elisha's servant looks out over the surrounding fields and discovers that the Syrian army surrounds them. In fear for the prophet and his own safety, the servant runs to Elisha and asks what should be done. The prophet tells the servant not to be afraid because they were not alone. But this was hard to believe when in the surrounding fields stood the Syrian army. Elisha prays to God to open his servant's eyes.

The servant looks again and sees the fields full of horses and fiery chariots from heaven surrounding Elisha and protecting him from the Syrian army. This vision was all that Elisha's servant needed to reassure him that God was with them. They were never alone. At the end of the day, not only was the prophet of God safe but also all the Israelites were safe from the invading Syrian army.

In the familiar gospel passage of the Transfiguration that we hear each year on the Second Sunday of Lent, the Jewish leaders are closing in on Jesus and his disciples like the Syrian army was closing in on Elisha and his servant. It was then that Jesus asked his disciples the question, "Who do people say that I am?" followed by a second question, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered that Jesus was the Christ the son of the living God. Jesus congratulated Peter and then warned his disciples about his unavoidable suffering and death. But Peter protested and took Jesus aside and said that this would never happen to him. Jesus sharply corrected him, telling him that he was seeing things from a purely human point of view.

What Peter and the other disciples needed was for God to open their eyes, like Elisha's servant, and give them a glimpse of God's presence so that their fears would be destroyed. To accomplish this, Jesus invites Peter, James, and John to come away to a high mountain so that through his transfiguration the truth of what he must undergo would be accepted and they would know that God was with them.

At the celebration of our weekend Masses, I believe that we experience transfiguration more like the unknown Elisha story than the familiar Transfiguration story. At each week-end Mass, some food items, donated by unknown parishioners and left in the back of the church, are brought forward at Offertory time. The food donations are certainly needed and welcomed at the Neighborhood House Food Shelf, but our way of donating could open our eyes to the presence of God working in each of us and in our community.

I am proposing that on the third weekend of each month that all the members of the Church of St. Matthew, who are able, bring food and/or non-food items to the sanctuary at Offertory time. Bringing our donation to the sanctuary will serve as a visible sign of God's presence and will encourage our children to look forward to and participate in the celebration of Mass.

A basket will remain in the back of church in case items are brought in during the rest of the month. Let's give it a try and start next weekend (March 18-19). May our story proclaim Jesus' Transfiguration.

Neighborhood House Food Shelf High Priority Items

Food	Non-food
Sugar	Diapers, size 3
Tuna	Shampoo
Peanut butter	Dish soap
Rice	Bath soap
Canned meat	Tooth brushes
Mac & cheese	Deodorant
Soup	Cleaning products
Flour	Laundry soap
Canned Veggies	Paper towels

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

During the season of Lent, the Sacrament of Reconciliation will take place in the bridal room When the candle is lit, Fr. Bob is available. Please close the door securely after entering and leave the door open when leaving for the next person.

News and Events

CHURCH BELLS

March 16	Becca Lackner
March 17	Katie Hofacker Patricia Smith

ANNUAL FISH FRY

Come join us for our 28th Annual "All You Care To Eat" Fish Fry. Every Friday beginning March, 3rd, through Good Friday, April 14th. Serving time is 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. We have baked or fried fish, baked potato, veggie and coleslaw, beverage and dessert. A children's non-fish option is also available. \$11 Adults, \$10 Seniors (65+), \$6 children (under 12, under 5 years free). Treat mom to a night out, come visit with friends and neighbors and enjoy St. Matt's fabulous Fish Fry.



TIME FOR SPRING CLEANING!

Save the date and join us on Saturday, March 18 from 9 AM to 11 AM for Spring Cleaning of St. Matthew's church! Many hands are needed; many ages and capabilities, too. (This could be a great service project for our Confirmation students!)



We will have four cleaning teams + general helpers. You may bring your favorite cleaning supplies/tools from home, if you wish. Sign-up sheets are in the back of church. Coffee and donuts will be served.

EASTER FLOWERS

If you would like to make a contribution to the Easter Flower Fund there are forms on the table at the back of church next to the Statue of St. Matthew. It is a lovely way to remember a deceased loved one. Or perhaps to honor someone who is living in your life, to show how much you care. You can mail your contribution to the parish center or drop into the collection basket. Thank you for your generosity.



MUSIC AND LITURGY NOTES

LIFT YOUR VOICES AND TO SHARE YOUR LOVE OF LITURGY and your musical talent with the St. Matthew community. Choir practices are held on SUNDAY mornings at 9AM during Lent and on alternate weeks during Ordinary Time. All voices are needed, especially altos and sopranos. Keyboard players, guitarists, string and wind players are most welcome. For more information: jillkilzer@st-matts.org.



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 11
4:00 pm Hank Goers†

Sunday, March 12
10:00 am Our Parish
Rachael Snaza†

Monday, March 13
8:00 am Pamela Stickler†, Robert Stickler, Sr.† & Lucille Stickler†

Wednesday, March 15
8:00 am Living & Deceased Rosary/CCW Members

Friday, March 17
8:00 am Alyssa Saucedo,
Special Intention

Saturday, March 18
4:00 pm Patrick Stevens†

Sunday, March 19
10:00 am Our Parish
Ted & Connie Rivera†
Linda Owens†
Leona Jenniges, Healing

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday, March 11
10:00 am 1st Reconciliation Church, SH
1:00 pm Liturgy Comm. Bookkeeping Office
4:00 pm Mass

Sunday, March 12
9:00 am Choir Practice Church
10:00 am Mass
11:00 am Coffee Sunday Social Hall

Monday Mar. 13– Thurs. Mar. 16
5:00-6:00 pm Loaves & Fishes Social Hall

Monday, March 13
12:00 - 5:00 pm St. Mary's Clinic

Tuesday, March 14
Wednesday, March 15
8:00 am – 5:30 pm St. Mary's Clinic PC
6:30 pm Faith Formation Classes
6:30 pm Rosary/CCW Social Hall

Thursday, March 16
9:30 am COS School Mass at COS

Friday, March 17
4:00 pm Stations of the Cross
4:30 - 7:30 Fish Fry

Saturday, March 18
4:00 pm Mass

Sunday, March 19
10:00 am Mass
11:00 am Coffee Sunday Social Hall

Children's Corner - Word Search

Noah's Ark

animals	flood	Noah
Ararat	Genesis	rain
ark	gopher	rainbow
covenant	Ham	raven
dove	Japheth	Shem

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WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS (Mar. 5)

Parish			
Plate	\$336	Faith Formation	\$125
Envelopes	\$4,149	Food Shelf	\$2
Electronic Giving	\$1,081	Global Solidarity	\$2
Vigil Lights	\$42	COS School	\$481
Total	\$6,226	Thank you!	

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