



Church of St. Matthew

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



Parish Staff

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FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/churchofstmatthew

Office Hours

Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

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 a.m.

Thursday - 9:30 a.m. at Community of Saints School

Saturday - 4:00 p.m.

Sunday - 10:00 a.m.

Reconciliation

Saturday 3:00 p.m. - 3:40 p.m.

and by appointment

Prayer Line

Hope 651.457.0228 Cathy 651.455.5473

Readings for the Week of May 14, 2017

Sunday: Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19/1 Pt 2:4-9/Jn 14:1-12

Monday: Acts 14:5-18/Ps 115:1-4, 15-16/Jn 14:21-26

Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-13ab, 21/Jn 14:27-31a

Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122:1-5/Jn 15:1-8

Thursday: Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-3, 10/Jn 15:9-11

Friday: Acts 15:22-31/Ps 57:8-10, 12/Jn 15:12-17

Saturday: Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-3, 5/Jn 15:18-21

Next Sunday: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17/Ps 66:1-7, 16, 20/1 Pt 3:15-18/Jn 14:15-21

YOU ARE SACRED TO ME!



This weekend flowers will be delivered, telephone calls will be made, cards will be sent, brunch will be shared, and coffee and orange juice will be spilt on bedspreads when breakfast is served in bed. All of these gestures are the ways that children tell their mothers, "I love you!" These are traditional and honorable ways of showing our love for our mothers. But we know that Jesus challenged what was traditional and honorable so that human beings could come to a deeper understanding of who we are and who God is.

If we look closely at the different ways Jesus showed his love for people, we can say that he did not start with the premise that he was God. That he had the will power to love or not to love. He did not say, "I will myself to cure the ill. I will myself to feed the hungry. I will myself to forgive sinners. I will myself to raise the dead because I am God and I can do it." Instead, Jesus started with the belief that all people are sacred. Operating from this belief he responded not from his own need to love but from the need of people, who like you and me, need to be loved. In other words, Jesus did not see himself in control of his love; "It is I who love you." Rather, he saw people as sacred, as worthy of his love.

I believe there are three kinds of love that come from truly believing that people are sacred. **SACRIFICIAL LOVE** is love that has no limits. It is a love that goes out to give what is needed and more not matter what the circumstance. No demand put upon it is too great. It never grows tired or indifferent. It is always actively at work.

When I was a deacon in the Archdiocese of Denver, I was asked to assist at the annual Mass for the mentally and physically differently-abled people. The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception was filled with people in wheelchairs and with walkers. Some people were wearing protective helmets and others were clutching stuffed animals. Some people were very quiet and others were very loud.

In the front pew were a father and mother who had a son whose body was no bigger than a ten year old but whose head was the size of a young adult. The young man was wearing a three piece suit with tie and was strapped into something that looked like a modified baby carriage. To comfort their son during the long celebration, the father carefully stroked his son's forehead. Every so often the mother would bend over to whisper something into her son's ear. At Communion time the family came forward and when they reached the Archbishop, the father took one consecrated host. He knelt down so that his son could see it and he broke it into three pieces. He gave one pieces to his son, one piece to his wife, and one piece to himself. The parents could have honored their son by providing competent care givers. They could have loved their son by praying for him. But because their son was sacred to them, they sacrificed.

UNDERSTANDING LOVE is love that never questions. It is the acceptance of our own human weakness and the weakness that belong to others. It is not blind love but open-eyed love. It is a love which sees a person for who he or she is and for whom he or she will become.

I have often sat in a restaurant having dinner with friends. At a nearby table there will be a family with one, two, or maybe three children. It is interesting to watch how parents deal with the unpredictable moodiness and behaviors of their children. Sometimes the parents will become frustrated promising some sort of punishment or reward to encourage their offspring to get their act together. Sometimes the parents will be extremely calm and do the best that can be done under the circumstances. They offer their child a ring of keys, a napkin and crayons, or they pull out a zip-locked bag of fish crackers from a diaper bag. They make no promises they simply are present remembering the boring lectures, department meetings, and long homilies that they have to sit through. The parents could have loved by hiring a competent babysitter. They could have loved by staying home with their children. But because their children are sacred to them, parents understood and did what could be done.

FORGIVING LOVE is love that is always given no matter what happens. Over the years I have met with couples who are preparing for marriage. In the preparation process, I have used different instruments that are designed to help couples learn more about themselves and their unique relationship. In the FOCCUS instrument there is an "Agree" or "Disagree" question that most couples struggle with. The statement reads, "I could not under any condition remain married to my spouse if he/she were ever unfaithful to me." Some couples feel that the statement is encouraging them to accept infidelity. In reality, the statement is asking both partners to explore the many ways a couple can be unfaithful to one another: emotionally, physically, and when it comes to setting priorities. It can open a couple to explore all the variables and signs of what else is going on or going wrong with the marriage to make marital infidelity of any sort to take place. With knowledge, forgiveness becomes possible. I forgive you not because it is God's commandment that I forgive you. I forgive you because I know and accept the struggle you have gone through and you are sacred to me.

On Mother's Day we are challenge to understand the reasons we have flowers delivered, we make telephone calls, we send cards, we share brunch, and we serve breakfast in bed. Is it because it is the second of two great commandments or is it because we believe what God believes? You are sacred to me? I can assure that the commandment to love will constantly be broken. But the belief that you are sacred to me will enable us always to sacrifice, to understand, and to forgive one another. Happy Mother's Day!

News and Events

SUMMER MINISTRY SCHEDULE

The Ministry Schedule for the months of June through the end of August will be written on May 22nd. Please let Jan Lackner know your availability for these months by as soon as possible. You can contact Jan at jml3242@aol.com or 651.457.4766. Are you interested in joining St. Matthew's Ministry? Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers, Readers, and Ushers are welcome to join our Ministry. No experience is necessary, only the desire to serve the Lord. Call Jan if you are interested in joining our Ministry family. Please come share your time and talent with St. Matthew's.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

On Sunday, May 7, 2017 nine children received their First Holy Communion from Father Bob. There were many proud parents, grandparents and extended family members as Mass as these children received Holy Communion for the first time. Many of our First Communicants continue to grow in their love of Our Lord Jesus Christ as they receive Him at Mass each week. Receiving Holy Communion were: Shauves Simeon Adams, Devin Zaragoza Christner, Ricardo Marshae Cook, Hayden Annabelle Jahn, Braiden Marc Anthony Kearns Murphy, Christina Palmillas Mireles, Sean O'Connor, Wayne Parades, Alaina Clare Scanlon, Aubrey Latoria Stewart.



MEMORIAL/LABOR DAY MASS & SUMMER MASS TIMES

On Memorial Day, May 29, Mass will be celebrated at 9:00 am. Beginning June 6, weekday Masses will be on **Tuesdays & Thursdays** at 8:00 am.
On Labor Day, September 4, Mass will be celebrated at 9:00 am. Beginning September 6, weekday Masses will return to **Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays**, at 8:00 am.
Funeral Masses will be celebrated as needed throughout the summer.

CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL UPDATE

We have reached 74% of our \$16,257 with 85 donors participating. A sincere "Thank-you" to all who have been able to contribute to the seventeen ministries no one parish can support alone

NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE FOOD SHELF SUNDAY

Next Sunday is the third Sunday of the month when we bring our food and non-perishable items to the Sanctuary at Offertory time. One can of vegetables, one jar of peanut butter, one bar of bath soap all help to support our St. Paul neighbors.



Children's Corner

D	J	U	J	A	R	P	S	D	G
E	U	N	U	D	E	A	P	I	L
C	D	W	S	V	S	R	E	S	S
I	G	I	T	E	P	A	E	H	J
S	E	L	I	R	E	B	D	O	J
I	U	L	C	S	C	L	I	N	P
O	N	I	E	A	T	E	L	E	P
N	P	N	P	R	A	Y	Y	S	A
J	K	G	H	Y	F	A	I	T	H
E	D	A	J	W	I	D	O	W	X
parable			pray			judge			
widow			decision			adversary			
unwilling			respect			dishonest			
justice			speedily			faith			

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, May 13

4:00 pm Pamela Stickler†
 Lucille Stickler†
 Robert Stickler, Sr.†

Sunday, May 14

10:00 am Our Parish
 Arthur Geis†

Monday, May 15

8:00 am Eugene Simmons†

Wednesday, May 17

8:00 am Living & Deceased
 Rosary Society Members

Friday, May 19

8:00 am Marina T. Galep†

Saturday, May 20

4:00 pm Joseph Karas, Jr.†
 Joseph Karas, Jr.†

Sunday, May 21

10:00 am Our Parish
 Deacon John Murphy, Healing

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday, May 13

9:00 am - 2:00 pm Emmanuel Community
 4:00 pm Mass

Sunday, May 14 Mother's Day

10:00 am Sunday Mass
 First Holy Communion
 11:00 Coffee Sunday SH

Monday May 15 – Friday, May 19

5:00-6:00 pm Loaves & Fishes SH

Monday, May 15

12:00 - 5:00 p.m. St. Mary's Clinic

Tuesday, May 16

Wednesday, May 17

8:00 am - 5:30 pm St. Mary's Clinic PC

Thursday, May 18

9:30 am COS Student Mass at
 COS Chapel

Friday, May 19

Saturday, May 20

3:00 - 6:00 pm Girl Scout Plant Sale
 4:00 pm Mass - Food Collection

Sunday, May 21

9:00 am Choir Practice
 9:00 am - 1:00 pm Girl Scout Plant Sale
 10:00 am Sunday Mass—Food Collection
 First Holy Communion
 11:00 Coffee Sunday SH

WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS 5-07-17

Parish			
Plate	\$910	School	\$398
Envelopes	\$3,355		
Electronic Giving	\$1096		
Fuel	\$25		
Catholic Commu- nication	\$2		
Vigil Lights	\$22		
Loaves & Fishes	\$500		
Rent	\$6,150		
Total	\$5,601		Thank you!

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