

St. Matthew the Apostle Lent 2022

# *Alms* in Action

Gratefully Giving Our Time & Talents



## WORSHIP MINISTRIES

***St. Matthew Worship Ministries enable parishioners to worship the Lord in a meaningful way and further enhance their relationship with Him.***

**Adoration** is held every Thursday from 10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. in the Church. Parishioners are invited to spend an hour or more praising, worshipping and adoring the Our Lord as He is exposed in the Blessed Sacrament on the altar. Prayerfully consider committing to one hour to Adore Our Lord.

**Altar Servers** is a ministry for girls and boys in grades four through twelve who are interested in participating in a special way in Mass by assisting the priest and deacon. After training is complete, altar servers assist at liturgies on a rotating schedule.

**Altar Society & Floral Committee** are a group of dedicated volunteers that clean and maintain the finer details of the church and maintain the floral arrangements for liturgical celebrations and decorate the church for the various seasons.

**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion** assist the presiding priest and deacons in the distribution of Holy Communion at Eucharistic celebrations. Ministers are commissioned for service to the community after receiving approval from the Pastor and in accordance with Archdiocesan guidelines and training. They assist at liturgies on a rotating schedule. (Ministers may also assist in the Homebound Ministry)

**Readers/Lectors** are volunteers whose primary duty is to proclaim the Word of God. Readers should be dedicated and responsible individuals with good articulation and reading skills. Each reader is given a book to use in preparation for Mass. Readers assist at liturgies on a rotating schedule.

**Sacristans** are appointed to assist in the preparation of liturgical celebrations. Sacristans are charged with the care of the sacristy, set up of the altar; and generally preparing for the Eucharistic celebrations. They assist at liturgies on a rotating schedule. (They may assist with weekly Masses, special liturgies, weddings or funerals.)

**Ushers** are men and women of all ages who greet people as they arrive at Church. Additionally, they help seat latecomers, collect the offertory gifts, distribute materials that might be necessary for use at a particular celebration, help with the flow of Communion and distribute the bulletins as people leave Mass.

**Music ministry** provides leadership, lyrics and music to enrich celebrations and encourage full participation of the congregation. Anyone interested is welcomed to join.

**Please prayerfully review the various ministries each week. At the end of Lent, a sign-up form will be distributed where you can volunteer to support one or more ministries.**

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## SERVICE MINISTRIES

***St. Matthew Service Ministries provide assistance and support to our parish and community.***

**Disabilities Ministry** provides resources to promote the integration of persons with disabilities into the complete life of the Church. This ministry assists all people in their faith development and participation in Mass and social functions at St. Matthew the Apostle Parish.

**Homebound Ministry** provides Eucharistic Ministers that are commissioned by the Archdiocese to assist with prayer and the Eucharistic needs of our homebound parishioners.

**Hospitality Ministry** welcomes everyone into the parish and facilitates a positive and loving experience as members of the parish family. The team reaches out to new parishioners with welcome packets, emails and phone calls, inviting them to fellowship at St. Matthew.

**Knights of Columbus** is a Catholic men's fraternal organization comprised of men who live their faith through service to the parish and community. The organization was founded on the principles of charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism and is the world's largest association of Catholic men. Regular Council meetings are held the first Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Knights of Columbus Hall.

**Home & School Association** is an organization of parents of St. Matthew students who volunteer their time and talents for the students, faculty and parents of the school. The Association provides support to the school administration, faculty and parish by working together to promote, organize and execute school and classroom activities, social events, fundraisers, field days, holiday events, etc. General meetings are held quarterly in the Monsignor Bendix Center at 7 p.m.

**Prison Ministry** seeks to renew and strengthen the faith lives of the imprisoned. The ministry's goal is to be a healing force witnessing the unconditional love of Jesus to the incarcerated and their families. Spiritual enrichment flows to both volunteers and imprisoned through the fellowship of this ministry.

**St. Matthew Men's Club** brings together men of the parish to help strengthen and support the parish family. The Men's Club provides services, promotes the spiritual and physical welfare of the parish, and financially supports both the parish and school through various fundraisers and projects. The club meets monthly on the second Wednesday of the month in the Monsignor Bendix Center.

**Social Justice Ministry** collaborates with parish clergy, staff and connected ministries to implement initiatives grounded in Catholic social teaching, including outreach to the poor; addressing racism, immigration and criminal justice reform; combating human trafficking; and providing advocacy and education on life issues.

**St. Vincent de Paul Society** assists in providing food, clothing, rent, utility assistance and other aid to the needy within our parish boundaries. They also distribute food baskets at Christmas and Thanksgiving. Membership is open to all. Meetings are held on the third Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m.

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## Family Life & Vocation Ministries

***St. Matthew Family Life and Vocation Ministries promote the understanding of family life and consecrated/religious life through various programs.***

**Bereavement Support** is a ministry that St. Matthew the Apostle would like to develop to provide for the spiritual and emotional needs of parishioners that have lost family members. Please contact Kim in the parish office if you are interested in being a part of this ministry.

**Joy Ministry** is a vibrant senior community for persons age 50 or older, or with spouses 50 or over, centered around parish life and offering numerous opportunities for spiritual growth, social interaction, intellectual development, community service and fun.

**Family Life & Marriage Ministry** nurtures and enriches family life and marriage. The purpose of this ministry is to support family life and to meet the needs of married and engaged couples looking for a deeper relationship with God and each other. Activities include marriage preparation for engaged couples, celebrating wedding anniversaries and organizing couples' groups searching for further spiritual growth. The ministry collaborates with other ministries to facilitate family enrichment and prayer opportunities.

**Respect Life Committee (Right to Life)** instructs, encourages and facilitates the fight to restore fundamental respect and protection for life, from conception to natural death through prayer, education and service.

**St. Matthew the Apostle School** serves children six weeks old through 7th grade. The school is a community of educators committed to helping all students develop their God-given potential. Through religious, academic and service programs they seek to instill the knowledge and love of the Gospel of Jesus Christ with a curriculum that challenges the students to meet high academic standards.

**Vocations Ministry** promotes vocations to the priesthood, religious life (sisters and brothers), consecrated life and the diaconate here at St. Matthew the Apostle Parish by creating a culture of openness to a life of ministry and by offering prayerful support.

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### **Spirituality & Evangelization Ministries**

***St. Matthew Spiritual Growth and Evangelization Ministries strive to invigorate and energize our faith community by providing educational opportunities, promoting stewardship and spreading God's word.***

**Adult Faith Formation and Bible Study Groups** meet at different times and days and study different aspects of the Bible. The parish has a number of different groups that are currently active.

**Come Lord Jesus Study Group** is a program that follows the Liturgical calendar and actively studies the Sunday readings in a small group setting.

**Family Faith Formation (CCD)** provides instruction to the children and families of the parish in the Catholic faith and prepares them for the reception of the Sacraments and growth in spiritual life. The CCD team consists of coordinators, teachers and assistants.

**Holy Name Society** is a ministry for men and women of all ages founded to increase devotion to His Most Holy Name, to the Holy Rosary and to assist in the spiritual needs of the parish as directed by the pastor. The Holy Name Society recites the Rosary once a month live on WVOG (600 AM) at 6:00 pm.

**Lord Teach Me to Pray** is a three-part Ignatian prayer series developed to meet the desire of men and women for on-going spiritual growth as they respond to the call to holiness and to a deeper commitment to Jesus Christ.

**Missionaries of St. Therese** Circle 65 meet every second Monday of the month to pray for the missions and to St. Therese, say the Rosary and socialize.

**Sacramental Preparation Teams** help form individuals to receive the Sacraments including Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation and Marriage.

**Sacred Heart Ministry** welcomes the presence of the Heart of Christ, entrusting your home to him. Seek to draw from His open Heart, the many graces so necessary for families today.

**St. Matthew Rosary Groups** meet at various times throughout the week, check the bulletin for times and locations. Currently groups are meeting Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings outside around the Mary statue. The rosary is recited before the 9:15 a.m. weekday Masses.

**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)** is the process of welcoming new members of the Catholic faith. RCIA begins each September and continues through the Easter season.

**Spirituality Group for Men** is currently in development. Will focus on building the faith of men of the parish.

**Spirituality Group for Women** is currently in development. Will focus on building the faith of the women of the parish.

**St. Matthew Group Retreats** may be offered in the future, at the parish, or at an off-site.

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