

Welcome to The Church of the Sacred Heart

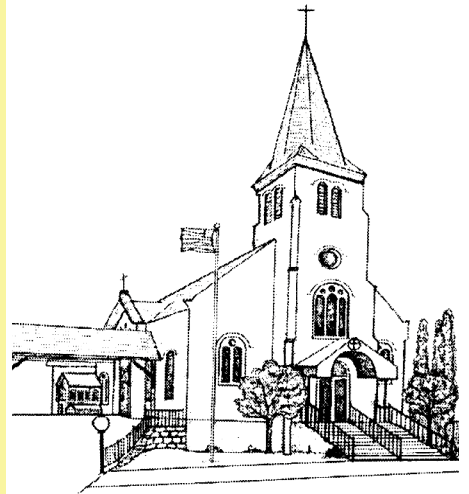
The Mother Church of East Central Minnesota

Parish Office / Mailing Address:
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Phone: 320.358.4370 Fax: 866.779.1580 Wey Hall: 320.358.3145

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Weekend & Weekday Masses

Saturday-Temporarily Suspended
Sunday 9:00 am
Wednesday 9:00 am

Private Prayers:

Wednesdays, Thursdays and Sundays-
8:30-Noon

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

Every Wednesday after 9:00 am Mass
until Noon

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Confessions will be heard by request
after mass on Wednesdays or
by appointment.

Clergy

Pastor:

Fr. Shane Stoppel-Wasinger

Assisting Priest:

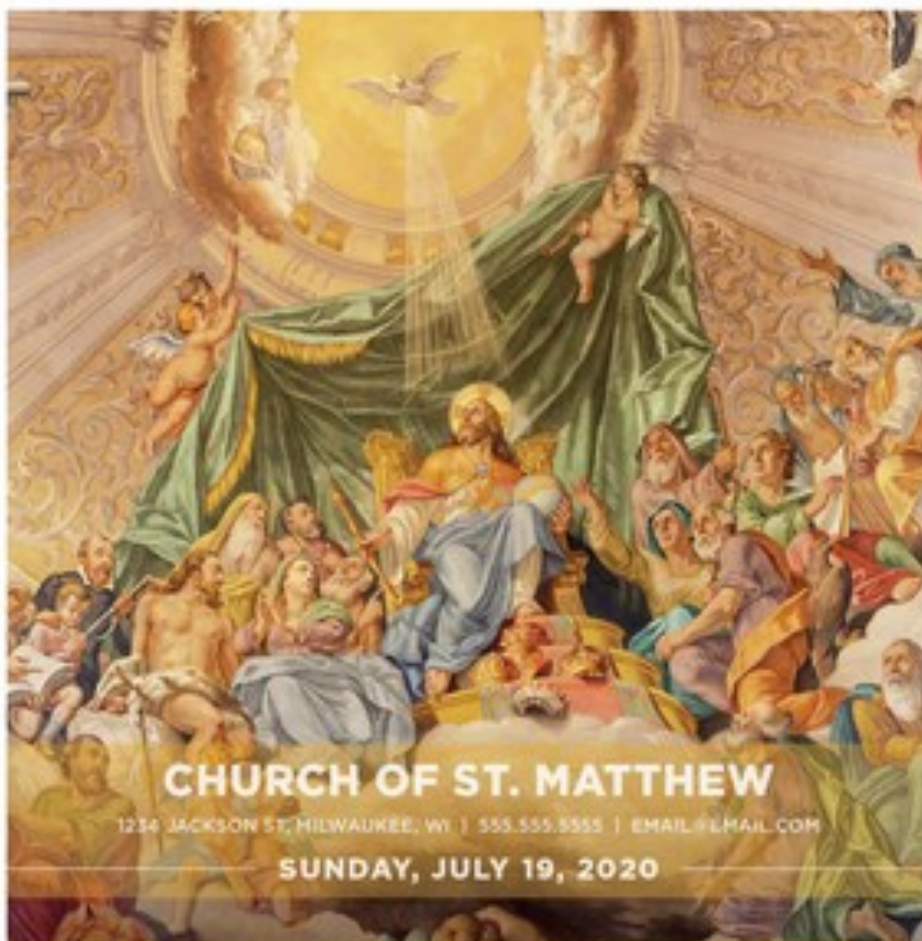
Fr. Chuck Brambilla
Fr. Thomas Fitzgerald

Office Hours:

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday
8:00 am. - 12:00 pm.

Parish Staff Contacts

Admin Asst: Marsha Marcussen
Bookkeeper/ Music: Steve Yurick
Faith Formation: Open
Minister Scheduling: Amy Prickett
612-716-9147



CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW

1234 JACKSON ST, MILWAUKEE, WI | 555.555.5555 | EMAIL@EMAIL.COM

SUNDAY, JULY 19, 2020

16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"The righteous will shine like the sun in the
kingdom of their Father." - Mt 13:43a

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GCD

July 19, 2020

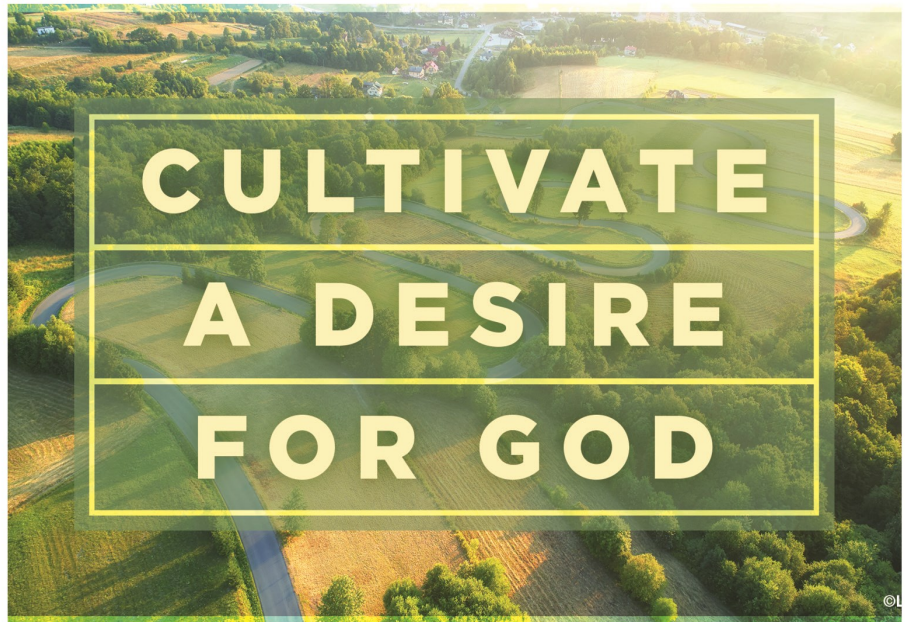
GOSPEL MEDITATION

ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

Grace and sin, belief and unbelief, good and evil all exist together. While we wrestle with these two dimensions of reality inwardly, they are also witnessed in the actions and words of others. Many, all too often, beat themselves up because of their sin. We are also all too quick to pass judgment on others whom we perceive to be in error and walking down a wrong path. God does not make rash judgments, nor should we. Patience is the order of the day as is an understanding that God is ultimately the caller of the shots.

Our faith tells us that while God allows the wheat and the weeds to coexist, the wheat will always triumph. As long as we can cultivate even a little faith and a small measure of desire for God, He can produce abundant blessings and good things. Even when the weeds seem to have triumphed, there still may be a small measure of faith remaining that can be cultivated and grown. It doesn't take much! Unless a person totally allows the weeds to reign, there is always to be found at least a small measure of faith, good, light, and love. With even this small portion, God can produce abundant growth.

Admittedly, it is easy to give into



the weeds, and they grow very quickly. Any gardener knows this to be true. Sometimes, the weeds even seem more attractive and vibrant. Dealing with weeds can quickly become a losing battle, and they can look healthier and grow faster than the very plants we are trying to protect. It's easy to give into them and let them win. While God will deal with all things in due time, we are responsible for keeping things in check in the short term. It is our task to keep our eyes fixed on God's presence and mercy. We are asked to avoid judgment. And, it is not our responsibility to

deal with the weeds in someone else's garden, only our own. One garden is enough responsibility for anyone.

Weeds have power. We have to realize this. While they can appear attractive and healthy, they can quickly choke us off from God's presence. Our task is one of maintenance and cultivating a desire for God. Even the smallest kernel of faith can grow into something wonderful. In God's time, the eternal harvest will come, and we will no longer have to worry about the weeds.

"He replied, 'No, if you pull up the weeds you might uproot the wheat along with them. Let them grow together until harvest; then at harvest time I will say to the harvesters, "First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles for burning; but gather the wheat into my barn." ' " - Mt 13:29-30

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JULY 19, 2020

Recently, I came across this Biblical passage:

Philippians, 2: 4-5 states "Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus".

This passage spoke to my heart, therefore feeling the need to share the message to others. During these everchanging times, I have witnessed the resistance to change. It is a natural reaction to fear change. What will happen to me? How will this change affect me? Our first instinct is to protect ourselves. But what if we made a change to our mindset? What will happen to others if I do not make this change? How will this change affect others?

Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus

Even though we have slowed our schedules down considerably, I still see others desire to rush. Jesus showed his patience over and over again. Now, we need to show our patience by standing back and allowing social distancing or wearing a mask. It is difficult no doubt! But this is the time to be thinking of others. Could they be at high risk? Shouldn't everyone have the right to feel safe as they move outside their homes? How can we place others interests in front of our own?

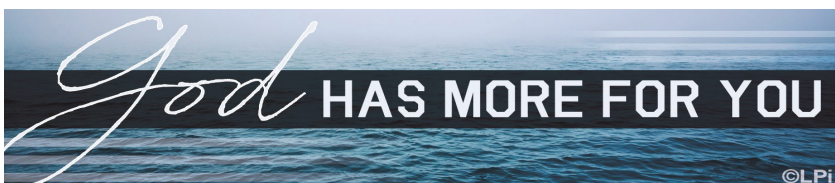
In another passage I have pondered is from Luke, 6:31: "Do onto others as you would want them to do onto you", otherwise known as the Golden Rule. Our faith leads us to be disciples of Christ. To love how Jesus loves, to give how Jesus gave and above all, to place our faith in the hands of the Father.

The fruits of the holy spirit; faithfulness, love, patience, kindness, peace, self-control, gentleness, and joy, need to be nourished. Just like in last week's Gospel: "The seed sown on rocky ground is the one who hears the word and receives it at once with joy. But he has no root and lasts only for a time. When some tribulation or persecution comes because of the word, he immediately falls away. The seed sown among thorns is the one who hears the word, but then worldly anxiety and the lure of riches choke the word and it bears no fruit. But the seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold."

Let us hear God's word and then move forward each day to become a better disciple than the day before. If God came back right now, and asked us if we were thinking of others and helping others and loving others during this Pandemic... would we be giving responses which will lead us to our eternal life in heaven? Is there no greater time than now, to look at how our actions are keeping others safe or how we are helping those who are in need? Our actions should be a reflection on how God is asking us to live.

Praying for you, blessings and stay safe,

Fr. Shane



Please Pray for our Confirmands who will be confirmed at a special Mass on July 26.

Lord, You send out Your Spirit to touch the hearts of all people, so that they may believe in You and in Jesus whom You sent. Look kindly on all candidates for Confirmation as they listen to Your voice. Open their hearts to Your Spirit and bring to fulfillment the good work that You have begun in them.

As we prepare these youth for Confirmation, make each of us an instrument of Your love. Teach us to appreciate what is holy in others, and to be patient with what we do not understand. Deepen our faith in the Gospel and help us to pass it on by our example. We pray that You will continue to guide us and sustain us. Through Christ our Lord, Amen.



We Thank Sue Roth, who is stepping down as our Faith Formation Coordinator. Thank you again Sue!

We are in need of a Faith Formation Coordinator in order to continue our F.F. program. Please call Fr. Shane at 651.402.9005 for more information.



We have an opportunity for someone who would like to step up to the plate and be the Funeral Luncheon Coordinator. Please contact the office for further details. Thank you.



Father God, Your Word says the prayer of faith shall heal the sick. We come to You today in Faith asking that you heal us from every sickness, disease, and illness. We receive our healing by faith. In Jesus name AMEN.

Continued prayers for:

Al Walz, Greg Walz, Sue Roth, Janet Yurick, Gerald Mollberg, Margarette Brooker, Jim Thorn, Judy Strandmark, Jim Kirchberg, Shirley Kirchberg, Traci Bartz

July 25 & 26 Celebrants

Fr. Fitzgerald	St. Gregory	5:00 p.m.
Fr. Shane	Sacred Heart	9:00 a.m.

August 1 & 2 Celebrants

Fr. Shane	St. Gregory	5:00 p.m.
Fr. Shane	Sacred Heart	9:00 a.m.