

From: **St. Matthew's Episcopal Church** office@stmattsbldm.org
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Contents



The Good News

July 24, 2020

Rector's Ramblings

"I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ."

Philippians 1:3-6

This verse sums up my thoughts as the end of my tenure as Rector of St. Matthew's approaches. I do thank God and remember you with joy in my prayers for your sharing in the gospel from that first day of January 2010 until now. It seems like 10 years has passed in the blink of an eye, and as I replay these years in my mind the highlight reel is filled with great memories of worship and service together. It is impossible for me to express the love that Amy, Sarah, Liam, and I have for you all. Each of you has touched our lives in a unique and special way. While Our family will always carry St. Matthew's in our hearts, we will continue to pray for you and your ministry.



Worship on July 26th

This will be Fr. Dave's last Sunday at St. Matthew's. There will be a 7:30AM service on this day, but no 10AM service.

On Sunday afternoon, the Bishop will celebrate a service of Confirmation and Pastoral Leave-taking at 4:30PM. Fr. Dave will be preacher at this service, and it will be streamed.

Following the service, there will be a brief (socially distant) reception for Fr. Dave. All are invited.

Continuing Worship Guidance

St. Matthew's is authorized to have 40 individuals present at any given service.

With this new information we will be returning to our regular, or normal, schedule Sunday morning. There is no need to make reservations for these services.

For the near future, coffee hour must take place outside and is tough to plan on short notice. A short fellowship time will take place outside following the service.

The guidance regarding masking and singing (below) still holds.

1. All are reminded to take their own health issues into consideration w

While the "until now" is upon us, I echo St. Paul in being confident that God will continue the good work that has been begun in you and bring it "to completion by the day of Jesus Christ." While each rector's tenure is ultimately temporary, the work of God continues among you. It is your faithfulness to the Gospel that truly matters in the parish, and as you remain in the faith of Jesus Christ, St. Matthew's will continue to be blessed to be a blessing to the community.

As I prepare to surrender my ministry among you, I would offer one final piece of pastoral advice - pray. Pray daily, if not more often, for your parish and its leadership during this transition. Pray for the next rector, even though you do not know their name at this time. Pray for each other. And selfishly, please pray for me and my family as we transition to a new ministry.

May you all know the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

With love and blessings,

Dave+

Ministry Links

St. Matthew's Webpage
The Episcopal Diocese of
Springfield
Rector's Blog (new)
Find us on Instagram--stmatssblm

1. All are reminded to take their own health issues into consideration w deciding whether to attend. Also, stay home if you have any symptoms are not associated with a chronic health issue.

2. Most services will be spoken/read services. A cantor is allowed to sing but congregants are asked to refrain.

3. All individuals who are in the building must maintain physical distance have a face covering, unless actively leading a portion of the service.

4. Each service will have color coded seats in the Nave. Families are allowed to sit together.

5. Only the restrooms in the addition will be available for use.

6. **The 10AM service will continue to be streamed "live" on Facebook but "drive-through" communion has been discontinued.**

July 26th, the 18th Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 12):

The Bulletins for 7/26 will be sent out tomorrow, Saturday. The connections below only have last week's information.

Sunday Eucharist Outline is [here](#).

Full Service is [here](#).

Added Note: Please bring your own printed copy, or electronic device from home to avoid cross contamination in the Nave.

Both bulletins have the music included, so there is no need to touch the hymnals.

The Daily Devotional Reading
is available by clicking of the link below:
[Good News Daily](#)

Birthdays & Anniversaries July 26 - August 1

Anniversaries

Birthdays

Halian Littlefield
Allan Horsman

Dedications for this week:

*The Memorial Candle is lit in remembrance of
Justin G. Palm
by his parents, Melody and Chuck*

Proper 12, July 26th

O God, the protector of all that trust in thee, without whom not

Twitter--@BloomingtonSt

is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us thy mercy
that, thou being our ruler and guide, we may so pass through the
temporal, that we finally lose not the things eternal; through Jesus
Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy
Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

Contact Information

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 1920 E. Oakland Avenue, Bloomington, IL 61701

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