

A couple of personal items this week.

1. So, it is finally happening! Sarah and Nick will be married tomorrow at 10:30 AM. Though we will be a small crowd in the building, I thank you for all your support for them, and ask that you hold them in your prayers tomorrow.

Their wedding bulletin is [here](#).

The service will also be streamed on St. Matthew's Facebook page.

For those who might like to participate, there will be a "drive-through" receiving line from 11:15-11:30.

2. As we prepare for "reopening", I would like to especially thank our staff (paid and volunteer) and MLT for their leadership over the past months. In talking with colleagues, there is a bit of holy envy towards St. Matthew's.

So, please join me in thanking:

Den. Tim
Pat
Heidi
Amy
Jim
Gary
Roy
Susan
Justin
Shelley
Kathryn
Dede
Bill
Rex
Kia (and Georgia)
Cris
Roger

We are truly blessed by their ministries.

May God bless you all, and I hope to "see" you on Sunday.

Dave+
309-660-8515

Ministry Links

St. Matthew's Webpage
The Episcopal Diocese of Springfield
[Rector's Blog \(new\)](#)
Find us on Instagram--stmattsblm
Twitter--@BloomingtonSt



Plans for Phase III of Illinois's Reopening/Recovery

We recognize the most recent guidelines from the state regarding church attendance have been revised. However, until Bishop Daniel updates his directives, we continue to follow his present plan.

Bishop Daniel has posted a [document](#) that details his directives for the reopening of the Diocese, by region, pending announcement that the individual regions have achieved Phase III metrics. (Hopefully, this will be done on the 29th).

We will do as many services as required to meet the needs of the parish. However, please use your prudential judgment as to whether to attend services in person, especially if you have a condition that places you at increased risk.

The basic outline for St. Matthew's, with Bishop Daniel's permission is:

1. All services (with 10AM excepted) will be limited to 10 individuals (including the celebrant/officiant), and will be spoken/read services.
2. In order to ensure that no more than 10 individuals are present, the office will take reservations by email (office@stmattsblm.org) or phone (309-662-4646) (voicemail is acceptable). Reservations will open on the Monday preceding the next week's services.
3. The office will keep a rolling list of those interested in attending the different services, and notify you if an opening occurs before the service, or if your request cannot be accommodated. We ask that you be patient with us as we move in this new direction.
4. We ask that you be as flexible as possible in your requests to allow for others to participate. If you could give several options, that would be appreciated. We will attempt to honor at least one request per individual per week.
5. All individuals who are in the building must maintain physical distance and wear a mask/face covering, unless actively leading a portion of the service.
6. Each service will have color coded seats in the Nave. They will also be numbered and have the day/time of the service on them. Please choose a pew accordingly.
7. Please enter and exit via either the north door of the new addition or the east door of the Nave. To limit touching these surfaces the doors will be propped open starting 30 minutes before the service. They will be shut at the starting time and reopened following.
8. Only the restrooms in the addition will be available for use.
9. **The 10AM service will continue to be streamed "live" on Facebook. This will be the only service of Holy Eucharist that will be streamed on Sunday. In order for this service to remain "musical" it will be CLOSED to the public. Except for the Rector, all who are serving have volunteered to do so, (even staff are not required to serve at this time). If you wish to volunteer to be on the Lector or Cantor list for this service, please contact Fr. Dave.**
10. **Communion will still be distributed via "drive-through" after the 10AM for those who desire and have participated in the streaming service.**
11. The service schedule is a work in progress, and does not reflect permanent changes.
12. Again, please be patient as we all adjust to this current state of reality.

Schedule for the week beginning 31 May (Open services in Bold)

Sunday

- 8:00AM Rite I Holy Eucharist**
- 10:00AM Rite II Holy Eucharist (Closed/Streamed)
- 5:30PM Evening Prayer with Holy Communion.**

Tuesday

- 8:30AM Morning Prayer
- 5:30PM Evening Prayer with Holy Communion**

Wednesday

- 8:30AM Morning Prayer
- 5:30PM Rite II Holy Eucharist**

Thursday

- 7:30 AM Morning Prayer with Holy Communion**
- 5:30 PM Evening Prayer

This Sunday is Pentecost.

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.

A Couple of Links

[St. Bede's Breviary](#) (Daily Offices)

[Book of Common Prayer](#)

[Spiritual Communion \(Update\)](#) (An Anglican Rite).

[Prayer of Elder Paisios for the World](#) (I have found this quite helpful at the current time).

Outreach Opportunities
ITEMS-OF-THE-MONTH

Advent Time

Advent is enrolled in year 3 of a 5 year course to become a doctor. He is the son of Bishop Elias in Tanzania. In US dollars, his tuition would be \$2,273 per year. Room & Board is an additional \$1826 annually. Celebrate with the St. Matthew's family and the Outreach Committee on learning that all \$4099 has been raised/committed for this coming year's studies!

Meals

Thank you for the generous outpouring of support for this ministry. The freezer is quite full at this time.

We also have packages of Tender Mercies meals from Midwest Food Bank.

If you, or someone you know, need(s) a meal at this time please let us know, or stop by the office when it is open.

The Daily Devotional Reading

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

Worship Serving Schedule

As noted above in the Phase III Reopening/Recovery article: all servers volunteer directly with Fr. Dave for the 10AM streamed mass on Sunday.

We will resume traditional scheduling as events allow.

Thank you again, and may God bless you.

Birthdays & Anniversaries May 31 - June 6

[Anniversaries](#)

[Birthdays](#)

Martha Pitts

Dedications for this week:

The Day of Pentecost, May 31st

Almighty God, who on this day didst open the way of eternal life to every race and nation by the promised gift of thy Holy Spirit: Shed abroad this gift throughout the world by the preaching of the Gospel, that it may reach to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the same Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

Contact Information

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church