



St. Matthias Parish Office:
Effective Jun. 20, 2022 Summer Hours
 Open Mon-Thu 8:30-4:00PM; Fri: 8:30-12:30PM
 168 JFK Boulevard, Somerset, NJ 08873
 732-828-1400, fax: 732-828-0866
www.stmatthias.net

Mass Schedule (in person):
 Sat - 5PM, Sun - 8, 10 AM & 12 noon
 M/T/W/Th/F at 8:00AM
 And also on our YouTube channel
youtube.com/c/StMatthiasSomersetNJ

St. Matthias School (SMS):
 170 JFK Blvd., Somerset, NJ 08873
www.stmatthias.info 732-828-1402
School Summer Office Hours
 Mon-Thurs: 9 am– 1 pm; Fri by appointment

For all Parish emails, add @stmatthias.net
Pastor: Rev Abraham Orapankal, [abraham](mailto:abraham@stmatthias.net)
Senior Priest: Msgr. Seamus Brennan, [sbrennan](mailto:sbrennan@stmatthias.net)
 Mary Pat Burke-Grospin, Business Administrator
[mpburke-grospin](mailto:mpburke-grospin@stmatthias.net)
 Deacon Ron Caimi, *Senior Deacon*
 Kelly Counts, *Receptionist*, [kcounts](mailto:kcounts@stmatthias.net)
 Deacon Russell Demkovitz, [rdemkovitz](mailto:rdemkovitz@stmatthias.net) Juan
 Juan Diaz Flores, *Custodian*
 Nathalie Godet, *Website Coordinator*, [ngodet](mailto:ngodet@stmatthias.net)
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 Vinnie Natale, *Bookkeeper*, [vnatale](mailto:vnatale@stmatthias.net)
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 Deacon John Radvanski, [deaconjohn](mailto:deaconjohn@stmatthias.net)
 Joan Best Seamon, *Pastoral Associate for Music Ministry* [jseamon](mailto:jseamon@stmatthias.net)
 Sr Marie Therese Sherwood, *OSF, Pastoral Assoc. for Social Concerns*, [msherwood](mailto:msherwood@stmatthias.net)
 Trish Stumper, *Par. Support Secretary*, [tstumper](mailto:tstumper@stmatthias.net)

St. Matthias School (*add @stmatthiasnj.org*)
 Mary Lynch, Principal, [mlynch](mailto:mlynch@stmatthiasnj.org)
 Joseph Gidaro, Vice Principal, [jgidaro](mailto:jgidaro@stmatthiasnj.org)

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. MATTHIAS

SUNDAY, AUG 7, 2022–19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

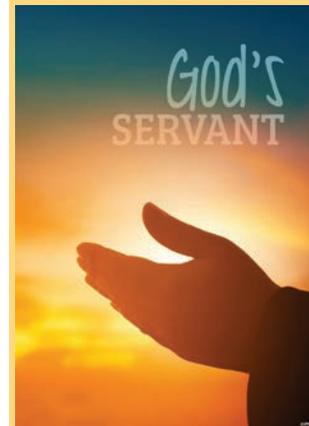


The Mass Book for 2023

The Mass book for 2023 opened on **Tuesday, August 2, 2022** in the Parish Office.

This means that you may request that the priest celebrating a Mass at St. Matthias on a specific date/time in 2023 keep a special intention of yours in his prayers during that Mass.

In consideration of other parishioners, please limit the initial number of requests to no more than 4 Masses. Thank you.



Did You Know?

The doors to St. Matthias School are just steps from the church doors, but many parishioners aren't familiar with our wonderful school.

Did you know this about St. Matthias School?

- Full Day Preschool & Kindergarten, plus Grades 1-8
- Before Care and After Care
- STEM activities in every classroom
- 1:1 Technology (Chromebooks) in K-8
- iPads in PreK
- Interactive Promethean Boards in classrooms
- Voted "Best in Somerset" 2022
- Competitive Math League
- Athletic Department
- All Faiths are Welcome!



St. Matthias School registration is now open. Our challenging academics, outstanding faculty and engaging learning environment provide children with the opportunity to grow and mature to their utmost potential.

In addition to athletics, some of the afterschool clubs, ministries and activities offered include: Drama Club, Student Council, National Junior Honor Society, Prayer Group, 3D Printing Club, Speed Stacker, Book Club, Children's Choir, and Altar Servers.

Explore our website, www.stmatthias.info, and contact Maria Kosty at 732-828-1402 or mkosty@stmatthiasnj.org to schedule a tour. We look forward to welcoming your child!

Please help us spread the word to your relatives, friends, and neighbors. ALL are welcome! Thank you!



Please select **St. Matthias Church/School** as your charity on Amazon Smile. You only need to do this once. Then always shop at www.smile.amazon.com, and we will automatically receive a portion of the purchase total. Thank you!

This Week @ St. Matthias From the Pastoral Staff

Masses are also livestreamed on our YouTube channel: [youtube.com/c/StMatthiasSomersetNJ](https://www.youtube.com/c/StMatthiasSomersetNJ)

The Church is open for individual prayer

Mon-Fri: 7:30 am to dusk, Sat: 9 am to 6pm, and Sun: 7:30 am to 1 pm, unless another service is taking place.

Sunday Aug 7, 2022

8:00AM Mass	Church
10:00AM Mass	Church
12:00PM Mass	Church

Monday, Aug 8, 2022 St. Dominic, founder of the Dominican Order

8:00AM Mass	Miraculous Medal Novena	Church
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Tuesday, Aug 9, 2022 St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, Religious & Martyr

8:00AM Mass	Church
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Wednesday, Aug 10, 2022 St. Lawrence, Deacon & Martyr

8:00AM Mass	Church
9:30AM Prayer Group 1—Holy Spirit	de Porres Rm

Thursday, Aug 11, 2022 St. Clare of Assisi, Founder, Order of St. Clare

8:00AM Mass	Church
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Friday, Aug 12, 2022 St. Jane Frances of Chantal, Founder of 85 Monasteries

8:00AM Mass	Church
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Saturday, Aug 13, 2022 St. Pontian, Pope & St. Hippolytus, Priest & Martyrs

3:30PM Reconciliation	Church
5:00PM Mass	Church

Sunday Aug 14, 2022

8:00AM Mass	Church
10:00AM Mass	Church
12:00PM Mass	Church

Bulletin Article Requests:

If you would like to send information to be included in our bulletin, please email it to bulletin@stmatthias.net by 8 AM, **MONDAY, 6 before the bulletin date** (earlier for holiday weekends). Approved content is published on a space-available basis.



Today's Gospel is a continuation of the theme from last week. Jesus told the story of the man who needed to build bigger buildings to hold all of his earthly possessions. Jesus said how he was a fool because that night his life would be demanded of him.

In today's Gospel Jesus tells his disciples to sell their belongings and give alms. He tells them that "wherever your treasure is, there is also your heart." In heaven there is "an inexhaustible treasure that no thief can reach".

Jesus is again giving the message that all our earthly possessions are fleeting. Whatever we have amassed here on earth will be left behind. As many of you know, I've worked in the death care industry for many years. It's been said many times that no one has ever seen a U-Haul trailer behind the hearse.

Our true treasures are as Jesus said, in our hearts.

Jesus also tells the story of the servants who await their master's return from a wedding. Blessed are the servants who remain vigilant on his return. Then Jesus says these very important words: "You also must be prepared. For at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come."

This portion of the Gospel is read at the vigil prayer service for the deceased. It's placement in the vigil isn't random. It's to remind all of us that none of us knows the hour that we will be called home to the father. Peter asks Jesus if this parable was for them or everyone. Jesus gives a lengthy explanation which basically boils down to it being for everyone.

What Jesus is saying to us is that we are all to live our lives prepared, because we don't know the hour we will be called home.

So we need to keep a close relationship with the Lord. We can do that through Prayers, through reaching out to help those in need, and through frequent reception of the Eucharist.

We don't want to be the person who amassed so many worldly possessions but forgot that true treasure is where your heart is.

So let's remember to live our lives prepared for that time when we will be called home.

Peace of Christ,
Deacon Russ

Readings for the Week

Monday: Ez 1:2-5, 24-28c; Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14; Mt 17:22-27

Tuesday: Ez 2:8—3:4; Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131; Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14

Wednesday: 2 Cor 9:6-10; Ps 112:1-2, 5-6, 7-8, 9; Jn 12:24-26

Thursday: Ez 12:1-12; Ps 78:56-57, 58-59, 61-62; Mt 18:21 — 19:1

Friday: Ez 16:1-15, 60, 63 or Ez 16:59-63; Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6; Mt 19:3-12

Saturday: Ez 18:1-10, 13b, 30-32; 16:1-2; Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19; Mt 19:13-15

Sunday: Jer 38:4-6, 8-10; Ps 40:2, 3, 4, 18; Heb 12:1-4; Lk 12:49-53

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, Aug 6	5:00PM	Ken Garabrant, by Barbara & family
Sunday, Aug 7	8:00AM	For All Young Adults, by The Tibay Family
	10:00AM	Darrie Christmas, by Wife, Dolores
	12:00PM	Joann Simone, by The Kowalczyk family
	(5:30PM)	Intention of Parishioners
Monday, Aug 8	8:00AM	Rudy Schaar, by the Family
Tuesday, Aug 9	8:00AM	Angela Frigiola, by Loving Family & Friends
Wednesday, Aug 10	8:00AM	Mark Anthony Marcelino, by Noel & Karen Villadolid
Thursday, Aug 11	8:00AM	Frank Lawyer, by the Family
Friday, Aug 12	8:00AM	Peter Flynn, by Flynn-Rasimowicz Family
Saturday, Aug 13	5:00PM	Dominic Fama, by the Fama Family
Sunday, Aug 14	8:00AM	Deceased Members of the Sunga/Munar Families, by Flora Sunga
	10:00AM	Hugh Scott, by St. Matthias School
	12:00PM	Tommy Nasdeo, by Debbie McDermott
	(5:30PM)	Intention of Parishioners

Pray for those who are sick...

If you or a family member are sick, please call the Parish Office or **email Kelly Counts** at kcounts@stmatthias.net to add the name to this list. Names will be listed in the bulletin for **6 weeks**. Please let us know if this time period needs to be extended. We want to know how you are doing and want to offer you the support of our prayers. *New people on our prayer list are noted in blue.*

Beth & Jay Adams	Emma Gergely	Dave Moynihan	Sr. Rosaria Shina, OSF
Erika Adams	Rose Gessner	Eleanor Nagy	Jeff Sullivan
Brandon Barbarite	Mary Gidaro	Janice Navatkowski	Jeff Tami
Carolyn Banghart	Sloopy & John Hoffman	Jean Oberlander	Angie Montalbo Tinio
Gloria Barone-Tuckey	Baby Isla-Rose Huffman	Dan O'Brien	Jerry Tongson
Edith Benko	Robert Kashinsky	Danny Ongchangco	Jeaninne Tosh
Anthony Brandi	Rose Larangeira	Paul & Doris Paetow	Regina Wellman
Barbara Butler	The Litrakis Family	Robert Pellegrino	Robert Wesner
Tara Capatosto	John Litrakis	Jim Pettit	Mark T. Worthington
Ellen Catalina	Kenneth & Kelly Magat	Christina Pietrowiak	
Michael DiMaggio	Clarissa & Kevin Magat	Ruth Piscadlo	And for all who are ill,
Mary Dolan	Al Maglio	Gabriel Rivera	homebound, elderly, in nursing
William Dolphin	King Manansala	Jaxon Rivera	care, or living with chronic
Vivian Dong	Susan & Tosh Manansala	Barbara Ruziska	illness, we pray.
Tom Duffy	Beatrice May	Maria Schwenzer	
Marion Fischer	Margaret Menendez	Lena Sciotto	
Josephine Geenty	Carol Millemann	Buddy Scott	
Claudia Gemgnani	Sabrina Moloney	Sr. Mary Amata Shina, OSF	

Pray for those who have died...

— “His mercy endures forever.” Chronicles

Irving Leong—father of Elizabeth, Christopher & Kimberly

Sincere Thanks

On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of my ordination to the priesthood, June 4th 2022, a number of parishioners at Saint Matthias sent me cards and gifts. I hope I have sent a thank you note to all those generous, thoughtful souls. But in a few cases I did not have an address and so I take this opportunity to express my gratitude for your thoughtfulness. I am particularly grateful for all those who promised a special prayer for me at this time or a remembrance in mass.

On June 5th I celebrated a mass of thanksgiving at my former parish Immaculate Conception in Somerville, and enjoyed a dinner reception organized by friends. The celebrations will continue with my family, cousins and friends in Ireland on August 21 when I will celebrate a mass in my home church, Saint Mary's Barrowhouse County Laois, where I celebrated my first mass on June 5th 1972. A family

gathering for dinner will follow at a local hotel. I will be in Ireland from August 8-30 and will spend my time on the Brennan Family farm, getting reacquainted with the work of milking cows and harvesting crops. Not that I will be working, just observing and enjoying the fresh country air. I also hope to get in many rounds of golf on some of the many golf courses in Ireland, competing with my brothers and brother-in-law. While I will be physically absent I will be with you in prayer and in spirit especially as I celebrate mass and pray my breviary. Father Abraham will bear the burden of running the parish all alone for the next 3 weeks, so please give him your full support. Enjoy these long, hot summer days.

Msgr Brennan



Reflect



Smile with Your Family



What is heaven like? Two buddies Bob and Earl were two of the biggest baseball fans in America. Their entire adult lives, Bob and Earl discussed baseball history in the winter, and they pored over every box score during the season. They went to 60 games a year. They even agreed that whoever died first would try to come back and tell the other if there was baseball in heaven. One summer night, Bob passed away in his sleep after watching the Yankee victory earlier in the evening. He died happy. A few nights later, his buddy Earl awoke to the sound of Bob's voice from beyond. "Bob, Is that you?" Earl asked. "Of course it's me," Bob replied. "This is unbelievable!" Earl exclaimed. "So tell me, is there baseball in heaven?" "Well, I have some good news and some bad news for you. Which do you want to hear first?" "Tell me the good news first." "Well, the good

news is that yes there is baseball in heaven, Earl." "Oh, that is wonderful! So what could possibly be the bad news?" "You're pitching tomorrow night." 😊

Get ready for the Heavenly trip. During his sermon, an evangelist asked all who wanted to go to heaven to raise their hands. Everyone in the audience did so--except for one elderly man sitting near the front of the auditorium. The preacher pointed his finger at him and said, "Sir, do you mean to tell us that you don't want to go to Heaven?" "Sure I do," the old man answered, "but the way you put the question, I figured you were getting up a busload for tonight!" 😊



Marriage Tune-Up

"You also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come." (Luke 12:40)

Who knows the future? Be ready; don't procrastinate. Tell your beloved of your love now.

Parenting Tune-Up



Aug. 6 is the anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima, Japan. It is a somber anniversary even though it may have shortened the war. Teach your children how to make peace. What about making a Family pledge of Nonviolence? Here's a sample: "Each of us, members of the -----family, commits ourselves as best we can to become non-violent and peaceable people. To Respect Self and Others: To respect myself, to affirm others and to avoid uncaring criticism, hateful words, physical attacks, and self-destructive behavior."

Reflect



"Faithful and prudent stewards" in the parish

"Who, then, is the faithful and prudent steward whom the master will put in charge of his servants to distribute the

food allowance at the proper time? Luke 12: 32-48

Every so often there are people who want to make a spectacular gift to the church - something big, something that can be seen and identified; usually it's a gift in memory of a deceased loved one. No one ever says "just apply this to the budget." That's understandable. There's nothing flashy about paying the light bill or getting the carpet cleaned. But there are folks in every parish who are willing to do just that: the unspectacular, the unflashy, the unnoticed that makes a big difference in the lives of the parish and the people it serves.

For example, there's the woman who is very well off who writes a sizable check to the parish every week to be used to buy gift cards at the local supermarket for poor and struggling families. And then there's the college professor who volunteers her time every year to teach the fourth grade religious education class. She'd be a great addition to the adult education and RCIA programs, but she finds that teaching the kids is a great leveler in her life. She says her rambunctious group makes her a better teacher - and a better Christian.

There is the man who welcomes parishioners to the first Mass on Sunday mornings and handles the details of hospitality. After Mass he goes through the church picking up bulletins from the benches and straightening out the hymnals and he makes sure the rest rooms are clean for the next Mass. He's one of the city's most successful and respected attorneys. He's always generous in giving legal help to the parish - but he shies away from taking a prominent leadership position. No, he says, this is where the need is and he's happy to be able to help fill it.

We are all called to be "faithful and prudent servants" of the abilities and resources that the "Master" has entrusted to us and will call us accountable for - not for the breadth and depth of those gifts but for what we have done with those gifts for the sake of God's Kingdom. Humility is the grace to be grateful for what we have as gifts from God and to happily take every opportunity to put what we have to use for the good of others. For the Gospel "servant," no service that we can render is beneath us or demeaning to our dignity. The faithful servant/disciple will lovingly use whatever he or she possesses to bring God's reign of hope, justice and reconciliation to reality in this time and place of ours.

"I will go on doing what I'm doing - no matter what!"

A woman once approached **John Wesley** (1703-1791), Anglican theologian and the founder of the Methodist denomination, with an interesting question: "Suppose you knew for certain that you were going to die and meet your Maker at the stroke of midnight tomorrow," she said. "How would you spend your time between now and then?" Wesley replied, "Well, madam, just as I intend to spend it now. I will preach this evening at Gloucester and again at five tomorrow morning. After that I will ride to Tewkesbury to preach in the afternoon and meet with the societies in the evening. Then I'll go home to dinner, talk and pray with the family as usual, retire to my room at 10 p.m., commend myself to God, lie down to rest and wake up to GLORY!"

When he had been similarly questioned, **Martin Luther** (1483-1546), replied, "Even if I knew that tomorrow the world would go to pieces, I would still plant my little apple tree and pay my debts."

Centuries before Luther and Wesley, **Francis of Assisi** (1182-1226), was hoeing his garden when one of his brothers in Christ put the same question to him. "Come what may," he answered, "I would finish hoeing my garden."

In a sense, the Scripture readings for today invite each member of the gathered assembly to become engaged in a similar reflection. What would you do if you knew that this day would be your last? What would you not do? How would you prepare to meet God? Where would you go? With whom would you spend your remaining hours?

Stand Ready!

The movie *West Side Story* is a modern version of Shakespeare's play *Romeo and Juliet*. The setting is New York City, and the hero and heroine are Tony and Maria, two young people who belong to different ethnic groups at war with each other. Nevertheless, Tony and Maria fall in love with each other. As the story reaches its climax, they are about to escape together from the hatred of the West Side when their dreams are destroyed by Tony's tragic death in a senseless fight. Tony never expected that night to be his last. He was anticipating his marriage to Maria and the new life they would enjoy together. He had even borrowed money to get them started. Tony was making plans to live, not to die.



But, as today's Gospel points out, death often comes in sudden and unexpected ways. Jesus said to his disciples "You, too, must stand ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect"

The End of the World Predictions

Hal Lindsey, in his book *The Late Great Planet Earth*, which sold over 30 million copies, predicted in his book that 40 years after the establishment of the country of Israel, Jesus would return to earth and 7 years after that return the Church would be raptured to heaven. The problem is this: Israel was established in 1948. Christ should have returned in 1988 and the church should have been raptured in 1995. In 1997 Hal Lindsey was forced to change his predictions. In the late 80's, the Russian president, Mikhail Gorbachev, was considered by some Bible prophecy pundits as the Antichrist. But Gorbachev, far from becoming a world dictator, turned out to be the single person most responsible for the demise of Soviet Russia. Televangelists Jerry Falwell and Pat Robertson predicted that Russia was the great Gog and Magog mentioned in Ezekiel 18. When Russia collapsed in the early 90's, losing its status as a world power, they were forced to change their positions. Harold Camping, president of Family Radio, predicted the world would end in September of 1994. Grant R. Jeffrey wrote a popular book called *Armageddon* stating that the year 2000 was the most likely date of the world's end.

We know that all these predictions were false ones. These false predictions suggest that we are to get ready for Christ's second coming by trying to do the will of God every day through love and service and being reconciled with God and God's children on a daily basis, as suggested by today's Gospel where Jesus challenges his disciples to trust the Father's promise to give them eternal happiness in His kingdom. But they are to be prepared at all times, because the Son of Man will come at an unexpected hour, either at the moment of their death or at the end of the world. Using the master-thief parable Jesus warns us to be on our guard so that the thief (the devil), may not steal our treasure of Divine grace by his temptations. Using the master-servant parable, Jesus reminds us always to do the will of God by obeying Jesus' commandment of love, offering humble and sacrificial service to others.

Readiness – Watchfulness

A U.S. Army officer told of the contrast in his pupils during two different eras of teaching at the artillery training school at Fort Sill, Oklahoma (Home of the Field Artillery). In 1958-60 the attitude was so lax that the instructors had a problem getting the men to stay awake to hear the lectures. During the 1965-67 classes, however, the men, hearing the same basic lectures, were alert and took copious notes. What made the difference in the

class of 65? They knew that in less than six weeks they would be facing the enemy in Vietnam.

We need to be vigilant and ready to face the Lord. One of the traditional means for remaining alert is prayer. The most important element in prayer is listening to God – an attitude of attention to the "tiny whispering sound" of the Lord (1 Kings 19:11-12). Such attentiveness demands that we set aside a quiet time every day during which we can tune our ears to the Divine sounds of love, harmony and peace. Let us recall the words of the Book of Revelation: "Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will enter his house and dine with him and he with me" (3:20).

Bad Experiences made them ready for Greatness!

Who would have thought that relatively powerless persons could bring shifts in history?

Gandhi, an unsuccessful lawyer, adapted the teachings of the Sermon on the Mount and the writings of Tolstoy and became the key to bringing independence to India, because he was ready.

Rosa Parks, in refusing to move to the back of the bus in Montgomery, sparked the beginning of the civil rights movement of the '50s and '60s. She was a rather inauspicious person to take such a critical action, but she was ready.

Nelson Mandela was sentenced to life in prison. He was released to bring a shift in the politics of South Africa at a critical juncture when many thought either that change would never come or if it did, it would be accompanied by a vast bloodbath. The transition to a more just society came relatively peacefully under his leadership after he was unexpectedly released from prison. Prison had prepared him, made him ready.

Mother Teresa, a rather unpretentious nun, was restless in her soul at the sight of the poor who are homeless and discarded. She touched the conscience of the world and is now a canonized saint for her simple act of trying to rescue people from the streets who might otherwise die. She was ready!

We all can learn from such ordinary men and women who became extra ordinary – all because they allowed their negative experiences not to discourage them, but to enable them to soar high in seizing the moment to do something beautiful.



Reflect



“To have faith is to be sure of the things hoped for...”

When Alexander the Great came to the throne, he was a worried man as he was surrounded by enemies who wanted him dead, so he did his best to put down the rebellion in his own kingdom. However, while leading his army in battle he fell seriously ill. His physicians were scared to treat him because if he didn't recover they would be suspected of malpractice and put to death. Only one man, Philip, was ready to take the risk and prepared the medicine for the king. Alexander received a letter from an enemy of Philip stating that Philip had taken a bribe from a Persian king to poison his master. Alexander read the letter and slipped it under his pillow. When Philip entered his tent with the medicine Alexander took the cup of medicine and drank it, at the same time handing the letter to Philip. When Philip read the letter he threw himself at his master's feet but Alexander assured him that he had complete confidence in his integrity. After three days he was completely cured. Given the fact that he had numerous enemies, Alexander was trusting against the odds. But his decision to take the medicine was not a shot in the dark. Although he couldn't see what would happen, he believed in what he could see – Philip's loyalty – and acted on that belief.

Today's second reading contains the only explicit definition of religious Faith in the Bible: *“Faith is the realization of what is hoped for and evidence of things not seen.”* The Letter to the Hebrews was trying to bolster the Faith of the Jewish Christians (Hebrews), by appealing to the example of their ancestors who had believed in promises yet to be fulfilled. The chief example of strong Faith is found in their patriarch Abraham, a wealthy but childless pagan in Ur of the Chaldees (modern Iraq). Abraham heard the voice of God summoning him to a different land, where God promised to grant him many descendants. By Faith Abraham left his homeland, accepted God's promise that his descendants would form a great nation and was willing to sacrifice his son Isaac at God's command. Despite obstacles and setbacks, Abraham stayed obedient, *“for he thought that the One Who had made the promise was trustworthy.”* The first century Jewish Christians were ostracized from the religious institutions (sacrifices, priesthood, rituals), of main-line Judaism. To bolster their Faith, the author provided a complex treatise showing that, in their new life in Christ, they were more than compensated for what they had lost. They were given the assurance that Christ's promises for his believers exceeded the promises given to their Jewish ancestors.

Pray

July Baptisms

The Catholic Community of St. Matthias welcomes the following children who were baptized in July, 2022. We support them with prayers and ask their parents to nurture them so they can grow to be faith-filled people of God and our parish community.

Logan James Kasics
Olivia Grace Samson
Michaela Rae Samson
Isabella Ophelia Stainer
Rosaline Mary Trynosky



**Silver & Gold
Wedding
Anniversary
Celebration**



You are cordially invited to celebrate your 25th or 50th Wedding Anniversary with the Church of Metuchen and renew your marriage vows with Bishop James F. Checchio at a special Evening Prayer Service at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi in Metuchen on **Sunday, October 30, 2022 at 3:30 PM.** Registration is required. Please register online at: <https://www.diometuchen.org/silver-and-gold-anniversary-celebration>. If you are unable to access, please contact the Family Life Office at 732-562-1543 or amarshall@diometuchen.org. **Registration will close on October 7, 2022.** Although no fee is required, in the past many Jubilarians couples have given a donation of gratitude to the Church in memory of this special occasion. Donations of Gratitude may be made online at <https://www.diometuchen.org/donation-silver-and-gold> or by calling 732-562-1543.

Learn



2022-2023 GIFT for K-8 Religious Formation

We are happy to invite all parents/families with children in K-8, who are not attending a Catholic school, to register their children for our wonderful religious education/formation program for 2022-2023.

The 2022-2023 registration form for our K-8 family-based parish program of religious formation, G.I.F.T.

[Growing In Faith Together], is currently available to complete online at 2022-2023 GIFT for K-8 Religious Ed

<https://www.stmatthias.net/faith-formation/>

Please register your family/children in grades K-8. This year we are planning to offer 3 sessions each month: on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings at 6:30PM *without a meal* because of the COVID-19 precautions; and on Sunday afternoons at 2PM, again without a meal. You choose which one of the three sessions to attend.

The fees for the program are noted on parish website page. Please register online; the fee can also be paid online. **Please note: GIFT is required for all children in grades 1-8 who are not attending a Catholic school; it is optional for kindergarten students. It is required for non-Catholic school children also during the sacramental prep years.**

Attention 2nd Graders: First Eucharist Preparation 6466-2023

For all families in GIFT and for those who are students at St. Matthias School who have (baptized) children who are in 2nd grade [fall 2022] or older who desire to receive the Sacraments of First Reconciliation/First Eucharist in 2023, sacramental preparation is required through the parish-you **must register online**. Typically, classes are held for all children and at least one parent on certain Sunday mornings in the cafeteria or the St. John XXIII room [school building] and certain classrooms from 10:30AM -11:30AM. We are planning in person sessions for 2022-2023. Be sure to register early.

The sacramental preparation fee for this program is \$80. The 2022-2023 Registration for **First Eucharist/First Reconciliation are available online at <https://www.stmatthias.net/first-eucharist-first-reconciliation/>**

Questions? Please email Dee Nann at dnann@stmatthias.net or call the Parish Office, 732-828-1400.

Attention 7th & 8th Graders: Confirmation Preparation 2022-2023

Register for Confirmation Preparation as soon as possible!

Families who have a 7th or 8th grader in either St. Matthias School or the GIFT program and desire to have their child prepare for the sacrament of Confirmation need to complete the **2022-2023 Confirmation registration form online**, available at <https://www.stmatthias.net/confirmation/>

A parent meeting for 7th grade parents will be held in November for all registered 7th graders-or those in Year 1 of Confirmation Preparation who may be a bit older. **Questions?** Please email Dee Nann at dnann@stmatthias.net

Serve

🎵 Take Note! 🎵

This is a special message for all of you from our St. Matthias Music Ministry....

We hope that you are having a great summer so far. ☺

And, while you are relaxing at the pool or on the beach, may we suggest that you start dreaming about how awesome it would be if you joined one of our choirs in September, especially those of you who really like to sing or play an instrument.

Maybe you sang in your high school or college choir or a Capella group. Maybe you've been on stage. Or maybe you just want to get your (gloved) hands on one of our really cool handbells.

Maybe you are the woman at the 5:00 Mass who has such a great voice and I can never get to at the end of Mass to talk to you because I'm playing my postlude.

Or maybe you are the man at the 12:00 Mass who sings every single communion song by heart. I see you and hear you, but can't personally invite you -I'm just not quick enough!

We are really proud of our unique Music Ministry experience of music, prayer, spirituality, learning and friendship. And it's all just waiting for you!

Just imagine how good we would sound and how much more inspirational and gospel-centered our choirs would be if YOU or YOUR CHILDREN joined us. Or if you joined TOGETHER.

So sit back and relax for now, rest your voices and your fingers. Don't worry. We'll let you know when we are starting up again.

Get ready... See you in September?

Intrigued? Questions... jseamon@stmatthias.net

Connect



Social Justice Ministry Works towards Justice for All



The new St. Matthias Social Justice Ministry seeks to educate and engage our parishioners to promote a more just and peaceful society. This includes following Jesus' example of treating all people with love, respect, dignity, and mercy.

We are planning several ways to help educate and support our parish community to work for peace and justice, including organizing parish-wide events on social justice issues and Catholic social teaching. With the help of guest speakers and instructive media resources, these engaging events will provide a chance for constructive discussion, sharing, and learning. We are also planning to disseminate information on Catholic social teaching through our website, the parish bulletin, and other communication vehicles.

In addition, it is our intention to partner with other Catholic or interfaith organizations to further the goal of social justice.

Our next meeting, by Zoom, will be August 23 at 7:30 pm. All are welcome! If you would like more information about the ministry or our meetings, please contact Lorraine Farr at lvfarr7@gmail.com or Rose Peng at rosepeng@optonline.net.

Give (and Receive!)

Stewardship Totals for Fiscal Year July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023				Last Year's Total
Current Month	In-Pew/Mail	Parish Giving*	Weekly Total	Weekly Total
Week 1 - July 3, 2022	\$10,494.53	\$14,756.25	\$25,250.78	\$22,576.25
Week 2 - July 10, 2022	\$13,907.27	\$24,267.75	\$38,175.02	\$33,857.28
Week 3 - July 17, 2022	\$7,533.00	\$12,160.25	\$19,693.25	\$22,864.25
Week 4 - July 24, 2022	\$8,810.00	\$11,941.25	\$20,751.25	\$21,278.66
Week 5 - July 31, 2022	\$8,584.00	\$9,639.25	\$18,223.25	\$21,517.25
			Month-to-date Total	July Total Last Yr
			\$103,870.30	\$122,093.69
			Current Year-to-date Total	Year-to-date as
			\$103,870.30	\$122,093.69

Stewardship Reflection Aug 7, 2022 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

“For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be.” Luke 12:34

Jesus encourages us to build up our treasure in heaven. The world encourages us to build up our treasure in real estate, investments, and material goods. How much time are you investing in building up a worldly treasure? How much time are you investing in building up a heavenly treasure? To invest more in the things of heaven, you must let go of some of the things of this world.

Reflexiones — 07 de agosto 2022 - 19º Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

“Porque donde estén sus tesoros, allí estará su corazón» Lucas 12:34

Jesús nos anima a construir nuestros tesoros en el cielo. El mundo nos anima a construir nuestros tesoros en bienes raíces, inversiones y bienes materiales. ¿Cuánto tiempo invierte en construir su tesoro terrenal? ¿Cuánto tiempo invierte en construir su tesoro celestial? Para invertir más en las cosas del cielo, debe dejar ir algunas de las cosas de este mundo.



Part-Time Summer Help

St. Matthias Church is looking for part-time summer janitorial help. This is a perfect opportunity for a responsible high school or college student. For more details, please contact Mary Pat Burke-Grospin at 732-828-1400 ext. 121 or mpburke-grospin@stmatthias.net.

SAINT MATTHIAS SCHOOL POSITIONS AVAILABLE 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR

1. AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM ASSISTANTS needed. The program begins at 2:30 and ends at 6:00. Compensation is hourly. Working options include 1, 2 or 3 days per week. Some duties include homework help, indoor and outdoor games, playtime, overall monitoring of children in grades Pre-K 3 to 8.

2. SUBSTITUTES needed to teach Pre-Kindergarten 3 to grade 8. Candidates must have a minimum of 60 college credits and be available Monday thru Friday.

3. FOOD SERVICE WORKER SUBSTITUTES needed to join our cafeteria staff in September. This is a part-time position. We are looking for candidates that are friendly; able to establish and maintain effective working relationships with coworkers, students and staff; and able to work as a team in a fast paced environment. No experience necessary.

Duties and Responsibilities

Primary responsibilities include providing assistance to the school lunch program by preparing and serving food to school students and staff.

In addition, your duties include restocking and maintaining supplies for the kitchen and cafeteria, as well as maintaining and cleaning the kitchen, equipment, and washing dishes. You are required to stand and be able to lift up to 35 pounds.

Prior to employment, all candidates for all positions will be:

- *Fingerprinted
- *Subject to a background check
- *Complete the "Protecting God's Children" Program
- *Be in compliance of the school's vaccination requirement

If interested, please contact Joe Gidaro, jgidaro@stmatthiasnj.org OR Mary Lynch, mlynch@stmatthiasnj.org



Music in the Meadow

Friday, August 19, 2022
6:30PM- 7:30PM

St. Francis Center for Renewal B395 Bridle Path Rd. Bethlehem, PA 18017, 610-867-8890,
e-mail – sfcr-info@stfrancisctr.org

Music in the Meadow, featuring local musician Robbie Lawrence. Pack your picnic basket and bring a lawn chair, blanket or mat to the meadow behind the White House convent to hear Robbie and friends perform a variety of popular standards on winds and accordion. Admission is free, but call or email for reservation so we know how many for which we should plan. Thank you.



Parish Leadership

Parish Pastoral Council:	Co-Secretaries:	Ana Kelly, Ex-Officio	Parish Finance Council:	Joe Porter
Co-Chairs:	Frank Rees	Fr. Abraham, Ex-Officio	Kester Hector, Chair	Joan Pritchard
Rose Peng, rosepeng@optonline.net	Marilyn Wegg		Finance Council	Mary Pat Burke-Grospin, Ex-Officio
John Taylor, jptaylor1068@yahoo.com	Stephan Busono	Trustees:	@stmatthias.net	Fr. Abraham, Ex-Officio
	Anne Marie Francis	Isaac Peng	Barry Dusault	
	Bill Isele	Marge Richards	Gwen Orłowski	
	Maria Tapia-Burch		Audrey Francis	

About St. Matthias (please contact the staff members on the cover for up-to-date information)

Parish Registration — Welcome to St. Matthias! Please register on our website. www.stmatthias.net/join-us, or visit the Parish Office.

Marriage — Registered parishioners should contact the parish office a year before the desired wedding date.

Baptism — Baptismal Preparation Sessions are held four times a year for registered parishioners. Please contact the parish office before the baby is born. The sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on the second and fourth Sunday of each month, except during Lent.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) - If you are interested in becoming a Catholic or completing the Sacraments of Initiation--Baptism/Confirmation/Eucharist, please call the Parish Office.



St. Matthias School is a PreK3 through 8th grade school rooted in faith, inspired by love, and dedicated to academic excellence. Before and After School Care Programs are available. Come visit! Contact 732-828-1402 to schedule a tour.



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Apply online prior to an event for on-the-spot interviews!

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