



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)
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 Dolores R. Nann, Pastoral Associate for Faith Formation, [dnann](mailto:dnann@stmatthias.net)
 Vinnie Natale, Bookkeeper, [vnatale](mailto:vnatale@stmatthias.net)
 Silvia Nizama, Housekeeper
 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)

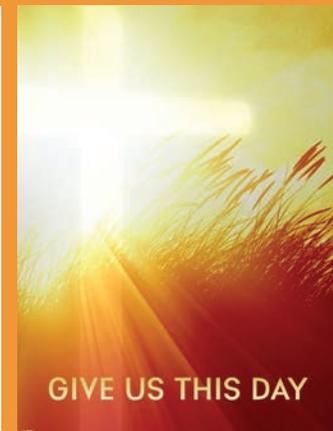
St. Matthias School (add @stmatthiasnj.org)
 Mary Lynch, Principal, [mlynch](mailto:mlynch@stmatthiasnj.org)
 Joseph Gidaro, Vice Principal, [jgidaro](mailto:jgidaro@stmatthiasnj.org)

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. MATTHIAS

SUNDAY, JULY 31, 2022–18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Parish Survey Deadline

Today, Sunday, is the last day to complete the Parish Survey, telling us your priorities for physical improvement of our church building. Should we: 1) Refurbish the pews, 2) Install a new floor, 3) Add bathrooms, 4) Create a new, covered, gathering space on the side of the church (Narthex), 5) Clean the walls, or 6) Replace the church windows with stained glass windows, or do something else? Complete the anonymous survey TODAY at: www.stmatthias.net/parishsurvey



Feast of St. Ignatius Loyola



Today, July 31, 2022, we celebrate 500 years since the conversion experienced by St. Ignatius Loyola, the founder of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits).

St. Ignatius invites us to find God in all things. That means we have to pay careful attention to how the Spirit is moving in each moment of our daily lives. We have to take a magnifying glass to the seemingly ordinary, seeking to encounter the Divine.

That's why the Examen, an Ignatian approach to prayer, is so powerful. In it, we're invited to encounter God, express gratitude for the gift and gifts of each day, and to commit to make up for any mistakes we may have made.

The Examen is a flexible prayer, too, responding to the signs of the times. It can be prayed by young children at the end of each school day, by workers at the end of the work day, and by all of us at any time during the day. It can take a

few minutes or be longer if you choose.

Here are the steps to pray the Examen:

1. Place yourself in God's presence. Give thanks for God's great love for you.
2. Pray for the grace to understand how God is acting in your life.
3. Review your day — recall specific moments and your feelings at the time.
4. Reflect on what you did, said, or thought in those instances. Were you drawing closer to God, or further away?
5. Look toward tomorrow — think of how you might collaborate more effectively with God's plan. Be specific, and conclude with the "Our Father."

To try versions of the Examen for more specific topics, eg., Civic Life, Anti-Racism, Ecological Justice, Refugees, Covid, Global Citizenship, Social Media, etc., visit: <https://www.jesuits.org/spirituality/the-ignatian-examen/>



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

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 Jul 31, 2022

8:00AM	Mass	Church
9:30AM	ServiceWorX	Café & Off Site
10:00AM	Mass	Church
12:00PM	Mass	Church

Monday, Aug 1, 2022 St. Alphonsus Maria De'Liguori—Founder, Bishop Doctor of the Church

8:00AM	Mass Miraculous Medal Novena	Church
8:30AM	ServiceWorX	Café & offsite

Tuesday, Aug 2, 2022 St. Eusebius of Vercelli— Bishop & Martyr

8:00AM	Mass	Church
8:30AM	ServiceWorX	Café & offsite

Wednesday, Aug 3, 2022 St. Lydia—regarded as St. Paul's 1st convert to Christianity in Europe

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

Thursday, Aug 4, 2022 St. John Maria Vianney— Patron of Parish Priests

8:00AM	Mass	Church
8:30AM	ServiceWorX	Café & offsite

Friday, Aug 5, 2022 Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major

8:00AM	Mass	Church
8:30AM	First Friday Holy Hour	Church
8:30AM	ServiceWorX	Café & offsite
10:30AM	Spring Hill Mass Msgr. Brennan	Offsite

Saturday, Aug 6, 2022 Feast—Transformation of the Lord

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

Sunday Aug 7, 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.



World Youth Day - Lisbon, Portugal - July 28th - August 7th, 2023



“Thus will it be for all who store up treasure for themselves but are not rich in what matters to God.”

I seem to toggle between two approaches to Life – a spirit or an attitude of scarcity and abundance. Scarcity can come from a perspective that we will never have enough money, stuff, or time to do what we want and enjoy. We’re convinced that we’ll never have enough. We will never be content unless we have more of the right thing!

Or we can approach life with a spirit of abundance. We’ll never want for anything if we truly believe. “The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want.” Then any moment can be viewed as a blessing, and every possession and comfort becomes a gift.

I find it’s ironic that the more I realize I have, the less I seem to need. But the more I think I need, the less I seem to have.

To put this into perspective, I invite you to reflect upon these words taken from “The Paradox of Our Age” (His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama)

We have bigger houses but smaller families

More conveniences, but less time

We have more degrees, but less sense

More knowledge, but less judgment

More experts, but more problems

More medicines, but less healthiness.

We’ve been all the way to the moon and back

But have trouble crossing the street to meet the new neighbor.

We built more computers to hold more information to produce more copies than ever

But have less communication.

We have become long on quantity,

But short on quality.

These are the times of fast foods, but slow digestion.

Tall man but short character.

Steep profits but shallow relationships

It’s a time when there is much in the window, but nothing in the room.

So what’s in the room of your mind and heart? The Gospel teaches us that we can have the life that we want, by being present to the life you have been given through your Baptism, and continuously nourished through the Eucharist! When you receive Jesus’ Body and Blood, I encourage you to receive it like it was your First Communion! Receive it knowing Jesus invites us to experience the abundance of his grace. There’s no limit to what we have been given, or how many times we’re forgiven.

The Gospel calls us to have enough awareness to live simply so others who are less fortunate can simply live, to step up - like our patron St. Matthias - to make a difference in someone’s life who is struggling to obtain enough of whatever is their deepest hunger or need.

If you’re looking for an exciting opportunity to either take many steps on an actual pilgrimage, or to share some of your treasure for a worthwhile trip by financially supporting someone’s desire to take a pilgrimage, please consider the **World Youth Day which will be next year in Lisbon, Portugal - July 28th -**

Continued on pg. 4

Readings for the Week

Monday: Jer 28:1-17; Ps 119:29, 43, 79, 80, 95, 102; Mt 14:13-21

Tuesday: Jer 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22; Ps 102:16-18, 19-21, 29 and 22-23; Mt 14:22-36

Wednesday: Jer 31:1-7; Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13; Mt 15:21-28

Thursday: Jer 31:31-34; Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19; Mt 16:13-23

Friday: Na 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7; Dt 32:35cd-36ab, 39abcd, 41; Mt 16:24-28

Saturday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9; 2 Pt 1:16-19; Lk 9:28b-36

Sunday: Wis 18:6-9; Ps 33:1, 12, 18-19, 20-22; Heb 11:1-2, 8-19 or Heb 11:1-2, 8-12; Lk 12:32-48 or Lk 12:35-40

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, Jul 30	5:00PM	Frank Sciotto, by Lena & grandchildren
Sunday, Jul 31	8:00AM	Rose Trimarchi, by Anthony LaTorre & family
	10:00AM	Grace McLaughlin, by Mary Pat Burke-Grospin
	12:00PM	Health & Blessings for Jean Alix Jolly & Troy Battle, by The Godet Family
	(5:30PM)	Intention of Parishioners
Monday, Aug 1	8:00AM	Eileen Lenihan, by Barbara
Tuesday, Aug 2	8:00AM	Teofila S. Bathan & Nellie A. Bathan, by The Bathan Family
Wednesday, Aug 3	8:00AM	Rose Marie Trimarchi, by Linda & Anthony Alfano & family
Thursday, Aug 4	8:00AM	Dennis Stuewe, by Anne Marie Francis
Friday, Aug 5	8:00AM	Brian Schaar, by Parents
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

Pray for those who are sick...

If you or a family member are sick, please call the Parish Office or **email Kelly Counts** at kcoun@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
Erika Adams
Brandon Barbarite
Carolyn Banghart
Gloria Barone-Tuckey
Edith Benko
Anthony Brandi
Barbara Butler
Tara Capatosto
Ellen Catalina
Michael DiMaggio
Mary Dolan
William Dolphin
Vivian Dong
Tom Duffy
Josephine Geenty
Claudia Gemgnani
Emma Gergely

Rose Gessner
Mary Gidaro
Sloopy & John Hoffman
Baby Isla-Rose Huffman
Rose Larangeira
The Litrakis Family
John Litrakis
Kenneth & Kelly Magat
Clarissa & Kevin Magat
Al Maglio
King Manansala
Susan & Tosh Manansala
Beatrice May
Margaret Menendez
Carol Millemann
Sabrina Moloney
Dave Moynihan
Eleanor Nagy

Janice Navatkowski
Jean Oberlander
Dan O'Brien
Danny Ongchangco
Paul & Doris Paetow
Robert Pellegrino
Jim Pettit
Christina Pietrowiak
Ruth Piscadlo
Gabriel Rivera
Jaxon Rivera
Barbara Ruziska
Maria Schwenzer
Lena Sciotto
Buddy Scott
Sr. Mary Amata Shina, OSF
Sr. Rosaria Shina, OSF
Jeff Sullivan

Jeff Tami
Angie Montalbo Tinio
Jerry Tongson
Jeaninne Tosh
Regina Wellman
Robert Wesner
Mark T. Worthington

And for all who are ill, homebound, elderly, in nursing care, or living with chronic illness, we pray.

Pray for those who have died...

— “His mercy endures forever.” *Chronicles*

Frank Kane—brother of Rita Stuewe

From the Pastoral Staff

World Youth Day - Lisbon, Portugal - July 28th - August 7th, 2023 (con't. from pg. 2)

August 7th, 2023. Our Bishop will lead us on this pilgrimage to Lisbon, Portugal, and desires your presence on this journey! To learn more about the trip, please visit the **Diocesan Web page:** <https://diometuchen.org/wyd> Or you can contact Sue Lenczewski or myself by emailing smyle@stmatthias.net

This trip is for teens 10th grade or older and young adults. Parents are welcome to attend. The price is \$4,289 pp. double occupancy, including airfare, hotel, transportation in Europe, WYD fees, most meals, taxes, and guides. The hotel is the Lisbon Marriot. All attending are encouraged to additionally purchase international health and travel insurance. I'm looking forward to sharing the treasures of abundant life with you and encountering the expansive and diverse Catholic community – both here in Somerset and hopefully in Portugal! Deacon John

Reflect



Smile with Your Family



Blessing of Old Age! A pious man who had reached the age of 105 suddenly stopped going to synagogue. Alarmed by the old fellow's absence after so many years of faithful attendance the Rabbi went to see him. He found him in excellent health, so the Rabbi asked, "How come after all these years we don't see you at services anymore?" The old man looked around and lowered his voice. "I'll tell you, Rabbi," he whispered. "When I got to be 90 I expected God to take me any day. But then I got to be 95, then 100, then 105. So I figured that God is very busy and must have forgotten about me... and I don't want to remind Him." 😊

Lawyer's greed and doctor's greed: A doctor and a lawyer were attending a cocktail party when the doctor was approached by a man who asked advice on how to handle his ulcer. The doctor mumbled some medical advice, then turned to the lawyer and remarked, "I never know how to handle the situation when I'm asked for medical advice during a social function. Is it acceptable to send a bill for such

advice?" The lawyer replied that it was certainly acceptable to do so. The next day, the doctor sent the ulcer-stricken man a bill. The lawyer also sent a bill to the doctor. 😊

The greedy man and the genie. A man is walking down the beach and comes across an old bottle. He picks it up, pulls out the cork and out pops a genie! The genie says, "Thank you for freeing me from the bottle. In return I will grant you three wishes." The man says "Great! I always dreamed of this and I know exactly what I want. First, I want one billion dollars in a Swiss bank account." Poof! There is a flash of light and a piece of paper with account numbers appears in his hand! He continues, "Next, I want a brand new red Ferrari right here." Poof! There is a flash of light and a bright red, brand-new Ferrari appears right next to him! He continues, "Finally, I want to be irresistible to women." Poof! There is a flash of light and he turns into a box of chocolates. 😊



Marriage Tune-Up

Natural or national disasters can bring out the best in humanity as we rally to help those in need. A marriage crisis can also prompt a couple to sacrifice for each other or honestly deal with a recurring problem. Don't wait for a disaster, however, to test your love. Prevention is better.

Parenting Tune-Up



"One's life does not consist of possessions." (Luke 12:15) How many "toys" does your family have? For adults it may be electronics, for kids it may be stuffed animals, dolls, or cars. Challenge the family to reduce by 10 % or even just one item.



The Mass Book for 2023

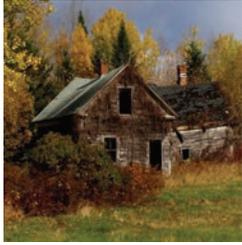
The Mass book for 2023 will open on **Tuesday, August 2, 2022.** in the Parish Office.

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 that 4 Masses. Thank you.

A Last Will and Testament

The parable of the rich man and his storage barns. Luke 12: 13-21



An old man lived quietly and contently in a cabin in the woods. He was beloved by the people of the town. His door was always open to anyone in need; he taught generations of children the wonders of the woods and streams and pond.

One day the old man was approached by a group of businessmen. A vein of valuable copper had been discovered on his plot of land. They wanted to buy his property. Money meant nothing to the old man; he just wanted to live in peace in his little cabin. He declined their offer. A fortune was to be made here, they argued, as well as jobs for the people in the town. But the old man would not budge. When people heard about the copper and the prosperity it would bring to their town, they turned on the old man. Their anger grew. They finally threatened him, “Unless you’re out of this place by sunset, we will drag you out.”

Sunset came, and the old man was still in his cabin. When the mob came to the cabin, they were met at the front door by the town’s minister. “The old man realizes he is going to die before this over,” the preacher told them, “and he asked me to come out on his behalf and read you his last will and testament.” The crowd fell silent and waited impatiently as the preacher began to read from a piece of paper.

“I leave my fishing rod to you, Pete,” the preacher read from the old man’s will. “You caught your first bass with it when you were seven. I leave my rifle to you, Jim. I remember how I taught you to shoot with it. I leave my tin whistle to you, Sara, grateful for all the beautiful melodies you would play on it.”

And so the list went on. The old man left his few possessions — his leather boots, his knife, his cooking pot, his worn Bible — to the person it would mean the most to.

And one by one, the townsfolk hung their heads in shame and returned to their homes in the silence of the night.

Today’s Gospel challenges us to look at what we consider wealth: is it the amount of “stuff” we amass in our “barns” or is it the satisfaction and productivity our possessions enable us to experience? Often something’s true worth has nothing to do with its monetary value or the momentary pleasure it gives us. Its value is in the memories it preserves, in the time it saves us for more important and joyful pursuits, in its enabling us to experience the selfless and affirming love of God in the good it enables us to do for family and friends. The old man risked his life to make his neighbors understand that perspective of true wealth in their own lives. Jesus calls us to take inventory of our lives and the things that “clutter” them and refocus our attention on the things of God: compassion, mercy, forgiveness, consolation.

Sandy Hook Promise

No one understands the terrible grief that the families of the victims of the shootings at the elementary school in Uvalde, Texas are suffering than the parents of the children massacred at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut in December 2012.

Nicole Hockley and Mark Barden each lost a young son at Sandy Hook. Determined that no families should experience such horror, they co-founded the Sandy Hook Promise Foundation within a month of the deaths of their children. Vowing to “choose love, belief, and hope instead of anger,” Sandy Hook Promise focuses on turning tragedy into transformation through conversations and action. As well as working to enact responsible laws to end the epidemic of gun violence in America, Sandy Hook Promise offers free school programming to decrease bullying and train students how to report potential threats. The foundation’s two signature programs are “Start With Hello” for K-12 students and “Say Something” for grades six and up. The programs are based on school violence research that shows that most school shooters were bullied and left warning signs before committing atrocities. The foundation has now trained over 11 million young people and adults in all 50 states to recognize the signs. Sandy Hook Promises’ work has been credited with averting shootings in several schools around the country.

Nicole Hockley knows the “unspeakable pain” of the parents of the children murdered in Uvalde, a pain “they will endure for the rest of their lives.”

“My heart bleeds for the parents whose children are not coming home and for the families of the adults who also won’t be coming home. I’m overwhelmed with compassion for the Robb Elementary school community that will never be the same because of the void left by 19 innocent children and two adults.

“Whenever there is a tragedy like this, I am re-traumatized. I relive the murder of my son, his classmates and educators. The sadness and anger are crushing.”

“Nearly a decade after my devastation, more parents are going through similar devastation — victims of gun violence. Sadly, this tragedy is only the latest in the dozens of mass shootings since Sandy Hook. Ms. Hockey has offered to go to Uvalde to meet with families to “try to talk them through the unimaginable darkness of this moment. And let them know that while it will cast shadows over the rest of their lives, even in the shadows, there can be hope.”

(Cont’d on next page)

Reflect

Sandy Hook Promise (con't.)

[NBC News, May 24, 2022]

Every life, at some point, experiences challenges that can break us, but by God's grace, we survive and move on — but as soon as we are able, we box them up and store them away in our “barns.” The parents of Newtown realize that their unimaginable pain can be the means for ending the scourge of gun violence and a wellspring of support for families who are broken by such violence. To create Sandy Hook Promise required the selfless generosity of the Gospel: to give when such giving requires reliving a trauma we would rather keep “boxed” away, to give not only from our extra but from our poverty, to give in gratitude for God's grace even in the most hopeless and devastating experiences of loss and heartache.



Money: An Idol or a Tool?

We are living in a culture that caters to our desire for immediate gratification. It encourages us to amass possessions, and in many ways it thrives on deceit. Hence, Paul directs our attention to those treasures that endure, warning that greed for wealth and influence is idolatry and that the faith-life of a believer requires Christ as its first priority. Baptism is our participation in the death and Resurrection of Jesus. Paul reminds us that, since we have been raised with Christ through Baptism and are going in a Heavenly direction, we have to “put to death immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire and the greed that is idolatry” (Colossians 3: 5). The desires of the human heart cannot be satisfied by what is here today and gone tomorrow because we have been made for “what is above” (Colossians 3: 1). For Paul, the whole process of joining Christ in glory revolves around “taking off our old self with its practices and putting on the new self, which is being renewed..., in the image of its Creator” (Colossians 3: 9-10). Although power, influence and possessions come and go, our new self will endure because it is grounded in the power of the risen Lord.

Bible teacher Howard Hendricks tells about dining with a rich man from a blueblood Boston family. Hendricks asked him, "How in the world did you grow up in the midst of such wealth and not be consumed by materialism?" The rich man answered like this: "My parents taught us that everything in our home was either an idol or a tool." That's the difference: money as an idol or a tool, money as a servant or a master, money as a means or an end. Industrialist Armand Hammer once said,

"Money is my first, last and only love." If so, that is sad. Money is only an instrument, not the symphony itself.

Dr. Carl Menninger, the world-renowned psychiatrist, was talking on one occasion to an unhappy but wealthy patient. He asked the patient what he was going to do with so much money. The patient replied, “Just worry about it, I suppose.” Menninger asked, “Well, do you get that much pleasure from worrying about it?” “No,” responded the patient, “but I get terrified when I think of giving some of it to somebody else.” Then Dr. Menninger went on to say something quite profound. He said, “Generous people are rarely mentally ill.” (David A. Renwick, <http://www.2preslex.org/So20217.htm>)

I didn't say that. Dr. Carl Menninger said it. "Generous people are rarely mentally ill." He is right. People who cannot share with others have deep-seated problems. If your level of giving to the work of God and the service of others requires no sacrifice, then you have Jesus locked in a cupboard, and he is not really living in every part of your life. In today's Gospel Jesus' parable, God calls such people "fools."

\$100 Million Divorce Money and \$20 for Church and Charities!

Did you read about the couple in Florida who had been married twenty-one years and were getting a divorce? The terms of the settlement called for the woman to be able to maintain "a reasonable lifestyle." Since the couple listed their assets at \$100 million, here's what the judge decided: She could fly to New York once a month to get her hair fixed; she would receive \$2,600 a month to eat out; and she would receive a liberal expense account for gasoline, oil, and maintenance of her \$100,000 Mercedes. In addition, she was to receive, each month: \$10,446 for vacations; \$6,452 for clothing; \$1,592 for groceries; \$1,440 for local beauty parlors; \$1,407 miscellaneous; \$171 for pet care; and \$20 for Church and charities. ("The Messenger," Bacon Heights Baptist Church, Lubbock, Texas, 1991.)

Is there something wrong with this picture? One hundred million dollars and she's giving \$20 a month to Church and charities? I believe Christ would say to her, "You fool!" Wealth is for sharing. Sure, there is satisfaction in the little luxuries of life, but not as much as being involved in something great and lasting.



Reflect

What does each Get?"

A 6th grade teacher posed the following problem to her arithmetic classes: "A wealthy man dies and leaves ten million dollars. One-fifth is to go to his wife, one-fifth is to go to his son, one-sixth to his butler, and the rest to charity. Now, what does each get?" After a very long silence in the classroom, little Joey raised his hand. The teacher called on Joey for his answer. With complete sincerity in his voice, Joey answered, "A lawyer!"

He's probably right. Where there is a will, there is often a lawsuit. Someone in the crowd listening to Jesus said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me."

"Yes, God is there, but those fellows don't know it!"

A teacher was talking to a class of little boys about the presence of God in daily life. He asked them if God is everywhere, and they correctly answered, "Yes." In an effort to get the matter closer to their own personal living, he named actual situations. Is God in the Church? Yes. Is God in the home? Yes. On the street? Yes. Is God in the city prison? Silence. That one had them stopped. Finally one boy came up with as good an answer as I've heard. "Yes, God is there, but those fellows don't know it."

That was this man's trouble, wasn't it? God was in his life, but he didn't know it. God was in his fruits, God was in his fields, God was in his goods. God was everywhere except in his gratitude.

Pray



Altar Servers

Altar Server news:

On Sunday, July 3 we honored senior altar servers Nicholas G and Mekai M. They are off to college after serving the parish for 8 years. We are proud of their commitment to St. Matthias and wish them good luck in their new endeavors!

New servers are beginning this summer and into the fall. We welcome fifth graders Ava G, Victoria L, Brandon C and Joanna R. They started in July on their journeys in the altar server ministry. Thanks to all for sharing your time and talents!



Senior Servers- Nicholas G & Mekai M. They have served for 8 yrs., and are off to college in the fall.



To the Left & Below are the new 5th grade servers who began in July.

They are Ava G., Victoria L., Brandon C., and Joanna R.



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

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.



Caregivers /Care Support Group Gathering

Co-chairs Sister Marie Therese and Donna Kahora invited members of our Caregivers/Care Support Group to gather for lunch at Stagehouse Tavern. After meeting by Zoom all year, it was refreshing to reconnect in person, and catch up on what is happening in each other's lives. Seated from Right to Left: Elaine Grykien, Linda Piscado, Louise Karakowski, Sr. Marie Therese, Donna Kahora, Georgeanne Crowell, Lorraine Walkiewicz, Lena Sciotto, and Marilyn Shinski.



During this coming year, the group will have in person meetings in the parish office. For information about this Support Group, please contact Sr. Marie Therese: msherwood@stmatthias.net or 732-828-1400, ext. 114.

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	\$0.00	\$8,810.00	\$21,278.66
Week 5 - July 31, 2022	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$21,517.25
<i>Please note: The Parish Giving amount for July 24 will be added to next week's bulletin.</i>			Month-to-date Total	July Total Last Yr
			\$91,929.05	\$122,093.69
			Current Year-to-date Total	Year-to-date as of Jul 31,
			\$91,929.05	\$122,093.69

Stewardship Reflection Jul 31, 2022 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Take care to guard against all greed, for though one may be rich, one's life does not consist of possessions.” Luke 12:15

The Gospel message is contrary to modern culture that continually tries to convince us that our joy comes from the material things we possess. That the more we acquire, the happier we will be. Jesus shows us that our true joy comes from our “invisible” gifts like love, mercy and forgiveness. True joy comes from “emptying” ourselves, giving of ourselves rather than always taking. We are called not to hoard but to share. True joy comes from living a grateful and generous lifestyle; become more “God-centered” and less “self-centered.”

Reflexiones — 31 de julio 2022 - 18º Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

“Estén atentos y cuidense de toda forma de avaricia; porque aun cuando alguien tenga abundancia, su vida no consiste en tener bienes” Lucas 12:15

El mensaje del Evangelio es contrario a la cultura moderna que continuamente trata de convencernos de que nuestra alegría viene de los bienes materiales que poseemos. Que mientras más cosas adquirimos, más felices seremos. Jesús nos muestra que nuestra verdadera alegría viene de nuestros dones “invisibles” como el amor, la misericordia y el perdón. La verdadera alegría viene de “vaciar” nosotros mismos, dando de nosotros en lugar de tomar. No somos llamados a atesorar sino a compartir. La verdadera alegría viene de tener un estilo de vida agradecido y generoso; de transformarnos para estar más “centrados en Dios” y ser menos “egocéntricos”.

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 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



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.

St. Matthias School Summer Office Hours

Effective June 20, 2022

Monday through Thursday: 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Friday: Closed or by appointment. 732-828-1402

St. Matthias Parish Office Summer Hours

Effective June 20, 2022

Monday-Thursday 8:30AM—4:00PM

Friday—8:30AM-12:30PM



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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