



**St. Matthias Parish Office:**

Open 8:30-6:00PM Mon-Fri  
168 JFK Boulevard, Somerset, NJ 08873,  
732-828-1400, fax: 732-828-0866,  
[www.stmatthias.net](http://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](https://youtube.com/c/StMatthiasSomersetNJ)

**St. Matthias School (SMS):** open Monday thru Thursday 9:00-1:00 and CLOSED on Friday. (beginning June 21)

For all Parish emails, add @stmatthias.net

**Pastor:** Rev Abraham Orapankal, [abraham](mailto:abraham@stmatthias.net)  
**Parochial Vicar:** Rev. Msgr. Joseph Curry, [jcurry](mailto:jcurry@stmatthias.net)  
**Priest-in-Residence:** Msgr. Seamus Brennan  
Mary Pat Burke-Grospin, Business Administrator  
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Ana V Kelly, Pastoral Associate for Marketing & Development, [akelly](mailto:akelly@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)

Phyllis Stone, Pastoral Associate for Liturgy/RCIA & Admin. Assistant to the Pastor, [pstone](mailto:pstone@stmatthias.net)

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**St. Matthias School (add @stmatthiasnj.org)**

Elena Malinconico, Principal, [emalinconico](mailto:emalinconico@stmatthiasnj.org)

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# THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. MATTHIAS

## SUNDAY, JUNE 27, 2021 –

### Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### Highlights—This Week

**Service WorX** begins today at 9:30AM

**Commissioning of New Parish Pastoral Council** members today, Sunday, at 10:00AM Mass

**1200PM Mass**—The cafeteria will not be available for “overflow” parishioners at the 12:00PM Mass today. Our Altar Servers will be honored at this Mass. See pg. 7.

**Camp Invention** begins tomorrow in the school & continues the rest of the week starting at 8:30AM.



#### Last Chance to Participate!!!

Have you participated in the St. Matthias School Annual Fund for 2020/2021? Our fiscal year ends on June 30. Don't miss this opportunity to be a contributing member of our parish school community for this fiscal year!

We are very proud of our parish school and the amazing work by the teachers and staff. When faced with the unprecedented challenges caused by the pandemic, not only did they respond, but they excelled at adapting, changing, improving and successfully teaching our children and youth in-person, full-days, five days a week. And they simultaneously taught the students who were unable to attend in-person. Our faculty and staff are true HEROES and we celebrate them!

Join us in celebrating them by making an end-of-the-fiscal-year gift to the St. Matthias School Annual Fund. Donations can be made by check (made payable to “St. Matthias School Annual Fund”), and either mailed or dropped off at the school or parish office or in the collection basket at Mass today. They can also be made through Parish Giving at [www.parishgiving.org](http://www.parishgiving.org) (search for St. Matthias Church, Somerset.) You will be able to designate SMS Annual Fund once you reach our page.

If you would like to designate your donation specifically to help us finish purchasing the last few Promethean Boards for the classrooms, you may designate that on the check or donate at: <https://charity.gofundme.com/en/campaign/sms-somerset>.

Don't forget to check if your employer matches donations. You might be able to double or even triple your donation!

Thank you for joining us in celebrating our wonderful parish school!



Please start you Amazon shopping at: [www.stmatthias.net/Amazon](http://www.stmatthias.net/Amazon)

## This Week at St. Matthias

- **All Masses** will be celebrated **in-person** (overflow in the cafeteria).
- **Masses** will also be **livestreamed on our YouTube channel: [youtube.com/c/StMatthiasSomersetNJ](https://www.youtube.com/c/StMatthiasSomersetNJ)**

The Church is open for **individual prayer** Sun-Fri from 7:30 am to 7pm & Sat from 9 am to 7pm, unless another event is taking place (Mass, Funeral, Wedding, etc.)

### Sunday, Jun 27, 2021

8:00AM Mass Church  
9:30AM Service WorX—Wk. 1 John XXIII & Cafe  
10:00AM Mass Church  
10:00AM Commissioning of the Pastoral Council  
12:00PM Mass Church

### Monday, Jun 28, 2021

8:30AM Camp Invention 2021: Recharge!  
Pre—K classrooms  
8:00AM Mass Church  
8:30AM Miraculous Medal Novena Church  
8:30AM ServiceWorX—Wk. 1 Cafeteria  
6:30PM Choir Rehearsal—Jill Church

### Tuesday, Jun 29, 2021

8:00AM Daily Mass Church  
8:30AM Camp Invention 2021: Recharge!  
Pre—K classrooms  
8:30AM ServiceWorX—Wk. 1 Cafeteria  
7:30PM Hand Bell rehearsal Church

### Wednesday, Jun 30, 2021

8:00AM Daily Mass Church  
8:30AM Camp Invention 2021: Recharge!  
Pre—K classrooms  
8:30AM ServiceWorX—Wk. 1 Cafeteria  
9:30AM Prayer Group 1— Holy Spirit de Porres Rm  
7:30PM Parish Vocation Ministry Mtg. Zoom

### Thursday, Jul 1, 2021

8:00AM Daily Mass Church  
8:30AM Camp Invention 2021: Recharge!  
Pre—K classrooms  
8:30AM ServiceWorX—Wk. 1 Cafeteria

### Friday, Jul 2, 2021

8:00AM Daily Mass Church  
8:30AM 1st Friday Holy Hour Church  
8:30AM Camp Invention 2021: Recharge  
Pre—K classrooms  
8:30AM ServiceWorX—Wk. 1 Cafeteria

### Saturday, Jul 3, 2021

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

### Sunday, Jul 4, 2021 **Independence Day**

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](mailto:bulletin@stmatthias.net) by **12 Noon, Thursday, 9 days before the intended issue** (earlier for holiday weekends). Approved content is published on a space-available basis.

## From the Pastor

Dear Friends,

The announcement last week that Msgr. Joseph Curry will be transferred was met with lots of sadness from all of us. Fr. Joe, as he is affectionately called, has been with us for less than two years. But within this short time, he has endeared himself to our community through his unique faith-filled ministry. He has an uncanny ability to put anyone at ease with his outgoing nature and his resounding laughter that can be heard from afar!



Fr. Joe has been an invaluable help in the school, both for our teachers and our students. His love for our students was evident in the way he mingled with them and taught faith matters. He had creative ways to teach the students despite the pandemic limitations. The teachers found in him a willing tech-guru, helping with their tech problems as the teaching went remote due to the pandemic. Fr. Joe was able to bring new life to our youth ministry through his natural gift of relating to young people. Coordinating with adult mentors, he was able to keep the youth ministry going even through the pandemic, using technology and media. Both the parish and the school are truly indebted to Fr. Joe. His inspiring presence will be missed by all of us as he officially leaves on July 6 to take up his new assignment at Immaculate Conception Church, Somerville.

At the same time, we are very happy to welcome to our parish Msgr. Seamus Brennan who has been serving as a senior priest at Blessed Sacrament Church in Martinsville. As a senior priest, Msgr. Brennan comes with lots of experience, after his ordination in 1972 at Holy Trinity Cathedral in Waterford, Ireland, for the diocese of Trenton. He has served as Parochial Vicar at St. Barnabas in Bayville and at St. Philip and James in Phillipsburg. Msgr. also served as pastor of St John's in Lambertville, St. Matthews in Edison and Immaculate Conception in Somerville, and he served as Temporary Administrator of Nativity of Our Lord in Monroe Township. Monsignor's hobbies include golf, walking, and cycling. The Catholic Community of St. Matthias heartily welcomes Msgr. Seamus Brennan.

We know that any change can give rise to conflicting feelings within us. While farewell to one priest brings us sadness, welcome to another brings joy. And we trust God's Word: *"We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."* (Romans 8:28). As we remain ever grateful to the wonderful presence and ministry of Fr. Joe, we pray that Immaculate Conception Parish will be blessed and enriched as we have been by his presence. I am sure that Msgr. Brennan will be a welcome asset to St. Matthias. He is looking forward to meeting all of you and serving the needs of our parish.

Your brother in Christ,

Fr. Abraham Orapankal

## Readings for the Week

**Monday:** Gn 18:16-33; Ps 103:1b-2, 3-4, 8-9, 10-11; Mt 8:18-22

**Tuesday:** Vigil: Acts 3:1-10; Ps 19:2-3, 4-5; Gal 1:11-20; Jn 21:15-19

Day: Acts 12:1-11; Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; 2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18; Mt 16:13-19

**Wednesday:** Gn 21:5, 8-20a; Ps 34:7-8, 10-11, 12-13; Mt 8:28-34

**Thursday:** Gn 22:1b-19; Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9; Mt 9:1-8

**Friday:** Gn 23:1-4, 19; 24:1-8, 62-67; Ps 106:1b-2, 3-4a, 4b-5; Mt 9:9-13

**Saturday:** Eph 2:19-22; Ps 117:1bc-2; Jn 20:24-29

**Sunday:** Ez 2:2-5; Ps 123:1-2, 2, 3-4; 2 Cor 12:7-10; Mk 6:1-6

## Mass Intentions for the Week

<b>Saturday, Jun 26</b>	5:00PM	Joseph Doyle, by Isabelle & John Baker
<b>Sunday, Jun 27</b>	8:00AM	Ursula Morgenberger, by The Marold & Collins Families
	10:00AM	Marie Charles Pierre, by Yanick Andre
	12:00PM	Alfred Jago, by The Madison Family
	5:30PM*	Intention of Parishioners
<b>Monday, Jun 28</b>	8:00AM	Mom: Catherine & Dad: Joseph, by daughter Joan
<b>Tuesday, Jun 29</b>	8:00AM	German Bellosillo, by The Capuna Family
<b>Wednesday, Jun 30</b>	8:00AM	Barbara Craisis, by Mary
<b>Thursday, Jul 1</b>	8:00AM	Dr. Proceso Villarica, by Luzminda
<b>Friday, Jul 2</b>	8:00AM	Sadie Callender, by St. Matthias Finance Council
<b>Saturday, Jul 3</b>	5:00PM	Gabriel Jayanthakumar, by The Family
<b>Sunday, Jul 4</b>	8:00AM	Wladyslaw Stefanski, by Daughter
	10:00AM	Raquel Fischbach, by Holy Trinity Prayer Group
	12:00PM	Concetta & Luigi Mongiardo, by The Collier Family
	5:30PM*	Intention of Parishioners

\*Mass intentions for the 5:30PM Mass will combined with the that at the 12PM Mass.

## 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](mailto: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.

Beth & Jay Adams	Mary Dolan	Beatrice May	Maria Schwenzer
Elbren, Sr. & Natalia Agdeppa	Marty Dolphin	Margaret Menendez	Sr. Mary Amata Shina, OSF
Lucille Albani	William Dolphin	Gail Miranda	Sr. Rosaria Shina, OSF
Kristy Alexander	Dorothy Domenici	Dave Moynihan	Encarnacion (Gina) So
Carolyn Banghart	Josephine Geenty	Baby Ezran Natural	Alessandro Spagnolo
Maria Barreiro	Claudia Gemgnani	Patricia Nese	Dennis Stuewe
Marie Brody	Emma Gergely	Danny Ochangco	Jeff Tami
Baby Isla-Rose Callahan	Rose Gessner	Julianne Opydike	Madeline Tarantino
Tara Capatosto	Mary Gidaro	Agnes Paduch	Fred & Carolyn Vanmiddlesworth
Ellen & Frank Catalina	Emma Himey	Maria Pennington	Carmencita Ventura
Sean Clancy	Sloopy Hoffman	Jim Pettit	Eulalia Villanueva
Barbara Coan	Taylor LaCort	Christina Pietrowiak	Al Wojciechowski
Wes Coddington	Al & Rose Larangeira	Oscar Poisler	Leon Wojna
Tom Current	William Lecorchick	Anthony & Andrew Referente	Mark T. Worthington
Joseph DeFrancesco	The Litrakis Family	Kathleen & Mannix Referente	
Cenon DeGuzman	Kenneth & Kelly Magat	Chris Retz	Everyone who is ill with Covid-19
Mary Ellen Delaney	Al Maglio	Ann Ritchick	...and for all who are homebound,
Alaina Derecola	Sue Maglio-Alese	Angela Romanek	elderly, in nursing care, or living with
Surya & Juliany Dharma	Shirley Mahoney	Datius Rutashobya	chronic illness
Nancy Diaz	Susan, Tosh, & Bongking	Lettice Kinunda Rutashobya	
Jim Dolan	Manansala	Rudy Schaar	

## Pray for those who have died...

—“His mercy endures forever.” Chronicles

Adoracion DeGuzman, sister of Alma Valdez  
 Thomas Polefka, husband of Maryann  
 Daniel Del Rosario, brother of Espy  
 Carol Ann Terzino, sister of Doris Regan

## Monthly Reflection for the Year of St. Joseph: An Accepting Father



As we continue our monthly reflection on St. Joseph for the Year of St. Joseph, here's the theme for June: **Joseph, an accepting father.** Pope Francis writes in his Apostolic Letter, *Patris Corde*:

Joseph accepted Mary unconditionally. He trusted in the angel's words. "The nobility of Joseph's heart is such that what he learned from the law he made dependent on charity. Today, in our world where psychological, verbal and physical violence towards women is so evident, Joseph appears as the figure of a respectful and sensitive man. Even though he does not understand the bigger picture, he makes a decision to protect Mary's good name, her dignity and her life. In his hesitation about how best to act, God helped him by enlightening his judgment".<sup>[18]</sup>

Often in life, things happen whose meaning we do not understand. Our first reaction is frequently one of disappointment and rebellion. Joseph set aside his own ideas in order to accept the course of events and, mysterious as they seemed, to embrace them, take responsibility for them and make them part of his own history. Unless we are reconciled with our own history, we will be unable to take a single step forward, for we will always remain hostage to our expectations and the disappointments that follow.

The spiritual path that Joseph traces for us is not one that *explains*, but *accepts*. Only as a result of this acceptance, this reconciliation, can we begin to glimpse a broader history, a deeper meaning. We can almost hear an echo of the impassioned reply of Job to his wife, who had urged him to rebel against the evil he endured: "Shall we receive the good at the hand of God, and not receive the bad?" (*Job 2:10*).

Joseph is certainly not passively resigned, but courageously and firmly proactive. In our own lives, acceptance and welcome can be an expression of the Holy Spirit's gift of fortitude. Only the Lord can give us the strength needed to accept life as it is, with all its contradictions, frustrations and disappointments.

Joseph's attitude encourages us to accept and welcome others as they are, without exception, and to show special concern for the weak, for God chooses what is weak (cf. *1 Cor 1:27*). He is the "Father of orphans and protector of widows" (*Ps 68:6*), who commands us to love the stranger in our midst.<sup>[20]</sup> I like to think that it was from Saint Joseph that Jesus drew inspiration for the parable of the prodigal son and the merciful father (cf. *Lk 15:11-32*).

**\*The next Novena for St. Joseph will be Wednesday July 7, 2021 at 8:30AM, after the 8:00AM Mass.**

## Johnny Carson, Walter Cronkite & Johnny Cash

There was a television program hosted by Barbara Walters sometime back, on which she interviewed three celebrities: Johnny Carson, Johnny Cash, and Walter Cronkite. According to one viewer, Johnny Carson came across as the typical jaded playboy hedonist. Everything he said telegraphed the fact that he was living for pleasure, but, having tried everything and been everywhere, he was fed up with the whole thing. Walter Cronkite was the suave humanist, the worldly philosopher. Now retired and wealthy, he was enjoying life as best he could. He was looking at life rather philosophically, but all he really was saying was, "That's the way it is!" Johnny Cash, on the other hand, admitted his background of alcoholism and drug addiction and the fact that he had virtually destroyed a marriage and wrecked his life. But he openly said he had found Jesus. There was peace in his eyes and contentment in his voice. He spoke of a hope for the future which neither of the others had. (<http://www.pbc.org/dp/stedman/john/3848.html>).

**No doctor could have healed Johnny Cash. Only Christ could do that. Only Christ can heal a broken marriage. Only Christ can heal broken relationships within a family. Only Christ can give us hope when everyone else is telling us that there is no hope to be found. Only Christ can deliver us from sin.**



## What will we not do for our Children?

**The healings of Jairus' daughter and the hemorrhaging woman. Mark 5: 21-43**

She's up at 4 a.m. and at her computer before the boys are up. She works a couple of hours before she gets them off to school. Then it's off to the day's appointments and meetings and back before they get home; then homework, dinner and bedtime. She hits her laptop for an hour or two before going to bed herself to get a head start on the next day. She works to bring in extra money to pay the tuition for her ten-year-old at a special school for the autistic. It's a strain on her and the family budget, but this school is her son's best chance - and that's all that matters.

Another student found her unconscious in the field near the school parking lot - and just in time, the EMTs said. Now her parents sit by her bedside, praying as they never have before that she will wake up. They hadn't an inkling that she was addicted. But they are resolved that their daughter will not be just another nameless statistic in the opioid epidemic. Regardless of the time and cost, they will get her the help she needs - and they'll walk with her every step of the way on the long road to recovery.

Their weekends are spent at ball fields and hockey rinks; during the week, they shuttle their young musicians to lessons and practices. The schedule can be a grind, but the children's love of playing - whether it be with a puck or an oboe - is their joy, too. Watching their children learn what it means to be part of something bigger than themselves, and, maybe, begin to realize a dream, is at the heart of being a parent.

**What will we not do for our children? What dragon will we not slay to protect them? What chasm will we not cross to bring them to the promised land? For many moms and dads, their joys and dreams are inextricably linked to their children's. Jairus, in today's Gospel, is just such a dad: to save his beloved daughter, Jairus does not hesitate to risk his standing in the community and career to approach the controversial rabbi reputed to work wonders. A parent's complete and unconditional love is the very reflection of the love of God in our midst. Whether a parent or friend, a neighbor or mentor, we can mirror that same love in our own generosity of heart, in our own resolve to lift up the fallen, to bring healing to the suffering, to restore life to the dead.**

## “Do not be Afraid; Just have Faith!”



Ann Jillian, a three-time Emmy and Golden Globe Award-winning actress and singer, is an American actress born to Roman Catholic Lithuanian immigrant parents. Since 1985, she has added motivational speaking to her impressive list of credits, addressing business, medical, professional and women's groups with her own unique blend of humor and inspiration. Her prowess extends from the world's concert halls, to feature film and the Broadway stage. She has starred in over 25 TV movies and made hundreds of other TV appearances. Her TV movie, *The Ann Jillian Story*, which recounts her victory over breast cancer, was the #1 film of that TV season, but, more important, it delivered Ann's message about the hopeful side of breast cancer to its millions of viewers. It was in 1985 that the then 35-year-old actress made headlines when she was diagnosed with

breast cancer. On her way to the hospital to check the nature of the growth which she had noticed, she stopped at St. Francis de Sales Church and read the inscription on the door. *“The same everlasting Father who cares for you today will take care of you tomorrow and every day. Either He will shield you from suffering or He will give you unfailing strength to bear it. Be at peace then and put aside all anxious thoughts and imaginations.”* She went into the Church and prayed for the strength to accept her ordeal. The radiant trust in God and peace of mind she maintained before and after the surgery (double mastectomy), was big news in the media and a great inspiration for all cancer patients. **She trusted in Jesus' words given in today's Gospel, “Do not be afraid; just have Faith.” Actually, this phrase is repeated in the Bible 365 times.**

### Parenting Tune-Up



In reflecting back on parenting your children, remember that "You are responsible for the process in raising your children, not the outcome." Your success or failure does not depend on theirs. Don't beat yourself up or take undue pride.

### Marriage Tune-Up



Complaining can poison your marriage. Sure, there are times when your spouse does something you don't like and you should honestly share that. Other times you may just want to vent. Occasional complaining is OK, but repetitive or more than once a day makes you a sourpuss. It's hard to love a sourpuss.

## Reflect



### Smile With Your Family



**Head on a platter:** The bishop who was presiding at the pastor's golden jubilee Mass was not pleased that the pastor allowed a liturgical innovation by having a young lady dance the offertory procession in 'attractive' costumes and playing the banjo. As the "dancer" approached the altar the bishop whispered to the pastor: "If she asked for your head on a platter, she'll have it!"

**Who disturbs whom!** One Sunday at Mass as the priest was giving his homily, a little baby in the front row suddenly started crying loudly. The mother did her best to pacify the child, but nothing worked. So finally, she got up and started to walk down the aisle to take the baby into the cry room. The priest stopped his preaching, and very compassionately called out to the mother, "That's OK! You don't have to leave. The child isn't disturbing me." The young woman turned around and said, "No, pardon me Father, but you're disturbing my child!"

**A struggling graduate:** I'm enrolling in seminary college, so I can learn about miracles, like how to pay off my student loans!

**Work satisfaction:** I like work. It fascinates me. I sit and look at it for hours.

**Bringing Joy:** Some bring joy wherever they go. Others whenever they go.

### Widow of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



The whole world was saddened when Coretta Scott King, widow of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. died in a medical clinic in Mexico. What was she doing in Mexico? It's simple. Doctors in the United States had told her they could do no more for her. The clinic in Mexico offered hope. That

hope may have been an illusion, but who can blame her? We'll do anything for hope. Ask someone who has been in chronic pain and has discovered that even the finest medical professionals don't have a clue about how to stop their pain. Many of these sufferers will go to any lengths to find someone who can give them relief. Wouldn't you?

*The woman with chronic hemorrhage in today's first Gospel story, was also desperate. The account tells that she who came to Jesus with expectant Faith as a last resort, after trying every other cure known in her day. The Mosaic Law in Lev 15: 25-27 declared her unclean and shut her off from the worship of God and the fellowship of her friends. That may be why she decided to try to touch the tassels of Jesus' garment secretly. Jesus, like every other Jew, wore an outer robe with four tassels on it, one at each corner--the badge of a devout Jew as prescribed in Num.15:38-40. She has heard that this is the physician she has been looking for, and so she touched his garment with trusting faith, and Jesus rewarded her faith with the miracle cure she was looking for.*

### Physical Touch can be Healing

Studies at the University of California-Los Angeles Medical Center; Menninger Foundation, Topeka, Kansas; and Scott and White Clinic, Temple, Texas, have shown that hugging communicates tenderness, gentleness, caringness – all those characteristics that are essential for healing both body and soul. Hugging, they say, relieves many physical and emotional problems, helps people live longer, maintains health, relieves stress and promotes sleep. The studies also show that hemoglobin, the portion of blood that carries oxygen, increases significantly when people are touched. There's your answer for those who say the Peace Exchange is artificial! And it certainly gives husbands and wives, parents and children, and significant others good reason to hug and hug and hug! Jesus believed in the touch.



**Jesus practiced the sacrament of touching with his hands. He even says that when someone touched him, believing, he knew power and virtue went out of him. Let's remember that. It's a good reason to keep human touch on a high level. As members of the Church, we are not excused from our vocation to be healers. When a friend of ours is terminally ill, the skill of the doctors and their advanced medical tools often become powerless. What the patient needs in such a situation is our care, concern and prayerful presence, enabling them to experience through us the love, compassion and mercy of Jesus. We do our share of Christ's healing mission by visiting the sick, by praying for their healing and by boosting their morale through our loving presence, encouragement and inspiration. Holding hands and praying can bring about a very calming effect on the patient. There is healing in the touch!**

## Reflect

### Desire for Revenge vs. Good Health

Dr. Granger Westberg, the founder of Holistic Medicine, Inc., Chicago, Illinois, asks this question when he talks to nurses, doctors, and pastors: "What is the healthiest hour of the week?" How would you answer that question? Dr. Westberg surprises many people by answering, "The hour of worship on Sunday morning." Why is that true? In order to answer that question we need to consider two other questions which Dr. Westberg often puts to his audiences: (1) What is the major factor in sickness? and (2) What is the major factor in health? How would you answer those questions?

One medical study shows that the major cause of sickness is desiring revenge. Dr. Westberg quotes a survey of stroke

patients most of whom admitted that there was someone against whom they felt a significant desire for revenge. In many cases, that desire for revenge is a repressed feeling, an attitude instead of an expressed action. That same medical study shows that the major factor in staying healthy is gratitude. The ancient psalmists had the right idea: "Praise is comely for the upright." Worship at its best offers the opportunity to resolve conflict through forgiveness and to express feelings of gratitude through praising God for His acts of grace and mercy. At its best, the Church is a healing community. The Church can only be at its best when the members center on and conform themselves to Jesus, the Healer as described in today's healing stories.



### We are "Wounded Healers!"

Perhaps Henri Nouwen, the Catholic theologian, has said this better than anyone else. The author of many books, Nouwen speaks of Christians as "wounded healers" who have compassion. Compassion is not pity. Pity lets us stay at a distance. It is condescending. Compassion is not sympathy. Sympathy is for superiors over inferiors. Compassion is not charity. Charity is for the rich to continue in their status over the poor. Compassion is born of God. It means entering into the other person's problems. It means taking on the

burdens of the other. It means standing in the other person's shoes. It is the opposite of professionalism. It is the humanizing way to deal with people. "Just as bread without love can bring war instead of peace, professionalism without compassion will turn forgiveness into a gimmick."

## Pray



### Liturgical Ministries Seeking New Members!

Are you being Called to be a Liturgical Minister - Hospitality Minister, Minister of Holy Communion, Lector? **AND** - are you ready to return to church?

If you answered "yes" to both, please contact Phyllis Stone in the Parish Office. We are looking to rebuild these ministries as we enter this new "open" phase of what we hope is the end of the pandemic. Contact information – 732-828-1400 x 127 or [pstone@stmatthias.net](mailto:pstone@stmatthias.net).

### HONORING SENIOR ALTAR SERVERS



### TODAY, JUNE 27TH - NOON MASS

Join us as we honor our Senior Altar Servers and thank them for their many years of service to the Altar Service Ministry.

Justin Abraham  
Dylan Hayes  
Jean-Sebastien Rateau

Michael Cocuzza  
David Hermino  
Austin Squeri

Phillip Enad  
Austin Ramos  
Andrew Terhune

## Faith Formation Registration Information

Faith Formation Registration for 2021-2022 Available on Parish Website

Registration for **G.I.F.T** (our faith formation/religious education program for families with students in K-8 who are not attending a Catholic School) and all **Sacramental Preparation [First Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation 7 & 8]** is now available on the Parish Website, [www.stmatthias.net](http://www.stmatthias.net). Please register today. Thank you.

— Dee Nann, Pastoral Associate, Faith Formation



### Donate SMS Uniforms

Have your children outgrown their SMS uniforms? Please donate them so other students can use them in the fall.

A tote is available in the church's Cry Room for SMS parents to place their uniform donations over the summer. Just drop the uniforms in the tote the next time you come to Mass. The uniforms will then be available at the Back-to-School Uniform Swap. Questions? Contact Christie Low, SMS Uniform Swap Chair, at [smsuniformswap@outlook.com](mailto:smsuniformswap@outlook.com)



### Camp Invention 2021: Recharge! A high energy, hands-on STEM Camp **STARTS TOMORROW**



**June 28 – July 2, 2021 from 8:30am - 3:00pm**

In-person at St. Matthias School (for students going into Grades 2-6 at SMS)

Attention Parents: Spark your kid's creativity and confidence with our new Camp Invention® program, entitled RECHARGE! Campers will team up to take on fun, hands-on STEM challenges. From taking apart their own microphone to exploring solar-powered crickets and designing duck-launching devices, each activity is designed to give your young innovator an unforgettable summer experience! Visit [invent.org/mylocalcamp](http://invent.org/mylocalcamp) or call 800-968-4332 to secure your spot.

Director: Christine Taylor [ctaylor@stmatthiasnj.org](mailto:ctaylor@stmatthiasnj.org), 732-322-8793. REGISTER AT [INVENT.ORG/CAMP](http://INVENT.ORG/CAMP) OR 800-968-4332.

## St. Matthias School Positions Available for the 2021-2022 School Year

- 1) INSTRUCTIONAL AID needed for Pre-Kindergarten class. Candidates must have a minimum of 60 college credits and will assist the classroom teacher in all aspects of preschool teaching. Twenty-nine hours per week maximum, Monday thru Friday. Compensation is hourly.
- 2) 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, and overall monitoring of children in grades Pre-K 3 to 8.
- 3) 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.

For all positions, candidates must be VIRTUS trained and go through a background check.

If interested, please contact [jgidaro@stmatthiasnj.org](mailto:jgidaro@stmatthiasnj.org)

# Give

## Stewardship Reflection June 27, 2021 Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

*“...as a matter of equality your abundance at the present time should supply their want, so that their abundance may supply your want, that there may be equality.” - 2 CORINTHIANS 8:14*

One of the tenants of living a grateful and generous lifestyle is giving without expecting anything in return. It is important that we not only grow, nurture and share our gifts; but that we also teach our children and encourage others to do the same. This is the communal aspect of our Catholic faith. We are the “Body of Christ”. We are called to be dependent on each other and not live in isolation.

## Reflexiónese — 27 de junio de 2021 Domingo 13° del Tiempo Ordinario

*“...Mi intención es que ustedes, que ahora tienen en abundancia, ayuden a otros que no tienen lo necesario. Luego, cuando a ustedes les falte, otros que tienen en abundancia los ayudarán, y así habrá igualdad para todos.” - 2 CORINTIOS 8:14*

Una de las condiciones de vivir un estilo de vida agradecido y generoso es dar sin esperar nada a cambio. No solo es importarte hacer crecer, cuidar y compartir nuestros dones; sino también enseñar a nuestros niños y animar a los demás a hacer lo mismo. Este es el aspecto comunitario de nuestra fe católica. Nosotros somos el “Cuerpo de Cristo”. Somos llamados a depender los unos de los otros y no a vivir en aislamiento.



### Bishops' Appeal Status

To date, the Diocese has received pledges totaling \$ 151,230.00 and payments totaling \$ 138,632.50 from 330 St. Matthias parishioners. This represents 87.9% of our \$ 172,000.00 goal. Thank you for your efforts.

Stewardship Totals for Fiscal Year July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021				Last Year's Total
Current Month	In-Pew/Mail	Parish Giving	Weekly Total	Weekly Total
Week 49 - June 6, 2021	\$11,528.17	\$18,444.75	<b>\$29,972.92</b>	\$27,115.79
Week 50 - June 13, 2021	\$11,373.00	\$21,532.25	<b>\$32,905.25</b>	\$26,898.79
Week 51 - June 20, 2021	\$9,721.50	\$14,130.25	<b>\$23,851.75</b>	\$30,307.79
Week 52 - June 27, 2021	\$0.00	\$0.00	<b>\$0.00</b>	\$25,359.79
<b>Note:</b> The online Parish Giving amount varies week-to-week since some parishioners donate once a month and the full amount is recorded the week it arrives.			<b>Month-to-date Total</b>	<b>June Total Last Yr</b>
			<b>\$86,729.92</b>	\$109,682.16
			<b>Current Year-to-date</b>	<b>Year-to-date as of Jun 30,</b>
			<b>\$1,306,148.12</b>	\$1,407,770.05

# Serve



### Funeral Team

On June 15, Fr. Abraham and Sister Marie Therese met with our St. Matthias Funeral Team for prayer, sharing, and updating on guidelines for the planning of Funeral Masses. When the parish office receives a call requesting that a Funeral or Memorial mass be celebrated for a deceased loved one, a member of the funeral team meets with the family, guiding them in choosing the readings and hymns for the Mass of Christian Burial. The team member is a compassionate and gentle presence for the family in their moment of deepest grief. Families have expressed their gratitude for the assistance of a funeral team member in preparing their loved one's funeral mass. If you feel drawn to this type of ministry and would like more information, please contact Sister Marie Therese: [msherwood@stmatthias.net](mailto:msherwood@stmatthias.net) or call 732-828-1400 ext. 114.

FRONT ROW: Left to Right: JOANNE DIANA, SR. MARIE THERESE, MERCY JAYANTHAKUMAR

BACK ROW: Left to Right: LAURA BECK, JUDITH EKHELAR, ELLIN OSSANDON, DR. LINDA MADISON

# Local Community



## WOMEN'S SPIRITUAL SPA DAY

This nourishing retreat day will include various forms of prayer and mindfulness meditation. We will come together to practice breathing techniques, gentle movement, eating, walking, art and journaling. Lunch is included.

**Sat., Jul. 10, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.** (\$50-\$60 as you are able)

Presenter: Isabel Gachko

**Mount Saint Mary House of Prayer**

1651 US Hwy. 22

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## LIFE LINE SCREENING

On July 10th at Double Tree by Hilton, Life Line Screening will offer area residents an opportunity to do something that will build health awareness about stroke, vascular disease and osteoporosis. The screenings are safe, painless, and non-invasive. If you would like more information, please visit: [www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle](http://www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle) or call toll-free 866-229-0469.

## Pilgrimage to The Passion Play of Oberammergau

**May 16-26, 2022**

Visiting Prague– Budapest—Vienna - Munich

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Call 732-634-4355 or visit [www.standrewparish.com](http://www.standrewparish.com).



## Joy of Love & Family Conference



Pope Francis has declared this year the year of St. Joseph and recently inaugurated the *Amoris Laetitia* Family Year. In his inauguration message, he urged all to support families and accompany them along the journey of life.

In honor of this special occasion, the Diocese of Metuchen, in partnership with the other four Roman Catholic

Dioceses in the State of New Jersey, is hosting The Joy of Love & Family Conference Series.

**We invite you to get connected with your local church family and enjoy 30+ incredible teachers, speakers and authors!**

The Joy of Love & Family Conference Series will premiere over six months touching on topics for every stage of family life. **It began June 24.**

Details at: [www.lightingheartsonfire.org](http://www.lightingheartsonfire.org)

Questions? Contact [acaballero@diometuchen.org](mailto:acaballero@diometuchen.org) or 732-562-2454

## Parish Leadership

<b>Parish Pastoral Council:</b>	Rose Peng Frank Rees	<b>Trustees:</b>	Isaac Peng Marge Richards	<b>Parish Finance Council:</b>	Audrey Francis Kester Hector
<b>Co-Chair:</b> Claudine Langrin	Maria Tapia-Burch			<b>Finance Council</b>	Joan Pritchard
<b>Co-Chair:</b> Mary Beth Vetter-Purcell	John Taylor Marilyn Wegg			<a href="mailto:stmatthias.net">@stmatthias.net</a>	Fr. Abraham, Ex-Officio
<b>Co-Secretary:</b> Lorraine Farr	Ana Kelly, Ex-Officio			Susan Klimcsak	
<b>Co-Secretary:</b> Anne Marie Francis	Fr. Abraham, Ex-Officio			Barry Dusault	
				Gwen Orłowski	

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

**Parish Registration** — Welcome new members! Please register by calling the Parish Office.

**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.

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

**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults** The RCIA process is an opportunity for instruction and spiritual transformation for any adult seeking a deeper understanding of the Catholic tradition or full incorporation into the Catholic Church. If you are interested in becoming a Catholic or completing the Sacraments of Initiation—

Baptism/Confirmation/Eucharist, please call the Parish Office.

**Stewardship** — Stewardship is a way of life, a way of thanking God for all our blessings by returning a portion of the time, talent and treasure allotted to us. Whether it is clothes for the poor, food for the hungry, outreach to youth, in education, in worship, or simply arms stretched out to someone who is lonely, the Catholic Community of St. Matthias encourages everyone to become

stewards of the gifts they have been given by God, returning a portion in gratitude to God for the work of ministry here at St. Matthias and beyond our local community.



**St. Matthias School** is a PreK3 through 8<sup>th</sup> 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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[www.diometuchen.org/cemeteries](http://www.diometuchen.org/cemeteries)

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