



**St. Matthias Parish Office:**

Monday - Friday, 8:30 am - 4:00 pm.  
 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):**

170 JFK Blvd., Somerset, NJ 08873  
[www.stmatthias.info](http://www.stmatthias.info) 732-828-1402  
 School Office Hours, Mon-Fri 8AM to 3PM.

*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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 Sue Lenczewski, *Youth Coordinator*, [SMYLE](mailto:slenczewski@stmatthias.net)  
 Julio Montero, *Maintenance Supervisor*  
 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, NOV 13, 2022-**  
**33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**smyle** This weekend—SMYLE & St. Vincent de Paul will be collecting food at all Masses for the Franklin Food Bank.

Please be as generous as you can, the Holidays are coming very soon.



**"SPREAD THE LIGHT"**

Thank you all who answered the call to sponsor a tree.  
 We will need volunteers for **11/19 & 11/26 at 9:00 am.**  
 More information to follow.

Please email your availability to **Mary Pat at**  
[mpburke-grospin@stmatthias.net](mailto:mpburke-grospin@stmatthias.net)



**SEE PAGE 8 FOR DETAILS!**



Blessing of the  
**"Trail of Faith"**

**Today, November 13th at 1:00PM**

See page 7 for more about this Eagle Scout Project!

**GIVING TUESDAY**

**November 29, 2022**

Mark your calendars and join us for a day of generosity!  
 More details to come next week!

**Next Sat. & Sun., 11/19/20, 2022 is "Works of Mercy" Campaign**

The proceeds benefit local needs of those within the Diocese of Metuchen community by supporting & assisting programs and educational efforts which reduce poverty & hunger. There is a special envelope in you packet for this collection.



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](http://www.smile.amazon.com), and we will automatically receive a portion of the purchase total. Thank you!

# This Week @ St. Matthias From Our Senior Priest

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 Nov 13, 2022 Fall into Faith – Week #6**  
**SMYLE/SVDP Foodbank Collection at all Masses**

8:00AM Mass Church  
 10:00AM Mass - Sign Language Interpreter & RCIA- cafeteria Church  
 12:00PM Mass Church  
 4:00PM SMYLE Mtg. & pack up bags from food collection Cafeteria

**Monday, Nov 14, 2022 St. Laurence O’Toole, Archbishop of Dublin**

8:00AM Mass/Miraculous Medal Novena Church  
 6:30PM SMS: Mother/Daughter Sessions: Middle School Girls & Moms John XXIII Rm

**Tuesday Nov 15, 2022 St. Albert the Geat, Bishop & Doctor**

8:00AM Mass Church  
 7:00PM Baptism Prep Zoom  
 7:15PM Hand Bell Rehearsal Church  
 7:30PM Pastoral Council Mtg. dePorres Rm & Zoom

**Wednesday, Nov 16, 2022 St. Margaret of Scotland, Queen Consort of Scotland**

8:00AM Mass Church  
 9:30AM Holy Spirit Prayer Grp. de Porres Rm  
 7:00PM Confirmation Gr. 7 (or year 1) Zoom  
 7:30PM Folk Group Rehearsal Church

**Thursday, Nov 17, 2022 St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Widow Religious**

8:00AM Mass Church  
 3:30PM Children’s Choir Gr. 3 & 4 Church  
 4:00PM Children’s Choir Gr. 5-8 Church  
 7:00PM Prayer Shawl Ministry Neumann Rm  
 7:15PM Hand bell Dress Rehearsal Church  
 7:30PM Adult Choir Concert Rehearsal Church

**Friday, Nov 18, 2022 Dedication: Basilicas of Sts. Peter & Paul**

8:00AM Mass Church  
 9:00AM SMS: Honor Roll Church  
 12:00PM Music Ministry Rehearsals Church  
 7:00PM 60th Anniversary of St. Matthias Concert- “ With Grateful Hearts” Church

**Saturday, Nov 19, 2022 Our Lady of Divine Providence, Patroness of Puerto Rico**

9:00AM Faith & Racial Healing Session Zoom  
 10:00AM Secular Franciscans de Porres Rm  
 3:30PM Reconciliation Church  
 5:00PM Mass Church

**Sunday Nov 20, 2022 Fall into Faith – Week #7**  
**Works of Mercy Collection**

8:00AM Mass Church  
 10:00AM Mass & RCIA (cafeteria) Church  
 10:00AM 1st Reconciliation #2 @ 10AM Mass  
 12:00PM Mass Church

## The Four Last Things or Five

The month of November ushers in many changes in nature and in the church. The leaves have changed to bright reds, orange, brown and yellow. Soon all those leaves will drop and as Shakespeare said the trees will become like “Bare ruined choirs where late the sweet birds sang”. All nature seems to die or at least fall asleep.



In the church November begins with the celebration of All Saints and All Souls, reminding us of our destiny and of what has traditionally been called ‘The Four Last Things’, death, judgment, heaven and hell. And for good measure the fifth is Purgatory. The scripture readings the church gives us in this season for our liturgy have a constant reminder about these important things. There is a sense of urgency about remembering them. The 32nd and 33rd Sundays of the year especially emphasize death and resurrection. The prophet Malachi gets our attention when he writes, “Lo the day is coming blazing like an oven, when all the proud and evildoers will be stubble, and the day that is coming will set them on fire, leaving them neither root nor branch, says the Lord of Hosts. But for you who fear my name, there will arise the sun of justice with its healing rays.” Malachi 3:19. Death is certain for every person. We are reminded to live with this awareness.

The teaching of the church about the Last Things is spelled out clearly in the Catechism of the Catholic Church. On the subject of judgment we read “Each man receives his eternal retribution in his immortal soul at the very moment of his death, in a particular judgment that refers his life to Christ: either entrance into the blessedness of heaven -through a purification or immediately, or immediate and everlasting damnation.” (CCC 1022)

Regarding heaven we read, “Those who die in God’s grace and friendship and are perfectly purified live forever with Christ. They are like God forever, for they ‘see him as he is’, face to face” (CCC 1023)

Today there are some who question whether the church still teaches about Purgatory and perhaps even some who question the existence of Hell. Here is what the Catechism teaches “All who die in God’s grace and friendship, but still imperfectly purified, are indeed assured of their eternal salvation, but after death they undergo purification, so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven. The church gives the name Purgatory to this final purification of the elect, which is entirely different from the punishment of the damned” (CCC 1031)

The fourth Last Thing is Hell and again the Catechism does not mince words: “We cannot be united with God unless we freely choose to love him. But we cannot love God if we sin gravely against him, against our neighbor or against ourselves . . . . to die in mortal sin without repenting and accepting God’s merciful love means remaining separated from him forever by our own free choice. This state of definitive self-exclusion from communion with God and the blessed is called ‘Hell’. (CCC 1033)

Death, judgment, heaven and hell and purgatory are all real. The church reminds us in the liturgy during November not to become complacent. As we watch the ‘death’ of nature all around us and end the liturgical year November 20th with the celebration of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, we hear the call to be awake and vigilant at all times so that we are always ready for the coming of the Day of the Lord and the Four Last Things.

Msgr. Brennan

## Readings for the Week

**Monday:** Rv 1:1-4; 2:1-5; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6; Lk 18:35-43

**Tuesday:** Rv 3:1-6, 14-22; Ps 15:2-3a, 3bc-4ab, 5; Lk 19:1-10

**Wednesday:** Rv 4:1-11; Ps 150:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6; Lk 19:11-28

**Thursday:** Rv 5:1-10; Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b; Lk 19:41-44

**Friday:** Rv 10:8-11; Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131; Lk 19:45-48

**Saturday:** Rv 11:4-12; Ps 144:1, 2, 9-10; Lk 20:27-40

**Sunday:** 2 Sm 5:1-3; Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5; Col 1:12-20; Lk 23:35-43

## Mass Intentions for the Week

<b>Saturday, Nov 12</b>	5:00PM	Anna Moran, by Joe, Virginia & Eileen
<b>Sunday, Nov 13</b>	8:00AM	Edwin & Barbara Bartlett, by William Bartlett
	10:00AM	Julia Nowakowski, by Daughter
	12:00PM	Balbina Kashatus, by Isabelle & John Baker
	(5:30PM)	Intention of Parishioners
<b>Monday, Nov 14</b>	8:00AM	James O'Hare, by James & Mary Woods
<b>Tuesday, Nov 15</b>	8:00AM	Hubert & Rita Fowler, by Teresa & Bruce Cuddeback
<b>Wednesday, Nov 16</b>	8:00AM	Jill Szabo, by Mary Ducca
<b>Thursday, Nov 17</b>	8:00AM	Benito & Genarda Capuno, by The Capuno Family
<b>Friday, Nov 18</b>	8:00AM	Birthday Blessings for Jim Stone,
<b>Saturday, Nov 19</b>	5:00PM	George Ripley, by Nina Ripley
<b>Sunday, Nov 20</b>	8:00AM	Elizabeth D'Alessio, by Arlene & Saul Armus
	10:00AM	Hector Concha Moreno, by The Moreno Family
	12:00PM	Gilberto Gavilanes, by The Gavilanes 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 [kccounts@stmatthias.net](mailto:kccounts@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.*

Erika & Jay Adams  
 Carolyn Banghart  
 Tammy Baskaran  
 Angela Berlund  
[Bianca Canlas](#)  
 Tara Capatosto  
 Ellen Catalina  
 Kyle Davidson  
 Lisa DeFeo  
 Michael DiMaggio  
 William Dolphin  
 Vivian Dong  
 Claudia Gemgnani  
 Helen Geraghty  
 Emma Gergely  
 Mary Gidaro  
 Carol Gryskiewicz  
 Sloop & John Hoffman

Gene Horan  
 Marilyn Horvath  
 Baby Isla-Rose Huffman  
 Robert Kashinsky  
 Al Kepenis  
 Kathleen Lagenbacher  
 The Litrakis Family  
 Jude Raymond Maceren  
 Clarissa & Kevin Magat  
[Kenneth & Kelly Magat](#)  
 Al Maglio  
 Susan, Tosh & King Manansala  
 Christine Mathews  
 Beatrice May  
 Margaret Menendez  
 Carol Millemann  
 Sabrina Moloney  
 Kathryn Moore

Eleanor Nagy  
 Janice Navatkowski  
 Danny Ongchango  
 Paul & Doris Paetow  
 Robert Pellegrino  
 Jim Pettit  
 Christina Pietrowiak  
 Nathan Reavey  
 Doris Regan  
 Gabriel Rivera  
 Jaxon Rivera  
 Maria Schwenzer  
 Lena Sciotto  
 Tippur Seshagiri  
 Sr. Mary Amata Shina, OSF  
 Sr. Rosaria Shina, OSF  
 Kathleen Smith  
 Jeff Sullivan

Jay Swick  
 Jerry Swirk  
[Tom Szabo](#)  
 Regina Tongson  
 Robert Wellman  
 Nancy Wesner  
 Mark T. Whelan  
 Jay 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

Sylvia Foley, Abraham Jacob Mukalel, Erlinda Boyan  
 Eulalia Villanueva - sister of Alma Valdez

# Reflect



## Smile with Your Family



Why did Adam and Eve do math every day? They were told to be fruitful and multiply. 😊

How do you know that atoms are Catholic? They have mass. 😊

It was just before Christmas and the magistrate was in a happy mood. He asked the prisoner who was in the dock, 'What are you charged with?' The prisoner replied, 'Doing my Christmas shopping too early.' 'That's no crime', said the magistrate. 'Just how early were you doing this shopping?' 'Before the shop opened', answered the prisoner 😊

😊 As my five-year-old son and I were heading to McDonald's one day, we passed a car accident. Usually when we see something terrible like that, we say a prayer for whoever might be hurt, so I pointed and said to my son, "We

should pray." From the back seat I heard his earnest voice: "Dear God, please don't let those cars block the entrance to McDonald's." 😊

If Moses had received the 10 Commandments via text message:

no1 b4 me. srsly.  
 dnt wrshp pix/idols  
 no omg's  
 no wrk on w/end (sat 4 now; sun l8r)  
 pos ok ur m&d r cool  
 dnt kill ppl  
 :-X only w/ m8  
 dnt steal  
 dnt lie re: bf  
 dnt ogle ur bf's m8. or ox. or dnkey. myob.



### Parenting Tune-Up

November is National Adoption Month. Whether or not your own children are adopted, talk with them about the generosity of those who adopt, foster parent, or simply mentor children who are not biologically connected to them.



### Marriage Tune-Up

Are you both healthy? Hopefully yes, but in any marriage there are times when one spouse gets sick. Whether it's a simple cold or a serious illness how do you like to be treated when you're not feeling well. Do you want to be left alone or get lots of tender, loving care? What kind of care?

### Happiness Mathematics!

If: A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z is equal to 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26, then,  
 H+A+R+D+W+O+R+K = 8+1+18+4+23+15+18+11 = 98%.  
 K+N+O+W+L+E+D+G+E = 11+14+15+23+12+5+4+7+5 = 96%.  
 L+O+V+E = 12+15+22+5 = 54%.

L+U+C+K = 12+21+3+11 = 47%

None of them makes 100%.

Then what makes 100%?

Is it Money? NO! M+O+N+E+Y = 13+15+14+5+25 = 72%

Is it Leadership? NO! L+E+A+D+E+R+S+H+I+P = 12+5+1+4+5+18+19+8+9+16 = 97%.

Every problem has a solution, only if we perhaps change our "ATTITUDE"

...A+T+T+I+T+U+D+E ; 1+20+20+9+20+21+4+5 = 100%

It is therefore OUR ATTITUDE towards Life and Work that makes OUR Life 100% Successful.

**Amazing mathematics!**

### Differences between Christianity and a Football Game

The tendency of popular culture today is to avoid thinking about the last things, the great truths like death and judgment. Popular culture tells us to enjoy ourselves while we can here on earth and not to worry about the bigger story. That is completely backwards. It's like telling a football player to enjoy his game by sitting on the sidelines and working on a suntan. A football player enjoys the game by playing hard and doing his best to win. He knows that the fourth quarter is right around the corner, and the clock is winding down, and the last minute will soon run out. And when it does, when he makes his way into the locker room - sweaty, bruised, exhausted - he wants only two things: to know that he has won, and to know that he pushed himself as hard as he could to do his part well. **Jesus is reminding us that our lives are like that. They will come to an end. The fourth quarter is on its way. But there is a difference. A football player can give his all individually, and his team can still lose. On his way to the locker room he can be satisfied with his own performance, but disappointed at the outcome. But that's not the case with us. If we play well, we win - automatically. If a Christian gives his all, if a Christian spends his life fighting to be more like Christ each day, in spite of hardship and persecution, in spite of opposition and enemies, then victory is assured.**

## The outdoor gear company the earth now owns

“ . . . the days will come when there will not be left a stone upon another stone that will not be thrown down . . . ” Luke 21: 5-19

### patagonia

Yvon Chouinard is an outdoors guy — surfing, fly-fishing, rock

climbing. The riskier the better. To finance his hardscrabble lifestyle, he taught himself blacksmithing in order to design and make climbing tools for friends. Before he knew it, Chouinard was a leading manufacturer of climbing equipment in North America. Soon, the kid from Maine who dreamed of being a fur trapper like his French-Canadian forebears, had become what he did not want to be: a successful businessman. On a trip to England with his future wife, Malinda, they discovered a small factory that made clothing from vintage corduroy. Chouinard fashioned heavy-duty shorts and shirts suitable for climbing, adding a clothing line to their climbing equipment.

Their company, Patagonia, was born. Since they began Patagonia in 1973, the Chouinards have always run their company with a deep concern for the environment in which their products would be worn and used. They designate one percent of their annual sales to grassroots activists working to protect the environment and combat climate change. They were among the first companies to use sustainable materials and insist on fair labor practices and just wages from their suppliers. The firm’s marketing campaigns focus on asking people to buy only what they need — the company famously ran an ad on Black Friday in *The New York Times* with the headline, “Don’t Buy This Jacket.” Today, Patagonia is valued at \$3 billion.

Now 83, Yvon Chouinard is looking to the future. He wants the values of Patagonia to continue.

So he gave away the company. The reluctant billionaire who’d rather go mountain climbing or fly fishing than manage his business, with the full support of his wife and family, has transferred ownership of Patagonia to an irrevocable trust and nonprofit organization to ensure that

Patagonia’s profits — some \$100 million a year — will be used to combat climate change and protect undeveloped land around the globe. Patagonia will continue to operate as a private, for-profit company, selling more than \$1 billion worth of jackets, hats and ski pants each year — but the Chouinards no longer own it. The trust is irrevocable — the Chouinards can’t take the company back. And that’s how Yvon Chouinard wants it. “I didn’t know what to do with the company because I didn’t ever want a company,” Chouinard explains. “I didn’t want to be a businessman. Now I could die tomorrow and the company is going to continue doing the right thing for the next 50 years, and I don’t have to be around . . . “Despite its immensity,” Yvon Chouinard says, “the Earth’s resources are not infinite, and it’s clear we’ve exceeded its limits.”

[*The New York Times*, September 15, 2022; *The New Yorker*, September 12, 2016; CNBC, September 14, 2022.]

**While our lifestyles change and adapt because of the development of new technologies and advances in science and medicine, the values of our lives themselves remain constant. The good people at Patagonia realize that and have taken extraordinary steps to make sure their company is more than a profitable company but a socially responsible one, continuing to contribute to the care of the environment. Jesus calls us to that same challenge: to embrace the Gospel spirit of gratitude and generosity that continues to grace the world long after our temples of materialism and consumerism crumble; our “assets” of compassion and justice will hold their value well beyond the time when the far lesser things for which we have leveraged our lives prove empty and valueless. In his Christ, God calls us to seek much more precious and lasting gifts than this world is capable of offering — treasures like compassion, reconciliation, justice, peace. What is required first, however, is to give up the avarice that make possessing the things of God impossible.**

### “Someday” is now

The widower opened the bottom drawer of his late wife’s bureau and lifted out a tissue-wrapped package. He unfolded the tissue and handed his wife’s sister a beautiful slip. The expensive garment was exquisite, handmade of silk and trimmed with intricate lace. The price tag was still attached. “Jan bought this the first time we went to New York, at least eight or nine years ago. She never wore it. She was saving it for a special occasion. Well, I guess this is the occasion.”

He took the slip and put it on the bed with the other clothes that they would bring to the funeral home. His hands lingered on the soft material for a moment, then he slammed the drawer shut. “Don’t ever save anything for a special occasion,” he said softly to his sister-in-law. “Every day you’re alive is a special occasion.” The sister remembered those words through the funeral and the difficult days that followed as she helped her brother-in-law and niece attend to the sad chores that follow an unexpected death. She thought about the things her sister hadn’t seen or heard or done — as

(cont’d on next page)

## Reflect

### “Someday” is now” (cont’d)

well as all her late sister had done without realizing they were special. The words of her brother-in-law began to have a dramatic impact on her life. She writes:

“I’m reading more and dusting less. I’m sitting on the deck and admiring the view without fussing about the weeds in the garden. I’m spending more time with my family and friends and less time in committee meetings . . . I’m not ‘saving’ anything; we use our good china and crystal for every special event such as losing a pound, getting the sink unstopped, the first camellia blossom. I wear my good blazer to the market. ‘Someday’ and ‘one of these days’ are losing their grip on my vocabulary . . . “I’m trying very hard not to put off, hold back, or save anything that would add laughter and luster to our lives. And every moment I open my eyes, I tell myself that it is special. Every day, every minute, every breath is . . . a gift of God.”

[Author unknown, cited in *Spirituality and Health*, Summer 2000.]

**Today’s Gospel confronts us with the lessons this woman and her family learned in the unexpected death of her sister: that the time we are given in this life is precious, that God gives us this gift of life to embrace and be embraced by the love that is uniquely of God. Jesus calls us not to be obsessed with the “stones” that will one day collapse and become dust but to seek instead the lasting things of the soul, the things of God. May love that never ends, compassion that never fades, forgiveness that never falters be the focus of our journey to the eternal dwelling place of**

### Patiently wait for Christ’s Second Coming

Remember Albert Einstein’s words after the Second World War: “As a lover of freedom, when the revolution came in Germany, I looked to the universities to defend it, knowing that they had always boasted of their devotion to the cause of truth; but no, the universities were immediately silenced. Then I looked to the great editors of the newspapers, whose flaming editorials in days gone by had proclaimed their love of freedom; but they, like the universities were silenced in a few short weeks. Only the Church stood squarely across the path of Hitler’s campaign for suppressing truth. I never had any special interest in the Church before, but now I feel a great affection and admiration for it, because the Church alone has had the courage to stand for intellectual truth, and moral freedom. I am forced to confess that what I once despised, now I

praise unreservedly.”

***The Church had the moral courage to resist a dictator, and it saved the lives of so many Jews because it believed in the assurance given by Jesus in today’s Gospel. The Church, based on the Biblical revelation, keeps reminding us that we need to be prepared daily for death and judgment. The ideal way to accept Jesus’ apocalyptic message is always to be ready to face our death. We must live holy lives of selfless love, mercy, compassion and unconditional forgiveness, remembering the demands of justice in our day-to-day lives. We must also take time to rest and to pray in order to keep our hearts alive to God’s presence with us and within us. Daily examination of our conscience at bedtime, asking God’s pardon and forgiveness, also prepares us to face God at any time to give an account of our lives.***

### Beware of False Messiahs

In 1978, the whole world was shocked and dismayed by reports from Jonestown, Guyana where the Rev. Jim Jones had led hundreds of people into one of history’s darkest mass-suicides and mass-murders. These were not ignorant, primitive savages in a far-off land. They were American citizens who had fallen under the leadership of a madman. We don’t see many signs nowadays of the Moonies. Their founder Rev. Moon and his Unification Church have faded into the background. At one time he boasted considerable political support. He invested heavily in the elections of Richard Nixon and Ronald Reagan. Rev. Moon built an empire by putting young people out on the streets selling flowers. Moon preached that a new messiah was soon to come. He claimed that new messiah was a man born in Korea in the 20th century. False messiahs are forever with us. We need not even deal with such self-deluded creatures as mass-murderer Charles Manson who gathered a group of seemingly intelligent young adults as his followers. Manson once said, “My philosophy is: ‘Don’t think.’” That is the philosophy subtly expressed by all false messiahs. Don’t think. Reason is the enemy of all fanatics. But false messiahs do come along every once in a while. That is why Jesus warns his followers about false messiahs in today’s Gospel.



# Reflect

## Trail of Faith – Eagle Scout Project

The “Trail of Faith” provides a new opportunity to appreciate nature on the grounds of Saint Matthias Parish. The Trail is approximately 1/3 of a mile long. It starts in the back parking lot between the northeast corner of the playground and the dumpster enclosure. It travels through wooded areas and fields behind the parish. The trail was planned and built by Parishioner Dalton Vassanella for his Eagle Scout Project.

Dalton is a member of Scout Troop 154, which is sponsored by St. Matthias Parish. Several Scouts and Adult Leaders from Troop 154 helped him with the construction of the Trail. The inspiration for the trail came to Dalton one Sunday after Mass as he was walking the Parish grounds reflecting on his experiences as a student at St. Matthias School. His goal was to come up with a project that would allow others to enjoy the natural beauty of God’s creations as part of their ongoing spiritual journeys. The Trail is dedicated to the many teachers and staff that have devoted decades of their lives educating thousands of St. Matthias students.

The trail was built to provide parishioners a place to reflect on their relationship with God, deepen their spirituality, and pray or meditate, all while surrounded by nature. It was also built to be utilized by Saint Matthias School. Teachers can take their students on the trail to learn more about natural sciences and students can see first hand different types of soil, trees, plants, birds, animals and other elements of the ecosystem, in this “outdoor classroom”.

Scattered along the trail are a dozen signs. Each sign states

one of 12 points that comprise the Scout Law, along with a corresponding Bible quote. When they walk the trail, parishioners, staff and students are encouraged to ponder the Bible passages, or simply use each sign as a place to stop and reflect upon the beauty of God’s creations.

When walking the trail please stay on the path marked by the green trail markers, at all times. Also, please wear appropriate footwear and be aware of your surroundings. All children should be accompanied by a parent or guardian, when walking on the “Trail of Faith”.

Anyone interested in learning more about Scout Troop 154 please contact:  
Scoutmaster, Mr. Paul Furnell; (732) 799 - 9956. [info@troop154nj.com](mailto:info@troop154nj.com)



# Pray

## Want to know more about Prayer?



What is prayer? How can I pray personally?  
What is the proper way for me to pray?  
These are questions people keep asking.

One of our parishioners, Ivette Mitchel, who has lots of experience in guiding others to pray, has offered to lead four sessions on these important aspects. If you are interested, please contact Ivette by phone at (908) 247-6039 or email at [ladyi63@aol.com](mailto:ladyi63@aol.com) She will finalize the details after hearing from you.



## ATTENTION PARENTS OF ALTAR SERVERS!

Our Diocese is organizing a mini-retreat for Altar servers. It will take place on **Saturday, November 19th at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi from 2:00 p.m.–4:45 p.m.** with Mass being celebrated at 5:00 p.m.

The retreat is being led by CKR Retreats, Colleen Kelly-Rayner.

There is no cost. **Registration is open.**

Please visit our parish website under Latest News to register. This will be a wonderful spiritual enrichment that you can give to your children while they will be excited to participate in a diocesan wide event.

## The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Just a reminder that the RCIA is intended for:

+ Unbaptized adults, + Adults who have been baptized into a non-Catholic denomination + Adults who have been baptized Catholic but never received first Eucharist or Confirmation **NOW IS THE TIME TO FIND OUT MORE!**

Contact our RCIA Co-Coordinator:

Anne Marie Francis: [alfrancis.30@gmail.com](mailto:alfrancis.30@gmail.com) or  
Mary Frances Reavey: [mfreavey@gmail.com](mailto:mfreavey@gmail.com) to find out more information or to set up an appointment. Be on the look out for the dates for our Inquiry sessions that will be held on Sundays.



The St. Matthias Music Ministry Presents

# With Grateful Hearts

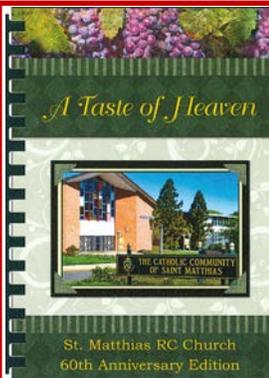
60th Anniversary Concert

Friday, November 18th  
7:00pm

*Join us for a musical celebration of thanks and praise with the St. Matthias Children's Choir, Sunday 10:00 Mass Choir, Folk Group, Ensemble, Umoja Imani Gospel Choir, and Handbell Choir*

Premiere of new choral anthem: RISE  
by composer-in-residence Chris Rath

Free will offering  
Reception to follow in the cafeteria



### 'Cookbooks for Christmas!'

'Looking for that perfect gift for the person who has everything? Need a hostess gift? Bridal Shower? New Home? For that extra gift for the unexpected recipient? Then pick up a 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cookbook for only \$20!! They will be on sale at the St. Matthias' parish office, the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert, 11/18/22 and at the SMS Craft Fair on 12/4/22!! If you haven't picked up your pre-ordered book, you can also do that at these events!! Don't miss out on the delicious recipes!!'

Thank you for all your help!!  
Pat Cullen, Cookbook Chairperson

# Give (and Receive!)



## St. Matthias GIVING TREE

Beginning Thanksgiving Day, **November 24<sup>th</sup>**, our Giving Tree will once again be at the front of the Church. In addition to the on-line option, there will be three organizations (Ozanam Family Shelter, YES Early Learning Center and PACT) having ornaments placed on the tree. If you prefer the

**traditional** method, take an ornament and purchase the gifts requested. If you prefer **online** shopping, please visit the St. Matthias website

[www.stmatthias.net](http://www.stmatthias.net) for additional direct ship options.

**PLEASE NOTE: GIFTS WILL BE COLLECTED IN THE CHURCH ON THE WEEKENDS OF DECEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup> & 4<sup>TH</sup> AND DECEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup> & 11<sup>TH</sup> ONLY. GIFT CARDS should be dropped directly into the collection basket.** Be sure to **SECURE all ornaments to the outside of the package.** Without the tag, we have no way of knowing where or to whom the package is to be delivered.

St. Matthias parishioners have always been generous. We are hoping that the tradition continues, especially since it means a lot to so many in need. If you have any questions, please contact Joanne Diana (732) 322-6270 or email [j-diana@comcast.net](mailto:j-diana@comcast.net).



Stewardship Totals for Fiscal Year July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023				Last Year's To-
Current Month	In-Pew/Mail	Parish Giving	Weekly Total	Weekly Total
Week 19 - Nov. 6, 2022	\$8,811.00	\$19,314.75	<b>\$28,125.75</b>	\$32,634.75
Week 20 - Nov. 13, 2022	\$0.00	\$0.00	<b>\$0.00</b>	\$28,911.25
Week 21 - Nov. 20, 2022	\$0.00	\$0.00	<b>\$0.00</b>	\$24,771.25
Week 22 - Nov. 27, 2022	\$0.00	\$0.00	<b>\$0.00</b>	\$15,044.25
			<b>Month-to-date</b>	<b>Nov Total Last</b>
<b>All Saints: \$1,162.00</b>			<b>\$28,125.75</b>	\$101,361.50
			<b>Current Year-to-</b>	<b>Year-to-date as</b>
<b>Archdiocese of Military Services: \$1,690.00</b>			<b>\$476,839.67</b>	\$554,643.91

### Stewardship Reflection Nov 13, 2022 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

*"... Rather, we wanted to present ourselves as a model for you, so that you might imitate us."*  
2 THESSALONIANS 3:9

Most people who live a grateful and generous lifestyle don't go around bragging about it. But through their words and actions, others do take notice. They notice because of the joy and peace that results and others desire this in their own life. Know that the way you live your life may be the only interaction others may have with our Catholic faith.

### Reflexiónese 13 de noviembre 2022 33º del Tiempo Ordinario

*"... ¡Y tenemos derecho a ello! Pero quisimos ofrecerles un ejemplo que ustedes pudieran imitar."*  
2 Tesalonicenses 3:9

La mayoría de las personas que viven un estilo de vida agradecido y generoso no se jactan de ello. Sin embargo, a través de sus palabras y acciones los demás lo notan. Lo notan por la alegría y la paz que producen, y otros desean eso para su propia vida. Sabemos que la forma en la que vive su vida puede ser la única interacción que otras personas tengan con nuestra fe católica.

## Serve



### Become A Eucharistic Minister For Homebound & Nursing Home Ministry

An Invitation to become a Eucharistic minister to our home-bound or those in local nursing homes.

You are invited to pray and reflect upon joining the "Blessed" ministry of bringing Jesus to those who are home-bound or in nursing homes.

**For information, please contact Sr. Marie Therese, 732-828-1400 x 114.**



# Connect with Our Local Community



## A free event for the Youth & Young Adults.

It is the Global Celebration of Youth and Young Adults on **Saturday, November 19**

St. Francis Cathedral, Metuchen. Every Catholic faith community worldwide is encouraged and invited by Pope Francis to celebrate youth and young adults annually on Christ the King Sunday. Please join the Diocese of Metuchen as we celebrate this great feast with Mass, fellowship, and prayer! All are welcome! Geared towards youth and young adults. The schedule is:

- 5:00 pm Vigil Mass in the Cathedral
- 6:00 pm Dinner downstairs in Parish Hall
- 7:00 pm Candlelit time of Eucharistic Adoration, Music, Confession, time of Prayer and Reflection in CYO Hall The evening will conclude by 8:30 pm. To register go to: <https://diometuchen.org/yyam>

### Loyola Jesuit Center

161 James St., Morristown, NJ 973-539-0740



**12/09 - 12/11 - COED Weekend Retreat**  
**Theme: "We Need a Little Christmas"**  
**Retreat Leader: Joe Costantino, S.J.**

Take time during this season of preparation for the birth of Jesus, our Savior, to come to a deeper understanding through reflection and prayer of the spiritual dimensions of Advent and Christmas. By entering more fully into the depth of these two holy seasons, experience how they can open up the possibility of providing lasting MEANING and JOY throughout the new year.

*Caritas Chamber Chorale*  
 BARBARA SANDERMAN, DIRECTOR

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 CHRISTMAS 2022

DEC. 9 | 7:30 PM | OUR LADY OF MT. VIRGIN | MIDDLESEX, NJ  
 DEC. 10 | 7:30 PM | BLESSED SACRAMENT | MARTINSVILLE, NJ

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## St. Andrew Church, 244 Avenel St., Avenel, NJ Bingo



**Tuesdays, 7:30PM (Doors open at 6PM)**  
 Food, drinks, homemade cakes & cookies  
 Meet new friends!  
 Call 732-634-4355 for information

## Parish Leadership

<b>Parish Pastoral Council:</b>	<b>Co-Secretaries:</b>	Msgr. Seamus Brennen, Ex-Officio	<b>Parish Finance Council:</b>	Audrey Francis
<b>Co-Chairs:</b>	Frank Rees	Fr. Abraham, Ex-Officio	Kester Hector, Chair	Joe Porter
Rose Peng, <a href="mailto:rosepeng@optonline.net">rosepeng@optonline.net</a>	Marilyn Wegg		<b>Finance Council</b>	Joan Pritchard
John Taylor, <a href="mailto:jptaylor1068@yahoo.com">jptaylor1068@yahoo.com</a>	Stephan Busono	<b>Trustees:</b>	<a href="http://stmatthias.net">@stmatthias.net</a>	Mary Pat Burke-Grospin, Ex-Officio
	Anne Marie Francis	Pearl Scott	Carmen Driz-Melilli	Fr. Abraham, Ex-Officio
	Bill Isele	Marge Richards	Barry Dusault	
	Maria Tapia-Burch		Gwen Orłowski	

## 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](http://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 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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**event dates**

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Tuesday, 10/25

**November 2022**

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Tuesday, 11/08

Tuesday, 11/15

Tuesday, 11/29

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