



St. Matthias Parish Office:
 Open Mon-Thu: 8:30-5:00PM; Fri: 8:30-4PM
 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

For all Parish emails, add @stmatthias.net
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Senior Priest: Msgr. Seamus Brennan, [sbrennan](mailto:sbrennan@stmatthias.net)
 Mary Pat Burke-Grospin, Business Administrator
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 Deacon Ron Caimi, Senior Deacon
 Kelly Counts, Receptionist, [kcounts](mailto:kcounts@stmatthias.net)
 Conroy Davis, Custodian
 Juan Diaz Flores, Custodian
 Leslie Guillen, Bulletin Editor, [Iguillen](mailto:lg Guillen@stmatthias.net)
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 Secretary, [ngodet](mailto:ngodet@stmatthias.net)
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 Deacon Russell Demkovitz, [rdemkovitz](mailto:rdemkovitz@stmatthias.net)
 Ana V Kelly, Pastoral Associate for Marketing &
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 Mike Lanyi, Sacristan
 Sue Lenczewski, Youth Coordinator
 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)
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 Trish Stumper, Par. Support Secretary, [tstumper](mailto:tstumper@stmatthias.net)

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

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. MATTHIAS

SUNDAY, NOV 21, 2021 –

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Super 50-50 Raffle is TODAY, SUNDAY!!! Winning ticket will be drawn after the 10AM Mass at 11:00AM



“Tree” Volunteers Needed! The trees arrive TODAY, Saturday. We need volunteers now and next Saturday to set up the lights. See page 10.

The 2022 Mass Book is now open. See page 5 for details.

ST. MATTHIAS LITURGY WANTS YOU TO BE A CHRISTMAS ANGEL

Decorate the church and cafeteria, be Greeters and Hospitality Ministers, Project the Mass in the Church, Operate live-streaming equipment in the Cafeteria.



SEEKING ANGELS FOR ALL THE FOLLOWING CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR MASSES

ST. MATTHIAS CHRISTMAS SEASON MASS SCHEDULE

Nativity of the Lord - Friday, December 24th, (Christmas Eve)

2:00 pm Mass in church w/overflow in cafeteria
 4:00pm Mass in church w/overflow in cafeteria
 6:30 pm Mass in church w/overflow in cafeteria



Nativity of the Lord - Saturday, December 25th (Christmas Day)

Midnight Mass in church
 10:00 am Mass in church
 12:00 pm Mass in church

Solemnity of Mary Vigil - Friday, December 31st, (New Year's Eve)

5:00 pm Mass in church

Solemnity of Mary - Saturday, January 1st (New Year's Day)

10:00 Mass in church



Epiphany of the Lord - Sunday, January 2nd

8:00 Mass in church
 10:00 Mass in church
 1:00 Mass in church

Franklin HS Madrigals - 1:00 pm in church



Do You Have Some Time to Volunteer?

We welcome volunteers to help in our office with simple tasks like attending the phones. Please contact Mary Pat Burke-Grospin at mpburke-grospin@stmatthias.net

amazon.com

If you shop on Amazon, please help us by starting at:
www.stmatthias.net/Amazon

Masses are celebrated in-person and 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 from 7:30 am to 7pm,
Sat from 9 am to 7pm, and
Sun from 7:30 am to 1 pm,
unless another service is taking place.

Sunday Nov 21, 2021 Works of Mercy Campaign

Celebrating Our Youth today at all Masses

8:00AM Mass Church
8:30AM Advent Liturgical Ministers Day of Reflection Church
10:00AM Mass Church
11:00AM Super 50/50 Drawing (after 10AM Mass)
12:00PM Youth Mass Church

Monday, Nov 22, 2021, St. Cecilia, Martyr

8:00AM Mass Church
8:30AM Miraculous Medal Novena Church

Tuesday, Nov. 23, 2021 Clement I, Pope & martyr

8:00AM Daily Mass Church
7:00PM Bereavement Support Grp. Zoom

Wednesday, Nov 24, 2021, Andrew Dung Lac & Companions Martyrs of Vietnam

SMS Dismissal at 12:15PM

8:00AM Mass Church
9:30AM Prayer Group-Holy Spirit de Porres Rm
7:30PM Folk Group rehearsal Church

Thursday, Nov 25, 2021, St. Catherine of

Alexandria, Martyr

Thanksgiving Day

SMS & Parish Office Closed

8:00AM Mass Church

Friday, Nov 26, 2021, John Berchmans, Patron Of Altar Servers

Native American Heritage Day

SMS & Parish Office Closed

8:00AM Daily Mass Church

Saturday, Nov 27, 2021, James Intercisus, Persian Saint

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

Sunday Nov 28, 2021 1st Sunday of Advent

8:00AM Mass Church
10:00AM Mass Church
10:30AM RCIA John XXIII Rm
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 12 Noon, **WEDNESDAY, 10 days before the intended issue** (earlier for holiday weekends). Approved content is published on a space-available basis.

Dear Friends,



Our Diocese of Metuchen held the 'Diocesan Youth Day' on October 23rd at St. Joseph's Parish in Hillsborough. The Diocesan Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry invited all parishes to celebrate a Mass this weekend, dedicated to the youth of the parish in conjunction with the Church internationally as parishes across the world unite to celebrate World Youth Day. Accordingly, we have designated today's 12 noon Mass as the Youth Mass for our parish. You will see the participation of our youth in the liturgy, serving as different ministers. The visible presence of our youth is a sign of our desire to invite and involve our young people more and more into the parish life.

You will remember that efforts to revive our youth ministry got a boost with the presence and initiative of Msgr. Curry who is affectionately called 'Fr. Joe.' He, together with his vibrant team mentors – young and not so young – kept the youth program going even during the pandemic. As he was transferred, one of his team members – Sue Lenczewski – has agreed to take on the responsibility of coordinating our youth ministry. Sue has been a teacher for 40 years and has always gone above and beyond in advocating for the youth of our local community and inspiring them to be their best selves. She has been a parishioner of St. Matthias for 26 years and along with her husband, Raymond, she is a proud parent of two boys Ryan and Robert. Prior to moving to Somerset, Sue had served as a Youth Minister in Brooklyn, NY.

I am very grateful to Sue for accepting this responsibility to be the Youth Coordinator for St. Matthias which she sees as a group effort for the good of the parish. Assisting Sue are Ken Burns, Kathy Makowski, Keith Slyman, and Deacon John. I am confident that she will help build a community for our youth. There are many opportunities for both the young and the young at heart to mentor our youth and for all of us to be blessed with our youth's active participation in our community.

Therefore as we locally celebrate World Youth Day, let us embrace the mission of promoting our youth as our common duty and responsibility. I invite you all to reach out and encourage the young people of your families and extended families and tell them that they are the church, and that they have a place and role in our church here at St. Matthias.

We are entering the week of Thanksgiving. But, giving thanks to whom? To God? Let us do our part in disproving the writer who quipped: "All what God gets from us is a short prayer before we dig into the turkey!!" Our Thanksgiving Day Mass at 8 am is a great opportunity for us to thank God as a community (Eucharist means Thanksgiving!) even as we join the rest of our nation in celebrating this quintessential American tradition.

I also invite all of us to pray Psalm 107 which encourages us to be grateful right from verse 1: "Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good! His faithful love endures forever." The rest of the psalm elaborates on God's goodness with specific examples.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Your brother in Christ,

Fr. Abraham Orapankal

Readings for the Week

Monday: Dn 1:1-6, 8-20; Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56; Lk 21:1-4

Tuesday: Dn 2:31-45; Dn 3:57, 58, 59, 60, 61; Lk 21:5-11

Wednesday: Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28; Dn 3:62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67; Lk 21:12-19

Thursday: Dn 6:12-28; Dn 3:68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74; Lk 21:20-28

Thanksgiving Day, Suggested: Sir 50:22-24; Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9, 10-11; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Lk 17:11-19

Friday: Dn 7:2-14; Dn 3:75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81; Lk 21:29-33

Saturday: Dn 7:15-27; Dn 3:82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87; Lk 21:34-36

Sunday: Jer 33:14-16; Ps 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14; 1 Thes 3:12 — 4:2; Lk 21:25-28, 34-36



Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, Nov 20	5:00PM	In loving memory of Hector Concha Morena, by The Moreno Family
Sunday, Nov 21	8:00AM	Marion Bradford, bydaughter Patricia & family
	10:00AM	Julia Nowakowski, by Daughter
	12:00PM	Robert Morgenberger, by The Bodnar Family
	(5:30PM)	Intention of Parishioners
Monday, Nov 22	8:00AM	Susan & James Shinnors, by Mary
Tuesday, Nov 23	8:00AM	Thomas Juzwiak, by wife, Pat
Wednesday, Nov 24	8:00AM	Emma Himey, by Phil & Freda Russo & family
Thursday, Nov 25	8:00AM	Perla Alojegan, by The Capuno Family
Friday, Nov 26	8:00AM	Kathleen Malinicho, by Pamela Schrum
Saturday, Nov 27	5:00PM	In loving memory of Richard Curtis, by Frances & family
Sunday, Nov 28	8:00AM	Jose Jesus David Mateo, Sr., by Carla & Susan Tiongson
	10:00AM	Spiritual Intention for Ghislaine Stephen, by Yanick Andre
	12:00PM	Dorothy Gonzalez, by Anne Marie Francis
	(5:30PM)	Intention of Parishioners

Pray for those who are sick...

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

Carolyn Banghart

Maria Barreiro

Virginia Briggs

Marie Brody

Thomas Burns

Tara Capatosto

Ellen Catalina

Barbara Coan

Tom Current

Joseph DeFrancesco

Cenon DeGuzman

Mary Ellen Delaney

Alaina Derecola

Surya & Juliany Dharma

Jim Dolan

Mary Dolan

William Dolphin

John Farkas

Claudia Gemgnani

Emma Gergely

Rose Gessner

Mary Gidaro

Jill Gordon-Szabo

Sloopy Hoffman

Baby Isla-Rose Huffman

Kathleen Lagenbacher

Al & Rose Larangeira

[Erlina Liem](#)

The Litrakis Family

Al Maglio

Sue Maglio-Alese

Beatrice May

Margaret Menendez

Gail Miranda

Sabrina Moloney

Dave Moynihan

Baby Ezran Natural

Patricia Nese

Danny Ochangco

Jim Pettit

Christina Pietrowiak

Oscar Poisler

Baby Griffin Rademaker

Kevin Reavey

Chris Retz

Ann Ritchick

Jaxon Rivera

Angela Romanek

Rudy Schaar

Maria Schwenzer

Sr. Mary Amata Shina, OSF

Sr. Rosaria Shina, OSF

Catherine Sloomaker

Encarnacion (Gina) So

Alessandro Spagnolo

Dennis Stuewe

Jeff Tami

Fred & Carolyn Vanmiddlesworth

Eulalia Villanueva

Judi Wojna

Mark T. Worthington

Everyone who is ill with Covid-19
...and for all who are homebound,
elderly, in nursing care, or living with
chronic illness

Pray for those who have died...

— "His mercy endures forever." Chronicles

Reflect



Smile with Your Family



It was Thanksgiving Day. Breakfast was over and the kids were playing in a room full of toys. Their parents lingered over a second cup of coffee. In a short while, the parents heard the sound of a brief scuffle. Then Mary, their three-year-old, burst into the kitchen in tears. "Mommy! Daddy! Christopher hit me!" she sobbed. Before either of them could think of a reply, the calm voice of their nine-year-old daughter came from the play room, "It's Thanksgiving Day—we must be thankful. Thank God, he didn't bite you!!" 😊

This morning, my wife said she wanted me to help fix Thanksgiving dinner. I said, "Why? Is it broken?" 😊

One turkey says to the other "Do you believe in life after Thanksgiving?" 😊

What do you get if you divide the circumference of a pumpkin by its diameter? Pumpkin pi. 😊

Asked to write a composition entitled, "What I'm thankful for on Thanksgiving," Little Johnny wrote, "I am thankful that I'm not a turkey." 😊

Funny 'Thank-you' quotes:

When we were children we were grateful to those who filled our stockings at Christmas time. Why are we not grateful to God for filling our stockings with legs? (G.K. Chesterton (52-18-1936), English writer & journalist)

If you can't be content with what you have received, be thankful for what you have escaped. (Author unknown)

Some people are always grumbling because roses have thorns; I am thankful that thorns have roses. (Alphonse Karr (52-42-1890), French critic and novelist)

I want to say thank you to all the people who walked into my life and made it outstanding, and all the people who walked out of my life and made it fantastic. (Author unknown)



Parenting Tune-Up

After the Thanksgiving meal, who will clean up? Just the parents? Or everyone else? Doing things together is very important. But that includes not only playing games, or telling jokes, taking walks, watching movies, but also cleaning up the house, removing garbage, washing dishes, clearing table, etc. How do you train your kids to do all these?

Marriage Tune-Up



With Thanksgiving coming up review whose job it is to cook, to decorate, to entertain guests... Remember the Martha and Mary story (Luke 10:41). Want to try anything different this year?

Inspirational Thanksgiving Quotes

"So once in every year we throng upon a day apart, to praise the Lord with feast and song in thankfulness of heart." - Arthur Guiterman

"I am grateful for what I am and have. My thanksgiving is perpetual." - Henry David Thoreau

"We would worry less if we praised more. Thanksgiving is the enemy of discontent and dissatisfaction." - Harry Ironside

"There should be a parallel between our supplications and our thanksgivings. We ought not to leap in prayer, and limp in

praise." - Charles Haddon Spurgeon

"Perhaps it takes a purer faith to praise God for unrealized blessings than for those we once enjoyed or those we enjoy now." - A.W. Tozer

"I would maintain that thanks are the highest form of thought, and that gratitude is happiness doubled by wonder." - G.K. Chesterton

"The Christian who walks with the Lord and keeps constant communion with Him will see many reason for rejoicing and thanksgiving all day long." - Warren W. Wiersbe

Biblical Thanksgiving Quotes

Scripture is filled with reminders of how much we have to be thankful for. Here are just a few of our favorite Bible verses on giving thanks. You can read more Thanksgiving Bible verses at BibleStudyTools.com.

"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." - [1 Thessalonians 5:16-18](#)

"The Lord has done it this very day; let us rejoice today and be glad." - [Psalm 118:24](#)

"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever." [Psalm 136:1](#)

"Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows." [James 1:17](#)

"Those who sacrifice thank offerings honor me, and to the blameless I will show my salvation." [Psalm 50:23](#)

"Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to and praise his name. For the Lord is good and his love endures forever, his faithfulness continues through all generations." - [Psalm 100](#)

Thanksgiving is Cultural and Religious

Thanksgiving is the most uniquely American of all our holidays. President Abraham Lincoln, in the midst of the Civil War, established Thanksgiving Day as a formal holiday in which we express our thanks to God for the many blessings He has provided. The first American Thanksgiving didn't occur in 1621 when a group of Pilgrims shared a feast with a group of friendly Indians. The first recorded public Thanksgiving had taken place in Virginia more than 11 years earlier, and it wasn't a feast. The winter of 1610 at Jamestown had reduced a group of 409 settlers to 60. The survivors had prayed for help, without knowing when or how it might come. When help arrived in the form of a ship filled with food and supplies from England, a prayer meeting was held to give communal thanks to God. Thanksgiving is the favorite holiday of many Americans. It has the simplicity of a family gathering together for a meal. Why should we be thankful this day? We must learn to be thankful or we will either become bitter and discouraged or grow arrogant and self-satisfied.

However, Thanksgiving Day also has a profound religious meaning, because giving thanks is the very heart of our natural and spiritual life. For us as Catholics, the central act of worship is called the Eucharist, a Greek word for Thanksgiving. In the Mass, we give thanks to God through Jesus, and share a sacred meal in which we acknowledge the fact that everything we have comes from God. On Thanksgiving Day in many of our rural parishes, people used to bring items such as fruits and grains which were then blessed by the pastor before being taken home.

"I Served my King for 86 Years!"

Polycarp, the bishop of Smyrna, was brought before the Roman authorities and told to curse Christ and he would be released. He replied, "Eighty-six years have I served him, and he has done me no wrong: how then can I blaspheme my King, Jesus Christ, who saved me?" The Roman officer replied, "Unless you change your mind, I will have you burnt." But Polycarp said, "You threaten a fire that burns for an hour, and after a while is quenched; for you are ignorant of the judgment to come and of everlasting punishment reserved for the ungodly. Do what you wish."

So, what kind of King is Jesus? The Jews accused Jesus of blasphemy for claiming to be God, and they wanted him to die by the most shameful and painful type of Roman execution. Hence, they brought Jesus before Pilate the Roman governor and accused Jesus of causing sedition against the Roman Empire and Caesar. "We found this man inciting our people to revolt, opposing payment of the tribute to Caesar, and claiming to be Christ, a king" (Lk. 23:2). Pilate questions Jesus about his kingship. In his dialogue with Pilate, Jesus implies that Pilate does not understand the spiritual or transcendent nature of Jesus' kingship ("My Kingdom does not belong to this world"). Jesus admits that he is a king but declares that his Kingdom is not of this world. Neither his present nor his future reign operates according to the world's criteria of power and dominance. Jesus' Kingdom, the reign of God, is based on the beatitudes, and he rules through service rather than through domination. His authority is rooted in truth, not in physical force. Jesus also claims that he has come to bear witness to the truth about a larger and eternal Kingdom. Jesus has come to bear witness to the truth: about God and His love, about us and about whom we are called to be.

"I die the king's good servant, but God's first."

St. Thomas More is the patron saint of politicians. He was a brilliant lawyer and diplomat in 16th century England. His patriotism and loyalty to the throne attracted the attention of King Henry VIII who made him Lord Chancellor of England. What Henry VIII did not know was that Thomas More's first loyalty was to Christ, the King of kings. When Henry VIII decided to divorce his wife Catherine of Aragon, marry Anne Boleyn and make himself head of the Church of England, More thought this was not right. Rather than approve what he believed to be against the Divine will, he resigned from his prestigious and wealthy position as Lord Chancellor and lived a life of poverty. Since he would not give his support to the king, More was arrested, convicted of treason, imprisoned in the Tower of London in 1534 and beheaded in July of the following year. On his way to public execution, More encouraged the people to remain steadfast in the faith. His last recorded words were: "I die the king's good servant, but God's first."

For Thomas More, it was not simply enough to confess Christ privately in the safety of his heart and home; he believed one must also confess Christ in one's business and professional life as well as in the laws and policies that govern society. Citizens of Christ's kingdom are expected to observe only one major law—the law of love. "Love God with your whole heart and love your neighbor as yourself." "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments." Jesus expects a higher degree of love from His followers: "Love one another as I have loved you." On this great Feast of Christ the King, let us resolve to give him the central place in our lives and promise to obey his commandment of love by sharing what we have with all his needy children.

2022 Mass Book

The 2022 Mass Book is now open at the Parish Office. As in the past we ask that you limit your initial request to 4 masses, so others have a selection as well. Contact the Parish Office for additional information. 727-828-1400.

TRADING SPACES & READING PLACES

Love YOUR SCHOOL

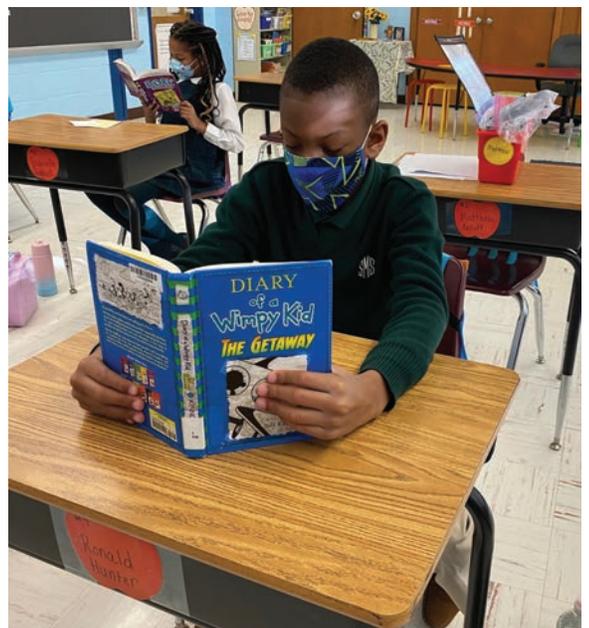
#GivingTuesday is a global day of generosity that encourages people to do good for those in need. We are proud that St. Matthias School is almost 60 years old, but the time has come for a makeover, one that reflects 21st century design. SMS classrooms, learning spaces, and furniture are outdated. Our goal is two-fold:

- Modernize our spaces with flexible seating, storage, breakout nooks, and desk options that meet the diverse needs of our students
- Enhance our guided reading collection, Writer's Workshop, and English Language Arts curriculum

Help us trade spaces and reading places on or before **November 30th** by donating to our Giving Tuesday fund. No donation is too big or too small. We thank you for your generous support.

- To learn more and to donate, go to www.stmatthias.info/givingtuesday-2021
- Or, send a check to St. Matthias School, 170 John F. Kennedy Blvd., Somerset, NJ 08873. Please make check payable to "St. Matthias School".

GIVINGTUESDAY





On Nov 30, 2021,
"Giving Tuesday"
Join St. Matthias Church's

Spiritual Tech Connect Campaign



Help us purchase media/tech equipment for our church to spiritually connect our parish community, including our homebound parishioners.
Any amount you contribute will help!
For details and to donate, visit our site:

www.stmatthias.net/GT2021

#GIVING TUESDAY

Reflect (continued)

Be Realistic: Make 2 Lists!

Perhaps Daniel Defoe gave us some good advice through his fictional character Robinson Crusoe. The first thing that Crusoe did when he found himself on a deserted island was to make out a list. On one side of the list he wrote down all his problems. On the other side of the list he wrote down all of his blessings. On one side he wrote: I do not have any clothes. On the other side he wrote: But it's warm and I don't really need any. On one side he wrote: All of the provisions were lost. On the other side he wrote: But there's plenty of fresh fruit and water on the island. And on down the list he went. In this fashion he discovered that for every negative aspect about his situation, there was a positive aspect, something to be thankful for. It is easy to find ourselves on an island of despair. Perhaps it is time that we sit down and take an inventory of our blessings.

"He is Something more than a King!"

In Lloyd Douglas' book, *The Robe*, the slave, Demetrius, pushed his way through the crowd on Palm Sunday, trying to see who the center of attraction was. He got close enough to look upon the face of Jesus. Later another slave asked, "See him – close up?" Demetrius nodded. "Crazy?" Demetrius shook his head emphatically. "King! No," muttered Demetrius, "not a king." "What is he then?" demanded the other slave. "I don't know," mumbled Demetrius, "but he is something more than a king."

We need to assess our commitment to Christ the King today. As we celebrate the Kingship of Christ today, let us remember the truth that he is not our King if we do not listen to him, love him, serve him, and follow him. We belong to his Kingdom only when we try to walk with him, when we try to live our lives fully in the spirit of the Gospel and when that Gospel spirit penetrates every facet of our living. If Christ is really King of my life, he must be King of every part of my life, and I must let him reign in all parts of my life. We become Christ the King's subjects when we sincerely respond to his loving invitation: "Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart" (Matthew 11:29). By cultivating in our lives the gentle and humble mind of Christ, we show others that Jesus Christ is in indeed our King and that he is in charge of our lives.

A Pearl of Wisdom for this Week:

"There are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle." (Albert Einstein)

From the Pastoral Staff



This weekend we celebrate the Feast of Christ the King or precisely, *The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe*. It signifies the end of the liturgical Year B and the beginning of Year C readings. Also, since 2020, it is the day for the annual Global Celebration

of World Youth Day. St. Matthias will celebrate World Youth Day at the Sunday 12 noon Mass!

Since 1985, the international World Youth Day has been held every two to three years in a different country and is intended to draw together youth and young adults, ages 16 to 35, from every continent for a worldwide pilgrimage and festival of faith along with the Holy Father. The Lisbon WYD gathering was originally scheduled to take place in the summer of 2022; however, due to the global COVID-19 pandemic, Pope Francis extended the preparatory period to August 2023. Lisbon, Portugal will be the host of the next international World Youth Day (WYD), from August 1 to 6, 2023.

Announcing these dates, the Bishops in the United States said, "We hope that many from the U.S. will participate, and we invite all youth and young adults – in fact, every person age 16 to 35 in the United States – to join us. Whether you plan to travel to Lisbon, participate through digital media, or join your peers at one of many local celebrations taking place in dioceses across the country, we want you to be part of this moment in the life of the Church".

In the summer of 1993, I and my daughter Laura, participated with others from the Diocese of Metuchen in World Youth Day in Denver, CO. We filled an entire plane with all the youth and adults participating in this special event with Pope John Paul II! There were a significant group of teens from St. Matthias with us! Mrs. Joyce Zaborowski was among the youth leaders at the time! It was a memorable experience! Perhaps we can have some St. Matthias youth participate in WYD Lisbon 2023!

Dee Nann
Pastoral Associate for Faith Formation



Pray



The Global Celebration of Young People—**TODAY** November 21, 2021, 12 Noon Mass

Learn

To celebrate our Youth at St. Matthias, we are publishing transcripts of statements made by some of our NeXt Level members describing their experiences in a passion project.

Hello my name is Melody Adamski and I am a NeXt Level Youth Delegate.

A couple of months ago NeXt Level had the opportunity to go to Trenton to volunteer and work on our passion project. One of the places we volunteered at was TASK which stands for the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen. When I went there my job was to serve the ice cream to the people who wanted some. While I was handing out the ice cream a tall man came, and as I was handing him the ice cream, the lid came off and I flinched! He asked me if he had scared me and that broke my heart. Immediately after he said that I told him no and that I flinched at the ice cream. I didn't think much of it afterwards. A little after that my group and I went on a tour of the building and Deacon John stayed behind in case more people wanted food. It was only until recently that I found

out that the man came back and he asked if I was okay because of what happened. Deacon John explained to him that I wasn't afraid of him and it was the ice cream that fell on the floor. The man had smiled. He then continued to tell Deacon John that one of the reasons why he is homeless is because people are scared of him. When I found this out, all I wanted to do was go to that Soup kitchen in Trenton and say to the man, "I'm so sorry you thought that I was scared of you. I'm not and other people shouldn't be. You seem like a very kind and caring person and I hope that other people will see that too." It is the little things that we do every day in life that can affect a person and we don't even realize it. So we must try to be mindful and considerate of others because behind that smile could be a deeper story that you don't know about. Thankyou!



Give (and Receive!)

Stewardship Reflection Nov 21, 2021 Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

“Jesus answered, ‘My kingdom does not belong to this world.’ (John 18:36)

Life is short. How much time, energy and money do you put into building “your” kingdom here on earth? We all know we can't take it with us. The real kingdom is in the next life. Yet, how much time, energy and money do you invest in working for that eternal kingdom? Ask God for His guidance. Detach from earthly possessions. Generously share your material goods with others for the greater glory of God.

Reflexiónese — 21 de noviembre de 2021 La fiesta de Nuestro Señor Jesucristo, el Rey del Universo

“Jesús respondió, ‘Mi reino no pertenece a este mundo.’ (Juan 18:36)

La vida es corta. ¿Cuánto tiempo, energía y dinero ha puesto para construir “su” reino aquí en la tierra? Todos sabemos que eso no podemos llevárnoslo. El reino real es en la otra vida. Sin embargo, ¿qué tanto tiempo, energía y dinero invierte en trabajar para ese reino eterno? Pídale a Dios que lo guíe. Sepárese de sus posesiones terrenales. Comparta generosamente sus bienes materiales con los demás para la mayor gloria de Dios.

Stewardship Totals for Fiscal Year July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022				Last Year's Total
Current Month	In-Pew/Mail	Parish Giving	Weekly Total	Weekly Total
Week 19 - Nov. 7, 2021	\$9,984.00	\$22,650.75	\$32,634.75	\$23,675.88
Week 20 - Nov. 14, 2021	\$10,343.00	\$0.00	\$10,343.00	\$24,864.30
Week 21 - Nov. 21, 2021	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25,263.00
Week 22 - Nov. 29, 2021	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$22,566.10
			Month-to-date Total	Nov Total Last Yr
			\$42,977.75	\$96,369.28
			Current Year-to-date Total	Year-to-date as of
			\$496,260.16	\$524,355.09

The Parish Giving amount will be updated in a future bulletin, since it was not available when this bulletin went to print.

Serve

Vocations Ministry - Called to Build God's Kingdom — Nov 21, 2021



Pope Francis in "Gaudete et Exsultate" on the call to holiness in today's world says: To the extent that each Christian grows in holiness, he or she will bear greater fruit for our world. The bishops of West Africa have observed that "we are being called in the spirit of the New Evangelization to be evangelized and to

evangelize through the empowering of all you, the baptized, to take up your roles as salt of the earth and light of the world wherever you find yourselves" Through our baptism, we are welcomed into God's family. Let the light of your faith shine so that all will come to know Jesus by your words and your example.



We Need Your Help Setting up 285 Christmas Trees!



Our Christmas trees will be delivered TODAY, Saturday, **November 20**, at approx. 10:00AM, (exact time will be confirmed a few days before for those who sign up). We need volunteers to help us move the trees from the side parking lot to the posts. And we need volunteers to attach the trees to the posts using zip-ties.

Next **Saturday, November 27, at 10 am**, we need volunteers to help us hang the Christmas lights on the trees. The lights are all net lights and we hang 2 nets (or sometimes 3) on each tree, and then connect them to the extension cords.

Volunteer for one Saturday or both Saturdays! Youth 12 and older welcome (all youth under 18 must be supervised by a parent/guardian). Please email Mary Pat Burke-Grospin at mpburke-grospin@stmatthias.net to let her know you will be coming. Thank you!

2021 GIVING TREE



On November 23, the Giving Tree will be placed in the Church as a reminder of our continuing support for those less fortunate during this holiday season. **Due to continuing COVID restrictions, we are once again requesting that all gifts be shipped directly to the organizations by December 20, 2020.** ABSOLUTELY NO GIFTS/PACKAGES ARE TO BE BROUGHT TO THE CHURCH OR PARISH OFFICE. If you prefer to purchase gift cards and have them personally delivered, we are offering you the opportunity to drop them in the collection baskets until the weekend of December 12, 2021. Please clearly mark them for the Giving Tree with the name of the preferred charity.

Participating this year: Great Expectations, Elijah's Promise, Ozanam Family Shelter, Ozanam Men's Shelter, PACT, Pregnancy Aid, YES Learning Center (3-5-year-old pre-school), Franklin Township Community Services and a new addition - Miriam's Heart. **Please check the Parish website www.stmatthias.net for gift requests and additional information.** If you have any questions, please contact Joanne Diana at j-diana@comcast.net or (732) 873-8521. Thank you once again for your participation and generosity. Be well and please stay safe.

Parish Leadership

Parish Pastoral Council:

Co-Chairs:

Claudine Langrin
ClaudMLangrin@gmail.com and
Mary Beth Vetter-Purcell
marybeth.vetter@gmail.com

Co-Secretaries:

Lorraine Farr and
Anne Marie Francis

Rose Peng
Frank Rees
Maria Tapia-Burch
John Taylor

Marilyn Wegg
Ana Kelly, Ex-Officio
Fr. Abraham, Ex-Officio

Trustees:

Isaac Peng
Marge Richards

Parish Finance Council:

Joe Porter, Chair
FinanceCouncil
@stmatthias.net

Susan Klimcsak
Barry Dusault
Gwen Orłowski

Audrey Francis
Kester Hector
Joan Pritchard

Mary Pat Burke-Grospin,
Ex-Officio
Fr. Abraham, Ex-Officio

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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