For all Parish emails, add @stmatthias.net
Pastor: Rev Abraham Orapankal, abraham
Parochial Vicar: Rev. Msgr. Joseph Curry, jcurry
Pastoral Staff
Deacon Russell Demkovitz, rdemkovitz
Ana V Kelly, Marketing & Development, akelly
Dolores R. Nam, Faith Formation, dnam
Mary Beth Oria, Business Administrator, moria
Deacon John Radvanski, deaconjohn
Joan Bell Seamon, Music Ministry, jsseamon
Sr Marie Therese Sherwood, OSF, Social Concerns, msherwood
Phyllis Stone, Liturgy/RCIA and Administrative Assistant to the Pastor, pstone
St. Matthias School (add @stmatthiasnj.org)
Elena Malinconico, Principal. emalinconico
Joseph Gidaro, Vice Principal, jgidaro
Parish Office Staff
Kelly Counts, Day Receptionist
Nathalie Godet, Formation/Parish Support Sec.
Leslie Guillen, Bulletin Editor
Amy Hanna, Parish Support Secretary
Vinnie Natale, Bookkeeper
Tish Stumper, Parish Support Secretary
Mike Lanyi, Sacristan
Maintenance Staff
Julio Montoto, Maintenance Supervisor
Connie Davis, Custodian
Juan Diaz Flores, Custodian
Silvia Nizama, Housekeeper

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

St. Matthias School (SMS):
170 JFK Boulevard, Somerset, NJ 08873
732-828-1402, www.stmatthias.info

St. Matthias Church
All are welcome

Volunteers Needed to Help Set Up Christmas Trees!
Join us next Sunday, outside, from 10 am till 3 pm

Help us “Spread the Light” next
Sunday, Nov. 29, as we set up over
260 Christmas trees outside! We
need many volunteers (Middle
School students through adults). This
can be a fun, socially distant,
outdoor, family activity!
See page 4 for details and then join
us on Sunday from 10 till 3. Come for an hour or come for the entire time!

Giving Tuesday 2020 — December 1, 2020

Giving Tuesday is a national initiative to express gratitude for our blessings.
After the flurry of Black Friday and Cyber Monday, Giving Tuesday
(December 1, 2020) is a time to step back and help build a better world
by giving to a nonprofit.

This year, St. Matthias will focus our Giving Tuesday initiative on Interactive
Display Technology (often known as Smart Boards) for our School. Our
existing technology needs to be upgraded and we will use a phased-in
approach. For Giving Tuesday 2020, our goal is to purchase 3 new “smart
boards” by raising $15,000. Each board and associated equipment costs
$5,000. These new boards will be used by both the Middle School and the
Lower School. Our technology plan will eventually phase in a total of 20
boards. Join us at www.stmatthia.net on Tue., December 1!
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

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

**Sunday, Nov 22, 2020**

Catholic Campaign for Human Dev-all Masses
Blessing of All Liturgical Ministers @ all Masses
St. Vincent de Paul Thanksgiving Gift Card distribution—All Day 11/22—11/25
10:00AM Mass Church
10:30AM Communion outside front doors Church
10:30AM RCIA de Pomes Rm Church
11:15AM Super 50-50 Drawing Church Area
12:00PM Mass Church
12:30PM Communion outside front doors Church
2:00PM RCIA Inquiry Sessions via Zoom

**Monday, Nov 23, 2020**

8:00AM Mass Church
6:30PM Dee’s Small Grp Mtg. via Zoom

**Tuesday, Nov 24, 2020**

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

**Wednesday, Nov 25, 2020**

8:00AM Daily Mass Church

**Thursday, Nov 26, 2020**

Thanksgiving Day
Parish Office & School are Closed
8:00AM Daily Mass Church
Special Collection for the Franklin Food Bank

**Friday, Nov 27, 2020**

Native American Heritage Day
School & Parish Office are Closed
8:00AM Daily Mass Church

**Saturday, Nov 28, 2020**

1st Days of Advent
2nd Collection—Annual Retirement Collection for Diocesan Clergy
3:30:4:30PM Confessions Church
4:30-5:30PM GS Silver Award Food Collection Project for Elijah’s Promise—by 3 car garage behind church
5:00PM Mass Church

**Sunday, Nov 29, 2020**

1st Sunday of Advent
2nd Collection—Annual Retirement Collection for Diocesan Clergy
9:30AM-12:30PM GS Silver Award Food Collection for Elijah’s Promise by 3 car garage behind church
10:00AM—3 PM: **Set-up Christmas Trees** Outside
10:00AM Mass Church
10:30AM Communion outside front doors Church
12:00PM Mass Church
12:30PM Communion outside front doors Church

From the Pastor & the Pastoral Staff

Dear Friends,

Thanksgiving usually brings lots of joy and fun with good family fellowship. Except that this year it won’t be Thanksgiving as usual! Most people, I hear, are opting for the most heartbreaking decision: a nuclear Thanksgiving! Celebration with just the immediate family. A wise decision to protect ourselves, our family and friends and the larger community from Covid-19. Yet the spirit of Thanksgiving will not be dead even with a subdued celebration. This year the pandemic makes us conscious of the importance of gratitude to two realities:

1. Thanking God for the gift of each day. Often we take it for granted. Covid-19 teaches us that tomorrow is not guaranteed; all we have is today. Live the present moment fully and be alive with a grateful heart and joyful spirit.
2. Thanking our immediate family. The lockdown can be seen as a blessing in disguise so many families to grow closer and to appreciate each other better.

Why not begin the Day of Thanksgiving by attending the 8 am Mass in our Church either in person or online? That will set the right tone for the rest of the day. When we consider the unbelievable loss of life in every family in the first year of the arrival of the early settlers, no one would have blamed them for setting aside a day of mourning, instead of a day of Thanksgiving. But they chose to commemorate their time in the new world with a day of Thanksgiving despite the grief, poverty and illness. It is also good to remember that President Lincoln’s declaration of a national day of Thanksgiving happened in the midst of a devastating Civil War. Today, faced with the threat of a tiny but deadly virus, let us spend this day with a greater sense of gratitude to God and to one another.

Today’s Feast of the Solemnity of Christ the King is the signal that the Church’s calendar year is coming to an end and that we are about to start the new year! Thus, the First Sunday of the New Year in the Liturgical Calendar is next Sunday as we begin the season of Advent! It is good for us to know that today’s feast was established by Pope Pius XI in 1925 as an antidote to secularism, a way of life which leaves God out of our thinking and living, and organizes life as if God did not exist. The feast is meant to proclaim, in a striking and effective manner, Christ’s royalty over individuals, families, society, governments, and nations. May we all recognize this truth and continue our efforts to honor Jesus by living his values.

Happy Thanksgiving.

Your brother in Christ,

Fr. Abraham Orapankal
Readings for the Week

**Monday**: Rv 14:1-3, 4b-5; Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6; Lk 21:1-4

**Tuesday**: Rv 14:14-19; Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13; Lk 21:5-11

**Wednesday**: Rv 15:1-4; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 7-8, 9; Lk 21:12-19

**Thursday**: Rv 18:1-2, 21-23; 19:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9, 10-11; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Lk 17:11-19

**Friday**: Rv 20:1-4, 11—21:2; Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6a and 8a; Lk 21:29-33

**Saturday**: Rv 22:1-7; Ps 95:1-2, 3-5, 6-7ab; Lk 21:34-36

**Sunday**: Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Mk 13:33-37

---

Mass Intentions for the Week*

**Saturday, Nov 21**
5:00PM Susan & James Shinners, by Mary

**Sunday, Nov 22**
8:00AM Bill Murphy, by Sandra Hayes Licitra
10:00AM Elizabeth & Raymond Bums, by son, Ken
12:00PM Gilberto Gavilanes, by The Gavilanes Family
5:30PM Intention of Parishioners

**Monday, Nov 23**
8:00AM Hector Concha Morena, by The Moreno Family

**Tuesday, Nov 24**
8:00AM Thomas Juzwiak, by wife

**Wednesday, Nov 25**
8:00AM Raymond Bums, by son, Ken

**Thursday, Nov 26**
8:00AM Health & Blessings for Joshua & Jaimer Valdez, by Mom & Dad

**Friday, Nov 27**
8:00AM Val Fluta, by Ruth Anne Koenick & Gale Dillman

**Saturday, Nov 28**
5:00PM Pat Toland, by Dennis & Rita Stuewe

**Sunday, Nov 29**
8:00AM Birthday Blessings for Robert Jogan II, by Uncle Joseph
10:00AM William Oberlander, by Julie Vitelli
12:00PM Intention of Parishioners
5:30PM Dorothy Isenberg, by Joseph Gidaro

*The Mass intentions will be fulfilled by Fr. Abraham and Fr. Joe as they celebrate private masses for these intentions, when we don't have a public mass scheduled. Everyone is welcome to join us in spirit as we pray for these intentions.

---

Pray for those who are sick...

If you or a family member are sick, please 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.

Elbren, Sr. & Natalia
Agedepo
Rosemary Albaugh
Robert Bachman
Lourdes Banaag
Edward Bauer
Cecilia Bongga Alcantara
Marion Bradford
Dylan Braunstein
Timothy Brennan
Marie Brody
Baby Isla-Rose Callahan
Tara Capatosto
Ellen Catalina
Frank Catalina
Barbara Coan
Wes Codington
Lisa DeFeo
Marie DeFeo
Adoracion & Cenon
DeGuzman
Mary Ellen Delaney
Alaina Derecola
Nancy Diaz
Mary Dolan
William Dolphin
Dorothy Domenici
Jaclyn, Ariana & Thomas Donlon
Mary Eads
Brian Edwards
Anne Fortune
Emma Gergely
Rose Gessner
Mary Gidaro
Katherine Giustino
John Gross
Michael Hagerty
Emma A. Himey
Sloopy Hoffman
Merla Isabelo
Pamela Kannaire
Allison Karakowski
Michael Kirugi
Milicent Kraft
Herman Krueger
Taylor LaCort
Rosemarie LaTorre
William Lecorciick
Pat Leposa
Alexander LiCausi
The Utrakis Family
Alexander Maceven
Kelly Magat
Monique Marie Mageot
Al Maglio
Sue Maglio-Alese
Patrick Mahoney
Christine Matthews
Anne McElwee
Elizabeth Miller
Dave Moynihan
Baby Ezran Natural
Patricia Nese
Cassian Ndukuwu
Danny Ongchango
Jiliane Opdylke
Mafalda Parafloriti
Julie Parks
Jim Pettit
Annie Powderly
Samantha Renaud
Aubree Rezac
Darius Rutashobya
Rudy Schaar
Maria Schwenger
Lena Sciotto
Sr. Mary Amata Shina, OSF
Sr. Rosaria Shina, OSF
Encamacion (Gina) So
Alessandro Spagnolo
Dennis Stuewe
Juan Ulierio
Denise Urqhart
Fred & Carolyn
Vanmiddlesworth
Eulalia Villanueva
Luzminda Villarica
Mark T. Worthington
Edward Yeager
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...

Mona Wilson - “His mercy endures forever.” Chronicles
Parish News:

Volunteers Needed to Help Set Up the Christmas Trees!
Join us next Sunday, outside, from 10 am till 3 pm

Setting up the Christmas tree is often a great tradition for a family to do together. In these days of the pandemic, we especially need to celebrate and enjoy each other. Next Sunday, we invite you to spend some time helping us all celebrate each other as we set up 270 Christmas Trees outside.

The 270 wrapped trees will arrive on Saturday, November 28. Poles will be installed in the ground, one per tree, on Saturday. On Sunday from 10 am to 3 pm, we need many hands to help us set up the trees. We need people to carry each tree to a pole; to cut the rope around each tree; to tie each tree to a pole; to open the boxes that hold the Christmas tree lights and stretch out each string of lights; to wrap the lights around each tree; and to run extensions cords and anchor them to the ground. We need people willing to do heavy lifting and people willing to sit while untangling the tree lights. Whatever your skill, please join us as little or as much time as you can.

Trees will be placed 10 feet apart from each other, so you can volunteer and still be socially distant. Remember to wear a mask and bundle up! Questions? Contact Fr. Joe Cuny at jcuny@stmathias.net

Sunday Reflections

Smile with Your Family

A pedestrian steps off the curb and into the road without looking and promptly gets knocked flat by a passing cyclist. “You were really lucky it’s a cycle,” says the cyclist. “What on earth are you talking about? That really hurt!” says the pedestrian, still on the pavement, rubbing his head. The cyclist replies, “Well, usually I drive a bus!”

A man buys a parrot, only to have it constantly insult him. He tries everything to make the parrot stop, but nothing works. Frustrated, the man puts the parrot in the freezer. After a few minutes the insults stop. The man thinks he might have killed the parrot, so he opens the freezer and takes the parrot out. The parrot is shivering. It stammers, “S-s-sorry for being r-r-rude. Please f-f-forgive me.” Then, after a moment, the parrot softly asks, “W-w-what exactly d-d-did the turkey do?”

Q: What animal has the worst eating habits?
A: The turkey, because it gobbles everything up!

Q: Why do turkeys eat so little?
A: Because they are always stuffed.

Q: Why did the cranberries turn red?
A: Because they saw the turkey dressing!

Parenting Tune-Up

This is Thanksgiving week. Besides whatever special you have for meals, how do you make it a Thanksgiving to God? Many families ask everyone around the table to express what they are grateful to God for this year. And read a Bible passage and pray. This will be a very good formation for your children.

Marriage Tune-Up

Ways to Turn Your Beloved Off - Let bargain hunting rob you of time - time to serve those who don’t have the money even for a bargain. Let Matthew 25 ring in your ears: “I was hungry, thirsty, a stranger, naked, ill, in prison...” Spend some time and money responding to this sales pitch from Christ the King as Christmas approaches.

Simple Things to be Thankful For

“I am thankful for the mess to clean up after a party because it means I am blessed with friends.
• I am thankful for the taxes I pay because it means that I am employed.
• I am thankful for the clothes that fit a little too snugly because it means I have had enough to eat.
• I am thankful for my shadow that watches me work because it means I am out in the sunshine.
• I am thankful for a lawn that needs mowing, windows that need cleaning, gutters that need fixing because it means I have a home.
• I am thankful for all the complaining I do about the government because it means we have freedom of speech.
• I am thankful for the spot I find at the far end of the parking lot because it means I am capable of walking.
• I am thankful for my big heating bill because it means I am warm.
• I am thankful for the lady behind me in Church who sings off-key because it means I can hear.
• I am thankful for the piles of laundry and ironing because it means my loved ones are nearby.
• I am thankful for weariness and aching muscles at the end of the day because it means I have been productive.
• I am thankful for the alarm that goes off early in the morning because it means I am alive.”

Page 4 www.stmathias.net Nov 22, 2020

668
A Church in Ohio did it with a large icon—a 62-foot-tall statue of Jesus with upraised arms, installed in a cornfield just north of Monroe, Ohio on Interstate 75. The statue—dubbed “Super Savior”—was erected by the Solid Rock Church, in Middletown. Here is what is interesting. Traffic fatalities on this notorious stretch of road have dropped dramatically since the Super Savior statue was raised. Is that pure coincidence or has the Styrofoam and fiberglass Christ really aided road safety? Nobody knows. [Dr. John Bardsley. Source: National Catholic Reporter (10-28-2005), p. 3]

Certainly a giant statue of Christ does no harm, and if it improves traffic, that’s fine. But do not be confused. This is not the best way to express our allegiance to Christ. The best way to express our allegiance to Christ is to make our lives worthy of the name Christian.

King Who Conquered Death!

Worldly kings do not have this power. Their last enemy is death, which ends their power, wealth, and prestige. In Vienna there is a crypt under a Capuchin church. In this crypt are buried 140 Kings, Queens, Princes and Princesses. Each sarcophagus is sculpted in steel. The largest is a double tomb for Maria Theresa and her husband. On each sarcophagus was carved a cross and the Royal crown. On each corner of one sarcophagus was a skull wearing a crown.

The message was clear: Death was king! Even kings are conquered by death. But the King of God’s realm lives in spite of death. And so we, as Christians belonging to Him, have no fear of death, for by the power of His cross, death was defeated for us all.

Gandhi’s Strength

In the published diaries of Joseph Goebbels, the infamous Nazi Propagandist, there are two or three references to Mahatma Gandhi. Goebbels believed that Gandhi was a fool and a fanatic. If Gandhi had the sense to organize militarily, Goebbels thought, he might hope to win the freedom of India. He was certain that Gandhi couldn’t succeed by following a path of non-resistance and peaceful revolution. Yet as history played itself out, India peacefully won her independence while the Nazi military machine was destroyed. What Goebbels regarded as weakness actually turned out to be strength. What he thought of as strength turned out to be weakness. Jesus the King won freedom for mankind and won the hearts of mankind by his death on the cross.
Sunday Reflections

Is Jesus a King? Yes, But a Unique King!

The New Testament tells us that Jesus is the long-awaited king of the Jews. In the Annunciation, recorded in Lk 1:32-33, we read: “The Lord God will make him a King, as his ancestor David was, and he will be the King of the descendants of Jacob forever and his Kingdom will never end.” The Magi from the Far East came to Jerusalem and asked the question: (Mt 2:2) “Where is the baby born to be the King of the Jews? We saw his star... and we have come to worship him.” During the royal reception given to Jesus on Palm Sunday, the Jews shouted: (Lk 19:38) “Blessed is the King, who comes in the name of the Lord.” When Pilate asked the question: (Jn 18:33) “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus, in the course of their conversation, made his assertion, “You say that I am a King. For this was I born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the Truth. Everyone who belongs to the Truth listens to My Voice” (Jn 18:37).

A unique King with a unique Kingdom: Jesus Christ still lives as King, in thousands of human hearts all over the world. The cross is his throne and the Sermon on the Mount is his rule of law. His citizens need obey only one law: “Love others as I have loved you” (Jn 15:12). His love is selfless, sacrificial, kind, compassionate, forgiving and unconditional. That is why the preface in today’s Mass describes Jesus’ Kingdom as “a Kingdom of truth and life, a Kingdom of holiness and grace, a Kingdom of justice, love and peace.” He is a King with a saving and liberating mission: to free mankind from all types of bondage so that we may live peacefully and happily on earth and inherit Eternal Life in Heaven. His rule consists in seeking the lost, offering salvation to those who call out to him and making friends of enemies.

Who Are the Terrorists of God’s Kingdom?

Terrorism has affected the entire world, including Christ’s Kingdom on earth. These terrorists are people who slaughter the unborn; engage in a frontal attack on the modern family through provocative television shows, movies, music and pornography; eradicate any recognition of God from public display and public schools; they include those priests and the religious who abuse children. Hence, Jesus, the King, needs convinced apostles prepared and ready to fight against these enemies, first by prayer, then by accepting willingly the sufferings that come our way and offering them to God with Jesus, our King, in reparation for our sins and the sins of the world, and finally by living lives of loving humble service, using our gifts generously for all. The battlefield is the home, the school, the place of employment, the neighborhood, and the parish.

These provide new and exciting challenges, new opportunities for us to do, ourselves, what is right and to live out the Truth of Jesus Christ our King, neither compromising with sin nor passing judgment on the motives or guilt of any of our brothers and sisters, but loving and praying for all of us. To ensure that Jesus is always the King of our hearts, we need to make a great commitment to Him and to back that commitment with the

“Giving Tuesday” Is Coming Up Soon!

As we know, “Giving Tuesday” is a global day to give generously to charity after the Black Friday and Cyber Monday sales events. According to the University of Notre Dame’s Institute for Church Life, Catholics in the U.S. rank last behind Jews, Protestants and Mormons when it comes to giving to the Church and its ministries. A study called “Unleashing Catholic Generosity: Explaining the Catholic Giving Gap in the United States” found that Mormons ranked the best: More than seven out of 10 tithe (give 10% of their income) to their church or charities, and more than six out of 10 gave specifically to religious causes. Among Catholics, however, only 15% reported tithing, and little more than one out of five give to the Church (or religious causes) at all.

The study, however, found that economics was not the likely culprit but American Catholics’ lack of “spiritual engagement with money.” The results showed parishes with a “pay-the-bills culture” or a failure to communicate the vision had far lower levels of religious giving and tithing, whereas parishes that invited people to be part of the planning and vision, discussed the need for money in that context and communicated the good things that their donations would accomplish saw “more generous giving.”

Catholic leaders are starting to realize that the Church’s ministries need to tell their stories better, so people feel personally involved in the Church’s work and “transforming the lives of others.” The Giving campaign is an opportunity to show the Church’s members and donors “this is what you can accomplish for God’s Kingdom.” “If we can help our parishes, agencies and schools cast out this vision of what people’s generosity can accomplish, we can slowly get to that point where people are no longer giving to a need, but understand they have a need to give.”
Celebrating Our Faith: Liturgy

DO YOU WANT TO BE A ST. MATTHIAS CHRISTMAS LITURGY ANGEL???

Volunteers Christmas Liturgy Angels are needed for various liturgical ministries for the six Christmas Eve/Christmas Day Masses – December 24 at 2:00, 4:00 and 6:30 pm, Midnight, and December 25 at 10:00 and 12:00. You can be one of these angels:

- Minister of Hospitality (greeters) - greet and seat Christmas mass attendees according to the distancing charts in the Church, Cafeteria and John XXIII Room, and usher communion lines to ensure proper spacing.

- Eucharistic (Extraordinary) Minister - serve communion (the Precious Body) as trained by St. Matthias and mandated by the Diocese of Metuchen. (Must be at least 16 years of age).

- Mass Safety Captain - oversee our safety between masses by assisting volunteers who sanitize chairs and pews for the next round of mass goers.

- Decorate - assist the Environment Team with sprucing up and decorating the church, cafeteria and the John XXIII room for Christmas services.

- Tech Support & Volunteer— specific training will be scheduled once we have all the angels lined up.

Sign-ups are available now into December at https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A054FA4AB2FAAFF2-christmas or by contacting Phyllis Stone directly at (732) 828-1400, ext 127 or pstone@stmatthias.net.

Now is the Time to Sign up to Attend Christmas Mass In-Person at St. Matthias

This year we are asking parishioners at St. Matthias to sign up to attend Christmas Mass in-person, starting November 22nd. Why? Because we want to make sure no one is turned away from joining us to celebrate the birth of Jesus as a community.

Six masses will be offered

December 24th
- 2:00 pm (newly added with permission from the Diocese)
- 4:00 pm
- 6:30 pm

December 25th
- Midnight
- 10:00 am
- 12:00 Noon

Mass will be celebrated from the church with live-streaming to the School Cafeteria and into homes. Seating will be set up to ensure we maintain the NJ State requirements on distancing. Parishioners are allowed to sign up as many as eight (8) people for one Christmas Eve/Day mass. Once you complete your sign-up, you receive a confirmation notice at your email address. The notice will have a confirmation number which you will not need for entry but can use to cancel if needed.

Importantly, we will continue to follow the NJ State and Diocese of Metuchen safety guidelines for the COVID-19 pandemic, namely:

- If you are not feeling well, you are requested to stay home
- Everyone is required to wear a mask
- Groups/individuals will be separated by 6 ft
- Plenty of hand sanitizer will be on-hand
- Pews and chairs will be sanitized after each mass
- For proper ventilation during the winter months for enclosed building, the heat will be on but windows will be open and fans left on for air flow
- Main doors will be the entry points and all mass goers will use one exit in a safely distanced manner
- Those receiving communion are encouraged to receive the host on the hand. **If you receive communion on the tongue, you must remain seated at the end of mass until everyone else has received.**

To sign up, go to http://www.thejesustoday.com/stmatthias/christmassignup.php

If you do not have access to the internet to sign up, contact Kelly Counts in the Parish Office at (732) 828-1400 and she will create a sign up for you. Questions? Please feel free to contact Phyllis Stone at pstone@stmatthias.net or at (732) 828-1400, ext 127.
**Stewardship Reflection Nov 22, 2020**

"...whatever you did for one of the least of my brothers, you did for me." - Matthew 25:40

Most of us are generous when it’s convenient for us. We are generous when we have the time or the money. But, generosity is the opposite of that. It means giving of one’s time, money, compassion, forgiveness or mercy when it’s not convenient; when it’s not on our schedule, but on the other person’s schedule.

**Merchant Discount Card Available for All**

The Home School Association is excited to announce that this year we will be offering local discount cards in place of coupon books. Each card will be $10.

For school families, every card you sell will earn you $2 towards your HSA commitment.

Please use the following Sign Up Genius link below to request how many cards you wish to purchase:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0948AAAEE28AAAP94-smisdcard

Please list your child’s name and homeroom, if you are an SMS family. Payment can be sent to the SMS HSA PayPal account: https://www.paypal.com/paypalme/StMatthiasHSA?

These cards may be purchased by anyone. You may use the discount once a day per merchant at the locations listed, until the expiration date stated. Details are on the card.

**Are You Interested in Becoming Catholic?**

Your Journey of Faith Begins With Your Questions...

AM I INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC?

DO I WANT TO BE IN FULL COMMUNION WITH THE CATHOLIC CHURCH?

AM I A TEEN OR ADULT DESERING THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION?

...and culminates at Easter with the grace of the sacraments of initiation – Baptism, Communion, and Confirmation -

JOIN THE NEXT RCIA INQUIRY SESSIONS BY ZOOM

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22ND FROM 2PM - 3PM**

RSVP TO Phyllis Stone @ pstone@stmatthias.net or by calling the Parish Office, (732) 828-1400, ext 127

**Celebrating Our Faith: Liturgy**

Are You Interested in Becoming Catholic?

AM I INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC?

DO I WANT TO BE IN FULL COMMUNION WITH THE CATHOLIC CHURCH?

AM I A TEEN OR ADULT DESERING THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION?

...and culminates at Easter with the grace of the sacraments of initiation – Baptism, Communion, and Confirmation -

JOIN THE NEXT RCIA INQUIRY SESSIONS BY ZOOM

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22ND FROM 2PM - 3PM**

RSVP TO Phyllis Stone @ pstone@stmatthias.net or by calling the Parish Office, (732) 828-1400, ext 127

**Being Good Stewards**

"... todo lo que hiciste por uno de mis hermanos más pequeños, lo hiciste por mí", - MATEO 25:40

La mayoría de nosotros somos generosos cuando nos conviene. Somos generosos cuando tenemos el tiempo o el dinero. Pero la generosidad es lo opuesto a eso. Significa dar nuestro tiempo, dinero, compasión, perdón o misericordia cuando no es conveniente; cuando no está en nuestro horario, sino en el horario de la otra persona.
Being Good Stewards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stewardship Totals for Fiscal Year July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021</th>
<th>Last Year's Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current Month</td>
<td>In-Pew/Mail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 18 - Nov. 1, 2020</td>
<td>$12,941.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 19 - Nov. 8, 2020</td>
<td>$10,009.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 20 - Nov. 15, 2020</td>
<td>$10,858.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 21 - Nov. 22, 2020</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 22 - Nov. 29, 2020</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Month-to-date Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$71,065.68</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current Year-to-date</strong></td>
<td><strong>$472,099.19</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Caring for Others

**2020 GIVING TREE – COVID-19 Edition**

Thanksgiving is almost upon us and that means it is time for the 2020 Giving Tree. A symbolic Giving Tree will be placed in the Church; however, the ornaments will serve to provide general information only. Due to the uncertainty of the pandemic, we will be supporting the less fortunate through virtual giving. In an effort to keep the staff and our volunteers safe, we will not be making deliveries this year. Therefore, **ABSOLUTELY NO GIFTS ARE TO BE DELIVERED TO THE CHURCH OR PARISH OFFICE.**

Participating once again are: Great Expectations, Elijah’s Promise, Ozanam Family Shelter, Ozanam Men’s Shelter, PACT (gift cards only), Pregnancy Aid and YES Learning Center (pre-school children ages 3-5). **The Giving Tree will begin Thanksgiving week.** Please check the Parish website for more information regarding the websites, wish lists and shipping addresses. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please call Joanne Diana (732)873-8521 or send an email to j-diana@comcast.net. Thank you!

**Caregiver/Care Support Ministry Meeting**

We’d like to invite parishioners who are caring for ill loved ones, or are coping with chronic illness themselves, and in need of spiritual and emotional support, to join us for discussion and prayer via Zoom

**DATE:** Saturday, December 5th
**TIME:** 10am - 11 noon
**PLACE:** Via Zoom

Please contact: Donna Kahora: friendsofnikki@comcast.net or Sister Marie Therese: mshenwood@stmatthias.net 732-828-1400 for Zoom details if you are interested in joining us.

---

**Can You Help Elijah’s Promise This Advent?**

**Saturday, November 28 & Sunday, November 29**

2 of our St. Matthias parishioners, Kayla Foley and Gabby Langrin, are trying to achieve their Girl Scout Silver Award. For their project, they are gathering donations for Elijah’s Promise, a non-profit organization in New Brunswick that collects food and clothing for people in need.

Gabby and Kayla will be collecting the items in the church parking lot by the garage, on Saturday, November 28 from 4:30-5:30 and Sunday, November 29 from 9:30-12:30. Please help us by bringing the following items:

- Ziti noodles and elbow macaroni
- Fruit cups nonperishable
- Water bottles (16 oz)
- Granola bars, sealed muffins, crackers
- Plastic forks & spoons
- Napkins
- Socks, gloves, and underwear (these items must be new)
- Men’s and women’s winter coats, blankets
- Toothpaste (these may be lightly used)
- Travel sized: deodorant, shaving cream, razor, floss, comb, soap/shampoo,
- Toothbrushes

For more information or to arrange for a **contactless pick-up**, please contact Kayla Foley kkaylafoley.y@gmail.com or Gabby Langrin gabbylang120@gmail.com.
Connecting with Our Local Community

**Clothing Drive for Veterans**

The Jersey Blue Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution is conducting a clothing drive to benefit the veterans at the New Jersey Memorial Veterans Home at Menlo Park. The date is November 24th from 10:00am to 2:00pm. Items needed are new unused sweatpants and T-shirts in size Large and XL.

Items can be placed in the collection box located on the back porch of Buccleuch Mansion which is located inside Buccleuch Park. The address is 321 Easton Ave., New Brunswick, 08901. You may contact Susan Luczu at jerseyblueristar@comcast.net or at 732-828-1400; ext. 121.

Pray for Life

November 2020

National Adoption Month

Prayer:

O Blessed Mother, you received the good news of the incarnation of Christ, your Son, with faith and trust. Grant your protection to all pregnant mothers facing difficulties.

Guide us as we strive to make our parish communities places of welcome and assistance for mothers in need. Help us become instruments of God’s love and compassion.

Mary, Mother of the Church, graciously help us build a culture of life and a civilization of love, together with all people of good will, to the praise and glory of God, the Creator and lover of life.

Amen.

Parish Leadership

Parish Pastoral Council:
Chair: Nick Grippo
nkgrippo@gmail.com
Co-Chair: Lisa Robinson
lar0504@comcast.net
Secretary: Tom Aussem

Co-Secretary:
Denise Brown
Lorraine Farr
Anne Marie Francis
Caudine Langrin
Garrett Linenroth
Joe Percoco

Parish Finance Council:
Joe Porter, Chair
Finance Council
@stmatthias.net
Susan Klimcak
Bary Dusault
Gwen Orlowski
Audrey Francis

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 select weekends.

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 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.

Bulletin Article Requests
Please email proposed bulletin articles to bulletin@stmatthias.net by 6 pm, Wednesday, 10 days before the intended issue (earlier for holiday weekends).

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

Resta’s
Trusted Since 1946

732-873-8900
Restas.com

1873 Amwell Road • Somerset, NJ 08873

FRANKLIN ELECTRIC
MAINTENANCE CO. INC. • LLC # 5239

- SALES
- SERVICE
- INSTALLATION
732-249-1359
www.FranklinElectricNJ.com

DON’T BE LEFT IN THE DARK!

What’s Keeping You From The Experience Of A LifeTime???

Gear Up & Get In The Action - Join Today!!!

www.ftfd1.com

PATRONIZE THE ADVERTISERS WHO MAKE THIS BULLETIN POSSIBLE!

Complete Kitchen & Bathroom Remodeling
Porcelain Marble
Granite Countertops
Heated Floors
Backsplashes
Shower Doors
732-514-1500
Lic # 13VH00782600 (Parishioner)

Tired of Climbing Stairs?
Rentals • Sales • Free Estimates
Family Owned & Operated Since 1947

Going...up!
908-402-1130
24 South Avenue • Fanwood, NJ
www.williamslifts.com

PROTECTIVE PAVING

DRIVEWAYS
PARKING LOTS
FULLY INSURED
FREE ESTIMATES
732-828-4177
SOMERSET, NJ

Wedding Invitations & Holiday Cards
Log onto www.jppc.net conveniently from your home or office.
Online Catalog • Online Ordering
All Major Credit Cards Accepted
FREE UPS GROUND SHIPPING!

To all those essential workers keeping us safe,
your service is invaluable & appreciated.

What’s My Name?
The #WHATSMYNAME Movement asks everyone to simply ask drivers “What’s my name?” before entering their vehicle to make sure it is the car they are supposed to enter.

#WHATSMYNAME

In Remembrance of Samantha Josephson

Mallory’s Army Foundation
United Together In The Fight Against Bullying...Don’t Just Teach Kindness... BE KINDNESS!
www.MallorysArmy.com
(973) 440-8657 • info@mallorysarmy.org
It’s easy to join our mailing list! Just send your email address by text message:
Text MALLORYSARMY to 22828 to get started.

Commercial Rates are set at All Time LOW. Contact us today to get a free analysis to save you money with your monthly payments on your commercial property. Multi Family, Retail, Office Building, Apartment and Condo. Can close in as little as 45 days! For seasonal customer service is our top priority.

www.dufunding.com
1650 Market Street - Suite 3600
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Morgan
basement waterproofing

In Our 4th Decade of Quality Service
French Drains • Foundation Repair • Mold Remediation
All Work Guaranteed
732-777-7888
www.morganbasementwaterproofing.com

Make a Difference in Your Community
VOLUNTEER
with the American Red Cross
Join today at redcross.org/Volunteer

American Red Cross

PUT YOUR FAITH IN US

REDCOM
DESIGNS & CONSTRUCTION • LLC
REDCOMLLC.COM • (908) 233-4030

PUT YOUR FAITH IN US

REDCOM
DESIGNS & CONSTRUCTION • LLC
REDCOMLLC.COM • (908) 233-4030

PUT YOUR FAITH IN US

REDCOM
DESIGNS & CONSTRUCTION • LLC
REDCOMLLC.COM • (908) 233-4030

Diocese of Metuchen
Catholic Cemeteries
and Crematory
800-943-8400

Holy Cross Burial Park
840 Cranbury-South River Rd.
Jamesburg, NJ 08831

www.diometuchen.org/cemeteries

Resurrection Burial Park
Hoes Lane and Park Ave.
Piscataway, NJ 08854

BRUNSWICK FURNITURE OUTLET, LLC
330 Townsend St., New Brunswick, NJ
Rafael Se Habla Espanol
732-354-4420

Patronize The Advertisers Who Make This Bulletin Possible!

$250 OFF ANY NEW

It's easy to join our mailing list! Just send your commercial property. Multi-Family, Retail, Office Building, Apartment and Condo. Can close in as little as
your monthly payments on
your commercial property. Multi Family, Retail, Office Building, Apartment and Condo. Can close in as little as 45 days! For seasonal customer service is our top priority.

www.dufunding.com
1650 Market Street - Suite 3600
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Morgan
basement waterproofing

In Our 4th Decade of Quality Service
French Drains • Foundation Repair • Mold Remediation
All Work Guaranteed
732-777-7888
www.morganbasementwaterproofing.com

Thank you
for your service.

What’s My Name?
The #WHATSMYNAME Movement asks everyone to simply ask drivers “What’s my name?” before entering their vehicle to make sure it is the car they are supposed to enter.

#WHATSMYNAME

In Remembrance of Samantha Josephson

Mallory’s Army Foundation
United Together In The Fight Against Bullying...Don’t Just Teach Kindness... BE KINDNESS!
www.MallorysArmy.com
(973) 440-8657 • info@mallorysarmy.org
It’s easy to join our mailing list! Just send your email address by text message:
Text MALLORYSARMY to 22828 to get started.

Commercial Rates are set at All Time LOW. Contact us today to get a free analysis to save you money with your monthly payments on
your commercial property. Multi Family, Retail, Office Building, Apartment and Condo. Can close in as little as 45 days! For seasonal customer service is our top priority.

www.dufunding.com
1650 Market Street - Suite 3600
Philadelphia, PA 19103