



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

Mass Schedule (in person):

Sat - 5PM, Sun - 8, 10 AM & 12 noon
 M/T/W/Th/F at 8:00AM

And also on our YouTube channel
youtube.com/c/StMatthiasSomersetNJ

St. Matthias School (SMS):

170 JFK Blvd., Somerset, NJ 08873
www.stmatthias.info 732-828-1402
 School Office Hours, Mon-Fri 8AM to 3PM.

For all Parish emails, add @stmatthias.net
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 Mary Pat Burke-Grospin, Business Administrator
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 Deacon Ron Caimi, Senior Deacon
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 Sr. Marie Therese Sherwood, OSF, Pastoral Assoc. for Social Concerns, [msherwood](mailto:msherwood@stmatthias.net)
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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 6, 2022-
32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time



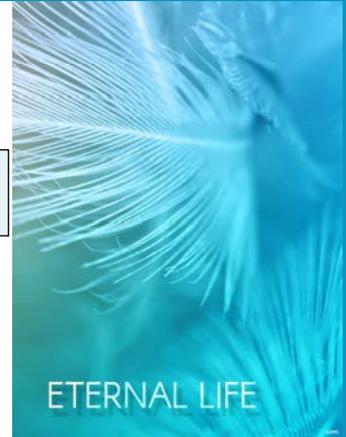
Collection for the Archdiocese for Military Services, USA at All Masses



Tuesday, Nov, 8 is Election Day! Vote!



Friday, Nov. 11 is Veterans Day.



Reminder- The 3rd and final opportunity to join in **Healthy Minds, Healthy Futures** is Wednesday, Nov. 9. The session is at 8:00PM. Entitled—**Risk Factors for Addictive Behaviors in Children/Adolescents**. Presented by James Mignone, LCSW, Director, CMC Treatment Center, Staten Island, NY.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81968510428> Meeting ID 81968510428



Next 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.



NEXT SATURDAY, NOV. 12 IS THE DAY OF SERVICE. SEE PG. 9

"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



Blessing of the **"Trail of Faith"**
 Sunday, November 13th
 Stay tuned for more about this Eagle Scout Project!



Please select **St. Matthias Church/School** as your charity on Amazon Smile. You only need to do this once. Then always shop at www.smile.amazon.com, and we will automatically receive a portion of the purchase total. Thank you!

This Week @ St. Matthias From Our Pastor

Masses are also livestreamed on our YouTube channel: youtube.com/c/StMatthiasSomersetNJ

The Church is open for individual prayer

Mon-Fri: 7:30 am to dusk , Sat: 9 am to 6pm, and Sun: 7:30 am to 1 pm, unless another service is taking place.

Sunday Nov 6, 2022 Fall into Faith – Week #5
Collection for the Archdiocese for Military Services, USA
Daylight Time Ends

8:00AM	Mass	Church
10:00AM	Mass	Church
12:00PM	Mass	Church
2:00PM	GIFT	Church, clsrms, John XXIII Rm

Monday, Nov 7, 2022 St. Ernest, Martyr & Abbot
 8:00AM Mass/Miraculous Medal Novena Church

Tuesday Nov 8, 2022 BL John Duns Scotus, Priest
Election Day

8:00AM	Mass	Church
6:30PM	GIFT	Church, clsrms & John XXIII Rm
7:00PM	Racial Justice Initiative Core Mtg.	Zoom
7:30PM	SVDP Society Mtg.	de Porres Rm

Wednesday, Nov 9, 2022 Feast—Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

8:00AM	Mass	Church
9:30AM	Holy Spirit Prayer Grp.	de Porres Rm
2:00PM	Alzheimer's Support Mtg.	Zoom
6:30PM	GIFT	Church, clsrms, John XXIII Rm
8:00PM	Vocations/Mental Health	w/Fr. Abraham Zoom

Thursday, Nov 10, 2022 St. Leo the Great, Pope & Doctor

8:00AM	Mass	Church
3:30PM	Children's Choir Gr. 3 & 4	Church
4:00PM	Children's Choir Gr. 5-8	Church
7:30PM	Adult Choir & Folk Grp. Concert Rehearsal	Church

Friday, Nov 11, 2022 Memorial—St. Martin of Tours Bishop
Veterans Day

8:00AM	Mass	Church
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Saturday, Nov 12, 2022 Memorial– St. Josaphat Kuntsevych, Bishop & Martyr

SMYLE/SVDP Foodbank Collection at all Masses

9:00AM	Faith & Racial Healing Session	Zoom
9:00AM	Liturgical Ministries Mtg.	John XXIII & Cafeteria
10:00AM	Caregivers Mtg.	Zoom
3:30PM	Reconciliation	Church
5:00PM	Mass	Church
5:00PM	SMYLE Food Bank/SVDP Collection	Church to be moved to Cafeteria

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	Church
12:00PM	Mass	Church
4:00PM	SMYLE Mtg. & pack up bags from food collection	Cafeteria

Dear Friends,

This Friday, November 11, is Veterans Day - an occasion to remind ourselves of the importance to honor all those who have risked life, limb and mind for their country, because freedom isn't free. While joining the rest of the nation commemorating this day typically with military-themed ceremonies, we bring all of these heroes and heroines in prayer to God at all the Masses next weekend.



Last Sunday evening, we had a special Mass in memory of all those who passed away this year. We had about 71 names that were read out. A small candle was lit for each of them. Family members brought pictures of their beloved departed and you can see them at the back walls of the church. We acknowledge the sadness of their no longer being physically amongst us, and yet take hope and trust as our faith teaches. At every funeral Mass I love to use the Preface I where it says: *“Indeed for your faithful, Lord, life is changed not ended, and, when this earthly dwelling turns to dust, an eternal dwelling is made ready for them in heaven.” St. Paul warns us that we must not be ignorant concerning the dead, nor sorrowful, “even as others who have no hope ... For the Lord Himself shall come down from heaven ... and the dead who are in Christ shall rise.”* (1 Thessalonians 4:13)

On All Souls Day, November 2, we prayed for all the departed souls. We know that the whole month of November is traditionally a time in which the Catholic community remembers those who have died. It is related to the fact that the end of November is the end of the Liturgical Year with a new year starting the First Sunday of Advent – the four-week period of preparation before Christmas.

The mention of Christmas reminds us how fast time passes. In the liturgical calendar, the first Sunday of Advent this year is on November 27 – earlier than usual! If you find that time is moving too quickly, and you'd like to slow it down a bit, I find the only way is to follow the method that Jesus is asking us in the beatitudes. He begins each beatitude with “Blessed are you... ..” and not “Blessed you will be... .” I believe Jesus was very intentional in directing us to be in the present moment. Probably you have heard this saying repeated to us: “Yesterday is history tomorrow is a mystery, today is a gift that's why we call it the present!” We have only the present moment at hand and how we deal with it will determine not only our joy and sadness but also the pace of our life. Once we live in the moment, we will be able to take one thing at a time, one day at a time. No wonder Jesus included *“Give us this day our daily bread”* in the only prayer he taught us to pray!

Your brother in Christ,

Fr. Abraham Orapankal

Readings for the Week

Monday: Ti 1:1-9; Ps 24:1b-2, 3-4ab, 5-6; Lk 17:1-6

Tuesday: Ti 2:1-8, 11-14; Ps 37:3-4, 18 and 23, 27 and 29; Lk 17:7-10

Wednesday: Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; 1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17; Jn 2:13-22

Thursday: Phmn 7-20; Ps 146:7, 8-9a, 9bc-10; Lk 17:20-25

Friday: 2 Jn 4-9; Ps 119:1, 2, 10, 11, 17, 18; Lk 17:26-37

Saturday: 3 Jn 5-8; Ps 112:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Lk 18:1-8

Sunday: Mal 3:19-20a; Ps 98:5-6, 7-8, 9; 2 Thes 3:7-12; Lk 21:5-19

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, Nov 5	5:00PM	John F. Collins, by Marty Collins
Sunday, Nov 6	8:00AM	Jeanette DiFilippo, by Loving Friend
	10:00AM	Nick Ventura, by The Referente Family
	12:00PM	Jack & Elsie Meagher, by son, Tom
	(5:30PM)	Intention of Parishioners
Monday, Nov 7	8:00AM	Grace McLaughlin, by The Mancuso Family
Tuesday, Nov 8	8:00AM	Birthday Blessings for Amelita Villon, by Flora Sunga
Wednesday, Nov 9	8:00AM	The Sabinosa Famly, by Violy Garcia
Thursday, Nov 10	8:00AM	Birthday Blessings for Richie Mayfield, by Phyllis Stone
Friday, Nov 11	8:00AM	Joseph Gidaro, by Wife & family
Saturday, Nov 12	5:00PM	Anna Moran, by Joe, Virginia & Eileen
Sunday, Nov 13	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

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.*

Erika & Jay Adams
 Carolyn Banghart
 Tammy Baskaran
 Angela Berlund
 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
 Al Maglio
 Susan, Tosh & King Manansala
 Christine Mathews
 Beatrice May
 Margaret Menendez
 Carol Millemann
 Sabrina Moloney
 Kathlyn 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

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

Sr. Mary Amata Shina, who ministered here at St. Matthias Parish for over twenty years as Principal and Administrator,

Reflect



Smile with Your Family



A singing group called "The Resurrection" was scheduled to sing at a Church. When a big snowstorm postponed the performance, the pastor fixed the outside sign to read, "The Resurrection is postponed." 😊

The retired bishop celebrated a special Mass for the Jubiliarians of all the religious communities in his diocese. First, he asked those celebrating their 70th and 60th anniversaries to come forward. Then he turned to those celebrating their golden jubilees and said, "I'll get to you kids later" 😊

The Catechist was taking her class from the school building to the church for Mass. "And why is it necessary to be quiet in the church?" Little Janie replied: "Because people are sleeping." 😊

A One-liner Joke: Q: Why was the Math book sad?
A: Because it had too many problems. 😊

Puzzling Questions:

- Why is a doctor refer to his work as his practice?
- Why is a financial adviser called a broker?
- Why does an airport refer to its building as a terminal?
- Why is the one who hears the confession called the confessor?



Parenting Tune-Up

November is the month dedicated to the departed souls, and in a special way we remember family members who have died. This need not be a sad or gruesome task but rather a way to celebrate the goodness and lessons learned from relatives who have gone before us. Familiarize your chil-

Marriage Tune-Up



The election is at hand. The USA is divided and tired. Is it possible to love and respect those with different political opinions? Consider how you resolve serious differences of opinion with your spouse. What does it mean to 'love your enemy' when it feels like fellow citizens are the enemy? Learn from your marriage. We must go on living together.



The Dead Lives On

The film *Amadeus* ends showing the funeral of the great musician Mozart. He died at the age of 35. A genius, he never re-copied his compositions. He never had to make corrections, so the first draft was also the final copy. A genius, he started playing several instruments at the age of four, wrote several symphonies by the age of eight and created at least 528 musical compositions before he died at age 35. He was a genius, whom one authority calls "one of the brightest stars in the musical firmament." What a waste, that he should have died so young! It makes you wonder: is this life all there is? Imagine a beloved spouse, a darling parent or grandparent, a close friend, lying cold in the coffin. Is this life all there is? We try to comfort ourselves with the doctrine of the resurrection. We say: the genius of people like Mozart is not going to be wasted. The love of dear ones - the squeeze of their hands and the music in their voices - that love will be enjoyed in even greater intensity.

A Sadducee in Jesus' time might say, "I don't believe it; the doctrine is absurd." That was the point the Sadducees wanted to make by challenging Jesus with an absurd story of a woman who married seven husbands, in today's Gospel.



The Epitaph of Benjamin Franklin

In one of his lighter moments, Benjamin Franklin (one of the most important Founding Fathers of the United States: author, political theorist, politician, printer, scientist, inventor, civic activist, and diplomat), penned his own epitaph. It seems he must have been influenced by Paul's teaching on the resurrection of the body. Here's what he wrote:

The Body of B. Franklin, the former printer lies here, food for worms, like the cover of an old book: its contents torn out, and stripped of its lettering and gilding. But the work shall not be wholly lost: for it will, as he believed, appear once more in a new & more perfect edition, corrected and amended by its Author.

Three Words that can unravel a Marriage
"... [the Lord] is not God of the dead but of the living, for to him all are alive."

Luke 20: 27-38

Like many pastors and ministers, the Rev. Samuel Wells has prepared hundreds of couples for marriage in his role as vicar of St. Martin-in-the-Fields Church in London and as

Reflect

Three Words (cont'd)

former Dean of the Chapel at Duke University. In an essay in **The Christian Century** [September 2022], Reverend Wells writes that the focus of his work with couples is helping them “unlearn” three words and replacing them with the three “new” words.

The first word he challenges couples to “unlearn” is **if**. **If** is about bargaining: *If you keep your side of the bargain, I'll keep mine*. Wells writes that “on the wedding day the two people being married dispense with the word **if** — and replace it with the word **always**. Their love is no longer conditional; it is permanent . . . **If** is the language of contract; **always** is the language of covenant. **If** is provisional; **always** is unconditional.”

The second word couples need to unlearn is **for**. “**For** is the curse of a marriage,” Wells has found. **For** is score keeping: each spouse tallies up all the things they have done for the other and expect the totals to even out. The wedding day, Wells says, “is the day to quietly put that word away and replace it with the word **with**. **With** requires constant relating, regular recalibrating, honest rebalancing. The point is never to do it well, or quickly, or efficiently — but to do it together.”

And the third word that couples need to unlearn is **ask**. **Asking** all the questions has to take place before the wedding, Wells writes: **asking** what the future spouse likes and dislikes, **asking** what he or she loves and values, **asking** about the other's loves and hurts. On the day they exchange their marriage vows, **asking** must give way to **wonder** — **wonder** about the future they will make together. **Wonder** says, “dream with me, ponder with me, explore with me, discover with me. When you **ask**, you almost always have an idea of the right or desired answer. When you **wonder**, you're opening your heart to something neither of you yet knows.”

Always, with, wonder — the understanding of those words can transform two souls into one heart; those three words are the beginning of a journey together toward a future of hope and promise. In embracing those words, a couple begins to experience the peace and love of Christ's resurrection in their life together. Resurrection is not just the central tenant of our faith as Christians — resurrection is also an attitude, a perspective for approaching life and sorting out the decisions and complexities of our lives. What the Sadducees do not understand is that God is not about endings but beginnings: God always calls us to start again, to put aside old behaviors and embrace all that is good and affirming about the time we have been given. Resurrection is to live on in the hope that the struggles we encounter in this life are but a prelude to the fullness of joy in the next. Such resurrection can be lived in our lives today when “**if**” becomes “**always**,” “**for**” becomes **with**,” “**ask**” becomes “**wonder**.”

“Too short to be saved”

In her book **Calmly Plotting the Resurrection**, minister Donna Schaper reflects on a poem by the New Hampshire poet Donald Hall:

Hall, Schaper writes, “went into his grandfather's attic and found many, many boxes, one of which was filled with short pieces of string. The box was marked in an old hand: STRING TOO SHORT TO BE SAVED. Hall was astonished. This box of string had caught him completely off-guard. And from his off-guardedness and un-guardedness, he was able to write a beautiful poem.

“The poem states the obvious: his grandfather had saved the string that was too short to be saved. If you have ever felt like you were a string too short to be saved, you know what it means to be risen.

“God has saved us all in a great attic. Nothing is ever lost to God. Nothing. Not a single [deceased] child. Not a single teenager who commits suicide. Not a single child hit by a car. Not a single young woman who dies of breast cancer. Not Mary Magdalene . . . Not one is lost to God. We will each appear too short to be saved many, many times in our lives. And God will still save us. “Risen is the experience of string that knows it is too short to be saved but is saved anyway. Despite itself. After Jesus was raised, he raised us. As he promised, he went before us into our Galilee.”

The “risen” life of God's Christ can be experienced in this time and place of ours in the gifts of compassion and mercy, of understanding and support that continue long after we realize it. Simple kindnesses and everyday de-cencies can be signs of grace, vehicles of love and care that transcends time and space. Resurrection is the promise and hope of our faith as Christians — but resurrection is also an attitude and perspective of hope and optimism that despite the crosses we encounter, no matter “how short our string,” we are always worth “saving,” that we are never “lost” to the “God of all that lives.”

“I wouldn't mind a few more Years”

Father Mark Granito illustrates from his personal experience how we are tied down to this world of miseries in spite of our Faith in the Resurrection and everlasting life. “My mother died four years ago this month. I remember we used to celebrate her birthday in May, and I'd always take her out to some nice restaurant. When she turned 80, she said, “Well, I'm 80 now... that's a very big number. There won't be many more years left now.” At 81 and 82 she said, “It's a big number! No one in my family has lived this long!” Occasionally, she'd say, “I wish God would take me! I'm fed

Reflect

“I wouldn’t mind a few more... (cont’d)

up there...!” Strangely, just a few weeks before she died, she said, “You know, I’m ready to go, but I wouldn’t mind a few more years...” Perhaps most priests have had similar experiences in their pastoral life in ministering to terminally ill patients who are unwilling to die in spite of their strong Faith in a heavenly reward awaiting them, as mentioned in today’s readings.

We need to live as people of the Resurrection: This means that we are not to lie buried in the tomb of our sins and evil habits. Instead, we are to live joyful and peaceful lives, constantly experiencing the real Presence of the Risen Lord who gives us the assurance that our bodies also will be raised. In addition, the hope of our resurrection and eternal life with God gives us lasting peace and celestial joy amid the boredom and tension of our day-to-day lives. An awareness of the all-pervading presence of the Spirit of the living God [Jn. 11:27; Acts 14:14; Rom. 9:26; 1 Thess. 1:9; 1 Tim. 3:15, 4:10, 6:17; 2 Cor. 3:3, 6:16; Heb. 3:12, 9:12, 10:31, 12:22; Rev. 7:2] will help us to control our thoughts, desires, words and behavior. The salutary thought of our own resurrection and eternal glory should also inspire us to honor our bodies, keeping them holy, pure and free from evil habits, and to respect those with whom we come in contact, rendering them loving and humble service.

About Today’s First reading from, II Maccabees

A belief in Divine Judgment with reward or punishment for each of us after death, together with a lively hope for resurrection, is not clearly seen in the Jewish writings until the second century BC. I Maccabees, written in Hebrew by a Palestinian Jew, and II Maccabees, written in Greek by an Alexandrian Pharisee, both in the late second century BC, are named after Judas Maccabaeus, the hero of the war against Syria for Jewish independence. Syria had attempted to paganize the Jews by imposing Greek culture and idol worship on them. The Second Book of Maccabees is the story of invaders who tried to get the Jews to give up their Faith, and met heroic resistance.

In today’s passage, the resisters express their hope of resurrection, and this hope helps them defy their persecutors. The selection describes a Jewish family, consisting of a mother and her seven sons, who refused a Syrian command to eat pork, (forbidden as “unclean” by Jewish law). Because of their Faith and obedience to God, they endured suffering and accepted martyrdom. The conviction that the dead would be raised on the last day had not become widely accepted at that time, nor

even by the time of Jesus. But in our first reading, three of the brothers speak, and each of them finds strength in the belief that he will eventually be raised by God. One says, “*You may discharge us from this present life, but the King of the world will raise us up.*” Another says that he hopes to receive his severed limbs again in heaven. The fourth son also says that he is “*relying on God’s promise that we shall be raised up by Him.*”

“It’s time to rest, to go home, be with God and with my husband.”

The Reverend George Alexander tells a profoundly moving story about a woman he met when he was beginning his clinical pastoral education. She was 71 years old. Alexander was 24. “The Lord’s been good to me but my husband’s gone, my children are grown; its time to rest, to go home, be with God and with my husband.” Alexander, with the inexperience of youth, thought she was afraid of surgery. So he reassured her. “Oh,” she said, “these are fine doctors and the nurses are great but I’ve had a good life, a full life, I’m ready to go home.” The young pastor-to-be was baffled in the face of her contentment; she was calm. Nurses came to take her to surgery and she asked him to read the 23rd Psalm. He read it, she shouted it and the nurses joined in what became, says Alexander, an unforgettable moment of joy. He later went to see her but the nurses met him, told him, before this elderly woman of Faith could be put to sleep, she went to sleep; she went to be with God. Here is how George Alexander sums up his experience: “I’d listened critically with ears and mind but my heart knew. I named the voice of God fear, accepted the joy in her life and denied her enthusiasm about death. I stood next to eternity and couldn’t accept it.”



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-Coordinators

Anne Marie Francis: alfrancis.30@gmail.com or

Mary Frances Reavey: 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.

From the Pastoral Staff



So what is NeXt Level doing at St. Matthias?

For the past 2.5 years I have been serving as a Mentor for the St. Matthias NeXt Level Youth team - which is part of our SMYLE Youth Ministry. "NeXt Level is separately funded by the Center Faith Justice through a Lily Foundation Grant." Recently Alyssa Santillan has joined us as a young Adult Mentor. We are proud to be working with several dedicated and talented high school students - Melody Adamski, Emily Chavez, Isabella Fama-Linn, Carl Furtado, James Nonailada, Michael Trovato, and Angela Wyka. We are also grateful for the service of previous Mentors and Youth.

Wed, Nov 9th we are happy to co-sponsor the **"Healthy Minds, Healthy Futures"** series of Zoom sessions from 8pm to 9:30pm. Here's the Zoom link: <https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/81968510428>

Our youth often see their peers and families struggle with their mental health and proper self-care. They are passionate about creating Mental Health events to help family members have safe and open conversations about Mental Health concerns. They are also passionate about addressing the stigmas that prevent people from getting the help that we all deserve. We have shared our own personal experiences in our own mental health journeys, and reflected upon our interactions with people whom we have encountered during service opportunities. Through our research and education provided by the Mental Health Global Network, our youth have created projects to engage both young people and adults.

According to the World Health Organization, one in four people will be affected by mental health problems at some point in their lives. Mental health issues are increasingly prevalent within our society. Perhaps you are looking for ways to support a loved one, or perhaps you are in search of answers for yourself? Either way, you want to better understand the complex dynamics of mental health.

The St. Matthias NeXt Level Team has hosted many different

projects and presentations in order to educate our community about mental health. During Lent we led the Stations of the Cross and associated a mental health story to each station. This helped remind us how so many people suffer mentally in similar ways that Jesus suffered. We also provided presentations and witness talks to our parish SMYLE Youth Group. The outcomes were that we've had our peers and parents tell us that after our presentations, they now are starting important mental health discussions for the first time in their homes! We all need someone with whom we feel comfortable expressing our mental health.

Recently two of our NeXt Level youth, Angela and Carl, spoke at the St. Matthias HSA Parent meeting. This month youth from various NeXt Level parishes will be speaking at the National Catholic Youth Conference in Long Beach, Ca. We will continue to collaborate with other parishes, ministries, and community organizations to present different experiences that will help respond to the needs of both adults and youth. We'll be publicizing our Mental Health projects on the Parish Website, in the Parish Bulletin, and our soon-to-be created Instagram! We're planning a Pet Therapy Day, a Mental Health Self Care Day, an opportunity to experience a Prayer Labyrinth, and much more!

We hope you'll join us and support each other as we strive to journey together in faith and wellness. We're looking forward to seeing you at future events.

Go Well ... Be Well ... Do Well ...
Stay Well....
Deacon John



Pray



The St. Matthias Rosary Altar Society will hold the November meeting **TODAY Nov. 6 following the 10AM Mass.** We will pray the rosary in the Parish Meeting Room- meeting and refreshments to follow. All are welcome!



Altar Servers

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.

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 She will finalize the details after hearing from you.

Learn

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

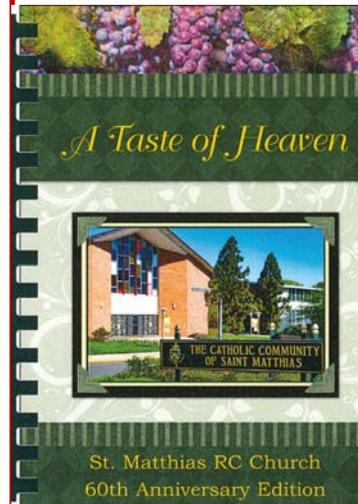
'Cookbooks for Christmas!'

'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 60th Anniversary Cookbook for only \$20!! They will be on sale at the St. Matthias' parish office, the 60th 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



GIVING TREE



Beginning Thanksgiving Day, **November 24th**, 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

PLEASE NOTE: GIFTS WILL BE COLLECTED IN THE CHURCH ON THE WEEKENDS OF DECEMBER 3RD & 4TH AND DECEMBER 10TH & 11TH 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.

purchase the gifts requested. If you prefer **online** shopping, please visit the St. Matthias website www.stmatthias.net for additional direct ship options.



Connect



Day of Service

The next Day of Service will be held on **Saturday, November 12th**. If you are interested in volunteering that morning, please email John and Coleen Zdziarski at jzdzarski@comcast.net. Please note that those under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult. The sites are:

1. Franklin Township Food Bank - 224 Churchill Avenue in Somerset - sorting canned goods, etc.;
2. Pregnancy Aid Center - 59 Thompson Street in Raritan - sorting children's clothing;
3. Spring Hills Assisted Living Facility - 473 De Mott Lane in Somerset - singing to the residents



The Alzheimer's Association and Saint Matthias Catholic Church are co-hosting a monthly Support Group for people living with Alzheimer's and Dementia and their care partners. **Our next meeting will be Wednesday, November 9th, from 2 pm-3 pm on Zoom. Registration is required. To register, call 800-272-3900 and mention the St. Matthias group.**

The Group provides a safe and supportive environment and offers dementia-related education, emotional support, and connections with resources so that the group members may enhance their lives in the midst of the journey. For more information, visit alz.org/NJ.

Give (and Receive!)

Stewardship Totals for Fiscal Year July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023				Last Year's Total
Current Month	In-Pew/Mail	Parish Giving	Weekly Total	Weekly Total
Week 14 - Oct. 2, 2022	\$10,103.10	\$10,485.25	\$20,588.35	\$35,259.25
Week 15 - Oct. 9, 2022	\$7,367.03	\$26,989.75	\$34,356.78	\$34,812.75
Week 16 - Oct. 16, 2022	\$8,396.00	\$14,232.25	\$22,628.25	\$20,822.25
Week 17 - Oct. 23, 2022	\$12,599.50	\$12,563.25	\$25,162.75	\$21,551.25
Week 18 - Oct. 30, 2022	\$8,597.70	\$9,857.25	\$18,454.95	\$18,233.25
			Month-to-date Total	Oct Total Last Yr
World Mission Sunday: \$2,995.00			\$121,191.08	\$130,678.75
			Current Year-to-date	Year-to-date as of
			\$448,713.92	\$453,282.41

Stewardship Reflection Nov 6, 2022 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

“May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who has loved us and given us everlasting encouragement and good hope through his grace, encourage your hearts and strengthen them in every good deed and word.” 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

There are two important lessons here. First, we are called to be generous with our encouragement and hope with others. As God shows us mercy, we must be merciful to others. Second, joy is contagious! The joy we receive from doing good works not only strengthens us, it encourages others as well. Share the joy of living your faith whenever you can.

Reflexiónese- 6 de noviembre 2022 32º del Tiempo Ordinario

“Que nuestro Señor Jesucristo mismo y Dios nuestro Padre, que nos amó y por su gracia nos dio consuelo eterno y una buena esperanza, a través de su gracia, los anime y les fortalezca el corazón, para que tanto en palabra como en obra hagan todo lo que sea bueno.” 2 Tesalonicenses 2:16-17

Allí tenemos dos lecciones importantes. Primero, somos llamados a ser generosos con nuestro consuelo y esperanza con otras personas. Así como Dios nos muestra su misericordia, debemos ser misericordiosos con los demás. Segundo, ¡la alegría es contagiosa! La alegría que recibimos al hacer buenas obras no solo nos fortalece, sino que también anima a los demás. Comparta la alegría de vivir su fe siempre que pueda.

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.

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 **DATE: SATURDAY, November 12th TIME: 10:00 - 11:30am PLACE: Zoom** Please contact: Donna Kahora: donnakahora@yahoo.com or Sister Marie Therese: msherwood@stmatthias.net 732-828-1400 for details if you are interested in joining us.



Connect With Our Local Community

Stress In Your Marriage?

Do you feel lost, alone or bored in your marriage?
Are you frustrated, hurt or angry with your spouse?
Have you thought about separation or divorce?
Does talking about it only make it worse?

RETROUVAILLE is a Lifeline to Help Couples Heal and Renew their Marriages sponsored by the Office of Family Life, Diocese of Metuchen, NJ.

RETROUVAILLE consists of a weekend experience for married couples (no group discussions) with six follow-up sessions. The upcoming weekend is **February 3 – 5, 2023**. All inquiries are confidential. For further information, please contact Rich Colasuonno 732-236-0671 or Annette Colasuonno 732-672-0748 or email 3024@helpourmarriage.org.



COPING WITH LIFE ALONE



Take the first step on the road to recovery from one of life's most traumatic experiences. Beginning Experience of the Hudson Valley invites men and women of all ages who have suffered the loss of a spouse due to death, divorce or separation to a multi-session remote program:

Program begins Sunday, November 6, 2022 at 1PM

Remote Attendance Only

REGISTRATION REQUIRED: Call Denise 845- 325- 3147

Email: beginningexperienceofhv@gmail.com Website:

NJ Right to Life Raffle

Raffle tickets to support the efforts of the New Jersey Right to Life Committee will **be sold on the weekend of November 12 and 13th**. Raffle tickets for the Volvo are \$10 each. Thank you for supporting this endeavor.



Parish Leadership

Parish Pastoral Council:

Co-Chairs:

Rose Peng, rosepeng@optonline.net

John Taylor, jptaylor1068@yahoo.com

Co-Secretaries:

Frank Rees

Marilyn Wegg

Stephan Busono

Anne Marie Francis

Bill Isele

Maria Tapia-Burch

Msgr. Seamus Brennen,

Ex-Officio

Fr. Abraham, Ex-Officio

Trustees:

Pearl Scott

Marge Richards

Parish Finance Council:

Kester Hector, Chair

Finance Council

@stmatthias.net

Carmen Driz-Melilli

Barry Dusault

Gwen Orłowski

Audrey Francis

Joe Porter

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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Tuesday, 11/15

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