



**St. Matthias Parish Office:**  
 Open Mon-Thu: 8:30-5:30PM; Fri: 8:30-5PM  
 168 JFK Boulevard, Somerset, NJ 08873  
 732-828-1400, fax: 732-828-0866  
[www.stmatthias.net](http://www.stmatthias.net)

**Mass Schedule (in person):**  
 Sat - 5PM, Sun - 8, 10 AM & 12 noon  
 M/T/W/Th/F at 8:00AM  
 And also on our YouTube channel  
[youtube.com/c/StMatthiasSomersetNJ](https://youtube.com/c/StMatthiasSomersetNJ)

**St. Matthias School (SMS):**  
 170 JFK Blvd., Somerset, NJ 08873  
[www.stmatthias.info](http://www.stmatthias.info) 732-828-1402

*For all Parish emails, add @stmatthias.net*

**Pastor:** Rev Abraham Orapankal, **abraham**  
**Senior Priest:** Msgr. Seamus Brennan, **sbrennan**  
 Mary Pat Burke-Grospin, Business Administrator  
**mpburke-grospin**  
 Deacon Ron Caimi, *Senior Deacon*  
 Kelly Counts, *Receptionist*, **kcounts**  
 Conroy Davis, *Custodian*  
 Juan Diaz Flores, *Custodian*  
 Leslie Guillen, *Bulletin Editor*, **lguillen**  
 Nathalie Godet, *Formation/Parish Support*  
*Secretary*, **ngodet**  
 Amy Hanna, *Parish Support Secretary*, **ahanna**  
 Julio Montero, *Maintenance Supervisor*  
 Deacon Russell Demkovitz, **rdemkovitz**  
 Ana V Kelly, *Pastoral Associate for Marketing &*  
*Development*, **akelly**  
 Mike Lanyi, *Sacristan*  
 Dolores R. Nann, *Pastoral Associate for Faith*  
*Formation*, **dnann**  
 Vinnie Natale, *Bookkeeper*, **vnatale**  
 Silvia Nizama, *Housekeeper*  
 Deacon John Radvanski, **deaconjohn**  
 Joan Best Seamon, *Pastoral Associate for Music*  
*Ministry* **jseamon**  
 Sr Marie Therese Sherwood, *OSF, Pastoral*  
*Assoc. for Social Concerns*, **msherwood**  
 Phyllis Stone, *Pastoral Associate for Liturgy/*  
*RCIA & Admin. Assistant to the Pastor*, **pstone**  
 Trish Stumper, *Par. Support Secretary*, **tstumper**

**St. Matthias School (add @stmatthiasnj.org)**  
 Mary Lynch, Principal, **mlynch**  
 Joseph Gidaro, Vice Principal, **jgidaro**

## THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. MATTHIAS

### SUNDAY, OCT 17, 2021 –

### Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### Highlights—This Week

**Diversity Council Meeting**—Help us determine the future direction of this ministry. **Tomorrow, Monday** at 7 PM via Zoom. See page 8.

**Bereavement Support Group**—Begins Wednesday, Oct. 20

**Special Collection for World Mission Sunday** next weekend. See page 8.

**Additional Sunday Mass next weekend:**  
 There will be a special Mass at 3:00PM next Sunday with Fr. Roland Njoyir Berengeh from the Diocese of Kumbo.



#### Do You Have Some Time to Volunteer?

Thank you to all the men and women of good will who have responded to the invitation to join a 'Pool of Volunteers'. Some are already giving their time to St. Matthias. We truly appreciate everything you are doing for St. Matthias.

At this time, we would like to expand our volunteer group. We can use your help for simple tasks like attending the phones, filing, shredding, and entering data, etc., in the Parish Office. If anyone has some time to help out, (you can choose your own time of availability) please contact Mary Pat Burke-Grospin at [mpburke-grospin@stmatthias.net](mailto:mpburke-grospin@stmatthias.net)



#### Together by Pat Leposa

You  
 And I  
 Together  
 Can Change  
 Our world,  
 Make it  
 A safer,  
 Softer place  
 For future  
 Generations  
 To live  
 In peace.  
 We can  
 Smile at the harried clerk  
 In the grocery store,  
 Phone a lonely soul,  
 Listen to a grieving friend,  
 Send a card  
 To cheer up  
 A shut in,  
 Cook a meal  
 For an aging neighbor,  
 Write a poem,  
 Bring hope to its readers,  
 Protest an injustice.  
 You and I Together,  
 We will change Our World  
 For this I pray.



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[www.stmatthias.net/Amazon](http://www.stmatthias.net/Amazon)

# This Week at St. Matthias From the Pastor's Desk

Masses are celebrated in-person and also livestreamed on our YouTube channel: [youtube.com/c/StMatthiasSomersetNJ](https://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, Oct 17, 2021

8:00AM	Mass	Church
10:00AM	Mass	Church
10:30AM	RCIA	Parish Office
12:00PM	Mass	Church

### Monday, Oct 18, 2021, St. Luke, Evangelist

8:00AM	Mass	Church
8:30AM	Miraculous Medal Novena	Church
7:00Pm	Diversity Council Mtg.	Zoom

### Tuesday, Oct 19, 2021, Sts. John de Brebeuf & Isaac Jogues, Priests & Martyrs

8:00AM	Daily Mass	Church
7:00PM	Pastoral Council Mtg.	Zoom

### Wednesday, Oct 20, 2021, St. Paul of the Cross

8:00AM	Mass	
9:30AM	Prayer Group-Holy Spirit	de Porres Rm
7:00PM	Bereavement Support Grp.	Zoom
7:30PM	Folk Group Rehearsal	Church

### Thursday, Oct 21, 2021

8:00AM	Mass	Church
3:30PM	Children's Choir gr. 3 & 4 rehearsal	Church
4:15PM	Children's Choir 5th-8th gr. rehearsal	Church
7:00PM	Prayer Shawl Ministry	Cafeteria
7:30PM	Sunday 10AM Choir Rehearsal	Church

### Friday, Oct 22, 2021, St. John Paul II, Pope

SMS Closed

8:00AM	Daily Mass	Church
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### Saturday, Oct 23, 2021, St. John of Capistrano

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

### Sunday, Oct 24, 2021 World Mission Sunday

8:00AM	Mass	Church
10:00AM	Mass	Church
12:00PM	Mass	Church
3:00PM	Special Mass—Fr. Roland Njoyir Bernegh from Diocese of Kumbo	Church



#### Bulletin Article Requests:

If you would like to send information to be included in our bulletin, please email it to [bulletin@stmatthias.net](mailto:bulletin@stmatthias.net) by 12 Noon, WEDNESDAY, 10 days before the intended issue (earlier for holiday weekends). Approved content is published on a space-available basis.

## Saints of October- Respect Life Month



During the month of October the church celebrates the lives of great saints who teach us respect for all life. Among these are Saint Francis of Assisi (Oct 4) , Saint John XXIII (Oct 11) and Saint John Paul II (Oct 22) .

Francis of Assisi (1181—1226) is among the most beloved of all the saints. He had a deep love for all creation and showed particular love for the poor, the sick and the outcasts. He befriended lepers, beggars, birds and wild beasts alike. Francis knew that all life is a gift from God and so he gave thanks for the beauty and goodness found in all creatures, especially in the human person.

Saint John XXIII , Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli (1881—1963), was elected pope in 1958. He called for and presided over the first sessions of the Second Vatican Council. This ever smiling, always jolly, portly man wrote a powerful encyclical letter, *Pacem in Terris*, in which he addresses issues about life. "Man has the right to live. He has the right to bodily integrity and to the means necessary to the proper development of life, particularly food, clothing, shelter, medical care , rest and finally the necessary social services" ( #11). But for each right the pope listed, he also listed a corresponding duty. "The right to live involves the duty to preserve one's life; the right to a decent standard of living , the duty to live in a becoming fashion; the right to be free to seek out the truth , the duty to devote oneself to an ever deeper and wider search for it." The right to life involves all of us and places on us a duty to work to support all life.

The most recent of these great saints, Pope John Paul II, Karol Jozef Wojtyla (1920-2005), was elected pope in 1978. He holds the record for the most traveled and one of the longest serving popes of all time. Among several great Encyclical letters he wrote is *Evangelium Vitae*, The gospel of life . "We are facing an enormous and dramatic clash between good and evil, death and life, the culture of death and the culture of life. We find ourselves not only faced with but necessarily in the midst of this conflict: we are all involved and we also share in it, with inescapable responsibility of choosing to be unconditionally pro-life". Speaking to a group of ambassadors in 2000 Pope John Paul said, "A society will be judged on the basis of how it treats its weakest members; and among the most vulnerable are surely the unborn and the dying".. By his very life and in his dying, Pope John Paul II showed us the proper attitude we must have towards God's gift of life.

These three saints, whose feast days we observe in October, are wonderful models and teachers about the dignity of human life and remind us of our duty to work to protect all human life from conception to natural death .

Msgr. Brennan

## Readings for the Week

**Monday:** 2 Tm 4:10-17b; Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18; Lk 10:1-9

**Tuesday:** Rom 5:12, 15b, 17-19, 20b-21; Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17; Lk 12:35-38

**Wednesday:** Rom 6:12-18; Ps 124:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8; Lk 12:39-48

**Thursday:** Rom 6:19-23; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4, 6; Lk 12:49-53

**Friday:** Rom 7:18-25a; Ps 119:66, 68, 76-77, 93-94; Lk 12:54-59

**Saturday:** Rom 8:1-11; Ps 24:1b-2, 3-4ab, 5-6; Lk 13:1-9

**Sunday:** Jer 31:7-9; Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6; Heb 5:1-6; Mk 10:46-52

## Mass Intentions for the Week

<b>Saturday, Oct 16</b>	5:00PM	Angela Frigiola, by Jane Clites
<b>Sunday, Oct 17</b>	8:00AM	Cynthia Louise Italiano, by The Grippo Family
	10:00AM	Stanley Molinaro, by The St. Matthias School
	12:00PM	Trineo Ona Aala, by The Pacu Staff
	(5:30PM)	Intention of Parishioners
<b>Monday, Oct 18</b>	8:00AM	Felisa Diwata Herrera, by The Bombita Family
<b>Tuesday, Oct 19</b>	8:00AM	Catherine Lois Dickinson, Richard & Kathleen Twitchell
<b>Wednesday, Oct 20</b>	8:00AM	Dominick Clementi, by Emma, Angelina & Adam
<b>Thursday, Oct 21</b>	8:00AM	Firefighter, John Collins, by Dad
<b>Friday, Oct 22</b>	8:00AM	Spiritual Intention of The Liaukus Family, by The Klimik Family
<b>Saturday, Oct 23</b>	5:00PM	Ken Garabrandt, by Barb & Family
<b>Sunday, Oct 24</b>	8:00AM	Kenneth Brino, by St. Matthias School
	10:00AM	Blanquita Valenti, by The Dudajek Family
	12:00PM	John Dzamba, by Wife, Christine
	(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 [kcoun@stmatthias.net](mailto:kcoun@stmatthias.net) to add the name to this list. Names will be listed in the bulletin for 6 weeks. Please let us know if this time period needs to be extended. We want to know how you are doing and want to offer you the support of our prayers. *New people on our prayer list are noted in blue.*

Carolyn Banghart  
 Maria Barreiro  
 Virginia Briggs  
 Marie Brody  
 Thomas Burns  
 Tara Capatosto  
 Ellen & Frank Catalina  
 Sean Clancy  
 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  
 The Litrakis Family  
 Al Maglio  
 Sue Maglio-Alese  
 Beatrice May

Margaret Menendez  
 Gail Miranda  
 Dave Moynihan  
 Baby Ezran Natural  
 Patricia Nese  
 Danny Ochangco  
 Jim Pettit  
 Christina Pietrowiak  
 Oscar Poisler  
 Baby Griffin Rademaker  
 Kevin Reavey  
 Chris Retz  
 Ann Ritchick  
 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  
 Maureen Tropea  
 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

Donald Bacon

## From the Pastoral Staff

### Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life!

Sound familiar? Sometimes you'll hear these words during the dismissal at Mass. I'm not telling you where to go, or saying "get out", but rather to take out into the world your Christian witness by loving and serving the Lord and each other.

In the Book of the Prophet Isaiah, the fourth Song of the Suffering Servant foretells Jesus as the servant who suffered on our behalf and was glorified by God. As disciples of Jesus, we are called to model a servant by offering our lives – our time, our talent, our support – so others might simply live. In the Gospel, James and John were after the perks and status. The part about being a suffering servant was something they would not have even considered. Jesus tells us that serving others is the only path to real glory. This is echoed at the Mass Dismissal.

This weekend we're blessed to see our NeXt Level Teens and listen during the homily to their inspiring stories about their faith and service. Their summer commitment to one week of service in Trenton echoed the words from Mark's Gospel: "Rather, whoever wishes to be great among you will be your servant; whoever wishes to be first among you will be the slave of all." Indeed they were "great" role models of Jesus' call to serve – for them their ministry was to people of all ages struggling and suffering in so many ways. They learned how to put on a "Faith Justice Lens" by experiencing how

faith and justice are deeply connected when we see others as God does. Every act of service was rooted in the tenets of Catholic Social Teaching.



Their desire to serve – and hopefully ours - originates from our Baptismal call to grow as disciples by what we say and what we do. What motivates you to do the things you do? Is it to obtain a great title, recognition, or a special privilege? It's been said the way to get things done is not to mind who gets the credit for doing them. Serving others means that we look for ways to make the lives of others better. You are a member of the Body of Christ called to serve the Christ in each other.

This week try to approach your interactions with your family, friends, coworkers, classmates, and neighbors not as opportunities to get what you want from them, but rather as people who could be transformed by your Christ-like actions and words. They'll be graced by your presence, and you'll be glorifying the Lord in the ordinary moments of your life. In turn, God gives you a share in Jesus' great glory. You will be extending the Eucharistic presence of Christ through your service and witness.

This is how we are blessed and can be a Blessing to others – So now go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life!

Deacon John

## Reflect



### Smile with Your Family



Good old days: George Bernard Shaw was once asked in what generation he would have preferred to live. The witty Irishman replied: "The age of Napoleon, because then there was only one man who thought he was Napoleon." 😊

A supervisor's comment on an employee evaluation: He's never been very successful. When opportunity knocks, he complains about the noise. 😊

The human resource director was interviewing a job applicant. "Given that you have no experience in this field,

you're asking for an awfully high salary," she pointed out. "I suppose so," replied the applicant, "but think how much harder the work's going to be if I don't know anything about it." 😊

Confession: "I sold encyclopedias when I was in college. Then the librarian caught me." 😊

A workaholic had a sign in his office that read: "Thank God it's Monday." 😊



### Marriage Tune-Up

Do something unexpected for your beloved today that shows you appreciate them. For example, Place a love note in their briefcase or computer bag; Take a selfie and send as a message; say, "I appreciate you because..."



### Parenting Tune-Up

"Whoever wishes to be great among you will be your servant." (Mark 10:43) Kids naturally like to be first, the boss, to be served. Ask your kids if they'd be willing to turn the tables for 1 day or 1 hour? They might serve a parent food, wash your feet, bring you the paper, etc.

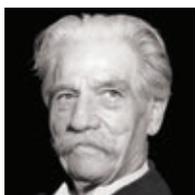
## Sunday Reflection: Excess Baggage!

**" . . . whoever wishes to be great among you will be your servant; whoever wishes to be first among you will be the slave of all." Mark 10: 35-45**

"Ticket is \$287. But all of that is a problem." The airline agent points to her luggage cart, stacked with suitcases, boxes and a bagful of shoes. "One bag is free. Everything else is \$100 each." The young woman is devastated. She tells the agent that she has just packed her Volkswagen to get away from an abusive relationship. Fried the engine. Hitchhiked to the airport in flip-flops, hauling all her stuff. She just wants to go home and start over.

The agent stops. In a whisper, she says she understands: she just went through a painful divorce from a husband who cheated on her. It was the hardest decision she ever made. The agent checks it all - and charges her nothing. Good luck, she says. And suddenly, the young woman no longer feels the crush of having no plan, but, for the first time in an eternity, experiences the weightlessness of hope. [Adapted from a story by Eileen Dougharty in Reader's Digest.]

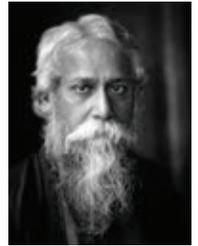
The reign of Christ is realized in small moments like this one at the airport: one soul recognizing her own pain in the hurt of another and reaching out in compassion and mercy, offering what she is able to give. We bring the reign of Christ to life in our own small, simple, ordinary acts of kindness, generosity and peace that bring a measure of hope and healing to a fellow traveler; of realizing the "power" of our own empathy and selflessness to heal, to lift up, to bring back. Seeking such "greatness" means never to be discouraged by what seems like the smallness or insignificance of what we are able to do for others. Jesus' call, to be the servant of others, means to let God work through our own efforts to love, to forgive, to secure justice, to support and help.



To become an authentic disciple of Jesus means to put ourselves in the humble, demanding role of servant to others, to seek intentionally the happiness and fulfillment of those we love regardless of the cost to ourselves. The best place to begin the process of "self-giving" service is in our own homes and in the workplace. We have to look upon our education, training, and experience as preparation for service to others. Whatever may be our place in society -- whether important or unimportant -- we can serve. We should learn to serve with a smile. This is possible whether we are in military service, social service, law, medical service, government or business. We get chances to serve others every day — nurses serve their patients, teachers their students, parents serve the needs of their children, and spouses serve each another. In our parishes, we are also called to serve not to be served. We can here apply the famous "ask not" of John Kennedy: "Ask not what your parish, what your Church, your God can do for you; rather ask what you can do for your parish, for your Church, your God!" If we want to be leaders, we must learn to be available, accountable, and vulnerable. This triad --- availability, accountability, and vulnerability -- - qualifies us for what Robert Greenleaf has called *Servant Leadership*. "Life becomes harder for us when we live for others, but it also becomes richer and happier." —Albert Schweitzer

## I Discovered that Service is Joy!"

It may sound unbelievable, but it is true that Asia's first Nobel Prize winner in Literature (1913), Rabindranath Tagore, was behind the three great national anthems of three nations, viz. Bangladesh, India and Sri Lanka. He was also the first non-Westerner to win the Nobel Prize in literature. He did so in 1913. He wrote this short poem:



*I slept and dreamt that life was Joy;  
Then I awoke and realized that life was Service.  
And then I went to work - and, lo and behold, I discovered  
that Service is Joy.*

**Today's Gospel teaches us that true happiness comes from surrendering ourselves completely in humble service to God through Christ. And all we need is a servant's heart, mind, eyes and touch. So, "How's Your Serve?" We are challenged to give our lives in loving service to others. As Christians, we are all invited to serve others – and to serve with a smile! We are challenged to drink the cup of Jesus by laying down our lives in humble, sacrificial service for others, just as Jesus did. The best place to begin the process of service by "self-giving," is our own homes and workplaces. When parents sacrifice their time, talents, health and blessings for the welfare of others in the family, they are serving God. Service always involves suffering, because we can't help another without some sacrifice on our part. We are rendering great service to others also when we present them and their needs before God daily in our prayers.**

### A Pearl of Wisdom for this Week:

**Do you know why God created gaps between fingers?  
So that someone who is special to you can fill those gaps  
by holding your hands forever!**

## Loving Service is a Challenge!

## Service Makes Us a Joyful Family!



A happy family is the result of true sacrifice and humble service. The husband and wife sacrifice convenience, comfort, and time. There can be no success without sacrifice.

We are challenged to drink the cup of Jesus by laying down our lives in humble and sacrificial service for others, just as Jesus did. How can the family members serve one another humbly and joyfully? Given below are some models of what different members of the family might say to each other especially in our family relationships:

*Child to parents/caregivers:* Help me to hear and to answer you when you call; I won't pretend I did not hear because I would rather play!

*Teen to parents/caregivers:* Bother me with your requests for help, even while I'm on the phone with my friends!

*Young and older parents/caregivers to child and teen:* Forgive me when I am defensive because I hear an answer which challenges my intellect.

*Young adult to parents/caregivers:* Challenge my attitude that "I know better because I am now a grownup." I will pay attention to your opinions.

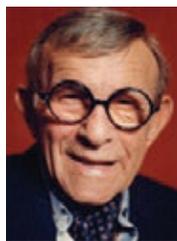
*Middle aged parent to senior parent:* Be patient with me as I am patient with you as we face difficult decisions together.

*Senior parent to whole Family:* Forgive my "Been there, done that" attitude; let me offer my wisdom freely and respectfully.

## What is Your Leadership in Our Parish?

We are invited to servant leadership. We are a community of equals and we share in the responsibilities of being community. In order to be effective, we need leaders – both ordained, as *ministerial priests*, and lay. These servants have been raised up from among us to call us to order, to be the ground on which the rest of us can move around, refining our lives as followers of Jesus. We need leaders who will help us to form a relationship that will assist us to become what we must be in order to wash one another's feet. We require leaders to call us to the ways of social justice. We need leaders who tie us to other communities and groups who share similar values. Finally, we need leaders who can break open the word for us, who can lead us in our prayer, offering us on the altar, and who can draw us together as sacrament. No one of us possesses all that we as a community need. Our job as *servant leaders* is to evoke, to recognize, to nurture, to celebrate and to help unify the gifts of the Holy Spirit here in our community.

## Service Leader in a Serving Community



In his book, *Dr. George Burns—Prescription For Happiness: Buy Two Books and Call Me in the Morning*, George Burns writes: "If you were to go around asking people what would make them happier, you'd get answers like a new car, a bigger house, a raise in pay, winning a lottery, a face-lift, more kids, less kids, a new restaurant to go to. Probably not one in a

hundred would say a chance to help people. And yet that may bring the most happiness of all. I don't know Dr. Jonas Salk, but after what he's done for us with his polio vaccine, if he isn't happy, he should have that brilliant head of his examined. Of course, not all of us can do what he did. I know I can't do what he did; he beat me to it. But the point is, it doesn't have to be anything that extraordinary. It can be working for a worthy cause, performing a needed service, or just doing something that helps another person." [George Burns, *Dr. George Burns' Prescription for Happiness*, (New York, NY, USA: Penguin Putnam Books for Young Readers, 1984), p. 141]

We need lots of people like those George Burns was describing -- Dr. Salk and others like him who saw a need and tried to fill it. They were living a servant life. In our passage of Scripture for today, we find James and John wanting to race ahead of the others and jump into prime positions in the kingdom of God. But Jesus saw through their little ploy.



## "I Wish Every Child Could Say the Same!"

In his book, *Hide or Seek*, James Dobson tells of a time when John McKay, the great football coach at the University of Southern California, was interviewed on television, and the subject of his son's athletic talent was raised. Son John was a successful player on his dad's team. Coach McKay was asked to comment on the pride that he felt over his son's accomplishments on the field. His answer was most impressive: "Yes, I'm pleased that John had a good season last year. He does a fine job, and I'm proud of him. But I would be just as proud if he had never played the game at all." Dr. Dobson goes on to say this: "Coach McKay was saying, in effect, that John's football talent was recognized and appreciated, but his human worth did not depend upon his ability to play football. John's place in his dad's heart was secure, being independent of his performance. I wish every child could say the same." (quoted by William J. Vamos, *First Presbyterian Church, Elkhart, Indiana, "What Happens When You're Not Number One?"*, *Pulpit Digest*, p. 6551). In today's Gospel Jesus warns James and John that what is important is not higher positions but willingness to do humble service.

## Reflect

### “Here Comes the Man God Sent Us!”

When Doug Meland and his wife moved into a village of Brazil's Fulnio Indians, he was referred to as "the white man," an uncomplimentary term. Other white men had exploited the villagers, burned their homes, and robbed their lands. But after the missionaries learned the language and began to help people with medicine and in other ways, they began to call Doug, "the good white man." And when the Melands began adopting the customs of the people, the Fulnio spoke of Doug as the "white Indian."

Then one day, as Doug was washing the dirty, blood-caked foot of an injured boy, he heard a bystander say, "Who ever heard of a white man washing an Indian's foot? Certainly this man is from God." From that day, whenever Doug entered an Indian home, it would be announced, "Here comes the man God sent us."

***That's the secret of greatness: Service. That's also the chief characteristic of those who follow Jesus. "For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many" (Mark 10:45; Matthew 20:28). In today's Gospel, Jesus connects service with suffering. Suffering and service go hand in hand. First, service always involves suffering because one can't help another without some personal sacrifice. Second, God always invites those who suffer to put their suffering at the service of others by uniting it with the salvific suffering of Jesus. Third, we must learn to be sensitive to the suffering of those around us. One way to cultivate this sensitivity is to focus on the needs of others rather than on our own needs. Another way is through prayer, as explained in St. Francis of Assisi's famous Prayer for Peace.***

### “I Want to Compete with IBM!”



When Michael Dell was in college, his parents drove up for a surprise visit. They were concerned that Michael's "hobby"—building computers in his dorm room—was distracting him from his studies. His father demanded that he get more serious about his college work, asking Michael, "What do you want to do with your life?" And the young college student infuriated his dad by replying, "I want to compete with IBM." At the time, IBM was the dominant computer company in the world. Not long after that, Michael Dell dropped out of college and raised the capital to start his own computer business. By 1999, ten years after Michael Dell began his company, Dell Computers overtook IBM as the nation's largest seller of personal computers. [John Eliot, Ph.D., *Overachievement* (New York: Portfolio, 6448), pp. 72-40.] If you're going to dream, why not dream big? It's true. Our dreams are too small. That was the problem with James and John in today's Gospel.

## Year of St. Joseph — October Reflection: Joseph, a Father Who Puts his Family First

When we read the Christmas story in the Scriptures, the unexpected twists and turns could have made Joseph freak out. Instead, we see in Joseph a calm way of dealing with every challenge because he put his family first. Imagine him calmly bringing his wife, nine months pregnant, by donkey,



to a strange town, and then have her give birth in a manger, humbly accepting the “no room” reply from the innkeepers. The gospels tell us that Joseph did all of this willingly, with no rebellious attitude towards God. Likewise, as he heard in a dream that his son's life was in danger, he quietly shuffled his new family off to Egypt, a strange land, with a different language and culture, and again, without a sound. He just calmly did God's will. Sometime we forget that Joseph and Mary were real people and we take their saintly nature for granted.

Pope Francis has this to say on how Joseph gave priority to his family when faced with adversity: “*The Gospel does not tell us how long Mary, Joseph and the child remained in Egypt. Yet they certainly needed to eat, to find a home and employ-*

*ment. It does not take much imagination to fill in those details. The Holy Family had to face concrete problems like every other family, like so many of our migrant brothers and sisters who, today too, risk their lives to escape misfortune and hunger. In this regard, I consider Saint Joseph the special patron of all those forced to leave their native lands because of war, hatred, persecution and poverty. At the end of every account in which Joseph plays a role, the Gospel tells us that he gets up, takes the child and his mother, and does what God commanded him (cf. Mt 1:24; 2:14.21). Indeed, Jesus and Mary his Mother are the most precious treasure of our faith.* [21]” (Patris Corde)

The Holy Family — Jesus, Mary, and Joseph — is our best example of a loving family. Saint Joseph is the Patron Saint of families. Joseph listened to the angel and accepted his divine mission by taking Mary as his wife and becoming the foster-father of Jesus. Bishop Fulton J. Sheen, in *The World's First Love*, noted in a Chapter entitled, “The World's Happiest Marriage,” that “no husband or wife ever loved each other as much as Joseph and Mary,” for they had a pure union of heart. And they lived in the presence of love itself, Jesus Christ!

## Pray

### World Mission Sunday - Society for the Propagation of the Faith - Next Weekend

Next weekend we will celebrate World Mission Sunday. Pope Francis invites the entire Church to support mission dioceses in Africa, Asia, the Pacific Islands, and parts of Latin America and Europe, where priests, religious and lay leaders serve the world's most vulnerable communities. Please keep the Pope's missions in your prayers and be generous in next week's collection for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. Visit: <https://diometuchen.org/pontifical-mission-societies>



### The St. Matthias Vocations Ministry Invites You to:

The Saint Matthias Vocations Ministry Team invites you to a *Morning of Reflection* on **Saturday, November 13, 2021 at 8:30 am.** The *Morning of Reflection* will take place in the

John XXIII room in the school building.

During the *Morning of Reflection* attendees will hear a variety of speakers share their experience of responding to God's call to vocation. Attendees will have the opportunity to pray and reflect on how they are being called by God to vocation and how responding to that call can lead to fulfillment and happiness.

A light continental breakfast will be provided at 8:30 am. Activities will get underway promptly at 9am. We will close out the morning with lunch at noon.

Please join us in what will be a very special morning. Attendance will be limited so **please register now** using this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090544a9ac2dabf94-morning>

More information can be found on the St. Matthias web site at <https://www.stmatthias.net/vocations/> We look forward to seeing you on November 13th! Have a great day!

## Connect



### Cub Scout Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who helped with the recent Cub Scouts' outdoor movie night at St. Matthias. We had over 40 people, plus 7 potential new scouts. The event was a great hit with the scouts!

If anyone is interested in learning about Cub Scouts here at St. Matthias, please email [info@scoutpack195nj.com](mailto:info@scoutpack195nj.com), visit our website, [www.scoutpack195nj.com](http://www.scoutpack195nj.com), or contact Peter Kostik at 908.494.0786, or Tim Belloff at 732.207.4584.

We welcome boys and girls in grades K-5. Our pack is sponsored by the Catholic Community of St. Matthias, but is open to boys and girls from other schools and backgrounds. We are part of the Raritan District of the Patriots' Path Council.



### St. Matthias Diversity Council Meeting — YOU ARE INVITED!

**TOMORROW, Monday, October 18, 7:00-8:00 PM**  
via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9702883550>



Recognizing that our parish community is blessed with the richness of many ethnic cultures and backgrounds, we are in the process of re-visioning our Diversity Council, established approximately 15 years ago, focusing on what would be most helpful to our parish at this time. We invite all interested parishioners to join us in this endeavor and welcome your ideas and suggestions, as well as considering becoming a member. For more information, contact Sr. Marie Therese, [msherwood@stmatthias.net](mailto:msherwood@stmatthias.net)

# Learn

## Thank You!

The children, teachers, and staff of Saint Matthias School THANK YOU for your generosity to our Annual Fund and Tuition Angels.

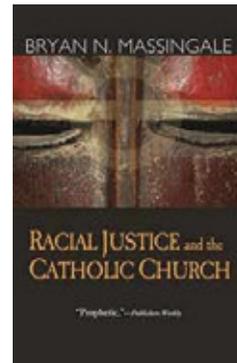


In addition, we thank you for volunteering when called, inviting families to join our amazing school, and your overall general support. We need you and appreciate all you do for us. We remember you in prayer each day. God Bless You!

## St. Matthias Racial Justice Initiative Book Read

*“Racial Justice and the Catholic Church”* by Bryan Massingale - 240 pages Saturday, Oct. 30, 2021, 9:30AM—11:30AM Eastern Time

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2780458086>  
Meeting ID: 278 045 8086  
Purchase the book today from an online bookseller.



# Give (and Receive!)



## Do You Have Your Super 50-50 Tickets?

Our parish will draw the winning ticket for our yearly Super 50/50 on **Sunday, November 21, after the 10AM Mass** -- the Sunday before Thanksgiving. Tickets are available in the Parish Office and can be returned in an envelope in the collection basket, or by mailing them to St. Matthias Church, 168 John F. Kennedy Blvd, Somerset, NJ 08873. All tickets must be returned to the Parish Office **by 12 NOON, Thursday, November 18.**

This yearly fundraiser helps to fund the many vital ministries of our parish. By supporting this important effort you not only help our parish but, happily, if you win, Christmas will look very bright! Take a chance; this could be your year to win!



## St. Matthias School Annual Fund

Participate in this year’s School Annual Fund. You may donate via Parish Giving by clicking on “Donate” on our website [www.stmatthias.net](http://www.stmatthias.net) or write “SMS Annual Fund” on your check and place it in the collection basket or mail it to the Parish Office. Thank you for your generosity!

## Stewardship Reflection Oct 17, 2021

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

*“For the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many.”*

(Mark 10:45)

If you held a mirror up to your life, would it reflect God’s love and mercy? If you are struggling with this, try changing your attitude from “I want more” to “thank you God for everything you have given me, I have enough to share”. This change in perspective will bring you joy through service to others. Pray daily to become less self-centered and to become more God-centered.

## Reflexiónese — 17de octubre 2021

Domingo 29º del Tiempo Ordinario

*“El Hijo del Hombre no vino para que le sirvieran sino para servir y dar su vida para rescatarnos” (Marcos 10:45)*

Si sostuviera un espejo frente a su vida, ¿reflejaría el amor y la misericordia de Dios? Si está teniendo dificultades con eso, trate de cambiar su actitud de “quiero más” a “gracias a Dios por todo lo que me has dado, tengo suficiente para compartir”. Este cambio en perspectivas le traerá alegría a través del servicio a los demás. Ore diariamente para ser menos egoísta y más centrado en 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 14 - Oct. 3, 2021	\$20,669.00	\$14,890.25	\$35,559.25	\$22,124.68
Week 15 - Oct. 10, 2021	\$9,061.00	\$25,751.75	\$34,812.75	\$24,498.28
			Month-to-date Total	Oct Total Last Yr
			\$70,372.00	\$130,082.52
			Current Year-to-date Total	Year-to-date as of Oct 31, 2020
			\$392,975.66	\$427,985.81

## Vocations Ministry - Called to Build God's Kingdom — Oct 10, 2021



Pope Francis in “*Gaudete et Exsultate*” on the call to holiness in today’s world says:

Needless to say, anything done out of anxiety, pride or the need to impress others will not lead to holiness. We are challenged to show our commitment in such a way that everything we do has evangelical meaning and identifies us all the more with Jesus Christ. We often speak, for example, of the spirituality of the catechist, the spirituality of the diocesan priesthood, the spirituality of work. For the same reason, in *Evangeli Gaudium* I concluded by speaking of a

spirituality of mission, in *Laudato Si’* of an ecological spirituality, and in *Amoris Laetitia* of a spirituality of family life.

There is folk song that says “They will know we are Christians by our love.”

The world doesn’t judge our “spirituality by our attendance at Mass .. where we can be seen. No the world and Christ will judge us by our love for our fellow man. Have we fed the hungry... clothed the naked ... given drink to the thirsty. Preach the Gospel ... and sometimes use words.

## Local Community



**REGISTER NOW** for the **Ignatian Solidarity Network Racial Justice Program —**

**OCTOBER 27, 2021, 2-3:30 pm ET**

**“A Parish Journey for Racial Justice and Equity: Let’s Talk About Social Sin”**

Can’t make the live call? Register anyway to get the recording and resources afterward.

Register at: <https://ignatiansolidarity.net/event/a-parish-journey-for-racial-justice-1027/>

## St. Matthias School Is Looking for a Food Service Worker

### Summary:

St. Matthias School is seeking a part-time food service worker to join their cafeteria staff.

No experience necessary.

**Hours:** Monday thru Friday, 9:00AM to 1:00PM

### Duties and Responsibilities:

Primary responsibilities include providing assistance to the food service program by preparing and serving food to school students and staff.

In addition, your duties include **restocking and maintaining supplies for the kitchen and cafeteria**, as well as maintaining and cleaning the kitchen, equipment, and washing dishes.

You are required to stand and be able to lift up to 35 pounds

### IF INTERESTED & for additional work requirements—

PLEASE contact **Josephine Pugnet**, the Cafeteria Manager by emailing her at [jpugnet@stmatthiasnj.org](mailto:jpugnet@stmatthiasnj.org)

## Parish Leadership

### Parish Pastoral Council:

#### Co-Chairs:

Claudine Langrin  
[ClaudMLangrin@gmail.com](mailto:ClaudMLangrin@gmail.com) and  
Mary Beth Vetter-Purcell  
[marybeth.vetter@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:@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](http://www.stmatthias.net/join-us), or visit the Parish Office.

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

**Baptism** — Baptismal Preparation Sessions are held four times a year for registered parishioners. Please contact the parish office before the baby is born. The sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on the second and fourth Sunday of each month, except during Lent.

**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)** - If you are interested in becoming a Catholic or completing the Sacraments of Initiation--Baptism/Confirmation/Eucharist, please call the Parish Office.



**St. Matthias School** is a PreK3 through 8<sup>th</sup> grade school rooted in faith, inspired by love, and dedicated to academic excellence. Before and After School Care Programs are available. Come visit! Contact 732-828-1402 to schedule a tour.



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