



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

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

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

For all Parish emails, add @stmatthias.net
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Senior Priest: Msgr. Seamus Brennan, [sbrennan](mailto:sbrennan@stmatthias.net)
 Mary Pat Burke-Grospin, Business Administrator
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 Phyllis Stone, *Pastoral Associate for Liturgy/RCIA & Admin. Assistant to the Pastor*, [pstone](mailto:pstone@stmatthias.net)
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St. Matthias School (add @stmatthiasnj.org)
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THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. MATTHIAS

SUNDAY, OCT 24, 2021 – Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Highlights—This Week

SMYLE Food Collection THIS weekend, Oct 23/24. See page 8.

Special Collection for World Mission Sunday. See pages 2 and 9.

Additional Sunday Mass Today:
 There will be a special Mass at 3:00PM today Sunday with Fr. Roland Njoyir Bergeh from the Diocese of Kumbo.

Next Sunday— All Soul's Mass at 5:00PM, October 31. Please see page 7.



Don't Miss the SMYLE Thanksgiving Food Collection TODAY, Oct. 23/24
 See details on page 8.

Would You Like to Pray with Pope Francis (and the World) Each Day as a Synodal Church on a Journey?



Download the “Click To Pray” 2.0 app from the App Store (iOS and Android) to your smartphone.

This app, created by the Vatican and launched by the “Pope’s Worldwide Prayer Network,” offers a variety of short prayers to pray together with Pope Francis on a daily basis as we support the synodal process. As the International Director, Fr. Frederic Fornos, SJ, noted, Pope Francis says, “The heart of the Church’s mission is prayer”; and for this reason, *Click to Pray* intends to become a place of personal encounter with the Lord and to build a worldwide community of digital prayer.

The app is available in seven languages. The prayers are simple but meaningful. Many options are offered, including tips on how to pray. You can even post your own prayer intentions to the shared community space, asking for prayers from all around the world and also praying for others’ intentions. Brief prayer options include “Start your day”, “Take an (afternoon) break”, and “Review your day.”

Don’t miss this beautiful way to pray. Join over 2.5 million people around the world who are using the app. Download the app today!



If you shop on Amazon, please help us by starting at:
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

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 24, 2021 World Mission Sunday

At all Masses—SMYLE Thanksgiving Food

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

Monday, Oct 25, 2021, Forty Martyrs of England & Wales

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

Tuesday, Oct 26, 2021, Pope Evaristus

8:00AM	Daily Mass	Church
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Wednesday, Oct 27, 2021, Bishop Frumentius

8:00AM	Mass	
9:30AM	Prayer Group-Holy Spirit	de Porres Rm
1:00PM	NPM Mtg.	de Porres Rm
7:00PM	Bereavement Support Grp.	Zoom
7:30PM	Folk Group Rehearsal	Church

Thursday, Oct 28, 2021, Sts. Simon and Jude

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

Friday, Oct 29, 2021, Bishop Narcissus of Jerusalem

8:00AM	Daily Mass	Church
6:00PM	HSA Trunk or Treat	Café & Parking Lot

Saturday, Oct 30, 2021, Martyr Saturninus of Cagliari

9:30AM	Racial Justice Initiative-Book discussion	Zoom
3:30PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation	Church
5:00PM	Mass	Church

Sunday, Oct 31, 2021 Halloween

8:00AM	Mass	Church
10:00AM	Mass	Church
10:30AM	RCIA	Parish Office
12:00PM	Mass	Church
5:00PM	All Soul's Mass & Remembrance	Church

Bulletin Article Requests:

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

Dear Friends,



Over one billion Catholics all over the world observe today as *World Mission Sunday*. This annual observance was instituted in 1926 by a Papal decree issued by Pope Pius XI. Every year since then, the universal Church has dedicated the month of October to reflection on and prayer for the missions. On World Mission Sunday, Catholics gather to celebrate the Eucharist and to contribute to a collection for the work of evangelization around the world.

Why does the Church give so much importance to *World Mission Sunday*? The Acts of Apostles gives a very good answer: “We cannot but speak about what we have seen and heard” (Acts 4:20). The Apostles were following the missionary mandate that Jesus gave us all to go and proclaim the good news to all creation (Matthew 28:19-20). This annual celebration gives us a chance to reflect on the importance of missionary works for the life of the Church. It reminds us that we are one with the universal Church and that we are all committed to carrying on the mission of Christ, however different our situations may be.

You know that I myself was a missionary in the north-eastern Indian State of Nagaland and you have heard me sharing my missionary experiences. But when I came to this country, I was quite surprised to hear that there were missionary regions in the USA. “Home Missions” is the name for dioceses and parishes in the United States, including its territories and former territories, which cannot provide basic pastoral services to Catholics without outside help. Basic pastoral services include Mass and sacraments, religious education, and ministry training for priests, deacons, religious sisters and lay people.

For many decades, the Church in the United States has sent missionaries overseas to serve the people of Latin America, Africa, Asia, and Oceania. The home missions are dioceses and parishes here in the United States that need the same kind of support. Surprisingly, according to the USCCB, “the Catholic Church is poorly established in many parts of our country, especially Appalachia, the South, the Southwest along the Mexican border, the Rocky Mountain States, Alaska, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, and remote island chains like the Marshalls and the Carolines in the Pacific.” Generally speaking, the home missions are everywhere that Catholics are few and the Church is fragile. Here’s just one example:

In Montana, the Diocese of Great Falls-Billings has 99 parishes and missions stretching over 90,000 square miles. Many priests in this diocese serve multiple parishes - some serve up to five! Many parishes cannot meet the financial obligations of having a full-time priest and communities often feel disconnected from the larger Church.

So, when the *World Mission Sunday* rightly raises our awareness of the worldwide missionary efforts in the world outside of the United States, let us not forget the missionary regions closer home in our own country.

Your brother in Christ,
Fr. Abraham Orapankal.

Readings for the Week

Monday: Rom 8:12-17; Ps 68:2, 4, 6-7ab, 20-21; Lk 13:10-17

Tuesday: Rom 8:18-25; Ps 126:1b-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6; Lk 13:18-21

Wednesday: Rom 8:26-30; Ps 13:4-5, 6; Lk 13:22-30

Thursday: Eph 2:19-22; Ps 19:2-3, 4-5; Lk 6:12-16

Friday: Rom 9:1-5; Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20; Lk 14:1-6

Saturday: Rom 11:1-2a, 11-12, 25-29; Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15, 17-18; Lk 14:1, 7-11

Sunday: Dt 6:2-6; Ps 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51; Heb 7:23-28; Mk 12:28b-34

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, Oct 23	5:00PM	Ken Garabrandt, by Barb & Family
Sunday, Oct 24	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
Monday, Oct 25	8:00AM	Susan & James Shinnors, by Mary
Tuesday, Oct 26	8:00AM	Filippo Piccolo, Rosa & Gaspare Grammatico
Wednesday, Oct 27	8:00AM	Brendlyn Alcindor, by Anne Marie
Thursday, Oct 28	8:00AM	Birthday Blessings for Alexander Stone, By Phyllis Stone
	8:00AM	Dolores Steets Pleconis, by Rosa & Gaspare Grammatico
Friday, Oct 29	8:00AM	Dolores Steets Pleconis, by Rosa & Gaspare Grammatico
Saturday, Oct 30	5:00PM	Angela Frigiola, The Dudajek Family
Sunday, Oct 31	8:00AM	Carmen Reviriego, The Decker Family
	10:00AM	John P. Didie IV, by Noreen Leib
	12:00PM	Emma Himey, By Dee Nann
	(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 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	Mary Dolan	Margaret Menendez	Sr. Mary Amata Shina, OSF
Maria Barreiro	William Dolphin	Gail Miranda	Sr. Rosaria Shina, OSF
Virginia Briggs	John Farkas	Dave Moynihan	Catherine Sloomaker
Marie Brody	Claudia Gemgnani	Baby Ezran Natural	Encarnacion (Gina) So
Thomas Burns	Emma Gergely	Patricia Nese	Alessandro Spagnolo
Tara Capatosto	Rose Gessner	Danny Ochangco	Dennis Stuewe
Ellen Catalina	Mary Gidaro	Jim Pettit	Jeff Tami
Sean Clancy	Jill Gordon-Szabo	Christina Pietrowiak	Maureen Tropea
Barbara Coan	Sloopy Hoffman	Oscar Poisler	Fred & Carolyn Vanmiddlesworth
Tom Current	Baby Isla-Rose Huffman	Baby Griffin Rademaker	Eulalia Villanueva
Joseph DeFrancesco	Kathleen Lagenbacher	Kevin Reavey	Judi Wojna
Cenon DeGuzman	Al & Rose Larangeira	Chris Retz	Mark T. Worthington
Mary Ellen Delaney	The Litrakis Family	Ann Ritchick	
Alaina Derecola	Al Maglio	Angela Romanek	Everyone who is ill with Covid-19
Surya & Juliany Dharma	Sue Maglio-Alese	Rudy Schaar	...and for all who are homebound,
Jim Dolan	Beatrice May	Maria Schwenzer	elderly, in nursing care, or living with chronic illness

Pray for those who have died...

— “His mercy endures forever.” Chronicles

Maury Barkley
Frank Catalina
Irene Fortunato

Reflect



Smile with Your Family



A motorist with poor eyesight was driving through a dense fog and was trying desperately to stay within range of the taillights of the car ahead of him. As he squinted and worried his way along, trying to stay on course with those taillights, the car in front suddenly stopped, and his car hit the car in the front. The driver of the rear car got out and demanded to know why the other driver came to such an abrupt stop. "I had to," he replied. "I'm in my own garage!"

My daughter asked why she can't just quit school and I told

her it's against the law and they'll put me in jail and my sweet, sweet child looked me in the eye and said, "Don't worry dad, I'll visit you" 😊

How do you get off a non-stop flight? 😊

If money doesn't grow on trees, how come banks have branches? 😊

Why are goods sent by ship called CARGO and those sent by truck SHIP-MENT? 😊



Marriage Tune-Up

Even when Jesus knew what Bartimaeus wanted, he wanted to listen to him expressing his needs (Mark 10:46-52). How do you listen to your spouse? When you speak to your partner, do you consciously focus on his/her feelings and personal struggles? Before any serious personal talk with your spouse, decide not to become defensive or interrupt each other. Remember that your partner might not want solutions - he or she needs you to just sit back and listen.



Parenting Tune-Up

When families work well, jobs are shared according to age, ability, and interest. Just for fun, why not shake it up once in a while. Try trading jobs. You just might learn something new. (Susan Vogt)

Sunday Reflection: Right Now Matters!

Bartimaeus, a blind man, the son of Timaeus, sat by the roadside begging. "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy me . . . ! "Master, I want to see." Mark 10: 46-52

Samantha had just finished college and was about to embark on the "real world." Her mother warned her: "You are about to enter a really weird time in your life, and I can't prepare you for it. Just be aware." Eager to move on from college in Tennessee, she moved back to her hometown of St. Louis and landed a job as a nanny with a wealthy and extremely likable family. It was a great job for a nanny - but this was not what she envisioned her life to be. While her friends were going off to law school or beginning promising new careers in great cities or getting married, she was mastering toasting the perfect Eggo waffle.

Samantha second-guessed her decision to flee Tennessee and tortured herself with feelings of insignificance and failure. It was turning into that "weird time" her mother warned her about. Then came one of those "aha!" moments when things become unmistakably clear. She was playing outside with her little charges when one of them

came up and said, "You're so great. You don't even have to play with us but you do it anyway. Our other nannies never did that. We love you!" Samantha was floored. Not only did she underestimate the kids' ability to be so gracious, but they made her realize that it's truly not about what life hands you but what you do with it. Samantha writes:

"I could easily just patrol these girls, make sure they don't run out in the street or draw all over the walls, but I don't. I play with them. I make my life part of theirs and vice versa. And together, we have perfected the fine art of Eggo toasting. How many people can say that?" Samantha discovered that "self-worth is where you find it and that the most beautiful form of self-worth occurs when you maximize the amount of love you share with the world, no matter how mundane or humble the circumstances may be . . . Just because you have a college degree doesn't mean you need a job with a Blackberry."

In today's Gospel, a blind man asks to see. Jesus responds not by mixing mud or touching the man's eyes or looking to heaven in prayer; Jesus says, basically, *Look with the eyes of the faith you already possess. Not only does he restore Bartimaeus' physical sight but Jesus also "restores" Bartimaeus' realization of God's love in his life, enabling him to embrace, with hope, the life God has called him to live: a life that finds its meaning in selfless giving and reconciling peace. In the same way, Samantha comes to realize the possibilities she has to be the means of love and joy for the children entrusted to her and, in that role, she discovers meaning and joy in her own life. Jesus opens the eyes of our hearts as well, enabling us to realize the opportunities we have to bring life and light, healing and peace, justice and mercy to others along our way to the dwelling place of God. Faith calls us to "see" with the human heart, to perceive in the spirit.*



“What I like to See!”

Helen Keller, so brave and inspiring to us in her deafness and blindness, once wrote a magazine article entitled: "Three Days to See." In that article she outlined what things she would like to see if she were granted just three days of sight. It was a powerful, thought-provoking article. On the first day, she said, she wanted to see friends. Day two she would spend seeing nature. The third day she would spend in her home city of New York, watching the busy city and the workday of the present. She concluded it with these words: "I who am blind can give one hint to those who see: Use your eyes as if tomorrow you were to be stricken blind."

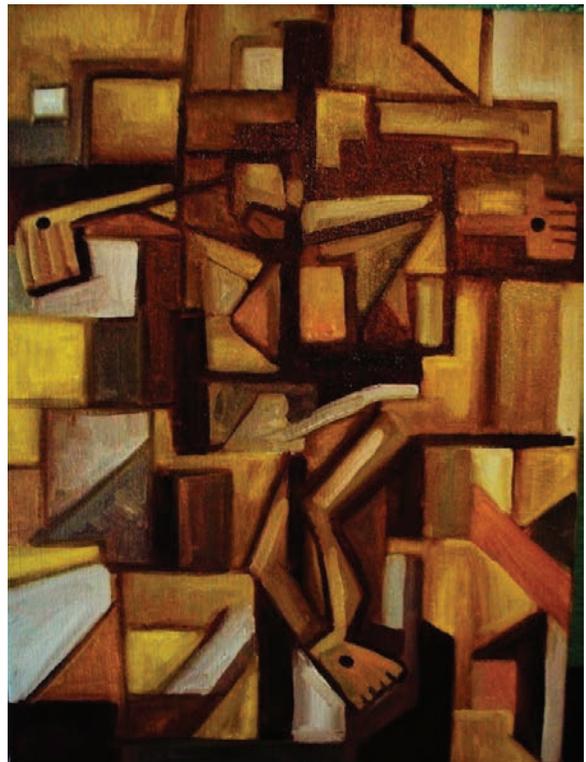
The gospel this Sunday is the healing of blind Bartimaeus who tried to get the attention of Jesus. In the midst of the crowd, Jesus called him and wanted him to articulate what his need was. Bartimaeus who had lots of things in his mind (unhappiness and all other feelings due to his inability to see and manage his life as he was a blind beggar), got a chance to share his needs with Jesus. Like Bartimaeus, we must seek Jesus with trust in his goodness and mercy. Sometimes our fears, anger and habitual unhealthy habits prevent us from approaching God in prayer. At times, we even become angry with God when He seems slow in answering our prayers. In these desperate moments, let us approach Jesus in prayer with trusting Faith as Bartimaeus did and listen carefully to the voice of Jesus asking us: "What do you want me to do for you?" Let us tell Him all our heart's intentions and needs. Let us imitate Bartimaeus, the man of faith and vision, a man unafraid to recognize his need for healing and to cry out, "I want to see!"

Do You Suffer from Spiritual Blindness?

Each one of us suffers from spiritual blindness. Hence, we need the light of the Holy Spirit to enlighten us. Anger, hatred, prejudice, jealousy, evil habits, etc., make us spiritually blind and prevent us from seeing the goodness in our neighbors and God's presence in them. We are blind to a sense of justice when we refuse to pay our debts, or when we collect our wages though we have not done an honest day's work for that day's pay or have cheated our employer by taking time or items that belong to the company. We are blinded by greed when we are never satisfied with what we have and incur debts to buy luxury items. Hence, let us pray to have a clear vision of Christian values and priorities in our lives and to acknowledge the presence of God dwelling in ourselves and in our neighbors. A clear spiritual vision enables us to see the goodness in others, to express our appreciation for all that they have been doing for us, and to refrain from criticizing their performance.

“Do You See What I See?”

In our parish office there hangs a modernistic picture composed of a maze of colors and shapes. I know these sophisticated, modern, and abstract pictures are supposed to contain some profound artistic or philosophical message, but I have never been able to figure it out. It just looks like a jumbled mass of confusion. If there is a message there, I am blind to it. One day while I was standing in the office, waiting for the copier to warm up, one of the parents came to the office with her kindergarten-age boy, Adam. After greeting me he looked at the picture for a minute and said to me, "Do you see what I see?" "Do you see something in that picture? I sure don't." Adam looked at me with glee in his eye, "Father, can't you see him? It's Jesus hanging on the cross." I stared as hard as I could, until my eyes actually hurt from staring. I wanted to believe Adam, that there actually was the image of Jesus hanging on the cross hidden somewhere in that mass of color and shapes, but I couldn't see Jesus anywhere. "Adam, I'm sorry but I must be blind. You will have to help me see." Directing his finger to a mass of color in the center of the picture, Adam said, "There, Father. Do you see what I see? There is Jesus, his face, his arms outstretched on the cross." And then, like an epiphany, the image began to appear. Yes, there hidden somehow "behind" the colors and the shapes was the barely visible image of Jesus, hanging with arms outstretched on the cross. "It's amazing, Adam. You have helped one blind pastor to see Jesus. Yes, I can see what you see, Adam." A similar epiphany happens in today's Gospel.



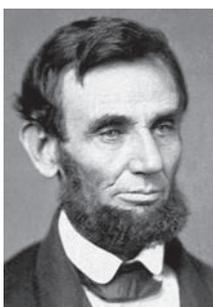
Reflect



Sit Down and Write 500 Times, "I will not run red lights"!!

In the traffic court of a large Midwestern city a young lady was brought before the judge to answer for a ticket given to her for running a red light. She explained to the judge that she was a school teacher and requested an immediate disposal of her case so she could get to school on time. All of a sudden the judge began grinning from ear to ear. The judge said: "So, you're a schoolteacher, huh? Well, Ma'am, I finally get to realize one of my lifelong dreams. I've waited years for the opportunity to have schoolteacher in my court. Sit down at that table and write: 'I will not run red lights' 500 times!" {Phillips, Bob, *World's Greatest Collection of Clean Jokes*, (Harvest House Publishers, Eugene, Oregon 1998) p. 19.}

That joke, coupled with today's Scripture, got me to thinking. Is there something in your life that you've always wanted but still haven't realized yet? Do you have some unfulfilled dream or wish? Some longing that you've never acted upon? Bartimaeus, the character in the Scripture for today, certainly did.



"Free for What?"

There is a story, believed to be true, about Abraham Lincoln, just before the close of the Civil War. Landowners in the Deep South were cutting their losses, liquidating their slaves before slavery was banned, and President Lincoln came upon a slave auction in progress. A young girl was placed upon the auction block, in front of all the bidders and gawkers. With defiance and disdain, the woman scanned the crowd, daring someone to start the bidding. Lincoln did - and when he won the bid and took possession of the young woman, she was belligerent. "What are you going to do with me?" she asked. "I'm going to set you free," the president answered. "Set me free? What do you mean, 'Set me free?' Free for what?" Abraham Lincoln said, "Free. Free to do what you want to do. Free to go where you want to go." The astonished woman replied, "Then I choose to go with you." After a lifetime of yearning for freedom, the first thing this former slave chooses to do when she becomes free is to yield herself back under the authority of someone else.

This is exactly what Bartimaeus did after he was freed from his blindness. He followed Jesus on the way! That means he surrendered his life to Jesus and followed him fully. This is our call. You and I are free; that's what Jesus said. May we use our freedom to be his servants in a dark and hurting world, and reflect his glorious light to remove the spiritual blindness and darkness around us! May this begin today.

The Driver Said: "There is one other thing ..."



Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, the creator of Sherlock Holmes, told a story on himself. He was waiting for a taxi outside the railway station in

Paris. When the taxi pulled up, he put his suitcase in it and then got in the taxi. As he was about to tell the taxi-driver where he wanted to go, the driver asked him: "Where can I take you, Mr. Doyle?" Doyle was astounded. He asked the driver if he knew him by sight. The driver said: "No Sir, I have never seen you before." Doyle was puzzled and asked him how he knew he was Arthur Conan Doyle. The driver replied: "This morning's paper had a story that you were on vacation in Marseilles. This is the taxi-stand where people who return from Marseilles always wait. Your skin color tells me you have been on vacation. The ink-spot on your right index finger suggests to me that you are a writer. Your clothing is very English, and not French. Adding up all those pieces of information, I deduce that you are Sir Arthur Conan Doyle." Doyle exclaimed, "This is truly amazing. You are a real-life counter-part to my fictional creation, Sherlock Holmes." "There is one other thing," the driver said. "What is that?" Doyle asked. "Your name is on the front of your suitcase." [*Parables, Etc.* (Saratoga Press, P.O. Box 8, Platteville, CO, 80651; 970-785-2990), March.]

It wasn't the powers of deduction. It was the power of observation. That taxi driver's lenses were clean enough to observe what was going on around him. He had the Proper Focus. The blind man in today's Gospel had such a focus on Jesus as the long-awaited Messiah and his only healer.

A Pearl of Wisdom for this Week:

"Happiness keeps you sweet;
But being sweet brings happiness."

Pray



World Mission Sunday - Society for the Propagation of the Faith

Today is World Mission Sunday. We celebrate this day by remembering our baptismal call to bring the Gospel to all! The collection today for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith supports the work and witness of the Mission church, as it provides for priests, religious and lay leaders who offer the Lord's mercy and concrete help to the most vulnerable communities in the Pope's missions. Thank you for your generosity!

Mass for All Souls Sunday, October 31 5 PM

All Souls Mass will be celebrated next
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31, at 5:00 PM.

Families whose loved ones have been buried from St. Matthias since October 2020, will have a candle lit for their loved one at the mass.

You are invited to bring a picture of your family member that evening to be placed on the bulletin board in the back of the Church. The pictures will remain on the bulletin board for month of November.

Everyone is invited to attend the Mass and pray for all of our deceased relatives and friends regardless of when the loss occurred.



A Morning of Reflection



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!

Learn

St. Matthias Racial Justice Initiative Book Read

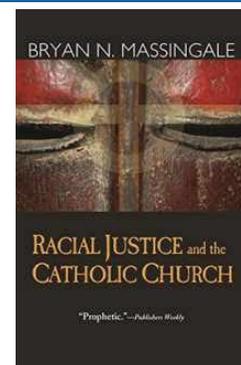
"Racial Justice and the Catholic Church" by Bryan Massingale - 240 pages
Saturday, Oct. 30, 2021, 9:30AM—11:30AM Eastern Time

<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j?2780458086>

Meeting ID: 278 045 8086

Purchase the book today from an online bookseller.

Please **RSVP** here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a054fa4ab2faaff2-stmatthias>



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 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 24, 2021 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"And Jesus said to him, 'Go your way; your faith has made you well.' And immediately he received his sight and followed him on the way." (Mark 10:52)

Faith is believing in something even though you may not be able to physically see it. Many people think that miracles don't happen anymore. This is hard, but try to focus on the positive and not the negative things in your life. When you focus on your blessings instead of your hardships, miracles will seem common. You will see God's active presence in your daily life. You will begin to develop an attitude of gratitude.

Reflexiónese — 24 de octubre 2021 Domingo 30° del Tiempo Ordinario

"Y Jesús le dijo. 'Sigue tu camino; tu fe te ha curado'. E inmediatamente pudo ver y lo siguió en su camino" (Marcos 10:52)

La fe es creer en algo aun cuando no pueda verlo físicamente. Muchas personas piensan que los milagros ya no suceden. Esto es difícil, pero trate de centrarse en las cosas positivas de su vida y no en las negativas. Cuando se centra en sus bendiciones en lugar de hacerlo en sus dificultades, los milagros parecerán comunes. Verá la presencia activa de Dios en su vida cotidiana. Usted comenzará a desarrollar una actitud de gratitud.

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
Week 16 - Oct. 17, 2021	\$7,983.00	\$12,834.25	\$20,817.25	\$33,007.63
			Month-to-date Total	Oct Total Last Yr
			\$91,189.25	\$130,082.52
			Current Year-to-date	Year-to-date as of Oct 31, 2020
			\$413,792.91	\$427,985.81

Serve

SMYLE (Youth Ministry) Thanksgiving Food Collection THIS Weekend, October 23 & 24

SMYLE will be collecting non-perishable food items for Thanksgiving distribution the weekend of October 23 and 24th after all the masses. Please drop off all donations to the Cry room and mark them SMYLE donation. The items needed are: instant mashed potatoes, stuffing (instant or bagged stuffing), cranberry, green beans, corn. We will also be accepting monetary donations to purchase additional perishable items. As always, thank you for your generosity.



Letter from Parishioner

Dear Father Abraham,

I was very appreciative of your article in the St. Matthias newsletter. It is the first time in a long time that our church as fully come out against abortion. There are so many in our parish that look the other way because they are of a certain political affiliation that doesn't agree with the pro-life movement. It's nice to see the church come back to the true teachings of Christ!

Thank you!

(Name withheld on request)

Vocations Ministry - Called to Build God's Kingdom — Oct 24, 2021

Pope Francis in "Gaudete et Exsultate" on the call to holiness in today's world says:

The presence of constantly new gadgets, the excitement of travel and an endless array of consumer goods at times leave no room for God's voice to be heard. We are overwhelmed by words, by superficial pleasures and by an increasing din, filled not by joy but rather by the discontent of those whose lives have lost meaning. How can we fail to realize the need to stop this rat race and to recover the personal space needed to carry on a heartfelt dialogue with God? Finding that space may prove painful, but it is always fruit-

ful. Sooner or later, we have to face our true selves and let the Lord enter. This may not happen unless "we see ourselves staring into the abyss of a frightful temptation or have the dizzying sensation of standing on the precipice of utter despair or find ourselves completely alone and abandoned". In such situations, we find the deepest motivation for living fully our commitment to our work.

Take time to quiet your mind and heart to listen to the voice of the Lord. Take time to develop the relationship with God that will give you inner peace.



Pope Francis' Message for World Mission Sunday 2021

(The complete message is at: https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/missions/documents/papa-francesco_20210106_giornata-missionaria2021.html)

WE CANNOT KEEP THE LORD TO OURSELVES

Once we experience the power of God's love, and recognize his fatherly presence in our personal and community life, we cannot help but proclaim and share what we have seen and heard... "Go therefore to the highways and byways, and invite everyone you find" (Mt 22:9). No one is excluded, no one need feel distant or removed from this compassionate love.... As Christians, we cannot keep the Lord to ourselves: the Church's evangelizing mission finds outward fulfillment in the transformation of our world and in the care of creation... The theme of this year's World Mission Sunday — "We cannot but speak about what we have seen and heard" (Acts 4:20), is a summons to each of us to "own" and to bring to others what we bear in our hearts.

THE EXPERIENCE OF THE APOSTLES

The first Christians began the life of faith amid hostility and hardship... those experiences impelled them to turn problems, conflicts and difficulties

into opportunities for mission... Nothing and no one was to be excluded from the message of liberation. Like the Apostles and the first Christians, we too can say with complete conviction: "We cannot but speak about what we have seen and heard" (Acts 4:20). Everything we have received from the Lord is meant to be put to good use and freely shared with others... The first Christians, far from yielding to the temptation to become an elite group, were inspired by the Lord and His offer of new life to go out among the nations and to bear witness to what they had seen and heard: the good news that the Kingdom of God is at hand...

THE PANDEMIC NECESSITATES MISSION OF COMPASSION

The pandemic has brought to the fore and amplified the pain, the solitude, the poverty, and the injustices experienced by so many people. In these days of pandemic... there is urgent need for the mission of compassion, which can make that necessary (social) distancing an opportunity for encounter, care and

promotion. "What we have seen and heard" (Acts 4:20), the mercy we have experienced, can thus become a point of reference and a source of credibility enabling us to recover a shared passion for building "a community of belonging and solidarity worthy of our time, our energy and our resources" (*Fratelli Tutti*, 36).

AN INVITATION TO EACH OF US

On World Mission Sunday, which we celebrate on the penultimate Sunday of October, we recall with gratitude all those men and women who by their testimony of life help us to renew our baptismal commitment to be generous and joyful apostles of the Gospel. Let us remember especially all those who resolutely set out, leaving home and family behind, to bring the Gospel to all those places and people athirst for its saving message. To be on mission is to be willing to think as Christ does, to believe with Him that those around us are also my brothers and sisters. May His compassionate love touch our hearts and make us all true missionary disciples.

Local Community

Champions for Catholic Charities Virtual Gala Thursday, October 28 ~ 7:00 p.m.

Please prayerfully consider becoming a *Champion for Catholic Charities* by making a gift of any amount in support of the services and programs for the most vulnerable. Links for the Virtual Gala and donations can be found at www.diometuchen.org/champions. Questions, call 732-562-2432.



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



5th ANNUAL INTER-FAITH PROGRAM: World Religions Creating Unity and Peace in a Post-Pandemic World

Join us for a discussion with panelists representing the Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Hindu and Buddhist Traditions. There will be time for audience questions.

Wed., Nov. 10, 7--9 p.m. Academy Student Center (\$20-\$30 as you are able)

Facilitator: Rev. Anthony Randazzo

Register at: www.msmhop.org or 908-753-2091

RICHARD ROHR VIDEO CLUB

Richard Rohr, OFM, is one of the great spiritual masters of our time. His many spiritual books have touched millions of God-seekers. Join this monthly video club which is a collaborative endeavor of the House of Prayer and Holy Trinity Parish, Westfield. Come reflect and share your insights and prayerful responses to Rohr's writings.

Fridays, 10--11:30 a.m. House of Prayer or 7--8:30 p.m. Holy Trinity Parish Center; \$20--\$30 / session, as you are able

2nd Friday of the Month: Nov. 12, Dec. 10, Jan. 14, Feb. 11

Register at: www.msmhop.org or 908-753-2091



Parish Leadership

Parish Pastoral Council:

Co-Chairs:

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

Co-Secretaries:

Lorraine Farr and
Anne Marie Francis

Rose Peng
Frank Rees
Maria Tapia-Burch
John Taylor

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

Trustees:

Isaac Peng
Marge Richards

Parish Finance Council:

Joe Porter, Chair
FinanceCouncil@stmatthias.net

Susan Klimcsak
Barry Dusault
Gwen Orłowski

Audrey Francis
Kester Hector
Joan Pritchard

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

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

Parish Registration — Welcome to St. Matthias! Please register on our website. www.stmatthias.net/join-us, or visit the Parish Office.

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

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

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



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



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