



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

Pastor: Rev Abraham Orapankal, [abraham](mailto:abraham@stmatthias.net)
Senior Priest: Msgr. Seamus Brennan, [sbrennan](mailto:sbrennan@stmatthias.net)
 Mary Pat Burke-Grospin, Business Administrator
[mpburke-grospin](mailto:mpburke-grospin@stmatthias.net)

Deacon Ron Caimi, *Senior Deacon*
 Kelly Counts, *Receptionist*, [kcounts](mailto:kcounts@stmatthias.net)
 Deacon Russell Demkovitz, [rdemkovitz](mailto:rdemkovitz@stmatthias.net)
 Nathalie Godet, *Website Coordinator*, [ngodet](mailto:ngodet@stmatthias.net)
 Leslie Guillen, *Bulletin Editor*, [lguillen](mailto:lguillen@stmatthias.net)
 Amy Hanna, *Accountant/Databases*, [ahanna](mailto:ahanna@stmatthias.net)
 Mike Lanyi, *Sacristan*
 Sue Lenczewski, *Youth Coordinator*, [SMYLE](mailto:SMYLE@stmatthias.net)
 Mary Jo Loboda, *Parish Staff, Development*,
[mjloboda](mailto:mjloboda@stmatthias.net)
 Julio Montero, *Maintenance Supervisor*
 Dolores R. Nann, *Pastoral Associate for Faith Formation*, [dnann](mailto:dnann@stmatthias.net)
 Vinnie Natale, *Bookkeeper*, [vnatale](mailto:vnatale@stmatthias.net)
 Silvia Nizama, *Housekeeper*
 Deacon John Radvanski, [deaconjohn](mailto:deaconjohn@stmatthias.net)
 Joan Best Seamon, *Pastoral Associate for Music Ministry*, [jseamon](mailto:jseamon@stmatthias.net)
 Sr. Marie Therese Sherwood, *OSF, Pastoral Assoc. for Social Concerns*, [msherwood](mailto:msherwood@stmatthias.net)
 Trish Stumper, *Parish Support Secretary*,
[tstumper](mailto:tstumper@stmatthias.net)

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

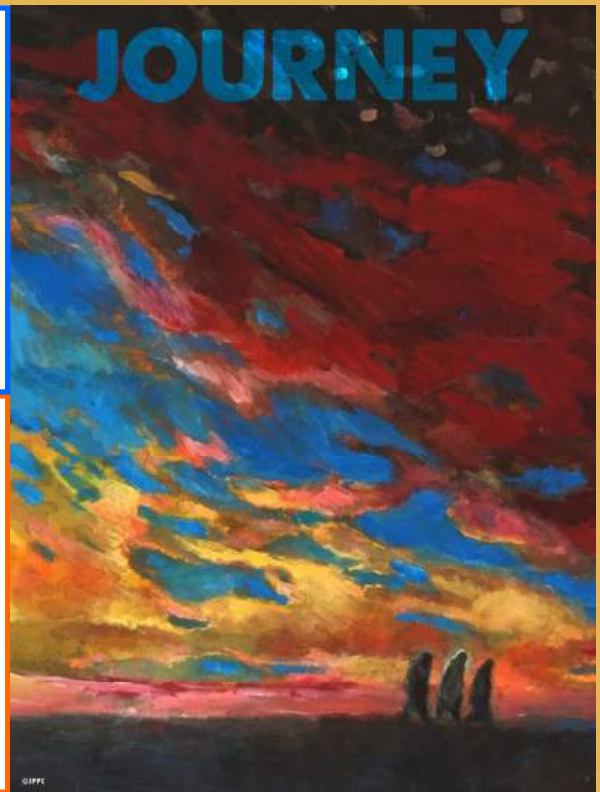
THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. MATTHIAS
SUNDAY, APRIL 23, 2023-
3rd Sunday of Easter



**Next Sunday,
 April 30th, is the
 Catholic Relief
 Services Collection**



**Our next SMYLE
 gathering will be
 April 30th at
 4:00PM in the
 cafeteria.**



Invitation to join the Parish Pastoral Council

The Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) is a consultative body comprised of a representative group of parishioners who work with the Pastor, other Clergy and Parish Staff to foster pastoral activity. Each year one-third of our PPC members retire and new members are commissioned. If you think God is calling you to this ministry, please contact one of the present PPC Co-Chairs:

Rose Peng: rosepeng@optonline.net

or

John Taylor: jptaylor1068@yahoo.com



2023 SMS Golf Classic

This annual event is scheduled for
May 15, 2023 at Royce Brook Golf Club.
 For all details, see page 8.

This Week @ St. Matthias From Our Senior 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, Apr 23, 2023

8:00AM	Mass	Church
10:00AM	Mass	Church
12:00PM	Mass	Church

Monday, Apr 24, 2023 **St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest & Martyr**

8:00AM	Mass/Miraculous Medal Novena	Church
4:30PM	SMS Cheer Camp	St. John XXIII Rm

Tuesday, Apr 25, 2023 **Feast—St. Mark, Evangelist & Martyr**

8:00AM	Mass	Church
4:30PM	SMS Cheer Camp	St. John XXIII Rm

Wednesday, Apr 26, 2023 **St. Anacletus, Pope**

8:00AM	Mass—St. Joseph Novena	Church
9:30AM	Prayer Group 1 Holy Spirit	de Porres Rm
4:30PM	SMS Cheer Camp	St. John XXIII Rm
7:30PM	Folk Group Rehearsal	Church

Thursday, Apr 27, 2023 **St. Zita, Italian Saint**

8:00AM	Mass	Church
3:30PM	Children's Choir Gr.3&4	Church
4:00PM	Children's Choir Gr. 5-8	Church
4:30PM	SMS Cheer Camp	St. John XXIII Rm
7:30PM	Adult Choir Rehearsal	Church

Friday, Apr 28, 2023 **St. Louis de Monfort, Priest & Founder**

8:00AM	Mass	Church
--------	------	--------

Saturday, Apr 29, 2023 **St. Catherine of Sienna, Doctor of the Church**

10:30AM	SMS Band Rehearsal	Church
3:30PM	Reconciliation	Church
5:00PM	Mass	Church

Sunday, Apr 30, 2023 **Catholic Relief Services Collection**

8:00AM	Mass	Church
10:00AM	Mass	Church
12:00PM	Mass	Church
4:00PM	SMYLE Youth Mtg.	Cafeteria

Bulletin Article Requests:

If you would like to send information to be included in our bulletin, please email it to bulletin@stmatthias.net by 8 AM, MONDAY, 5 business days before the needed bulletin date (earlier for holiday weekends). Approved content is published on a space-available basis.



The Road to Emmaus

Speaking of today's gospel, Pope Benedict XVI said "the road to Emmaus actually represents every place: the road that leads there is the road every Christian, every person, takes. The risen Jesus makes himself our traveling companion as we go our way, to rekindle the warmth of faith and hope in our hearts and to break the bread of eternal life"

The disappointment and the sadness of the two disciples represent the common experience of most people. Their description of their experience tells it all: "We were hoping that he would be the one to redeem Israel". They speak in the past tense implying that they have lost all hope .When Christ walked among them they had been filled with hope. But witnessing His crucifixion and death and burial seemed to have crushed all their expectations .The resurrection and appearances of Christ will change all that. Having walked with Him and sitting down to share a meal they recognize Him "in the breaking of the bread". On our pilgrimage of life we experience many disappointments and we lose hope. But the risen one walks with us on the road of life every day. Like the two disciples we are blind to his presence. Often we must walk many miles (years) before our eyes are open to His presence.

Our weekly gathering for mass is where we most often have our hope restored .The Eucharist is our weekly coming together to listen to the Lord's Word and to share the gift of His Body and Blood , His abiding presence in the Eucharist .

This drama of the disciples of Emmaus appears like a reflection of the situation of many Christians of our time .Sometimes we feel abandoned and forgotten even by the Lord. But this road we walk is the way of purification and maturation. He walks with you daily. Listen to his Word and reflect on it and participate in the breaking of bread, the Eucharist, every week. In that way you too will come to say "our eyes were opened and we recognized Him in the breaking of bread".

Msgr. Brennan



Readings for the Week

Monday: Acts 6:8-15; Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30; Jn 6:22-29

Tuesday: 1 Pt 5:5b-14; Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17; Mk 16:15-20

Wednesday: Acts 8:1b-8; Ps 66:1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a; Jn 6:35-40

Thursday: Acts 8:26-40; Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20; Jn 6:44-51

Friday: Acts 9:1-20; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Jn 6:52-59

Saturday: Acts 9:31-42; Ps 116:12-13, 14-15, 16-17; Jn 6:60-69

Sunday: Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Ps 23: 1-3a, 3b4, 5, 6; 1 Pt 2:20b-25; Jn 10:1-10

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, Apr 22	5:00PM	Intention Of Parishioners
Sunday, Apr 23	8:00AM	Nicholas Hughes, by Daddy, Michael, Patrick & Brittany
	10:00AM	Jerry Edwin, by Mercy Gabriel
	12:00PM	Jack Sullivan, by Mary & Family
Monday, Apr 24	8:00AM	Susai Nathan, by The Nathan Family
Tuesday, Apr 25	8:00AM	Betty Nileski, by Jack & Sharon Murphy
Wednesday, Apr 26	8:00AM	The De Guzman Family, by Alma Valdez
Thursday, Apr 27	8:00AM	Leticia Salonga, by Reena & Antonio Reyes
Friday, Apr 28	8:00AM	Angela Frigiola, by Loving Family & Friends
Saturday, Apr 29	5:00PM	Health & Blessings for Stacy Brooks, by Nathalie
Sunday, Apr 30	8:00AM	Intention of Parishioners
	10:00AM	Angela Frigiola, by Irene Nowakowski
	12:00PM	Birthday Blessings for Anne Marie Francis, by Karen, Brandon & Patrick

Pray for those who are sick...

If you or a family member are sick, please call the Parish Office or **email Kelly Counts** at kcunts@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
Arthur & Regina Berlowitz
John Blum
Bishop Paul Bootkowski
Barbara Butler
Bianca Canlas
Tara Capatosto
Ellen Catalina
Kyle Davidson
Lisa DeFeo
Ann Devlin
Michael DiMaggio
William Dolphin
Vivian Dong
Josephine Geenty
Claudia Gemgnani

Helen Geraghty
Emma Gergely
Marilyn Horvath
Robert Kashinsky
Kathleen Langenbacher
Henrietta Lesiak
Mary Lou Litrakis
John Litrakis
Joseph Lubrano
Jude Raymond Maceren
Aries Magali
Al Maglio
Anne McElwee
Margaret Menendez
Carol Millemann
Kathlyn Moore

Eleanor Nagy
Danny Ongchango
Paul & Doris Paetow
Robert Pellegrino
Jim Pettit
Valerie Polci
Kim Price
Doris Regan
Gabriel Rivera
Jaxon Rivera
Arina Robinson
Arthur Robinson
Maria Schwenzer
Sr. Rosaria Shina, OSF
Sr. Bernadine Marie
Stemnock

Jeff Sullivan
Tom Szabo
Nancy Whelan
Mark Worthington
Carl Wyopen
Angie Yetyet

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

Harold Querijero

Reflect



Smile with Your Family



Risen Lord in the train. On her first train trip, a little girl was put into an upper berth by her mother. The mother then assured her that Jesus would watch over her during the night. As the lights were switched off the girl became alarmed and called out softly: "Mom, are you there?" "Yes dear," her mother replied. A little later the child called in a louder voice: "Daddy, are you also there?" "Yes", was the reply. After this had been repeated several times, one of the passengers lost patience and shouted: "We're all here. Your father, your mother, your brothers and sisters and cousins, your uncles and aunts – all are here. Now go to sleep!" There was silence for a while. Then, in a hushed voice the child asked: "Mom, was that risen Jesus traveling with us?" 😊

The Risen Lord is watching: Up at the head table in the cafeteria, one of the nuns had placed a big bowl of bright red, fresh, juicy apples. Beside the bowl, she placed a note which read, "Take only one. Remember, Jesus is watching." At the other end of the table was a bowl full of freshly baked chocolate chip cookies, still warm from the oven. Beside the bowl was a little note scrawled in a child's handwriting which read, "Take all you want. Jesus is watching the apples!" 😊

A man is walking in only one shoe. Somebody asks: Did you lose one? No, I've found one 😊

Who is the fastest runner in the whole world?
Adam! He was 1st in the human race! 😊



Parenting Tune-Up

After the resurrection several disciples were walking to Emmaus and talking about what had happened. Take a long walk with your child this weekend. Observe; pay attention if someone crosses your path. Be open to conversation or let nature speak to you of the God of creation.



Marriage Tune-Up

"Two of Jesus' disciples were walking to a village seven miles from Jerusalem called Emmaus and they were talking about all the things that had occurred." (Luke 24:13) Take a walk today- just the two of you. Talk. Be conscious of Jesus presence.

"La La Land"

At Emmaus, the two disciples recognize Jesus in the breaking of bread. Luke 24: 13-35

The hit movie **La La Land** is much more than a valentine to the golden age of movie musicals. It's a fable about dreams - and those who help us realize those dreams. Mia is a barista at a small coffee shop on the Warner Bros. movie lot who dashes off to audition after audition for small roles in dubious films and TV shows that will never be seen. Her dream is to tell great and moving stories through her acting. Sebastian is a jazz pianist who dreams of opening his own jazz club but is stuck playing cheesy standards in bar lounges or synthesizers for tacky 1980s cover bands.

Mia doesn't even like jazz, but she responds to Sebastian's passion for the music. She wants to rouse him out of his funk so he can make his club a reality instead of making bad music for a paycheck. She challenges him: *Are you selling out your dream for the sake of someone else's?* It's a wake-up call for Seb. As for Mia, acting is rapidly approaching a dead end. Seb encourages her to showcase her skills in a one-woman show she has written. But the production is a disaster. Her confidence gone, Mia goes home to Nevada. But a major casting director was at the play and wants to talk to her about the lead part in a film to be shot in Paris. Sebastian has more faith in Mia's talent than she does, and so he drives all

night to Nevada to convince Mia to take this one last chance. Mia finally relents and Sebastian drives them back to Hollywood where Mia gives the audition of her life.

La La Land doesn't quite end like the movie musicals of days gone by. "Making it" requires self-belief fostered by someone who believes in you - and that might mean leaving that someone behind. In the end, romance is less important to Mia and Sebastian than what they are able to give each other in that time when their paths overlap. "Happily ever after" remains to be seen. But Mia and Sebastian, with selfless love and care, help each other realize their dreams - and more.

On the roads we travel to whatever Emmaus we are heading, the Risen Christ appears in our midst in the love, the care, the wisdom, the experience of family and friends, of teachers and mentors. In them, Christ guides us, nudges us, challenges us and confronts us: Where are we going? What are we seeking on this journey? How do we experience meaning and purpose in our lives? As Mia and Sebastian come to see, there is a cost to "happily ever after," that real love sometimes means letting go. God assures us, in his Easter promise, that along those roads he will make himself known to us in the compassion and generosity of others, in the breaking of bread and the healing touch of the sacraments, in the grace and wisdom of his Spirit.

SUPERMAN: "Don't worry, Miss, I've got you."

Our tendency is to look for Christ in the extraordinary, the spectacular, the breathtaking. Remember in *Superman: The Movie* when Superman first reveals his superpowers to the world? Lois Lane is dangling from a cable, high atop the *Daily Planet* building, screaming at the top of her lungs. Just as she begins her long fall to earth, Superman changes into his flashy red, yellow, and blue outfit and swoops up to catch her in midair. "Don't worry, Miss," he assures her, "I've got you." "You've got me," she exclaims. "Who's got you?" Just then the helicopter that has been perched on the edge of the building begins to fall straight toward them and the crowd below. But Superman merely grabs it with his one free arm and gently sets both it and Lois safely back on the landing pad. When he turns to leave, an astonished Lois stammers out the words, "Who ARE you?" "A friend," Superman replies warmly, and as he flies straight up into the air with a sort of half twist, Lois faints in a heap. [Jack Kuhlatschek, *The Superman Syndrome* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 1995), p. 133.]

That's the way we would like to have Christ to come to us. And that is why we miss Him. Christ reveals Himself as He has always revealed Himself – "through the Word and through the Sacraments," that is, through the study of Scripture and the Breaking of the Bread. That is why, when we need encouragement, we go to our Bibles or we go to our Church because there Christ is revealed in all his glory.

"We are Winning!"

A young boy was playing left field in a Little League game when a man yelled over the fence, "Hey son, who's winning?" The little boy replied, "We are!" "What's the score?" "They have 23 – We have 0." "They have you 23 to 0?" The man was confused. "I thought you said you were winning." "Oh, we are," explained the little boy. "You see, we ain't come to bat yet!"

It was easy for the disciples to quit. The One in Whom they had placed their hopes was dead. It was 23 to nothing in their life that Easter morning. Our Scripture lessons for today have one common, encouraging theme: No matter what happens in our lives, the Risen Jesus is always with us. God is near to those who seek Him and who want to live in His presence doing His will. The Emmaus incident is the story of a God who will not leave us alone when we are hurt and disappointed. As Francis Thompson put it, He is the Hound of Heaven who relentlessly follows us when we try to escape from His love. The message of today's Scripture readings is that the followers of Jesus are to maintain contact with their Risen Lord through the Eucharist and the Bible. The readings also remind us that our belief in Jesus' presence in the consecrated Bread and Wine should help us to understand

better his presence in the Bible and in the believing and worshipping community. Putting the two appearances (to the Emmaus disciples and to Peter), together, it is clear that the Risen Jesus wants Peter to act as spokesman for him and that the faithful who seek to follow him should seek his company in the Eucharist and the Bible under the direction of Peter and his successors.

So many broken dreams!

Dr. J. Wallace Hamilton, in his book *Horns and Halos in Human Nature*, tells of one of the weirdest auctions in history. It was held in the city of Washington, D.C. It was an auction of designs, actually patent models of old inventions that did not make it in the marketplace. There were 150,000 designs up for auction. There was an illuminated cat to scare away mice. There was a device to prevent snoring which consisted of a trumpet reaching from the mouth to the ear. One person designed a tube to reach from his mouth to his feet so that his breath would keep his feet warm as he slept. There was an adjustable pulpit which could be raised or lowered. You could hit a button and make the pulpit descend or ascend to dramatically illustrate a point. Obviously, at one time somebody had high hopes for each of those designs which did not make it. Some died in poverty, having spent all of their money trying to sell their dream. One hundred fifty thousand broken dreams! Is there anything sadder?

Today's Gospel describes the shattered dreams of two of Jesus' disciples at the tragic and unexpected death of their Master whom they trusted as their promised Messiah.

"The Church of Second Chance"

In the book titled *"Saint Maybe"* the main character has done something horrible. As he is aimlessly walking around he happens to see a church by name, "The Church of Second Chance." He wanders in and sits down. During the service his mind is opened to the possibility of making amends for his sin, a do-over."

Today's gospel is a good example of the truth that God does not expect us to be perfect. But he wants us to recognize His presence with us and seek His help. St. John, the gospel writer seems almost to get a kick out of the clueless and sad couple Cleopas and his wife, finally recognizing the Risen Lord," the God of second chance, at the "breaking of the bread. Here as they were running away from the Lord of The Second Chance, He welcomes them and they run back seven miles to Jerusalem to convey the good news of the Lord's resurrection to the fellow apostles.



The Healing of the Grandfather

The grandfather of the Jewish philosopher Martin Buber was lame. Once day they asked him to tell a story about his teacher, and he related how his master used to hop and dance while he prayed. The old man rose as he spoke and was so swept away by his story that he himself began to hop and dance to show how his master did it. From that moment he was cured of his lameness.

When we tell the story of Christ, we achieve two things. We enable others to experience Him, and we ourselves experience his power even more. We can see that happening in today's Gospel: the two disciples in the Emmaus story asked: Were not our hearts burning when we listened to him?" We need to ask ourselves: Do our hearts burn when we listen to the Risen Lord in the Bible? Christ comes to us most clearly in the Word. Our tradition teaches us that the reading of the Scriptures, the study of the Scriptures and the proclamation of the message of the Scriptures are the primary ways in which we meet God. Vatican II (Dei Verbum 21), tells us that Jesus is to be equally venerated in the Eucharist and in the Bible. Therefore, we need to study the Bible, learn the Bible, memorize the Bible and meditate on the word of God. We know that Christ lives in the Bible, and so we need to spend time in the Bible to have a deep, intimate, loving, caring, long-term relationship with Jesus Christ. We know we are to brush our teeth every day. Likewise, we are to read the Bible every day. We need to read the Scriptures daily to meet and converse with Jesus Christ. It should be a daily habit because people either read the Bible daily or almost never. Abraham Lincoln, whom many consider the best President of the United States, said: "The greatest gift that God gave to human beings is the Bible." Another President of the United States, John Quincy Adams, said that it was a principle of his to read the Bible through each and every year. Yet another great President of the United States, Theodore Roosevelt, said, "A thorough knowledge of the Bible is worth more than a college education." Goethe, the great German philosopher, said that the beauty of the Bible grows as we grow in our understanding of it.

Looking for exciting or ordinary things?

In *Winnie the Pooh*, Pooh and Piglet take an evening walk. For a long time they walk in silence. Silence like only best friends can share. Finally Piglet breaks the silence and asks, "When you wake up in the morning, Pooh, what's the first thing you say to yourself?" "What's for breakfast?" answers Pooh, and then asks, "And what do you say, Piglet?" Piglet says, "I say, I wonder what exciting thing is going to happen today?"

You and I can't really plan to meet the Risen Christ because we never really know when or where He's going to show up. But you can be sure of this: He will show up in some ordinary way. The risen Lord meets us on the road to our Emmaus in the ordinary experiences of our lives and in the places to which we retreat when life is too much for us. We, too, have hopes and dreams about better health, healing, financial security and family relationships. These dreams often get shattered. The story promises us, however, that the Risen Lord will come to us in unfamiliar guises to support and strengthen us when we least expect him. Emmaus moments come to us when we

Do you find Jesus in the breaking of the bread?

In the Gospel story for today, we learn that we find Christ is in the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. When we kneel at the altar to receive the Sacrament, we see and receive Christ. In John 6, Jesus says, "Whoever eats My Body and drinks My Blood shall live with me eternally." The Eucharist is true "soul food," the Bread of life for eternity. It feeds us and fulfills our spiritual needs. It is a pity that often we don't realize what is happening during the celebration of the Holy Eucharist, the sacred banquet of all believers. In this meal, we are in communion not only with Jesus, but also with our family and friends who have preceded us in death. The Eucharist is not simply Bread and Wine for today, but a banquet for all eternity.



Deacon Russ blessing the food on Holy Saturday.

Pray

EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL COMMITTEE

Thanks to those who have volunteered to join the Eucharistic Revival Committee.

If anyone else feels called to this ministry, please contact: Fr. Abraham or Msgr. Brennan.



Silver & Gold Wedding Anniversary Celebration



You are cordially invited to celebrate your 25th or 50th Wedding Anniversary with the Church of Metuchen and renew your marriage vows with Bishop James F. Checchio at a special Evening Prayer Service at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi in Metuchen on **Sunday, October 22, 2023 at 3:30 PM**. Registration is required. Please register online at:

<https://www.diometuchen.org/silver-and-gold-anniversary-celebration>.

If you are unable to access, please contact the Family Life Office at 732-562-1543 or amarshall@diometuchen.org. Registration will close on **October 6, 2023**. Although no fee is required, in the past many Jubilarian couples have given a donation of gratitude to the Church in memory of this special occasion. Donations of Gratitude may be made online at <https://www.diometuchen.org/silver-and-gold-anniversary-celebration> or by calling 732-562-1543.

Learn



2023 SMS Golf Classic



May 15th
Royce Brook Golf Club
West Course
Hillsborough, NJ

Sign Up Today!



Golf registration and sponsorship opportunities are available online. Please scan the QR code for details.



From the 60th Anniversary Fundraising Committee

Dear Fellow Parishioners and Friends.

The 60th Anniversary Fundraising team and Father Abraham would like to express our sincere gratitude to all who have already donated to this special fundraiser to repair, renovate, and restore our church.

Some of the proposed projects are completed and planning for the rest is ongoing. A 'progress thermometer' is in the church vestibule. The funds raised to date will be noted on the progress thermometer each month. If you have not already donated, donation envelopes and a fundraiser information letter are in the church vestibule. With your support, we are confident that we will raise the funds needed to complete these projects.



If you have any questions, please call Mary Jo Loboda at the parish office at 732-828-1400.

HELP SPREAD THE WORD! SCHOOL YEAR 2023-2024



Saint Matthias School registration is open. We are enrolling students in PreK 3, PreK 4, Kindergarten and grades 1-8. Please help us spread the word about our school filled with faith, caring, and excellence to your relatives, friends, and neighbors. ALL are welcome! Thank you!

St. Matthias Parish Office

Part-Time Administrative Assistant Needed

St. Matthias Church is looking for a part-time administrative assistant with management experience. Responsibilities will include but not limited to:

- * Assist with the day to day operation of the parish.
- * Maintain the parish calendar and schedule events.
- * Serve as the point of contact for funerals and weddings.
- * Proactive management of vendors.
- * Work with maintenance supervisor ordering parts, supplies, and scheduling appointments.
- * Maintain office inventory and complete other general office duties.
- * Must be proficient in MS Office.
- * Excellent office and inter personal skills.
- * Good communication skills, both in person and on the phone a must.

Please send your resume to: Mary Pat Burke-Grospin, Business Administrator at mpburke-grospin@stmatthias.net.



Part-Time General Maintenance Person

St. Matthias is looking for a **part-time general maintenance person**. This employee will be responsible for maintaining the safety and cleanliness of the church/school. Please contact **Mary Pat Burke-Grospin** at:

mpburke-grospin@stmatthias.net or (732) 828-1400 ext.121.

Connect



Life-Giving Wounds Retreat for Adult Children of Divorce or Separation June 3, 2023

The Life-Giving Wounds retreat is a unique opportunity for young adults (18+) and adults with divorced or separated parents to reflect intentionally on the wounds caused by their family's breakdown, together with others who know this pain and are knowledgeable, compassionate retreat leaders.

When: June 3, 2023 from 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Where: The Shrine of St. Joseph
1050 Long Hill Road, Stirling, NJ

General Admission is \$75.00

Student Admission is \$25.00.

To register visit: www.diometuchen.org/familylife

If you have any questions, please contact:

cdaverso@diometuchen.org

or

amarshall@diometuchen.org

New Jersey
CATHOLIC Youth RALLY at
Six Flags
MAY 21 2023
9:AM-8PM
Open to all Youth and Young Adult ministries including Scouts, Altar Servers, Youth Choirs, Home School families, Athletic Programs, Rel. Ed. Youth Groups and Parish families!

Register before May 12, 2023

Please visit our website to register:
<https://www.diometuchen.org/youth-rally>
Tickets are \$65.00 per person,
\$30.00 for season ticket holders

Give (and Receive!)



2023 Bishop's Annual Appeal Renewed and Sent on Mission by the Eucharist

Thank you to those who have already responded to the Bishop's Annual Appeal. If you have yet to make your pledge to this year's Bishop's Annual Appeal, you can still do so. Please prayerfully consider a gift to the Bishop's Annual Appeal to help our parish reach its goal. If we can exceed our goal, 50% of the amount collected over goal will be returned to us in the form of a parish rebate. Every gift, no matter the size, is important and greatly appreciated. Thank you. There are Envelopes and cards in the pews that you can use. You can find the link to the Bishop's Annual Appeal at <https://diometuchen.org/BAA>

Parish Updates

If you are now solely using a cell phone, have changed your phone number or address, please call the parish office, so we can update your records. We would also like to update our parish data base with e-mail addresses.

Email Kelly at: kcounts@stmatthias.net to have your email address included or to update an email address. Thank you!

If you are moving, please notify the Parish Office so we can keep our parishioner records current. Thank you!

THE NEW MATH

The best mathematical equation anyone has ever seen: 1 Cross + 3 nails = 4 given!

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 40 - Apr 2, 2023	\$10,650.50	\$10,353.71	\$21,004.21	\$26,704.25
Week 41 - Apr. 9, 2023	\$28,623.00	\$27,486.06	\$56,109.06	\$45,751.27
Week 42 - Apr. 16, 2023	\$8,721.00	\$13,838.25	\$22,559.25	\$38,662.25
Week 43 - Apr. 23, 2023	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$19,377.25
Week 44 - Apr. 30, 2023	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20,650.30
			Month-to-date Total	Apr Total Last Yr
			\$99,672.52	\$151,145.32
			Current Year-to-date Total	Year-to-date as of Apr
			\$1,160,381.31	\$1,159,682.39

Stewardship Reflection Apr. 23, 2023 3rd Sunday of Easter

“Did not our hearts burn within us while He talked to us on the road, while He opened to us the scriptures?” (Luke 24:32)

How often do we take the time to discern what Jesus wants from us? Are our prayers always petitions, asking Jesus to do things for us? If so, that's a one-sided relationship. Living our faith means developing a personal relationship with Jesus. Just like any friendship, there is give and take, each side listening to each other and helping each other out. Take time in silence to listen to what Jesus is asking of you.

Reflexiónese Abril 23 de abril de 2023 – 3° domingo de Pascua

“¿No ardían nuestros corazones mientras nos hablaba en el camino, mientras nos explicaba las Escrituras?” (Lucas 24:32)

¿Con qué frecuencia nos tomamos el tiempo para discernir lo que Jesús quiere de nosotros? ¿Nuestras oraciones son siempre peticiones, pidiéndole a Jesús que haga cosas por nosotros? Si es así, esa es una relación unilateral. Vivir nuestra fe significa desarrollar una relación personal con Jesús. Al igual que en cualquier amistad, hay que dar y recibir, cada lado escuchándose y ayudándose mutuamente. Tómese el tiempo en silencio para escuchar lo que Jesús le está pidiendo.

Serve



Alzheimer's Group Meeting

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, May 10th, from 2 pm-3 pm on Zoom.** Registration is required. To register, call 800-272-3900 and mention the St. Matthias group.

Connect with Our Local Community



Senior Day at St. Francis Center for Renewal Saturday, May 13th, 10AM-3PM

Celebrating the Gift of Years, preceded by an opening prayer service and followed by lunch, discussion and sharing with other seniors, and a relaxing walk around our grounds. Share time with our Sisters as we pray together, share together and honor and celebrate our "gift of years."

All-Day Attendance (including lunch) — \$40 per person **Bring a Friend** (including lunch) — \$75 per pair

Online Via Zoom (Sister Marguerite's talk only) — \$20 per person . **395 Bridle Path Road, Bethlehem PA 18017**
www.StFrancisCtr.org , 610-867-8890



Information and Registration for all Mount Saint Mary House of Prayer offerings can be found on our website: www.msmhope.org. E-mail us at msmhope@msmhope.org. Registration for all offerings is required 10 days in advance.

MAN TO MAN

4th Tuesday of the Month from 7-8:30 p.m. **May 25, June 20, July 25, August 22**

at the House of Prayer and on Zoom Freewill Offering. For more information call Jerry McKenna at 908-472-3969

Loyola Jesuit Center | 161 James Street, Morristown, NJ 07960

05/05- 05/07 Co-Ed Weekend Retreat

Theme: We Need New Stories: Forgiveness, Freedom, and Hope

Retreat Leader: Jim Croghan, S.J.



What are the stories we tell ourselves? What are the stories we tell others about ourselves? Are these stories really who we are? Using stories, prayer, and poetry we will seek to open ourselves more deeply to God's healing grace and living lives of generous discipleship in our following of Jesus Christ. Phone—973-539-0740.

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.



ARE THESE YOUR SIZE?



MIDDLEBUSH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT.
21 OLCOTT STREET
FIRE FIGHTERS NEEDED WE WILL TRAIN!



www.middlebushfire.com HELP@MIDDLEBUSHFIRE.COM
MIDDLEBUSH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT www.middlebushfire.com

catholicmatch®
New Jersey
CatholicMatch.com/dateNJ



PA FINANCIAL, CPA
Professional Tax, Accounting, Bookkeeping, Payroll
www.pafinancials.com
Email: philip@pafinancials.com • Parishioner
732-325-3157 • Somerset, NJ 08873




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

Holy Cross Burial Park 840 Cranbury-South River Rd. Jamesburg, NJ 08831
Resurrection Burial Park Hoes Lane and Park Ave. Piscataway, NJ 08854

www.diometuchen.org/cemeteries



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

EXCELLENCE GUARANTEED
Resta's Auto Care
732-873-8900 Restas.com  *Trusted For 77 Years*
1873 Amwell Road • Somerset

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



SPRINGHILLS
LIVE HAPPY
RE-IMAGINE SENIOR LIVING



An Assisted Living and Memory Care Community in your neighborhood.
SCHEDULE A TOUR TODAY!
732.873.4800
473 Demott Lane
Somerset, NJ 08873
www.springhills.com

PROTECTIVE PAVING

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

Rutgers Dining Services

join our team

Now Hiring full-time & part-time employees!



Hiring events held Tuesdays at 10 am at 608 Bartholomew Rd., Piscataway, NJ 08854. To register for an upcoming session, call 848-932-3602 or email us at edofficeadmin@dining.rutgers.edu.

event dates
Apply online prior to an event for on-the-spot interviews!

October 2022	November 2022
Tuesday, 10/04	Tuesday, 11/01
Tuesday, 10/11	Tuesday, 11/08
Tuesday, 10/18	Tuesday, 11/15
Tuesday, 10/25	Tuesday, 11/29

go.rutgers.edu/rudining

JOB OPENINGS



APPLY TODAY!

C & F PAINT & HARDWARE
Benjamin Moore Paints
1075 Easton Ave., Suite 12A
Somerset, NJ 08873
732-764-8908
www.candfpaint.com
Frank Del Tufo - Owner



TOWNSHIP PHARMACY
712 Hamilton Street, Somerset
SR. DISCOUNT • WE DELIVER
732-545-8800

RASPA
4 N. 10th Ave.
Highland Park
732-572-0400
JEWELERS
Diamond Specialists
www.raspajewelers.com

Steve's Pizza & Restaurant
900 Easton Ave. Somerset Village
732-247-0400
\$1.50 Off Large 18" Pie

SOLD BARROOD
Selling, Buying or Renting Houses - Call us for help!
700 EASTON AVE., SOMERSET
732-846-1661
Good people, great service, since 1940
PARISHIONER

Waterstone
WEALTH ADVISORS, LLC
John C. Moynihan, CFP®
Certified Financial Planner™, practitioner
Somerset, NJ
732.873.0433 • www.wwallc.net
Practical Solutions for Managing Wealth

AJS PAINTING
TONY SCHINELLA, PARISHIONER
Friendly, Courteous Service
Owner Operated, Free Proposals
Meticulous, Guaranteed Work
Highest Quality, Affordable Price
No Job Too Small • Since 2001
732-873-8477

BRIGHT VIEW POWERWASHING & PAINTING
Greg Dente, Owner/Operator
Somerset & surrounding areas
Friendly & Reliable Services
Free estimates • Guaranteed work
We keep our promises • No job too small
POWERWASHING & SMALL PAINTING WORK
908.812.2061

GLEASON FUNERAL HOME
AT NEED CARE • PRE-NEED • MONUMENTS
PARISHIONER OWNED
William K. Gleason, Mgr., N.J. Lic. No. 4489
1360 HAMILTON STREET • SOMERSET, NJ
732-545-0700
www.GLEASONFUNERALHOME.COM

Dolan since 1949
Kitchen & Bath Remodeling
American Standard HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING
Plumbing, Heating, Cooling, Electric
732-247-2763
696 Franklin Blvd., Somerset, NJ 08873
www.jackdolanandsons.com info@jackdolanandsons.com




Tom's Auto Repair
Domestic & Foreign
O: 732-846-4675
C: 908-500-8728
TPduffy1216@gmail.com
1376 Hamilton St., Somerset, NJ 08873



WE'RE HIRING!
Substitute Teachers & Support Staff throughout New Jersey
Apply today at SOURCE4TEACHERS.com

D'Angiolillo
Chiropractic Center
Find out more about us and how we can help you!
Visit Our Website @ www.DrJoeD.com
(732) 873-2222
PROFESSIONAL CENTER AT SOMERSET
11 Clyde Road, Suite 103
Somerset, NJ 08873
Serving Our Community Since 1985

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



April Tarantino
Broker Associate
Direct: (732) 735-3511
apriltarantino@hotmail.com
www.apriltarantino.com
31 Years Experience - Somerset Specialist




AJS Landscaping & Hardscaping, LLC
Pavers • Stone • Mulch
Specialize In Custom Projects
Contact Anthony Schinella, Parishioner
609-751-6514 • www.ajslandscapingpro.com

RIDESHARE ZONE
Stop Ask Match Inform
#WHATSMYNAME

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




RAIKE'S Home Improvement LLC
732-249-7113
Fully Insured Lic. 13VH06498900 www.raikeshomeimprovement.com
We Install & Construct
• Windows • Finished Basements • Siding
• Doors • Kitchens • Roofing
• Decks • Baths • Custom Interior Woodwork
Power Washing
Homes • Decks • Sidewalks • Driveways • Stoops • Etc.
No Job Too Small! Cabinet Refacing Parishioner

DALTON
QUALITY PROFESSIONAL SERVICE
Serving Central NJ Since 1986
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL SALES/SERVICE
All Major Credit Cards Accepted
P. Lic. #12425 • E. Lic. #9526
NJ Reg #13VH02047500 • HVAC Lic. 1510
ELECTRIC, PLUMBING HEATING & COOLING
NOW HIRING QUALIFIED TEAM MEMBERS
1186 LIVINGSTON AVENUE, NORTH BRUNSWICK, NJ
732-247-7390 • www.DaltonElectricCo.com

FRANKLIN ELECTRIC MAINTENANCE CO. INC. Lic. #18219
Family owned and operated since 1956.
GENERAC SALES & SERVICE DEALER
-SALES
-SERVICE
-INSTALLATION
732-249-1359
www.FranklinElectricNJ.com
DON'T BE LEFT IN THE DARK!




FIND YOUR NEW BEST FRIEND.
\$60 adoption fee | animals are spayed/neutered, micro-chipped & up-to-date on shots
Franklin Township Animal Shelter
475 DeMott Lane, Somerset, NJ 08873
732.873.2500 x6255 | Tue-Fri 12-3 & Sat 12-6
Ad sponsored by Second Chance For Animals




BOYLAN Funeral Home
188 Easton Avenue
New Brunswick, NJ 08901
732-545-4040
Robert Fox, Manager
N.J. License No. 4371
www.BoylanFH.com
Family owned and operated since 1958
10 Wooding Avenue
Edison, NJ 08817
732-572-0076