



THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. MATTHIAS
SUNDAY, AUGUST 4, 2024
 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

*The Bread
of Life*

St. Matthias Parish Office: Eff. 6/10/24

Monday - Thursday, 8:30 am - 4:00 pm,
 Friday 8:30AM-1:00PM
 168 JFK Boulevard, Somerset, NJ 08873
 732-828-1400, fax: 732-828-0866
www.stmatthias.net

Mass Schedule (in person):

Sat - 5 PM, Sun - 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM & 12 noon
 M/T/W/Th/F at 8:00 AM
 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, Monday-Thursday 9AM-1PM, and Friday by appointment.

For all Parish emails, add @stmatthias.net

Pastor: Rev Abraham Orapankal, **Abraham**
 Fr. Lancelot McGrath, *Parochial Vicar* **lmcgrath**
 Mary Pat Burke-Grospin, *Business Administrator*
mpburke-grospin

Deacon Ron Caimi, *Senior Deacon*
 Kelly Counts, *Receptionist*, **kcounts**
 Deacon Russell Demkovitz, **rдемkovitz**
 Nathalie Godet, *Website & Bulletin Editor*,
ngodet

Leslie Guillen, *Bulletin Coordinator*, **lg Guillen**
 Amy Hanna, *Accountant/Databases*, **ahanna**
 Mike Lanyi, *Sacristan*
 Sue Lenczewski, *Youth Coordinator*, **SMYLE**
 Julio Montero, *Maintenance Supervisor*
 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**

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



*Thank You Dee Nann
for Your 26 Years of Service!*

We wish you well on your new chapter.
 Please join us to celebrate Dee Nann
 on her retirement TODAY after the 12:00 pm Mass
 in the cafeteria over some light refreshments.



**PLEASE COME JOIN THE MANY WHO SPEND SOME QUIET TIME
 WITH THE EUCHARISTIC LORD.**
**OUR NEXT ADORATION WILL BE MONDAY EVENING,
 AUGUST 5, 2024 FROM 6 PM TO 8 PM.**
**WHEN THE DEACON IS AVAILABLE, WE CONCLUDE ADORATION
 WITH A BENEDICTION.**

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, Aug 4, 2024

8:00AM	Mass	Church
10:00AM	Mass	Church
11:00AM	Rosary Altar Society Mtg.	Off Site
12:00PM	Mass	Church
1:00PM	Retirement Celebration for Dee Nann	Cafeteria

Monday, Aug 5, 2024 **Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major**

8:00AM	Mass –Miraculous Medal Novena	Church
6:00PM	Eucharist Adoration	Church

Tuesday, Aug 6, 2024 **The Transfiguration of the Lord**

8:00AM	Mass	Church
7:30PM	SVDP Mtg.	de Porres Rm

Wednesday, Aug 7, 2024 **St Sixtus II, Pope & Martyr**

8:00AM	Mass St. Joseph Novena	Church
9:30AM	Holy Spirit Prayer Grp.	de Porres Rm

Thursday, Aug 8, 2024 **St . Dominic, Priest & Founder of the Dominican Order**

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

Friday, Aug 9, 2024 **St. Theresa Benidicta of the Holy Cross, Religious & Martyr**

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

Saturday, Aug 10, 2024 **St. Lawrence , Deacon & Martyr**

3:30PM	Reconciliation	Church
5:00PM	Vigil Mass	Church

Sunday, Aug 11, 2024

8:00AM	Mass	Church
10:00AM	Mass - Interpreter	Church
12:00PM	Mass	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 9 AM, MONDAY, 5 business days before the needed bulletin date (earlier for holiday weekends). Approved content is published on a space-available basis.

Dear Friends,

August is a month filled with many important saints, very diverse in life, and worthy of reflection and imitation. I wish to make a brief mention of four male and four female saints of August.



Today, August 4, is the feast of St. John Marie Vianney, the patron of parish priests. The significance and the beauty of this simple parish priest who spent 41 years serving the people of Ars, France, is not because he founded any religious order or left us an abundant collection of brilliant theological writings. It was his simple witness of being a faithful, zealous, and loving parish priest who helped countless souls through the healing ministry in the confessional.

August 8 is the feast of St. Dominic who was appalled at the spiritual horrors wrought by the Albigensian heresy which, among other things, taught that the physical world was evil – despite the fact that Jesus chose to live in it Himself. Dominic set out to counter this heresy with truth. His humility, fatherly kindness, patience and joyfulness under persecution impressed even his enemies.

On August 9 we honor Edith Stein (St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross) who is a great model for today’s young generation who seek the truth. A brilliant philosopher who stopped believing in God when she was 14, Edith Stein was so captivated by reading the autobiography of Teresa of Avila that she began a spiritual journey that led her from her Jewish family to her baptism.

August 10 is the feast of St. Lawrence, the patron of deacons. The esteem in which the Church holds Deacon Lawrence is seen in the fact that today’s celebration ranks as a feast. He was a Roman deacon under Pope Saint Sixtus II. Four days after this pope was put to death, Lawrence and four clerics suffered martyrdom. We wish happy feast to our own wonderful Deacons Ron Caimi, Russ Demkovitz and John Radvanski and thank them for their diaconate ministry to our parish community.

August 11 is the feast of St. Clare who was mentored by St. Francis of Assisi himself. The 41 years of Clare’s religious life are scenarios of sanctity: an indomitable resolve to lead the simple, literal gospel life; courageous resistance to the ever-present pressure to dilute the ideal; a passion for poverty and humility; an ardent life of prayer; and a generous concern for her sisters.

St. Rose of Lima is honored on August 23. This first canonized saint of the New World lived a simple life and yet had to suffer so much opposition. Her life, like that of St. Clare, can challenge our lifestyle of indulging in too much food and drink, using a million gadgets, filling our eyes and ears with useless needs on which to spend our money.

St. Monica is honored on August 27. If succumbed to her circumstances, she could have turned out to be a nagging wife, a bitter daughter-in-law, and a despairing parent, yet she did not give way to any of these temptations. She is a model of patient waiting and persevering prayer that finally led to the conversion of her hot-tempered husband and her brilliant but wayward son,

St. Augustine’s feast is on August 28. He is a sinner-turned-saint. Whether we acclaim him or condemn him, he challenges us to scrap escapisms and stand face-to-face with personal responsibility and dignity.

These eight saints challenge us to practice patience and wait on God’s time. Today, with Google searches, online shopping, text messages, tweets, and instant gratification, we have little patience for things that take time. It seems that when we have become most like slaves, there is the greatest talk of “freedom.” Are we willing to accept the challenge from these saints?

Your brother in Christ,

Fr. Abraham Orapankal

Readings for the Week

Monday Jer 28:1-17 Ps 119:29, 43, 79, 80, 95, 102 Mt 14:13-21

Tuesday Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9 2 Pt 1:16-19 Mk 9:2-10

Wednesday Jer 31:1-7 Jer 31:10, 11-12AB, 13 Mt 15:21-28

Thursday Jer 31:31-34 Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19 Mt 16:13-23

Friday Na 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7 De 32:35CD-36AB, 39ABCD, 41 Mt 16:24-28

Saturday 2 Cor 9:6-10 Ps 112:1-2, 5-6, 7-8, 9 Jn 12:24-26

Sunday 1 Kgs 19:4-8 Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 Eph 4:30-5:2 Jn 6:41-51



Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, August 3	5:00PM	Intention of Parishioners
Sunday, August 4	8:00AM	Helen Walters, by Rickey Walters
	10:00AM	Courtney Gonzalez, by Anne Marie Francis & Family
	12:00PM	John Petrine, by Mary & Children
Monday, August 5	8:00AM	Paul Jason Vergel, by The Vergel Family
Tuesday, August 6	8:00AM	Ken Garabrant & Cathy Ciaccia, by The Family
Wednesday, August 7	8:00AM	Darrie Christmas, by wife, Delores
	8:00AM	Gwen Tibay, by The Tibay Family
Thursday, August 8	8:00AM	Birthday Blessings for Josephine D. Ramos, by Grandmay
Friday, August 9	8:00AM	Angela Frigiola, by Loving Family & Friends
Saturday, August 10	5:00PM	Meredith Boylan, by Tom Aussem
Sunday, August 11	8:00AM	Intention of Parishioners
	10:00AM	Leo Shanosky, by The Family
	12:00PM	Christiana Ibe, by Ngozi

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	Sharon Gadomski	Armando D. Liban	Robert Pellegrino	Anita Vance
Brandon Barbarite	Heinley Gaspard	Mary Lou Litrakis	Robert Pietrowiak	Leticia Veridiano
Ghislaine Baron	Claudia Gemgnani	John Litrakis	Randolff Pinard	Eileen Weber
Helen Bell	Emma Gergely	Denis Loboda	Valerie Polci	Nancy Whelan
Samantha Bellouny	Claude Godet	Aries Magali	Kim Price	GINETTE ZAMOR
Mary Bostrom	Marie Godet	Kenneth & Kelly Magat	Frank Rispoli	Anne Zando
Tara Capatosto	Shelly Greene	Susan, King & Tosh Manansala	Gabriel Rivera	
Elizabeth Card	Linda Hartong	Alexandra Marquez	Bob Rotz	And for all who are ill, homebound, elderly, in nursing care, or living with chronic illness, we pray.
Rustico Castellano, Jr.	Jeff Hentz	Christine Matthews	Marisa Ruppel	
Lisa DeFeo	Marilyn Horvath	Ann McElwee	Maria Schwenzer	
Zenon DeGuzman	Jerry & Donna Hucul	Jessica Marie Merrick	Amy Shepp	
Vivian Dong	Jean Alix Jolly	Gail Miranda	Sr. Rosaria Shina, OSF	
Sanora Doyen	Renée Jolly	Menchie Molano-Sotelo	Timothy Siclari	
Andrea Dubuisson	Donna Kahora	Danny Ongchango	Catherine Steele	
Hattie Evans	Betsy Kondrat		Sr. Bernadine Marie Stemnock	
Margaret Ann Cichon Ford	Kathy Langenbacher		Richard Sury	
	Rose Larangeira			

Pray for those who have died...

— “His mercy endures forever.” Chronicles

Reflect



Smile with Your Family



No fish there! One cold winter day, two guys decide to take up ice fishing. They find a nice spot and began to cut a hole in the ice. Then they hear a voice. "There's no fish there..." Puzzled, they begin to cut another hole a few feet away. Again, they hear the voice. "There's no fish there..." They are now confused, but still determined. About 10 feet away, they begin to cut another ice hole. "There's no fish there...", again they hear the voice. They immediately turn to the sky and say, "Is that you, God?" "NO! IT'S THE MANAGER OF THE ICE-SKATING RINK! THERE'S NO FISH THERE! 😊"

A pessimist, an optimist and an engineer were discussing a ½ glass of water; the pessimist says well its half empty, the optimist says its half full, the engineer says the glass is twice as big as it needs to be. 😊

Jesus multiplied five loaves and two fishes and asked the disciples to distribute. Then one from the crowd shouted: "I can't eat that, I'm vegan." Another asked, "Has that fish been tested for mercury?" A third man shouted: "Is that bread gluten free?" 😊

Food puns:

Lettuce celebrate!
Donut worry, be happy.
Please romaine calm
Let's taco 'bout how delicious this is.
Have an egg-cellent day!
I'm on a seafood diet. I see food and I eat it. 😊



Parenting Tune-Up

Parenting your adult children: As older children continue their schooling this fall, it's tempting to want to pour all your protective wisdom into them, especially around issues of faith. As they age, however, "share your faith struggles, not just your certainty.

Marriage Tune-Up



"The whole Israelite community grumbled against Moses and Aaron." (Exodus 16:2)
Sometimes there are plenty of reasons to grumble in marriage - not enough money, something breaks, your spouse forgot to get gas... Let's call for a grumble free day; or at least if a grumble occurs to you, put it in the perspective of all the blessings of your life together.

Are we obsessed with Food?

In today's Gospel, Jesus speaks about food. The two biggest sellers in any bookstore are seen to be, cookbooks and diet books. The cookbooks tell you how to prepare the food, and the diet books tell you how not to eat any of it. Orson Wells once said, "My doctor has advised me to give up those intimate little dinners for four, unless, of course, there are three other people eating with me." Champion archer Rick McKinney confesses that he regularly eats chocolate chip cookies for breakfast. He refers to "the basic four food groups" as a Big Mac, fries, a shake and a lemon tart. A California scientist has computed that the average human being eats 16 times his or her own weight in an average year, while a horse eats only eight times its weight. This all seems to prove that if you want to lose weight, you should eat like a horse. (*Sunshine Magazine*). Most of us know too much about that subject. A recent survey found that 41% of men and 55% of women consider themselves overweight. In one way or another, many of us are obsessed with earthly food. Think what a difference it would make in our lives if we were equally obsessed with Heavenly Food, the Food that Christ gives us.

The Great Depression Bread Lines!

In the depression years of the 1930's millions of Americans were out of work and many thousands were hungry. In a number of cities, religious groups set up bread lines to feed the hungry. One of these was the Franciscan monastery in Cincinnati, Ohio. Every evening, the Friars, Brothers and lay volunteers prepared and gave a nourishing sandwich of bread and meat to hundreds of hungry men and women. It was interesting to note the reactions of the recipients. Many accepted the well-prepared and well-wrapped food with a smile and a thank you. Others, with heads hanging, snatched the food package and shuffled off. Some tore the bag at once and started eating as they hurried away. Most of them ate every crumb after a silent prayer and put the wrapping into a nearby container, though some would eat only the meat and discard the bread on the roadside. A few discontented ones just opened the package and then threw the entire contents away in protest. The way those hungry unfortunates reacted to that little lunch is a lot like the way his listeners received the words of Jesus in today's Gospel.



The Terribly, Tragically Sad Man!

"Do not work for food that perishes but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you . . ." John 6: 24-35

Once there was a happy little boy who said to God one day, "O God, I want to live in a big house with a big porch, two Saint Bernard's and a garden in the back. I want to marry a woman who is tall and very beautiful and kind, with long, black hair and blue eyes, and who plays the guitar and sings in a clear, high voice. I want three strong sons with whom to play football. When they grow up, one will be a great scientist, one will be a Senator and the youngest will quarterback the Packers. I want to sail vast oceans and climb the highest mountains. I want to drive a red Ferrari and never have to pick up after myself." God said, "That sounds like a nice dream. I want you to be happy."

However, one day, the boy hurt his knee playing football. His dream of being an adventurer was over. Therefore, he studied marketing and started a medical supply company. He met a pretty woman at school, who was very warm and kind. She wasn't glamorous, she wasn't a musician, but she was a wonderful cook and a talented artist. Because of his work, they lived in the city in an apartment. A small balcony served as the big porch; all they had room for was a fluffy cat. They had three daughters (not sons); the loveliest of the three had to use a wheelchair. He made enough money for his family to live comfortably, but he didn't drive a red Ferrari - and with three daughters, he spent a lot of time picking things up.

Then, one morning, he woke up very sad. He confided to a friend his disappointment that his wife was not the beautiful, glamorous musician he had dreamed of. His friend tried to reassure him that his wife was kind and generous. *But the man wasn't listening.* He shared with his wife his disappointment with their apartment instead of the big house he dreamed of. She reminded him of the comfortable happy home and their three beautiful

daughters. *But the man wasn't listening.* He went to see a therapist and went on about how he dreamed of being a great adventurer and driving a Ferrari and not have to pick up after himself. The therapist pointed out that the medical supplies and equipment he sold saved many lives. *But the man wasn't listening.* The therapist charged him €644 and sent him home. He confessed to a priest that he had dreamed of having three strong sons. The priest said that he had been blessed with three beautiful, intelligent and gracious daughters. **But, the man wasn't listening.**

He was so sad that he became very sick. Late one night, alone in his hospital room, the man said to God, "Remember when I was a boy and I told you what I wanted?" "It was a lovely dream," God said. "Why didn't you give me those things?" "I could have," God replied, "but I wanted to surprise you with things you didn't dream of. Your life is one of the best packages I've put together." "Yes," interrupted the man. But I thought you were going to give me what I wanted." "And I thought you were going to give me what I really wanted," God said. "To be happy with what I had given you." And that night the terribly, tragically sad man began to dream a new dream. Moreover, he became very happy.

As "the terribly, tragically sad man" discovers, a life of true joy and meaning is driven not by "perishable" material things and fleeting experiences but by the "nonperishable" values of God. Perhaps the most difficult challenge of our time is to accomplish the "work" of God while "working" to succeed in our careers, to make a place in our homes and hearts for the "bread" that is Christ amid the "fast food" being shoved at us from every direction. May God give us the wisdom to live lives grounded in the "food that endures" beyond the fleeting and the perishable, the "bread of heaven" that feeds and nurtures us for our own life's journey to the dwelling place of God.

Hunger in the World!

According to statistics from Oxfam, 2,500 people will die of hunger during the typical one-hour Church worship service. Two-thirds of them will be children. A third of the children in the world are very underweight for their age. About one-fifth of the people in the world are so malnourished that they cannot engage in productive activity. The problem is not a lack of food. Enough food is produced to provide an adequate diet for everyone. A part of the problem is a matter of distribution. The food is not equally available to those who are hungry. A part of the problem also is a lack of will and a sense of priority to feed the hungry.

In today's Gospel Jesus teaches us about spiritual hunger and our need for him, as Heavenly Food, to satisfy our spiritual hunger for God. Spiritual hunger cannot be sought unless physical hunger is taken care of. We need both. Jesus himself showed us that, when he first satisfied the physical hunger of the crowd to which he ministered.

Reflect

When I'm happy I always sing "Jesus Loves Me"!

Chicken Soup for the Soul

In one of the *Chicken Soup for the Soul* books there is a story told by a doctor. It is about a five-year-old girl named Mary who had suffered a stroke that left half of her body paralyzed. Even more tragically, she had been hospitalized for treatment of a brain tumor, and had recently lost her father and mother. She was being examined in an MRI machine. The imaging sequence at that time required the patient to remain perfectly still for about five minutes--a demanding task for a five-year-old. About two minutes into the first sequence, the doctor and the technician noticed on the video monitor that Mary's mouth was moving. They even heard a muted voice over the intercom. They halted the exam and gently reminded Mary not to talk. She smiled and promised not to talk. They repeated the sequence with the same result. Her lips were still moving. The technologist, a bit gruffly, said, "Mary, you were talking again, and that causes blurry pictures." Mary's smile remained as she replied, "I wasn't talking. I was singing. You said no talking." "What were you singing?" someone asked. "Jesus Loves Me," came the barely audible reply. "I always sing 'Jesus Loves Me' when I'm happy." Everyone in the room was speechless. "Happy? How could this little girl be happy?" The technologist and the doctor had to leave the room to regain their composure as tears began to fall.

[James C Brown, MD: E-zine: *Chicken Soup for the Soul* <http://www.soupserver.com>.]

Mary was happy because she knew Jesus loved her. Today's Gospel tells us how Jesus promised to remain with us through the Heavenly Bread of the Holy Eucharist to demonstrate his love for us.

Food Pyramids

New standards for diet were proposed recently. A new food pyramid was developed as a guide for healthy eating. It includes a base of bread, cereals, rice and pasta. The next level up the pyramid is vegetables and fruit. A still smaller next level is milk, yogurt, cheese, meat, poultry, fish, eggs, and nuts. The smallest group at the top is fats, oils and sweets.

We can propose a food pyramid for those who want a healthy spiritual life. You may want to develop your own, but it might include a base of feeding on the word of God by study and meditation on the Scriptures. Upon that base one is nourished by Christian fellowship. It should include servings of regular worship. To that a daily use of prayer and devotions could be added. On top of those elements should be time for Christian service to meet the needs of others.

Scrooge and St. Thomas Becket seeking bread of everlasting life



Scrooge learned this lesson just in time. We all remember Ebenezer Scrooge, the famous protagonist of Charles Dickens's masterpiece, *A Christmas Carol*. Scrooge had a very clear goal in life: making money. And as the richest man in the city, he achieved his goal. He made a very good living, but he had a miserable life. The human heart is made for greater things than wealth, prosperity, and pleasure. It is made to love God and love one's neighbor, and that's where true, everlasting happiness comes from. As soon as Scrooge started to put his wealth at the service of Christian love, he remembered how to smile.

Scrooge is a fictional character, but the history of the Church boasts of a few saints who truly made that same discovery. St. Thomas Becket is one of them. He lived in England in the 1200s. He was best friends with King Henry II; they both were selfish, self-indulgent, and power hungry. They drank together, debauched together, and plotted together. Then King Henry got the idea of appointing Becket to be the Archbishop of Canterbury. Henry thought that having his best friend occupy the highest Church position in the land would give him a chance to control the Church and squeeze money out of it. But when Thomas Becket was ordained, God's grace touched his heart, and he began to see the folly of living just for earthly goals. He sold his considerable property and gave the money to the poor, stopped his loose living, and dedicated himself to serving Christ and the Church with all his energy and talent. The King wasn't pleased, and ended up having his former best friend murdered during Mass in the Cathedral. Becket traded in temporary earthly glory for a martyr's eternal crown - and you can rest assured that he has no regrets.



Sister Marie Therese Sherwood receives farewell blessings from Father Abraham Orapankal and Deacon John Radvanski on June 30, 2024.

Pray



RCIA

If you came for the Easter Vigil, you saw some of our adult parishioners receiving the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Communion. They had undertaken a process known as the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) for about 10 months. Our next process will begin in September. There are weekly gatherings where people come together to share, grow, and understand the Catholic faith. These are not classes but a faith-sharing group. If you know anyone who has not received these Sacraments of Initiation, kindly invite him/her to try this process. Please contact Parish Office at: 732-828-1400.

Connect



**ARE YOU DONE WITH THE HEAT? THINK COOL!
THINK SNOW! THINK CHRISTMAS!**



SPREAD THE LIGHT IS COMING!

It is not too soon to begin to think about our “Spread the Light” campaign in December. This is a wonderful opportunity to honor your loved ones, your business, a family milestone or any other celebration or occasion. Last year we lit in excess of 270 trees which brightened our church and spread good will to all our neighbors in Somerset and beyond.

This is the largest fund raiser for the parish. We thank all our past participants and we encourage all parishioners to join in this inspirational, and what is becoming, an honored tradition in our parish and community.

Help us “Spread the Light”!

Sign up forms are available at exit doors of the church and on our website.

www.stmatthias.net/trees

BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

The Bereavement ministry of St. Matthias will be offering a 7 week session beginning on **Wednesday, October 2** to help anyone with support navigating the difficult time following the loss of a loved one. Many of us have, at one time or another, experienced the difficult transition to life after a person dear to us has died. The road ahead often feels unsafe and almost unmanageable. This program is designed to help participants navigate this uncertainty in a safe, non judgmental environment with others who share many of the same feelings. The program uses a guide to help foster discussion among the small group of participants.

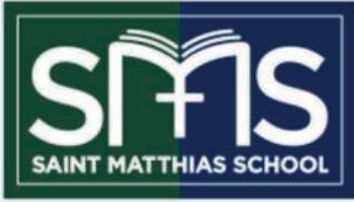
Each session lasts about one hour. Meetings will be on Wednesdays gathering either in the afternoon or early evening depending on the schedule needed by those participating. If you or someone you know would like to join our group, please contact **Jo-Ann Piagentini** at mrspiag@aol.com or 908-256-5173 or **Linda Madison** at drlindamadison@gmail.com or 732-841-5402, to register or to get more information. All inquiries are welcome.



CAN YOU HELP?

The Center for Great Expectations is running very low on baby wipes and Size 5 & 6 Huggies diapers. Please help if you can.

**Parishioners are welcome to drop the items off at their convenience at:
The Center for Great Expectations, 19 B Dellwood Lane, Somerset, NJ 08873**



2024-2025 Registration
PREK3- OPEN SPOTS
PREK4- LIMITED AVAILABILITY

PLEASE CALL FOR AVAILABILITY IN GRADES K-8

St. Matthias School
170 John F. Kennedy Blvd., Somerset, NJ
732-828-1402

Make a
donation
from the
heart.

Need information on how to contribute to our Tuition Angels Fund?
Please contact:
Mrs. Jo-Ann Piagentini
mrspiag@aol.com or
Dr. Judy Marino
jdmario4@gmail.com



FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATIONS ARE OPEN!

2024-2025 GIFT for K-8 Religious Formation
<https://stmatthias.net/faith-formation/>

Attention 2nd Graders:

First Eucharist Preparation 2024-2025
<https://stmatthias.net/first-eucharist-first-reconciliation/>



Attention 7th & 8th Graders or older students who have NOT prepared for Confirmation
Confirmation Preparation 2024-2025
<https://stmatthias.net/confirmation/>

Questions? Please call the Parish Office, 732-828-1400 or email Dee Nann, dnann@stmatthias.net

UPDATE ABOUT OUR CHURCH MEDIA PROJECT

Many of you have probably noticed some changes on the wall behind the choir. We are making preparations for installation of our new projection and live stream system this summer. This plan was begun when Fr. Joe (Msgr. Curry) was with us. You may remember that we had focused on the Giving Tuesday contributions two years in a row for this media update. And we're very excited to finally be completing this important project!

Though details of this project were published in the bulletin a few times, it is good to refresh our memory. The new livestream system includes two high definition remote-controlled cameras and a video and sound mixing system that will greatly improve the video and sound quality of our livestream. The projection system includes a 150" diagonal 16:9 screen and a 4K capable 8500 lumen laser projector. This will vastly improve image brightness and contrast, so the system will be useful not only for live-streaming our liturgy but also for faith formation, GIFT sessions, and other parish events. Mr. Jeff Beck and Mr. Joe Mancuso have been working tirelessly on this project. We hope to see a very much improved experience of the media use in our church.

We are grateful to the parishioners who have been volunteering to help with the tech part of projecting the slides for our Sunday Masses. We wish to invite more such tech-savvy parishioners to consider volunteering to help with the live-streaming once the media update is complete.

Give (and Receive!)

Stewardship Totals for Fiscal Year July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025				Last Year's Total
Current Month	In-Pew/Mail	Parish Giving	Weekly Total	Weekly Total
Week 1 - July 7, 2024	\$8,581.00	\$20,875.00	\$29,456.00	\$21,283.25
Week 2 - July 14, 2024	\$10,568.00	\$19,281.50	\$29,849.50	\$34,943.75
Week 3 - July 21, 2024	\$10,028.25	\$12,475.25	\$22,503.50	\$23,019.25
Week 4 - July 28, 2024	\$8,471.00	\$8,514.50	\$16,985.50	\$22,034.85
			\$0.00	\$18,828.75
			Month-to-date Total	July Total Last Year
			\$98,794.50	\$120,109.85
			Current Year-to-date Total	Year-to-date as of July 31, 2023
			\$98,794.50	\$120,109.85

Stewardship Reflection August 4, 2024 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Reflexiónese - 4 de agosto de 2024 18º Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

“Each day the people are to go out and gather their daily portion; thus will I test them, to see whether they follow my instructions or not.” Exodus 16:4

“Cada día, el pueblo irá y recogerá sólo lo necesario para ese día. De esta manera los pondré a prueba para saber si realmente obedecen mis leyes.” ÉXODO 16:4

When the Israelites gathered more than their daily portion of manna, the surplus became wormy and rotten. In the same way today, self-reliance, pride and ego leads to hoarding and excessive surplus of goods and money. Living a stewardship lifestyle helps us discern our “wants” from our “needs”. Living a grateful and generous lifestyle reminds us that God will provide all that we need and that we have plenty to share.

Cuando los israelitas recogían más de su porción diaria de maná, el excedente se pudría y se llenaba de gusanos. De la misma forma en nuestros días, la autosuficiencia, el orgullo y el ego nos llevan al acaparamiento y al excedente excesivo de bienes y dinero. Vivir un estilo de vida de corresponsabilidad nos ayuda a discernir nuestros “deseos” de nuestras “necesidades”. Vivir un estilo de vida agradecido y generoso nos recuerda que Dios proveerá todo lo que necesitamos y que tenemos mucho para compartir.



IF YOU HAVE NOT SIGNED UP WITH PARISH GIVING...

Parish Giving offers secure flexible online giving for our parishioners who would like to make their donations online using a credit card or bank transfer. You never have to bring cash or checks to church. Giving electronically also helps the church save money and plan the budget. If you want to simplify your life, go to our website,

www.stmatthias.net and click on the Parish Giving Link under ‘Give’. Parish Giving offers you complete control over your account to change your giving as needed. You have the benefit to generate a giving report and easily choose the specific collections you wish to support. We thank you for your support which enables St. Matthias to minister to the community.

SUMMER CONTRIBUTIONS...?

We sincerely thank our parishioners who mail or deliver their weekly envelopes to the parish office while they are out of town on vacations this summer. Thanks to the majority of our parishioners who have signed up with Parish Giving to make the weekly contributions online at www.Parishgiving.org or go to: <https://stmatthias.net/give/>. This makes it easy for everyone. As many of you understand, our parish expenses and obligations do not take a vacation when you do, so it is very helpful to be able to rely on the continued support even when you cannot personally attend Mass here. May God bless you and your families. Have a safe and blessed summer.

Connecting to Our Local Community



THURSDAY, AUGUST 15 SACRED TIME, SACRED SPACE

A personal, quiet day to enjoy god's presence. Day begins with communal prayer.

Bring a bag lunch.

9:30am-3pm at the House of Prayer \$20-\$30 as you are able



Fiat Day 2024

A Day of Discernment for Girls

Saturday, August 10, 2024 10:00 AM-4:00 PM

St. Bartholomew Roman Catholic Church
470 Ryders Lane, East Brunswick, NJ 08816

Register your daughter(s) and grand-daughter(s) for the Fiat Day, a special day to enjoy food, fun, friends, and Religious Sisters before your girls return to a full year of school. There is no cost!

Please have them bring friends. They will not be disappointed.

Sr. Anna Nguyen, SCC (732) 529-7587 anguyendiometuchen.org

<https://diometuchen.org/fiatday>


Co-Ed Weekend Retreat September 13, 2024 - September 15, 2024

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

973-539-0740, Email: retreathouse@loyola.org



“The joy of the Gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus.” These encouraging words of Pope Francis are at the heart of this Ignatian retreat with its invitation to awaken us in the joyful presence of Jesus. By encountering Jesus in the Scriptures, we will ask our Risen Lord to open our eyes, ears, and hearts to his loving presence in our everyday lives of prayer and service. Please call or e-mail for details & registration.



Metuchen Cursillo Movement

The Cursillo experience is one that will enhance your spiritual life and growth for a lifetime. Next Men's Weekend: **October 17-20, 2024** at the Loyola Retreat House, 161 James St, Morristown, NJ.
For more information visit: <http://www.metcursillo.org/>

Parish Leadership

Parish Pastoral Council:	Co-Secretaries:	<i>Sheila Tartaglia</i>	Parish Finance Council:	Cory Panlilio
Co-Chairs: Frank Rees Frees814@gmail.com	Stephen Busono sbusono@gmail.com	Fr. Lancelot McGrath, Fr. Abraham, Ex-Officio	Kester Hector, Chair Finance Council @stmatthias.net	Mary Pat Burke-Grospin, Ex-Officio
Marilyn Wegg mcw-wam@comcast.net	Bill Isele t33sm@aol.com	Trustees: Pearl Scott Marge Richards	Carmen Driz-Melilli Barry Dusault Joan Pritchard	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!

MIDDLEBUSH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
To Join Email...station44@middlebushfire.com



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

AAA 732-873-8900   Trusted For 77 Years
Restas.com 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



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

PROTECTIVE PAVING



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



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

ROOFING • CHIMNEY • MASONRY • DECKING
20+ Years in Business

WE FIND & FIX LEAKS



\$1,000 OFF ANY NEW PROJECTS
15% OFF ANY REPAIRS

FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED • LIC.# 13VH12761400
862-222-1016
SERVING ALL OF NEW JERSEY



Edison Ophthalmology Associates, L.L.C. 49 VERONICA AVE. SUITE #204 SOMERSET, NJ 08873



Comprehensive Cataract/Cornea Glaucoma/Retina Soft & Specialty Contact Lens Fitting

Roopinder K. Grewal, M.D. Francesca K. Lee, O.D. www.edisonophthalmology.com

catholicmatch®
New Jersey



CatholicMatch.com/dateNJ

ROOFING • CHIMNEY • MASONRY
GUTTERS • DECKING

WE FIND & FIX LEAKS



\$1,000 OFF ANY NEW PROJECTS
15% OFF ANY REPAIRS

FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED • LIC #13VH11202100
551-300-9611
SERVING ALL OF NEW JERSEY

Rutgers Dining Services

NOW HIRING

Per Diem & Hourly Employees

Hiring events held Tuesday at 10am at 177 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, NJ 08901. To register for an upcoming session, call 848-932-3602 or email us at edofficeadmin@dining.rutgers.edu.

Event Dates

July 9	July 23	August 6
July 16	July 30	August 13

APPLY ONLINE 

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



go.rutgers.edu/rudining



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

SUPERIOR HARDWOOD FLOORING
FREE ESTIMATES
SANDING | INSTALLS | REPAIRS | REFINISHING
Franco Oliveira 201.744.8883
superiorhardwoodflooring@hotmail.com

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

Quantum Light WELLNESS CENTER
Featuring cutting-edge quantum technology using light & frequency to holistically improve healing & wellness
908-328-2112
QuantumLightWellness.com
Hillsborough, NJ
Jay Vince-Cruz & Dom Campbell

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

Event Space Rental
Green Brook NJ 08812
908-532-3141
Birthday, Baby Shower, Meetings
grandcentraljerseyevents.com

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

SENIOR HOME AIDE
Trustworthy and reliable home aide available to assist in taking care of your home. Call or text (908) 544-6152 for details and to schedule help.

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

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

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

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

Home Helpers® Your Trusted Home Care Provider!
Making Like Easier® Personal & Companion Care
(732) 873-9063 Meal Preparation, Shopping And Much More!
www.HomeHelpersHomeCare.com/Somerset

D'Angiolillo Chiropractic Center
Find out more about us and how we can help you!
Visit Our Website @
www.DrJoeD.com
(732) 873-2222

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

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

PROFESSIONAL CENTER AT SOMERSET
11 Clyde Road, Suite 103
Somerset, NJ 08873
Serving Our Community Since 1985

Put Your Home in My Hands
KATHLEEN FARAH SPERO
Realtor®, Broker, SRS, SRES
C 908.331.0859 • O 908.879.4900
Kathleen.Spero@CBRealty.com
SperoSellsNJ.com
Owned by a subsidiary of Anywhere Advisors LLC

star22home Angie's List Award Winner 2015-2023
Showroom & Design Center by Appointment
www.star22home.com
KITCHENS • BATHROOMS
22 Plainfield Ave., Piscataway, NJ
\$10,000 Complete Bathroom Remodel.
Labor / Materials
www.my5DB.com
O: 732-369-6387
M: 732-343-5450

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

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

FARAH TURF MANAGEMENT
Fertilizer • Weed Control
Seeding & Grading
908-809-8366
www.farahlandscapedesign.com

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