



St. Matthias Parish Office (Summer Hours)

Monday - Thursday, 8:30 am - 4:00 pm,
Friday, 8:30 am - 1:00 pm
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): (SUMMER HOURS)

170 JFK Blvd., Somerset, NJ 08873
www.stmatthias.info 732-828-1402
School Office Hours,
Monday-Friday 7:45AM to 1:00PM

For all Parish emails, add @stmatthias.net

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

Anthony Baio, **Maintenance abaio**
Deacon Ron Caimi, **Senior Deacon**
Maria Cornier, **Parish Secretary mcornier**
Kelly Counts, **Receptionist, kcounts**
Deacon Russell Demkovitz, **rdemkovitz**
Nathalie Godet, **Website & Bulletin Editor,**
ngodet

Amy Hanna, **Accountant/Databases, ahanna**
Mike Lanyi, **Sacristan, mlanyi**
Sue Lenczewski, **Youth Coordinator, SMYLE**
Julio Montero, **Maintenance Supervisor**
Debra Schurko, **Director of Religious Education,**
dschurko

Vinnie Natale, **Bookkeeper, vnatale**
Silvia Nizama, **Housekeeper**
Deacon John Radvanski, **deaconjohn**
Joan Best Seamon, **Pastoral Associate for**
Music Ministry, jseamon

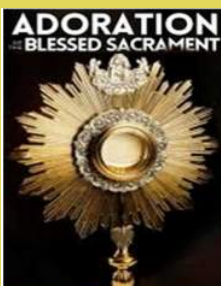
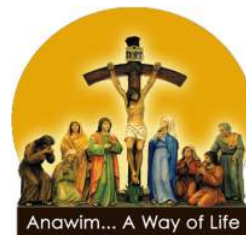
St. Matthias School (add @stmatthiasnj.org)

Mary Lynch, **Principal, mlynch**

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. MATTHIAS
SUNDAY, JULY 13, 2025
Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



**A VERY WARM WELCOME TO
THE ANAWIM COMMUNITY
WHO WILL BE SPEAKING AT ALL
THE MASSES THIS WEEKEND**



**PLEASE COME JOIN THE MANY WHO SPEND
SOME QUIET TIME WITH THE EUCHARISTIC LORD.**

**OUR NEXT ADORATION WILL BE
JULY 14, 2025 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: 7:00 am to 7:00 pm, Sat: 9 am to 6pm, and Sun: 7:30 am to 1 pm, unless another service is taking place.

Sunday, July 13, 2025 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Mission Appeal by Anawim at all Masses

8:00AM	Mass	Church
10:00AM	Mass (Interpreter)	Church
12:00PM	Mass	Church
1:30PM	Baptisms	Church

Monday, July 14 2025 St. Camillus de Lellis,
Priest & Founder

8:00AM	Mass - Miraculous Medal Novena	Church
6:00PM	Eucharistic Adoration	Church

Tuesday, July 15 2025 St. Bonaventure,
Bishop & Doctor

8:00AM	Mass	Church
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Wednesday, July 16 2025 Our Lady of Mount Carmel

8:00AM	Mass - St. Joseph Novena	Church
9:30AM	Holy Spirit Prayer Ministry	De Porres Rm

Thursday, July 17, 2025 St. Alexis of Rome,
Confessor

8:00AM	Mass	Church
1:00PM	Prayer Shawl Meeting	De Porres Rm
7:00PM	OCIA-RCIA	Zoom Meeting

Friday, July 18, 2025 St. Frederick of Utrecht,
Bishop & Martyr

8:00AM	Mass	Church
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Saturday, July 19, 2025 Sts. Justa & Rufina,
Martyrs

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

Sunday, July 20, 2025 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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



Dear Friends,

“The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.” We heard this twice last week: first during the Sunday Mass from Luke 10:1-2 and then at the weekday Mass on Tuesday from Matthew 9: 37-38. Jesus did not limit his mission only to the Twelve who were chosen and commissioned. Luke stated clearly in last Sunday’s gospel: “the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. (10:1-2). Luke wants us to know that the mission of Jesus is not restricted just to the 12 Apostles, but also to a much larger group. The 72 thus represents us all who are baptized Christians whose duty it is to pass on our Faith, as Pope Francis wrote in his first Encyclical ‘The Light of faith’ (*Lumen Fidei*): “... from one person to another, just as one candle is lighted from another. ... It is through an unbroken chain of witnesses that we come to see the face of Jesus.”

As Jesus instructed, we do pray for more workers for the harvest in the vineyard of the Lord. We do pray for more vocations to priesthood, diaconate and religious life. But we need to expand that to include the so many non-ordained or non-consecrated lay men and women who do ministry in church – as paid ministers and as volunteers. In the U.S. Catholic Church, there are over 40, 000 lay ecclesial ministers working in paid positions. Additionally, there are over 2,000 volunteers who also work at least 20 hours per week in parishes. The US Bishops’ Conference recognized these ministers as “Lay Ecclesial Ministers.”

But, these do not include the countless men and women who volunteer for liturgical ministry, assisting the clergy and contributing to the liturgical celebrations. These roles include serving as lectors (readers), extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, altar servers, and musicians, ushers/ hospitality, sacristans, and other tasks that support the smooth and reverent celebration of Mass. Here at St. Matthias, we are fortunate to have many such wonderful committed parishioners helping in each of the above roles.

One ministry that is less visible is the one that brings Holy Communion to the Homebound. These Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHC) who regularly visit persons in Nursing Homes, Assisted Living facilities or Homes, are acting as a bridge between our parish and the homebound. You may remember reading some of their testimonies that were serialized in our bulletin for a few weeks. Inspired by those touching stories, some of our parishioners showed interest in joining this ministry and they were officially mandated by our Bishop Checchio. They are: Edna Yumang, Marianne Viaud, Johanna Martielli, Kathy Johnson, Beverly Gilliam and Miles London. This ministry is coordinated by Doreen Panick, assisted by Joe Percoco – both of whom are very passionate about this ministry. As I congratulate the new EMHCs, I wish to thank all who are bringing Holy Communion to the Homebound for their dedication and commitment. I also wish to thank all other ministers who are giving their time to make our Mass – every Mass – a meaningful experience for us all. I hope others will be inspired to follow their good example and become ministers.

Your brother in Christ,

Fr. Abraham Orapankal

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.

Readings for the Week

Monday Ex 1:8-14, 22 Ps 124:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8,
Mt 10:34—11:1

Tuesday Ex 2:1-15a Ps 69:3, 14, 30-31, 33-34,
Mt 11:20-24

Wednesday Ex 3:1-6, 9-12 Ps 103:1b-2, 3-4,
6-7 Mt 11:25-27

Thursday Ex 3:13-20 Ps 105:1 and 5, 8-9,
24-25, 26-27 Mt 11:28-30

Friday Ex 11:10—12:14 Ps 116:12-13, 15 and
16bc, 17-18 Mt 12:1-8

Saturday Ex 12:37-42 Ps 136:1 and 23-24,
10-12, 13-15 Mt 12:14-21

Sunday Gen 18:1-10a Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 5
Col 1:24-28 Lk 10:38-42

Mass Intentions for the Week

Sat., July 12	5:00 PM	Rodolfo Banaag, Sr. by Meya Corral
Sun., July 13	8:00 AM	Keith Byer by Diane & Joseph Kregler
	10:00 AM	John & Helen Dolak by Eileen King
	12:00 PM	Intention of Parishioners
Mon., July 14	8:00 AM	Ervin Eads by The Cook & Eads Families
Tues., July 15	8:00 AM	All Deceased Members of Edwin Family by Mercy Gabriel
Wed., July 16	8:00 AM	Memory Louie D. Ramos by Mom
Thurs., July 17	8:00 AM	Ernest A. Trunzo by The Misuraca Family
Fri., July 18	8:00 AM	Jozef Wyka by The Cook Family
Sat., July 19	5:00 PM	Intention of Parishioners
Sun., July 20	8:00 AM	Elisa Garcia by Ronald & Andrea and Family
	10:00 AM	Catherine A. Harvey by Marie and Al Sager
	12:00 PM	Courtney Onwuz by Martin de Porres Group

Pray for those who are sick...

If you or a family member are sick, please call the Parish Office or **email prayer@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.

Connie Adams	Derowitsch Family	Rafael Jara	Joan Mazzacco	Maria Schwenzer
Beth, Jim & Jay Adams	Patrick Dolphin	Marilyn Jensen	Ann McElwee	Patricia Shea
Suzanne Adams	Vivian Dong	Jean Alix Jolly	Jessica Marie Merrick	Amy Shepp
Sue Alese	Andrea Dubuisson	Marie Claude Jolly	Gail Miranda	Sr. Rosaria Shina, OSF
Marie Arroyo	Barry Dusault	Donna Kahora	Catalina Moran	Janet Snyder
Richard Auriemma	Hattie Evans	Patty Kerekes	Orietta Morin	Richard Sury
Robert Baker	Adam Figueriedo	Betsy Kondrat	Sarah Braun Morini	Jacqueline Taylor
Edgar Banaag	Margaret Ann Cichon	Kim Krikorian	John Mulholland	Anita Vance
Carolyn Banghart	Ford	Kathy Langenbacher	Raoul Nuguid	Lisa Vernacchio
Ghislaine Baron	Sharon Gadowski	Rose Larangeira	Celia Palacio	Minda Villarica
Carmen Bender	Felicia Gelinas	Henrietta Lesiak	Dr. Jean Patrick	Gayle Vosseler
Andrea Emilia	Gerard Giordano	John Litrakis	Robert Pellegrino	Eileen Weber
Bernabey	Claude Godet	Mary Lou Litrakis	Robert Pierro	Nancy Whelan
Mary Bostrom	Marie Godet	Aries Magali	Robert Pietrowiak	Richard Zagurek
Robert Brisson	Fr. Ben Gomez OMI	Cynthia Magat	Valerie Polci	Mike Zambri
Patricia Burke	Shelly Greene	Kenneth & Kelly	Kim Price	Ginette Zamor
Karin Cabezas	Joan Harris	Magat	Denise Pultro	Anne Zando
Ben Campbell	Linda Hartong	Bobby Manansala	Frank Rispoli	Celia M. Zelinski
Tara Capatosto	Jeff Hentz	Susan, King & Tosh	Gabriel Rivera	
Rustico Castellano	Sloopy & JP Hoffman	Manansala	Bob Rotz	
Marty Collins	Marilyn Horvath	Colleen Maniscalco	Marisa Ruppel	
Pierre Celestin	Jerry & Donna Hucul	Alexandra Marquez	Gloria Santos	
Lisa DeFeo	Nicole Cherill Hynes	Christine Matthews	Nick Schurko	

**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*

Gabriel D'Jamoos Sanora Doyen

Reflect



Smile with Your Family



My neighbors said they wanted to talk to me about my bad home security habits. So I said, "Sure, my door is always open." 😊

Neighbors: The only people who listen to both sides of an argument. 😊

"My neighbor asked if he could use my lawnmower, and I told him, of course, he could, so long as he didn't take it out of my garden." 😊

"My neighbor asked for my Wi-Fi password because his wasn't working. I asked if he was sure because I was connected to his and it worked fine." 😊

"I saw my neighbor going outside again and again to check his mailbox. When I asked why he was doing that, he replied, 'My computer says I have got mail.'" 😊

"My crazy neighbor rang my doorbell aggressively at 3 am. I almost dropped my drilling machine!" 😊

"My house is protected 24/7 by a nosy neighbor!" 😊

"Honestly, I have the worst neighbor ever! He keeps on banging on the wall at 3 am. It completely ruins my drumming practice." 😊



Parenting Tune-Up

"...love you neighbor as yourself (Luke 10:27)- It's a familiar verse; perhaps so familiar we take it for granted. How do I love myself? (Do I take care of my health, my mind?...) Help your children identify their strengths today. Not just general strengths. Be specific. Later, you can go on to apply this to your neighbors.

Marriage Tune-Up

"Be your partner's cheerleader, not his/her teacher, supervisor or critic. This creates a partnership rather than a hierarchy." (Trudy Costa, "How To Create a Satisfying, Lasting Marriage")



THE PHILOSOPHY OF THE PRIEST AND THE LEVITE

In the spring of 1998, there was a story in the news about a fifteen-year-old boy who bled to death just 35 feet outside the emergency room doors of a Chicago hospital. It seems that the teenager was an innocent bystander who was hit by a bullet when gang members started shooting at each other. After he was shot, friends of his managed to carry him to just outside the hospital, where they left him. But apparently, the bleeding youth was left there unattended for 25 minutes because it was against hospital policy for doctors or nurses to go outside the building to treat anyone. Instead, they had to wait for an ambulance to arrive to transport him inside. By the time they finally got him into the hospital, the boy was dead. They were more interested in not getting into trouble violating hospital policy than they were in saving a young man's life!

"What is mine is mine" was the philosophy of the priest and the Levite. They failed to be a good neighbor because they were more concerned about the religious rules and ritual regulations. A good neighbor does not say, "I can't help a needy person because it will get me into trouble" or "I do what I want to do," or even, "I do what I have to do," but the right thinking should be, "I do what I ought to do." The lawyer's question - "Who is my neighbor?" - reveals that he was really self-centered. The parable makes us realize that every human person is our neighbor. How have we been good neighbors this week? To whom did we behave in a neighborly way? The parable is a condemnation of our non-involvement as well as an invitation for us to be merciful and kind to those in need, including those in our family, school, neighborhood, and parish. We are invited to be people of generosity, kindness, and mercy toward all who are suffering. A sincere smile, a cheery greeting, an encouraging word of appreciation, a heartfelt "thank you" can work wonders for a suffering soul. Within every society, there is fear of those who are "different," who differ from us in religion, skin color, dress, or language. The parable invites us to make them neighbors. Why? Because "one's neighbor is the living image of God the Father, redeemed by the blood of Jesus Christ, and placed under the permanent action of the Holy Spirit. One's neighbor must therefore be loved, even if he or she is an enemy, with the same love with which the Lord loves him or her." (Pope St. John Paul II, Sollicitudo Rei Socialis, 1987).

A HOLE IN THE FENCE!

The parable of the Good Samaritan: "And who is my neighbor?"
 Luke 10: 25-37

There's been a great deal of buzz of late about building fences to keep out those deemed undesirable. One such fence was under construction with a gaping hole in it. The government of Austria built a fence along its southern border with Hungary in an effort to prevent migrants from entering the country illegally. The government maintained that it was already overwhelmed with an influx of an unsustainable number of immigrants. A stretch of the fence was to cross land owned by the Catholic Church, but the bishop of the diocese refused permission to build the fence on church property. In a letter to the Austrian government, Bishop Agidius Zsifkovics of Eisenstadt wrote that the planned barrier was inappropriate for a diocese which "lived for decades in the shadow of the Iron Curtain."

"I grew up with the Iron Curtain, and I know what it meant for us all when it finally fell. I have said repeatedly new fences will not solve the refugee problem. We need to tackle today's problems at the root, which means stopping organized human trafficking, stopping European arms sales, stopping war and the deliberate destabilization of the Middle East, and stopping the exploitation of African raw materials and agriculture by European firms. "A fence would be contrary to the spirit of the Gospel," the bishop said. So there will be an opening in the fence where it crosses on church land.

The holes in such fences are the pathways of the Good Samaritan. The story of the Good Samaritan begins with a vision that mirrors that of God, a vision that sees every man, woman, and child as a son and daughter of God, our brother and sister in God's Christ. No one is expendable, no one is ever written off; everyone matters, everyone counts; all are welcome no matter how much we have to squeeze in to make room for one more. Christ calls whoever would be his disciples to look beyond what divides us and focus on what unites us; to put aside our own needs and wants to embrace the needs of others; to see our own wealth as a means to bring healing and hope into the lives of those who have little; to break down walls and "make holes" in whatever fences are erected that undermine that Gospel vision.

EINSTEIN'S LITTLE NEIGHBOR

When Einstein fled Nazi Germany, he came to America and bought a two-storied house within walking distance of Princeton University. There he entertained some of the most distinguished people of his day and discussed with them far-ranging issues from physics to human rights. But Einstein had another frequent visitor. She was not, in the world's eyes, an important person like his other guests. Emmy, a ten-year-old neighbor, had heard that a very kind man who knew all about mathematics had moved into her neighborhood. Since she was having trouble with her fourth-grade mathematics, she decided to visit the man down the block to see if he would help with her problems. Einstein was very willing and explained everything to her so that she could understand it. He also told her she was welcome to come anytime she needed help. A few weeks later, one of the neighbors told Emmy's mother that Emmy was seen entering the house of the world-famous physicist. Horrified, she told her daughter that Einstein was a very important man, whose time was very valuable, and shouldn't be bothered with the problems of a little schoolgirl. She then rushed over to Einstein's house, and when Einstein answered the door, she started trying to blurt out an apology for her daughter's intrusion – for being such a bother. But Einstein cut her off. He said, "She has not been bothering me! When a child finds such joy in learning, then it is my joy to help her learn! Please don't stop Emmy from coming to me with her school problems. She is welcome in this house anytime."

And that's how it is with God! He is our neighbor, and He wants us to come to His house anytime! We can approach him like a childlike trust. He will always welcome us with those gracious words: "Come to me all who are weary and find life burdensome, and I will give you rest!"

Operation Smile:

I was reading sometime back about Dr. William Magee Jr., a plastic surgeon in Norfolk, Va. In 1981, Dr. Magee traveled to the Philippines to operate on children with cleft lips and other facial deformities. Unfortunately, there were so many children with this deformity, a deformity that can render it impossible for them to speak or eat, that hundreds had to be turned away. This caused Dr. Magee and his wife to found an organization called Operation Smile. Operation Smile sends volunteer doctors to perform reconstructive facial surgery for children worldwide. "It wasn't a strategic plan," said Magee. "It was just a matter of emotion and passion to make sure children didn't have to live this way." The group, which already has treated 50,000 children worldwide, also trains doctors in other nations to perform the procedure. Magee hopes to use satellite technology in the future, so he can teach a greater number of medical professionals the necessary techniques. (The Associated Press.) Dr. Magee didn't have to do that. He could have justified himself. "What's in it for me? There are so many children in my own city whose parents or whose insurance company could pay for this surgery. I'm a busy doctor here. I don't have to go halfway around the world and minister to indigent children. Not my problem." I doubt if Dr. Magee even wondered if this act of service would get him into Heaven. He simply saw a need and filled it. He became a Good Samaritan, encouraging fellow surgeons to become Good Samaritans.

ARCHBISHOP FULTON SHEEN'S CONVERSION BY LEPERS

Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen, in his autobiography *Treasure in Clay*, recounts a visit he made to a leper colony in Buluba, Africa. He intended to give a silver crucifix to each of the 500 lepers residing in Buluba. The first person who came forward, however, was a man so disfigured by the ravages of leprosy that Sheen was repulsed by the sight. The man's left arm was eaten off at the elbow by the disease, so he extended his right hand. This hand, too, was unspeakably corrupted by this awful disease. Unable to bear the leper's presence, Sheen held the crucifix above the man's palm and dropped it, where it was immediately swallowed up in the decaying flesh. Instantly, Sheen was aware of his unrighteous act. He had taken the crucifix, "God's sign of identification with humanity," and refused to associate himself with one of God's children. Overcome with remorse, Sheen dug his fingers into the man's leprosy and removed the crucifix. This time, he gently placed the crucifix in the man's hand. Sheen respectfully handed a crucifix to each of the remaining 499 lepers and, in the exchange, learned to love them with the love of the Good Samaritan.

A GOOD SAMARITAN ON HIGHWAYS

Thirty years ago, Tom Weller's car broke down as he was driving through Southern California. A stranger stopped to help Weller and would accept no payment in return for his kindness. Instead, the stranger asked Weller to return the favor by stopping to help some other stranger somewhere. Tom Weller took those words to heart. For the last thirty years, he has helped thousands of stranded people along Southern California's highways. He never asks for payment; instead, Tom Weller leaves behind a small business card asking each person to help someone else in need. It has become his mission in life to pass on the kindness that was once done for him. [Charles Kuralt with Peter Freundlich. *American Moments* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 1998), pp. 74-75.]

We need to remember that the road from Jerusalem to Jericho passes right through our home, parish, school, and workplace. The Jericho Road is any place where people are being robbed of their dignity, their material goods, or their value as human beings. It is any place where there is suffering and oppression. As a matter of fact, the Jericho Road may be our own home, the place where we are taking care of a mother or father, husband or wife, or even our own children. We may find our spouse, children, or parents lying "wounded" by bitter words, scathing criticism, or other, more blatant forms of verbal, emotional, or physical abuse. Hence, Jesus invites us to have hearts of love. What God wants more than anything is for us to show our love to others, in our own home and school, in the workplace, and in the neighborhood, as the Good Samaritan did. Jesus is inviting us to have hearts of mercy for those who are being left hurt or mistreated on any of the "Jericho Roads" of life.

AN ICE-CREAM STORY FOR SUMMER!

My six-year-old son asked if he could say grace. As we bowed our heads, he said, "God is good, God is great. Thank you for the food, and I would even thank you more if Mom gets us ice cream for dessert. And Liberty and justice for all! Amen!" Along with the laughter from the other customers nearby, I heard a woman remark, "That's what's wrong with this country. Kids today don't even know how to pray. Asking God for ice cream! Why, I never!"

Hearing this, my son burst into tears and asked me, "Did I do it wrong? Is God mad at me?" As I held him and assured him that he had done a terrific job, and God was certainly not mad at him, an elderly gentleman approached the table. He winked at my son and said, "I happen to know that God thought that was a great prayer." "Really?" my son asked. "Cross my heart," the man replied. Then, in a theatrical whisper, he added (indicating the woman whose remark had started this whole thing), "Too bad she never asks God for ice cream. A little ice cream is good for the soul sometimes."

Naturally, I bought my kids ice cream at the end of the meal. My son stared at his for a moment, and then did something I will remember the rest of my life. He picked up his sundae and, without a word, walked over and placed it in front of the woman. With a big smile, he told her, "Here, this is for you. Ice cream is good for the soul sometimes, and my soul is good already."



Go and do likewise.

LUKE 10:37

*You are Cordially Invited
to a
Farewell Reception For Fr. Abraham
on
July 27, 2025
at 1:00 pm
Join us for a moment of fellowship
and thank Father for
his years of service after he
Presides over his last Sunday Mass
as Pastor of St. Matthias Church.*



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

THINK SNOW! THINK CHRISTMAS!

THINK CHRISTMAS IN JULY!!!

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 the website

www.stmatthias.net/trees



YOU ARE INVITED TO THE LORD IS KING, A CONCERT OF SACRED MUSIC



Participants in the **NPM Metuchen Summer Choral Festival** will present a concert entitled *The Lord Is King* on:

- Sunday, July 20 at 3:30 pm.
- At Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 390 County Rd. 523, Whitehouse Station.
- A reception will follow.
- A freewill offering benefits the NPM Metuchen Chapter.

This concert is a culmination of their work throughout the five-day Festival. Three conductors have honed this Festival Choir over five days to present extraordinary sacred choral music including works of John Rutter, Jacques Arcadelt, Hal Hopson, G.F. Handel, Mack Wilberg and more.

Taken together, these sacred choral pieces illustrate that the Lord reigns with truth and love, leading us to hope. Come and be nourished by the contemplative, prayerful, joyous and celebratory aspects of our faith and our music.

5 members of our St. Matthias Music Ministry are participating in the choir.

For more information see www.npmmetuchen.org or
contact Festival Director, Jim Cole at NPMChoralFestival@gmail.com.

Pray



JUBILEE YEAR PILGRIMAGE SITES IN OUR DIOCESE

This is a reminder about the sites designated as Sacred Places for the Jubilee Indulgence. Now that we are in summer, many of us might have more time to travel. Here are the list of those sites that our Bishop has designated:

- ◆ Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi, Metuchen, NJ
- ◆ Shrine Chapel of the Blessed Sacrament, Raritan, NJ
- ◆ National Blue Army Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima, Washington, NJ
- ◆ National Shrine of St. Lucy Filippini (inside St. Mary of Mt. Virgin Church), New Brunswick, NJ

These sacred spaces have been carefully chosen to reflect the spiritual significance of pilgrimage and to foster deeper conversion and reconciliation among the people of God. The visit is not merely an outward action but a reflection of the soul's pilgrimage toward God, with conversion, reconciliation, and renewal at its heart. Thus, the faithful may obtain the Jubilee Indulgence by fulfilling the following conditions:

- * Reception of Holy Communion
 - * Prayer for the intentions of the Holy Father
 - * A sincere intention to detach from all sin, even venial sin, and, if necessary, going to confession
 - * Participating in liturgical celebrations or other designated religious activities connected to the Jubilee Year.
- In some cases, those unable to travel may fulfill the requirements through other means, such as prayers at home.*

Learn



OUR SCHOOL IS OPEN FOR ADMISSIONS

Welcome to Admissions at St. Matthias School.

We are excited to share with you all that makes St. Matthias School an excellent choice for your child. With our challenging academics, outstanding teachers and engaging learning environment your child will have a school experience that will provide the opportunity to grow and mature to their utmost potential.

Please visit our website at www.stmatthias.info or contact the school office at 732-828-1402

GIFT REGISTRATION OPEN FOR 2025-2026

Religious Education includes the **G.I.F.T. (Growing in Faith Together)** program, which is for families with children in grades K-Grade 8 or for anyone who wishes to grow in faith. GIFT is an intergenerational faith formation process that recognizes that faith formation is life-long. All public school children in grades K-8 must be registered in this program to be eligible to enter immediate sacramental preparation programs.



To register for 2025-2026 please visit: www.stmatthias.net/faitH-formation

Serve



ALTAR SERVERS WANTED!

We are looking for students in grades 4-12 to help during the Masses by volunteering as Altar Servers in the Fall. Training sessions will be held for anyone that is interested in joining this ministry.

If your child is interested in becoming an altar server or you have any questions, please contact our sacristan, Mike Lanyi at mlanyi@stmatthias.net. Thank you.

Give (and Receive!)

Stewardship Totals for Fiscal Year July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026				Last Year's Total
Current Month	In-Pew/Mail	Parish Giving	Weekly Total	Weekly Total
Week 48 - June 1, 2025	\$10,288.25	\$9,892.50	\$20,180.75	\$19,798.18
Week 40 - June 8, 2025	\$8,937.50	\$25,105.00	\$34,042.50	\$37,850.00
Week 50 - June 15, 2025	\$8,009.00	\$15,449.50	\$23,458.50	\$27,619.00
Week 51 - June 22, 2025	\$10,233.50	\$11,654.50	\$21,888.00	\$23,455.50
Week 52 - June 29, 2025	\$11,498.25	\$8,828.50	\$20,326.75	\$17,065.50
			Month-to-date Total	June Total Last Year
			\$119,896.50	\$125,788.18
			Current Year-to-date Total	Year-to-date as of June 30, 2024
			\$1,385,834.55	\$1,289,243.88

REMINDER!

When we contribute via check, the Chase Bank requires that the checks must be made out to **"Church of St. Matthias."**

No other variation of this designation will be acceptable due to greater security controls.

Stewardship Reflection July 13, 2025 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Jesus said to him, 'Go and do likewise.'" (Luke 10:37)

This was Jesus' command at the end of the Good Samaritan story. Did you know that the Samaritans and Jews despised each other? The moral of the story is to love our neighbor. That means loving someone you may not know, or someone that looks different than you, or someone that has different beliefs than you, or someone that you don't like. All without expecting anything in return.

Reflexiónese – 13 de julio de 2025 Domingo 15° del Tiempo Ordinario

"Y Jesús le dijo: Ve y haz tú lo mismo." (Lucas 10:37)

Este fue el mandato de Jesús al final de la historia del Buen Samaritano. ¿Sabía que los Samaritanos y los Judíos se despreciaban mutuamente? La enseñanza de la historia es amar al prójimo. Eso significa amar a alguien que no conocemos, que luce diferente a nosotros, que tiene creencias diferentes o a alguien que nos disgusta. Todo esto sin esperar nada a cambio.



WHY DO OUR PARISHIONERS GIVE ONLINE?

Majority of our parishioners are giving their offerings to the church via online. Why is that? Between demanding schedules, traveling, or just trying to get out the door on time for Mass, it can be challenging to tithe on a regular basis as God calls us to do. Plus, for many families, the parish is one of the last places where you still have to use a checkbook or cash.

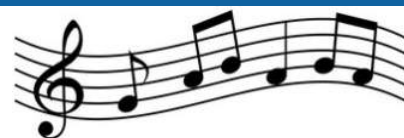
Signing up with "Parish Giving" has made the regular weekly contributions easy and beneficial for parishioners to know that their weekly contributions reach the parish without fail and thus their steady support is guaranteed. It also helped the parish to reduce substantially the cost of mailing the envelopes, as well as save time for posting, counting, calculating, etc. It is also beneficial for them to receive the Tax contribution letter without any delay.

If you have not signed up, it is easy. Please go to www.stmatthias.net/give

Connecting to Our Local Community

Cathedral Summer Choir Camp

The Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi in Metuchen is hosting their 3rd annual Summer Choir Camp for all rising 3rd to 8th grade students. Students will get to spend a week practicing their singing in a choir, learn from amazing music teachers, outdoor activities, play games, and other exciting opportunities (even play the Cathedral's Pipe Organ!). The camp will take place from August 11th to 15th at the Cathedral with one more opportunity to sing for the 12 Noon Mass on the 17th. For those interested in registering, please see the flyer/registration form.



For additional information, please contact:

Christopher M.C. Deibert, Director of the Cathedral's Sacred Music Ministry
music@stfranciscathedral.org



SACRED TIME, SACRED SPACE Wednesday, July 23 from 9:30am-3pm

A personal, quiet day to meet God in silence and rest in God's love. The day begins with communal prayer and then you are free to pray and reflect within the House of Prayer and the grounds. Linger for as long as you like until 3pm. Bring bag lunch. In Person Program. \$20-\$30 as you are able

QUO VADIS? DISCERNMENT RETREAT FOR YOUNG MEN

An invitation for young men (High School Students) ages 14-17 to attend our Quo Vadis Adventure Retreat 2025! This is an opportunity to have fun, grow in your faith, and begin to think/pray about where God may be calling you in life.

Where: Camp Shiloh, 753 Burnt Meadow Road, Hewitt, NJ, 07421

When: Tuesday, July 29- 31, 10 AM arrival.

To register, and for more information, please go to: www.diometuchen.org/quovadis



Parish Leadership

Parish Pastoral Council:

Co-Chairs:

Stephen Busono
sbusono@gmail.com
Bill Isele
t33sm@aol.com

Secretary:

Sheila Tartaglia

Members:

Teresa Yannotta
Joe Percoco
Miles London

Fr. Lancelot McGrath

Fr. Abraham, Ex-Officio

Trustees:

Pearl Scott
Marge Richards

Parish Finance Council:

Kester Hector, Chair
Finance Council
@stmatthias.net
Carmen Driz-Melilli
Barry Dusault
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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