



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

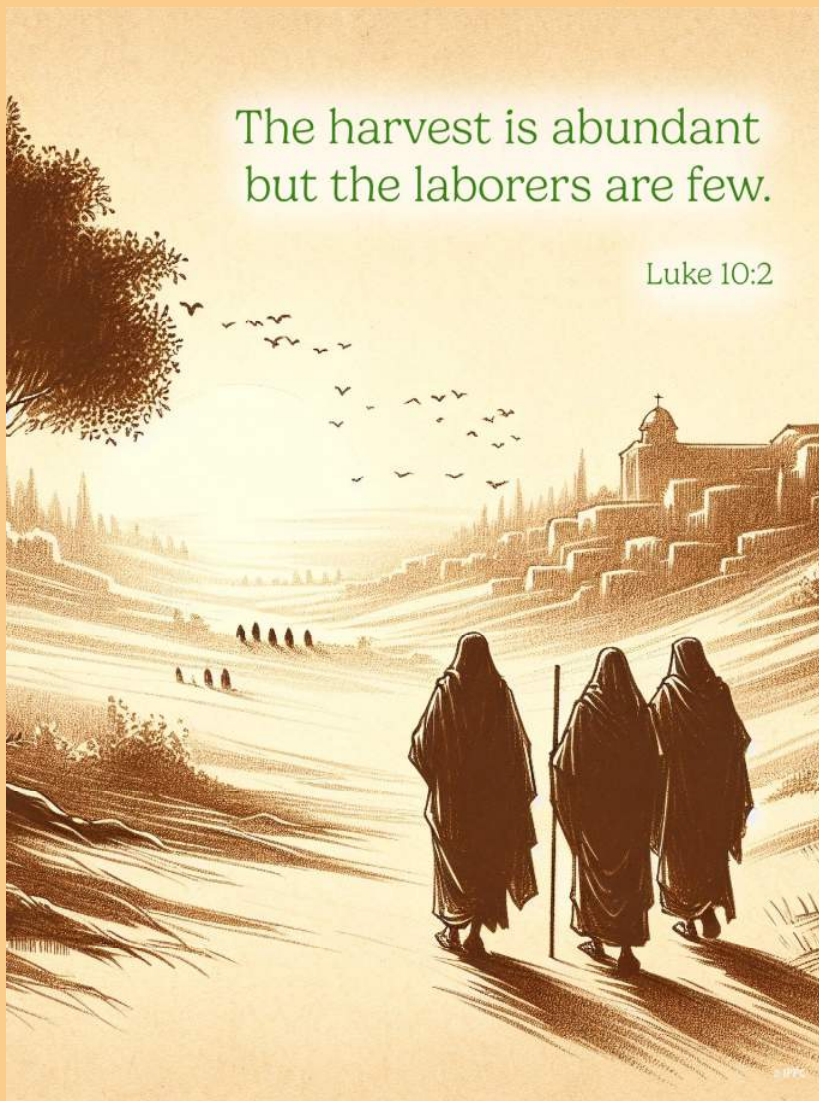
Amy Hanna, **Accountant/Databases, ahanna**
Mike Lanyi, **Sacristan, mlanyi**
Sue Lenczewski, **Youth Coordinator, SMYLE**
Julio Montero, **Maintenance Supervisor**
Debra Schurko, **Director of Religious Education,**
dschurko

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

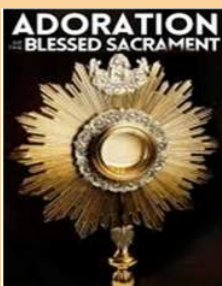
St. Matthias School (add @stmatthiasnj.org)

Mary Lynch, **Principal, mlynch**

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. MATTHIAS
SUNDAY, JULY 6, 2025
Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Happy Fourth of July Weekend!



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

OUR NEXT ADORATION WILL BE JULY 7, 2025 FROM 6 PM TO 8 PM.

WHEN THE DEACON IS AVAILABLE, WE CONCLUDE ADORATION WITH A BENEDICTION.

This Week @ St. Matthias

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 6, 2025 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00AM	Mass	Church
8:30AM	ServiceWorx Begins	Cafeteria
10:00AM	Mass	Church
11:00AM	Rosary Altar Ministry	Church
12:00PM	Mass	Church

Monday, July 7, 2025 St. Pantaeus, Philosopher

8:00AM	Mass - Miraculous Medal Novena	Church
8:30AM	ServiceWorx	Cafeteria
5:30PM	Crusillo Meeting	de Porres Rm
6:00PM	Eucharistic Adoration	Church

Tuesday, July 8, 2025 St. Raymond of Toulouse

8:00AM	Mass	Church
8:30AM	ServiceWorx	Cafeteria/John XXIII
7:30PM	Handbell Rehearsal	Church

Wednesday, July 9, 2025 St. Augustine Zhao & Comp., Martyr Saints of China

8:00AM	Mass - St. Joseph Novena	Church
8:30AM	ServiceWorx	Cafeteria/John XXIII
9:30AM	Holy Spirit Prayer Ministry	de Porres Rm

Thursday, July 10, 2025 Seven Holy Brothers, Martyrs

8:00AM	Mass	Church
8:30AM	ServiceWorx	Cafeteria/St. John XXIII

Friday, July 11, 2025 St. Benedict of Nursia, Abbot & Founder

8:00AM	Mass	Church
8:30AM	ServiceWorx	Cafeteria/John XXIII

Saturday, July 12, 2025 St. John Gualbert, Abbot & Founder

3:30PM	Reconciliation	Church
5:00PM	Sunday Vigil Mass & Mission Appeal by Anawim	Church

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



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.

A Message From The Pastor

Dear Friends,

Happy July 4th weekend to all! On this anniversary of the publication of the declaration of independence from Great Britain in 1776, we celebrate the freedom we cherish. It was interesting for me to read that the first description of how Independence Day would be celebrated in a letter from John Adams to his wife Abigail on July 3, 1776. He described "pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations" throughout the United States. As we celebrate the positive aspects of the United States on this patriotic holiday, let this also be a time for us to express and give thanks for the freedom and liberties fought for and won by the first generation Americans.



America is often referred to as a land of diversity and welcome. This diversity is celebrated as a source of strength and enrichment, with a long-standing tradition of welcoming those seeking freedom and opportunity. This attitude of welcoming all with a universalist outlook is an echo of Jesus sending out 72 disciples on a mission in today's gospel. That begs the question: Did Jesus send out 12 or 72 disciples? Luke, the only gospel writer who mentions this, has a universalist outlook. He wants us to know that the mission of Jesus was 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, "... from one person to another, just as one candle is lit from another. ... It is through an unbroken chain of witnesses that we come to see the face of Jesus" as Pope Francis wrote in his first Encyclical.

We are part of that beautiful chain of witnesses, binding us, all the way back to Christ and the first 72 he sent out. Whether others become part of that chain depends on whether we do our part like those ahead of us have. It is wonderful to see some of our parishioners doing precisely that. Some have told me that they joined St. Matthias because someone invited them. That's a beautiful example for the rest of us. If more of us were to do that.... well, you know the result!

But there are difficulties too. Some parishioners have shared with me their struggle to answer some of the questions people put to them about our faith, our church, our doctrine and about the Bible in general. We feel less confident to share or speak about faith matters. How do we equip ourselves? The many small groups of Bible sharing we have is one such program that helped many to speak about the Bible. The GIFT is another wonderful program that anyone can attend. Debbie Schurko and her dedicated team of catechists are very welcoming: even if you have no kids in the GIFT program, you are most welcome to join the adult segment which will be beneficial for anyone who wishes to educate himself/herself about what we believe. It will enable you to engage other adult acquaintances and friends on religious topics.

It is good to be reminded that the Lord sends out each one of us with a mission to bring His love to our own people.

Your brother in Christ,

Fr. Abraham Orapankal

Readings for the Week

Monday Gen 28:10-22a Ps 91:1-2, 3-4, 14-15ab Mt 9:18-26

Tuesday Gen 32:23-33 Ps 17:1b, 2-3, 6-7ab, 8b and 15 Mt 9:32-38

Wednesday Gen 41:55-57; 42:5-7a, 17-24a Ps 33:2-3, 10-11, 18-19 Mt 10:1-7

Thursday Gen 44:18-21, 23b-29; 45:1-5 Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21 Mt 10:7-15

Friday Gen 46:1-7, 28-30 Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40 Mt 10:16-23

Saturday Gen 49:29-32; 50:15-26a Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7 Mt 10:24-33

Sunday Day Dt 30:10-14 Ps 69:14, 17, 30-31, 33-34, 36, 37 or Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 Col 1:15-20 Lk 10:25-37



Mass Intentions for the Week

Sat., July 5	5:00 PM	Frances DeFranzio by Frank & Joanne Inzano
Sun., July 6	8:00 AM	Santina C. Spinella by Family
	10:00 AM	Intention of Parishioners
	12:00 PM	Ramonita Melendez by Loving Family
Mon., July 7	8:00 AM	Diane D'Albro by Daniel Finaldi
Tues., July 8	8:00 AM	Gregory Dolphin by Pat Dolphin
Wed., July 9	8:00 AM	Nicandro Ventura by Menchi Ventura
Thurs., July 10	8:00 AM	60th Wedding Anniversary Michael and Margaret Oliver by Oliver Children
Fri., July 11	8:00 AM	Doug Huntley by Bob & Joann Urban
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

Pray for those who are sick...

If you or a family member are sick, please call the Parish Office or [email prayer@stmatthias.net](mailto: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	Patrick Dolphin	Rafael Jara	Christine Matthews	Maria Schwenzer
Beth, Jim & Jay Adams	Vivian Dong	Marilyn Jensen	Joan Mazzacco	Patricia Shea
Suzanne Adams	Sanora Doyen	Jean Alix Jolly	Ann McElwee	Amy Shepp
Sue Alese	Andrea Dubuisson	Marie Claude Jolly	Jessica Marie Merrick	Sr. Rosaria Shina, OSF
Marie Arroyo	Barry Dusault	Donna Kahora	Gail Miranda	Richard Sury
Robert Baker	Hattie Evans	Patty Kerekes	Catalina Moran	Jacqueline Taylor
Edgar Banaag	Adam Figueriedo	Betsy Kondrat	Orietta Morin	Anita Vance
Carolyn Banghart	Margaret Ann Cichon	Kim Krikorian	Sarah Braun Morini	Minda Villarica
Ghislaine Baron	Ford	Kathy Langenbacher	John Mulholland	Gayle Vosseler
Carmen Bender	Sharon Gadowski	Rose Larangeira	Raoul Nuguid	Eileen Weber
Andrea Emilia	Felicia Gelinas	Linda Leone	Celia Palacio	Nancy Whelan
Bernabey	Gerard Giordano	Henrietta Lesiak	Dr. Jean Patrick	Richard Zagurek
Mary Bostrom	Claude Godet	John Litakis	Robert Pellegrino	Mike Zambri
Robert Brisson	Marie Godet	Mary Lou Litakis	Robert Pierro	Ginette Zamor
Patricia Burke	Fr. Ben Gomez OMI	Aries Magali	Robert Pietrowiak	Anne Zando
Karin Cabezas	Shelly Greene	Cynthia Magat	Valerie Polci	Celia M. Zelinski
Ben Campbell	Joan Harris	Kenneth & Kelly Magat	Kim Price	
Tara Capatosto	Linda Hartong	Bobby Manansala	Frank Rispoli	And for all who are ill,
Rustico Castellano	Jeff Hentz	Susan, King & Tosh Manansala	Gabriel Rivera	homebound, elderly,
Marty Collins	Sloopy & JP Hoffman	Colleen Maniscalco	Bob Rotz	in nursing care, or
Pierre Celestin	Marilyn Horvath	Alexandra Marquez	Marisa Ruppel	living with chronic
Lisa DeFeo	Jerry & Donna Hucul		Gloria Santos	illness, we pray.
Derowitsch Family	Nicole Cherill Hynes		Nick Schurko	

Pray for those who have died...

— “His mercy endures forever.” *Chronicles*

Marie Vitelli

Reflect



Smile with Your Family



The pastor was told that the church organ needed restoration work. So, before the Sunday morning service, he told the organist that he would make an appeal for funds, and that some music would be appropriate. Imagine his surprise when, having asked those interested in giving financial support to stand up, the organist played the national anthem. 😊

Alvin: My great-grandfather fought with Napoleon, my grandfather fought with the French and my father fought with the Americans.

Alex: Your relatives couldn't get along with anyone, could they? 😊

The only bakery I loved at the 4th of July carnival was selling pastries with stars and stripes. Others were just un-pastry-otic. 😊

Does Europe have a Fourth of July?
Yes, it comes right after the 3rd of July. 😊

Teacher: Tommy, can you tell us where the Declaration of Independence was signed?

Tommy: Yes, ma'am. At the bottom. 😊

What did King George think of the American colonists?
He found them revolting. 😊

Teacher: More than 200 years ago, our forefathers defeated the British in the Revolutionary War.

Caleb: Wow! They must have been pretty strong, four men defeating a whole army! 😊

Beth: What did one flag say to the other flag?

Eric: Nothing. It just waved! 😊



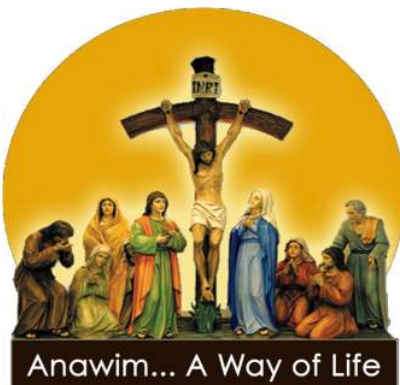
Parenting Tune-Up

When I started having kids, I didn't exactly have a handbook to follow, but I did have a mental list of actions I wouldn't stand for—lying, spitting, watching TV shows that employed a laugh track—to name a few. But I simply hadn't planned for my children, once they developed the ability to speak, to call me out on my hypocrisy. I expected defiance, of course. I just hadn't accounted for the holes that my children would constantly poke in my logic.

Marriage Tune-Up

Independence Day:

How much independence is good in a marriage? Certainly, husband and wife should be able to stand on their own two feet and not rely on their spouse for identity and self-worth; BUT interdependence is better. What do you depend on your spouse to do around your home?



A VERY WARM WELCOME TO "ANAWIM"

This year the Mission Office of our Diocese of Metuchen has assigned Anawim to our parish of St. Matthias as part of the Missionary Cooperative Plan. **The Anawim Community** is a Catholic Community of priests, single lay people and married couples. Our Spirituality focuses on the Liturgy, the Eucharist and Mary, Mother of God. Our foreign mission work is in Metro Manila. Janice Olmes is a member of the Anawim community located in Oxford, NJ.

Family Missions Company is a Catholic apostolate of full-time Missionaries - lay families and singles- sent to evangelize and provide humanitarian help in some of the poorest communities around the world.

Joanne Garcia, serving in the Camiguin Islands, will represent the Family Missions Company.

We are very happy to welcome Janice and Joanne to our parish next weekend to do the annual Mission Appeal for their ministry with Anawim and Family Missions.

A GOOD NEIGHBORHOOD

... the Lord appointed seventy-two others whom he sent ahead of him in pairs to every town and place he intended to visit. "Into whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this household ...'" Luke 10: 1-12, 17-20

A friend had warned them: "Don't buy on Cottage Grove Avenue. It's a bad neighborhood. I wouldn't buy there. There's no resale value." The mother of one of their child's friends was appalled: "Don't you want your kids to go to a good school?" Even their real estate agent sat them down and said point-blank, "Think of your wife's safety." They were having second thoughts about the house they were considering. Fear was sinking in. They called friends who lived in the neighborhood and put the question right out there: "Do you feel safe?" Their friends laughed. "Have you been talking to real estate people again?" They invited them to dinner - at their house in the "bad" neighborhood.

As they drove up, the couple scanned the streets as if on a reconnaissance mission. Their friends welcomed them and served a delicious dinner. After desert, they brought out a sheet of paper they obtained from the police. It was a map of the city with crime statistics for the various neighborhoods. Sure enough, in the blocks surrounding the house they were considering was a vacant house that had been vandalized. Drugs confiscated from a woman. A man passed out in a yard. This was as bad as - college. The map showed the robberies, rapes and domestic violence that had taken place throughout the city. That particular month burglaries and auto thefts were worse in one particularly wealthy suburb.

That's when they realized that all those warnings weren't about crime or real estate values or schools. They were code words for "low-income people of color." They bought the house on Cottage Grove Avenue. Seven years later, the husband and dad says of their "bad neighborhood": "No one told me that the day we moved in, a pack of joyful kids would run over to meet our kids ... About Demetrius, raising his nieces while their mother is doing time. About Jose and Maria's burrito place. And Mike, the pony-tailed Harley biker who one day stepped out in front of a speeding car and yelled 'Hey!'" to a startled driver, slamming his fist on the hood, "there's kids around here!"

"In my 'bad' neighborhood, we sit on front porches, hear the neighbor girls' jazz double-dutch jump rope riffs, and buy snow cones on hot days out of an old guy's shopping cart. "Sure, there are nuisances here: litter, alley dogs, clutter in yards. But danger? I've learned that stupid behavior is color blind and bullets prefer alcohol and drug deals over law-abiding citizens any day. "I love my new neighborhood. It balances my life, shows me real color, and saves me from things far worse than litter or a stolen Subaru - like the blindness and coded racism of privilege."

In sending out the seventy-two to go ahead of him and make ready for his coming, Jesus gives them no magical powers;

he invests in them no special authority. They are to go about their work with humility and joy. They are to offer peace to all. They are to accept whatever hospitality is offered to them with gratitude. They are to be God's agents for healing and reconciliation. And Jesus promises that they will make a difference in people's lives - and their dedication to the work of the Gospel will make a difference in their own lives, as well. A family discovers that same peace and hospitality as the "good" at the center of their so-called "bad neighborhood." We can bring such joy and peace to our own homes and neighborhoods in our own response to Jesus' call to work for God's harvest of reconciliation and justice in the part of his vineyard God has entrusted to us.

EVANGELIZATION

HOW TO INVITE CLOSE FAMILY/FRIENDS/RELATIVES BACK TO CHURCH

Inviting Friends and Family Members Who Have Been Away for a Long Time can be risky and often times discouraging. It can be hard, especially when they haven't been a part of the Church for a very long time. Often, the more time that goes by, the easier it is to "let it slide." Don't give up! Persistence is really important in these cases, so just keep trying. For example, you could get into the habit of saying each week: "I know you haven't been to Church for some time. I think God wants me to ask you to come back. Would you care to join me for Mass this weekend?" Or you might say: "Our parish is really cool; it is very welcoming and hospitable. People seem to enjoy the service there. There is no commitment, nor pressure at all. I would be willing to go with you if you're interested. You don't have to give me an answer right now. Just think about it and let me know."

To those who say they are too busy: "I've heard going to church for an hour a week actually reduces stress, and that it really helps people whose lives are very busy. Why don't you come with me this week to Mass and see just how wonderfully renewing it can be?" or "Mass is the one hour each week I get to really just sit and simply be. It recharges me like nothing else. Would you like to join me for Mass this weekend? Maybe we could get a cup of coffee afterwards."

There are times none of the above will work with some. What do you do? Love them without ever inviting them. Here, the advice of St. Francis of Assisi is very relevant: "Preach the Gospel at all times, and if necessary, use words!! If your repeated invitations appear to fall on deaf ears, then it is time for you to stop inviting them, but to love them and show interest in all of their concerns, except the matters of church or religion. In other words, you are living and witnessing to the gospel values just by showing genuine love and care for that person. And leave the rest to God, who will touch that person in His time."

ST. TERESA OF AVILA WROTE:

Christ has no body but yours,
 No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
 Yours are the eyes with which he looks
 Compassion on this world,
 Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good,
 Yours are the hands, with which he blesses all the world.
 Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,
 Yours are the eyes, you are his body.
 Christ has no body now but yours,
 No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
 Yours are the eyes with which he looks with compassion on
 this world.
 Christ has no body now on earth but yours.

THE LIVING GOSPEL

There is a story of a chaplain who was serving on the battlefield. He came across a young man who was lying in a shell hole, seriously wounded. "Would you like me to read something from this book, the Bible?" he asked. "I'm so thirsty, I'd rather have a drink of water." The soldier said. Hurrying away, the chaplain soon brought the water. Then the wounded man said, "Could you put something under my head?" The chaplain took off his overcoat, rolled it up and gently placed it under the man's head for a pillow. "Now," said the suffering man, "if I just had something over me -I'm cold." The chaplain immediately removed his jacket and put it over the wounded man to keep him warm. Then the soldier looked the chaplain straight in the eye and said, "If there is anything in that book that makes a man do for another all that you have done for me, then please read it, because I'd love to hear it." If my actions do not speak of Gospel values, be sure my words never will. What affects most people is often caught rather than taught. Indeed we are the only book on Jesus Christ that others may ever read!

CAPTAIN JAMES T. KIRK,

COMMANDER OF THE STARSHIP ENTERPRISE

Kirk was not the smartest guy on the ship ... so why did he get to climb on board the Enterprise and run it? The answer: There is this skill set called leadership. Kirk was the distilled essence of the dynamic manager, a guy who knew how to delegate, had the passion to inspire, and looked good in what he wore to work. He never professed to have skills greater than his subordinates ... he established the vision, the tone. He was in charge of morale. [Randy Pausch, *The Last Lecture* (New York: Hyperion, 2008), pp. 43-44.] The Church needs morale-boosting servant leaders as outlined in today's Gospel.

We are delegated by Jesus to bring His good news to all. We need to continue the preaching mission: Just as Jesus in today's Gospel gives instructions to the seventy-two missionaries, he also gives each one of us a mission to carry out. There were just a handful of followers in Jesus' day to preach the Good News, but today there are over one billion Roman Catholics and about a half billion other Christians (in 30,000 denominations!) who accept Jesus as "Lord" and "Savior." So there are 1.5 billion missionaries in a world of six billion people. A recent survey asked the question, "Why do adults join the Catholic Church in spite of the scandals publicized in the media?" Seventy-five percent of the new adult converts to the Catholic Church reported that they were attracted by a personal invitation from a Catholic who had a lively relationship with Christ and his Church. As faithful Catholics, we will attract others to the Catholic Church—just as a rose attracts people by its beauty and fragrance. It's our job. It's our responsibility. We must not miss the current opportunities to be apostles in everyday life by our words and deeds.

THE HOLY NAME OF JESUS

St. Gregory of Tours relates that when he was a boy his father fell gravely ill and lay dying. Gregory prayed fervently for his recovery. When Gregory was asleep at night, his Guardian Angel appeared to him and told him to write the Name of Jesus on a card and place it under the sick man's pillow. In the morning Gregory acquainted his mother with the Angel's message, which she advised him to obey. He did so, and placed the card under his father's head, when, to the delight of the whole family, the patient grew rapidly better. In today's Gospel, we heard the seventy-two other disciples, when they returned from their mission of preaching, joyfully exclaimed to Jesus, **| Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through your name.!**

The disciples experienced power in the name of Jesus. We too can experience the same. The mission of the seventy-two disciples was not a human project, and, hence, they needed strength from God to do the work. In proclaiming the Good News of the Kingdom, we, too, participate in God's work. It is the Lord Who is working in and through us. He gives us the power to announce His presence with our lives. Therefore, constant contact with the Lord of the harvest is necessary. This means that we must be men and women of prayer -- not only for an hour a week at Mass but on a daily basis.

Pray



COME PRAY THE ROSARY WITH US

The Rosary Altar Society meets every **first Sunday** of each month after the 10 am Mass to pray the rosary.

ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN.



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.*

Connect

*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.*

GRANDPARENTS AND SENIORS DAY

A Morning for Grandparents and Seniors (55+)

The Diocese of Metuchen is pleased to host a Celebrate Life Event - A Morning for Grandparents and Seniors on **Thursday, July 24, 2025 from 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM** at the **St. John Neumann Pastoral Center**, Piscataway, NJ. The morning will include breakfast and fellowship, a presentation on "The Spiritual Gifts of Aging: Wisdom, Patience & Grace" by guest speaker Keaton Douglas, followed by Eucharistic

Adoration and Holy Mass. This event is an outreach to our aging Catholic community and promises to be an upbeat day! There is no fee to attend, but registration is required.

For questions or concerns, please email amarshall@diometuchen.org

or
call 732-562-1543.



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



SERVICEWORX

This July, our Grade 7, Level 1 Confirmation Group will participate in ServiceworX. ServiceWorX is offered through Goodfaith. They are an independent, non-

profit Catholic apostolate based in New Jersey. Its mission is to cultivate a vibrant community of faith in action through transformative experiences of missionary discipleship rooted in Catholic social tradition.

The organization has long been recognized for its “WorX” programs, inspired by the scripture passage: “Faith without works is dead” (James 2:26). More than 7,500 individuals have participated in these experiences, representing over 500,000 combined hours of direct service and social justice education. We currently have 32 young people who will be participating this July. Let us remember them in our prayers as they embark on this phase of preparation and service.

“Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me,” Matthew 25:40

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, 2024 - June 30, 2025				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			\$0.00	\$17,065.50
** This bulletin was published on an accelerated schedule at the publishers request. The stewardship totals will be updated in the following bulletin.			Month-to-date Total	June Total Last Year
			\$99,569.75	\$125,788.18
			Current Year-to-date Total	Year-to-date as of June 30, 2024
			\$1,346,703.30	\$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 6, 2025 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

“He said to them, ‘The harvest is abundant, but the laborers are few...’” (Luke 10:2)

As Catholics we are all called to serve. Each of us has been given “charisms” otherwise known as gifts from the Holy Spirit to help build God’s Church. Our charisms can only be used for good. We know that we are using them in the right ministry when we are filled with joy and we want to share stories about our charitable works. Discern how God is calling you to use your charisms. Say “yes” to what God is calling you to do and then do it! Share your joy and invite others to do the same.

Reflexiónese – 6 de julio de 2025 Domingo 14º del Tiempo Ordinario

«Y les decía: ‘La cosecha es mucha, pero los obreros pocos’...” (Lucas 10:2)

Como católicos somos llamados a servir. A cada uno de nosotros se nos han dado “carismas”, también conocidos como dones del Espíritu Santo, para ayudarnos a edificar la Iglesia de Dios. Nuestros carismas solo pueden ser utilizados para el bien. Sabemos que los utilizamos en el ministerio correcto cuando nos llenamos de alegría y queremos compartir historias acerca de nuestras obras de caridad. Discierna como Dios lo llama a utilizar sus carismas. ¡Diga “sí” a lo que Dios le pide y hágalo! Comparta su alegría e invite a los demás a hacer lo mismo.



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.

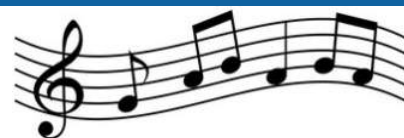
Signing up with “Parish Giving” has made the regular weekly contributions easy and beneficial for parishioners to know that their weekly contributions reach the parish without fail and thus their steady support is guaranteed. It also helped the parish to reduce substantially the cost of mailing the envelopes, 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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