



St. Matthias Parish Office:

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

Mass Schedule (in person):

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

St. Matthias School (SMS):

170 JFK Blvd., Somerset, NJ 08873
www.stmatthias.info 732-828-1402
School Office Hours, Monday-
 Thursday 9AM-1PM Friday By Appointment

For all Parish emails, add @stmatthias.net

Pastor: Rev Abraham Orapankal, **abraham**
Senior Priest: Msgr. Seamus Brennan, **sbrennan**
 Mary Pat Burke-Grospin, Business Administrator
mpburke-grospin

Deacon Ron Caimi, *Senior Deacon*
 Kelly Counts, *Receptionist*, **kcounts**
 Deacon Russell Demkovitz, **rdemkovitz**
 Nathalie Godet, *Website Coordinator*, **ngodet**
 Leslie Guillen, *Bulletin Editor*, **lguillen**
 Amy Hanna, *Accountant/Databases*, **ahanna**
 Mike Lanyi, *Sacristan*
 Sue Lenczewski, *Youth Coordinator*, **SMYLE**
 Mary Jo Loboda, *Parish Staff, Development*,
mjloboda

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**
 Sr. Marie Therese Sherwood, *OSF, Pastoral*
Assoc. for Social Concerns, **msherwood**

St. Matthias School (add @stmatthiasnj.org)

Mary Lynch, *Principal*, **mlynch**
 Joseph Gidaro, *Vice Principal*, **jgidaro**

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. MATTHIAS
SUNDAY, JUNE 25, 2023-
12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

New Camp Invention
Summer Program
 begins **Monday,**
June 26th at 8:00 AM

&
ServiceworX
 begins
Monday, June 26th
at 8:30AM



The Rosary
 Altar Society
 will meet
 next Sunday
 after the 10:00AM Mass
 at 11:00AM in the
 St. John XXIII Room.



Do not be afraid.



Photo by Marilyn Parente

**Happy &
 Blessed
 Retirement
 to
 Msgr.
 Brennan**

**Thank you for your total
 availability & pastoral ministry
 here at St. Matthias.
 We will miss your
 wonderful warm presence.**

This Week @ St. Matthias From Msgr. Brennan

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, Jun 25, 2023

8:00AM Mass Church
9:30AM Service WorX #1 will attend 10AM Mass
10:00AM Mass Church
12:00PM Mass Church

Monday, Jun 26, 2023 **St. Jose Maria Escriva, Priest**

8:00AM Mass / Miraculous Medal Novena Church
8:00AM Camp Invention 2023 2PreK & 2 Kindergarten Rms
8:30AM Service WorX Cafeteria & Off Site

Tuesday, Jun 27, 2023 **Opt. Memorial– St. Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop & Doctor**

8:00AM Mass Church
8:00AM Camp Invention 2023 2PreK & 2 Kindergarten Rms
8:30AM Service WorX Cafeteria & Off Site

Wednesday, Jun 28, 2023 **Memorial– St. Irenaeus, Bishop & Martyr**

8:00AM Mass—St. Joseph Novena Church
8:00AM Camp Invention 2023 2PreK & 2 Kindergarten Rms
8:30AM Service WorX Cafeteria & Off Site

Thursday, Jun 29, 2023 **Solemnity– St. Peter & St. Paul, Apostles & Martyrs**

8:00AM Mass Church
8:00AM Camp Invention 2023 2PreK & 2 Kindergarten Rms
8:30AM Service WorX Cafeteria & Off Site

Friday, Jun 30, 2023 **Opt. Memorial– 1st Martyrs of the Church of Rome**

8:00AM Mass Church
8:00AM Camp Invention 2023 2PreK & 2 Kindergarten Rms
8:30AM Service WorX Cafeteria & Off Site

Saturday, Jul 1, 2023 **St. Junipero Serra, OFM, Apostle of California**

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

Sunday, Jul 2, 2023

8:00AM Mass Church
10:00AM Mass Church
11:00AM Rosary Altar Society Mtg. John XXIII Rm
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 8 AM, MONDAY, 5 business days before the needed bulletin date (earlier for holiday weekends). Approved content is published on a space-available basis.

What is Adoration?

The Benedictine Sisters of Sacre Coeur de Montmartre.

The following article on Adoration was taken from the Magnificat special edition, The Magnificat Adoration Manuel.



Adoration is due to God alone. To adore the thrice-holy and supremely lovable God in the Blessed Sacrament exposed on the altar means that we offer ourselves to the ineffable love of God who has begun to manifest himself in creation, who has been revealed to us since Abraham, who has laid in Jesus Christ the foundation of the Church through which he acts in the world.

To pray before the Blessed Sacrament exposed on the altar is to cast a glance of faith upon Jesus Christ, true God and true man, truly present in the Bread of the Eucharist.

This prayer of adoration manifests God's mercy and tenderness for humanity and calls each one of us to intercede for the needs of men. God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, Jesus, the source of salvation, is offered for our contemplation and adoration incessantly. From him, all who pray to him receive an abundance of grace to live in this world as beloved children; and through him, in the Spirit, each of us returns to the Father; the God of tenderness and mercy, to bless and glorify him. Moreover, regardless of our poverty or wealth, through prayer, we can draw from the unfathomable riches of the Heart of Christ, given to us in the Eucharist, for the good of all people. Let us ask the Lord to make us worshipers in spirit and truth, witnesses of the love of God before the men and women of our time.

In prayer of adoration, it is not a question, like the hypocritical Pharisee of the Gospel, of giving thanks for our own righteousness, and of praying only for others love of God, given for us in Jesus, exposed before our eyes in the Blessed Sacrament, it is a question of recognizing ourselves as poor and sinful, to see that without him we can do nothing (cf. Jn 15:5), to let ourselves be saved by him, to let ourselves be healed, to let ourselves be converted. It is a question of offering ourselves to God the Father in the one and perfect offering of Jesus his Son, under the movement of the Holy Spirit, in order to fully accomplish his will. In this way, our prayer will be true: it will transform us, and in the Communion of Saints, it will shine forth as the grace of salvation for many men and women of our time who do not know God, who have distanced themselves from him, or who refuse his love.

The Basilica of Sacre Coeur de Montmartre has been the site of continuous perpetual adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in Paris since 1885.

Msgr. Brennan



Readings for the Week

Monday: Gn 12:1-9; Ps 33:12-13, 18-19, 20, 22; Mt 7:1-5

Tuesday: Gn 13:2, 5-18; Ps 15:2-3a, 3bc-4ab, 5; Mt 7:6, 12-14

Wednesday: Gn 15:1-12, 17-18; Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9; Mt 7:15-20

Thursday: Vigil: Acts 3:1-10; Ps 19:2-3, 4-5; Gal 1:11-20; Jn 21:15-19

Day: Acts 12:1-11; Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; 2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18; Mt 16:13-19

Friday: Gn 17:1, 9-10, 15-22; Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5; Mt 8:1-4

Saturday: Gn 18:1-15; Lk 1:46-47, 48-49, 50, 53, 54-55; Mt 8:5-17

Sunday: 2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a; Ps 89:2-3, 16-17, 18-19; Rom 6:3-4, 8-11; Mt 10:37-42

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, June 24 5:00PM Frieda Emmer, by The Walter Family

Sunday, June 25 8:00AM Intention of Parishioners

10:00AM Tom Healy, by Joyce & Family

12:00PM John Bingham, by Ellin & Gil Ossandon

Monday, June 26 8:00AM Madeline Tarantino, by Loving Family

Tuesday, June 27 8:00AM Henry Plaras, by The Tibay Family

Wednesday, June 28 8:00AM James Vance, by The Wednesday Prayer Group

Thursday, June 29 8:00AM Dennis Stuewe, by The Hentz Family

Friday, June 30 8:00AM Proceso Villarica, by Minda Villarica

Saturday, July 1 5:00PM Emily & Frank Gatarz, by Claire

Sunday, July 2 8:00AM Vincent Jimmy Azzollini, by The LaTorre Family

10:00AM Intention of Parishioners

12:00PM Dennis Stuewe, by Ellin & Gil Ossandon

Pray for those who are sick...

If you or a family member are sick, please call the Parish Office or **email Kelly Counts** at kcoun@stmatthias.net to add the name to this list. Names will be listed in the bulletin for **6 weeks**. Please let us know if this time period needs to be extended. We want to know how you are doing and want to offer you the support of our prayers. [New people on our prayer list are noted in blue.](#)

Carolyn Banghart

Tammy Baskaran

Regina Berlowitz

Bishop Paul Bootkowski

Barbara Butler

Tara Capatosto

Ellen Catalina

Kyle Davidson

Lisa DeFeo

William Dolphin

Hattie Evans

Josephine Geenty

Claudia Gemgnani

Helen Geraghty

Emma Gergely

Marilyn Horvath

Robert Kashinsky

Kathleen Langenbacher

Mary Lou Littrakis

John Littrakis

Joseph Lubrano

Aries Magali

Al Maglio

Anne McElwee

Margaret Menendez

Carol Millemann

Eleanor Nagy

Danny Ongchango

Robert Pellegrino

Jim Pettit

Randolff Pinard

Valerie Polci

Kim Price

Doris Regan

Gabriel Rivera

Arina Robinson

Arthur Robinson

Maria Schwenzer

Amy Shepp

Sr. Rosaria Shina, OSF

Sr. Bernadine Marie

Stemnock

Jeff Sullivan

Tom Szabo

Don Tibay

Nancy Whelan

Mark Worthington

Carl Wyopen

Angie Yetyet

And for all who are ill, homebound, elderly, in nursing care, or living with chronic illness, we pray.

Pray for those who have died...

— “His mercy endures forever.” *Chronicles*

Rosemary Genovese, Gil Ossandon

Reflect



Smile with Your Family



Fear of monster under the bed:

A man has been visiting a therapist because he has had a fear of monsters living under his cot. The man has been seeing this doctor for months. Every time he would come in, the doctor would ask, "Have you made any progress?" Every time the man would say "No". The man decided to go and see another doctor. When he went back to his first doctor, the doctor asked, "Have you made any progress?" he said, "Yes, I am feeling all better now!" The doctor asked, "What happened?" The man said, "I went to another doctor and he cured me in one session!" The doctor asked, "What did he tell you?" The man said "He just told me to cut all the four legs off of my cot and leave no space for the monster".

Fear of attending Church on Sunday: To make it possible for everyone to attend Church next Sunday, we are going to have a special "No Fear, No Excuse Sunday":

- a) Cots will be placed in the foyer for those who say, "Sunday is my only day to sleep in."
- b) There will be a special section with lounge chairs who feel that our pews are too hard.
- c) Eye drops will be available for those with tired eyes from watching T.V. late Saturday night.

- d) We will have steel helmets for those who say " The roof would cave in if I ever came to Church."
- e) Blankets will be furnished for those who think the church is too cold and fans for those who say it is too hot.
- f) Score cards will be available for those who wish to list the hypocrites present.
- g) Relatives and friends will be in attendance for those who can't go to Church and cook dinner, too.
- h) We will distribute "Stamp Out Stewardship" buttons for those who feel that Church is always asking for money.
- i) One section will be devoted to trees and grass for those who like to seek God in nature.
- k) Doctors and nurses will be in attendance for those who plan to be sick on Sunday.
- l) The sanctuary will be decorated with both Christmas poinsettias and Easter lilies for those who never have seen the Church without them.
- m) We will provide hearing aids for those who can't hear the preacher and cotton for those who say he is too loud. 😊

Parenting Tune-Up



If one listens to the news a lot it can feel like terror on every side. Our children are not immune to this fear. Talk with your child about their fears. Listening and posing solutions can help you both move toward the goal of - "Do not be afraid." (Mt. 10:31)

Marriage Tune-Up



Must Agree #1.

In marriage, there are certain things that you can "agree to disagree" on and others that you absolutely must agree upon. For example, you must agree that your marriage is a top priority and you will do whatever you need to do to strengthen it.



"Fear no one. Nothing is concealed that will not be revealed, nor secret that will not be known." Matthew 10: 26-33

C. S. Lewis wrote a book called *The Screwtape Letters*.[®] Screwtape[®] is a devil, a very accomplished devil. Using any trickery, he can, Screwtape turns people away from God. By his letters, Screwtape gives advice to Wormwood, his young nephew and apprentice who is just learning the deceptive ways of devils. In one letter, Screwtape writes to Wormwood, "Keep them anxious, make certain they are worried about

Who causes You to worry?

something." Remind people about their fears. Why this advice? Being a devil, Screwtape wants to get people so focused on their fears that they forget God.

In his book *Scared to Life* (Victor), Douglas Rumford cites a study that explains why we should not allow fear to rule our lives: 60% of our fears are totally unfounded; 20% are already behind us; 10% are so petty they don't make any difference; 4-5% of the remaining 10% are real, but we can't do anything about them. That means only 5% are real fears that we can do something about. [*Marriage Partnership* (Summer 1995),

Continued

Reflect

Who causes You to worry? (continued)

p. 59.] I don't know how accurate those figures are but my guess is that for some of us, they understate the problem. We have a tendency to blow our fears out of proportion to our real life situation. Listen to Jesus: *! Do not fear;! ! Do not be afraid!"*

Sometimes we are afraid that we will make a wrong decision. At other times, we are afraid of what others will think when we speak up for Jesus. We are afraid of what the future will bring our children. We are also afraid of growing old. Sometimes we are afraid of what bad health will bring us. At the root of these fears is the fear of loss. Every fear we have is grounded in the knowledge that we have something or someone to lose. I can lose my job, family, house, money, health and even life itself. Rejection and loss are the basis of our fears. However, we forget one thing: whatever trouble or crisis affects us, we know that God understands it better than we ourselves do. Our Heavenly Father knows exactly what is happening.

What a release from fear it is to know that God is on our side; that our life is in the hands of a loving God. The next time fear grips our life we need to remember that being faithful to Christ wherever we meet him in this life is much more important than our fear of rejection and loss. Also, let us take a moment to recall some of the great promises of God. Let us remind ourselves that God cares – we are each a dear child of His and He cares for each of us. "Don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows." The last verse of Psalm 27 sums it up nicely, ! Trust in the Lord. Have Faith; do not despair. Trust in the Lord."

Fearless St. Teresa

St. Teresa of Avila is famous as a theologian, reformer of the Carmelite Order, and spiritual advisor to the great medieval Spanish mystic, St. John of the Cross. Nevertheless, Teresa's ministry was not well received in her community. Her sisters had grown lax in faith and practice, and when she called for reform; their response was to throw her out of convents that she herself had established. On one occasion, she was turned out at night in the middle of a rainstorm. Dressed only in her coarse wool habit, she climbed into a donkey cart and was riding along when the wheel of the cart hit a ditch and the cart turned over, dumping Teresa into the mud. She sat there, in mud-soaked wool, looked up to heaven, and said, "Lord, if this is the way you treat your friends, it is no wonder that you don't have many." However, frustrated as she was, Teresa clung to

God. In one of her meditations on the Disciplines of the Holy Spirit, Teresa talks about how we must not be deceived by the appearance that evil triumphs over good. She wrote, "God uses the Devil as a sharpening-stone for Christians." Teresa not only taught this lesson, she lived by it. She never gave up on God, even when her sisters opposed her by going to priests and bishops to make trouble for her. She kept right on teaching what she knew to be the truth. And eventually, she won out. Her desire was to be faithful, and God prospered her efforts. Today, she is known as a Doctor of the Church -- an exemplary teacher and thinker -- while the nuns who treated her so badly remain dead and unknown. And the Carmelite convents of Teresa's reform continue to this very day.

Teresa understood what the prophet Jeremiah was talking about in the first reading and what Jesus was teaching in today's Gospel lesson.

Jesus gives us three reasons not to fear!

The first reason is that opponents will not be able to prevent Jesus' followers from succeeding in their mission because God will expose their evil plans and deeds: "*nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered.*" The Lord "*will bring to light the hidden things of darkness*" (5Cor 8:9), and will vindicate the faithful. That God will not permit evil to win is the promise of v. 26.

The second reason not to be afraid is the limited power of our opponents. They can kill the body, which dies all too soon anyway, but have no power over the soul. Only God has power over eternity. The gospel identifies two fears that the apostles had: fear of false accusation and conviction, and fear of bodily harm and death. Tradition has it that almost all the apostles died the violent death of martyrdom. Some of them ended up being crucified on the cross, like Peter and Andrew; beheaded, like James and Paul; flayed alive, like Bartholomew; or thrown into a cauldron of boiling oil, like John. When the Old Testament mentioned fear of God (Psalm 2:11; 15:4; 19:9; 22:23; 25:12, etc.) it generally meant giving due respect to God. Respect is an attitude proper to a free person. God does not threaten to throw us into hell; rather he reminds us that to lose him by sin is to lose ourselves also--and that is hell. There is no reason to fear God because He does not wish that any one should perish. He has sent Christ to provide salvation for all. Fear of God overcomes human fear.

Continued

Reflect

Jesus gives us three reasons not to fear! (continued)

The third reason we should not be afraid is God's compassionate love. We are more important to God than sparrows. Matthew speaks of two sparrows sold for one penny. The God who cares for a trivial bird like the sparrow also cares about our smallest problems – even the hairs on our heads are counted. While this is an encouraging assurance, it may be difficult to believe in the midst of persecution. But God knows everything that we go through – nothing that happens to us escapes him. When we feel lonely and abandoned, when it seems that our prayers are unanswered, God knows and cares. Jesus concludes by saying, "So do not be afraid; you are worth much more than many sparrows." In other words, the perfect antidote for fear is trust in God. God is our shelter and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble. So we will not be afraid... (Psalm 45:1, 2. Confer also Psalm 27:1,2, Psalm 91:1,2)



Fearless St. Chrysostom

It can manifest itself in many forms. Chrysostom was the church leader of Constantinople in the fourth century when Rome was persecuting the Church. The Roman emperor had him arrested and charged with being a Christian. If Chrysostom did not renounce Christ, then the emperor would have this Christian leader banished from the kingdom. Chrysostom responded to the threat by saying that the emperor could not do so, "because the whole world is my Father's kingdom." "Then," replied the emperor, "I will take away your life." To which Chrysostom said, "You cannot, for my life is hid with Christ in God." Next threatened with the loss of his treasure, this saint replied, "You cannot, for my treasure is in heaven where my heart is." The emperor made one last effort: "Then I will drive you away from here and you shall have no friend left." But again Chrysostom responded, "You cannot, for I have one Friend from whom you can never separate me. I defy you for you can do me no harm." You can do me no harm!



Out of Proportion Fears

In his book *Scared to Life* (Victor), Douglas Rumford cites a study that explains why we shouldn't allow fear to rule our lives:

60% of our fears are totally unfounded;
20% are already behind us;
10% are so petty they don't make any difference;
4-5% of the remaining 10% are real, but we can't do anything about them.

That means only 5% are real fears that we can do something about. (MARRIAGE PARTNERSHIP, Summer 1995, p. 59.).

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"The Funniest Man in the World" was afraid of an audience!

Did you ever hear the name Joe Ancis? The reason you have not is due to fear.

In the late forties, Buddy Hackett, Rodney Dangerfield, Lenny Bruce and other young hopeful comics in New York all hung out at Hansons, a luncheonette on Broadway. Joe Ancis, the original sick comic, cracked everybody up at the time. Some people claim that Lenny Bruce learned what he knew from Ancis. He was dubbed "The Funniest Man in the World" by the other comedians. But Ancis was terrified of audiences. He could rap with the pros at Hansons, but he performed publicly only once when he was still a teenager. That appearance confirmed his fears. He never got up in front of an audience again. He went into selling aluminum siding. Some say he's "The Best Salesman in the World." But he couldn't handle the fear of getting up in front of groups, only the people he knew. (Bernard Weinraub in NEW YORK TIMES. "Personal Glimpses," READER'S DIGEST, November 1995, p. 7.). Can anyone relate to that? One survey indicates that some people fear speaking in front of a group more than they fear death. It seems absurd, of course, but it's true. In today's gospel Jesus urges his disciples not to be afraid of any opposition: *Do not fear!* *Do not be afraid!*

Reflection on a Vocation Well Lived

As Msgr. Brennan is retiring and leaving our parish, the Vocations Ministry Team would like to do a reflection on his vocation while thanking him for his faithful commitment to his priestly vocation.



Church teaching tells us that as a priest Msgr. Brennan has been “set apart” by God, endowed with sacred authority to serve God and minister to us. Therefore, it is right to celebrate Msgr. Brennan’s priestly vocation as he retires. But we also celebrate ourselves because we know that vocations are not limited to priests and the religious life. Vocations are for all of us. In fact, Msgr. Brennan preached about this just last weekend reminding us that we are also “set apart” – by way of our baptism in Christ – called to serve God and minister to each other with our unique gifts and particular vocations – vocations that give purpose and meaning to our lives, vocations that allow us to be all that God wants us to be, vocations that allow us to join Msgr. Brennan as “coworkers in the vineyard” building up God’s kingdom here on earth.

Whether it be by way of our occupations, family life, community involvement, church ministries, justice initiatives, or other charitable work, God calls each and every one of us to vocation. Even simple acts of kindness, companionship, and encouragement lived out each day is vocation. Our job is to listen for God’s call, listen to what vocation God is calling us to, and then respond.

And today we honor Msgr. Brennan as an exemplar of how one responds to God’s call, embraces one’s vocation, and helps build a world that reflects God’s love. So, we thank Msgr. Brennan for his many years of priestly service. And we thank God for allowing Msgr. Brennan to be with us here at St. Matthias these past few years.

We wish Msgr. Brennan all of God’s blessings in his retirement. We offer Msgr. Brennan our prayers and we ask Msgr. Brennan to pray for us as we continue to live out our vocations.

For more information on the Saint Mathias Vocations Ministry, please contact Joe Percoco at percoco@rutgers.edu.

Pray



PLEASE JOIN THE MANY TO SPEND SOME QUIET TIME WITH THE EUCHARISTIC LORD EVERY MONDAY EVENING FROM 6 PM TO 8 PM.

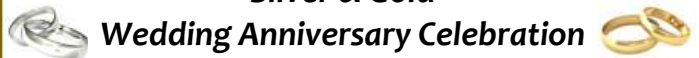
May Baptisms

The Catholic Community of St. Matthias welcomes the following children who were baptized in May. We support them with prayers and ask their parents to nurture them so they can grow to be faith-filled people of God and our parish community.

- Amuri Dorvil Gille*
- Leighton Marie Gregory*
- Kathleen Marie Kasprzyk*
- Axel Bryant Limayo*
- Elijah Emmanuel Mathew*
- Oliver Joseph Varughese*



Silver & Gold



Wedding Anniversary Celebration

You are cordially invited to celebrate your 25th or 50th Wedding Anniversary with the Church of Metuchen and renew your marriage vows with Bishop James F. Checchio at a special Evening Prayer Service at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi in Metuchen on **Sunday, October 22, 2023 at 3:00 PM.**

Registration is required.

Please register online at:

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

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

<https://www.diometuchen.org/silver-and-gold-anniversary-celebration> or calling 732-562-1543.

QUO VADIS SUMMER CAMP



Dear Parents of Teen Boys,

July 11-14 is our High School Quo Vadis summer camp for boys. We have changed the venue to Camp Shiloh in Hewitt, NJ. This will provide fun activities like rock climbing, hiking, swimming, volleyball, basketball, etc., in addition to prayer, fellowship, and witness.

Please consider encouraging your son to attend our annual Quo Vadis summer camp in July, it is free! It is a great opportunity to have fun with your friends, play sports, share meals, grow in your faith, and continue to process where God may be calling you in your life.

This is a great opportunity for young men to have fun with their friends and develop the tools to be able to think/pray about where God may be calling them in their life, particularly major life decisions, like college choices, career paths, etc. Please register ASAP.

Quo Vadis 2023 <https://diometuchen.org/quovadis>



“SAVE THE DATE”!

The Senior Ministry & St. Martin DePorres Society will be hosting a trip to Lancaster, PA to see:

SIGHT & SOUND

“DANIEL LIVE ON STAGE”

Saturday, April 20, 2024

More details to follow...



Learn

School Advisory Council is Looking for New Members



The School Advisor Council (SAC) is looking for new members. St. Matthias Parish members, who would want to contribute some of their time and expertise to help advise the Pastor and the Principal in making

St. Matthias School better today, and well prepared for the future, are welcome. The individuals could be past, or current SMS parents or grandparents, who care deeply about the elementary and middle school Catholic education. Experience in education, finance, accounting, technology, engineering, property management, healthcare, procurement, or human resources is welcome.

The council generally meets once a month (6-7 times a year), in person and/or via zoom. The principal, the vice-principal and the pastor report on the current status and challenges. The council discusses the current issues and the

ways to position the school in a better place for the future. The topics like academics, marketing, enrollment, technology and grounds improvements, giving (Tuition Angels, The Annual Fund) and others are discussed. The council member term is 3 years. As we currently have a few members close to the end of their term, we are looking to fill multiple positions.

Interested individuals can contact current interim chair Peter Kostik (peter.kostik@gmail.com) who will then present the candidates to Fr. Abraham and Principal Mrs. Lynch for approval. If you feel, you would be a good contributor, please pray about it, and reach out to us, as we strive to be a diverse team of advisors (in culture and experience) who use their time and talent to assist the school administration in making SMS the best it can be.

SAC website - <https://stmatthias.info/school-advisory-council>

Learn



BEFORE and AFTER SCHOOL DIRECTOR POSITION AVAILABLE

Saint Matthias School is looking for a director for our before and after school program for the 2022-2023 school year. This is a part-time position for an individual who enjoys working with children and who has some managerial experience.

The hours are 2:00-6:00, Monday to Friday. If you are interested, please phone the school at 732-828-1402, extension 144 or send an email to mlynch@stmatthiasnj.org.

Part-Time General Maintenance Person

St. Matthias is looking for a **part-time general maintenance person**. This employee will be responsible for maintaining the safety and cleanliness of the church/school.



Please contact **Mary Pat Burke-Grospin** at: mpburke-grospin@stmatthias.net or (732) 828-1400 ext.121.

Give (and Receive!)

Stewardship Reflection June 25, 2023 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"... whoever does not take up his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me." (Matthew 10:38)

Pope Benedict XVI said, "The world offers you comfort. But you were not made for comfort, you were made for greatness." "Comfort" puts me first. "Picking up your cross and following Jesus" puts God and others first. Why settle for comfort when you can achieve greatness! Pick up your cross, ask Jesus for guidance on using your gifts and live the life God intended for you!

Reflexiónese 25 de junio de 2023 12º domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

"... el que no toma su cruz y me sigue no es digno de mí " (MATEO 10:38)

El Papa Benedicto XVI dijo: "El mundo te ofrece consuelo. Pero no fuiste hecho para la comodidad, fuiste hecho para la grandeza". La comodidad me pone a mí de primero. " Recoger tu cruz y seguir a Jesús " pone a Dios y a los demás primero. ¡Por qué conformarse con la comodidad cuando puede alcanzar la grandeza! ¡Levanta tu cruz, pídele a Jesús que te guíe en el uso de sus dones y vive la vida que Dios planeó para ti!

| Stewardship Totals for Fiscal Year July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023 | | | | Last Year's Total |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|---------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Current Month | In-Pew/Mail | Parish Giving | Weekly Total | Weekly Total |
| Week 49 - June 4, 2023 | \$9,285.00 | \$14,255.25 | \$23,540.25 | \$36,320.75 |
| Week 50 - June 11, 2023 | \$9,270.00 | \$25,348.75 | \$34,618.75 | \$29,165.25 |
| Week 51 - June 18, 2023 | \$10,173.00 | \$12,108.25 | \$22,281.25 | |
| Week 52 - June 25, 2023 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | |
| | | | Month-to-date Total | June Total Last Yr |
| | | | \$80,440.25 | \$65,486.00 |
| Building R & R Collection: \$2,304.00 | | | Current Year-to- | Year-to-date as of |
| | | | \$1,374,760.48 | \$1,322,499.06 |

Youth & Young Adults



Survey for Adults interested in supporting St. Matthias Youth Ministry

SMYLE provides a safe space for our teens for self-expression and to find their purpose while developing an authentic relationship with God, others, and self. SMYLE provides Social, Service, Spiritual, and Religious opportunities/events where teens can form a community with people who can bring joy, create new possibilities, and spark new adventures or friendships!

Our teens in Junior High and High School (grades 6 – 12) have completed surveys highlighting their interests and concerns during these challenging times. This Adult (21+) survey is an attempt to match their responses with your skills and gifts. Please help St. Matthias to create a variety of different opportunities for our youth, by sharing your time & talent in areas of interest/need identified by our youth.

There are many direct, and also very helpful indirect ways, for adults to minister either to, for, or with our youth. Whatever you're passionate about doing which gives you meaning and purpose – either professionally or as a hobby – it might be something a teen would be curious to further explore with your guidance.

We can only do more as we gain more support – so please pray and also encourage others to participate!

If you don't have time to answer these questions but would like to chat with us, just provide your contact info, scroll to the bottom of the second page and click → Submit.

Thanks for prayerfully considering being a part of a ministry where you're capable of greatness!

To fill out the survey please visit: <https://stmatthias.net/SupportSMYLE>

Parish Leadership

Parish Pastoral Council:

Co-Chairs:

Rose Peng, rosepeng@optonline.net
John Taylor, jptaylor1068@yahoo.com

Co-Secretaries:

Frank Rees
Marilyn Wegg
Stephan Busono
Anne Marie Francis
Bill Isele

Msgr. Seamus Brennen,
Ex-Officio
Fr. Abraham, Ex-Officio

Trustees:

Pearl Scott
Marge Richards

Parish Finance Council:

Kester Hector, Chair
FinanceCouncil@stmatthias.net
Carmen Driz-Melilli
Barry Dusault
Gwen Orłowski

Audrey Francis
Joe Porter
Joan Pritchard
Mary Pat Burke-Grospin,
Ex-Officio
Fr. Abraham, Ex-Officio

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

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

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

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

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



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



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