



#### 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](http://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](https://youtube.com/c/StMatthiasSomersetNJ)

#### St. Matthias School (SMS):

170 JFK Blvd., Somerset, NJ 08873  
[www.stmatthias.info](http://www.stmatthias.info) 732-828-1402  
School Office Hours,  
Monday-Friday 7:45AM to 3:30PM

For all Parish emails, add @stmatthias.net

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

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, JUNE 15, 2025

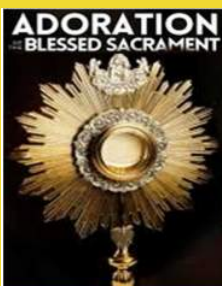
#### The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity Sunday



## Happy Father's Day



*"I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty."*  
~ 2 Corinthians 6:18



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

OUR NEXT ADORATION WILL BE  
JUNE 16, 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](https://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, June 15, 2025** **Most Holy Trinity Sunday**  
**FATHER'S DAY**

|         |            |        |
|---------|------------|--------|
| 8:00AM  | Mass       | Church |
| 10:00AM | Mass       | Church |
| 12:00PM | Mass       | Church |
| 4:00PM  | FASSM Mass | Church |

**Monday, June 16, 2025** **St. John Francis Regis, Priest**

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

**Tuesday, June 17, 2025** **St. Emily De Vialar, Virgin & Founder**

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

**Wednesday, June 18, 2025** **St. Marcus & Marcellian, Martyrs**

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

**Thursday, June 19, 2025** **St. Juliana Falconieri, Virgin & Foundress**

|        |              |        |
|--------|--------------|--------|
| 8:00AM | Mass         | Church |
| 1:00PM | Prayer Shawl | Church |

**Friday, June 20, 2025** **St. Silverius, Pope & Martyr**

|        |                          |           |
|--------|--------------------------|-----------|
| 8:00AM | Mass                     | Church    |
| 6:45PM | Boy Scout Troop 154 Mtg. | Cafeteria |

**Saturday, June 21, 2025** **St. Aloysius Gonzaga, Religious**

|         |                                       |               |
|---------|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| 9:30AM  | Secular Franciscan Mtg.               | de Porres Rm  |
| 11:30AM | Private Baptism                       | Church        |
| 1:00PM  | Quinceañera                           | Church        |
| 3:30PM  | Reconciliation                        | Church        |
| 5:00PM  | Sunday Vigil Mass —Body of Christ     | Church        |
| 6:00PM  | Eucharistic Procession Following Mass | Around Campus |

**Sunday, June 22, 2025** **The Most Holy**  
**BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST**

|         |                    |              |
|---------|--------------------|--------------|
| 8:00AM  | Mass               | Church       |
| 10:00AM | Mass (Interpreter) | Church       |
| 11:00AM | OCIA               | de Porres Rm |
| 12:00PM | Mass               | Church       |
| 1:20PM  | 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](mailto:bulletin@stmatthias.net) by **9 AM, MONDAY, 5 business days before the needed bulletin date** (earlier for holiday weekends). Approved content is published on a space-available basis.

Dear Friends,

Happy Father's Day to all fathers and grandfathers. Coming a month after Mother's Day, it is only natural for some to compare these two wonderful events. You may have heard the response of a child when asked to describe Father's Day: "Father's Day is like Mother's Day, except the gift is cheaper." ☺ If that is true, then it is a sad truth, because it is not easy being a dad. There are many fine Dads in our congregation, and we want to honor them today. Many fathers are role models like St. Thomas More and St. Louis Martin (father of the Little Flower), heroes of our Faith.

Even in these days when mothers are doing so much for the family, fathers are expected to be the providers for, and the protectors of, the family. They are also supposed to be attuned emotionally and spiritually to their wives and children and to be able to balance careers with family life. Fathers struggle to overcome temptation and conflict. They make sacrifices day after day for their families. They try to give their youngsters the kind of model that surely they deserve above all else, a model of goodness, holiness, faith, trust in God and fidelity to the teachings of the Church. This is what Father's Day should remind us of. This is a time for all fathers to reflect upon their duties as responsible and well-integrated men. True fatherhood demands commitment. Commitment demands maturity, sacrifice, and love. Fatherhood also demands responsibility. Every true father will take responsibility for all of his actions. Our nation has an urgent need for good fathers.

But while the idea of fatherhood is a good one, the reality we see on earth is sometimes quite different. Some fathers abandon their children, beat them, ridicule or ignore them, abuse them and damage them psychologically for life. Even good fathers have their limits. Unfortunately, we unduly sentimentalize fatherhood, the media often ridicule and make fun of it and some treat it with contempt. We are reminded time after time of the number of children growing up fatherless because their fathers have abandoned them or their fathers have been unfaithful. This day is a reminder of what all the fathers should be.

Yet, the very term 'Father' is what we use both for earthly fathers and for our heavenly Father. A favorite gift for Father's Day is the cap emblazoned with the words "World's Greatest Dad." You may see more of them on the heads of proud fathers everywhere. There is one dad, however, who doesn't always get a lot of honor on Father's Day. That is the "World's Greatest Dad," OUR HEAVENLY FATHER (Rom. 8:15, Gal. 4:6).

William Wordsworth said: "Father! - to God himself we cannot give a holier name." God is our spiritual Daddy, actively involved in all areas of our lives. It is He on Whom we lean in times of pain and hurt; it is He on Whom we call in times of need; it is He Who provides for us in all ways – practical, emotional, and spiritual. He wants us to think of Him as "Dad." This being so, let us take this Father's Day to honor Him, the REAL "World's Greatest Dad." Many of us pray the "Our Father" day after day, without paying attention to, or experiencing, the love and providence of our Heavenly Father. Let us pray the Our Father always realizing the meaning of each clause and experiencing the love of our Heavenly Father for us. May all earthly fathers draw strength from their Heavenly Father!

Your brother in Christ,

Fr. Abraham Orapankal



## Readings for the Week

**Monday** 2 Cor 6:1-10 Ps 98:1, 2b, 3ab, 3cd-4  
Mt 5:38-42

**Tuesday** 2 Cor 8:1-9 Ps 146:2, 5-6ab, 6c-7, 8-9a  
Mt 5:43-48

**Wednesday** 2 Cor 9:6-11 Ps 112:1bc-2, 3-4, 9  
Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

**Thursday** 2 Cor 11:1-11 Ps 111:1b-2, 3-4, 7-8  
Mt 6:7-15

**Friday** 2 Cor 11:18, 21-30 Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7  
Mt 6:19-23

**Saturday** 2 Cor 12:1-10 Ps 34:8-9, 10-11, 12-13  
Mt 6:24-34

**Sunday** Gen 14:18-20 Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4  
1 Cor 11:23-26 Lk 9:11b-17



**THE MOST HOLY  
TRINITY**

## Mass Intentions for the Week

|                        |          |  |
|------------------------|----------|--|
| <b>Sat., June 14</b>   | 5:00 PM  | William Kelleher by Pat Kelleher                                   |
| <b>Sun., June 15</b>   | 8:00 AM  | Tita Rahuyu Disposuhardjo and Erlina Liem<br>by Arie Sukendro      |
|                        | 10:00 AM | All Father's Living & Deceased                                     |
|                        | 12:00 PM | Intention of Parishioners  |
| <b>Mon., June 16</b>   | 8:00 AM  | Joan Leonard by Laurie & John Crowley                              |
| <b>Tues., June 17</b>  | 8:00 AM  | Al Maglio by Irene Nowakowski                                      |
| <b>Wed., June 18</b>   | 8:00 AM  | Emily & Frank Gatarz by Claire                                     |
| <b>Thurs., June 19</b> | 8:00 AM  | Anniversary Blessings for Karen & Patrick<br>by Anne Marie Francis |
| <b>Fri., June 20</b>   | 8:00 AM  | Health & Blessings for Ysabel Godet<br>by Mom & Grandmére          |
| <b>Sat., June 21</b>   | 5:00 PM  | Brother Efrem Eads by Cook & Eads Families                         |
| <b>Sun., June 22</b>   | 8:00 AM  | Harto Sukendro and Ratna Sintawati Raharoja<br>by Arie Sukendro    |
|                        | 10:00 AM | Al Maglio by Maglio Family   |
|                        | 12:00 PM | Onofre G. Garlitos Jr. by Nora & Paul Szabo                        |

## 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          | Sanora Doyen         | Jean Alix Jolly                 | Ann McElwee           | Amy Shepp                       |
| Beth, Jim & Jay Adams | Andrea Dubuisson     | Marie Claude Jolly              | Jessica Marie Merrick | Sr. Rosaria Shina, OSF          |
| Suzanne Adams         | Barry Dusault        | Donna Kahora                    | Gail Miranda          | Richard Sury                    |
| Sue Alese             | Hattie Evans         | Patty Kerekes                   | Catalina Moran        | Jacqueline Taylor               |
| Marie Arroyo          | Adam Figueriedo      | Betsy Kondrat                   | Orietta Morin         | Anita Vance                     |
| Robert Baker          | Margaret Ann Cichon  | Kim Krikorian                   | Sarah Braun Morini    | Minda Villarica                 |
| Edgar Banaag          | Ford                 | Kathy Langenbacher              | John Mulholland       | Gayle Vosseler                  |
| Carolyn Banghart      | Sharon Gadowski      | Rose Larangeira                 | Raoul Nuguid          | Eileen Weber                    |
| Ghislaine Baron       | Felicia Gelinas      | Linda Leone                     | Celia Palacio         | Nancy Whelan                    |
| Carmen Bender         | 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<br>Magat        | Kim Price             |                                 |
| Tara Capatosto        | Linda Hartong        | Bobby Manansala                 | Frank Rispoli         | <b>And for all who are ill,</b> |
| Rustico Castellano    | Jeff Hentz           | Susan, King & Tosh<br>Manansala | Gabriel Rivera        | <b>homebound, elderly,</b>      |
| Marty Collins         | Sloopy & JP Hoffman  | Colleen Maniscalco              | Bob Rotz              | <b>in nursing care, or</b>      |
| Pierre Celestin       | Marilyn Horvath      | Alexandra Marquez               | Marisa Ruppel         | <b>living with chronic</b>      |
| Lisa DeFeo            | Jerry & Donna Hucul  | Christine Matthews              | Gloria Santos         | <b>illness, we pray.</b>        |
| Derowitsch Family     | Nicole Cherill Hynes | Joan Mazzacco                   | Nick Schurko          |                                 |
| Patrick Dolphin       | Rafael Jara          |                                 | Maria Schwenzer       |                                 |
| Vivian Dong           | Marilyn Jensen       |                                 | Patricia Shea         |                                 |

## Pray for those who have died...

— “His mercy endures forever.” *Chronicles*



## Reflect



### Smile with Your Family



**Teacher (on phone):** You say Michael has a cold and can't come to school today? To whom am I speaking?

**Voice:** This is my father. 😊

**Max:** Why is a giraffe such a good father?

**Ed:** Why?

**Max:** Because he is someone you can look up to! 😊

One morning my neighbor's four-year-old asked him: "Why are you making Mommy breakfast? Is she sick?" "No, dear," replied her father, "it's Mother's Day." "Oh," she said, "then is every other day Father's Day?" 😊

**Dan:** I made a bad mistake today and gave my dad some soap flakes instead of corn flakes for breakfast.

**Jan:** Was he mad?

**Dan:** Yup. He was foaming at the mouth! 😊

**Teacher:** If you had \$5 and you asked your father for another 5, how many dollars would you have?

**Baylor:** Five. Teacher: You don't know your arithmetic.

**Baylor:** You don't know my father. 😊

**Dad:** Son, if you keep pulling my hair, you will have to get off my shoulders.

**Tiger Cub:** But, Dad, I'm just trying to get my gum back! 😊

The teacher asked little Johnny if he knew his numbers. "Yes," he said. "My father taught me."

"Good. What comes after three?" "Four," answered the boy.

"What comes after six?" "Seven." "Very good," said the teacher. "Your dad did a good job. And what comes after 10?"

"Jack." 😊

### Funny Father's Day quotes:

"When I was a boy of 14, my father was so ignorant, I could hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I got to be 21, I was astonished at how much the old man had learned in seven years." —*Mark Twain*

"Having a 2-year-old is like having a blender without a lid." —*Jerry Seinfeld*.

"Before I got married, I had six theories about raising children; now, I have six children and no theories." —*John Wilmot*

"I've been to war. I've raised twins. If I had a choice, I'd rather go to war." —*George W. Bush*



### Parenting Tune-Up

"The Spirit of truth will guide you to all truth." (John 16:13) We humans may be tempted to lie, or at least bend the truth, when we are afraid. Talk with your child about times when it might be hard to tell the truth. Perhaps share a time that was difficult for you.

### Marriage Tune-Up

How do you get your spouse to really talk? Try pulling out their high school yearbook, your wedding album, or family videos, and look at them together. Ask stuff like "What was your favorite memory?" or "What did you like most about that?"



### PRAYER TO THE HOLY TRINITY

**St. Francis Xavier's favorite prayer was:** "Most Holy Trinity, Who lives in me, I praise You, I worship You, I adore You, and I love You." Let the Son lead us to the Father through the Spirit, to live with the Triune God forever and ever. Amen.

### A SCIENTIST TESTIFIES TO TRINITY!

A good illustration of the Trinity comes from world-renowned scientist Dr. Henry Morris. He notes that the entire universe is Trinitarian by design. The universe consists of three things: matter, space, and time. Take away any one of those three, and the universe would cease to exist. But each one of those is itself a trinity. **Matter** = mass + energy + motion. **Space** = length + height + breadth. **Time** = past + present + future. Thus, the whole universe witnesses to the character of the God who made it (cf. Psalm 19:1).

## DO BAD THINGS ALWAYS COME IN THREES?



An old adage warns, “Bad things always come in threes.” Have you found this true in your own experience? That bad things (and good things) like to happen in a community, in bunches? You say: we invent this connection by suddenly realizing that we got a flat tire on the same day that a computer glitch devoured our hard drive, shortly after our last contact lens just slid down the drain. I say: there seems to be something significant about the power of three. Today, the Church celebrates the Triune God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—on this “Trinity Sunday,” affirming the truth that good things also come in threes. We recognize God as Power (the Father), God as Person (the Son), and God as Presence (the Holy Spirit).

### “TRINITY” IS NOT IN THE BIBLE, BUT ...

**True, the term “Trinity is not in the Bible, but the doctrine of the Trinity is based fully in the Bible:**

- a) The Annunciation (Luke 1: 26-38), describes how God the Father sent the angel Gabriel to Mary to announce to her that God the Holy Spirit, would *“come upon” her, that “the power the Most High will overshadow” her, that the Son would be made flesh in her womb: “Therefore, the Child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God.”*
- b) During the baptism of Jesus (Matthew 3: 16-17), the Holy Spirit was shown descending on Jesus in the form of a Dove, while the Voice of God the Father was heard from the clouds, saying, *“You are My Beloved Son in Whom I am well pleased”* (Luke 4:22).
- c) John (Chapters 15 through 18) presents the detailed teaching of Jesus on the Persons of the Holy Trinity.
- d) In the preaching mission given by the risen Lord to the disciples, Jesus commanded them to baptize people *“in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”* (Confer also Matthew 28:19; John 10:30).

### “IF YOU DON’T PASS THE TEST, YOU HAVE TO BE THE DADDY..?”

A mother was out walking with her 4-year-old daughter. The child picked up something off the ground and started to put it into her mouth. The mother took it away and said, “Don’t do that!” “Why not?” asked the child. “Because it’s on the ground,” said her mother. “You don’t know where it’s been. It’s dirty, and it’s probably loaded with germs that could make you sick.” The child looked at her mother with total admiration and said, “Mommy, how do you know all this stuff? You’re so smart.” The mother said, “All Moms know this stuff. It’s on the Mom’s Test. You have to know it or they don’t let you be a Mom.” There was silence for a minute or so as the child thought this through. “Oh, I get it,” she said at last. “And if you don’t pass the test, you have to be the Daddy?” 😊

## THE FATHER’S BLESSING

Gary Smalley, popular author and psychologist, asked 100 people, “What is one specific way you knew that you had received your parents’ blessing?”

**Here are some of those answers:**

- 1. “My father would put his arm around me at church and let me lay my head on his shoulder.”
- 2. “When my father was facing being transferred at work, he purposely took another job so that I could finish my senior year in high school at the same school.”
- 3. “When I wrecked my parents’ car, my father’s first reaction was to hug me and let me cry instead of yelling at me.”
- 4. “When I was thirteen, my dad trusted me to use his favorite hunting rifle when I was invited to go hunting with a friend and his father.”
- 5. “My father went with me when I had to take back an ugly dress a saleswoman had talked me into buying.”
- 6. “My father would let me practice pitching to him for a long time when he got home from work.”
- 7. “Even though I had never seen him cry before, my father cried during my wedding because he was going to miss me no longer being at home.”

## AGGRESSIVELY SELFISH CHILD

A report some years ago, allegedly by the Minnesota Crime Commission, painted a dark picture of human nature indeed, particularly with regard to small children. I quote: “Every baby starts life as a little savage. He is completely selfish and self-centered. He wants what he wants when he wants it – his bottle, his mother’s attention, his playmate’s toy, his uncle’s watch. Deny him these once, and he seethes with rage and aggressiveness, which would be murderous were he not so helpless. He is, in fact, dirty. He has no morals, no knowledge, and no skills. This means that all children, not just certain children, are born delinquent. If permitted to continue in the self-centered world of his infancy, given free rein to his impulsive actions to satisfy his wants, every child would grow up a criminal a thief, a killer, or a rapist.” [Cited in R. Scott Richards, *Myths the World Taught Me* (Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1991), p. 39.] It is to transform this self-centered human nature into a selfless, God-centered one that the Second Person of the Holy Trinity took human form as described in today’s Gospel.

**We need to respect ourselves and respect others. Our conviction of the presence of the Triune God within us should help us to esteem ourselves as God’s holy dwelling place, to behave well in His holy presence, and to lead purer and holier lives, practicing acts of justice and charity. This Triune Presence should also encourage us to respect and honor others as “Temples of the Holy Spirit.”**

## TRINITY IS GOD WITHIN US

Today's feast invites us to live in the awareness of the presence of the Triune God within us: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The mystery of the Holy Trinity, a doctrine enunciated by the ecumenical councils of Nicaea and Constantinople, is one of the fundamental doctrines of Christianity and the greatest mystery of our Faith, namely, that there are Three Divine Persons, sharing the same Divine nature in one God. *"There is one God, Who has three Persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Each Person is God, yet there is still only one God"* (CCC #234, #253-256). We have the Father Who is the Creator, the Son the Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit the Sanctifier and the Counselor. The doctrine of Three Persons in one God, co-equal and co-eternal in Divinity, yet distinct in Person, is not explicitly spelled out in the Bible. Even the very word "Trinity" is not found in the Bible. But the doctrine of the Trinity underlies all major Christian feasts, including Christmas, the Epiphany, Good Friday, Easter, the Ascension, and Pentecost. All the official prayers of the Church, including the Holy Mass and the Sacraments, begin with an address to the Holy Trinity: *"In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."* We are baptized, absolved of our sins, and anointed in the name of the Blessed Trinity. Throughout the world, church bells can ring three times a day, inviting Christians to pray to God the Father (the Provider); God the Son (the Savior); and God the Holy Spirit (the Sanctifier), giving glory to the Triune God for the Incarnation of the Son and our Redemption. We bless ourselves with the Sign of the Cross, invoking the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and we conclude our prayers glorifying the Holy Trinity, saying *"Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit."* Today's readings convey the fundamental mystery that the Triune God reaches out to people with love, seeking the deepest communion with them.



### "I'M THE ONLY FATHER MY CHILDREN HAVE."

In 1985, Tim Burke saw his boyhood dream come true the day he was signed to pitch for the Montreal Expos. After four years in the minors, he was finally given a chance to play in the big leagues. And he quickly proved to be worth his salt, setting a record for the most relief appearances by a rookie player.

Along the way, however, Tim and his wife, Christine, adopted four children with very special needs: two daughters from South Korea, a handicapped son from Guatemala, and another son from Vietnam. All of the children were born with very serious illnesses or defects. Neither Tim nor Christine was prepared for the tremendous demands such a family would bring. With the grueling schedule of Major League Baseball, Tim was seldom around to help. So in 1993, only three months after signing a \$600,000 contract with the Cincinnati Reds, Tim Burke decided to retire from baseball.

When pressed by reporters to explain this decision, he simply said, "Baseball is going to do just fine without me. But I'm the only father my children have."

## GOD'S GARDEN IN BALTIMORE

*"... God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him." John 3: 16-18*

A group of high school students organized to clean up an abandoned park in a Baltimore neighborhood. They picked up trash, repaired fences, and converted old book-cases into raised gardening beds. They built up soil, dug holes, and carefully planted impatiens and coleus.

Some days, the kids became frustrated because the broken bottles, syringes, and wrappers that they had picked up would reappear. They felt their work was being disrespected. But they persisted - and as the months passed, the students saw their work grow exponentially. The flowers bloomed, and people donated additional plants and pitched in to help water them. A steady stream of people told the students they were glad that the little park hadn't remained abandoned.

The community leader who organized the students says, "Planting flowers goes against the culture of death and violence. It pushes back against the corrosive effects of much of everyday life . . . [The students] began to think about how they could improve the quality of the neighborhood where they live. They took pride in it." The team pursued beauty in the midst of neglect. They became aware of God's kingdom on that small patch of land.

**God is present in the persistent, hard work of these students, in the beauty of the flowers that reclaim the barren park, in the Spirit of cooperation of the neighborhood to maintain the park. In today's Gospel, Jesus challenges Nicodemus to move beyond old, incomplete and "childlike" images of God in order to grow toward a more complete, "adult" faith that recognizes the God who works and moves from his Spirit of unfathomable love; the God who constantly takes the initiative to be reconciled with us, despite our failings; the God who is not removed from his creation but constantly present in every act of love and compassion and forgiveness.**



## Learn



### CAMP INVENTION AT ST. MATTHIAS SCHOOL!

**JUNE 23-27, 2025 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM**



**Camp Invention®**

Thanks to rave reviews from campers, parents, and teachers, we're bringing **Camp Invention** back for its 8th year at St. Matthias School!

Even better, our 2025 program is full of all-new, hands-on STEM fun! Don't miss out — register students going into grades Kindergarten through 6th grade at [invent.org/camp](https://invent.org/camp) until camp starts.

**Register by May 15<sup>th</sup>** using **FUN15** to save \$15!

If you have multiple children use **SIBLOVE30** to save \$30 for 2 siblings and **SIBLOVE40** to save \$40 for 3 or more siblings!

**Contact Camp Director, Christine Taylor** at [ctaylor@stmatthiasnj.org](mailto:ctaylor@stmatthiasnj.org) for any questions.

For students 7th grade to 9th grade, you can register as Leaders-in-Training to help support the teachers at a discounted registration fee and for students 10th grade and up you can get 40 volunteer hours by registering and helping that week!



### 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](https://www.stmatthias.net/faith-formation)

## Connect

### ROME/ITALY, POLAND AND CZECH REPUBLIC

**SEPTEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup>-28<sup>TH</sup>**

This pilgrimage was planned before Fr. Tom Lanza was appointed to St. Matthias. The cost is reduced from its publicized cost of \$5299 to **\$4999 - a saving of \$300!**

R/T Airfare from Newark Int'l. Deluxe Hotels.

Daily Breakfast/ Dinner. Modern Coach. Guided Tours, Medical Travel Insurance & more.

**FR TOM LANZA, Tour Chaplain**

**QUESTIONS?** Call or email **JULIET HOBSON**

732-439-2835, [yetjcb@icloud.com](mailto:yetjcb@icloud.com)

The full brochure is on our parish website at this link:

[www.stmatthias.net/nativitypilgrimage](https://www.stmatthias.net/nativitypilgrimage)

JOIN **FR. TOM LANZA**  
PILGRIMAGE CHAPLAIN / SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

**Nativity Pilgrimage**

**14 DAYS — SEPT. 15-28, 2025**

**Jubilee Pilgrimage of Hope**  
HOLY YEAR 2025 — POLAND • CZECH REPUBLIC • ITALY

★ PLEASE RESERVE BY MAY 30, 2025!

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Pilgrimage Coordinator  
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Join us & let's celebrate the 2025 Jubilee!

**JULIET 2025**  
PILGRIMS OF HOPE



### 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](mailto:amarshall@diometuchen.org) or call 732-562-1543.

## Pray



### 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](mailto:mlanyi@stmatthias.net). Thank you.

### CATHOLIC UNDERSTANDING & BIBLICAL DEFENSE

Catholicism is rich with 2000 years of tradition, the sacraments, the Mass, the saints, and Scripture. And although about 25% of the bible is covered during the 3-year cycle of Mass readings, there's much more; and every story or message has layers of information waiting to be peeled away. Kind of like a spiritual-archeological dig!



- ◆ Did you know that Mary is the fulfillment of the Old Testament's Ark of the Covenant?
- ◆ Did you know that when Jesus cried out on the cross, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" he was fulfilling Psalm 22?

We spend one hour each week on select readings or topics.

No bible experience necessary.

No verbal participation required.

Zoom meeting every Tuesday, 7 pm - 8 pm (EST).

Join us at: [Meetup.com/CatholicBibleStudy](https://www.meetup.com/CatholicBibleStudy)

Ron Hallagan, Content Organizer/Presenter

Taylor Maley, Event Organizer, [taylor.hallagan@gmail.com](mailto:taylor.hallagan@gmail.com)



14 DAYS – SEPT. 15 - 28, 2025

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PILGRIMAGE CHAPLAIN / SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

**Jubilee Pilgrimage of Hope**  
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Join us & let's celebrate the 2025 Jubilee!

JUBILEE 2025  
PILGRIMS OF HOPE



**LIVE YOUR FAITH**  
**JOIN THE FAASM REVIVAL**  
*Filipino-American Association of St. Matthias*

Come join us celebrate our Philippine Independence on **Sunday, June 15th** from **4 pm - 7 pm** at **St. Matthias Church**.  
**Fr. Larrydom Magdasoc**, Parochial Vicar of St. Bernard Clairvaux, will be the celebrant.  
**Fellowship will follow in the cafeteria.**

**For more information contact:**  
Lorna JaoJaco at 732.619.9896  
Or  
Pam Yanogacio at 609.858.1342



# 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    | <b>\$20,180.75</b>                | \$19,798.18                             |
| Week 40 - June 8, 2025  | \$8,937.50  | \$25,105.00   | <b>\$34,042.50</b>                | \$37,850.00                             |
| Week 50 - June 15, 2025   |             |               | <b>\$0.00</b>                     | \$27,619.00                             |
| Week 51 - June 22, 2025   |             |               | <b>\$0.00</b>                     | \$23,455.50                             |
| Week 52 - June 29, 2025   |             |               | <b>\$0.00</b>                     | \$17,065.50                             |
|   |             |               | <b>Month-to-date Total</b>        | <b>June Total Last Year</b>             |
| <b>Catholic Communications Campaign: \$2,073.85</b>             |             |               | <b>\$54,223.25</b>                | \$125,788.18                            |
| <b>Building R &amp; R Collection: \$3,371.00</b>                |             |               | <b>Current Year-to-date Total</b> | <b>Year-to-date as of June 30, 2024</b> |
|   |             |               | <b>\$1,301,356.80</b>             | \$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 June 15, 2025 The Most Holy Trinity Sunday

**“But when he comes, the Spirit of truth, he will guide you to all truth...” (John 16:13)**

It has been said that the best gift we can give someone is to teach them how to pray. If you don't talk and more importantly, listen, to God every day, how else will you know what He is calling you to do? Just as you talk to family and friends every day, get in the habit of talking with God every day. Develop a daily prayer routine. Keep your prayers simple and sincere. This is best done in silence, when you can hear God's response.

### Reflexiónese – 15 de Junio de 2025 La Santísima Trinidad

**“Pero cuando Él venga, el Espíritu de verdad, los guiará a toda la verdad...” (Juan 16:13)**

Se ha dicho que el mejor regalo que podemos darte a alguien es enseñarle a rezar. Si usted no habla, y lo que es más importante, no escucha a Dios cada día, ¿de qué manera va a saber lo que Dios lo está llamando a hacer? Así como usted habla con su familia y amigos cada día, acostúmbrese a hablar con Dios diariamente. Desarrolle una rutina de oración diaria. Mantenga sus oraciones simples y sinceras. Es mejor hacerlo en silencio, de manera que pueda escuchar la respuesta de Dios.

## 2025 BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

### Theme: PILGRIMS OF HOPE: JOURNEYING TOGETHER IN FAITH, HOPE AND CHARITY

All our parishioners must have received a letter about the Annual Bishop's Annual Appeal. Parishes throughout the Diocese of Metuchen are given a specific amount to raise. The 2025 BAA goal for St. Matthias is \$175,000. Our parish has surpassed our pledge and has raised **\$177,214.97 (101.21%)** of this goal so far - thanks to the good will and generosity of our parishioners. The goal is for every family to participate. Every gift, no matter the size, is important and greatly appreciated. Together, we are keeping Christ's presence alive in the world today.

Thank you for actively participating in this mission by your financial support.



## Connecting to Our Local Community



### DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO THE NATIONAL SHRINE IN WASHINGTON D.C.

As announced, the Diocesan Pilgrimage to the National Shrine in Washington D.C. is on **September 20, 2025**. If there are many parishioners planning to join, we could hire a bus for us. A sign up genius has been set up on our parish website for those interested to sign up.

[www.stmatthias.net/jubilee-pilgrimage](http://www.stmatthias.net/jubilee-pilgrimage)

### 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](http://www.diometuchen.org/quovadis)



### SACRED TIME, SACRED SPACE

Wednesday, June 18 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.



### SILENT DIRECTED WEEK LONG RETREAT

Friday-Friday, June 20-27

Come away to an atmosphere of prayerful quiet. An experience of personal prayer based on scripture with daily spiritual direction. Both the House of Prayer and the grounds are available as you journey in and with God. Begins with light supper on Friday evening at 6pm and ends by 11AM on Friday. Proof of COVID vaccination is required at time of registration.

In Person Program.

Begins 6pm--\$700, \$100 deposit

## Parish Leadership

### Parish Pastoral Council:

#### Co-Chairs:

Stephen Busono  
[sbusono@gmail.com](mailto:sbusono@gmail.com)  
Bill Isele  
[t33sm@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto:@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](http://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 8<sup>th</sup> 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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