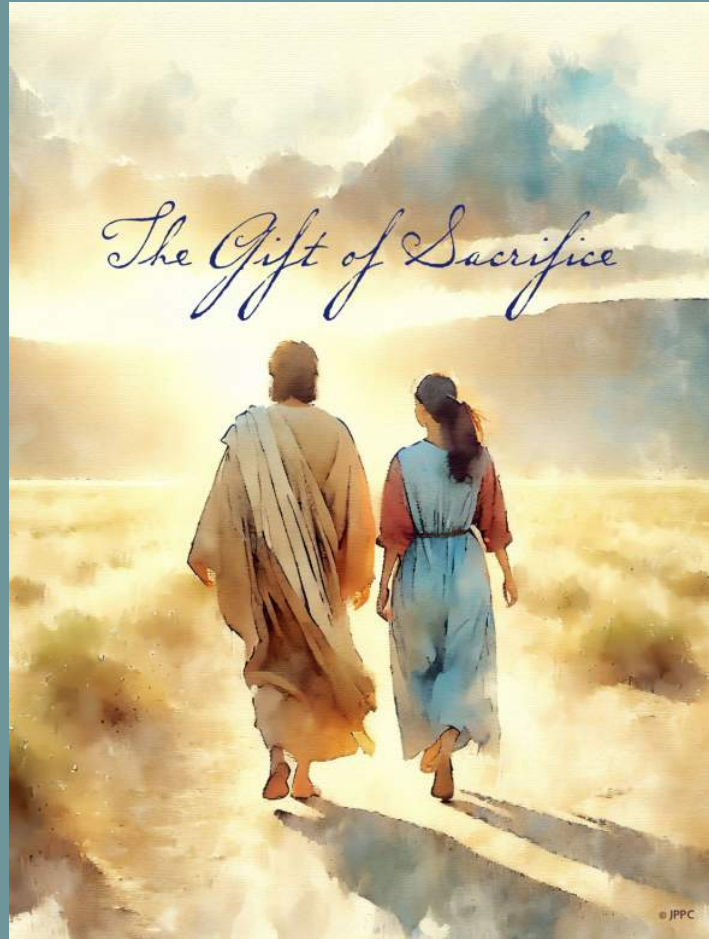




THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. MATTHIAS
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2024
 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time



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

St. Matthias School (SMS):

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

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

Leslie Guillen, **Bulletin Coordinator, lguillen**
 Amy Hanna, **Accountant/Databases, ahanna**
 Mike Lanyi, **Sacristan**

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 2025 Mass Book Will Be Opened
 Tomorrow, November 11th*

See page 7 for details regarding Mass Intentions



**PLEASE COME JOIN THE MANY WHO SPEND SOME
 QUIET TIME WITH THE EUCHARISTIC LORD.
 OUR NEXT ADORATION WILL BE MONDAY EVENING,
 NOVEMBER 11, 2024 FROM 6 PM TO 8 PM.
 WHEN THE DEACON IS AVAILABLE,
 WE CONCLUDE ADORATION WITH A BENEDICTION.**

Masses are also livestreamed on our YouTube channel: youtube.com/c/StMatthiasSomersetNJ

The Church is open for individual prayer

Mon-Fri: 7:30 am to dusk, Sat: 9 am to 6pm, and Sun: 7:30 am to 1 pm, unless another service is taking place.

Sunday, Nov 10, 2024

8:00AM	Mass	Church
10:00AM	First Reconciliation #2	Church
10:00AM	Mass /Feast of St. Martin DePorres	Church
11:00AM	RCIA	de Porres Rm & Ruiz Rm
12:00PM	Mass	Church
1:30PM	Baptisms	Church

VETERANS DAY

Monday, Nov 11, 2024 St. Martin of Tours, Bishop

8:00AM	Mass, Miraculous Medal Novena	Church
6:00PM	Eucharistic Adoration	Church
7:00PM	Cub Scout Pack 195 Meeting	Cafeteria

Tuesday, Nov 12, 2024 St. Josaphat Kuntsevych, Bishop & Martyr

8:00AM	Mass	Church
7:30PM	Handbell Rehearsal	Church

Wednesday, Nov 13 2024 St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, Religious & Foundress

8:00AM	Mass St. Joseph Novena	Church
9:30AM	Holy Spirit Prayer Group	de Porres Rm
2:00PM	Bereavement Gathering	de Porres Rm
7:00PM	Baptism Prep Session	Zoom
7:30PM	Folk Group rehearsal	Church

Thursday, Nov 14, 2024 St. Laurence O'Toole, Archbishop of Dublin

8:00AM	Mass	Church
3:30PM	Children's Choir, Grades 3 & 4	Church
4:00PM	Children's Choir Grades 5-8	Church
7:30PM	Adult Choir Rehearsal	Church

Friday, Nov 15, 2024 St. Albert the Great, Bishop & Doctor

8:00AM	Mass	Church
9:00AM	School Open House	School
6:45PM	Boy Scout Troop 154 mtg	Church

Saturday, Nov 16, 2024 St. Margaret of Scotland, Queen Consort of Scotland & St. Gertrude

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

Sunday, Nov 17, 2024

8:00AM	Mass	Church
10:00AM	First Reconciliation #2	Church
10:00AM	Mass	Church
11:00AM	RCIA	de Porres Rm & Ruiz Rm
12:00PM	Mass	Church
4:00PM	SMYLE Meeting	Cafeteria



Dear Friends,

This is Veterans Day weekend - an occasion to remind ourselves of the importance to honor all those who have risked life, limb and mind for our country. We bring all of these heroes and heroines in prayer to God at all the Masses this weekend. We also thank and pray for all the law enforcement officials who live and work tirelessly to keep us safe.

At our 10 am Mass today we honor St. Martin De Porres who is the patron of our Parish St. Martin De Porres Society. Martin was born in Lima, Peru. At fifteen he began his long relationship with the Dominican Order and later took his vows as a brother. His painful childhood taught him compassion and generosity. As a Dominican he doctored Lima's sick. While surgery was primitive in his day, he had a vast knowledge of herbal medicines. In addition to his free services as a doctor, he distributed thousands of dollars worth of food and clothing to the poor each week. He founded an orphanage for abandoned children and staffed it with the best teachers, nurses and guardians he could hire. On the hills near Lima, he planted fruit orchards for the poor. He is also remembered for his love of animals. Pope John XXIII remarked at Martin's canonization on May 6, 1962, that Martin excused the faults of others and forgave the bitterest injuries. He tried with all his might to redeem the guilty; lovingly comforting the sick and providing food, clothing and medicine for the poor.

This week there are a number of interesting saints in the liturgical calendar: St. Martin of Tours (Monday), St. Josaphat (Tuesday), St. Frances Xavier Cabrini (Wednesday), St. Albert the Great (Friday), and St. Margaret of Scotland & St. Gertrude (Saturday). Among these, St. Frances Xavier Cabrini – the first US citizen to be canonized - is of special importance to us. Many of us may have visited the Cabrini Shrine in Manhattan and seen her partially incorrupt body under glass.

Earlier this year, the movie 'Cabrini' was in theaters nationwide. For those of us who watched, it was a beautiful experience to know more about her life and legacy. Born in 1850, Cabrini nearly drowned as a child, her lungs were damaged, and she was rejected by several religious orders on the basis of ill health. Ultimately, she founded her own Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and added Xavier to her name, after the Jesuit saint Francis Xavier. Since her early childhood in Italy, Frances had wanted to be a missionary in China but, at the urging of Pope Leo XIII, Frances went west instead of east. She traveled with six sisters to New York City to work with the thousands of Italian immigrants living there.

She found disappointment and difficulties with every step. When she arrived in New York, the house intended to be her first orphanage in the United States was not available. The archbishop advised her to return to Italy. But Frances, truly a valiant woman, departed from the archbishop's residence all the more determined to establish that orphanage. And she did. In 35 years, Frances Xavier Cabrini founded 67 institutions dedicated to caring for the poor, the abandoned, the uneducated and the sick. She was canonized in 1946 by Pope Pius XII.

This daring woman's determination to follow God's will in her life with such dedication and compassion for the sick and poor is truly remarkable and inspirational.

Your brother in Christ,

Fr. Abraham Orapankal.

BULLETIN ARTICLE REQUESTS:

If you would like to send information to be included in our bulletin, please email it to bulletin@stmatthias.net by **9 AM, MONDAY, 5 business days before the needed bulletin date** (earlier for holiday weekends). Approved content is published on a space-available basis.

Readings for the Week

Monday Ti 1:1-9 Ps 24:1b-2, 3-4ab, 5-6
Lk 17:1-6

Tuesday Ti 2:1-8, 11-14 Ps 37:3-4, 18 and 23,
27 and 29 Lk 17:7-10

Wednesday Ti 3:1-7 Ps 23:1b-3a, 3bc-4, 5, 6
Lk 17:11-19

Thursday Phlm 7-20 Ps 146:7, 8-9A, 9BC-10
Lk 17:20-25

Friday 2 Jn 4-9 Ps 119:1, 2, 10, 11, 17, 18
Lk 17:26-37

Saturday 3 Jn 5-8 Ps 112:1-2, 3-4, 5-6
Lk 18:1-8

Sunday Dn 12:1-3 Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11
Heb 10:11-14, 18 Mk 13:24-32



Mass Intentions for the Week

Sat., November 9	5:00PM	Anna Moran by The Family Marty Shaw by Your Green Chair Friends
Sun., November 10	8:00AM	Rosemarie Gessner by Eugene & Maryann Gessner
	10:00AM	Intention of Parishioners
	12:00PM	Helen & Al Jago by The Finan Family Myrna H. Ignacio by Susan Tiongson
Mon., November 11	8:00AM	Lorraine Sabella by Espy & Violy
Tues., November 12	8:00AM	Benito & Genarda Capuno by The Capuno Family
Wed., November 13	8:00AM	Edwin Bartlett by William
Thurs., November 14	8:00AM	Steve C.M. King by Mom
Fri., November 15	8:00AM	Hubert & Rita Fowler by Teresa & Bruce Cuddeback
Sat., November 16	5:00PM	Gertrude & Lee Quinn by Maureen Quinn Mount Blessings for Claire Gatarz by Holy Spirit Prayer Group
Sun., November 17	8:00AM	Lena Sciotto by Jody Martielli
	10:00AM	Deceased Brothers of Knights of Columbus by Knights of Columbus
	12:00PM	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.

Sue Alese	Heinley Gaspard	Linda Leone	Sarah Braun Morini	Sr. Bernadine Marie
Edgar Banaag	Emma Gergely	Henrietta Lesiak	Robert Pellegrino	Stemnock
Carolyn Banghart	Claude Godet	John Litrakis	Robert Pierro	Richard Sury
Ghislaine Baron	Marie Godet	Mary Lou Litrakis	Robert Pietrowiak	Jacqueline Taylor
Samantha Bellouny	Shelly Greene	Aries Magali	Randolff Pinard	Anita Vance
Carmen Bender	Linda Hartong	Kenneth & Kelly Magat	Valerie Polci	Minda Villarica
Mary Bostrom	Jeff Hentz	Susan, King & Tosh	Kim Price	Eileen Weber
Tara Capatosto	Marilyn Horvath	Manansala	Frank Rispoli	Nancy Whelan
Rustico Castellano	Jerry & Donna Hucul	Colleen Maniscalco	Gabriel Rivera	Ginette Zamor
Sanora Doyen	Marilyn Jensen	Alexandra Marquez	Bob Rotz	Celia M. Zelinski
Andrea Dubuisson	Jean Alix Jolly	Christine Matthews	Marisa Ruppel	Anne Zando
Derowitsch Family	Donna Kahora	Ann McElwee	Maria Schwenzer	And for all who are ill,
Hattie Evans	Betsy Kondrat	Jessica Marie Merrick	Amy Shepp	homebound, elderly,
Margaret Ann Cichon	Kim Krikorian	Gail Miranda	Sr. Rosaria Shina, OSF	in nursing care, or
Ford	Kathy Langenbacher	Menchie Molano-	Timothy Siclari	living with chronic
Sharon Gadomski	Rose Larangeira	Sotelo	Catherine Steele	illness, we pray.

Pray for those who have died...

— “His mercy endures forever.” Chronicles

Reflect



Smile with Your Family



Senior moments and thoughts:

Old age is coming at a really bad time. 😊

Why do I have to press one for English when you're just going to transfer me to someone I can't understand anyway? 😊

Now, I'm wondering... did I send this to you, did you send it to me, or have I only sent it to myself? 😊

You don't need anger management. You need people to stop irritating you. 😊

Does anyone else have a plastic bag full of plastic bags, or is it just me? 😊

"On time" is when you get there. 😊

It would be wonderful if we could put ourselves in the dryer for ten minutes, then come out wrinkle-free... and three sizes smaller. 😊

I hate it when I can't figure out how to operate the iPad and my tech support guy is asleep. He's 6 and it's past his bedtime. 😊

A colleague once told how "a certain woman phoned her personal banker to arrange for the disposal of a \$1,000 bond. The voice on the phone asked for clarification, "Is the bond for conversion or redemption?" The confused woman paused and then inquired, "Am I talking to the bank or the church?" 😊



Parenting Tune-Up

November is National Adoption Awareness Month. Does your family know anyone who is adopted? Be a friend to them. Especially hold in your heart children in foster care who might be awaiting adoption.

Marriage Tune-Up

Think of creative acts of love to surprise each other. For example: Wives try giving him an unsolicited back rub and let nature take its course. Husbands perhaps slip a little love note into her wallet. Or, think up your own ideas.



A Pearl of Wisdom For This Week

So why is a car's windshield so large and the rear view mirror so small? Because our past is not as important as our future. So, look ahead and move on. Look at life through the windshield, not through the rear view mirror.

POOREST STATE IS MOST CHARITABLE!

An interesting study appeared on page 17 in the January 13, 2003, issue of Time magazine. It was a study ranking each of the 50 states' personal income levels as compared to their rate of charitable giving. The results were surprising. Massachusetts, with the fourth highest personal income in the country ranked last in charitable contributions. The citizens of New Hampshire ranked 6th overall in average personal income, but ranked 45th in the percentage of their income given to charitable causes. On the other end of the spectrum, the citizens of Mississippi ranked 49th in average personal income, the second poorest state in the nation. Yet, Mississippians ranked 6th in the nation in their percentage of charitable giving. It also ranked first in actual dollars contributed. Mississippi, forty-ninth in income, Mississippians gave, on average, about forty percent more to charity than did their Yankee cousins! The more you have, the less you give. What that reflects is your values. Converted to percentage of income contributed to charity, the disparity was even greater. Another fact emerged: Wealthy people tend to give more to secular charities than to religious institutions. Poorer families give mostly to religious institutions and their social ministries. What's going on? Are lower income families more generous or more religious? Do rich people see more direct benefit to their well-being from museums, colleges, or concerts than from worship, outreach, and fellowship at their churches?

DV8 KITCHEN, “LIFE CHANGING FOOD!”

“Beware of the scribes, who like to go around in long robes and accept greetings in the marketplaces, seats of honor in synagogues, and places of honor at banquets . . . “This poor widow put in more than all the other contributors to the treasury. For they have all contributed from their surplus wealth, but she, from her poverty . . . ” Mark 12: 38-44

If you're ever in Lexington, Kentucky, stop by DV8 Kitchen. The food is great, especially the cinnamon rolls. But there's more to the place than the menu. Owners Rob and Diane Perez opened the restaurant last fall, but with a specific mission as well as cuisine in mind. Five years ago, at another pub they owned, they found a spoon and ramekin in the trash and realized that their top server was doing heroin in the bathroom. They had already lost their first manager to drugs; she died in jail. A year ago they got a call that a cook would not be coming into work because he had overdosed on opioids; he later died, as well.

The Perezes put the pieces together: they had lost 13 employees in 10 years to addiction – and half the cases were related to opioid drugs. That led the couple to open DV8 Kitchen. The restaurant not only hires people in treatment for addiction to opioids and other substances, but also created its business model around recovery, using the restaurant setting as a tool for rehabilitation. The restaurant culture has long been steeped in alcohol and drugs: many places offer free shift drinks, and servers earn tips in cash, the common medium for drug transactions. Rob Perez knows that all too well — he began working in the business when he was 19 and struggled with alcohol addiction for a decade; he's been sober since 1990. But Rob and Diane also see a restaurant's unusual potential for helping the addicted recover. Cooking, in particular, is “100 percent therapy,” Rob believes.

DV8 Kitchen is one of four restaurants the Perezes own. They pay 20 percent more per hour than many local-fast food chains. In turn, employees are held to exacting standards. There is no bar. Management maintains a zero-tolerance policy for tardiness. Tips are pooled, then added directly to paychecks, so no cash is exchanged. The couple also hires from and works directly with treatment centers, adding an additional level of accountability for employees. The restaurant is limited to breakfast and lunch, so employees can attend support meetings at night. After a slow start, DV8 has found its niche in the Lexington restaurant scene — and in the rehab community. One employee, Dan, has been addicted to pain medications since he was 14; he's now 30. He struggled for years to hold

down a full-time job. DV8 has made him care again. “In the darkest part of my addiction, I isolated myself. Here, if you withdraw, the guests will notice you aren't bringing their food or asking how they're doing. Your co-workers will notice if you don't have a smile on your face . . . here [I] don't have to hide [my] past — everything is out in the open.”

What makes the restaurant work is that everyone wants to turn their lives around and everyone — cooks, servers, dish washers, bussers, owners — hold each other accountable. “We are not certified experts on this, nor do we claim to be,” the Perezes point out. “We are just providing the piece of the puzzle that is giving people a job right away when they are getting clean.” The inscription on the back of the DV8 Kitchen's staff shirts says it all: “Life changing food.”

DV8 Kitchen's success is rooted in the humility that Jesus speaks of in today's Gospel. Employees are forced to put aside their “robes” of isolation, their arrogance that deceives them into denying their problem, their pride that deludes them into thinking that they can beat their addiction on their own. They find “honor” in admitting their problem to themselves and to one another and calling each other accountable for their recovery. The kingdom of God is realized only in our embracing this idea of servanthood that is central to Jesus' Gospel: servant-hood centered in respect for every one as sons and daughters of God; servanthood that finds fulfillment and satisfaction in the love, compassion and kindness we can extend to others; servanthood that enables us to place the common good and the struggles of others above our own wants and narrow interests. The faithful disciple honors the dignity of the servant above the power of the elite; to follow Jesus is to realize our need for one another and their need for us.

THE PARADOX OF OUR TIMES!

The paradox of our times is that we spend more, but have less; we buy more, but enjoy it less. We have bigger houses and smaller families; more conveniences, but less time; more medicine, but less wellness. We read too little, watch TV too much and pray too seldom. We have multiplied our possessions, but reduced our values. These are the times of tall men, and short character; steep profits, and shallow relationships. These are the days of two incomes, but more divorce; of fancier houses, but more broken homes. We've learned how to make a living, but not a life; we've added years to life, not life to years; we've cleaned up the air, but polluted the soul.

A WIDOW'S MITE IN THE LIFE OF ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON



By birth and marriage, Mother Elizabeth Ann Seton was linked to the first families of New York and enjoyed the fruits of living in high society. Reared a staunch Episcopalian by her mother and stepmother, she learned the value of prayer, Scripture reading and a nightly examination of conscience. At 19, Elizabeth was

the belle of New York. She married a handsome, wealthy businessman, William Magee Seton. They had five children before his business failed, and William died of tuberculosis. At 30, Elizabeth found herself widowed and penniless, with five small children to support.

While in Italy with her dying husband, Elizabeth had witnessed the Catholic Church in action, through the lives, beliefs and behavior of family friends. Three basic elements in Catholicism led her to become a Catholic in March, 1805: a belief in the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist, a devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary as Mother of God, and a conviction that the Catholic Church traced its origin and priesthood in a direct line back to the apostles and to Christ. When Elizabeth returned to the U. S., many of her family and friends rejected her because she had become a Catholic. To support her children, she opened a school in Baltimore with the cooperation of some of her friends. From the beginning, her group was organized along the lines of the religious community which would only be founded officially in 1809.

Mother Seton became one of the keystones of the American Catholic Church. She founded the first American religious community for women, the Sisters of Charity. She opened the first American parish school and established the first American Catholic orphanage. All this she did in the span of 46 years while rearing her five children. She died on January 4, 1821, and was buried in Emmitsburg, Maryland. In 1963, Mother Seton was beatified, the first American-born citizen to receive this honor. She was canonized in 1975. Elizabeth Ann Seton was a real widow who offered her mite to God without reservation as the poor widow in today's gospel did.

A SENIOR CITIZEN'S MITE!

Evie Rosen, 69, of Wausau, Wisconsin, is no doubt busy right now, knitting afghans. The reason: Winter is almost upon us, and someone is going to need a blanket. Evie is a retired needlework shop owner. Disheartened by news stories about the homeless, Rosen wanted to do something to help. "Almost every home has little balls of yarn. I thought if we could all knit 7-inch by 9-inch rectangles, we could stitch them together and make a lot of afghans." She started Operation Warm Up America in 1992, getting the word out to churches, retirement homes and craft shops. Last year, with help from other organizations, the group distributed 16,000 afghans!

Evie Rosen's mite has might, and it's the might of love! In our seemingly prosperous society, widows and widowers, in addition to their deep grief, often suffer from economic loss from the burden of rearing a family alone and from a strange isolation from friends which often sets in soon after protestations of support at the funeral of their spouses. Let us learn to appreciate the widows and widowers of our parish community. Their loneliness draws them closer to God and to stewardship in the parish. They are often active participants in all the liturgical celebrations, offering prayers for their families and for their parish family. Frequently, they are active in the parish organizations, as well as in visiting and serving the sick and the shut-ins. Hence, let us appreciate them, support them, encourage them and pray for them.

TEENAGERS' MITE!

Norm and Lori Nickel of Abbotsford, British Columbia, wanted to offer their services as a family to help others. So, with four of their children, they took three weeks off in the summer last year to work with SOAR (Sold Out and Radical, Youth Mission International's teen program). They were placed in Reedley, California, where they worked with an organization called Community Youth Ministries that had been able to get into a Hispanic apartment complex housing 2,000 mostly illegal immigrants, 1,500 of whom were kids. They did Vacation Bible School, sports camps, drama and various other activities with the children. Lori says: "I could feel God working through our hands as we played with the children, our mouths as we verbally shared his love, and our eyes and ears as we saw and heard their hurts and pains. Just to think that God had set our family apart for three weeks so that he could convey his love and compassion to hurting people was life-changing for me."

Norm and Lori Nickel's mite has might, and it is the might of love! We often judge people by what they possess. We give weight to their position in society, to their educational qualifications, or to their celebrity status. But Jesus measures us in a totally different way on the basis of our inner motives and intentions hidden behind our actions. He evaluates us on the basis of the sacrifices we make for others and on the degree of our surrender to God's holy will. The offering God wants from us is not our material possessions, but our hearts and lives. What is hardest to give is ourselves in love and concern, because that gift costs us more than reaching for our purses.

Pray



RCIA

We are very happy to announce that a good group of adults and teens have registered for the new class for RCIA (now renamed as OCIA). But you might know someone, in your families or friendship circles, who has not received the Sacrament of Holy Communion or Confirmation. Kindly ask them to contact our RCIA Coordinators:

Anne Marie Francis at alfrancis.30@gmail.com or Mary Frances Reavey at mfreavey@gmail.com

We are making it easy for all to attend these sessions by meeting on Sundays after the 10 am Mass. These sessions are conducted not in a lecture or class model but as a faith-sharing group that is truly fun to learn and have good support in the faith journey.



ST. MATTHIAS 2025 MASS INTENTIONS GUIDELINES

Mass Intentions: It is an ancient and noble practice to pray for the living and the dead during Mass. The greatest and most powerful prayer we have is the Mass, since the fruits of the Mass are the very fruits of Jesus' redemption made present to us. Therefore, so many of us seek to book a Mass intention for our loved ones, living or deceased.

A Mass intention may be requested for: a deceased loved one; a living person who is sick or suffering; a living person who is celebrating a birthday, anniversary or other special moment in their life; in thanksgiving to God (including the Lord Jesus or the Holy Spirit); in thanksgiving for a favor received through the intercession of a Blessed or a Saint; or for a prayer intention (so long as the intention does not contradict Church teaching).

Opening of our Book of Mass Intentions. Our 2025 Book of Mass Intentions will be opened on Monday, November 11, 2024, 8:30 AM in the Parish Office. To accommodate all our parishioners, we will continue the limit of four (4) Masses, that is, two (2) weekday Masses and a maximum of two (2) Weekend Masses. You can return on or after December 10 for additional Mass requests. It is good for us all to know of the different kinds of Mass intentions:

- 1) Announced Weekday Mass Intentions:** The suggested stipend for weekday Mass remains the same: \$10.00. The intention will be printed in the bulletin and announced during Mass. Please be sure to indicate if the person for whom the Mass requested is living (L) or deceased (D).
- 2) Announced Weekend Mass Intentions:** The suggested stipend for Weekend Mass is \$15.00. The intention will be printed in the bulletin and announced at Mass. Please be sure to indicate if the person for whom the Mass requested is living (L) or deceased (D).
- 3) Multiple Intentions:** With increasing requests for additional Mass intentions during unforeseen special occasions such as death, month's mind, etc., it is a pastoral practice to better accommodate such needs of our parishioners by allowing additional intentions with the existing intention for the Mass. In such cases, we will be accepting only one additional intention, which will be announced in the Universal Prayers (Prayers of the Faithful) but not necessarily in the bulletin. Please know that the stipend for this additional intention (\$10 for weekdays and \$15 for Weekends) will be sent to the Mission Office of our Diocese or to missionary priests.
- 4) Unannounced Mass Intentions:** There will be no limit on unannounced Mass requests. These Masses are available at any time and are sent either to the Office of Missions of the Diocese of Metuchen or to missionary priests. The suggested stipend remains the same: \$10.00.
- 5) Mass for the People (Missa Pro Populo):** One Sunday Mass per weekend is offered for the intention of the living and deceased parishioners of St. Matthias.

Serve

SMYLE will be collecting the following items for the Franklin Food Bank after all Masses on November 16th and 17th.



- Cereal
- Rice
- Pasta
- Canned Chicken
- Canned Tuna

SMYLE Members will be at the doors of the church after all Masses.



ST. MATTHIAS AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM WORKERS NEEDED



St. Matthias School is in need of workers for our After School Program.

The hours are 2:30PM-6:00PM.

Please email **Mary Lynch**, mlynch@stmatthiasnj.org & **Tesh Barr**, tbarr@stmatthiasnj.org or call 732-828-1402 for more information.



ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP MEETS ON ZOOM, ON NOVEMBER 13TH AT 2 PM

The Alzheimer's Association and St. Matthias Catholic Church are co-hosting a monthly Support Group for individuals living with Alzheimer's or Dementia, their care partners, and others dealing with the disease. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, November 13th, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Zoom. To register, call 800-272-3900 and mention the St. Matthias group. For more information, visit alz.org/NJ.

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING (HELD ON 10/29/2024)

We began the meeting with the Lectio Divina gospel sharing followed by reflection on the Shared Wisdom model. These were the significant matters we discussed:

- * Appreciated the half-day of Reflection for Ministries and for All; the presentation by Fr. Hank Hilton was well received; and the ninety people in attendance was very remarkable.
- * Suggestions in the suggestion box: though there was only one suggestion, we discussed how many practical suggestions were already implemented.
- * There has been a wide-spread acceptance and appreciation of the updated Media-project. The screen in the church made a huge difference in the quality of prayerful participation in the Mass. The Live-streaming for Masses has averaged 120, showing a greater number of live-stream audience.
- * Members suggested that we priests should remind the parishioners that Live-streaming for the sake of the homebound or for those who are away from the parish and that all must make every effort to attend the church in person.
- * Silence in Church before Mass: Appreciated our Music Ministers for their goodwill to have the silent time for prayerfulness before the Holy Mass as they continue to help us pray better through sacred music.
- * The great Jubilee Year 2025 begins with the opening of the Holy Door in the Vatican by Pope Francis on Christmas Eve, December 24, 2024. Long-time parishioners remembered that in 2000, the last Great Jubilee Year, entry to our Church was only through the main door in the front as all the other doors were closed for the whole year. The Diocese will send us guidelines to keep the Holy Year in every parish.
- * The members were concerned that the area around the two big Donation Boxes of Catholic Charities in our property (at the exit to the Overbrook Road) was used by some to dump discarded items. We hope the new sign added there will prevent such acts.

We adjourned the meeting with the closing prayer.

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 18 - November 3, 2024	\$112,037.75	13,838.50	\$125,876.25	\$29,108.25
Week 19 - November 10, 2024			\$0.00	\$37,628.89
Week 20 - November 17, 2024			\$0.00	\$21,887.75
Week 21 - November 24, 2024			\$0.00	\$18,307.25
			Month-to-date Total	November Total Last Year
All Saints Collection: \$2,037.00			\$125,876.25	\$106,932.14
			Current Year-to-date Total	Year-to-date as of November 30, 2023
			\$531,781.71	\$451,496.67

Stewardship Reflection November 10 , 2024 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

“I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all the other contributors to the treasury. For they all contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, her whole living.” (MARK 12:43-44)

Jesus gets right to the point – we are all called to give money to support the mission of the Church, regardless of our circumstance. No gift is too small or insignificant! Giving money to support the mission of our local parish is a matter of our faith, just like praying and participating in parish ministries. When you make a financial offering, is it from your “first fruits” or from what is “left over”?

Reflexiónese – 10 de noviembre de 2024 Domingo 32º del Tiempo Ordinario

“Les digo la verdad: esa pobre viuda echó más que todos demás a la caja del tesoro del templo. Porque todos ellos dieron de lo que les sobraba, pero ella, que es tan pobre, dio todo lo que tenía para vivir.” (MARCOS 12:43-44)

Jesús llega justo al punto, todos somos llamados a dar dinero para apoyar la misión de la Iglesia, independientemente de nuestras circunstancias. ¡Ningún donativo es demasiado pequeño o insignificante! Dar dinero para apoyar la misión de nuestra parroquia local es un asunto de nuestra fe, así como lo es rezar y participar en los ministerios parroquiales. Cuando usted hace una ofrenda financiera, ¿es de sus “primeros frutos” o de lo que “le sobra”?



WE NEED YOUR HELP TO SPREAD THE LIGHT!



As our Spread The Light campaign grows closer please know, that there are still a number of trees that can be sponsored. To sponsor a tree, please go to www.stmatthias.net/trees, get a form in the back of church, or see a staff member in the parish office.

We will be in need of help on two Saturdays, November 23rd and the 30th. On the 23rd we will need help taking the trees off of the truck at delivery. The time has not yet been determined.

If you can help that day please email your phone number to Jo-Ann at mrspiag@aol.com, or Pat at fitpro436@gmail.com.

In that way we can call you as soon as we have a delivery time to avoid a wait at the church.

On the 30th, the Saturday after Thanksgiving, we need MANY volunteers to decorate the trees with lights. We start at 9AM and will need at least 40 people. Lots of you are veterans at this project but we could use some new faces. Many hands make quick work so please make every effort to join your fellow parishioners as we kick off this most joyous and sacred season as a family of St. Matthias!

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

www.stmatthias.net/trees

Connecting to Our Local Community

BLACK CATHOLIC GATHERING NOVEMBER 23, 2024

There will be a Diocesan Black Catholic Gathering on **Saturday, November 23, 2024** at the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, 146 Metlars Lane in Piscataway from 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon. This is a multi-ethnic committee of passionate Catholics, working to implement the Pastoral Plan of Action recommended by the National Black Catholic Congress last July. **To register visit: www.diometuchen.org/multiculturalministry**
For more information contact: mperez@diometuchen.org or deaconrickfortune@gmail.com

SmyleWithBraces teens with the Franklin Township Mental Health Stigma-Free Council invite you to:

OUR TURN TO TALK
 Documentary & Discussion
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2024
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM
 FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY SENIOR CENTER
 505 DEMOTT LANE | SOMERSET, NJ

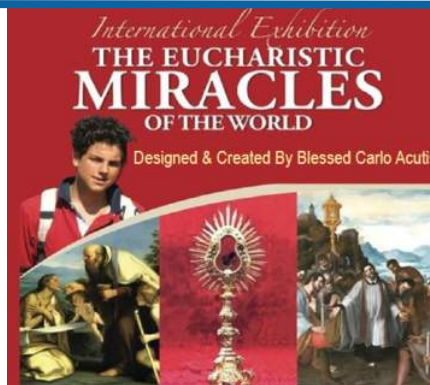
From skyrocketing rates of anxiety and depression to the impacts of racism, social media, and the pandemic, teenagers are putting an end to mental health stigma by telling their own powerful stories of struggles and triumph.

Teens, please join us for "Our Turn to Talk," a movie and candid conversation about critical topics in your life and the lives of those you love.

Storytelling **SAVES** Lives.
 DISCUSSION MODERATED BY SHEILA GILLIN, MSS, LCSW

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED. Pre-Registration appreciated, but not required at stigmfree@franklinnj.gov
 Name | E-mail | Phone Number

STUDENTS & ADULTS WELCOME. CONTENT IS APPROPRIATE FOR AGES MIDDLE SCHOOL AND ABOVE.



Eucharistic Miracles: when Science and Faith Meet Saturday & Sunday, November 9th & 10th, 2024

Carlo Acutis, beatified by Pope Francis in 2020, created a website which documented Eucharistic Miracles before his death at age 15! Come learn about this millennial's love for Jesus, venerate Carlo's relic and view the 154 exhibition Eucharistic miracle panels! Attend the presentation about his life at 3pm on Saturday November 9th too!

Open from 10:30 - 4:30 pm Saturday and 9 am - 2 pm Sunday.
 Presentation 3pm - Saturday, November 9th.

Our Lady of Peace Church (in the Parish Center)
 1740 US Highway 130, North Brunswick, NJ 08902

Parish Leadership

Parish Pastoral Council:	Co-Secretaries:	<i>Miles London</i>	Parish Finance Council:	
Co-Chairs: Stephen Busono sbusono@gmail.com Bill Isele t33sm@aol.com	Didi Molano Sheila Tartaglia Teresa Yannotta Joe Percoco	Fr. Lancelot McGrath, Fr. Abraham, Ex-Officio	Kester Hector, Chair Finance Council @stmatthias.net Carmen Driz-Melilli Barry Dusault Joan Pritchard	Mary Pat Burke-Grospin, Ex-Officio Fr. Abraham, Ex-Officio
		Trustees: Pearl Scott Marge Richards		

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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