



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 **lmcgrath**
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, **lg Guillen**
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**

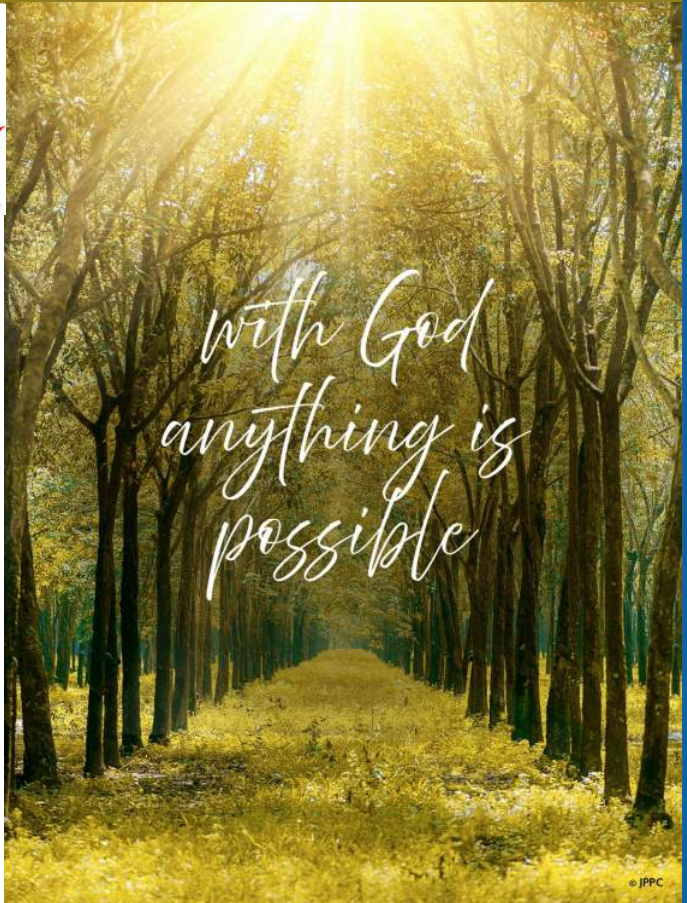
THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. MATTHIAS
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2024
28th Sunday in Ordinary Time



**FALL
INTO
FAITH
begins
next
week.**

**Have you
signed
up?**

See page 7
for details



**World
Mission Sunday**

**NEXT SUNDAY IS
WORLD MISSION SUNDAY.**
**THERE WILL BE A
SECOND COLLECTION.**

**Join Us for Morning Reflection With
Rev. Hank Hilton on
Saturday, October 26th at 9 AM.
All are welcome.**

Details on page 7



**PLEASE COME JOIN THE MANY WHO SPEND SOME
QUIET TIME WITH THE EUCHARISTIC LORD.
OUR NEXT ADORATION WILL BE MONDAY EVENING,
OCTOBER 21, 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, Oct 13, 2024 **Fall into Faith Begins**
 8:00AM Mass Church
 10:00AM 1st Reconciliation #1 Church
 10:00AM Mass Interpreter Church
 11:00AM RCIA Cafeteria
 12:00PM Mass Church

Monday, Oct 14, 2024 **St. Callistus, Pope & Martyr**
Columbus Day & Indigenous People's Day
School & Parish Office Closed
 8:00AM No Mass
 6:00PM No Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesday, Oct 15, 2024 **St. Teresa of Avila,**
1st Woman Doctor of the Church
 8:00AM Mass Church

Wednesday, Oct 16, 2024 **Margaret Mary Alacoque,**
Apostle of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
 8:00AM Mass St. Joseph Novena Church
 9:30AM Holy Spirit Prayer Group de Porres Rm
 2:00PM Bereavement Gathering de Porres Rm
 7:30PM Folk Group rehearsal Church

Thursday, Oct 17, 2024 **St. Ignatius of Antioch,**
Bishop & Martyr
 8:00AM Mass Church
 1:00PM Prayer Shawl Ministry Ruiz Rm
 3:30PM Children's Choir, Gr. 3&4 Church
 4:00PM Children's Choir Gr. 5-8 Church
 7:00PM Catholic Social Teaching John XXIII Rm
 7:30PM Adult Choir Rehearsal Church

Friday, Oct 18, 2024 **St. Luke, Evangelist**
School Staff Spirit Day
 8:00AM Mass Church

Saturday, Oct 19, 2024 **St. Paul of the Cross,**
Founder of the Passionists
World Mission Sunday Collection
 9:30AM Secular Franciscans de Porres Rm
 3:30PM Reconciliation Church
 5:00PM Vigil Mass Church

Sunday, Oct 20, 2024
World Mission Sunday Collection
 8:00AM Mass Church
 10:00AM Mass Church
 11:00AM RCIA Cafeteria
 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 **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,

After reading about the Shrine of Our Lady of Knock in my column last Sunday, a couple of you told me that you were curious to read about the Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham which was something unheard of. Yes, that was true for almost all of us in the pilgrimage. We never heard of this shrine that is very famous in the UK. It was established around 1061 when Richeldis de Faverches, a holy woman, prayed that she might undertake some special work in honor of Our Lady. Richeldis was not a visionary like the children in Lourdes and Fatima. She was a woman of faith, she pondered, meditated and prayed. In answer to her prayer, the Virgin Mary led her in spirit to Nazareth, showed her the House of the Annunciation where the Angel greeted Mary, and asked her to build a replica in Walsingham as a perpetual memorial of the Annunciation. This Holy House was built and a religious community took charge of the foundation.

Walsingham became a shrine, a place of pilgrimage and miracles. Many kings made pilgrimage there. This included Henry VIII, but after his break with the Church he turned against anything Catholic. In 1538, the Reformation caused the shrine property to be handed over to the King's Commissioners and the famous statue of Our Lady of Walsingham was taken away to London to be burnt and the shrine was destroyed. Walsingham ceased to be a public place of pilgrimage. Devotion was necessarily kept in secret until after Catholic Emancipation (1829) when public expressions of the Catholic Faith were allowed once more. In 1897, by rescript of Pope Leo XIII, the sanctuary of Our Lady of Walsingham was restored, with the building of a Holy House as the Lady Chapel of the Catholic Church of the Annunciation, at King's Lynn.

We were able to visit and pray in the "Slipper Chapel" where the statue of Our Lady of Walsingham is enthroned. (It is called "Slipper Chapel" because pilgrims would remove their shoes and travel the final mile - called the "Holy Mile" - to Walsingham with penitentially unshod feet.) The statue is of course a modern one but has been modelled as closely as possible on the medieval statue. Our Lady is depicted in traditional style seated on a simple chair of state with the Child Jesus on her knee. She wears a Saxon crown in token of her ancient queen-ship and carries the lily of purity.

The devotion to Our Lady of Walsingham received a further mark of papal approval during the visit to Britain of Pope Saint John Paul II in 1982. As Our Lady guided Richeldis to make a Nazareth in England, every chapel and shrine to Our Lady of Walsingham is a particular, local Nazareth, an encounter with the joy of the Incarnation in that special place. This shrine has inspired the formation of one of the new forms of consecrated life, recognized by the Church. They call themselves "The Community of Our Lady of Walsingham." It is an Ecclesial Family of men and women who consecrate their life to Jesus through Mary. They work for the coming of God's Kingdom by enabling people to live in the joy and freedom of Mary's Fiat. As a Marian community they are praying and working for the re-evangelization of England and the western world, taking that popular verse from Matthew 6:10 as their guide: 'Thy Kingdom come, Thy Will be done on earth as it is in heaven.'

Your brother in Christ,
 Fr. Abraham Orapankal

Readings for the Week

Monday Gal 4:22-24, 26-27, 31-5:1 Ps 113:1B-2, 3-4, 5A and 6-7 Lk 11:29-32

Tuesday Gal 5:1-6 Ps 119:41, 43, 44, 45, 47, 48 Lk 11:37-41

Wednesday Gal 5:18-25 Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 Lk 11:42-46

Thursday Eph 1:1-10 Ps 98:1, 2-3AB, 3CD-4, 5-6 Lk 11:47-54

Friday 2 Tm 4:10-17b Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18 Lk 10:1-9

Saturday Eph 1:15-23 Ps 8:2-3AB, 4-5, 6-7 Lk 12:8-12

Sunday Is 53:10-11 Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22 Heb 4:14-16 Mk 10:35-45 or 10:42-45



Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, October 12	5:00PM	Emily & Frank Gatarz, by Claire
	5:00PM	John Dolak, Jr., by Eileen King
Sunday, October 13	8:00AM	Gloria Kowalski, by Denise Szabo
	10:00AM	Harold Wolkoff, by Tom Fullerton
	10:00AM	Annmarie Carfora, by Suzanne Adams
	12:00PM	Intention of Parishioners
Monday, October 14	8:00AM	No Mass—Columbus Day
	8:00AM	Lee Quinn, by Maureen Quinn Mount
Wednesday, October 16	8:00AM	Birthday Blessings for Joan Corbo, by Carol Ann Loftus
	8:00AM	Anniversary Blessings for Yanick & Oswald Andre, by Wife Yani
Thursday, October 17	8:00AM	Anniversary Blessings for Yanick & Oswald Andre, by Wife Yani
Friday, October 18	8:00AM	Barbara Butler, by Judy Cianci
Saturday, October 19	8:00AM	Frances De Franco & Barbara Butler, by Frank & Joanne Inzano
Sunday, October 20	8:00AM	Martin Slyman, by Nora & Nestor Mercado
	10:00AM	Intention of Parishioners
	12:00PM	Bisitacion Stanford & Leonida Torres, by the Family

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.

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

Pray for those who have died...

— “His mercy endures forever.” Chronicles

Betty Bryant-Stewart

Constance Borlaug Cleveland

George Azer

Reflect



Smile with Your Family



The parish church was badly in need of repair. So the pastor called a special meeting to raise funds. At the assembly, the pastor explained the need of an emergency fund for plastering the roof and supporting pillars and for carrying out other items of repair. He invited the congregation to pledge contributions. After a brief pause, Mr. Murphy, the richest man in the parish, volunteered to give 50 dollars. Just as he sat down, a hunk of plaster fell from the ceiling on his head. He jumped up, looked terribly startled and said: "I meant to say 500 dollars." The congregation stood silent and stunned. Then a lone voice cried out from the back: "Oh Lord, hit him again!" 😊

If you think no one cares about you, try missing a couple of payments 😊

Money isn't everything... But it sure keeps the kids in touch 😊

A man visits a lawyer for legal help, but he wants to make sure he can afford it first. "Can you tell me how much you charge?" he asks. "Of course," the lawyer replies, "I charge \$800 to answer three questions." "Don't you think that's an awful lot of money to answer three questions?" "Yes it is", answers the lawyer, "What's your third question?" 😊

My first child has gone off to college and I feel a great emptiness in my life. Specifically, in my checking account. 😊

They say money talks, but mine just waves goodbye 😊

The best way to teach your kids about taxes is by eating 30% of their ice cream 😊

Inflation is when you pay fifteen dollars for the ten-dollar haircut you used to get for five dollars when you had hair 😊



Parenting Tune-Up

Children make mistakes. That is natural. Of course, you forgive them. For example, they may promise to never drink and drive again. Believe them. However, this doesn't mean you enable a teen by being blind to reality. Forgive but verify.

Marriage Tune-Up

It is natural to want stuff - food, clothing, shelter are necessities. Fashionable clothes, eating out, and electronics are not evil. BUT, how do you reconcile these desires with "How hard it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" (Mark 10:23) How much is enough? Decide at least one thing to give away today.



A Pearl of Wisdom For This Week

Beautiful Things Are Not Always Good But Good Things Are Always Beautiful.

"... Give me back my Songs..."



The French have a story about a millionaire, who spent his days counting his gold coins. Beside his palace was a poor cobbler who spent his days singing as he repaired people's shoes. The joyful singing irritated the rich man. One day he decided to give some gold coins to the cobbler. At first the cobbler was overjoyed, and he took the coins and hid them. But then he worried about the coin and was constantly going back to make sure the coins were still there. Then he worried in case someone had seen him and might steal the coins.

Consequently, he ceased to sing. Then one day he realized that he had ceased to sing because of the gold coins. He took them back to the rich man and said, "Take back your coins and give me back my songs." Inordinate attachment to riches can take away our freedom and joy. (Gerry Pierse, *Detachment and Freedom*).

We need to follow Jesus on his terms, and not on our terms. This involves giving up whatever in our lives leads us to evil. That's step one. Sometimes it may involve giving up things which are good. As parents, we might consider all the time and personal recreation and relaxation (all good things), which we have given up over the years for the sake of the children. As a mother or father who is also a disciple of Jesus Christ, this was required of us, and we made the sacrifice. When we follow Jesus on his terms, there may be certain crosses to bear, but deep down in the core of our being there is peace, and there is joy, because we know that we are doing our best to carry out God's perfect will in our lives.

Reflect

"Treasure in Heaven" does not come Cheap!

Jesus, looking at the rich young man, loved him and said to him, "You are lacking one thing. Go, sell what you have, and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." At that statement his face fell, and he went away sad, for he had many possessions. Mark 10: 17-30

A couple came before Jesus: "Good teacher, we have raised two beautiful children. We cared for them, taught them and loved them through all the twists and turns of childhood. We got them through college and they are now on their own. What must we do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus looked at the couple and loved them. He said to them, "Go, use your new freedom to help other families struggling with all the issues you struggled with. Be a source of wisdom and guidance for them as they raise their families. Then come, follow me." And the couple's faces fell, because their flight to the Bahamas was beginning to board.

The CEO of a large corporation came before Jesus: "Good teacher, my company employs hundreds of people. We conduct our business honestly and ethically. We meticulously keep every employment, safety and environmental regulation - even though it costs us a lot of money. What must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus looked at the CEO and loved him. He said to him, "Go, and redirect the greater share of your profits to providing for your employees. Take the lead in the responsible care of the environment by businesses like yours. Make your company a model of ethical advertising and consumer protection. Then come, follow me." The CEO's face fell, because he knew this would never fly with his board.

A politician came before Jesus: "Good teacher, I serve my district 24-7. I listen to the voters and act in their best interests. I've been a dependable and consistent vote for policies and programs that will guarantee the future of our city and state. What must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus looked at the politician and loved him. He said to him, "Go, support an initiative that will be unpopular with your voters, which may cost you your office, but will benefit the poor, the powerless, and the vulnerable. Then come, follow me." And the politician's face fell, because it was an election year.

A teenager came before Jesus: "Good teacher, I study hard in school. I get good grades. I have a part-time job after school. I'm on the basketball team and play in the band. I try to be a good daughter and sister. I'm working hard to get into a good college. What must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus looked at the teen and loved her. "Go; befriend the student in your school who is alone. Give your mom and dad a break by taking on some responsibility around the house. Give time to a charitable work of your church or community service agency. Then come, follow me." And the teenager's face fell, because her schedule was full.

We know how the rich young man feels in today's Gospel. Yes, Jesus asks everything of us as the cost of being his disciple - but Jesus asks of us only what we have, not what we don't have. Each one of us possesses talents and resources, skills and assets that we have been given by God for the work of making the kingdom of God a reality here and now. Authentic discipleship demands more than token contributions and the rote following of rituals and traditions; our baptism into the life of Christ compels us to focus every dimension of our lives on the things of God. To be the disciple of Christ we seek to become means a reordering of our priorities, a restructuring of our days to make time for the things of God. May we return to God the gifts he has given us in order to embrace eternity in the time to come.

Suicide is Directly Proportional to Wealth!

Writer and Speaker Matthew Kelly notes that the suicide rate among teens and young adults has increased by 5,000 percent in the last fifty years. More troubling, it is becoming increasingly apparent that suicide is directly proportional to wealth. What does that mean? Studies reveal that the more money you have, the more likely you are to take your own life. Peter Kreeft captured the alarming reality in a recent article of his own: "The richer you are, the richer your family is, and the richer your country is, the more likely it is that you will find life so good that you will choose to blow your brains out." Economics, says Matthew Kelly, is clearly not a good measure of happiness. [Matthew Kelly, *The Rhythm of Life* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 5333).] We know that. But how can we disentangle ourselves from the social pressures as well as the inner greed that causes us to fill our lives with material things?

Jesus has the answer in today's Gospel selection (Mark 10: 17-30), we find three sections: a narrative about Jesus' encounter with a rich man, Jesus' sayings about wealth as a possible obstacle to following him and Jesus' promise of reward for those who share their material possessions with the needy. Jesus reminded the rich man of the commandments that deal with relationships with other people and challenged him to sell what he had and to give the money to the poor. Jesus shocked his disciples with this challenge to the Jewish belief that material wealth and prosperity were signs of God's blessings. Instead, he declared that true religion consisted in one's sharing his blessings with others rather than hoarding them and being inordinately attached to them.



Dear Abby,... Dear Curious,...



A few years ago, an interchange of letters appeared in a nationally syndicated newspaper column. **Dear Abby:** We are not overly religious people, but we do like to go to Church occasionally. It seems to me that every time we turn around, we are hit for money. I thought religion was free. I realize that churches have to have some money, but I think it is getting to be a racket. Just what do Churches do with all their money? Curious in North Jersey.

Abby wrote back, **Dear Curious:** Even priests, ministers and rabbis must eat. Since they work full-time at their tasks, their Churches must support them. Staff and musicians must also be paid. Buildings must be maintained, heated, lighted and beautified. Custodial staff members must eat and feed their families. Most Churches engage in philanthropic work (aid to the needy, missions, and education); hence, they have their financial obligations. Even orchids, contrary to folklore, do not live on air. Churches can't live on air either. Religions, like water, may be free, but when they pipe it to you, you have to help pay for the piping. And the piper. [Abigail Van Buren, "Religions need money too, for Heaven's sake," *The Scranton Tribune* (74 March 5338)]

The Success Syndrome

Harvard Medical School psychologist Steven Berglas has written a book called *The Success Syndrome*. He has found that individuals who in his word "suffer" from success have arrogance and a sense of aloneness. Insider-trader Dennis Levine was asked by his wife why he needed the money from insider trading, and he really had no answer. Levine says that when his income was \$100,000, he hungered for \$200,000, and when he was making \$1 million, he hungered for \$3 million. Berglas says that oddly enough people, who found that \$200,000 did not make them happy, never asked themselves why they thought \$300,000 would make them happy. Asked to prescribe a cure for the success syndrome, Berglas said, "What's missing in these people (Ivan Boesky, Michael Milken, Leona Helmsley), is deep commitment or religious activity that goes far beyond just writing a check to a charity." (James W. Fowler, *Becoming Adult, Becoming Christian*)

"You are lacking one thing." We all have something in our lives that serves as a major obstacle to happiness and peace. We must recognize this obstacle and address it head-on. It may not be riches -- it may be anger, holding grudges, alcohol, drugs, lust, apathy, lies, unfaithfulness, theft, or fraud. Let us invite God into our lives and into our efforts to face and remove that one obstacle to holiness. We have a decision to make whether to go away sad like the rich young man, or to follow Jesus and be happy. Let us choose happiness.



October is Month of the Rosary!

October is dedicated as the Month of the Rosary because we celebrate the memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary each year on October 7. The word Rosary means "Crown of Roses," and each prayer in the Rosary is considered a flower presented to Mary. It is called the "Breviary of the common people" and the "Psalms of the Illiterate." The prayers we repeat are Biblical and hence "inspired and the mysteries we meditate upon are taken from the lives of Jesus and Mary. Jesus himself taught the prayer "Our Father". The "Hail Mary" is also rooted in the Scriptures. Its first half echoes the words of the Archangel Gabriel and those of Elizabeth, both addressed to Mary. The third prayer — the "Glory be to the Father" — ancient in its wording, surely reflects the unceasing prayer of adoration and praise found in the Book of Revelation. The various events in the lives of Jesus and Mary on which we meditate during the Rosary are expressions of the Paschal Mystery, that is, the suffering, death and Resurrection of Jesus, in which Mary shared.

The Rosary Miracle of 1571

The first major Rosary miracle, and one of the most impressive, is the one that occurred at the Battle of Lepanto. This historic battle took place on 7 October 1571 when a fleet of the Holy League, a coalition of southern European Catholic maritime states, decisively defeated the main fleet of the Ottoman Empire in five hours of fighting at Lepanto, on the northern edge of the Gulf of Corinth, off western Greece. The defeat was attributed to the effect rosaries recited by the soldiers and their respective compatriots for the sole purpose of preventing the Muslim army invading Europe and destroying Christianity as they did in the Byzantine Empire. The Turks had nearly three times more troops. The winds were against the Christians and the conditions were poor. Nevertheless, after the rosary recitals by the soldiers ended, the winds aided the Christians who gained a colossal victory against the Turks. This was one of the greatest naval upsets in history from which the Turks never fully recovered. Their threat in the Mediterranean Sea ended. Following this victory, Pope Pius V established the Feast of Our Lady of Victories on October 7th. The name was later changed to its present form - the **Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary**. The purpose was to thank God for the victory of Christians over the Turks at Lepanto—a victory attributed to the praying of the rosary. Pope Clement XI extended the feast to the universal Church in 1716 and it is celebrated on the 7th of October, observing October as the month of the rosary.

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.



Metuchen Cursillo Movement

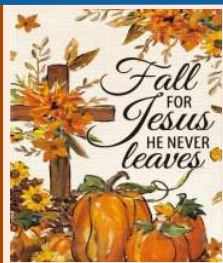
The Cursillo experience is one that will enhance your spiritual life and growth for a lifetime.

Next Men's Weekend: **October 17-20, 2024** at the Loyola Retreat House, 161 James St, Morristown, NJ.

For more information visit: <http://www.metcursillo.org/>

Morning Reflection

Rev. Hank Hilton, the Pastor of St. Joseph Church in Hillsborough, will be giving a presentation here at St. Matthias on **Saturday, October 26th at 9 AM**. Those of you who have been to St. Joe's, will know what a wonderful speaker he is. This 90 minute-session will be Scripture based. All are welcome.



Make Fall Into Faith 2024 the Best Season of the Year!

Start for the first time or continue with a St. Matthias Small Faith Sharing Group! We have about 15 groups that meet on various days/times of the week.

If you are new to this experience, please sign up at: <https://forms.gle/7D2CnG8ZcBTJuSfC7>

YOU CAN STILL JOIN SMALL GROUPS

As you know, Small group sharing is about to begin. Aren't you curious why so many of our parishioners are in small groups? Don't you want to know what motivates them to commit six weeks in this busy Fall season to gather in small groups? Have you ever wished you were more connected to our parish community? Do you long for ways to connect your faith with your life, especially when faced with so many challenges in your personal and family life?

The answer to all these is Small faith communities because these provide an opportunity for parishioners to get to know one another better in a unique, comfortable, and casual setting; these help participants deepen their faith and integrate it more fully into their work and relationships. Sharing life stories with each other gives concrete examples of God's grace in our lives. **So, why not try this small group experience? Just attend one of the many groups. Different groups meet different days of the week, so you have the choice according to your schedule!**



SERVICEWORX – OUR YOUTH SHARE # 6

Natalie Kuhlmann shares her experience about the week of immersion and reflection.

- 1) Tell us about one service site and what you did there.
One service site we visited was Somerset CAP where we assisted the teachers with the children.
- 2) What did you most enjoy about your service and the reflection activities in the afternoon at St. Matthias?
I most enjoyed playing and hanging out with the children at Somerset CAP. My favorite afternoon activity was the skit we performed to show how we care for others.
- 3) What challenges did you face while participating in service?
One challenge I faced was that I only wanted to do service at Somerset CAP because I truly connected with the children. I did not want to visit other service sites because I missed the children.
- 4) What lessons have you learned from these various experiences?
I learned how important and meaningful it is to give back to the community.
- 5) How did you find the story of the Good Samaritan related to what you did during those five days of ServiceWorX?
We cared for people we didn't know just like the Good Samaritan.

Learn



ST. MATTHIAS AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM WORKERS NEEDED

St. Matthias School is in need of workers for our After School Program.
Hours are 2:30PM-6:00PM.

Please email [Mary Lynch, mlynch@stmatthiasnj.org](mailto:MaryLynch@stmatthiasnj.org) &
[Tesh Barr, tbarr@stmatthiasnj.org](mailto:TeshBarr@stmatthiasnj.org) or call 732-828-1402 for more information.



FAITH FORMATION CLASSES HAVE BEGUN. REGISTRATIONS ARE STILL OPEN.

2024-2025 **GIFT** for K-8 Religious Formation <https://stmatthias.net/faith-formation/>

First Eucharist Preparation 2024-2025 <https://stmatthias.net/first-eucharist-first-reconciliation/>

Confirmation Preparation 2024-2025 <https://stmatthias.net/confirmation/>



Questions? Please call the Parish Office, 732-828-1400 or email Debbie Schurko, dschurko@stmatthias.net

Connect



Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast

The Knights of Columbus will hold a Pancake Breakfast on **Sunday, October 27, from 8:00am - 12:00 Noon** in the school cafeteria. Proceeds from the breakfast will benefit the St Matthias Knights of Columbus council and the charities they support.

Breakfast menu is pancakes, eggs, sausage, bagels, juice, coffee and much more.

We hope to see you there!

Catholic Community of St. Matthias

RACIAL
JUSTICE
INITIATIVE



Catholic Social Teaching in the Public Square ELECTION 2024 REFLECTION SERIES

Thursday, October 17th, 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM in the John XXIII room at St. Matthias.

SESSION 3 - SOLIDARITY

Topics discussed will be gun violence and Christian Nationalism.



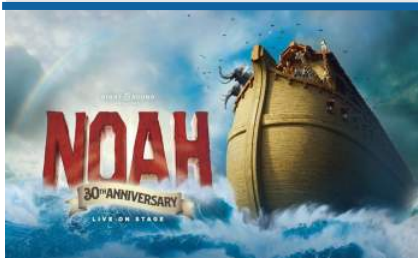
It is important for our society to continue to combat any unjust discrimination, whether based on **race, religion, sex, ethnicity, disabling condition, or age**, as these are grave injustices and affronts to human dignity.

Where the effects of past discrimination persist, society has the obligation to take positive steps to overcome the legacy of injustice, including vigorous action to remove barriers to education, protect voting rights, support good policing in our communities, and ensure equal employment for women and minorities.

Join us as we prayerfully prepare for the upcoming election. **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

***PLEASE NOTE:** These sessions will be strictly **NON-PARTISAN** and focused solely on issues as they pertain to **RACIAL JUSTICE**.

For more detailed information visit: www.stmatthias.net/election2024/



NOAH LIVE ON STAGE

The Senior Ministry and St. Martin DePorres Society will once again host a trip to Lancaster, PA to see Sight & Sound "NOAH LIVE ON STAGE" **Saturday, May 17, 2025.**

More details, including how to purchase tickets, can be found at:

www.stmatthias.net/noah

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 14 - October 6, 2024	\$7,978.00	\$19,597.00	\$27,575.00	\$19,602.25
Week 15 - October 13, 2024				\$34,437.25
Week 16 - October 20, 2024				\$26,313.25
Week 17 - October 27, 2024				\$25,964.47
				\$18,512.25
			Month-to-date Total	October Total Last Year
			\$27,575.00	\$124,829.47
			Current Year-to-date Total	Year-to-date as of October 31, 2023
			\$330,423.45	\$344,564.53

UPDATE ON BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL as of October 4, 2024

Goal:	\$175,000.00	Percent of Goal Pledged:	106.04%
Total Pledged:	\$185,573.85	Percent of Goal Received:	99.20%
Amount Received:	\$173,600.35		

Stewardship Reflection October 13, 2024 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for one who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." (MARK 10:25)

Jesus uses tough language that we may not want to hear. However, we are all called to be generous with all of our gifts. Not just the ones we pick and choose, but all our gifts, and especially the one that means the most to us! That includes our time in prayer to God, our talent in participating in parish ministries and our treasure supporting our local parish and other charities.

Reflexiónese - 13 de octubre de 2024 Domingo 28º del Tiempo Ordinario

"Es más fácil para un camello pasar por el ojo de una aguja que para un rico entrar en el reino de Dios." (Marcos 10:25)

Jesús utiliza un lenguaje fuerte que puede que no queramos escuchar. Sin embargo, somos llamados a ser generosos con todos nuestros dones. No solo los que identificamos y escogemos, sino todos nuestros dones ¡y especialmente el que más significa para nosotros! Eso incluye nuestro tiempo en oración a Dios, nuestro talento para participar en los ministerios parroquiales y nuestro tesoro apoyando a nuestra parroquia local y otras caridades.



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

SPREAD THE LIGHT IS COMING!



It is not too soon to begin to think about our "Spread the Light" campaign in December. This is a wonderful opportunity to honor your loved ones, your business, a family milestone or any other celebration or occasion. Last year we lit in excess of 270 trees which brightened our church and spread good will to all our neighbors in Somerset and beyond.

This is the largest fund raiser for the parish. We thank all our past participants and we encourage all parishioners to join in this inspirational, and what is becoming, an honored tradition in our parish and community. Help us "Spread the Light"!

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

www.stmatthias.net/trees

Connecting to Our Local Community



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Free Concert
Friday
October 18
7:00pm
St. Joseph Church
34 Yorktown Rd.
Hillsborough, NJ



Fatima Candlelight Procession
Sunday, October 13, 2024
7:30PM, Gathering at 7:00PM
 Our Lady of Fatima Church
 501 New Market Road, Piscataway, NJ
 For further information, call Roberta at 732-245-9124

SACRED TIME, SACRED SPACE
Thursday, October 17 from 9:30am-3pm

A personal, quiet day to enjoy God's presence.
 Day begins with communal prayer. Bring a bag lunch.
 In Person Program. \$20-\$30 as you are able



Immaculee's Story of Faith, Hope and Forgiveness
Monday, October 28 from 7- 9 PM

11th Annual Major Speaker: Immaculee Ilibagiza

Immaculee Ilibagiza survived the 1994 Rwandan genocide by hiding in a 3ft. x4ft. bathroom for 91 days with seven other women. Come hear about the importance of faith, hope and forgiveness. In person and Zoom. The program will take place in Mercy Hall at Mount Saint Mary (under the chapel) for those participating in person.

\$25 per person; free for students 908-753-2091 or www.msmhope.org



Catholic Charities

Be a Champion for Catholic Charities

As a CHAMPION for CATHOLIC CHARITIES, you are a champion in every sense of the word. Through your financial support, you provide a warm bed for someone who is homeless... food for a hungry child... emergency aid for a disaster victim... and help for a family in crisis; all of which truly makes you a champion in our eyes and in the eyes of those we serve. Please join our team today and become a CHAMPION for CATHOLIC CHARITIES by making a gift or purchasing a raffle ticket.

Go to www.diometuchen.org/champions to make a gift or download a raffle form to purchase a ticket. Every gift, no matter the size, is important and greatly appreciated. Checks should be made payable to Champions for Catholic Charities and mailed to Champions for Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen, PO Box 191, Metuchen, NJ 08840-0191. Questions may be directed by email to champions@diometuchen.org or by phone to 732-562-2432.

Parish Leadership

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