



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, 10 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,
 7:45 AM - 3:30 PM

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

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

Leslie Guillen, **Bulletin Editor, lguillen**
 Amy Hanna, **Accountant/Databases, ahanna**
 Mike Lanyi, **Sacristan**
 Sue Lenczewski, **Youth Coordinator, SMYLE**
 Mary Jo Loboda, **Parish Staff, Development,**
mjloboda

Julio Montero, **Maintenance Supervisor**
 Dolores R. Nann, **Pastoral Associate for**
Faith Formation, dnann

Vinnie Natale, **Bookkeeper, vnatale**
 Silvia Nizama, **Housekeeper**

Deacon John Radvanski, **deaconjohn**
 Joan Best Seamon, **Pastoral Associate for**
Music Ministry, jseamon

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

St. Matthias School (add @stmatthiasnj.org)
 Mary Lynch, **Principal, mlynch**

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. MATTHIAS
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2023
 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time



**Join a
 St. Matthias
 Small Faith
 Group
 Today!**

If you are new to this
 experience, and
 would like to sign up,
 please visit

[www.stmatthias.net/
 faith-formation/](http://www.stmatthias.net/faith-formation/)



PLEASE SAVE THE DATES!

Eucharistic Presentation

**This Wednesday,
 October 18th at 7 PM**

See page 7 for details
 and



Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition

October 28-29

See page 5 for details



THE ST. MATTHIAS 2024

**MASS INTENTIONS BOOK OPENS
 THIS MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2023**

See page 7 for detailed information



**PLEASE COME JOIN THE MANY WHO SPEND SOME
 QUIET TIME WITH THE EUCHARISTIC LORD.
 OUR NEXT ADORATION WILL BE
 THIS MONDAY EVENING,
 OCTOBER 16, 2023 FROM 6 PM TO 8 PM.**

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 15, 2023

Fall into Faith Groups Begins

Pulpit Talk by Vocations Ministry @ All Masses

8:00AM	Mass	Church
10:00AM	Mass	Church
12:00PM	Mass	Church

Monday, Oct 16, 2023 **Margaret Mary Alacoque, Apostle of the Sacred Heart of Jesus**

8:00AM	Mass	Church
6:00PM	Eucharist Adoration	Church

Tuesday, 17, 2023 **St. Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop & Martyr**

8:00AM	Mass	Church
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Wednesday, Oct 18, 2023 **St. Luke, Evangelist**

8:00AM	Mass, St. Joseph Novena	
9:30AM	Prayer Group 1 Holy Spirit	de Porres Rm
2:00PM	Bereavement Group	de Porres Rm
7:00PM	Eucharist Presentation 1	John XXIII Rm
7:30PM	Folk Group Rehearsal	Church

Thursday, Oct 19, 2023 **St. Paul of the Cross, Founder**

8:00AM	Mass	Church
10:00AM	Prayer Shawl Ministry	Ruiz Rm
3:30PM	Children's Choir Rehearsal Gr. 3&4	Church
4:00PM	Children's choir Rehearsal Gr. 5-8	Church
7:30PM	Sunday 10AM Choir Rehearsal	Church

Friday, Oct 20, 2023 **St. Maria Bertilla Boscardin, Nun**

8:00AM	Mass	Church
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Saturday, Oct 21, 2023 **St. Hilarion the Great, Abbot**

9:30AM	Secular Franciscans Mtg.	de Porres Rm
3:30PM	Reconciliation	Church
5:00PM	Vigil Mass	Church

Sunday, Oct 22, 2023 **World Mission Sunday**

K of C Pancake Breakfast—7:00AM Cafeteria

8:00AM	Mass	Church
10:00AM	Mass -Sign Language Interpreter	Church
12:00PM	Mass - Blessing of Hands for Healthcare workers	Church
3:30PM	SMYLE Youth Group	Cafeteria



Bulletin Article Requests:

If you would like to send information to be included in our bulletin, please email it to bulletin@stmatthias.net by **8 AM, MONDAY, 5 business days before the needed bulletin date** (earlier for holiday weekends). Approved content is published on a space-available basis.



Dear Friends,

MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT: We are all following the conflict between Israel and Palestine that has become a war after the massive surprise attack by Hamas resulting in the death of over 900 Israelis. While the world leaders have condemned such a terrorist attack, the retaliation is bringing more deaths. Pope Francis has begged both sides to “please stop the attacks and weapons and understand that terrorism and war do not lead to any solution, but only to the death and suffering of many innocent people. War is a defeat, every war is always a defeat.” He asked the faithful to join him in praying for peace in Israel and Palestine. We do pray for peace while the world leaders look for a political solution through dialog.

SYNOD ON SYNODALITY: It is this dialog that can make the present Synod on Synodality in Rome a success. Pope Francis opened the Synod’s three-week assembly with a call to remember that the Church exists to bring Jesus to the world and should face today’s challenges with a gaze fixed on God rather than “political calculations or ideological battles.” Francis repeated that the synod is not “a political gathering” or a “polarized parliament” but “a place of grace and communion.” And yet there is much polarization on many issues that will be discussed by the delegates in this Synod of Bishops, which for the first time includes laymen and women as full voting members. We accompany them with our prayers for the Spirit of God to guide them.

SPIRITUAL TECH CONNECT: Some of you have asked me about the progress of the live streaming/media upgrade plan in our church. At the beginning of this month, you may have read an update about it in the bulletin. It was published as part of the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) decision to have more communication with our parishioners. Remember the ‘Spiritual Tech Connect’ campaign? We had launched it two years ago for the Giving Tuesday to purchase and install permanent tech equipment in our church building to spiritually connect with our community. That would give us the capability to project videos and images on large monitors that can be seen easily by everyone in church and by those watching online.

I am grateful to our Tech Committee (past and present members: Msgr Joe Curry, Peter Kostik, Barry Dusault, MaryBeth Oria, Elena Malinconico, Kathy Rezac, Andy Fuentes, Ana Kelly) who worked in the initial planning of this project. Later, two of our parishioners, Jeff Beck and Joe Mancuso, have been working with me on researching on the practical aspects of this project, meeting with different vendors to investigate, explore, compare and finalize what is best for our church. After countless hours of research, we have identified the technology we need to upgrade our church projection system. It includes a new contrast-enhancing 150” diagonal screen and an 8500 lumen projector to ensure a bright image. The screen will be placed on the crucifix wall behind the choir for maximum visibility, so we will be moving the crucifix higher on the wall (with proper consultation with our diocesan experts) to make space for it. As with any project, there has been delays in implementing this project too. Thanks to so many of you who graciously contributed to this Spiritual Tech Connect project, we all can be happy that we are in the last leg of seeing this project happen, and so we can look forward to enhancing our worship experience with this tech upgrade in the near future.

Your brother in Christ.

Fr. Abraham Orapankal

Readings for the Week

Monday: Rom 1:1-7; Ps 98:1-4; Lk 11:29-32
 Tuesday: Rom 1:16-25; Ps 19:2-5; Lk 11:37-41
 Wednesday: 2 Tm 4:10-17b; Ps 145:10-13, 17-18; Lk 10:1-9
 Thursday: Rom 3:21-30; Ps 130:1b-6ab; Lk 11:47-54
 Friday: Rom 4:1-8; Ps 32:1b-2, 5, 11; Lk 12:1-7
 Saturday: Rom 4:13, 16-18; Ps 105:6-9, 42-43; Lk 12:8-12
 Sunday: Is 45:1, 4-6; Ps 96:1, 3-5, 7-10; 1 Thes 1:1-5b; Mt 22:15-21



Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, Oct 14	5:00PM	Isabelle Doyle, by Isabelle & John Baker
Sunday, Oct 15	8:00AM	Intention of Parishioners
	10:00AM	Stephen Balzer, Sr. by Mary Albani
	12:00PM	Spiritual Intentions for Brian C. King & Family Members, by Mom
Monday, Oct 16	8:00AM	Robert Zisk, by John & Kim Hadley
Tuesday, Oct 17	8:00AM	Mary Gidaro, by Fran & Tom Johnson
Wednesday, Oct 18	8:00AM	Maryse Cadet, by Yanick Andre
Thursday, Oct 19	8:00AM	Rocco Melchione, by Debbie Finn
Friday, Oct 20	8:00AM	Salvatore & Eileen Catalano, by Acevedo Family
Saturday, Oct 21	5:00PM	Firefighter John Collins, by Dad
Sunday, Oct 22	8:00AM	Wilmer Reyes, by The Ostrom Family
	10:00AM	Intention of Parishioners
	12:00PM	Eleanor Morehouse, by The Morehouse Family

Pray for those who are sick...

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

Carolyn Banghart	Marilyn Horvath	Gail Miranda	Tom Szabo
Tammy Baskaran	Amanda Isele	Robert Pellegrino	Mary Ann Vlaud
Tara Capatosto	Baby Elaine Isele	Randolff Pinard	Eileen Weber
Elizabeth Card	Bill Johnson	Valerie Polci	Nancy Whelan
Kyle Davidson	Renée Jolly	Kim Price	Anne Zando
Lisa DeFeo	Bill Kelleher	Denise Pultro	
Zenon DeGuzman	Betsy Kondrat	Doris Regan	And for all who are ill, homebound, elderly, in nursing care, or living with chronic illness, we pray.
Marlene DiMaggio	Armando D. Liban	Gabriel Rivera	
Hattie Evans	Mary Lou Litrakis	Arina Robinson	
Claudia Gemgnani	John Litrakis	Maria Schwenzer	
Emma Gergely	Aries Magali	Amy Shepp	
Gerry & Jack Gernert	Al Maglio	Sr. Rosaria Shina, OSF	
Marie Godet	Ann McElwee	Sr. Bernadine Marie	
Linda Hartong	Ivette Michel	Stemnock	

Pray for those who have died...

— “His mercy endures forever.” Chronicles

Joseph McGuire – father of Joe McGuire, **Robert Wesner**

Reflect



Smile with Your Family



The loaded mini-van pulled into the remaining campsite. Four children leaped from the vehicle and began feverishly unloading gear and setting up the tent. The boys rushed to gather firewood while the girls and their mother set up the camp stove and cooking utensils. A nearby camper marveled to the father: "That's some display of teamwork. How well-behaved are your children!" The father replied: "I have a policy: no one goes to the bathroom until the camp is set up!" 😊

On their 40th wedding anniversary and during the banquet celebrating it, Tom was asked to give his friends a brief account of the benefits of a marriage of such long duration... "Tell us Tom, just what is it you have learned from all those wonderful years with your wife?" Tom responds, "Well, I've learned that marriage is the best teacher of all. It teaches you loyalty, forbearance, meekness, self-restraint, forgiveness --and a great many other qualities you wouldn't have needed if you had stayed single." 😊

Delivering a speech at a banquet on the night of his arrival in a large city, a visiting minister told several anecdotes he expected to repeat at meetings the next day. Because he wanted to use the jokes again, he requested the reporters to omit them from any accounts they might turn in to their newspapers. A reporter, in commenting on the speech, ended his piece with the following: "The minister told a number of stories that cannot be published." 😊

Starving after hours of driving nonstop, my husband and I pulled over at a truck stop. While he gassed up the car, I went into the restaurant and placed our order to go. After writing it all down, the girl behind the register asked, "Will that be all for you?" "No," I replied a bit defensively. "Some of it's for my husband." 😊

Q: Which dessert is perfect for eating in bed? A: A sheet cake. 😊

Q: What do you mean you are on a seafood diet? A: I see food and I eat it. 😊



Parenting Tune-Up

Gratitude is popular as a meal or night time prayer. That's good - but feeling grateful is not the end of the story. Act on it! Make a deal with your child. Each of you think of a person that did something you were grateful for and promise to tell the person.

Marriage Tune-Up



The King's invitation was rejected, in today's gospel. Have you experienced rejection from your spouse? The pain is great. But that is the same pain your spouse feels when you too may have rejected your spouse. Tell your spouse: "I know how you felt when I said"

Stewardship Quotes:

To be grateful is to recognize the love of God in everything He has given us – and He has given us everything. Every breath we draw is a gift of His Love, every moment of existence is a grace, for it brings with it immense graces from Him. (Thomas Merton)

One of the greatest missing teachings in the American church today is the reminder to men and women that nothing we have belongs to us. (Gordon MacDonald, American pastor and teacher)

Who has Time for God!

There is not enough time. Particularly is that true for today's wives and mothers. A study by Bryn Mawr College fifty years ago stated that women then devoted more than eighty hours a week to cleaning the house, cooking meals, and taking care of the children. Did things get better? You know the answer to that. Another study twenty-five years later reported that full-time housewives spent more hours doing laundry in the 1970s than they did in the 1920s, despite all the new washing machines, dryers, detergents, and bleaches. The main change was that the family had acquired more clothing and now had even higher expectations about cleanliness and grooming. In the 1990's few women could even afford to dream of devoting full time to their families. The situation is not much different even today! Thus, the extraordinary demands of running a home are added to running an office or a classroom or a business. *Many men have the same problem. A University of Michigan study found that one-third of all physicians in the United States are so busy working that they are two years behind the breakthroughs in their own field. That's scary.*

Who has time for God's banquet? Christians are invited to the endless joy of the Heavenly banquet. If, in our preoccupation with temporary pleasures and duties, we refuse this invitation, our greatest pain after our death will be the realization of the precious things we have forfeited.



Overcoming Rejection!

A girl named Kristi Yamaguchi was born to a young couple whose parents had emigrated to the U.S. from Japan in the early twentieth century. Unfortunately, one of her feet was twisted. Her parents tried to heal her by means of physical therapy. To strengthen her legs further they enrolled her in an ice-skating class. Kristi had to get up at four a.m. on school days to do her practice in the ice rink before she went to school. This helped her to develop into a world-class figure-skater. Believe it or not, in 1992 Kristi won the gold medal for the United States in women's figure-skating at the XVI Winter Olympics in Albertville, France, 1992. Kristi thus became one of the several examples of "the stone rejected by the builders" becoming a "cornerstone" of the U.S. Women's Olympic team. Kristi is very passionate about making a positive difference in the lives of children. In 1996, Kristi established the *Always Dream Foundation* whose mission is to encourage, support and embrace the hopes and dreams of children. today's Gospel, the invitation is to all – irrespective of one's weakness or failures.

Fill the House with Sick People?

The venerable servant of God, Canon Cottolengo, when but a boy of five years, was measuring with a cord one room after another. His mother, rather confused, asked him what he was trying to do. "Dear mother," was the reply, "I want to see how many beds can be placed in this house: when I am grown up I should like to fill the whole house with sick people." A tear of emotion glistened in his mother's eyes. In 1832 he founded at Turin the 'Little Asylum of Divine Providence', and today it is world famous. It shelters 5000 men and embraces within its precincts a church, a number of houses, terraces and courtyards. [Joseph Aloysius Krebs *How to Comfort the Sick* (New York: Benziger, 5232) in Kelly Library, University of Toronto; see Google, USA Archives] –

Like Canon Cottolengo, there are some who respond to God's call with passion and reach out to others to realize God's vision for the human race. But there are many who, like the invited guests in the parable (Mt 22:5), are complacent in their response to the Lord's invitation. The "good and bad" (v. 10), in the parable constitute the mixed memberships of the Church: the sinners and the righteous. The people in the highways and the byways stand for the sinners and the Gentiles, who never expected an invitation into the Kingdom. God's invitation includes an offer of the correct dress for the feast, namely, the robe of Christ's righteousness of which Paul speaks in Philippians 3:7-11. Since this parable was directed to the chief priests and elders, Jesus contrasts their rigid observance of the law with the open-hearted generosity expressed by the king: "Invite

everyone you find." This is obviously more than a story about a king and a banquet. It is the story of Salvation History in which God sent prophets and Christian evangelists with Good News. The first-invited are now rejected, but strangers are accepted. In other words, the Gentiles have replaced the Jews who refused to respond to Yahweh's call. This was the way that first-century Christians looked at the Jewish rejection of Jesus.

Easy to Mislead and Easy to be Mislead!



Huey Long was a very colorful Louisiana politician who had hopes of running for the presidency in 1936. He began as an unschooled farm boy and ended up in the governor's mansion, one of the most popular politicians in the history of the state. Long was born in the central part of Louisiana, and when he first campaigned for governor, he was given some advice about the voters in the New Orleans area. "South Louisiana is different from the northern part of the state," he was told. "We have a lot of Catholic voters down here." Long nodded knowingly and went out to make his speech. It began, "When I was a boy, I'd get up at six every Sunday morning, hitch our old horse up to the buggy, and take my Catholic grandparents to Mass. I'd bring them home and then take my Baptist grandparents to Church." The speech was a rousing success. Afterward, a New Orleans political boss said, "Huey, you've been holding out on us. We didn't know you had Catholic grandparents." Huey looked at him slyly and said, "We didn't even have a horse!"

Often truth is sacrificed for political convenience! Don't let anybody mislead you. Around the banquet table of God there won't be Baptists, or Catholics, or Methodists. There won't even be a head table reserved for the very saintly. There will only be sinners for whom Christ died. That includes you and me. Everyone is invited.



Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition

The Eucharistic Miracles Display is a museum-like exhibition featuring the Eucharistic Miracles as chronicled by Blessed Carlo Acutis (1991-2006). Blessed Carlo was a teenager from Italy who developed a website dedicated to the documented and scientifically scrutinized occasions when the Holy Eucharist changed in its physical appearance, reminding us that the bread and wine of the Mass truly become the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. **This Exhibit will be set up in the cafeteria here at St. Matthias on the weekend of this month: October 28-29. Everyone is invited to visit this unique exhibition after every Mass.**

“Loose Ends”

“But when the king came in to meet the guests, he saw a man there not dressed in a wedding garment. The king said to him, ‘My friend, how is it that you came in here without a wedding garment?’ But he was reduced to silence.” Matthew 22: 1-14

She was knitting five baby sweaters, one for each grandchild’s future baby when she was suddenly diagnosed with lymphoma. She did not have much time to live. As she dealt with the devastating diagnosis, the thing she worried about most was not being able to finish the sweaters. She worked on them until four days before she died. That’s when Sarah became the “finisher.” Sarah is one of a thousand volunteers who complete unfinished fiber art projects for grieving loved ones through an organization called “Loose Ends.” The organization matched Sarah with this grandmother’s family. Sarah, an 86-year-old lifetime knitter, finished knitting the sweaters: soft, white acrylic wool with little owls on the front. Sarah took on the project because she understood the importance of it. “Because of my age, I feel more closely involved in how a family would feel. I sort of put myself on the other side. I couldn’t help but think how I would feel if I couldn’t finish a project and someone was willing to take it over.”

“Loose Ends” was started last fall by friends Masey Kaplan and Jen Simonic, avid knitters who know first-hand what it’s like to have friends reach out about finishing a pair of mittens or a scarf or some other handmade item left behind by deceased loved ones. The two friends created a website and put out a call for volunteers and unfinished projects left behind by someone unable to complete the handiwork because of illness or disability. The projects are completed at no cost, save for postage.

“Making something with your hands for someone is an expression of love,” Masey Kaplan explains, “and when I finish things and give them to people, I want them to know that I love them, and I was making this especially for them. “We’re connecting projects to a stranger who feels the same way, who will complete that gesture of love for another stranger so that the person who is grieving will get to experience that feeling we [crafters] know is important.” [The Washington Post, February 12, 2023.]

The work of the volunteer crafters of “Loose Ends” is the “wedding garment” of Jesus’ parable in today’s Gospel. The projects they complete become the very embrace of the deceased knitter or quilter’s love for those for whom these sweaters and quilts and mittens and hats were designed. Our lives are pieces of the fabric of experiences of love and loss, swatches of kindness, compassion, justice and forgiveness from which, with the “thread” of God’s

grace, we create a proper and fitting garment to wear to God’s wedding feast — a feast that begins in our own homes and workplaces, at our own tables and benches. And, as the volunteers of Loose End have found, we experience God’s grace when we help others complete their “garment,” be it a sweater for a beloved grandchild or a scarf for an elderly relative. God’s invitation to every one of us should inspire us to make our lives a “proper garment” that expresses our love and care in ways that will live on after we have taken our place at God’s wedding feast.



Sunday Mass with helium balloons?

At a church conference in Omaha, people were given helium-filled balloons and told to release them at some point in the service when they felt joy in their hearts. All through the service worshippers kept releasing balloons. At the end of the service it was discovered that most of them still had their balloons unreleased. If this experiment were repeated in our church today, how many of us would still have our balloons unreleased at the end of the Mass? Many of us think of God’s House as a place for seriousness, a place to close one’s eyes and pray, but not a place of celebration, a place of joy.

The parable of the Great Supper in today’s Gospel paints a different picture. The Christian assembly is a gathering of those who are called to the Lord’s party. In the Eucharist we say of ourselves, “Blessed are those called to the Supper of the Lamb.” The Lord invites us to a supper, a banquet, a feast. Can you imagine a wedding feast in which everyone sits stone-faced, cold and quiet? Are our “banquet halls” full and vibrant? What do we do to make sure that the “banquet halls” of our churches are filled with people on Sunday mornings? Are we concerned enough to do something about it if they are not full or lively? The first part of the parable has some strong connections with our worship services. Does not God invite us there? Aren’t we also called to be the Lord’s messengers who are instructed to go and tell the invitees (the whole world) that everything is ready? Or do we absent ourselves because we have other “pressing” business that we think is more important? Do we remain mired in oppressive attitudes and discriminatory relationships even if our bodies are in Church? Do we ever prefer revenge to forgiveness? Do we see victimization of others and blame the victim? We must all work with God to rid ourselves of such attitudes.





EUCCHARISTIC PRESENTATION SERIES

One of the goals of the Eucharistic Revival is to have a ‘robust formation’ to understand the meaning of the Holy Eucharist. For this purpose, our Eucharistic Revival Committee is organizing a series of presentations on the Holy Eucharist. The first of these is scheduled for **October 18th, Wednesday 7 p.m.**



All Soul's Mass Thursday, November 2, 2023

Our annual All Souls Mass will take place on Thursday, November 2, at the 5:00 pm Liturgy. The names of all who have been buried from St. Matthias this past year will be spoken aloud and prayed for. Families of the deceased, as well as all parishioners, are invited to attend this very special liturgy, as we remember our dear departed ones.

All Health and Mental Health Care Professionals

Save The Date

You are invited to the BLESSING of the HEALING HANDS in celebration of the feast of St. Luke, author of the gospel and "Beloved Physician"



**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22ND
12PM MASS**

Fellowship to Follow in School Cafeteria

ST. MATTHIAS CHURCH

170 JFK Blvd., Somerset, NJ 08873

Sponsored by the Vocation Ministry of the Parish of St. Matthias

ST. MATTHIAS 2024 MASS INTENTIONS GUIDELINES

MASS BOOK OPENS TOMORROW, OCTOBER 16, 2023



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).

In our parish, there are many requests for scheduling Mass intentions. Our 2024 Book of Mass Intentions will be opened on **Monday, October 16, 2023, 8:30AM** in the Parish Office.

To accommodate our parishioners, we will continue the limit of four (4) Masses – two (2) weekday Masses and a maximum of two (2) Weekend Masses. You can return on or after November 15 for additional Mass requests. Here are the details of the different kinds of Mass intentions:

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).

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).

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 two (2) additional intentions, which will be announced in the Universal Prayers (Prayers of the Faithful) but not in the bulletin. Please know that the stipend for these additional intentions (\$10 for weekdays and \$15 for Weekends) will be sent to the Mission Office of our Diocese.

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.

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.

Connect

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BOY SCOUT TROOP 154

OCTOBER 25TH • All Day

VALID AT ANY OF THESE PARTICIPATING MOE'S LOCATIONS:

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Somerset, NJ 08873
(732) 560-5000



PRESENT THIS AD
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Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast Sunday, October 22, 2023



The Knights of Columbus will hold a Pancake Breakfast on **Sunday, October 22, 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.

The cost is \$10.00 for adults, \$5.00 for ages 11-18 and children under 10 are free.

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

We hope to see you there!

SAINT MATTHIAS SCHOOL IS LOOKING FOR A PART-TIME BOOKKEEPER



Responsibilities include processing invoices, purchasing, recording payments, and performing clerical duties. Previous experience using the FACTS Tuition Mgt. system is a plus. Please send your resume to: mpburke-grospin@stmattias.net.

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS NEEDED

PREK3 - 8TH GRADE

Please send your resume to: mlynch@stmattias.net

<https://www.stmatthias.info/>

732-828-1400

CRAFT FAIR DONATIONS

We are in need of new items such as toys, gifts, gift cards and cash donations to help us fill baskets for the basket raffle fundraiser at the SMS Craft Fair on Sunday, December 3rd, 2023. Please send donations to the office by Monday, November 27th.

JOIN US FOR THE ANNUAL St. Matthias Holiday Craft Fair

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3RD, 2023
9:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

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TOYS, CANDLES, JEWELRY, BAGS, DECORATIONS





Who was St Luke?

On October 18, Catholics as well as other Christian communities worldwide, celebrate the feast of St Luke who was not only an Evangelist but also a physician. During the 12 noon Mass next Sunday, we will honor all those in the medical/healing profession with a special blessing. Who was Luke and what do we know about him?

Most biblical scholars affirm that Luke was born in Antioch, between 1AD and 16AD. Luke was of Syrian ancestry, and at the time of his birth, Antioch was part of the Roman Empire. At this time in history, Antioch was a city of vast culture, wealth and liberal thinking. Luke was believed to be a gentile and his writings were for a gentile audience. However, some scholars advocate that he was born a slave into the household of a wealthy Roman family and was trained to be their personal physician, a common practice at this time in Roman history.

Luke was a brilliantly diverse individual with many talents. From his writing, it is clear that Luke was highly educated and his literary style reflects the work of an historian. He was a much different individual from the other authors of the synoptic gospels. He was an author, physician, and historian and most important, an evangelist dedicated to spreading the teachings of Jesus. It is believed that he was converted to Christianity by Paul or one of his followers.

He is credited with not only writing the third of the synoptic gospels of the New Testament, but also the Acts of the Apostles. However, Luke was not one of the “original Twelve”. He was not an eyewitness to the ministry of Jesus.

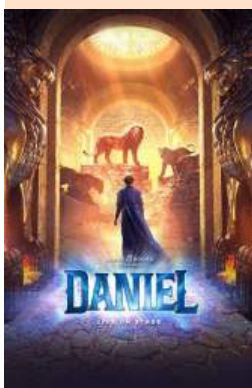
Luke’s knowledge of Jesus, his teachings and his divinity came from his travels with the disciples of Jesus in the early days of the development of the church. These included Paul, apostles, (probably Peter) and disciples – both male and female followers of Jesus including His Blessed Mother Mary. There were many other narratives about Jesus before Luke wrote his works. He carefully studied these as a true historian would. His reasons for writing his works were to give an “orderly account” of the facts as an historian. Also, Luke had contact with many of Jesus’ closest family and eye witnesses, like His mother.

It is from the gospel of Luke that we learn the first words of Jesus written in the gospels as He tells His mother when she finds Him in the Temple, “Did you not know I must be in My Father’s house?” Lk2:49. Scholars believe this confirms that Luke received much information from Mary about the young life of Jesus. “But Mary kept all these things, pondering them in her heart” Lk 2:19. Luke also gives us the beautiful stories of Annunciation, the baby in the manger, and the visit of the shepherds. Undoubtedly, these must have come from Mary’s talks with Luke.

His writings clearly show that Luke was highly educated. His writings also show his understanding of medical knowledge and this confirms his title of “beloved physician” by St. Paul. Luke stayed with Paul during his imprisonments and tended to his medical needs until his martyrdom. “Luke alone is with me” 2 Timothy 4:11.

Mary Guardino, St. Matthias Vocations Committee

TO BE CONTINUED



“SAVE THE DATE”!

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

SIGHT & SOUND

“DANIEL LIVE ON STAGE”

Saturday, April 20, 2024

For more details, visit: www.stmatthias.net/sightandsound

Adults (age 13+) -\$170 and Children (under 13) -\$100.

Deposit required is \$70.00 by Nov. 1

Give (and Receive!)

Stewardship Totals for Fiscal Year July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024				Last Year's Total
Current Month	In-Pew/Mail	Parish Giving	Weekly Total	Weekly Total
Week 10 - October 1, 2023	\$10,843.00	\$8,759.25	\$19,602.25	\$20,588.35
Week 11 - October 8, 2023	\$8,822.00	\$25,615.25	\$34,437.25	\$34,356.78
Week 12 - October 15, 2023			\$0.00	\$22,628.25
Week 13 - October 22, 2023			\$0.00	\$25,162.75
Week 13 - October 29, 2023			\$0.00	\$18,454.95
			Month-to-date	October Total Last Year
			\$54,039.50	\$121,191.08
			Current Year-to-	Year-to-date as of Octo-
			\$1,755,226.89	\$1,773,894.31

Stewardship Reflection October 15, 2023 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

*“My God will fully supply whatever you need...” -
Philippians 4:19*

God really does provide for those who are grateful and generous. This is very difficult for people that don't live a stewardship lifestyle to believe. People are skeptical and say it's just coincidence. If you are skeptical, try living a stewardship lifestyle for just one month – be generous with your gifts of time in prayer, talent in charitable works, and treasure, then see how God provides for your needs.

Reflexiónese 15 de octubre 2023 Domingo 28º del Tiempo Ordinario

“Mi Dios les dará todo lo que necesiten...” FILIPENSES 4:19

Dios realmente provee a aquellos que son agradecidos y generosos. Eso es muy difícil de creer para las personas que no viven un estilo de vida de corresponsabilidad. Las personas son escépticas y dicen que es solo una coincidencia. Si usted es escéptico, trate de llevar un estilo de vida de corresponsabilidad por un mes - sea generoso con sus dones de tiempo en oración, su talento en obras de caridad, y sus tesoros, y luego verá como Dios provee para satisfacer sus necesidades.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The parish office is in need of volunteers Monday - Friday mornings.
If you have some free time, please contact Mary Pat in the parish office, (732) 828-1400.
Thank you for all you do for St. Matthias.

Parish Leadership

Parish Pastoral Council: Co-Chairs: Frank Rees Frees814@gmail.com Marilyn Wegg mcw-wam@comcast.net	Co-Secretaries: Stephen Busono sbusono@gmail.com Bill Isele t33sm@aol.com Al Drabnis Didi Molano	Sheila Tartaglia Fr. Lancelot McGrath, Fr. Abraham, Ex-Officio Trustees: Pearl Scott Marge Richards	Parish Finance Council: Kester Hector, Chair Finance Council @stmatthias.net Carmen Driz-Melilli Barry Dusault Gwen Orlovski	Audrey Francis Joan Pritchard Mary Pat Burke-Grospin, Ex-Officio Fr. Abraham, Ex-Officio
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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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