



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** **lmcgrath**
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**, **lg Guillen**
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 29, 2023
30th Sunday in Ordinary Time



THE ST. MATTHIAS
2024
MASS INTENTIONS
BOOK IS OPEN
AT THE
PARISH OFFICE
DURING
OFFICE HOURS.



JOIN US TODAY
FOR THE
Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition



October 28th & 29th

This Exhibit will be set up
in the cafeteria.



Everyone is invited to visit this
unique exhibition after every Mass.



PLEASE COME JOIN THE MANY WHO SPEND
SOME QUIET TIME WITH THE
EUCCHARISTIC LORD.
OUR NEXT ADORATION WILL BE
THIS MONDAY EVENING,
OCTOBER 30, 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 29, 2023 **Eucharist Exhibition**
Pulpit Talk by K nights of Columbus

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

Monday, Oct 30, 2023 **St. Saturninus of Cagliari, Martyr**

8:00AM Mass /Miraculous Medal Novena Church
6:00PM Eucharist Adoration Church

Tuesday, Oct 31, 2023 **St. Alphonsus Rodriguez, Religious Brother**
Happy Halloween

8:00AM Mass Church

Wednesday, Nov 1, 2023 **All Saints Day**

8:00AM Mass, St. Joseph Novena Church
9:00AM SMS- Grandfriends Mass - 5th Gr. Church
9:30AM SMS - Reception Cafeteria
9:30AM Prayer Group 1 Holy Spirit de Porres Rm
12:10PM Mass-All Saints Day Church
2:00PM Bereavement Group de Porres Rm
7:30PM Mass-All Saints Day Church

Thursday, Nov 2, 2023 **All Souls Day**

8:00AM Mass Church
3:30PM Children's Choir Rehearsal Gr. 3&4 Church
4:00PM Children's choir Rehearsal Gr. 5-8 Church
5:00PM All Souls Remembrance Mass Church
7:30PM Sunday 10AM Choir Rehearsal Church

Friday, Nov 3, 2023 **St. Martin de Porres, Religious**

8:00AM Mass Church
8:30AM 1st Friday Holy Hour Church
10:30AM Mass-Spring Hills Residence Off Site

Saturday, Nov 4, 2023 **Charles Borromeo, Cardinal & Archbishop of Milan**

3:30PM Reconciliation Church
5:00PM Vigil Mass Church
6:00PM SM-RJI & SMDP Movie Night John XXIII Rm

Sunday, Nov 5, 2023

8:00AM Mass Church
10:00AM Mass Church
11:00AM Rosary Altar Society Mtg. John XXIII Rm
12:00PM Mass Church
12:30PM SVDP Thanksgiving Food Distribution - Ruiz Rm & de Porres Rm in the Parish Office
2:00PM GIFT Church & John XXIII & clsrms

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,

This week is important for us for various reasons. Tuesday is Halloween. Wednesday is All Saints Feast. Thursday is All Souls Day. And Friday is First Friday with our Holy Hour and Sacred Heart devotion.. First in this list is Halloween which some consider as a negative holiday, because it's been turned into a commercial driven candy fest, which obviously isn't healthy for our children (or for us parents who raid the candy bag!). Some others oppose it for religious reasons, saying that it opens children to evil and is too frightening – although many church parking lots are used for “trunk or treat” for safety reasons! I think it is good to have some perspective that will help us look at it objectively. It was in the year 835, that Pope Gregory IV designated November 1 as All Saints’ Day, or All Hallows’ Day (the term *hallow* means holy referring to saints). The night before was known as All Hallows’ Evening from which the term *Halloween* came.

Many festivals worldwide celebrate a time when the dead return to mingle with the living. The Hindus call it a night of Holi. The Iroquois Native Americans celebrate a feast of the dead every 12 years, when all those who have died during the preceding 12 years are honored with prayers. A national holiday in Mexico, the Day of the Dead, begins on November 2 and lasts several days. In this gruesome festival, death becomes a kind of neighborly figure, appearing on candy, jewelry, toys, bread, cakes, and so on. This is the time when the souls of the dead are thought to return and when the living are to honor them. For example, doors are decorated with flowers to welcome the *angelitos*, the souls of dead children.

For us Catholics, Halloween, All Saints Day, All Souls Day and the whole of November are opportunities with two goals: first. to really think about, cherish and remember our loved ones who are departed from the earth; and second, to reflect on our own mortality and the meaning of death as a gateway to the next world. That's why this Thursday evening at 5pm we will have a special Mass to remember our departed ones. Bringing their photos to church will help us remember them as a community. The lit candles will remind us of their life in the light of Christ who rose from the dead. Offering prayers help us to thank God for the blessing of their lives in which we too shared.

All these will also remind us about the reality of death – a topic we rather not think about! This season of Fall offers us a pageantry for our senses with the vibrantly colored leaves but the falling leaves remind us of the completion of the cycle of life - a living metaphor for death that will happen to all of us. Bible often calls it with a very pleasant term ‘sleep’ and even Jesus used that term regarding his friend Lazarus who actually had died. See John 11:11-14. St. Paul spoke about those who are alive and those who are asleep (referring to the dead) in 1 Thessalonians 4:15-17. Yes we don't need to be afraid of death because Jesus conquered death through his resurrection. It is a guarantee for us to think of death as a passage to the life of eternity, to join the “communion of saints” a doctrine that reminds us of rejoining with our dear departed ones who are with God.

Your brother in Christ,
Fr. Abraham Orapankal

Readings for the Week

Monday: Rom 8:12-17; Ps 68:2, 4, 6-7ab, 20-21; Lk 13:10-17

Tuesday: Rom 8:18-25; Ps 126:1b-6; Lk 13:18-21

Wednesday: Rv 7:2-4, 9-14; Ps 24:1-6; 1 Jn 3:1-3; Mt 5:1-12a

Thursday: Wis 3:1-9; Ps 23:1-6; Rom 5:5-11 or 6:3-9; Jn 6:37-40

Friday: Rom 9:1-5; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Lk 14:1-6

Saturday: Rom 11:1-2a, 11-12, 25-29; Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15, 17-18; Lk 14:1, 7-11

Sunday: Mal 1:14b — 2:2b, 8-10; Ps 131:1-3; 1 Thes 2:7b-9, 13; Mt 23:1-12



Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, Oct 28	5:00PM	Tom Healy, by Joyce & Family
Sunday, Oct 29	8:00AM	Rose Marie LaTorre, wife, by her husband, Tony
	10:00AM	Helen Jago, by Lynne Finan & Family
	12:00PM	Intention of Parishioners
Monday, Oct 30	8:00AM	Natalija Liaukiene, by Norvila Family
Tuesday, Oct 31	8:00AM	Healing Intentions for Aries Magali, by Aureen Williamson
	8:00AM	Deceased Members of the Natale & Tarantino Families, by Vinnie
Wednesday, Nov 1	8:00AM	Grace Gliozzi, by Daughter, Corinne
	12:10PM	Shirley & Natalie Boyd, by Dolores Christmas
	7:30PM	For Our Deceased Loved Ones
Thursday, Nov 2	8:00AM	Adele Miara, by Barbara Linko
Friday, Nov 3	8:00AM	Nancy Collins, by Marty
Saturday, Nov 4	5:00PM	Intention of Parishioners
	10:00AM	Sandra Fermin, by The Derkito Family
	12:00PM	Abraham Jacob Mukalel, by Iris Mukalel

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
 Tammy Baskaran
 Tara Capatosto
 Elizabeth Card
 Kyle Davidson
 Lisa DeFeo
 Zenon DeGuzman
 Marlene DiMaggio
 Hattie Evans
 Claudia Gemgnani
 Emma Gergely
 Gerry & Jack Gernert
 Marie Godet
 Linda Hartong

Marilyn Horvath
 Amanda Isele
 Baby Elaine Isele
 Bill Johnson
 Renée Jolly
 Bill Kelleher
 Betsy Kondrat
 Armando D. Liban
 Mary Lou Littrakis
 John Littrakis
 Denis Loboda
 Aries Magali
 Al Maglio
[Christine Matthews](#)

Ann McElwee
 Ivette Michel
 Gail Miranda
 Robert Pellegrino
 Randolff Pinard
 Valerie Polci
 Kim Price
 Denise Pultro
 Doris Regan
 Gabriel Rivera
 Arina Robinson
 Maria Schwenzer
[Martha "Marty" Shaw](#)
 Amy Shepp

Sr. Rosaria Shina, OSF
 Sr. Bernadine Marie Stemnock
 Tom Szabo
 Jacquelin C. Taylor
 Eileen Weber
 Nancy Whelan
[Ginette Zamor](#)
 Anne Zando

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

Pray for those who have died...

— "His mercy endures forever." Chronicles

Reflect



Smile with Your Family



One Sunday the pastor was finishing a series on marriage. At the end of the service, he was giving out small wooden crosses to each married couple. He said, "Place this cross in the room in which you fight the most and you will be reminded of God's commandment of love and you won't argue as much." One woman came up after the service and said, "You'd better give me five crosses." 😊

A pastor was speaking to a Sunday school class about the things money can't buy. "It can't buy laughter and it can't buy love," he told them. Driving his point home, he said, "What would you do if I offered you \$1000 not to love your mother and father?" Stunned silence ensued. Finally, a small voice queried, "How much would you give me not to love my big sister?" 😊

One - liners to smile 😊

I saw an ad for burial plots, and thought to myself that this is the last thing I need. 😊

Smoking will kill you... Bacon will kill you... But, smoking bacon will cure it. 😊

The inventor of autocorrect in a mobile phone has died. Rest in Peas. 😊

You know you're getting old when you have more candles on your cake than friends at your birthday party. 😊

My doctor told me I was going deaf. The news was hard for me to hear. 😊

If you're feeling depressed, try drinking a gallon of water before you go to sleep. It'll give you a reason to get out of bed in the morning. 😊

At the job interview, they asked me, "Where do you see yourself in five years?" I told him, "I think we'll still be using mirrors in five years." 😊



Parenting Tune-Up

Children make demands of your time. How do you keep on loving them? During the day take five minutes breaks to simply close your eyes and get centered. Get all your official work organized during the day. Then in the evening, you will be able to give your family the best of you, and not what is leftover of your energy and patience!

Marriage Tune-Up

The love commandment is hard to practice all the time! Of course we're not perfect and we're going to fall short, but over all in your marriage would you say that your relationship is guided by love and not by competition? Research shows that we need at least five positive interactions to each negative interaction to maintain a healthy, happy relationship that can weather the normal conflicts and upsets of daily life.



Love Them Anyway!



In Calcutta, India, there is a children's home named **Shishu Bhavan** (Children's Home), founded by Mother Teresa. The home continues to be operated by her community, the Missionaries of Charity. On the wall of the home hangs a sign, which reads:

People are unreasonable, illogical, and self-centered. LOVE THEM ANYWAY! If you do good, people will accuse you of selfish ulterior motives, DO GOOD ANYWAY! If you are successful, you win false friends and true enemies, SUCCEED ANYWAY! The good you do will be forgotten tomorrow, DO GOOD ANYWAY! Honesty and frankness make you vulnerable, BE HONEST AND FRANK ANYWAY! What you spent years building may be destroyed overnight, BUILD ANYWAY! People really need help but may attack you if you help

them, HELP PEOPLE ANYWAY! Give the world the best you have and you'll get kicked in the teeth, GIVE THE WORLD THE BEST YOU'VE GOT ANYWAY!

Mother Teresa counsels her young charges that the challenges offered by this sign can be met only if human beings are motivated by a love and a respect for one another which looks beyond faults, differences, ulterior motives, success and failure. Mother Teresa once said of herself, "By blood and origin, I am all Albanian. My citizenship is Indian. I am a Catholic nun. As to my calling, I belong to the whole world. As to my heart, I belong entirely to the heart of Jesus." It is this relationship of belonging and the loving service that grows out of that belonging, which the Scriptural authors called Covenant.

Reflect



“You are still you, and I Love you!”

Remember actor Christopher Reeve? He had everything--wealth, fame, fabulous health. He was one of the most handsome, physically fit men in Hollywood. Then he fell from a horse. And suddenly he was a quadriplegic. When he awoke from his accident, his first thought was that maybe he should go ahead and die. However, one thing stopped him and gave him the will to live. His wife, Dana, spoke to him firmly, yet gently. "I am only going to say this once," she said. "I will support whatever you want to do, because this is your life and your decision. But I want you to know that I'll be with you for the long haul, no matter what. You're still you, and I love you." Those words gave Christopher Reeves the strength to go on. [Jack Canfield, Mark Victor Hansen, Mark & Chrissy Donnelly, and Barbara DeAngelis, Ph.D. *Chicken Soup for the Couple's Soul* (Deerfield Beach, FL.: Health Communications, Inc., 1999), pp. 104-105.]

There are times in life when all of us wonder where we will find the strength to go on. Maybe it will come from a spouse, or our offspring, or a friend. Other people are a great source of consolation and comfort. But there will come a time when all of us will have to lean on our ultimate Friend, God. There will be no one else who can help. And why shouldn't we turn to God? This is that for which He created us --relationships.

“That’s how God Works!”

There is a story about a young woman who was in great distress because she had lost a sense of God in her life. She complained to her elderly grandmother, “Why doesn’t God let me feel His presence? If only I could feel Him and know that He has touched me.” Her grandmother said, “Pray to God, right now. Close your eyes and pray to him. Ask Him to put out his hand and touch you.” The girl closed her eyes and prayed fervently. Then she felt a hand on her hand. “He touched me. He touched me,” she cried out. Then she said, “You know, his hand felt just like your hand.” “Of course it was my hand,” her grandmother said. “That’s how God works. He takes the hand that is nearest and uses that.”

Stewardship Quote:

Instead of teaching us how to do more (time management), the Bible calls each of us to do less, and consequently, to receive peace and rest with God (time stewardship). Reversing time-warped living is about restoring our relationship with the Time Giver. ... By doing less, we can have more of God. (Steve Ganger in *Time Warped– First Century Time Stewardship for 21st Century Living*)

Fr. Damien Practiced the Love Commandment



Father Damien: The Leper Priest is a movie made for television. The program dramatizes the story of Fr. Damien (now a canonized saint) who came from Belgium to the Hawaiian island of Molokai in 1873 to serve the lepers there until he too contracted leprosy and died in 1889. At that time in history, the colony of Molokai was a dumping ground for lepers and it was like a death sentence to be put there. There was little law and order, medical help and supplies were non-existent, and housing and sanitation were so bad that the island seemed like a sewer. At first, Fr. Damien found the lepers repulsive. However, as he suffered with them, struggled with them and served them, he overcame his revulsion towards the lepers and developed deep feelings of love for them. Fr. Damien dedicated almost two decades of his life to the lepers because he believed that in doing so he was demonstrating both his love for God and for his neighbor.

Hospitality Check!

A man attending a crowded Church service refused to take his hat off when asked to do so by the ushers. The preacher was perturbed too, and after the service told the man that the Church was quite happy to have him as guest, and invited him to join the Church, but he explained the traditional decorum regarding men’s hats and said, “I hope you will confirm to that practice in the future.” “Thank you,” said the man. “And thank you for taking time to talk to me. It was good of you to ask me to join the congregation. In fact, I joined it three years ago and have been coming regularly ever since, but today is the first day anyone ever paid attention to me. After being an unknown for three years, today, by simply keeping on my hat, I had the pleasure of talking to the ushers. And now I have a conversation with you, who have always appeared too busy to talk to me before!”

–What do we do to make strangers welcome? Are we too busy that you have no time to keep the greatest commandment?

Remembering Our Departed

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* recommends prayer for the dead in conjunction with the offering of the Eucharistic Sacrifice and also encourages | *almsgiving, indulgences, and works of penance undertaken on behalf of the dead*" (CCC #1032). Let us remember in prayer our dear departed, thank God for the gift of their lives, have Masses offered for them, visit their graves and thus keep their memory live.

continued

Remembering Our Departed (continued)

The fire of Purgatory can be thought of as an intense, transforming encounter with Jesus Christ and his fire of love. Thus the experience of Purgatory can be an "instant" purification immediately after death, varying in intensity from soul to soul, depending on the state of each individual. According to this view, the refining fire of Purgatory is only a relic of medieval imagery. It is actually the fire of Divine love. It may, in fact, be a form of "blazing enlightenment" which penetrates and perfects our very being. Pope Benedict considers Purgatory as an "existential state" and, hence, it is not necessarily accurate to speak of a location or duration of Purgatory. According to Pope Benedict XVI, "the souls that are aware of the immense love and perfect justice of God consequently suffer for not having responded correctly and perfectly to that love." It is the suffering of the holy souls. He continues that Purgatory is thus "the fringe of heaven, a state where heaven's eternal light has a refining effect on the "holy souls" (not 'poor souls'), who are held in the arms of Divine Mercy."

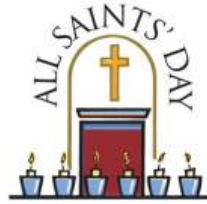
All Saints Day

The feast and its objectives: All baptized Christians who have died and are now with God in glory are considered saints. All Saints Day is intended to honor the memory of countless unknown and non-canonized saints who have no feast day. On this day we thank God for giving ordinary men and women a share in His holiness and heavenly glory as a reward for their faith. This feast is observed to teach us to honor the saints, both by imitating their lives and by seeking their intercession for us before Christ, the only mediator between God and man (1 Tim. 2:5). The Church reminds us today that God's call for holiness is universal, that all of us are called to live in His love and to make His love real in the lives of those around us. Holiness is related to the word wholesomeness. We grow in holiness when we live wholesome lives of integrity truth, justice, charity, mercy and compassion sharing our blessings with others.



A Pumpkin story

"What is it like to be a Christian saint?" "It is like being a Halloween pumpkin. God picks you from the field, brings you in, and washes all the dirt off you. Then he cuts off the top and scoops out the yucky stuff. He removes the pulp of impurity and injustice and seeds of doubt, hate, and greed. Then He carves you a new smiling face and puts His light of holiness inside you to shine for the entire world to see." This is the Christian idea behind the carved pumpkins during the Halloween season.



Historical note on All Saints Feast

A common commemoration of the saints, especially the martyrs, appeared in various areas throughout the Church after the legalization of Christianity in A.D. 313. The primary reason for establishing a common feast day was the desire to honor the great number of Christians martyred during the persecution of Emperor Diocletian (284-305). In the East, the city of Edessa celebrated this feast on May 13; the Syrians, on the Friday after Easter; and the city of Antioch, on the first Sunday after Pentecost. Both St. Ephrem (d. 373) and St. John Chrysostom (d. 407) attest to this feast day in their preaching. In the West, a commemoration for all the saints also was celebrated on the first Sunday after Pentecost. St. Bede (d. 735) recorded the celebration of All Saints Day on Nov. 1 in England, and such a celebration also existed in Salzburg, Austria. It was Pope Gregory IV who in 835 ordered the Feast of All Saints to be observed universally on November 1.

Purpose and challenge of All Saints Day

For Roman Catholics, the Orthodox, and to some extent, the Anglicans, "All Saints Day" is a day, not only to remember the saints and to thank God for them, but also to pray for their help. It is also a day to glorify Jesus Christ, who by his holy life and death has made the saints holy. This feast offers a challenge to each one of us: anybody can become a saint, regardless of his or her age, life style or living conditions. St. Augustine accepted this challenge when he asked the question: "If others can become saints, why can't I?"

On the feast of All Saints the church invites us and challenges us to walk the walk of the saints and not just talk the talk: "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven" (Matthew 7:21). The feast gives us an occasion to thank God for having invited so many of our ancestors to join the company of saints. May our reflection on the heroic lives of the saints and the imitation of their lifestyle enable us to hear from our Lord the words of grand welcome to eternal bliss: "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter into the joys of your master" (Matthew 25:21). Today is also a day for us to pray to the saints, both the canonized and the non-canonized, asking them to pray on our behalf that we may live our lives in faithfulness like theirs, and so receive the same reward.

Pray

ALL SOUL'S MASS



Our annual All Souls Mass will take place on Thursday, November 2nd, 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.

BAPTISMAL BIB MINISTRY



With the passing of our ministry leader Mary Ann Vetter, I have been tasked with trying to find out who else, besides myself, is currently sewing Baptismal bibs. I was given all the necessary materials to make the bibs from Mary Ann's daughter. If you are currently a member of the Baptismal Bib Ministry or are interested in becoming a member, please send an email to Debbie Lanyi, mdlanyi@comcast.net

I thank you in advance for your prayerful consideration to join this meaningful ministry that embraces the newest members of St. Matthias.

Rosary Altar Society Meeting, Sunday, November 5



The Rosary Altar Society will meet on Nov. 5 **after** the 10 AM Mass to pray the rosary in the St. John XXIII meeting room in the school. Light refreshments. All are welcome.

ALSO PRO-LIFE RAFFLE TICKETS ON SALE

Members of the pro-life committee will be selling raffle tickets for a 2024 Volvo XC 40 AWD SUV on **November 4th and 5th** - donation - \$10. Proceeds for the benefit of NJ Right to Life.



From the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC)

Our meeting on 10/17/23 began with a Lectio Divina reflection on the gospel of the upcoming Sunday. Here are the main points of discussion that pertains to the whole parish:

1) Jeff Beck, our parishioner who is part of the team working on the wifi-live streaming project in the church, was invited to update the PPC about it. He explained to us about the effort of the past three years with all the research with various vendors, visiting other churches, consultation with various experts, to finalize what we need for our parish. Our church (originally built as a gym) has a layout that is not very conducive for the kind of projection that we need. No matter where we put the screen or monitor, the sunlight reflecting on it makes it less visible. Given such limitations, we are going for a contrast enhancing screen

with an ultra short-throw projector for the best results. Raising our crucifix a little creates enough space for the screen. We are hoping to have everything in place before Christmas.

2) The PPC noted the happy resolution of having a Basket Ball court for our St. Matthias School students in our parking lot, and appreciated the team work of the PPC committee together with the representatives of the Property Management Committee, together with the school principal and HSA.

3) Shared updates about the weekly adoration, upcoming Eucharistic Presentations, and the Exhibit on the Eucharistic miracles.

The meeting concluded with a prayer.

From the Parish Office - Important Bulletin Information

- All bulletin requests **MUST** be received by **9:00 a.m.** the Monday prior to that weekend's bulletin. Exceptions cannot be made for late - arriving material. Early submissions are always best! Holiday accelerated printing schedules require a modified deadline, items may be publicized in advance if submitted early.
- Requests must be submitted as you would like them to appear. All requests are considered, however, they are subject to editing, and their publication in specific bulletins is not always guaranteed.
- Please be brief. Preferably 300 words or 1800 characters (including spaces) or less. (ie: Who, What, Where, When, Why, Contact Information).
- Requests must be emailed to the following persons: **Fr. Abraham**, **Nathalie Godet**, and **Leslie Guillen** to ensure proper communication as well as to ensure all the necessary information is received prior to the submission deadline.

Email addresses can be found on the cover of every bulletin.

Catholic Community of St. Matthias

RACIAL
JUSTICE
INITIATIVE



MOVIE NIGHT



DATE: Saturday, November 4th
TIME: 6:00 p.m. Dinner / 6:30 p.m. Movie
WHERE: St. John XXIII Room

Please join us for a special Black Catholic History Month movie night! We will be watching *Just Mercy*, starring Michael B. Jordan. There will be sandwiches, beverages, cookies, and lots of fellowship, including reflection questions and discussion. There will be a free will offering for dinner and ALL are encouraged to attend! Please RSVP by Thursday, **November 2nd** so that we can prepare food order accordingly:

via email to matthiasracialjustice@gmail.com or
via SignUpGenius, <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040E45AFA822AAF49-45185294-just>



JOIN THE ST. MARTIN DE PORRES SOCIETY FOR OUR PARISHWIDE LITURGY TO CELEBRATE NATIONAL BLACK CATHOLIC HISTORY MONTH AND THE FEAST OF ST. MARTIN DE PORRES (NOVEMBER 3RD)
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12 – NOON MASS
FEATURING OUR SUNDAY ADULT CHOIR

AND THE UMOJA IMANI CHOIR

WITH FR. GERARD MARABLE PRESIDING



Father Gerard C. Marable was named pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Galloway in July 2020. Father Marable, 64, ministered in Camden City parishes for 20 years. He was born in Atlantic City and he studied at Xavier University, New Orleans, and Christ the King Seminary, East Aurora, N.Y. He was ordained May 28, 1988, in Saint Joseph Pro-Cathedral, Camden, by Bishop George H. Guilfoyle.



GOOD NEWS!! The deadline for Our Christmas Tree Campaign has been extended!!!

It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year!! Our annual Christmas Tree "Spread the Light" campaign is in full swing! We would like to thank all of the parishioners and friends of the parish who have already arranged for their trees. If you have not sponsored a tree yet --**GOOD NEWS!! The deadline has been extended!!!** There are both Personal and Business forms in the back of the church and on the website. You can either pay at the parish office, through Parish Giving, or by placing a sealed envelope marked 'Trees' in the collection basket during mass. Don't miss out on honoring a loved one, friend, business, or group! Join in this wonderfully moving tradition that helps support our church and brings joy to so many. Help us to 'Light the Night' here in Somerset! But, don't wait, numbers are limited, get your request in now!

For more information about this campaign and to order a tree, please visit: www.stmatthias.net/tree



ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT VIRTUAL GROUP MEETS ON November 8th at 2:00 PM

The Alzheimer's Association and Saint 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, October 11th, from 2:00 pm-3:00 pm on Zoom.**

Registration is required. To register, call 800-272-3900 and mention the St. Matthias group.

The Group provides a safe and supportive environment and offers dementia-related education, emotional support, and connections with resources so that the group members may enhance their lives in the midst of the journey.

For more information, visit alz.org/NJ.

Learn

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 Management 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



Looking for a Chess Club Facilitator for Grades 3-8 at St. Matthias School

If anyone is interested in facilitating a Chess Club for grades 3-8. Please Contact Principal Mary Lynch at 732-828-1402 <https://www.stmatthias.info/>

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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170 JFK BLVD.
SOMERSET, NJ
TOYS, CANDLES, JEWELRY, BAGS, DECORATIONS

Serve



SMYLE YOUTH GROUP PROJECT

On Saturday and Sunday, November 4th & 5th, SMYLE will be collecting the following items after all Masses on Saturday evening and Sunday:
Flour or Cornmeal, Sugar, Baking Soda, Baking Powder, Vanilla & Cinnamon
Please place all donations in the boxes marked **SMYLE**. Thank you!!!

MORNING OF SERVICE



The next Morning of Service will be held on Saturday, November 11th. If you are interested in volunteering that morning, please email John and Coleen Zdziarski at jzdzarski@comcast.net. Please note that those under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

The sites are :

1. Franklin Township Food Bank - 224 Churchill Avenue in Somerset - sorting canned goods, etc. Minimum age is 14. Limited to six people (8:15 - 12:00 noon).
2. Pregnancy Aid Center - 59 Thompson Street in Raritan - sorting children's clothing. Limited to eight people (9:30 - 12:00 noon).
3. Spring Hills Somerset - Assisted Living - 473 DeMott Lane in Somerset - singing patriotic songs to the residents under the direction of Joan Best Seamon (10:00 - 10:45).

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	\$10,198.00	\$16,115.25	\$26,313.25	\$22,628.25
Week 13 - October 22, 2023	\$13,602.00	\$12,362.47	\$25,964.47	\$25,162.75
Week 13 - October 29, 2023			\$0.00	\$18,454.95
			Month-to-date Total	October Total Last
			\$106,317.22	\$121,191.08
			Current Year-to-date	Year-to-date as of
			\$1,807,504.61	\$1,773,894.31

Stewardship Reflection October 29, 2023 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

“You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.” – Matthew 22:37

Do you put other “gods” before God? Is your love of money, power, status, comfort or some personal possession greater than your love for God? Do you recognize that everything you have and that everything you are is a gift from God? Putting God first in everything helps keep us from becoming a slave to our possessions and to our pride.

Reflexiónese 29 de octubre 2023 Domingo 30º del Tiempo Ordinario

“Debes amar al Señor, Tu Dios, con todo tu corazón, con toda tu alma y con toda tu mente.” - MATEO 22:37

¿Pone otros “dioses” antes de Dios? ¿Es su amor por el dinero, el poder, el estatus, la comodidad o algunos de sus bienes personales más grande que su amor por Dios? ¿Reconoce que todo lo que es y todo lo que tiene es regalo de Dios? Poner a Dios de primero en todo ayuda a que no nos convirtamos en esclavos de nuestras posesiones y de nuestro orgullo.



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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