



**St. Matthias Parish Office:**

Monday - Friday, 8:30 am - 4:00 pm,  
 Friday, 8:30 am - 1:00 pm  
 168 JFK Boulevard, Somerset, NJ 08873  
 732-828-1400, fax: 732-828-0866  
[www.stmatthias.net](http://www.stmatthias.net)

**Mass Schedule (in person):**

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

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

170 JFK Blvd., Somerset, NJ 08873  
[www.stmatthias.info](http://www.stmatthias.info) 732-828-1402  
**School Office Hours**, Monday - Thursday  
 9AM-1PM Friday By Appointment

For all Parish emails, add @stmatthias.net

**Pastor:** Rev Abraham Orapankal, [abraham](mailto:abraham@stmatthias.net)  
 Mary Pat Burke-Grospin, Business Administrator  
[mpburke-grospin](mailto:mpburke-grospin@stmatthias.net)

Deacon Ron Caimi, Senior Deacon  
 Kelly Counts, Receptionist, [kcounts](mailto:kcounts@stmatthias.net)  
 Deacon Russell Demkovitz, [rdemkovitz](mailto:rdemkovitz@stmatthias.net)  
 Nathalie Godet, Website/Bulletin Coordinator,  
[ngodet](mailto:ngodet@stmatthias.net)

Leslie Guillen, Bulletin Editor, [lg Guillen](mailto:lg Guillen@stmatthias.net)  
 Amy Hanna, Accountant/Databases, [ahanna](mailto:ahanna@stmatthias.net)  
 Mike Lanyi, Sacristan  
 Sue Lenczewski, Youth Coordinator, [SMYLE](mailto:SMYLE@stmatthias.net)  
 Mary Jo Loboda, Parish Staff, Development,  
[mjloboda](mailto:mjloboda@stmatthias.net)

Julio Montero, Maintenance Supervisor  
 Dolores R. Nann, Pastoral Associate for Faith  
 Formation, [dnann](mailto:dnann@stmatthias.net)

Vinnie Natale, Bookkeeper, [vnatale](mailto:vnatale@stmatthias.net)  
 Silvia Nizama, Housekeeper  
 Deacon John Radvanski, [deaconjohn](mailto:deaconjohn@stmatthias.net)  
 Joan Best Seamon, Pastoral Associate for Music  
 Ministry, [jseamon](mailto:jseamon@stmatthias.net)

Sr. Marie Therese Sherwood, OSF, Pastoral  
 Assoc. for Social Concerns, [msherwood](mailto:msherwood@stmatthias.net)

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

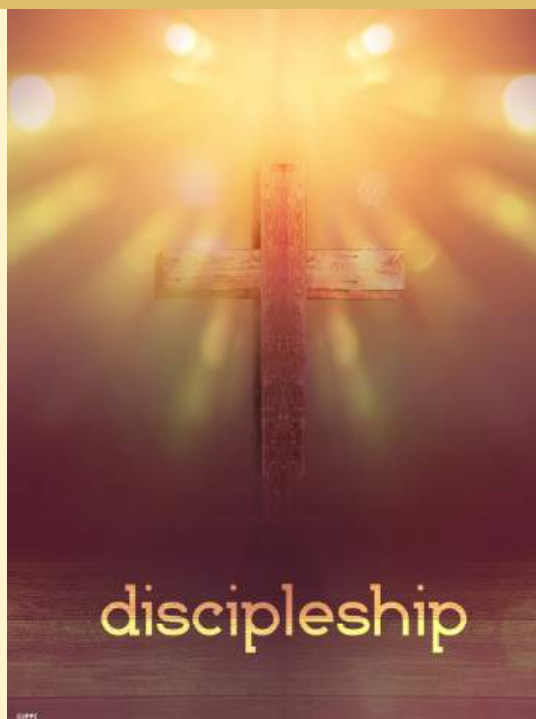
**THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. MATTHIAS**  
**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2023**  
 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

The St. Matthias  
 Rosary Society  
 will be hosting the  
 Welcome Reception  
 for

*Sr. Mary Vertucci*  
**TODAY** after the  
**10 AM Mass.**

We will pray the  
 rosary at **9:30 AM**  
 instead of after the  
 Mass to allow  
 everyone to get to  
 the cafeteria after  
 Mass.

See page 7 for more info.



*A  
 Warm Welcome  
 to  
 Rev. Lancelot  
 McGrath,  
 our new  
 Parochial Vicar*

**There will be no ADORATION this coming  
 Monday evening, September 4Th.**



Join us for Mass, Food and Fun!  
**Sunday, September 17th** at the **Noon Mass**  
 followed by food and fun in the school cafeteria!  
 All youth ages 6th grade through high school are welcome!

Masses are also livestreamed on our YouTube channel: [youtube.com/c/StMatthiasSomersetNJ](https://youtube.com/c/StMatthiasSomersetNJ)

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

### Sunday, Sep 3, 2023

8:00AM Mass Church  
 9:30AM Pray the Rosary w/ Rosary Altar Grp before 10AM Mass Church  
 10:00AM Mass Church  
 11:00AM Meet & Greet Sr. Mary Vertucci - Continental Breakfast Cafeteria  
 12:00PM Mass Church

### Monday, Sep 4, 2023 **St. Rose of Viterbo** **Labor Day Holiday**

8:00AM No Mass or Eucharist Adoration

### Tuesday, Sep 5, 2023 **St. Teresa of Calcutta** Classes begin at SMS

8:00AM Mass Church  
 8:00AM SMS Classes begin School  
 9:00AM SMS- Pre-K Orientation School  
 7:30PM SVDP Mtg. de Porres Rm

### Wednesday, Sep 6, 2023 **St. Eleutherius, Abbot**

8:00AM Mass—St. Joseph Novena Church  
 8:00AM SMS Grades Pre-K to 8 School  
 9:30AM Prayer Grp. 1 Holy Spirit de Porres Rm  
 7:00PM K of C Council Business Mtg. Cafeteria

### Thursday, Sep 7, 2023 **St. Regina, Martyr**

8:00AM Mass Church  
 8:00AM SMS-Full day, BSP & ASP begins School

### Friday, Sep 8, 2023 **Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

8:00AM Mass Church  
 9:00AM SMS Mass: Student Council Church

### Saturday, Sep 9, 2023 **St. Peter Claver, S.J. Apostle of the Black Slaves in So. America**

3:30PM Reconciliation Church  
 5:00PM Vigil Mass Church  
 6:00PM K of C Installation of Officers after 5PM Mass Cafeteria

### Sunday, Sep 10, 2023 **National Grandparents Day**

8:00AM Mass Church  
 10:00AM Mass— Sign Language Interpreter Church  
 Church Church  
 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](mailto: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,

We are very happy to welcome **Rev. Lancelot McGrath** this weekend to our parish community. I am grateful to our Bishop Checchio for appointing him as our Parochial Vicar to assist me in the pastoral ministry. Obviously, it means involvement with Mass and other sacramental ministry, as well as parishioner visitations, involvement with parish organizations, visitation of the sick and homebound, emergency coverage, and general presence, especially spending significant amount of time visiting the school and interacting with the students, staff and parents. A parishioner of Nativity of Our Lord in Monroe, wrote to me his appreciation of him: *“Congratulations! You are receiving a part of my heart in Father Lancelot McGrath.”* Another couple emailed me this: *“While at Nativity, we have had the opportunity to meet Fr. Lance McGrath. He is a beautiful priest and so in love with the Lord. His faith is contagious, which you want in a priest. If we had to describe him, it would be gentle and humble.”* Great to hear such good comments. In the name of all of us, I heartily welcome Fr. McGrath to St. Matthias.

It has been very hectic for me, during July and August, to be doing all the Masses, sick calls, funerals etc., while attending to other regular matters of our parish and school. But we were fortunate to get periodic help for weekend Masses from other priests like Fr. Nick Gengaro, Fr. Tom Lanza, Fr. Jose Lim, Fr. Peter Ssekajugo, and Fr. Joseph Kabali. That certainly gave us all a rich variety of priests with their own unique styles of homilies.

With the summer officially coming to an end, we are happy to welcome back all our students, staff and faculty. Our school is already alive with staff meeting, Back to School socials, Faculty PD and other activities. The inaugural School Mass will be on Friday, September 8<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to the HSA team who have been doing lots of preparations for the new school year, in particular by making the playground very colorful and attractive. Mrs. Mary Lynch, our Principal, has been working hard, directing these and other school activities. As I offer our support, I wish her and the entire School community God’s blessings.

Since Labor Day first became a federal holiday in 1894, the first Monday of September has been set apart to celebrate and value in American society the role of our workers and their work by providing, ironically and fittingly, a day off to rest and enjoy the fruits of one’s labor. But it is also a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the deeper meaning of our work, which the language of faith provides. The creation story shows our God working six days and resting on the Sabbath (Exodus 20:11) The Catholic Church proclaims the dignity, meaning and redemptive value of all human work. In 1981 Pope John Paul II wrote an Encyclical letter entitled "On Human Work" (*Laborem Exercens*) which beautifully presented this Christian vision of the dignity and meaning of human work, based on the biblical teachings.

Happy Labor Day! Happy Long weekend!

Your brother in Christ,

Fr. Abraham Orapankal

## Readings for the Week

**Monday:** 1 Thes 4:13-18; Ps 96:1, 3-5, 11-13; Lk 4:16-30

**Tuesday:** 1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Lk 4:31-37

**Wednesday:** Col 1:1-8; Ps 52:10-11; Lk 4:38-44

**Thursday:** Col 1:9-14; Ps 98:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6; Lk 5:1-11

**Friday:** Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30; Ps 13:6ab, 6c; Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 [18-23]

**Saturday:** Col 1:21-23; Ps 54:3-4, 6, 8; Lk 6:1-5

**Sunday:** Ez 33:7-9; Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9; Rom 13:8-10; Mt 18:15-20

## Mass Intentions for the Week

<b>Saturday, Sep 2</b>	5:00PM	Craig Slyman, by Mom & Dad
<b>Sunday, Sep 3</b>	8:00AM	Kevin M. McLaughlin, by Jody Finnegan
	10:00AM	Maurice (Max) Regan, by His Family
	12:00PM	Intention of Parishioners
<b>Monday, Sep 4</b>	8:00AM	No Mass—Labor Day
<b>Tuesday, Sep 5</b>	8:00AM	Wedding Anniversary Joseph & Analiza Ramos, by Mom
<b>Wednesday, Sep 6</b>	8:00AM	Del Rosario & Reyes Families, by Espy
<b>Thursday, Sep 7</b>	8:00AM	Nancy Collins, by Marty
<b>Friday, Sep 8</b>	8:00AM	Thanksgiving for Regina Mallare, by Sister
<b>Saturday, Sep 9</b>	5:00PM	Intention Of Parishioners
<b>Sunday, Sep 10</b>	8:00AM	Memory of Edgardo Mallare, by Sister
	10:00AM	Regina Vidal, by Kathleen Referente & Family
	12:00PM	Patrick & Mary Geraghty, by Mary & 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](mailto: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	Emma Gergely	Anne McElwee	Maria Schwenzer
<a href="#">Mary Barrood</a>	Gerry & Jack Gernert	Margaret Menendez	Amy Shepp
Tammy Baskaran	<a href="#">Linda Hartong</a>	Carol Millemann	Sr. Rosaria Shina, OSF
Regina Berlowitz	Marilyn Horvath	Eleanor Nagy	Sr. Bernadine Marie
Bishop Paul Bootkowski	<a href="#">Baby Elaine Isele</a>	Joseph Nguyen	Stemnock
Barbara Butler	<a href="#">Amanda Isele</a>	Danny Ongchango	Jeff Sullivan
Tara Capatosto	Nancy Kane	Robert Pellegrino	Tom Szabo
Elizabeth Card	Robert Kashinsky	Jim Pettit	Mary Ann Vlad
Ellen Catalina	Kathleen Langenbacher	Randolff Pinard	Nancy Whelan
Kyle Davidson	Rose Larangeira	Valerie Polci	Carl Wyopen
Lisa DeFeo	Mary Lou Littrakis	Kim Price	Angie Yetyet
Zenon DeGuzman	John Littrakis	Denise Pultrio	
Hattie Evans	Carol Ann Loftus	Doris Regan	<b>And for all who are ill, homebound, elderly, in nursing care, or living with chronic illness, we pray.</b>
Josephine Geenty	Joseph Lubrano	Gabriel Rivera	
Claudia Gemgnani	Aries Magali	Arina Robinson	
Helen Geraghty	Al Maglio	Arthur Robinson	

## Pray for those who have died...

— “His mercy endures forever.” Chronicles

# Reflect



## Smile with Your Family



Amusing Notice at a housing complex:  
The elevator is being fixed for the next day. During that time we regret that you will be unbearable. 😊

Amusing Notice at a hotel reception: Please leave your values at the front desk. 😊

My wife came home from work yesterday and was raging about her boss. She said to me, "I'm never going to work for that man again!". I asked her, "Why, what did he say to you?" She said, "You're fired." 😊

If all the cars in the United States were placed end to end... it would probably be Labor Day Weekend. 😊

If a train station is where the train stops, and a bus station is where the bus stops, what is a work station? 😊

Labor Day is a glorious holiday because your child will be going back to school the next day. It should have been called Independence Day, but that name was already taken." 😊

I said to my son, "Do you know, most people don't have to work today, because it's Labor Day?"  
He replied, "If people aren't working, shouldn't it be called "No-Labor Day?" 😊

What is the day when most Babies are born? Well, I was always told it's Labor Day. 😊  
I don't mind coming to work, but this 8-hour wait to go home is just ridiculous 😊

### Parenting Tune-Up



"You duped me, O Lord, and I let myself be duped." (Jeremiah 20: 7) Sometimes each of us makes a fool of ourselves. Share a time that you did something foolish and how you recovered. It will give your child hope that they too can recover.

### Marriage Tune-Up



Infidelity is not always physical. A more subtle form is Emotional Infidelity. It can start when one spouse feels under-appreciated and gets affirmation from someone outside the marriage. Sometimes work (paid or volunteer) or even the needs of one's own children can be the source. Giving time and attention now can prevent an emotional affair later.

## INSPIRATIONAL QUOTES ON HUMAN LABOR



**Mother Teresa:** The miracle is not that we do this work, but that we are happy to do it.

**Martin Luther King, Jr.:** All labor that uplifts humanity has dignity.

**Mahatma Gandhi:** The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.

**Henry Ford:** There is joy in work. There is no happiness except in the realization that we have accomplished something.

**Pearl S. Buck:** To find joy in work is to find the fountain of youth.

**Booker T. Washington:** Nothing ever comes to one that is worth having except as a result of hard work.

**Thomas Edison:** Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work.

**Vince Lombardi:** The only place success comes before work is in the dictionary.

**Mark Twain:** Thunder is good, thunder is impressive; but it is the lightning that does the work.

**Thomas Edison:** Genius is 1% inspiration and 99% perspiration.

### Bible on Human labor

The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. Genesis 2:15

Six days shall you labor and do your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work... Exodus 20:9-10

(Continued)



## Reflect

### Bible on Human labor (continued)

You shall eat the fruit of the labor of your hands; you shall be blessed, and it shall be well with you.—Psalm 128:2

You shall eat the fruit of the labor of your hands; you shall be blessed, and it shall be well with you.—Psalm 128:2

Colossians 3:23 = Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters,

Proverbs 10:4 = Lazy hands make for poverty, but diligent hands bring wealth.

Proverbs 14:23 = All hard work brings a profit, but mere talk leads only to poverty.

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.—Matthew 11:28

For even when we were with you, we used to give you this order: if anyone is not willing to work, then he is not to eat, either. For we hear that some among you are leading an undisciplined life, doing no work at all, but acting like busybodies. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to work in quiet fashion and eat their own bread. But as for you, brethren, do not grow weary of doing good. 2 Thessalonians 3:10-13



### In Baseball and in Christian Life, you "Sacrifice"

In football, you "Tackle!" In baseball, you "catch flies..." In football, you "Punt!" In baseball, you "bunt..." Football is played on a "Gridiron"! Baseball is played on a "field..." In football, you "Score!" In baseball you "go home..." In football, you "Kill!" In baseball, you "sacrifice..." Baseball may be the only sport where you actually can hear this last word. It's one of the few places anywhere that you hear it in a self-centered, take-care-of-yourself, don't-worry-about-anybody-else society. In contrast to football, sacrifice may sound like a sign of weakness, but I hardly think of any of the Atlanta Braves or Minnesota Twins as weak. Baseball's one thing; life is quite another. In our society, there are still Christians who sacrifice their lives for Christ and who really deny themselves and take up their crosses. [*The Gates of New Life*, Charles Scribner's Sons, 1940), p. 3]. Here is a young man who wanted to be a lawyer, but his father died, and he had to leave school and work to keep things going at home. Here is a young woman who wanted to be a great doctor but was never admitted to medical school. Here is a businessman who had hoped all his life to make his business a great success, but the competition was much tougher than he had ever expected, and he soon found himself declaring bankruptcy. Here is a couple whose marriage is on the rocks. When it started out it was so sweet and good but now... now it's just not the same. There is not a person in any congregation who has not sacrificed a hope or a dream as burnt offering on the high altar of the providence of God.

### Can Suffering lead to any Good?

When a bud goes through the pain of bursting, it is transformed into a beautiful flower. When a pupa struggles out of a cocoon, it is transformed into a charming butterfly. When a chicken breaks the shell and comes out it becomes a lovely bird. When a seed bursts the pod and falls to the ground it begins to grow as a plant. When we undergo the suffering and pain of life we are strengthened. Arthur Golden reminds us, "Adversity is like a strong wind. It tears away from us all but the things that cannot be torn, so that we see ourselves as we really are." (Arthur Golden, *Memoirs of a Geisha*).

St. Paul wrote: "Suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope (Romans 5:3-4)." Suffering is not the last thing in life. It leads us to something greater, as long as we are ready to accept its challenges. "A bend in the road is not the end of the road... unless you fail to make the turn." Conclusion? Graceful acceptance of temporary suffering results in lasting glory.

### "Why can't others do more...?"

You may know the thrilling story of Glen Cunningham, a young man whose legs were so badly burned when he was a boy that doctors said he would never walk again. However, this determined champion went on to win an Olympic gold medal as a miler. Even more importantly, Glen Cunningham devoted his life to helping troubled young people. Once, his wife asked, "Glen, why do we have to give so much more than others? No one else is doing what we are." Glen answered, "That's the reason, Ruth. No one else is doing it."

**A true disciple examines his or her conscience every day asking three questions about discipleship: a) Did I sacrifice a part of my time, talents and income for my parish and the missionary activities of the Church? b) Did I Practice self control over my thoughts, words, deeds and use of mass media, and put loving restriction on the cell phone and Internet activities of my children? c) Did I train my children in my faith in a loving, providing, redeeming God by teaching and encouraging them to spend some time together as a family to pray, to read the Bible, to pardon each other and ask for God's pardon for the sins and failures, to thank God for His blessings and to participate in the Sunday school classes and youth programs.**

## Reflect

### Valerie Price took up the Cross!

Twenty-three-year-old Valerie Price went to Somalia to work as a nurse. She wanted to help people who had nothing. She wanted to offer them a better way of life. Valerie was concerned about her safety, but nothing could stop her from doing her work. She was put in charge of a feeding center in Mogadishu. Through her efforts, children who had been near starvation were fed. Valerie even established a school so the children could learn and have some hope for the future. She became nationally known for her committed service. Valerie, however, was killed by armed bandits outside the school she had started.

***She was willing to risk her life to help other people. Her story, like those of millions of others, is the story of a Christian who accepted the challenge of Christian discipleship given in today's Gospel, by "denying themselves, taking up their crosses and following Jesus."***

### "Get behind me, Satan!"

After Peter had confessed his faith that Jesus was the Messiah, the Son of God, Jesus, in today's Gospel, explained to the apostles what Messiahship and discipleship really meant. Jesus realized that, although he had predicted his suffering and death three times, his disciples were still thinking in terms of a conquering Messiah, a warrior king, who would sweep the Romans from Palestine and lead Israel to power. That is why Peter could not bear the idea of a suffering Messiah. It was then that Jesus rebuked him so sternly, *"Get behind me, Satan,"* in an attempt to nullify this temptation to shrink from the work for which He had come. It was the same kind of rebuke as those He had delivered to Satan in the wilderness. Origen suggests that Jesus was saying to Peter: "Peter, your place is behind me, not in front of me. It's your job to follow me in the way I choose, not to try to lead me in the way YOU would like me to go." Satan is banished from the presence of Christ, and Peter is recalled to be Christ's follower. Like Peter, the Church is often tempted to judge the success or failure of her ministry by the world's standards. But Jesus teaches that worldly success is not always the Christian way.

### Losing life, finding life:

Matthew was writing for the Christian community in the bitterest days of persecution – A.D. 80-90. Hence, he emphasizes Jesus' teaching that a man who is faithful may die for his faith in Jesus, but in dying he will live. The man who risks everything for Christ finds life. On the other hand, the man who abandons his faith for safety or security may live, but he is actually dying. History is full of noble souls who risked their lives for the sake of others. If certain scientists had not been prepared to take risks, many a medical cure would not exist. If mothers were not prepared to take risks, no child would ever be born. If we're honest with ourselves, we know that there are constant opportunities for us to choose to be true to the Gospel. But the world is essentially opposed to the Gospel and those who live out its truths. Archbishop Desmond Tutu was questioned once as to whether or not he was a politician. He answered "No, I am not. I am a church person who believes that religion does not deal just with a certain compartment of life. Religion has relevance for the whole of life, and we have to say whether a particular policy is consistent with the policy of Jesus Christ or not, and if you want to say that that is political, then I will be a politician in those terms... My role, the role of people of Faith, is to be able to say: 'Thus saith the Lord.'"

### "Quo Vadis Domine?"

There is an ancient legend about Peter, which became the basis for a famous book and motion picture. At the time of the great persecution under Nero, the Christians of Rome told Peter to leave. "You're too valuable," they said. "Get out of town! Find your safety! Go to another place and preach the Gospel." Peter hastily hurried out of town as fast as he could. But as he hurried along the Appian Way, away from the Eternal City, he was met by Christ, going toward the city. Peter said to him in Latin, "Quo vadis, Domine?" "Where are you going, Lord?" To which Jesus replied, "Back to Rome, to be crucified with my people. Where are you going, Peter?" Peter's eyes filled with tears of remorse, as he turned and walked back to Rome, where, according to tradition, he was crucified head downward, feeling that he was not worthy to die in the same manner as had his Lord. Jesus' question to Peter comes to us also. "Where are you going?" Are we going with Christ, or away from him and from his cross? That's the really important question. It doesn't matter how far we have traveled. What does matter is the direction in which we are going.

## Pray



If you came for the Easter Vigil, you saw some of our adult parishioners receiving the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Communion. They had undertaken a process known as the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) for about 10 months. Our next process will begin in September. These are not classes but a faith-sharing group. **Please contact :** Anne Marie Francis at [alfrancis.30@gmail.com](mailto:alfrancis.30@gmail.com) OR Mary Frances Reavey at [mfreavey@gmail.com](mailto:mfreavey@gmail.com)

## Pray (continued)



### August Baptism

St. Matthias Parish welcomes the child who was baptized in August. We support her with prayers and ask her parents to nurture her so she can grow to be a faith-filled person of God and our parish community.

*Camila Meliana Cuevas*

## From the Pastoral Staff



### “Fully Alive - National Catholic Youth Conference – November 16-19<sup>th</sup> - NCYC 2023

In our second reading from St. Paul, we hear “Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect.” If you are in high-school reading this, or know someone who is, I have the perfect opportunity for any high-school teen to “be transformed”!

In November, the **National Catholic Youth Conference** will be held in **Indianapolis, Indiana from November 16-19th. The theme for NCCYC 2023 is \*Fully Alive\***

The estimated cost is \$1,100 which includes airfare, event fee, hotel (4 teens/room), meals, transportation, T-shirts. (Students will miss 2 days of school).

If your curious, visit the following link for a preview:  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=ymGPT9fmDvc](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ymGPT9fmDvc)

If you're interested in learning more about this exciting trip, please send an email to [SMYLE@stmatthias.net](mailto:SMYLE@stmatthias.net) by

September 10th. The total cost is \$1,100.00.

**Each student will only have to pay 50% (\$550) in two installments. To reserve a spot, the first payment (\$275) is due Sept 10th. The final payment (\$275) is due Sept 17th which is when we'll actually book the airline, hotel, and pay the conference fee.** We'll be traveling with 8 youth and 2 chaperones from St. Joseph parish in Hillsborough.

The remaining \$550 per person will be paid through fundraising (bake sales, etc.) and any donations offered by our generous parishioners. I encourage you to support our youth through your monetary donations and/or prayers. If we have enough replies, we'll let you know next steps – including fundraising possibilities, and a required pre-travel meeting for teens and parents.

If anyone really wants to attend, but has financial concerns, please still email [SMYLE@stmatthias.net](mailto:SMYLE@stmatthias.net)

Deacon John

## Parish News/Updates



**“We're Here to Make God's Love Known to the World”**

—Sr. Mary Vertucci

Sr. Mary Vertucci and her family have been an integral part of St. Matthias since her birth. Her family was among those who

started the parish. She knows us well and we, her, as we have been supporting her Maryknoll mission, the Emusoi Centre in Arusha, Tanzania, whose motto is “When you educate a girl, you change a community's future.”

**Sr. Mary will speak at the 10 a.m. Mass TODAY, followed by a reception in the cafeteria sponsored by the Rosary Altar Society.**

To donate to Emusoi by check or money order send your donations to:

**Maryknoll Sisters**  
Box 317  
Maryknoll, NY 10545-0311

Please make checks payable to **Maryknoll Sisters**, New York with “Emusoi Center” on the memo line or include a note designating the donation for Emusoi Center, c/o Sr. Mary Vertucci. Unless otherwise noted on your check, contributions will be used where most needed.

**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.



# Pray

## A Teaching Mass is coming to St. Matthias: Sunday, October 1 at 12 Noon Mass!

At Sunday, August 27 th Angelus greeting from Pope Francis in St. Peter’s Square, he spoke about the Gospel reading from that day in which, “Jesus asks the disciples the decisive question: “But who do you – you! – say that I am?” (v. 15). Who am I for you, now?

Jesus does not want to be a key figure from past history; He wants to be an important person for you today, for me today; not a distant prophet: Jesus wants to be the God who is close to us!

Can we experience the God who is close to us? What better way than to participate in the celebration of the Sunday Mass with our parish community of St. Matthias!

The Eucharistic Revival sponsored by the U.S. Bishops and our parish gives us a fresh opportunity to help us better understand the Mass so we can participate more fully and better appreciate what we do when we gather to pray together in this way.

**We encourage that many of you try to**

**attend our “Family Focused” Teaching Mass on **October 1st**, coordinated by our parish GIFT leadership team with Fr. Abraham!**

In addition, starting on Sunday, November 12 at the 10AM Mass, we will celebrate “Family Mass with Children’s Liturgy of the Word”, which will continue monthly. Please let Fr. Abraham or Dee Nann, [dnann@stmatthias.net](mailto:dnann@stmatthias.net), know if you might be willing to learn how to be a facilitator for the

**Liturgy of the Word with Children!**

# Learn



## MARY--THON EVENT

Come celebrate the 106th anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima's fifth apparition at the National Blue Army Shrine with a very special guest – Sr. Angela de Fatima Coelho, the vice postulator of Sts. Francisico & Jacinta's causes and now also Sr. Lucia's cause! This will take place at the **National Blue Army Shrine on 9/13/2023, 10:30 AM.**

### SCHEDULE:

**10:30am** Confessions  
**12pm NOON** Rosary Procession with the Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima

**12:30pm** Speaker – Sr. Angela de Fatima Coelho  
**1:15pm** – Holy Mass; Celebrant: Most Rev. Frank J. Caggiagno

Holy Mass is followed by Exposition, Eucharistic Procession, Benediction, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, Blessing of Religious Articles, Fatima Farewell and Enrollment in the Brown Scapular.

**For more information, please visit:** <https://bluearmyshrine.com/event/september-13-mary-thon-event/>.  
to allow everyone to get to the cafeteria after Mass.

**Registration for all Faith Formation is now OPEN!**

**2023-2024 GIFT for K-8 Religious Formation**

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

**First Eucharist Preparation 2023-2024**  
[www.stmatthias.net/first-eucharist-first-reconciliation/](http://www.stmatthias.net/first-eucharist-first-reconciliation/)

**Confirmation Preparation 2023-2024**  
[www.stmatthias.net/confirmation/](http://www.stmatthias.net/confirmation/)



## Learn

**CHUCK E. CHEESE.**  
**FUNdraising**  
Turning Fun into Funds™



Chuck E. Cheese donates up to 20% of the sales generated from this event to your child's school

Friends and family members are encouraged to help support this even

### EVENT INFORMATION

LOCATION: **CHUCK E. CHEESE.**

TIME: 3:00 PM-4:00 PM

SCHOOL: St. Matthias School

EVENT DATE: Friday, September 15th

EVENT ADDRESS: 600 Promenade Blvd.  
Bridgewater, New Jersey 08807

To find out more, check out  
chuckecheese.com



## Connect



### “Our Christmas Tree Campaign is Under Way”

Our annual Christmas Tree “Spread the Light” campaign is upon us! By donating \$200 you can sponsor a tree to honor a loved one, celebrate a special event, or perhaps, express thanks for God’s many gifts, all while helping to light up our church grounds to bring holiday joy to our congregation and our neighbors. Flyers will be available in church and forms can also be found on our website. The Deadline to Order Your Tree is **October 13<sup>th</sup>**. Join in this wonderfully moving tradition that helps support our church and brings joy to so many.

Thanks,  
Mary Jo Loboda

[www.stmatthias.net/tree](http://www.stmatthias.net/tree)

### 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

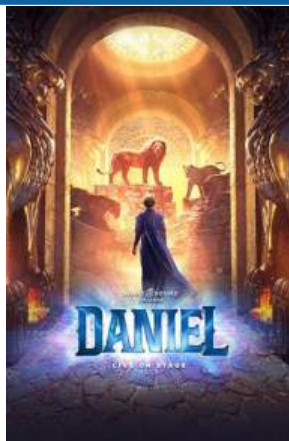
12PM MASS

ST. MATTHIAS CHURCH

170 JFK Blvd., Somerset, NJ 08873

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

*“Where the needs of the world and your talents cross, there lies your vocation”*



### “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](http://www.stmatthias.net/sightandsound)

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

Deposit required is \$70.00 by Nov. 1

### TO SECURE TICKETS:

Final payment due by **Feb 16th**.

(\*Note: After March 1st, Tickets are Non-Refundable)

Make checks payable to:

“St. Martin de Porres Society”, with “Sight and Sound” in the memo and mail to or drop off at the Parish Office.

# Serve



## Caregivers/Care Support Group Meeting

All who are caring for sick and elderly loved ones or are experiencing ongoing health issues, are invited to join us for prayer, sharing, and supportive listening.

**SATURDAY-SEPTEMBER 16--10:00-11:30 AM--PARISH OFFICE--RUIZ ROOM\*\***

**\*\*PLEASE PARK BEHIND THE PARISH OFFICE TO ENTER THE RUIZ ROOM DOOR**

For more information, please contact: Sister Marie Therese, [msherwood@stmatthias.net](mailto:msherwood@stmatthias.net)

# 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 6 - August 6, 2023	\$9,838.00	\$18,741.75	<b>\$28,579.75</b>	\$32,929.65
Week 7 - August 13, 2023	\$8,532.50	\$20,213.25	<b>\$28,745.75</b>	\$25,926.99
Week 8 - August 20, 2023	\$15,468.50	\$13,664.25	<b>\$29,132.75</b>	\$25,348.80
Week 9 - August 27, 2023	\$11,544.00	\$7,964.25	<b>\$19,508.25</b>	\$16,281.75
			<b>Month-to-date Total</b>	<b>August Total Last Year</b>
			<b>\$105,966.50</b>	\$100,487.19
<b>Assumption Collection: \$1,929.00</b>			<b>Current Year-to-date</b>	<b>Year-to-date as of August 31, 2022</b>
			<b>\$100,655.50</b>	\$222,580.88

## Stewardship Reflection September 3, 2023 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

*“What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?”-Matthew 16:26*

St. Francis of Assisi said, “Remember, you are what you are in the eyes of God, and nothing else.” We often forget this stewardship wisdom when we spend all of our time, talent and treasure to gain more of the world’s riches.

## Reflexiónese 03 de septiembre de 2023 Domingo 22º del Tiempo Ordinario

*“Pues ¿qué provecho obtendrá un hombre si gana el mundo entero, pero pierde su alma?”- Mateo 16:26*

San Francisco de Asís dijo, “Recuerda, tú eres lo que eres a los ojos de Dios, y nada más”. A menudo olvidamos esta corresponsabilidad de sabiduría cuando gastamos todo nuestro tiempo, talento y tesoros para ganar riquezas de este mundo.

# Parish Leadership

<b>Parish Pastoral Council:</b> <b>Co-Chairs:</b> Rose Peng, <a href="mailto:rosepeng@optonline.net">rosepeng@optonline.net</a> John Taylor, <a href="mailto:jptaylor1068@yahoo.com">jptaylor1068@yahoo.com</a>	<b>Co-Secretaries:</b> Frank Rees Marilyn Wegg Stephan Busono Anne Marie Francis Bill Isele	Fr. Abraham, Ex-Officio <b>Trustees:</b> Pearl Scott Marge Richards <b>Parish Finance Council:</b> Kester Hector, Chair	<b>Finance Council</b> <a href="mailto:stmatthias.net">@stmatthias.net</a> Carmen Driz-Melilli Barry Dusault Gwen Orłowski Audrey Francis Joan Pritchard	Mary Pat Burke-Grospin, Ex-Officio Fr. Abraham, Ex-Officio
--	--	--	--	--

# About St. Matthias (please contact the staff members on the cover for up-to-date information)

**Parish Registration** — Welcome to St. Matthias! Please register on our website. [www.stmatthias.net/join-us](http://www.stmatthias.net/join-us), or visit the Parish Office.

**Marriage** — Registered parishioners should contact the parish office a year before the desired wedding date.

**Baptism** — Baptismal Preparation Sessions are held four times a year for registered parishioners. Please contact the parish office before the baby is born. The sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on the second and fourth Sunday of each month, except during Lent.

**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)** - If you are interested in becoming a Catholic or completing the Sacraments of Initiation--Baptism/Confirmation/Eucharist, please call the Parish Office.



**St. Matthias School** is a PreK3 through 8<sup>th</sup> grade school rooted in faith, inspired by love, and dedicated to academic excellence. Before and After School Care Programs are available. Come visit! Contact 732-828-1402 to schedule a tour.





ARE  
THESE  
YOUR  
SIZE?



**MIDDLEBUSH  
VOLUNTEER  
FIRE DEPT.**

21 OLCOTT STREET  
**FIRE FIGHTERS NEEDED  
WE WILL TRAIN!**



[www.middlebushfire.com](http://www.middlebushfire.com) [HELP@MIDDLEBUSHFIRE.COM](mailto:HELP@MIDDLEBUSHFIRE.COM)  
MIDDLEBUSH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT [www.middlebushfire.com](http://www.middlebushfire.com)

**catholicmatch®**

New Jersey

[CatholicMatch.com/dateNJ](http://CatholicMatch.com/dateNJ)



**PA FINANCIAL, CPA**

Professional Tax, Accounting, Bookkeeping, Payroll

[www.pafinancials.com](http://www.pafinancials.com)

Email: [philip@pafinancials.com](mailto:philip@pafinancials.com) • Parishioner

732-325-3157 • Somerset, NJ 08873



**Diocese of Metuchen**

Catholic Cemeteries  
and Crematory

**800-943-8400**

Holy Cross Burial Park Resurrection Burial Park  
840 Cranbury-South River Rd. Hoes Lane and Park Ave.  
Jamesburg, NJ 08831 Piscataway, NJ 08854

[www.diometuchen.org/cemeteries](http://www.diometuchen.org/cemeteries)



**Complete Kitchen &  
Bathroom Remodeling**

Porcelain Marble  
Granite Countertops

Heated Floors  
Backsplashes

Shower Doors  
**732-514-1500**  
Lic # 13VH00782600  
(Parishioner)



**RE-IMAGINE  
SENIOR LIVING**



EXCELLENCE GUARANTEED  
**Resta's Auto Care**



732-873-8900  
[Restas.com](http://Restas.com)



Trusted For 77 Years  
1873 Amwell Road • Somerset

**Morgan**

basement waterproofing

In Our 4th Decade of Quality Service

French Drains • Foundation Repair • Mold Remediation

All Work Guaranteed

**732-777-7888**

[www.morganbasementwaterproofing.com](http://www.morganbasementwaterproofing.com)

**PROTECTIVE  
PAVING**



**DRIVEWAYS  
PARKING LOTS**

FULLY INSURED  
FREE ESTIMATES

**732-828-4177**

SOMERSET, NJ

Rutgers Dining Services

**join our team**

**Now Hiring full-time & part-time employees!**



Hiring events held Tuesdays at 10 am at 608 Bartholomew Rd., Piscataway, NJ 08854. To register for an upcoming session, call 848-932-3602 or email us at [edofficeadmin@dining.rutgers.edu](mailto:edofficeadmin@dining.rutgers.edu).

**event dates**

Apply online prior to an event for on-the-spot interviews!

**October 2022**

Tuesday, 10/04

Tuesday, 10/11

Tuesday, 10/18

Tuesday, 10/25

**November 2022**

Tuesday, 11/01

Tuesday, 11/08

Tuesday, 11/15

Tuesday, 11/29

[go.rutgers.edu/rudining](http://go.rutgers.edu/rudining)

**JOB OPENINGS**



**APPLY TODAY!**



**C & F Paint Hardware**  
Benjamin Moore Paints  
1075 Easton Ave., Suite 12 A  
Somerset, NJ 08873  
732-764-8908  
www.candfpaint.com  
Frank Del Tufo - Owner

**SUPERIOR HARDWOOD FLOORING**  
FREE ESTIMATES  
SANDING | INSTALLS | REPAIRS | REFINISHING  
Franco Oliveira 201.744.8883  
superiorhardwoodflooring@hotmail.com

**Steve's Pizza & Restaurant**  
900 Easton Ave. Somerset Village  
732-247-0400  
\$1.50 Off Large 18" Pie

**SOLD BARROOD**  
Selling, Buying or Renting Houses - Call us for help!  
700 EASTON AVE., SOMERSET  
732-846-1661  
Good people, great service, since 1940  
PARISHIONER

**Waterstone WEALTH ADVISORS, LLC**  
**John C. Moynihan, CFP®**  
Certified Financial Planner™, practitioner  
Somerset, NJ  
732.873.0433 • www.wwallc.net  
Practical Solutions for Managing Wealth

**AJS PAINTING**  
TONY SCHINELLA, PARISHIONER  
Friendly, Courteous Service  
Owner Operated, Free Proposals  
Meticulous, Guaranteed Work  
Highest Quality, Affordable Price  
No Job Too Small • Since 2001  
732-873-8477

**BRIGHT VIEW POWERWASHING & PAINTING**  
Greg Dente, Owner/Operator  
Somerset & surrounding areas  
Friendly & Reliable Services  
Free estimates • Guaranteed work  
We keep our promises • No job too small  
POWERWASHING & SMALL PAINTING WORK  
908.812.2061

**GLEASON FUNERAL HOME**  
AT NEED CARE • PRE-NEED • MONUMENTS  
PARISHIONER OWNED  
William K. Gleason, Mgr., N.J. Lic. No. 4489  
1360 HAMILTON STREET • SOMERSET, NJ  
732-545-0700  
WWW.GLEASONFUNERALHOME.COM

**Dolan** since 1949  
Kitchen & Bath Remodeling  
American Standard HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING  
Plumbing, Heating, Cooling, Electric  
732-247-2763  
696 Franklin Blvd., Somerset, NJ 08873  
www.jackdolanandsons.com info@jackdolanandsons.com

**WE'RE HIRING!**  
Substitute Teachers & Support Staff throughout New Jersey  
Apply today at SOURCE4TEACHERS.com

**D'Angiolillo Chiropractic Center**  
Find out more about us and how we can help you!  
Visit Our Website @ www.DrJoeD.com  
(732) 873-2222  
PROFESSIONAL CENTER AT SOMERSET  
11 Clyde Road, Suite 103  
Somerset, NJ 08873  
Serving Our Community Since 1985

**BRUNSWICK FURNITURE OUTLET, LLC**  
330 Townsend St., New Brunswick, NJ  
**Rafael** Se Habla Español  
732-354-4420

**April Tarantino** Broker Associate  
Direct: (732) 735-3511  
apriltarantino@hotmail.com  
www.apriltarantino.com  
31 Years Experience - Somerset Specialist

**RIDESHARE ZONE**  
**Stop Ask Match Inform**  
#WHATSMYNAME

**Mallory's Army Foundation**  
United Together In The Fight Against Bullying...  
Don't Just Teach Kindness... BE KINDNESS!  
www.MallorysArmy.com (973) 440-8657  
info@mallorysarmy.org  
It's easy to join our mailing list! Just send your email address by text message:  
Text MALLORYSARMY to 22828 to get started.  
Message and data rates may apply.

**RAIKE'S Home Improvement LLC**  
732-249-7113  
Fully Insured Lic. 13VH06498900 www.raikeshomeimprovement.com  
We Install & Construct  
• Windows • Finished Basements • Siding  
• Doors • Kitchens • Roofing  
• Decks • Baths • Custom Interior Woodwork  
Power Washing  
Homes • Decks • Sidewalks • Driveways • Stoops • Etc.  
No Job Too Small! Cabinet Refacing Parishioner

**DALTON** QUALITY PROFESSIONAL SERVICE  
Serving Central NJ Since 1986  
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL SALES/SERVICE  
All Major Credit Cards Accepted  
P. Lic. #12425 • E. Lic. #9526  
NJ Reg #13VH02047500 • HVAC Lic. 1510  
**ELECTRIC, PLUMBING HEATING & COOLING**  
NOW HIRING QUALIFIED TEAM MEMBERS  
1186 LIVINGSTON AVENUE, NORTH BRUNSWICK, NJ  
732-247-7390 • www.DaltonElectricCo.com

**FRANKLIN ELECTRIC MAINTENANCE CO. INC.** Lic. #18219  
Family owned and operated since 1956.  
-SALES  
-SERVICE  
-INSTALLATION  
732-249-1359  
www.FranklinElectricNJ.com  
DON'T BE LEFT IN THE DARK!

**FIND YOUR NEW BEST FRIEND.**  
\$60 adoption fee | animals are spayed/neutered, micro-chipped & up-to-date on shots  
**Franklin Township Animal Shelter**  
475 DeMott Lane, Somerset, NJ 08873  
732.873.2500 x6255 | Tue-Fri 12-3 & Sat 12-6  
Ad sponsored by Second Chance For Animals

**BOYLAN Funeral Home**  
188 Easton Avenue  
New Brunswick, NJ 08901  
732-545-4040  
**Robert Fox, Manager**  
N.J. License No. 4371  
www.BoylanFH.com  
Family owned and operated since 1958  
10 Wooding Avenue  
Edison, NJ 08817  
732-572-0076