

Pulpit Announcements for the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time January 21, 2024

**Welcome to all who are here today on this
Third Sunday in Ordinary Time.**

**Whoever you are or wherever you find yourself on the journey.
Know that here at St. Matthias, ALL ARE WELCOME!**

- Today's second collection is for the Foundation for Catholic Education. A Diocese of Metuchen fund that provides economically disadvantaged Catholic families with partial scholarships to attend one of our 24 quality Catholic elementary or high schools.
- Don't miss out on the fun! Time is running out for registration and basket raffle tickets for *Night of Winners 2024*. Our annual event will take place this year on Saturday, February 3rd. Donations are currently being accepted. For information, please see our bulletin or the St. Matthias School website.
- Set aside some time to join us on Monday evenings between 6 PM and 8 PM to quiet your mind, pray, and reflect in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament.

In this weekend's gospel, we learn about the rejection and even killing of the prophets who preceded Jesus. Why does this happen? It can be said that people resist change, prefer what is comfortable, prioritize self-interest, and display reluctance to obey authority. Jesus himself experienced these challenges, and today, as a community, we are challenged to examine whether we are genuinely willing to become his disciples in our lifetime.

Music for Our Assembly
January 21, 2024
Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

O sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord, all the earth. In his presence we are majesty and splendor, strength and honor in his holy place.

Gathering Hymn – Ten Thousand Reasons

**Bless the Lord O my soul, O my soul, worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul, I'll worship your holy name.**

1. The sun comes up, it's a new day drawing, it's time to sing your song again. Whatever may pass or whatever lies before me, let me be singing when the evening comes.
2. You're rich in love and you're slow to anger, your name is great and your heart is kind. For all your goodness I will keep on singing, 10,000 reasons for my heart to find.
3. And on that day when my strength is failing, the end draws near and my time has come; still my soul will sing your praise unending: the thousand years, and then forever more.

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Prayer of the Faithful

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 21, 2024

Our response is: "In your name, O God, we pray."

1. For Pope Francis, all bishops, and church leaders . . . support their efforts to guide Your church on earth in a spirit of truth, compassion, and justice, we pray. . .
2. For global, national, and local leaders, especially those of our own country . . . help them envision the good they can accomplish by working together for the benefit of all, we pray...
3. For this intentional faith community of Saint Matthias . . . teach us to heed Your call in the routine and ordinary aspects of our daily lives, we pray. . .
4. For those who are ill in body, mind, or spirit, especially those on our parish and school sick lists . . . lift them up, and ease their burdens with Your constant presence and love, we pray . . .
5. For those who have died, especially **Barbara Ruziska and Ellin Ossandon**. . . welcome these faithful disciples into the heavenly reward You promise to all who love and follow You, we pray. . .
6. For the silent intentions of those assembled for worship (LONG PAUSE) . . . listen to our needs and, in Your goodness, answer them, . . . we pray

The presider announces the Mass intention and concludes.

Preparation Hymn – The Summons

1. Will you come and follow me
If I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
And never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
Will you let my name be known,
Will you let my life be grown
In you and you in me?

2. Will you leave yourself behind
If I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
And never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
Should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer
In you and you in me?

5. Lord, your summons echoes true
When you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
And never be the same.
In your company I'll go
Where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
In you and you in me.

Communion Hymn – Many and Great

1. Many and great are bearers of the Word:
the Christ speaks; the heart seeks.
Gathered as one, we listen to the Word
and share the meal of new birth.

**The wheat grows from springtime to fall;
the wine flows; in Christ we recall
the sharing of our lives
with one and all.**

2. Many and great are the seeds upon the field:
the hand sows; the seeds grow.
Take now and eat the covenant fulfilled
the bread of promise and life.

3. Many and great are voices of despair:
the rain falls; the voice calls.
Take now and drink the wine of hope and care;
our cup of blessings we share.

4. Many and great are pebbles in the sand:
the sun glows; the wind blows.
Take now and spread the Word to ev'ry land,
the Word of goodness and hope.

Closing Hymn – Lead Me Guide Me

Lead, me, guide me, along the way,
For if you lead me, I cannot stray.
Lord, let me walk each day with thee.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

1. I am weak and I need thy strength and pow'r
to help me over my weakest hour.
Help me through the darkness thy face to see.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.
3. I am lost if you take your hand from me,
I am blind without thy Light to see.
Lord, just always let me thy servant be.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Text: Doris M. Akers, 1922-1995

Tune: Doris M. Akers, 1922-1995; harm. By Richard Smallwood, b. 1948

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Responsorial Psalm – Psalm 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9

Teach me your ways, O Lord.

Your ways, O LORD, make known to me;
teach me your paths,
Guide me in your truth and teach me,
for you are God my savior.

Remember that your compassion, O LORD,
and your love are from of old.
In your kindness remember me,
because of your goodness, O LORD.

Good and upright is the LORD;
thus he shows sinners the way.
He guides the humble to justice
and teaches the humble his way.

Teach me your ways, O Lord.