Pulpit Announcements for the Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time February 16, 2025

Welcome to all who are here today to celebrate this Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time with us.
Whoever you are or wherever you find yourself on the journey.
Know that here at St. Matthias, ALL ARE WELCOME!

- Please read in today's bulletin about the significance of Pilgrimage in this Jubilee Year 2025 and the designated shrines in our diocese.
- We will begin Lent in two weeks. Why not think of joining a Lenten small group? Why not grow in the Word of God like so many of our parishioners who enjoy small group sharing during Lent?
- There will be a half day of Parish Retreat on Saturday, March 15, from 9 am to 12 noon. The theme is "Pilgrims of Hope Renewed ... a Lenten Path to New Life." Everyone is invited to come and be spiritually renewed.
- There will be a second collection next Sunday in support of the Catholic Press Month. Our donations will help the free distribution of the Catholic Spirit.
- Next Saturday's 5 pm Mass will be the celebration of the Black History Month, with extended singing and rituals, and there will be a reception afterwards. Everyone is welcome to come and celebrate this annual event that is so much a part of our parish tradition!
- The Parish office and church will be closed this Monday, President's Day. Hence, no Mass and no Eucharistic Adoration this Monday.

Jesus presents a paradoxical view of blessings, contrasting expectations, in today's gospel. God's favor is not limited to comforts and abundance. Blessings are extended to those who face struggles, teaching us to see God's grace even in challenging times. May we experience this gracious God's presence and encouragement during this Eucharistic celebration...

Music for Our Assembly

February 16, 2025 Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold!

Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name...Psalm 31

Gathering Hymn – Christ in Me Arise

Christ in me arise and dispel all the darkness.

Christ in me arise with your power and your strength.

Christ in me pour out your blessing and healing.

Christ in me arise and I shall rise with you.

- Be now my vision; open these eyes,
 showing me all that I must see.
 Onward to the kingdom, you are the way.
 Arise in me and I shall rise with you.
- 2. Be now my footsteps, leading the way, taking me where I must go.Onward to the kingdom, you are the way.Arise in me and I shall rise with you.

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Prayer of the Faithful

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time February 16, 2025

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

- 1. For those called to leadership, for leaders within the Church and leaders of nations, for those whose decisions affect the lives of many people, for all who serve the Gospel by boldly proclaiming the beatitudes, for peacemakers to be strengthened in the Spirit of God, we pray. . .
- 2. For our parish, that we may be the hands and feet of Jesus ministering to the impoverished; for the hungry and lonely in our midst; may their hunger for food and companionship be satisfied through our generosity and care, we pray. . .
- 3. For those called to caregiving, for those who tend the elderly, the sick and the dying, for those who encourage the imprisoned, for those who remember the forgotten, for those in the military and those wounded in wars and conflicts and for those who minister to them, we pray...
- 4. For those who are sick, for those recommended to our prayers, especially for those who have no one to pray for them, and the names and intentions in our Book of Remembrance, we pray. . .
- 5. For all who have suffered the loss of a loved one; for those who have died especially, *Rosa Pacheco de Urbina, Helen Irene Shanosky, and Ann Eileen Roberts*, we pray. . .
- 6. For those intentions in the silence of our hearts . . .(PAUSE...), we pray. . .

The PRIEST now mentions the Mass intention and says the JUBILEE PRAYER as the concluding prayer:

5 PM: Florencia Abante

8 AM: Anne & Francis Murage & the Deceased Clergy of Consolata

Missionaries

10 AM: Intention of Parishioners

12 PM: Louis Gaston Peters

Preparation of the Gifts - Hold On To Love

There is a place for the sadness. Hold on to Love.
 There is a season of gladness. Hold on to Love.
 When pain and confusion seem endless, hold on to Love.

We cultivate healing through kindness. Hold on to Love.

Hold on to Love, where hope is found.

Hold on to Love, where joy abounds.

Hold on to Love, where grace and mercy's overflowing.

Hold on to Love.

- When terror and fear overwhelm us, hold on to Love.
 Courage and faith will sustain us. Hold on to Love.
 When violence seeks to destroy us, hold on to Love.
 Acts of compassion restore us. Hold on to Love.
- 3. When hatred is used to divide us, hold on to Love. Wisdom and truth reunite us. Hold on to Love. When prejudice poses as freedom, hold on to Love. Dignity means "all are welcome!" Hold on to Love.

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Communion Hymn - In This Place

1. We are all hungry people, we need shelter and strength. We are one in our hurting, we are one in our pain. In our suff'ring and sadness, we are saved by the grace of the power and the Spirit that is here in this place.

We are gathered at table*
as one in the Lord.
We are gathered as people
who are living the Word.
Our hearts and our spirits
are nurtured by grace.
It is Jesus who fills us.
He is here in this place.

All our lives are a Myst'ry;
 we see not where they lead.
 We are asked now to trust you and we know we must believe.
 As our feet become Christ's feet.

we go forth with the grace of the power and the Spirit that is here in this place.

- 3. Though the world may tell us to look at ourselves, we reach out to another where suffering dwells.

 As our hands become

 Christ's hands, we are healed by the grace of the power and the Spirit that is here in this place.
- 4. In the bread that is broken is the Christ that restores.
 As we take, now receive him, we find love evermore.
 As the bread becomes Body, we are filled with the grace of the power and the Spirit that is here in this place.

Closing Hymn - How Can I Keep From Singing

My life flows on in endless song
 Above earth's lamentation.
 I hear the real though far-off hymn
 That hails a new creation.

No storm can shake my inmost calm,
While to that rock I'm clinging.
Since Love is Lord of heaven and earth,
How can I keep from singing?

- 2. Through all the tumult and the strife,I hear the music ringing;It sounds and echoes in my soul;How can I keep from singing?
- 5. The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,A fountain ever springing.All things are mine since I am his;How can I keep from singing.

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826-1899.

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Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 1:1-2, 3, 4 & 6

Blessed are they who hope in the Lord.

Blessed the man who follows not
the counsel of the wicked,
nor walks in the way of sinners,
nor sits in the company of the insolent,
but delights in the law of the LORD
and meditates on his law day and night.

He is like a tree

planted near running water,
that yields its fruit in due season,
and whose leaves never fade.
Whatever he does, prospers.

Not so the wicked, not so;
they are like chaff which the wind drives away.
For the LORD watches over the way of the just,
but the way of the wicked vanishes.

Blessed are they who hope in the Lord.