

Saint Matthias Parish

409 Hemenway Street

Marlborough, MA 01752

Phone: 508-460-9255 Fax: 508-480-8801



Parish Leadership

Francis P. O'Brien, Pastor

frobrien@stmattpar.org

Doug Peltak, Deacon

dcnpeltak@stmattpar.org

Paul G. Coletti, Deacon

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Theresa Salafia, Faith Formation Director

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Judy McManus, Director of Music Ministry, Emerita

jmsweetums@aol.com

Joyce Belliveau, Choir Director

jbbelle@comcast.net

Diane Balinski, Office Manager

dbalinski@stmattpar.org

April Lowe, Communications Administrator/Receptionist

alowe@stmattpar.org

Darleen Doona, Bookkeeper

ddoona@stmattpar.org

James Cannava, Maintenance

Joe Grimaldo, Co-Chair, Finance Council

Paul G. Coletti, Co-Chair, Finance Council

St. Vincent dePaul Society tel. no. 978-493-3037

Celebrations of the Eucharist

The Lord's Day

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 10:00 a.m.

Liturgy of the Word for Children

Liturgy of the Word for Children is Celebrated at the 10:00 a.m. Mass on the 1st Sunday of the month (October through April)

Weekday

Monday, Tuesday, and Friday: 9:00 a.m., Downstairs Chapel

Holy Day

9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday

9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Mission Statement

To live out the message of Jesus Christ and become, in fact and appearance, a true Christian community.

Faith Formation

Faith formation is a lifelong process: an ongoing interaction with God's creative goodness. We allow the Gospel to transform us and then bring transformation to the world. The Faith Formation Program at St. Matthias Parish provides opportunities to grow as individuals and as a community. We offer classroom sessions for children, a comprehensive Confirmation program, intergenerational learning in a variety of formats, and an adult enrichment program. For more information, contact Theresa Salafia (tsalafia@stmattpar.org).

Community Prayer Line

Our prayer line, coordinated by Marie Mangan (978-562-2891), offers prayers for you, your loved ones and friends. Requests may also be placed in the "Prayer Request" box at the rear of the Church. All requests will be kept confidential.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Those who are not baptized or have been baptized into another Christian community and are interested in learning more about initiation into the Catholic faith are invited to speak with Theresa Salafia (tsalafia@stmattpar.org).

Infant Baptism

Our parish celebrates the sacrament of Baptism for infants and children under the age of 7 at regularly scheduled Sunday Masses. Please call Deacon Doug at any time during pregnancy or at least two months in advance for information on baptismal catechesis and the choosing of godparents.

Adult Confirmation

Adults desiring to complete their Christian Initiation with the sacrament of Confirmation are encouraged to contact Fr. Fran

Reconciliation

This sacrament of God's infinite forgiveness, also known as Penance and Confession, is celebrated on Saturdays at 3:15PM or by appointment with Fr. Fran. Communal celebrations of the sacrament occur during Advent and Lent.

Anointing of the Sick

The Church encourages all who are ill, about to undergo surgery, or confined to their homes due to illness to be prayed over and anointed with sacred oil. This can take place at a parish Mass, in the home or in the hospital. Please speak with Fr. Fran for more details.

Marriage

Congratulations to engaged couples! Please contact Fr. Fran eight months to a year before your wedding to plan a program of marriage preparation.

Welcome New Parishioners!

We invite you to share in our life as a Eucharistic Community. Please complete a registration card found at the church entrances or register at the parish office. We look forward to welcoming you to our parish community.

St. Matthias Parish

INTENTIONS OF THE EUCHARIST

Saturday, August 17 — 4:00 p.m.

Joe Meany and Paul Meany
Memorial

Sunday, August 18 — 10:00 a.m.

Teresita Barcinas
Birthday Memorial

Friday, August 23 — 9:00 a.m.

Francis McInnis
1 Month Memorial

Saturday, August 24 — 4:00 p.m.

Mary Masciarelli
3rd Anniversary Memorial

David Mauro
Birthday Memorial

Patrick Mauro
Pray for Healing

Sunday, August 25 — 10:00 a.m.

Helen Grasso
Memorial

THIS WEEK AT ST. MATTHIAS

Saturday, August 17

- **Celebration of the Eucharist**
Church, 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, August 18

- **Celebration of the Eucharist**
Church, 10:00 a.m.
- **Coffee Social**
Parish Hall, following the 10:00 a.m. Mass

Wednesday, August 21

- **Shawl Ministry**
Downstairs Conference Room, 6:45 p.m.
- **St. Vincent dePaul Society Meeting**
Parish Hall, 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, August 22

- **Bereavement Group**
Downstairs Conference Room, 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, August 24

- **Celebration of the Eucharist**
Church, 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, August 25

- **Celebration of the Eucharist**
Church, 10:00 a.m.
- **Coffee Social**
Parish Hall, following the 10:00 a.m. Mass

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Readings for the Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 24 and August 25

First Reading: Isaiah 66:18-21
Second Reading: Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13
Gospel: Luke 13:22-30

Weekday Masses for the Week of August 18

Monday, Tuesday and Friday
9:00 a.m. in the

Downstairs Conference Room Chapel



For Mass updates, please check the
website and voice message
on the Parish Office phone.

Office Hours for the Week of August 18

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday

9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

*The office is closed on
Wednesdays and Fridays.*



CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST MUSIC SELECTIONS AUGUST 17 AND 18

Gathering Song

God, Whose Purpose Is To Kindle
hymnal # 704

Preparation Rite

Take Up Your Cross
hymnal # 690

Communion

God's Great Care
booklet # 14

Recessional

Send Down The Fire
hymnal # 477

The Worship Booklet for Ordinary Time contains Mass responses as well as our musical selections. Please return the booklet to the book rack at the conclusion of Mass.

FROM FR. FRAN

A liturgical composer colleague of mine, Peter Kolar, is the director of the diocesan choir for the Diocese of El Paso, Texas. This week, in a social media post, he related his involvement with a number of funerals for victims of the recent Walmart shooting in El Paso. I'd like to share a bit of his post, because I think it shows us a side of this tragedy that we don't experience in the sound bites of the media and in the posturing of our politicians. While Peter's experience speaks to the raw sadness of such a horrible act of violence, it also speaks to the faith we have in a loving God, even in the darkest hours.

Peter began his post by saying that he offered his assistance and that of his diocesan choir to the funeral homes and churches planning burials for the victims. His choir members immediately stopped everything they were doing to help out. Last Friday and Saturday they ministered at three funerals, two back to back in different parts of town.

The first funeral was for an 86 year old woman named Angie. Peter said that it was an uplifting celebration of her life with a packed church that, as he put it: "sang her from this earth to heaven's gate".

Immediately following this funeral, Peter and his choir ministered in another church at the funeral for a 77 year old man named Juan, a naturalized citizen who moved to El Paso to escape the violence in his native Juarez, Mexico. Peter said that the celebration was smaller and that there was a palpable sadness in the pews. Juan's wife, Nicolasa, who was wounded in the attack, was transported from the hospital by ambulance and was assisted from a wheelchair by medical personnel. After the mass, the pastor expressed his gratitude that Peter and the choir were there, otherwise there would have been no music.

The next day the group ministered music at the funeral for a boy named Javier, at 15 years old, the youngest of the victims. Peter and the choir sensed that this would be the hardest and most emotional goodbye of the weekend. Javier's uncle, who was with him at the time of the shooting and seriously wounded himself, was transported from the hospital to attend. One of the songs sung at the mass was called "Deseo Paz", a plea for peace and an end to senseless violence. Peter concluded by writing that "upon procession of Javier's casket out of the church, the entire crowd waved white cloths above their heads in farewell to this beloved child of God."

I relate Peter's powerful experience as an opportunity to put names and stories to the great human tragedy befalling our country. Along with these Catholic brothers and sisters we weep for all those who fall victim to senseless violence.

As Catholic Christians we must also put names and faces to our sisters and brothers who seek asylum in our country only to be turned away or separated from their loved ones by governmental policies that don't have to be carried out in cruel and unchristian ways.

Regardless of what side of the political aisle we find ourselves on, we are first and foremost citizens of heaven, a privilege that was won by Jesus' death and resurrection. Citizens of heaven, followers of Christ, abide by the greatest law of all, the law of love. It supersedes everything else.

So when we are in discussions about gun violence, talking about the banning of assault weapons and the rights afforded by the second amendment, we must speak and act out of the law of love. When racist remarks are thrown around and white supremacy is the topic of the day, we must speak and act out of the law of love. When we hear words that demean and disrespect others, when people take pot shots at another person's or group's dignity, when people are denied the human right to have a place where they can live in safety, we must speak and act out of the law of love.

There are no easy answers to our country's ills. However, as Catholic Christians, we are missioned by our baptism to bring Christ's law of love into the mix of our everyday living and in the living out of our civic duties. For in the end, when we meet God face to face, there will no longer be countries and governments, there will no longer be the rich and the poor, and no group will hold superiority over another. Only one thing will endure – a divine and eternal love for each and every person into whom God has breathed the breath of life.



FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation registration for the 2019- 2020 year continues. Thank you to families who have submitted their re-registration information.

CALENDAR'S Schedules may be found on our parish website: www.stmattpar.org. We are always in need of catechists to serve as substitutes throughout the year. If you wish to explore further the role of catechist please contact Theresa Salafia, Director of Life Long Faith Formation at tsalafia@stmattpar.org or call the parish office at 508-460-9255.

The **Parish Family Picnic is Sunday, September 22**. This day is the Official opening of our Faith Formation year. All families in the parish are invited to begin this year of faith together by participating in 10:00 a.m. mass followed by the picnic on the parish grounds. Catechists who have come forward to share their faith will receive a blessing at the conclusion of mass. We are most grateful to our catechists who help our families grow "in wisdom, age, and grace."

First Gathering Date:

September 29 — 8:00 a.m.—9:45 a.m.

Grades 1 through 5

October 6 — 10:00 a.m. Mass with meeting until Noon in Downstairs Conference Room

Grade 9 — Confirmation I

October 6 — 6:00 p.m.—7:15 p.m.

Grades 6, 7 and 8

October 20 — 10:00 a.m. Mass with meeting until Noon in Downstairs Conference Room

Grades 10—Confirmation II

PRAY FOR THE HEALING OF THE SICK

Please Pray For...

Richard Abraham, Conor Canavan, Carol Chatalian, Danielle and Melissa Chiasson, Steven Chiasson, Joseph Cox, Adelbert Cyr, The Del Raso Family, Fay DiNitto, W. Joseph Doyle, Kent Dudley, Stella Fettig, David Giugno, Hannah Gluck, Thomas Gluck, Russ Hokanson, Emma Johnston, Fr. Mike MacEwen, Dave Mackenzie, Doreen Martin, Kay McNeill, Pat McNeil, Patrick Mauro, Maura McGuinness, Judy McManus, Michael Messom, Theresa Morrill, Deborah Natoli, Jennifer Natoli, Mary and Bob O'Connor, Johnny Pellrine, Jean Peltak, Theresa Perry, Joan Russo, Kathleen Shine, Andrew Tivnan, Pedro Torres, Trunfio Family, Ronald Vaudreuil, Paul and Jenny Weibel.

Please let the office know if you would like our parish to pray for the health and support of your loved ones.

Parish Picnic

SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday, September 22, 2019

Please join our parish family in Celebration of the Eucharist at 10:00 a.m. followed by a picnic on the parish grounds. Re-connect with families and friends of the St. Matthias community.

Activities for the Day

Food and Beverage

Face Painting

Lawn Games



Bake your favorite Cupcake to share and enter the *Cupcake Contest*

We welcome back all Faith Formation families and catechists on this day.

Coffee Social Reception for Diane Balinski

Sunday, August 25

Following the 10:00 a.m. Mass

Please join the parish staff and parish community as we say good-bye to Diane Balinski as Office Manager of the parish office during the **Sunday, August 25 Coffee Social following 10:00a .m. Mass**. The parish office has been blessed having Diane as a member of the parish staff for over 14 years and her time and commitment is greatly appreciated. Although Diane is leaving as a staff member, she will continue to be part of our Parish community. Take time to share your well-wishes with Diane as she moves into the next phase of her working career.

If you would like to contribute a breakfast item, pastry or other morning treat to the reception, please call the office with your donation item or drop off the item in the Parish Hall before 10:00 a.m. Mass on August 25.



Funeral Greeting Ministry Needs Volunteers

One of the most important parts of our funeral ministry occurs just before the funeral mass begins. Each person entering the church is greeted warmly and given the worship booklet especially prepared for the funeral

We are in need of more **parishioners to volunteer to be greeters at our parish funerals**. The ministry consists of arriving about one half hour before a funeral, (funerals are usually scheduled for 10 a.m.), greeting folks, handing out booklets and answering any questions worshipers might have. In all, this would be about a two hour commitment once every month or six weeks, depending on the number of greeters and funerals.

If you are interested or would like to know more about this ministry please speak with any of us on the parish staff or give a call to the office 508-480-9255.

Weekly Financials—Weekly Goal: \$4,000

<u>Offertory Collection - August 10 and 11</u>	\$4,335.05
Of that amount WeShare donations	\$1,100.55
<u>Parish Maintenance - August 10 and 11</u>	\$1,799.00
Of that amount WeShare donations	\$ 140.00
Parishioners celebrating Mass August 10, 11	255

Special Collections August

August 24 and 25: Support of Parochial Schools

Fiscal Year 2019 Budget Summary

Income:	\$348,076.41
Expenses:	\$411,918.96
Deficit :	\$ 63,842.55
• Operating budget deficit:	\$13,595.95
• Parish Hall Air Handler Replacement Expense:	\$50,247.00

Air Handler Project Itemization:

Concord Heating (Air Handler for Hall)	: \$37,642.00
Erie Environmental (Asbestos removal)	: \$11,750.00
Alpha Heating (Additional Repair)	: <u>\$ 855.00</u>
	\$50,247.00

The majority of the Air Handler expenses were paid with our modest parish reserves.

July 2019 Budget Comparison

Income:	\$29,650.95
Expenses:	\$25,787.90
Net Income:	\$3,863.05