

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

dcncoletti@stmattpar.org

Theresa Salafia, Faith Formation Director

tsalafia@stmattpar.org

Judy McManus, Director of Music Ministry, Emerita

jmsweetums@aol.com

Joyce Belliveau, Choir Director

jbbelle@comcast.net

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, September 14 — 4:00 p.m.

Salvatore and Mildred Ponterella
Memorial

Sunday, September 15 — 10:00 a.m.

Donald Ackroyd
Memorial

Saturday, September 21 — 4:00 p.m.

Stephen Pappas
Memorial

Sunday, September 22 — 10:00 a.m.

Elizabeth "Liz" Montgomery
25th Anniversary Memorial



Gifts of Sanctuary and Altar Candles
for the month of September are
donated in memory of

Frank and Leah Calore
Eleanor Laspada
Joseph Calore

THIS WEEK AT ST. MATTHIAS

Saturday, September 14

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

Sunday, September 15

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

Tuesday, September 17

- **Christmas Bazaar Planning Meeting**
Parish Hall, 10:30 a.m.
- **Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) Meeting**
Downstairs Conference Room, 7:15 p.m.

Wednesday, September 18

- **Rosary Recitation**
Church, 6:00 p.m.
- **Shawl Ministry**
Downstairs Conference Room, 6:45 p.m.

Thursday, September 19

- **Choir Rehearsal**
Church, 7:00 p.m.
- **Yard Sale Planning Meeting**
Parish Hall, 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, September 21

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

Sunday, September 22

- **Celebration of the Eucharist
with Blessing of the Catechists**
Church, 10:00 a.m.
- **St. Matthias Parish Picnic ***
Parish Hall/Grounds, following the 10:00 a.m. Mass

**Participation in Sunday Mass and Parish Picnic
is the first scheduled class of Faith Formation
Grades 1 through 10 for the 2019/2010 year.*

Weekday Masses for the Week of September 15

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.



CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST MUSIC SEPTEMBER 14 AND SEPTEMBER 15

<u>Gathering Song</u>	Return to God Hymnal # 410
<u>Preparation Rite</u>	Shepherd Me, O God Hymnal # 23
<u>Communion</u>	In Christ We Come, To offer Thanks Booklet # 17
<u>Recessional</u>	Now From This Table Booklet # 11

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.

Office Hours for the Week of September 15

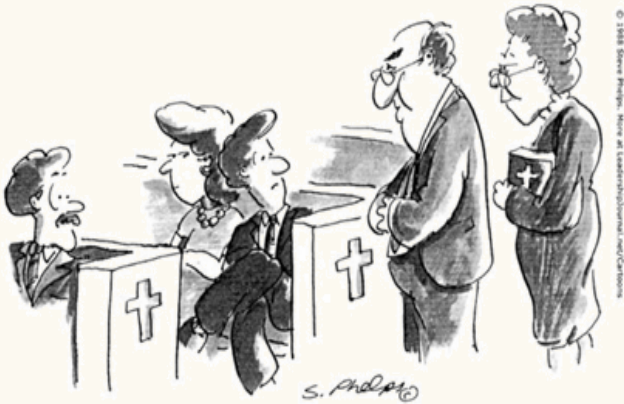
Monday, Tuesday and Thursday

9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

*Parish Office is closed on
Wednesday and Fridays*



FROM FR. FRAN



The whole church watched with nervous anticipation as the visitors sat where the Martins have sat for 42 years.

While this cartoon elicits a chuckle, what's behind it is all too familiar in our society. Being creatures of habit, we just don't like anyone or anything upsetting our world. I suppose it's understandable, in that there is a comfort in the stability of life. However, we know that if we are to grow as human beings, we need to accept change, whether good or bad, because that simply is the way things go.

I think one of the greatest obstacles to our accepting change is fear. We may fear the future because it is unknown. We may fear to reach out to others or act on our beliefs because of the fear of how we will be perceived. We may fear those who are different from us, wondering if they will somehow take away from us what we have.

Once, when Jesus and his disciples were out on the Sea of Galilee, a storm came up while Jesus was snoozing in the back of the boat. The disciples were in a panic. Upon waking him, Jesus said to his friends: "Fear is useless, what's needed is trust." Jesus then calmed the storm.

When we experience fear, Jesus speaks these words to us as well. The storms in our lives may not totally subside, but by trusting in Christ's presence we are able to see them for what they are, and weather them by trusting that God is present, even in the most fearful of situations.

There are forces in our society that want to keep us in a state of fear. They manipulate and use our fear for their own agendas. As Catholic Christians we need to be aware of this manipulation and hear the voice of Jesus calling us to reason and to trust.

Jesus was always confronting people's fears and blasting them out of the water. In many of his healings, Jesus approaches people who were thought to be "unclean" or outcasts in society. His pattern in dealing with them is always the same. First, he often calls them by name, showing a desire to understand and welcome them, just as they are. He often tells them that they have nothing to fear and then calls on their faith in a moment of healing. Then he usually invites them to go to one of the priestly

authorities who will formally welcome them back into the group from which they were shut out or ostracized because of their condition.

In Christ's healings we have a pattern for us as well. When we don't understand someone, or fear someone, we often shut them out. We may not want them moving into our neighborhood, marrying into our family, pastoring our church, or joining us as a co-worker. This can be exacerbated when others join us in our fears. Before you know it we have made judgements about a person, a race of people, you name it, based on nothing more than fear. We talk about "them" at gatherings, we repeat half-baked rumors that we receive third hand. We add a layer of our own fears and prejudices into the mix. At this point what we are doing is sinful and certainly not from God.

If we take our cues from Jesus we will find a remedy for this sinful behavior. Jesus met and welcomed everyone, regardless of how they were viewed in society. Instead of talking *about* someone, can we sit down across the table and talk *with* them? Will we take the time to study a situation and not just digest what a news outlet tells us is the truth?

In his encounters with people Jesus did not judge them (except if they were religious hypocrites). He discovered who they were, what their situation was, and how he could express God's love for them. We are called, by our baptism to do the same.

To this point, Cardinal Sean O'Malley recently published an editorial in the Boston Globe that, to my mind, speaks eloquently about how, in the spirit of Jesus and the gospels, Catholics should respond to the current immigration crisis in our country. (There is a link to the editorial on our web page. I encourage you to read his thoughtful and challenging words.) He closes his piece by saying that: "Our present moment requires civility and charity among citizens of our society and toward those hoping to become citizens. As a country it is a good time to remember the biblical axiom: To whom much is given, much is expected." Words well worthy pondering, especially when we open the door to fear, when what's needed is trust.

Clergy Health and Retirement September 14 and 15

This week's second collection supports the retirement, medical and financial needs of priests of the Archdiocese of Boston. On behalf of all of our priests, thank you in advance for your generosity. For more information, please visit the Archdiocese of Boston website: www.clergyfunds.org

FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation gatherings begin Sunday, September 22 with participation in 10:00 a.m. mass followed by our parish picnic on the parish grounds. This picnic is a wonderful way to renew friendships at the start of school and church gatherings.

First Gathering Date:

September 29 — 8:30 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

The Faith Formation calendars for the year are available on-line. Log onto the St. Matthias Parish website www.stmattpar.org. Select Faith Formation, then Educational Programs then calendars (Grade 1-10).



For the last few years, the Shawl Ministry has proudly donated prayer shawls and lap robes to the St. Vincent Hospital ICU. The daughter of one of our members works in the unit's advocacy office and helps to facilitate the donations. In the hospital, the shawls are distributed by the chaplain when the final blessing is administered. After death the shawl is presented to the surviving family members. In appreciation for these precious gifts, the unit has invited the Prayer Shawl group to attend a Mass at the hospital in our honor on Thursday, September 19, followed by a luncheon and then a tour of the ICU unit.

The shawl members appreciate your prayers and donations, and are truly humbled by this invitation.

**A Special Second Collection
Hurricane Dorian Relief
September 21 and 22**

A special collection will be taken up the weekend of **September 21 and 22** to support the relief efforts for the (arch)diocese of the Bahamas and the United States that have been ravaged by the destruction of Hurricane Dorian.

The emergency needs of the local Church in these areas have been great. Thank you for your support and expression of solidarity with those who are suffering.

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Readings for the Twenty-Fifth Sunday
in Ordinary Time

September 21 and September 22

First Reading: Amos 8:4-7
Second Reading: 1 Timothy 2:1-8
Gospel: Luke 16:1-13

**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.

Call the Parish Office add a loved one to the prayer list.

Weekly Financials—Weekly Goal: \$4,000

<u>Offertory Collection - August 29 and Sept. 1</u>	\$3,915.05
Of that amount WeShare donations	\$ 355.55
Deficit of \$84.95	
Parishioners celebrating Mass August 29, Sept 1	251
<u>Offertory Collection - September 7 and 8</u>	\$3,326.05
Of that amount WeShare donations	\$ 370.55
Deficit of \$673.95	
Parishioners celebrating Mass September 7, 8	297
<u>Parish Maintenance Collection</u>	\$1,998.00
Of that amount WeShare donations	\$ 190.00

**Special Collection—September
Clergy Benefit Trust—September 14 and 15
Hurricane Dorian Relief Fund—September 21 and 22**

August 2019 Budget Comparison

Income:	\$26,774.11
Expenses:	\$24,665.45
Overage:	\$ 2,078.66

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

ST. MATTHIAS CHRISTMAS BAZAAR
PLANNING MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2019
10:30 A.M. — PARISH HALL

A Christmas Bazaar planning meeting is set for **Tuesday, September 17, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in our parish hall.**

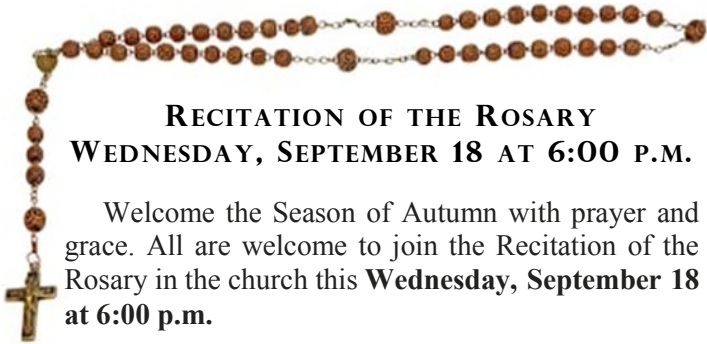
If you are unable to attend this meeting or have questions about the bazaar, please email the Coordinator, Marsha Good at marsgoo0031@aol.com.

ST. MATTHIAS YARD SALE
PLANNING MEETING
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2019
7:00 P.M. — PARISH HALL

A Yard Sale planning meeting is set for **Thursday, September 19, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in our parish hall.**

If you are unable to attend this meeting or have questions about the sale, please email the Coordinator, Marsha Good at marsgoo0031@aol.com.

Choose one or both. Your ideas and helping hands are truly welcome.



RECITATION OF THE ROSARY
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 AT 6:00 P.M.

Welcome the Season of Autumn with prayer and grace. All are welcome to join the Recitation of the Rosary in the church this **Wednesday, September 18 at 6:00 p.m.**



SAINT JOHN'S HIGH SCHOOL
A Xavierian Brothers Sponsored School

St. John's High School will be holding an **Open House** on Saturday, September 28 at 8:30a.m. and Tuesday, October 22 at 5:30 p.m. The Placement Test for current 8th graders will be held on Saturday, October 26, 2019. Visit www.stjohnshigh.org or contact the Admissions Office at 508-842-8934 ext. 266, for further information.