

Saint Matthias Parish

**409 Hemenway St.
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Parish Leadership

Francis P. O'Brien, Pastor
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James Cannava, Maintenance
Joe Grimaldo, Co-Chair, Finance Council
Paul G. Coletti, Co-Chair, Finance Council
St. Vincent dePaul Society - 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.

Holy Day

9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.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 29 — 4:00 p.m.

Janet Landers — Memorial

Sunday, September 30 — 10:00 a.m.

Memorial

George and Mary Deibel
Joanne Doyle and William Doyle Jr.

Saturday, October 6 — 4:00 p.m.

Josephine Myers — Memorial

Sunday, October 7 — 10:00 a.m.

Ernest J. Winske, Jr. — Memorial

THIS WEEK AT ST. MATTHIAS

Saturday, September 29

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

Sunday, September 30

- **Faith Formation Grades 1 through 5**
Parish Hall / Classrooms, 8:30 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.
- **Celebration of the Eucharist**
Church, 10:00 a.m.
- **Coffee Social**
Parish Hall, Following Mass
- **Faith Formation Grades 6 through 8**
Parish Hall / Classrooms, 6:00 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.

Wednesday, October 3

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

Thursday, October 4

- **Choir Rehearsal**
Church, 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 6

- **Celebration of the Eucharist**
Church, 4:00 p.m.
- **Knights of Columbus — Tootsie Roll Drive**
Church entrances following Mass

Sunday, October 7

- **Celebration of the Eucharist with Liturgy of the Word for Children**
Church, 10:00 a.m.
- **Coffee Social**
Parish Hall, Following Mass
- **St. Vincent dePaul Meeting**
Downstairs Conference Room, 11:15 a.m.
- **Knights of Columbus — Tootsie Roll Drive**
Church entrances following Mass
- **Blessing of the Animals**
Church Portico, 12:00 noon

ROSARY RECITATION

Please join us in the Recitation of the Holy Rosary in the church on Wednesday, October 3 at 6:00 p.m.

Weekday Masses for the Week of September 30

Weekday Mass will be held

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

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

William Bruce-Tagoe

Office Hours for the Week of September 30

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday
9:00 a.m. — 3:00 p.m.

Wednesday
9:00 a.m. — 12:00 noon

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Readings for 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 6 and October 7

Genesis 2:18-24; Hebrews 2:9-11; Mark 10:2-16

SPONSORED COFFEE SOCIAL *SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30* *FOLLOWING MASS*

The Sunday Coffee Social is in memory of
the Deibel Family— Mary and George,
Joanne Doyle and William Doyle, Jr.
Please join the Deibel family in the Parish
Hall following Mass on **Sunday, September**
30 to celebrate of our beloved friends.

FROM FR. FRAN

One of the most important reforms in the U.S. Catholic Church coming out of the ongoing abuse crisis is the 2002 “Dallas Charter”. I don’t think the public at large, or the Catholic faithful for that matter, has an awareness of this important document and how it has, in a dramatic fashion, changed the way in which allegations of abuse are handled by church officials. It also puts forth a mandate for comprehensive plans for the safety of children and young people within parish environments.

The “Dallas Charter” formally known as the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* was originally written by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops as a response to the revelations of sexual abuse by priests that came forth in 2002, largely as a result of the Boston Globe Spotlight Team’s series of articles chronicling the devastating stories of abuse and cover up that occurred in the Archdiocese of Boston. Over the last decade and a half, the charter has been revised to reflect new findings and the development of better and more comprehensive ways of dealing with the issues. The latest revisions were approved just this June.

As stated in an article on the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops’ website, the charter is: *a comprehensive set of procedures originally established by the USCCB in June 2002 for addressing allegations of sexual abuse of minors by Catholic clergy. The Charter also includes guidelines for reconciliation, healing, accountability, and prevention of future acts of abuse.*”

The article goes on to bullet point the important issues explored within the Charter’s pages, including: *creating a safe environment for children and young people; the healing and reconciliation of victims and survivors; making prompt and effective responses to allegations; cooperating with civil authorities; disciplining offenders; providing for means of accountability to ensure the problem continues to be dealt with through the Secretary of Child and Youth Protection and the National Review Board.*

While not perfect by any means, the implementation of the Charter has made a huge difference in the day to day life of parishes and in the safety of children. This was a major step for church leadership which, not so many years before, was often complicit in cover ups and the concealment of the problem of abuse in the church.

Many of the current voices calling for greater protection of children in the church are unaware of this Charter and of how the incidence of abuse and reporting of abuse occurring after 2002 has dropped dramatically. I think it’s important for us to be able to enter the conversation well informed as to what the church is doing. I encourage each parishioner to go to the USCCB website and read the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. You can find the document at uscgb.org, under the drop-down banner of Issues and Action: Child and Youth Protection. (We will also have a link on our web page.)

Some critics of the Charter have taken issue with the fact that this is an “in house” product, written and released by a body of bishops which included those complicit in cover ups, and those who may have been abusers themselves. While there is truth to that criticism, it can’t take away from the fact that the Charter is an important step forward. Children are now safer and abusers are now dealt with appropriately.

I think that the next major step forward is happening right now, namely, determining how to hold bishops accountable for their actions, and this may be the greatest challenge of all. Let’s pray that the Holy Spirit will give our leaders the wisdom and courage to tackle the issues head on and the outcome will be a church free from all forms of abuse, cover-ups, and clericalism.

PARISH FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Offertory Goal:	\$4,000.00
Offertory collection of September 22 and 23	\$3,089.00*
Of that amount WeShare donations	\$ 486.00
Parishioners celebrating Mass	309

*This represents a **deficit of \$911.00** toward the weekly offertory goal.

October Second Collections

October 6 and 7 — Parish Maintenance Collection
 October 13 and 14 — Holy Father’s “Peter’s Pence”
 October 20 and 21 — World Mission Sunday

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults—If you or anyone you know is interested in learning about receiving the sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation please come to an open meeting Sunday, October 7 following 10:00 am Mass. This meeting will be in the conference room to answer your questions and help you in your decision process. If you have questions prior to this meeting please contact Theresa Salafia at the parish office, 508-460-9255, or tsalafia@stmattpar.org. We look forward to meeting you.

**MARLBOROUGH COMMUNITY CUPBOARD
 WEEKEND OF OCTOBER 6 AND 7**

Collection bins will be available at the church entrances next weekend for your donation of non-perishable food items and personal hygiene products for our neighbors in need.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR BASKET RAFFLE



One of the highlights of the Christmas Bazaar each year is the Basket Raffle. We have some very creative parishioners who design lovely baskets that generate an enthusiastic response from those hoping to be the lucky winner. This year we would like to add a few more baskets and are hoping for your help. For the months of September, October and November we will be accepting donations for a basket theme of the month. For the month of September the theme is "SPORTS". *New* items such as a basketball, soccer ball, baseball glove, hockey stick and puck, etc. would be most appreciated. For the month of October we will be collecting items for a chocolate basket.

If you are already contributing to a ministry basket or planning to make a basket of your own, we encourage you to do so. However, if you aren't, we could certainly use your help by donating one or more items so that we can put together these "super" baskets. Donation bins will be located at the church entrances throughout the next three months. Please help, and thank you in advance.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Sunday, October 7 at 12:00 Noon

Please join us on Sunday, October 7 at 12:00 p.m. in the courtyard area of the church as we celebrate the annual Blessing of the Animals. This celebration, in honor of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals, is filled with singing, psalms and readings. Light refreshments for pets and humans alike will follow the blessing.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS TOOTSIE ROLL DRIVE OCTOBER 6 & 7

Members of the Marlborough Council of Knights of Columbus will be at the exits of the church after mass the weekend of October 6 and 7. Take a moment after mass to speak with a representative and **support this annual Charity Fundraising event** which assists adults and children with intellectual and physical disabilities with grants up to \$5,000.00. Your contributions allow the Knights of Columbus to continue with this mission.



FAITH FORMATION

Our first Faith Formation gathering was held last Sunday for Grades 1-5. It was so good to welcome these young people for another year of growth in "wisdom, age, and grace."

Much gratitude is extended to the catechists for their commitment to our Saint Matthias family and to each individual family as they strive to enrich the children's lives in faith.

Grades 1 through 5 will meet again Sunday, September 30 from 8:30 - 9:45 a.m.

Grades 6, 7, and 8 will meet on Sunday, September 30 from 6:00 to 7:15 p.m.

Confirmation I (Grade 9) and II (Grade 10) will begin their Faith Formation year Sunday, October 14.

Confirmation I (Grade 9) will participate in 10:00 a.m. Mass followed by meeting with Deacon Paul until noon.

Confirmation II (Grade 10) will meet in the parish from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. with parents/guardians.

Reminder to Confirmation II (Grade 10) Candidates: Saturday, October 20 is your Confirmation retreat day from 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. to be held at Saint Matthias Parish in the downstairs conference room and the church. This retreat includes participating in 4:00 p.m. Mass. At the close of Mass a special blessing will be bestowed on the candidates as they begin their journey toward Confirmation.

PRAY FOR THE HEALING OF THE SICK

Please Pray For...



Richard Abraham, Conor Canavan, Carol Chatalian, Joseph Cox, Adelbert Cyr, The Del Raso Family, Rita Dennison, W. Joseph Doyle, Stella Fettig, David Giugno, Russ Hokanson, Emma Johnston, Fr. Mike MacEwen, Dave Mackenzie, Kay McNeill, Mike Mauro, Michael MESSOM, Betty Montgomery, Theresa Morrill, Deborah Natoli, Jennifer Natoli, Theresa Perry, Johnny Pellrine, Jean Peltak, Andy Rivers, Kathleen Shine, Pedro Torres, Michael Trumfio, Ronald Vaudreuil 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.**

St. Matthias Parish Indoor Yard Sale

Saturday, October 13, from 9 a.m.- 3 p.m.

Come take advantage of the great prices on a wide variety of quality used goods: furniture, jewelry, vintage collectibles, gently used and new clothing, and household and children items, as well as books, DVDs, and CDs and much more.

Grilled hamburgers and hot dogs will be available for purchase along with refreshing beverages. An array of home baked treats will be for sale at the Bake Table.

Have gently used items to donate?

Gently used items, please.

We cannot accept TVs, computer monitors, baby cribs/mattresses, car seats, stuffed animals, and large furniture.

Drop off times:

**Tuesday, October 9 thru Thursday, October 11
1 – 4 p.m. and 6 – 8 p.m.**

Your Help Needed!! Yard Sale is coming Saturday, October 13 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Help is needed Sunday, October 7, following coffee social to set tables in the parish hall. Help is needed during the week of October 7 to sort items, organize tables and price items. Sales help is needed on Yard Sale day from 8:45 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Clean up help is needed starting at 3:00 p.m. Any amount of time you can give for this venture is appreciated greatly.

Support the Bake Table for the Yard Sale

We need bakers and consumers.

Baking Guidelines



1. Drop off: Friday, Oct.12 from 4 to 6:30 PM or Saturday, Oct. 13 from 8 AM to 10 AM.
2. Label the product and list the major ingredients; recipes welcome, but not required.
3. Package your product in boxes, foil ware, plastic bags, containers, tins, etc. If using paper plates, slide the plate into a Ziploc-style bag. Please note we cannot store items that require refrigeration or must be kept frozen.

Questions? Contact Ellen Teplitz at 508-480-9309 before September 28. Thank you!