

Saint Matthias Parish

409 Hemenway Street

Marlborough, MA 01752

Phone: 508-460-9255 Website: stmattpar.org

Facebook: facebook.com/stmattpar



Parish Leadership

Francis P. O'Brien, Pastor

frobrien@stmattpar.org

Doug Peltak, Senior Deacon

dcpeltak@stmattpar.org

Paul G. Coletti, Deacon

dncoletti@stmattpar.org

Russ Morey, Senior Deacon

[dcmorey@stmattpar.org](mailto:dcnmorey@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, Office Manager

alowe@stmattpar.org

Darleen Doona, Bookkeeper

ddoona@stmattpar.org

Paul G. Coletti, Chair, Finance Council

For HELP: St. Vincent dePaul Society tel. no. 978-493-3037

Celebrations of the Eucharist

The Lord's Day

Sunday: 10:00AM

Indoor/Outdoor by Reservation (Phone In or On-Line)

Pre-recorded Mass on-line Sundays by 8:30AM

www.stmattpar.org and facebook: [@stmattpar](https://facebook.com/stmattpar)

Weekday

Canceled until further notice.

Holy Day

As announced

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 grade school 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

St. Matthias Parish Office Information

508-460-9255

Though the Parish Office is currently closed to visitors, you may call the office on **Monday and Thursday from 10:00AM to 2:00PM.** with questions, requests for documents or to make an in-person appointment with a staff member. You may also e-mail the office at any time: admin@stmattpar.org.

Sanctuary and Altar Candles Donation for the month of January

In Loving Memory of

**Frank and Leah Calore
Joseph Calore
Eleanor Laspada**



CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST PRAYER INTENTIONS

**Internet Mass, Sunday, January 17
Richard Corrinne
1st Anniversary Memorial**



CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Our COVID safety team met via Zoom this week to evaluate our indoor and parking lot masses.

While all agreed that we are doing quite well in keeping our parishioners safe, we have decided to suspend all in-person masses for the next 6 weeks. We will reevaluate that decision on February 1st. We did talk of continuing drive-in masses; however, with the precariousness of the winter weather and snow removal, we decided against this, at least for the duration of the winter.

This decision comes after much discussion of the current state of the pandemic, the number of cases in Marlborough and neighboring towns, along with the age and number of parishioners coming to mass. While this decision may be difficult for some who have been coming regularly, we see the safety of all parishioners as part of our mission to be Christ for one another.

Cardinal O'Malley has left decisions such as this up to the local pastors. I am grateful for this allowance. We will continue to record mass during this time and post it on social media.

My sincerest thanks to the members of our COVID Team and to all of you for your leadership within our parish family.

May the spring see us in a better position to gather as a community once more.

Annual Report to Parishioners for Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020

A Note from the Finance Council

Dear Parishioners,

The Finance Council presents to you, on the next page, a report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020. The Parish ended the year with a surplus of \$92,498.

Actual revenues were up relative to budget by \$61,292. The Weekly Offertory was below budget by (\$6,323). On the positive side was the Grand Annual where total donations of \$76,330 exceeded budget by \$11,330. Parish Maintenance collections of \$36,693 exceeded budget by \$3,093.

The parish received a very generous gift of over \$44,000 from the estate of a former parishioner. This amount along with donations made in memory of deceased parishioners resulted in Donations Other exceeding budget by \$56,887.

Actual expenses were below budget by \$21,879. Compensation was below budget by \$5,896 as an office position was eliminated with remaining staff assuming additional responsibilities. With the position elimination was a corresponding decrease in Benefits Expense of \$3,259.

Facilities Expense was under budget by \$7,333 as some maintenance projects were deferred when the Covid virus came upon us in the spring. Office expenses were under budget by \$3,245.

Pastoral/Liturgical was below budget by \$3,538 due to a decrease in weekend masses in the spring, and the overall decrease in funeral masses, as a result of the Covid pandemic restrictions. Note that the Diocese assessment expense was over budget by \$1,807 as the Parish came up short in meeting its Catholic Appeal assessment.

For the current fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, we are anticipating some minor heating repairs, roofing repairs, and other facilities repairs. We are expecting to break even in this fiscal year, assuming there are no major unforeseen expenditures. We have planned for a Grand Annual goal this fiscal year of \$70,000.

We would like to thank the parishioners for their financial support particularly in the way that the Grand Annual was supported in this past fiscal year, and for the parishioners ongoing support of the Parish in the midst of the Covid pandemic. May God bless you and your families.

Sincerely,

The Finance Committee

Please note the full report for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2020 is available on the St. Matthias Parish Webpage: www.stmattpar.org.

FROM FR. FRAN

“This Is Not Who We Are”

I have heard well respected faith leaders and members of the government speaking about the storming of the US Capitol saying “this is not who we are”. I’m sure they mean well, but, let’s face it, the mob who violently assaulted the seat of our government was comprised of a faction in our country that is a reality. Many of those who feel disenfranchised by our government have listened to the rhetoric of some in authority who want to keep their positions more than they want to do what is right. And now it comes home to roost.

What we are seeing is corporate sin. It’s like a snowball hurtling down a hill, gathering speed and material as it goes. What begins with one person’s selfish ambitions often drags a whole lot of others down the rabbit hole.

The basis for the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the Catholic tradition is the recognition that sin affects not just the sinner, but causes alienation from others and from God. Sin is not a private thing. Unfortunately, we often see it that way. When we go to individual confession we may miss the corporate nature of what we’ve done because we are one-on-one with the priest. When we gather together at a parish Penance Service and seek the Sacrament of Reconciliation, it is easier to see that all of us have committed acts of sinfulness affecting others.

I bring this up to help us look deep inside ourselves and reflect upon how we may be complicit with the corporate sin we see around us. How are we speaking about what is occurring in our country? Whose “side” are we on? How do we characterize those on the “other side”? Does the prejudice that may dwell within us get a free pass in our words and actions?

It’s a cliché to say that we are either part of the problem or part of the solution, but it’s true. We may be far away physically and ethically from the rioters in the nation’s capital, but in our own part of the world, are we speeding down the hill of hate, anger and injustice, or are we climbing up the hill of truth, honesty, and reconciliation. The climb up is much harder, but it’s the Catholic thing to do.

St. Matthias In-Person Masses

As most of you may know by now, our COVID safety team met via Zoom a couple of weeks ago to evaluate our indoor and parking lot masses. While all agreed that we are doing quite well in keeping our parishioners safe, **we decided to suspend all in-person masses until February 21st**. We will reevaluate that decision on February 1st.

This decision comes after much discussion of the current state of the pandemic, the number of cases in Marlborough and neighboring towns, along with the age and number of parishioners coming to mass. While this decision

may be difficult for some who have been coming regularly, we see the safety of all parishioners as part of our mission to be Christ for one another. We did talk of resuming drive-in masses, however, with the precariousness of the winter weather and snow removal, we decided against this, at least for now.

Cardinal O’Malley has left decisions such as this up to the local pastors. I am grateful for this allowance. Cardinal Sean has also continued the suspension Sunday and Holy Day Mass obligation indefinitely.

We will continue to record and post Sunday Mass on our webpage and Facebook page for the foreseeable future.

Thank you for your understanding and support. We all look forward to the day when we will be able to celebrate the Eucharist together again, side by side. Until that time, please pray for one another, those experiencing COVID, and those who have lost a loved one to the virus.

St. Matthias Grand Annual Collection

As you can see by our collection thermometer, we are approaching our Grand Annual goal for 2021. This is an amazing tribute to our parish, that in these difficult times, parishioners have come through in such a generous way. Thank you!

If you haven’t made your donation yet and are able to do so, please consider a gift to our Grand Annual at this time. All the information you need to make a contribution is found on our webpage.



January 17, 2021

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

FAITH FORMATION — THERESA SALAFIA

FAITH FORMATION CLASS UPDATE:

After careful consideration of the insecurities surrounding COVID 19 and our ability to provide safety in social distancing and air purification in meeting areas used for Faith Formation, the decision is made to continue with remote learning for the remainder of the year. Updated calendars will be sent to families shortly. Dates for First Eucharist and Confirmation will be determined soon. If you have questions or concerns please contact Theresa Salafia, Faith Formation Director, at tsalafia@stmattpar.org or 508-460-9255.

January 2021 start dates for Zoom meetings:

Sunday January 24 Level 2 to 5	8:30 – 9:30 a.m.
Sunday January 24 Level 6, 7, and 8	6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Sunday January 24 Confirmation 1	1:30 – 12:10 p.m.
Sunday January 31 Confirmation 2	11:30 a.m. – 12:10 p.m.

A complete calendar of Faith Formation meetings will be sent to families shortly.



CHURCH DISINFECTION

St. Matthias is grateful to parishioner, Mike Matros, founder of Redline Gear Cleaning Company located in Marlborough (<https://redlinegearcleaning.com/>). Mike has graciously donated his time and the company resources to disinfect our church after each indoor Mass during COVID times.



PRAY FOR THE HEALING OF THE SICK

Please Pray For...

Richard Abraham, Donna Anastas, Cheryl LaJeunesse Arsenault, Conor Canavan, William Connors, Carol Chatalian, Danielle and Melissa Chiasson, Steven Chiasson, Alice Cox, Joseph Cox, Adelbert Cyr, Richard Desjardin, Kent Dudley, Jason Fournier, David Giugno, Dicky Guild, Russ Hokanson, Debbie Jennings, Emma Johnston, Alice Kimball, Marie Leigh, Daniel Lopes, Fr. Mike MacEwen, Dave Mackenzie, Doreen Martin, Pat McNeil, Patrick Mauro, Maura McGuinness, Judy McManus, Marlene Mele, Michael Messom, Gene Moreau, Deborah Natoli, Jennifer Natoli, Mary and Bob O'Connor, Johnny Pellrine, Doug Peltak, Theresa Perry, Jennifer Reis, Andrew Tivnan, Pedro Torres, Trunfio Family, Ronald Vaudreuil, Vanessa Viega, and AnnMarie Walters.

END OF YEAR DONATION STATEMENTS



As we bid 2020 farewell, we review our finances and look toward tax season! If you would like a copy of your end of year donation statement mailed or emailed to you, please call or email April Lowe at 508-460-9255/ alowe@stmattpar.org. Statements will not be automatically sent out to parishioners, but will be sent out upon request only. For those who donate to the parish through WeShare, you should receive a year-end report from WeShare, but you may also request a report from St. Matthias as that information is included in our parish database. Thank you for your generous contributions to support St. Matthias in 2020.



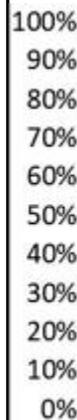
2021 GRAND ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

Grand Annual Donations as of January 4, 2021

Grand Annual Goal: \$70,000.00

Total Received (<i>Thank you.</i>):	\$58,360.00
Total to Reach Goal:	\$11,640.00
Percentage of Goal:	83%
No. Families Contributing:	109

Our campaign is still ongoing through the end of February so please donate online at WeShare.com or mail your contribution to the parish office.



WEEKLY OFFERTORY: GOAL \$4,000.00

Offertory Collection for January 17

Offertory Mail Week of 1/4/21	\$ 1,105.00
WeShare Offertory	<u>\$ 1,645.10</u>
	\$ 2,750.10
Parish Maintenance Mail Week of 1/4/21	\$ 225.00
WeShare Maintenance:	<u>\$ 360.00</u>
	\$ 585.00



CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIAL DONATIONS



Christmas flower donations have been lovingly made in honor or in memory of the following:

Johnny Arnott	Janet Landers
Katie Arnott	Mr. & Mrs. Larkin
Tom & Betty Arnott	John D. Litster
Joseph Attardo	John R. & Elizabeth Litster
Josephine Attardo	Carmella Mauro
Niceas, Teresita	Ernest & Albina Mauro
& Alfonso Barcinas	Ernest A. Mauro
Mr. & Mrs. Bean	Patrick Mauro
William Bruce-Tagoe	Carolyn Metcalf
Laura & Leonard Bucher	Mr. & Mrs. Mondello
Leah & Frank Calore	Montgomery Family
Adrien Cote	Paul Murphy
Irene Cote	Richard & Genevieve Murray
Ronald Cote	Florence Myers
Curley Family	Gilbert Myers
George J. DeBeaucourt	Josephine Myers
Andrew & Frances Deibel	Lillian & James Myers
George & Mary Deibel	Matt, Eleanor, Bobby & Mark
Mark Desveaux	Pendergast
Bill Deveaux	Christie Rembetsy
Eugene Doiron	Debie Robichaud
Dolan Family	Salafia Family
W. Joseph Doyle	Timothy & Elizabeth Sheehan
Edward J. Fallon	Shine Family
Emilienne Fallon	Julie Ann Slocum
Michael J. Fallon	Raymond G. StGermain
Antonino & Frances Ferrarra	Rhea M. StGermain
Ruth Forster	Mr. & Mrs. Telles
Joe Fraine	Thomas Family
George Gazza	Louis Varcasia
Margaret Gazza	Mary Varcasia
Myles Heffernan	
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Kathryn Keeler	
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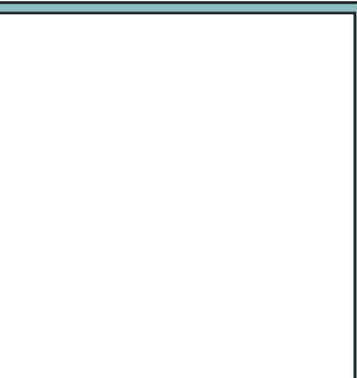
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Share YOUR Faith

Support the Collection for the Church in Latin America



On January 24, 2021 we will take up the Collection for the Church in Latin America. For many in Latin America and the Caribbean, a rising secular culture, difficult rural terrain, and a shortage of ministers all present obstacles to practicing the faith.

Your support for the collection provides lay leadership training, catechesis, priestly and religious formation, and other programs to share our Catholic faith with those who long to hear the Good News of Christ. To learn more about how your gifts make a difference, visit www.usccb.org/latin-america.

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