# 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 dcnpeltak@stmattpar.org

Paul G. Coletti, Deacon dcncoletti@stmattpar.org

Russ Morey, Senior Deacon dcnmorey@stmattpar.org

Theresa Salafia, Faith Formation Director tsalafia@stmattpar.org

Peter Brockmann, Director of Music pbrockmann@stmattpar.org

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

Sundays

Pre-recorded Mass on-line Sundays by 10:00 AM at www.stmattpar.org and facebook: @stmattpar

Weekend Masses in the Church Saturdays 4:00 PM

Weekdays in the Conference Room Chapel Mondays and Tuesdays 9:00 AM Holy Days: As announced

10:00 AM

#### **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 currently celebrated 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 online at https://www.stmattpar.org/parish-registration or register at the parish office. We look forward to welcoming you to our parish community.

# PARISH OFFICE HOURS Week of July 17

Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday



### 9:00AM to 2:00PM

During off-hours you may e-mail the office at any time at: admin@stmattpar.org

or leave a voicemail at 508-460-9255.

# MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, July 16

The Community of St. Matthias

# Sunday, July 17

Christopher F. Lowe 3-year Anniversary Memorial

Saturday, July 23
Paul Murphy — Memorial

Sunday, July 24

Richard Berube — 3rd Anniversary Memorial

Welcome into our faith community through the Sacrament of Baptism on Sunday, July 24



Cameron John Butt (During 10:00 AM Mass)

Leonardo Michael Rashash (Outside of Mass)

Please pray for Cameron John and Leonardo Michael and their families as they begin their journey of faith.



Pre-recorded Mass can be found posted online on Facebook post Sundays by 10:00 AM. Just search @stmattpar

<u>OR</u> Visit our website on your favorite browser at **www.stmattpar.org** to view the Mass from our homepage.

# THIS WEEK AT ST. MATTHIAS

Saturday, July 16

**Celebration of the Eucharist** 

Church, 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, July 17

**Celebration of the Eucharist** 

Church, 10:00 a.m.

Monday, July 18

**Celebration of the Eucharist** 

Downstairs Conference Room Chapel, 9:00 a.m.

Tuesday, July 19

**Celebration of the Eucharist** 

Downstairs Conference Room Chapel, 9:00 a.m.

Saturday, July 23

**Celebration of the Eucharist** 

Church, 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, July 24 with Baptism

**Celebration of the Eucharist** 

Church, 10:00 a.m.

Music for Celebrations of the Eucharist July 16 and 17

**Gathering Song: We Journey Together In Christ** 

booklet # 14

**Preparation:** Come To Me, O Weary Traveler

hymnal # 630

Communion: You Are All We Have

hymnal # 508

Recessional: Sing Of The Lord's Goodness

hymnal # 532

### **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

Readings—Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
July 16 and July 17

First Reading: Genesis 18:1-10a
Second Reading: Colossians 1:24-28
Gospel: Luke 10:38-42

Readings—Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 23 and July 24

First Reading: Genesis 18:20-32 Second Reading: Colossians 2:12-14

Gospel: Luke 11:1-13

# From Fr. Fran

# **COVID Goes On**

It was great to see folks get together at last week's coffee hour. A sure sign of "normalcy" in this ongoing pandemic. The good news is that people are getting together more often. The unwelcome news is that the pandemic is still with us. Over the last few weeks, I think I've heard more stories of parishioners dealing with COVID than at any time during the last six months.

It looks like the newest variant of Omicron is rather resistant to the barrage of immunizations that most of us have received. Doctors are encouraging those who are eligible to get all their boosters, for while immunization doesn't always stave off COVID, it does lessen its severity.

Here at St. Matthias, we continue to offer socially distanced seating on the parking lot side of the church and encourage folks to wear a mask if they feel so inclined. While we are all suffering from COVID fatigue, we still need to be cautious, especially for the immunecompromised folks among us who are so happy to be able to return to Sunday Mass.

#### **Finances**

Our Parish Finance Council is putting the finishing touches on the FY2023 budget (which began on July 1<sup>st</sup>.) Many thanks to the members of the Council who have put in a lot of hours this year in helping to keep us on track with our finances. Parishioners will receive a full report on how we did in 2022, hopefully by the end of the summer.

# **Post-Pandemic Stewardship**

The upcoming year is going to be a challenging one in many respects. We are still recovering from the effects of the pandemic in a number of ways. Our 2022 Offertory and Grand Annual were both under budget. Our weekly attendance, though growing back, is about 60% of what it was pre-pandemic. (I'm hearing the same from many other parishes.) We need to revitalize all our ministries and build back the wonderful sense of community which is so much a part of our parish. The time is also approaching when we will become a Pastoral Collaborative with St. Michael Parish, Hudson. We will need to reintroduce what being in a Collaborate will mean to both parishes.

With all these challenges ahead, our Parish Staff, Pastoral Council, and Finance Council have been looking into and have decide to implement a program of renewed stewardship offered by the Archdiocese of Boston.

Called *Grateful Discipleship*, this is a wholistic program that helps parishioners reaffirm their commitment to the parish through volunteer and ministerial opportunities and through a pledge of financial support. We are planning to implement the program in the fall.

In preparation, we will be gathering a group of 10 -12 parishioners to design, with a team of professionals from the

archdiocese, the look and feel of our stewardship program, tailoring it to our particular needs. If you are interested in being a participant in the planning process, please let me know within the coming week or so. I would like to get us going in early August.

The stronger our parish emerges from the pandemic, the better situated we will be as we move into our Pastoral Collaborative with St. Michael. Please keep both parishes in your prayers as we move forward in the work of our Lord.

# A Note from Peter Brockmann, Director of Music

One of our gathering songs which we will be seeing this summer, YOU GATHER US, #4 in our seasonal worship booklet, combines the English folk tune 'FOREST GREEN' with a delightful lyric by Sr Delores Dufner, OSB.

Forest Green, is in the public domain, since copyrights exist for a specific period of time (in the USA 70 years after the death of the creator). 140 years ago, the tune was associated with the folk ballad, "The Ploughboy's Dream."

According to <u>SecondHandSongs.com</u>, the English composer Ralph Vaughn Williams collected the song from Henry Garner of Surrey England and merged this bright melody with the lyric "O Little Town of Bethlehem" in "The English Hymnal\*" in 1906. Although the meter fits, the melody we more commonly associate with "O Little Town of Bethlehem", called ST LOUIS by Lewis Redner precedes the Williams effort by 40 years.

Interestingly, "O Little Town of Bethlehem" lyric and the ST LOUIS hymn tune have strong Massachusetts linkages. This lyric was written by Phillips Brooks, a Massachusetts-born and Harvard-educated Episcopal clergyman who had visited Bethlehem in 1866 during Christmas time. At a time when the nation was so disturbed by the Civil War and the assassination of President Lincoln, a calming and pastorale view of the birth of Christ was quite refreshing. Brooks asked his organist at Trinity Church here in Boston to write a tune to the poem and it was first sung the next day at Sunday worship and published in 1894.

\* We've written about The English Hymnal and how it was a source of English language adaptation of one of my favorite tunes - LASST UNS ERFREUEN.

Let us sing,



# Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

## FAITH FORMATION

Watch your mail for Faith Formation registration materials that were mailed this past week to all families who participated in gatherings during the 2021-2022 year. It is helpful for planning purposes if registrations are completed as soon as possible. If you have questions regarding the registration process please contact April Lowe in the parish office at 508-460-9255 x101. April will assist with the registrations during the month of July.

If you know families who have moved into our area and are interested in our Faith Formation meetings please let them know they are welcome to join our program and to either contact the office or provide mailing address so information can be forwarded to them.

If you are a new family who has moved into the area and would like your child(ren) to attend this coming year, blank registration forms are available to print out and fill out on our website at: https://www.stmattpar.org/ffregistration110 or at the entrances to the church.

Have a happy and healthy summer!





Donna Anastas
Conor Canavan
Paul Cote
Alice Cox
Joseph Cox
Aline Desjardin
Richard Desjardin
Craig Fallon
LeAnne Gogel
Tyler Hendrix
Jeanette Kirk
Derek Ledoux
Maura McGuinnesss

Edward McManus
Debra Natoli
Chris O'Brien
John O'Malley
Ayn Paolella
Jennifer Reis
Steve S.
Raymond Sotek
Muriel Swenor
Andrew Tivnan
Jane Walsh
Lydia Whitcomb

<u>NOTICE</u>: To add a loved one to this prayer list, please email: admin@stmattpar.org.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

Join together at the monthly coffee social:

August 14 September 11

Coffee and donuts will be served in the Parish Hall following the 10AM mass. All are welcome.



Marlborough Community Cupboard Collection weekends. Collections will occur the  $2^{nd}$  weekend of the month (August 13/14 and September 10/11 to start). There will be a bin



available during Mass times at the entrances for collection of food/toiletry items for the cupboard. As we take comfort in a small treat with our parish family we can remember those less fortunate by bringing in a donation!

Thank you for the July donations!

# **Celebration for Fritz Geisin**

Sunday, July 31 after 10:00AM Mass Parish Hall

A special gathering will be held in celebration of our friend Fritz in the Parish Hall on Sunday July 31 following 10:00 AM Mass. Breakfast fare will be served. Come share memories of Fritz and maybe even a favorite song or two will be sung.

### A Call to Action

St. Matthias Parish is looking for volunteers to take part in the many activities and celebrations at the church.

Volunteers are especially needed for the following ministries: Altar Servers, Lectors, Ministers of the Eucharist. Additionally, other opportunities to actively take part in the parish include creating the weekly bulletin, preparing a coffee social, singing in the Choir and greeting at Mass. Our community is a vibrant one, when people are involved and committed to enriching their faith and the faith within the parish community. Email (admin@stmattpar.org) or call the Parish office at 508-460-9255 for information on whatever interests you.



# Weekday Mass — Week of July 17

Weekday Mass will be held Monday and Tuesday 9:00 AM — Downstairs Conference Room Chapel

# **PARISH FINANCES**

# WEEKLY OFFERTORY Collections — July 2 and July 3

Offertory Collection \$ 2,572.00 WeShare Offertory \$ 1,120.00 \$ 3,002.65

\*WeShare fees: \$2.65

Deficit of the \$4,000 weekly goal: -\$ 997.65

Total Mass Count: 160

Collections — July 9 and July 10

Offertory Collection \$ 1,571.00 WeShare Offertory \$ 1,460.00 \$2,989.7

\*WeShare fees: \$41.33

Deficit of the \$4,000 weekly goal: -\$ 1,010.33

Total Mass Count: 160



# JOIN WESHARE JUST A FEW SIMPLE STEPS

To set up one-time or recurring donations to the Regular Offertory, using our online giving platform, WeShare by MinistryBrands, please use the QR-code or go to: wesharegiving.org\app\giving\stmatt.

WeShare is perfect for summer! While you're away on vacation, the Parish will continue to receive donations while you attend Mass at your travel location.









# **OFFERTORY GIFTS**

Please place your weekly or special collection offertory gifts in the Offertory box at the main entrance to the church. There will be no passing of the basket during Mass until further notice.



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