

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
Doug Peltak, Senior Deacon
Paul G. Coletti, Deacon
Russ Morey, Senior Deacon
Theresa Salafia, Faith Formation Director

frobrien@stmattpar.org
dcnpeltak@stmattpar.org
dcncoletti@stmattpar.org
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Peter Brockmann, Music Director pbrockmann@stmattpar.org
April Lowe, Office Manager alow@stmattpar.org
Darleen Doona, Bookkeeper ddoona@stmattpar.org
David Resendes, Maintenance
Paul G. Coletti, Chair, Finance Council

Celebrations of the Eucharist

Pre-recorded Mass on-line Sundays by 10:00 AM at
www.stmattpar.org and facebook: [@stmattpar](https://facebook.com/stmattpar)

Weekend Masses in the Church

Saturdays 4:00 PM

Sundays 10:00 AM

Weekdays in the Conference Room Chapel

Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays 9:00 AM

Holy Days: 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 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.

For HELP: St. Vincent dePaul Society

tel. no. 978-493-3037

St. Matthias Parish

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Week of April 16, 2023



Tuesday and Thursday

9:00AM to 2:00PM

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

INTENTIONS OF THE EUCHARIST

Saturday, April 15 — 4:00 p.m.

Michael Bailly — Memorial

Sunday, April 16 — 10:00 a.m.

Antonio Barcinas—Memorial

Saturday, April 22 — 4:00 p.m.

Bob Sears — Memorial

Sunday, April 23 — 10:00 a.m.

Michelle Frawley—Memorial



Readings for Second Sunday of Easter—Divine Mercy
April 15 and April 16

First Reading: Acts 2:42-47
Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9
Gospel: John 20:19-31

Readings for Third Sunday of Easter
April 22 and April 23

First Reading: Acts 2:14, 22-33
Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-21
Gospel: Luke 24:13-25

Weekday Masses for the Week of April 16

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

Mass updates are posted on the website
updated on Parish Office voice message.



Pre-recorded Mass can be found posted online on
Facebook post Sundays by 10:00 AM. Just search
@stmattpar OR Visit our website on your
favorite browser at www.stmattpar.org to view
the recorded Mass from our homepage.



THIS WEEK AT ST. MATTHIAS

Saturday, April 15

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

Sunday, April 16

Celebration of the Eucharist
Church, 10:00 a.m.

Monday, April 17

Celebration of the Eucharist
Conference Room Chapel, 9 a.m.

Tuesday, April 18

Celebration of the Eucharist
Conference Room Chapel, 9 a.m.

Wednesday, April 19

Choir Rehearsal
Church, 7:00 p.m.

Friday, April 21

Celebration of the Eucharist
Conference Room Chapel, 9 a.m.

Saturday, April 22

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

Sunday, April 23

Celebration of the Eucharist
Church, 10:00 a.m.

Sacrament of Baptism

Welcome into our Faith Community:



Mary Kathryn Cato
Leo Elliot Corrinne
Chloe Catherine Finley
Rory Romka McConnell

Let us pray for Mary Kathryn, Leo Elliot, Chloe
Catherine and Rory Romka and their families as the
being their faith journey.

CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST WORSHIP BOOKLET

The Worship Aid for the Easter Season are found in
the pews. The booklet contains Mass responses as well as
our musical selections. Lift your voices in celebration.

After use, please return the booklet to the book rack in
the pews. *Thank You.*

FROM FR. FRAN

Easter Thanks!

Our parish experienced many wonderful liturgical celebrations from Palm Sunday through the Easter Triduum. A heartfelt thank you to the many parishioners who gave of their time and talent to make our celebrations so prayerful, and joy filled. Special thanks to our Holy Week/Triduum Team who prepared all our liturgies, the members of our music ministry who led us so beautifully in sung prayer, those who decorated our church environment gloriously, both inside and outside, and those who served so well in the various liturgical ministries. You will see a listing of those parishioners, in this week's bulletin insert, who volunteered to make ensure our parish had a most joyous Holy Week and Easter.

Easter, of course, is a full season. It runs for 50 days, from the celebration of the Resurrection on Easter Sunday to the celebration of Christ's gift of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost Sunday. During these Easter weeks we will celebrate Infant Baptisms, First Eucharist, and Confirmation with many of the young people and young families in our parish. Please keep them in your prayers as they make the final preparations for receiving these Sacraments of Initiation.

Speaking of Initiation, we were fortunate to celebrate the Rites of Initiation at the Easter Vigil with our newest Catholic Christian, Truman Sarazen. It was a wonderful night for Truman and his family. The pitcher I used to baptize Truman is an heirloom in his family. His mother and a cousin were baptized with the very same pitcher. It was an honor to share in this bit of family history as Truman was welcomed into the Catholic family.

The Fifty Day Season of Easter

The word Easter comes from an ancient root that can be translated as "to shine", "dawn" or "the direction of the sunrise". As far back as the third century there is evidence that Easter was celebrated for a period of 50 days. (Easter is actually *older* than its preparatory season of Lent which lasts 40 days.) The first week of Easter is called the "octave" of Easter. It has been described as "a week of Easter Sundays", or an Easter Sunday that lasts for a week. The rest of the weeks of Easter will lead up to the season's grand finale, the great feast of Pentecost.

Easter is the Church's ultimate season of joy; so much so that there were periods in the church when the people would remain standing to pray and were prohibited from kneeling and fasting for the entire 50 days.

Here at St. Matthias, to highlight the seasonal nature of Easter, for the next eight weeks we will be singing songs that reflect the resurrection and Christ's appearances to the disciples. This will also be reflected in the scripture readings for the first few weeks of the season. The weekly replenishment of our Easter flowers will also remind us of the 50 days of the festival. During the latter part of the season, the scriptures, our music, and our environment will remind us of the approaching feast of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples, commissioning them to go out into the world to tell the good news of the Gospel.

Financial Notes

Collection for Clergy Trust Fund: Each year the Archdiocese of Boston designates the Easter Sunday Collection in support of the care and health of our active and retired priests who have served our parishes faithfully over the years. It's not too late to give to this important collection. As priests are aging and living longer there are increased needs as well as increased prices for medications and procedures. It is the Clergy Trust that takes care of all of this, and they are in need of your generosity. You can give online if you use WeShare or give through cash or a check written out to St. Matthias and earmarked for the Clergy Trust. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Special Easter Season Parish Donation: Since our parish loses its normal Sunday collection on Easter, I'd like to invite parishioners to consider a special donation during the Easter Season, if you are able. You can do this online at WeShare, or by bringing an envelope with your donation to Mass from *April 16th (the Second Sunday of Easter) through May 28th (Pentecost Sunday)* and mark it "Special Easter Season Donation". Thanks!

2023 Grand Annual: Can you help St. Matthias Parish hit this year's goal of 75K? Many thanks to those generous parishioners who have donated so far. If you are able, now would be a great time to write out a check or visit our online giving program WeShare.

All of your donations to the Grand Annual go directly into our FY2023 operating budget. That means each dollar is already spoken for. (And for future reference, when we become a Pastoral Collaborative with St. Michael Parish, all your donations will remain within our parish.)

FAITH FORMATION

April schedule for Faith Formation is as follows:

Confirmation 1 and Confirmation II

Sunday, April 30—10:00 a.m. Mass

followed by meetings in the parish hall with Mrs. Salafia and Deacon Paul (in the conference room.)

May schedule:

Sunday, May 7 — First Eucharist 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, May 21 — Confirmation II dinner 6:00 p.m.

For candidates and parents/guardians, and sponsors. Confirmation rehearsal to follow dinner at 7:00 p.m. in church.

Sunday, May 28 Bishop Reed will administer the Sacrament of Confirmation during 10:00 a.m. Mass

Children in Grades 1, 3 through 8 have completed their Faith Formation meetings.

EASTER FLOWERS

The joy of Easter has arrived; a time of beauty and reflection on the incredible sacrifice Christ made for us. A small part of that Easter joy is the beautiful arrangements of flowers adorning the church. The floral displays last throughout the 50 days of the Easter season. You may help offset the cost of the flowers with an Easter flower donation. Your contribution may be made in honor of a deceased loved one or other special intention. Envelopes may be found at the church entrances. Please be sure to put your name and the names of those you wish to honor on the collection envelope and drop it in the collection box. Contributions may also be made on-line through WeShare. All contributions are greatly appreciated. Please note: Easter flower donations are accepted throughout the Easter season. We will continue to publish additional memorials in upcoming bulletins.

ST. MATTHIAS YARD SALE SATURDAY, MAY 6, 2023 PARISH HALL

SPRING IS ON IT'S WAYand with that comes Spring cleaning. St. Matthias Parish will be holding an indoor yard sale; a perfect opportunity to drop off your gently used clothing, household items, sports equipment etc.

It's never too early to step up and offer your time to help make this a smooth running fundraiser for the parish.

More details to come in future bulletins. Please call the office 508-460-9255 to sign up to volunteer to help or for additional



A NOTE FROM OUR MUSIC DIRECTOR

You might recall that during Lent there are many things we refrain from doing during our liturgies:

1. no Gloria. sigh.
2. no Alleluia. double sigh.
3. no recessional hymn.

Thankfully it was during the Easter Vigil that we broke the fast on these three musical elements of our worship. During the Easter season which will last until Pentecost Sunday, May 28, we will do our best to restore these three elements, and in the spirit of Resurrection Joy, we'll add two more:

4. the Sprinkling Rite and,
5. The Easter Alleluia! for dismissal.

The Sprinkling Rite in the Mass is an opportunity for us to recall our own baptism and renew our commitment to faith more directly than through words and music, but through the action where the celebrant passes through the sanctuary distributing blessed water onto the faithful. Our physical response is to give the sign of the Cross, and sing the Sprinkling Song from the "Mass of St Matthias".

The Easter Alleluia! is the final dismissal for our weekend liturgies during this season, as confidently and excellently intoned by our deacons - Russ, Doug and Paul. It's meant to be a declaration that ends with an !

So, our response is to sing "Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!" in the same key, joyful, confidence and exuberant style as intoned by the deacon.

Deacon, then Assembly:

all: Thanks be to God. Al-le-lu - ia, al-le ——— lu — ia!

Hear Our Prayer, O Lord

Donna Anastas	Alfred Giancola	Jennifer Reis
Phil Anastas	LeAnne Gogel	Steve S.
William C.	Rachael Goulet	Raymond Sotek
Conor Canavan	Rosalie Green	Rick Smith
Brittney Chiasson	Brian Hendrix	Joseph Sousa
Stephen Chiasson	Tyler Hendrix	Muriel Swenor
Paul Cote	Derek Ledoux	Linda Thomasino
Aline Desjardin	Maura McGuinness	Jane Walsh
Richard Desjardin	Debra Natoli	Lydia Whitcomb
Andrea Durant	Dennis Natoli	
Craig Fallon	John O'Malley	

NOTICE: To add a loved one to this prayer list, please email: admin@stmattpar.org or call 508-460-9255.

PARISH FINANCES

Weekly Goal \$4,000.00

Offertory Collection — April 1 and April 2

Collection	\$ 3,487.00
WeShare	\$ 1,235.00
	\$ 4,722.00

\$ 722.00 surplus to the weekly goal. Thank you.

Mass Attendance 262

Offertory Collection — April 8 and April 9

Clergy Collection	\$ 2,011.00
Clergy—WeShare	\$ 700.00
	\$ 2,711.00

Mass Attendance 330

APRIL SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

April 29 and 30 — St. Vincent de Paul



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 Ministry Brands, please use the QR-code or go to: wesharegiving.org/app/giving/stmatt.

SCAN ME



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.

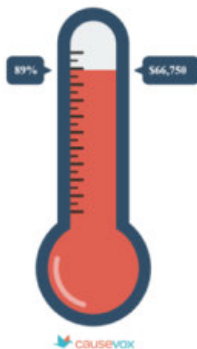


GRAND ANNUAL CAMPAIGN FY 2023

St. Matthias 2023 Grand Annual Collection is in full swing. This is our most important fundraiser of the year. Our goal this year is to raise \$75,000 dollars. All of which goes directly into our operating budget!

Donation Total:	\$66,750.00
Remaining to reach goal:	\$ 8,250.00
Percentage: towards goal	89.0%
Participating Families:	100

GOAL: \$75,000



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