

# Saint Matthias Parish

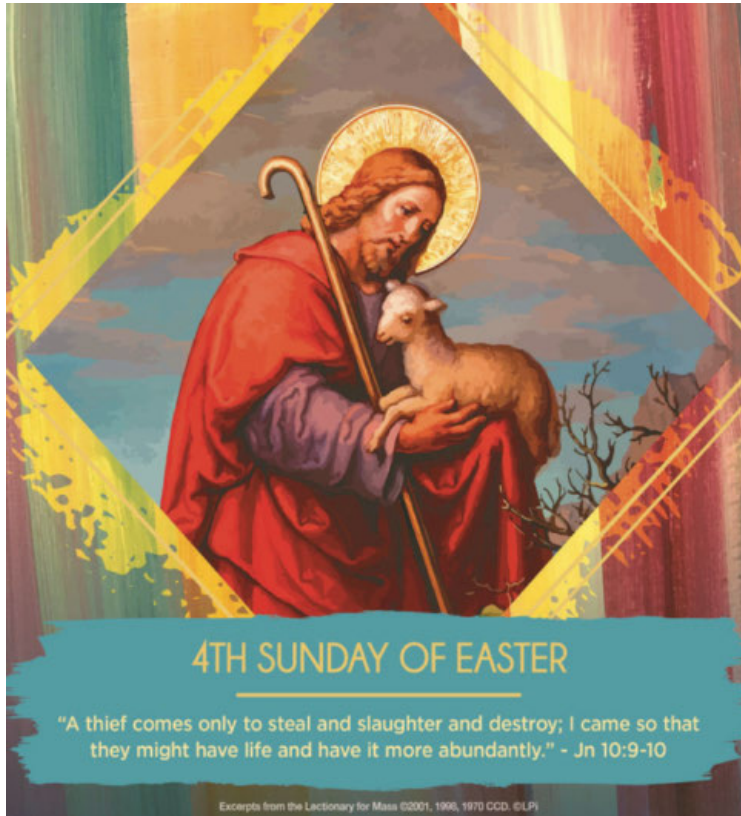
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## 4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

"A thief comes only to steal and slaughter and destroy; I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly." - Jn 10:9-10

Excerpts from the Lictionary for Mass (2001, 1996, 1970 CCD: ©LPI)

### 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](mailto:frobrien@stmattpar.org)

[dcnpeltak@stmattpar.org](mailto:dcnpeltak@stmattpar.org)

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[tsalafia@stmattpar.org](mailto:tsalafia@stmattpar.org)

Peter Brockmann, Music Director [pbrockmann@stmattpar.org](mailto:pbrockmann@stmattpar.org)

April Lowe, Office Manager [alowe@stmattpar.org](mailto:alowe@stmattpar.org)

Darleen Doona, Bookkeeper [ddoona@stmattpar.org](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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 30, 2023



**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](mailto:admin@stmattpar.org)

### INTENTIONS OF THE EUCHARIST

**Saturday, April 29 — 4:00 p.m.**

Anita Mauro — 1-Year Anniversary Memorial  
Helen, Joseph & Jordan DeDeo — Memorial

**Sunday, April 30 — 10:00 a.m.**

Ralph Burg and Family — Memorial

**Saturday, May 6 — 4:00 p.m.**

Anna and Joseph Zemejda — Memorial

**Sunday, May 7 — 10:00 a.m.**

James and Alice — Memorial  
Diane Robertson — 1st Anniversary Memorial

Readings for Fourth Sunday of Easter  
April 29 and April 30

*First Reading:* Acts 2:14a, 36-41  
*Second Reading:* 1 Peter 2:20b-25  
*Gospel:* John 10:1-10

Readings for Fifth Sunday of Easter  
May 6 and May 7

*First Reading:* Acts 6:1-7  
*Second Reading:* 1 Peter 2:4-9  
*Gospel:* John 14:1-12

### THIS WEEK AT ST. MATTHIAS

**Saturday, April 29**

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

**Sunday, April 30**

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

**Faith Formation**

Confirmation 1 and Confirmation II

**10:00 a.m. Mass**

Following Mass: Parish hall with Mrs. Salafia  
Conference Room with Deacon Paul

**Monday, May 1**

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

**Tuesday, May 2**

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

**Wednesday, May 3**

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

**Friday, May 5**

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

**Saturday, May 6**

**Yard Sale**

Parish Hall 9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

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

**Sunday, May 7**

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

### YARD SALE DROP-OFF TIMES

Tuesday through Friday

10 a.m.—12 noon / 5 p.m.—8 p.m.

PARISH HALL

### Weekday Masses for the Week of April 30

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

**Mass updates are posted on the website and 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](http://www.stmattpar.org) to view the recorded Mass from our homepage.



## FROM FR. FRAN

**Pastoral Collaborative News**

As of this writing, Tuesday April 25<sup>th</sup>, there is no news on our Pastoral Collaborative. I spoke with Sean Hickey, the Assistant Director of Clergy Personnel this week. He informed me that the process of naming pastors is going slower than expected due to the sheer number of parishes and priests involved. About half of the Pastoral Collaboratives have been filled at this point. Some of them may start on June 1<sup>st</sup> but a number of the remaining ones may be moved to a July 1<sup>st</sup> start. He thought I should be hearing in a week or two about my assignment. And so we wait!

**Pastoral Collaborative Articles**

I hope you've had a chance to read the series of articles that Parish Pastoral Council members have written in anticipation of our Pastoral Collaborative with St. Michael Parish. You can find them on our parish website. They are great pieces for our reflection as the Collaborative draws near.

This week we continue the series with a reflection from Deacon Russ Morey on discipleship. Our following of Christ and our expression of the gospel in our daily lives is at the heart of what a parish is all about. In anticipation of our Pastoral Collaborative, we may be concerned with the nuts and bolts of how this is all going to work, yet the bigger picture is one of our discipleship and how that is lived out in our parish now and how it will be lived out when the Collaborative commences. Please take a few minutes to read and reflect upon Deacon Russ' article.

Next week we will have another article that will explore the issues and feelings brought about by the necessity of reworking the Mass schedules at both St. Matthias and St. Michael.

**Heating Issues**

After those 90-degree days a few weeks ago, it seemed that the heating season was over. Of course, this being New England, late winter and early spring made a big comeback.

Also making a comeback were heating issues with our furnace. You may remember earlier in the year we had some major work done to the system. Now it seems that some of the supporting structures such as valves and switches need attention. This may or may not be fixed by the time you read this so, apologies if it feels a bit chilly in church. Just remember those 90-degree days and what it will be like in the church in the summertime!

**A Busy Month Ahead!**

Along with Mother's Day, Memorial Day, Graduations and all sorts of springtime festivities, our parish will be celebrating some great events in the month of May.

Our second graders will be receiving First Eucharist at the 10AM Mass next Sunday. Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

Our Spring Yard Sale will be held next Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup>. Please see the article in this bulletin for all the details.

We are having an "Italian Night" of food, friendship, and entertainment on Saturday May 13<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are on sale now after the Masses. With the success of our revitalized St. Patrick's Day Dinner, it's only natural that we start touring the world's cuisine for our next social gathering. Don't miss out on the fun. Get your tickets today!

Our St. Vincent DePaul Society Conference is hosting a clothing drive the weekend of May 13/14. Donating gently used clothing and shoes will help those struggling to make ends meet. Once again, see the article in this bulletin for all the information.

The month will end with Bishop Robert Reed presiding over the Sacrament of Confirmation for a number of young people in our parish. Our prayers are with them as they prepare for this special day when they will complete their initiation into the Catholic faith.

**Financial Notes**

**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 now through May 28th (Pentecost Sunday) and mark it "Special Easter Season Donation". Thanks!

**2023 Grand Annual:** Can we do it???? We're almost there! Our 75-thousand-dollar goal is just within reach. Our books will close on the 2023 Grand Annual in a few short weeks. 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

### 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.)

First Eucharist Preparation Final Classes/Rehearsal  
**Monday, May 1—6:00 p.m. until 7:15PM**

### 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.

## St. Matthias Parish



Saturday, May 6, 2023  
9AM to 2PM

409 Hemenway Street, Marlborough, MA  
in the Parish Hall with Grill outside  
(hamburgers, hotdogs, drinks for sale)

### Got stuff?

Donation drop off times  
in the Parish Hall

Tuesday - Friday (May 2-5)  
10:00-12:00p.m. and  
5:00 - 8:00p.m.

### Gently used items, please.

We are unable to accept: TVs,  
computer monitors, baby cribs/  
mattresses, car seats, stuffed  
animals, children's outdoor  
playhouses and large furniture.

Please call the office if you have  
questions about your donations.

For more information or to volunteer contact (info on reverse):

Parish Office at 508-460-9255/email: admin@stmattpar.org

## A NOTE FROM OUR MUSIC DIRECTOR



This week, our Easter season themes of New Life, Resurrection and Alleluia! Joy are enhanced with the vivid sheep and shepherd imagery of the ever-popular Psalm 23, "The Lord is my Shepherd."

Musically, we bring together a famous setting by the French Jesuit priest Fr Joseph Gelineau SJ (1920-2008) with the Preparation song by Fr Fran - Shepherd of my Heart as temporal bookends to resonate with our Gospel reading from John, where Jesus himself offers a twist on the well-known theme of God's care for his people.

Psalm 23 was originally written by King David, who as you know was a shepherd before he became a king. In this psalm, he used his experience of caring for sheep to describe God's love and care for his people, offering us all forgiveness of sins, rest for the weary and redemption. The psalmist acknowledges that God is the source of everything one needs. God is the psalmists' personal Lord and Shepherd, not just a distant or generic deity. The psalm invites us to also trust in God as our Shepherd, who knows us by name and cares for our every need.

Throughout history, Psalm 23 has been a source of comfort and hope for many people, especially in times of trouble and grief, when people most need a reminder that they are loved. The shepherd and sheep analogy is used to depict God's gentleness and guidance throughout our lives, and the love of a particular Shepherd - Jesus - who is willing to lay down His life for his sheep. Indeed, we are blessed to call him Lord.  
*Let us sing!*

## CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST WORSHIP BOOKLET

The Worship booklet for the Easter Season is 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.*

## Hear Our Prayer, O Lord

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

**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 22 & April 23

Collection	\$ 2,295.00
WeShare	\$ 685.00
	<b>\$ 2,980.00*</b>

**\*\$ 1,020.00 deficit from the weekly goal.**

**Mass Attendance 206**

### APRIL SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

**April 29 and 30 — St. Vincent de Paul**

### ST. VINCENT DEPAUL CLOTHING DRIVE ST MATTHIAS PARKING LOT

**MAY 13 AND MAY 14**

The St. Vincent dePaul Society will be hosting a clothing drive the weekend of **Saturday, May 13 and Sunday, May 14**. A truck will be parked in the parking lot for your donations.



**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](http://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.

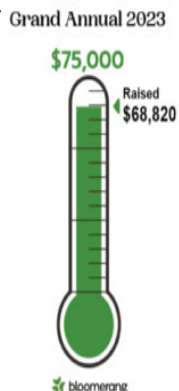


## GRAND ANNUAL CAMPAIGN FY 2023

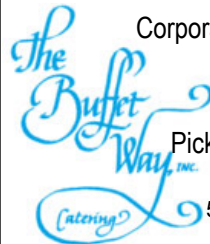
**St. Matthias 2023 Grand Annual Collection** is in full swing. This is our most important fundraiser of the year. Our goal this year is to raise \$75,000 dollars. All of which goes directly into our operating budget!

Donation Total:	\$68,820.00
Remaining to reach goal:	\$ 6,180.00
Percentage towards goal:	91.8%
Participating Families:	106

*Thank you for your contributions!*



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