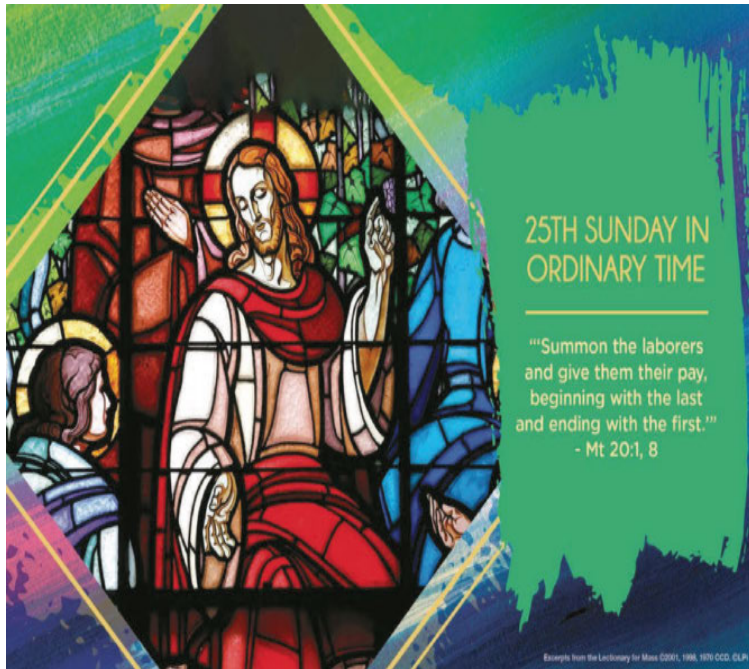


Saint Matthias Parish
409 Hemenway Street
Marlborough, MA 01752
Phone: 508-460-9255
Website: www.stmattpar.org
Facebook: facebook.com/stmattpar



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, Music Director	pbrockmann@stmattpar.org
April Lowe, Office Manager	alowe@stmattpar.org
Darleen Doona, Bookkeeper	ddoona@stmattpar.org
David Resendes, Maintenance	
Paul G. Coletti, Chair, Finance Council	

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 during Saturday or 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.



Celebrations of the Eucharist

Weekend Masses in the Church
Saturdays 4:00 PM
Sundays 10:00 AM
Pre-recorded Mass on-line Sundays by 10:00AM at www.stmattpar.org and Facebook: [@stmattpar](https://facebook.com/stmattpar)

Weekdays in the Conference Room Chapel
Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays 9:00 AM

Holy Days: 9 AM in Church or as announced
Confessions: Saturdays 3:15 PM

If you are in need of assistance, please call our St. Matthias St. Vincent dePaul Society volunteers at: 978-493-3037

St. Matthias Parish



PARISH OFFICE HOURS Week of September 24, 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
or leave a voicemail at **508-460-9255**.

INTENTIONS OF THE EUCHARIST

Saturday, September 23 — 10:00 a.m.

Funeral for William C. Lyons

Saturday, September 23 — 4:00 p.m.

Aviles Family — Prayer Intention

Sunday, September 24 — 10:00 a.m.

Finn Broudreau — Birthday Memorial

Saturday, September 30 — 4:00 p.m.

Prayers for Faith Formation
Students and Catechists

Sunday, October 1 — 10:00 a.m.

Prayers for Faith Formation
Students and Catechists

Readings for Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary time September 23 and September 24

First Reading: Isaiah 55:6-9
Second Reading: Philippians 1:20c-24,27a
Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16a

Readings for Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary time September 30 and October 1

First Reading: Ezekiel 18:25-28
Second Reading: Philippians 2:1-11
Gospel: Matthew 21:28-32

FACEBOOK AND WEBSITE RECORDED OR LIVESTREAMED MASS

Pre-recorded Mass can be found posted online by Facebook post Sundays by 10:00 AM. Just search [@stmattpar](https://www.facebook.com/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, September 23
Celebration of the Eucharist
Church, 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 24
Celebration of the Eucharist
Church, 10:00 a.m.

Parish Picnic Brunch
Courtyard (Weather Permitting)/Parish Hall

Monday, September 25
Celebration of the Eucharist
Conference Room Chapel, 9 a.m.

Tuesday, September 26
Celebration of the Eucharist
Conference Room Chapel, 9 a.m.

Wednesday, September 27
Choir Rehearsal
Church, 7:00 p.m.

Friday, September 29
Celebration of the Eucharist
Conference Room Chapel, 9 a.m.

Saturday, September 30
Celebration of the Eucharist
Church, 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, October 1
Faith Formation Grades 1– 5
Parish Hall/Classrooms, 8:45 – 9:45 a.m.

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

Blessing of the Animals
Courtyard, 12:00 p.m.

SAVE THE DATE



**Saturday, October 28, 2023 at
5:00 PM in the Parish Hall**

From Fr. Fran

Welcome Back!

All are invited to our “**welcome back**” parish celebration after the 10 AM Mass this Sunday, September 24th. This will be a great opportunity to get together, reconnect, and make new friends as the fall season takes shape in our lives and in the life of our parish.

Blessing of the Animals

Next Sunday, October 1st, we will celebrate our annual **Blessing of Animals at noon** in the courtyard between the church and the parish offices. The Blessing of Animals honors St. Francis whose feast day is October 4th. He was well known for his love of and relationship with animals along with his tireless work with the poor and the outcast of his day. Always a highlight of our year, come with the four- and two-legged family members who bring so much joy to our lives!

Faith Formation

Also, next weekend, we begin our **Faith Formation sessions** for the year. Please pray for the youngsters and their catechists as they learn to grow as faithful disciples of Christ through their exploration of the scriptures and the traditions of the church.

Sometimes we mistake Faith Formation for another “class”, and indeed that’s what it was in the past. Those of a certain age will recall going to “Sunday School”. Those of another generation will recall participating in “CCD classes”. (a Dunkin Donuts gift card will go to the first person who e mails me with the correct answer to what CCD stands for.)

Back then the emphasis was on learning the rules and regulations of the Catholic Church rather than learning how to develop the virtues and understand the responsibilities flowing from our baptism. In the change of title to “Faith Formation” we see that the

emphasis now is on forming the next generation of Catholics into people of faith and action on behalf of Christ.

Parish Finances

Our **Parish Finance Council** is putting the final touches on **this year’s report to the parish for the fiscal year 2023**. Next weekend we will have a bulletin insert with all the stats. As a preview, let me say that, along with a number of other parishes, financial recovery from the pandemic has been a struggle. You will see that we ended the year with a significant deficit.

In order not to repeat this for FY 2024, the Finance Council has forecasted that, *if we hit our 4 thousand dollar per week Offertory goal with consistency, we will end next year with a small surplus.*

I know that with continued high inflation it’s tough for all of us to make ends meet. It’s the same with St. Matthias Parish. Please prayerfully consider increasing your weekly donation at this time so that we can continue to provide the services and ministries that we have now.

One of our greatest challenges in the near future will be financing a number of **major repairs to our church building**. As I have mentioned on numerous occasions, our roof needs replacing and the front stairs to the church need to be reset after the leaking façade above them is repaired. More about this in weeks to come!

Let Us Pray...

We have a number of **faithful parishioners** who have been **struggling** with physical ailments over the last few months. Please keep all of our ill parishioners in your prayers. With illness often comes great psychological as well as physical challenges. Through the presence of the Holy Spirit, may our friends find inner peace and strength during their illnesses. May they be assured that their fellow parishioners continue to hold them in prayer.

MARLBOROUGH COMMUNITY CUPBOARD COLLECTION

Saturday, October 7 and October 8

Marlborough Community Cupboard collection bins will be available at the church entrances for donations of food and personal hygiene items for the Marlborough Community Cupboard the weekend of October 7 and October 8.

COFFEE SOCIAL

October 8

Parish Hall following 10:00 a.m. Mass



Please plan to join the parish community for friendship, conversation and coffee following Mass September 17 in the Parish Hall.

FAITH FORMATION

All are invited to the Parish Community Picnic Brunch this Sunday, September 24 following 10AM Mass. The parish community wishes to welcome our Faith Formation families and children back from summer break at this event.

The start of gatherings will take place at the following dates and times (please see Faith Formation calendar online at www.stmattpar.org for all gatherings):

Grades 1–5 Sunday, October 1

Parish Hall/Classrooms, 8:45 – 9:45 a.m.

Grades 6–8 Sunday, October 15

Church/Parish Hall, 10:00 a.m. Mass to approx. 12:00 p.m.

Grades 9–10+ Saturday, October 14

Church/Parish Hall, 4:00 p.m. Mass to approx. 6:00 p.m.

PARISH COMMUNITY PICNIC BRUNCH

**THIS Sunday, September 24 —
11:00 AM**

Church Courtyard and Lawn

(rain location: Parish Hall)

Welcome Back! St. Matthias Parish is hosting a picnic “Brunch” after mass Sunday, September 24! Let’s gather with one another for food and conversation and welcome back our students and families. Enjoy salad, eggs, sausage, bacon, quiches, sandwiches and more



Sunday, October 1 - 12:00 Noon

The annual Blessing of the Animals will be held Sunday, October 1 in celebration of St. Francis. Bring your favorite pet to the courtyard to receive a special blessing.

Refreshments will be served for *all* in attendance.

AVAILABLE NOW!

PRINT & DIGITAL AD SPACES

The Support of Your Business is Greatly Appreciated

Sandra T. from LPi, our bulletin printer, will be securing new ads for our church. It is the support of the business community that helps to make our church thrive. Please consider purchasing a print and/or digital ad as your participation makes our bulletin successful, and you attract customers!

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Sandra Tomczak
800-950-9952 ext 2402

Music for Celebrations of the Eucharist September 23 and September 24

Gathering Song: **The Reign Of Our God**
Booklet # 12

Preparation: **Diverse In Culture, Nation, Race**
Booklet # 9

Communion: **Bread Of Life From Heaven**
Hymnal # 803

Recessional: **There’s A Wideness In God’s Mercy**
Hymnal # 603

Hear Our Prayer, O Lord

<i>Alice Cox</i>	<i>Andrea Durant</i>	<i>Keith Morey</i>
<i>Joseph Cox</i>	<i>Rachael Goulet</i>	<i>Marge Shea Burke</i>
<i>Conor Canavan</i>	<i>Rosalie Green</i>	<i>Jane Walsh</i>
<i>Aline Desjardin</i>	<i>Tyler Hendrix</i>	<i>Lydia Whitcomb</i>
<i>Richard Desjardin</i>	<i>Cathy Lajeunesse</i>	

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

PARISH FINANCES

Offertory Collection — September 16 and 17

Mass Attendance: 249

Collection	\$ 2,141.00
WeShare	\$ 960.00
	\$ 3,096.00*

***Deficit to the weekly collection \$904.00**

Clergy Trust Collection \$ 678.00

OCTOBER SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Holy Father and Apostolic Works September 30 and October 1

Next week's second collection will support the Holy Father's "Peter's Pence" collection that provides funds for emergency and disaster relief. This collection also provides support to The Catholic University of America (CUA) that educates priests and lay people for ministry. Donations will also assist the Inner-City Parishes of the Archdiocese of Boston through Special Collection Sunday. Your generosity will support the Holy Father as well as the various Apostolic works at home and abroad.

For information on these Collections, please visit:

1. www.usccb.org/nationalcollection/peters-pence
2. www.cua.edu
3. www.BostonCatholic.org

Parish Maintenance October 7 and October 8

World Mission Sunday October 21 and October 22

St. Vincent de Paul Fall Collection October 28 and October 29

Thank you for your continued donations.

Watch for the FY23 Annual Report in the October 1 bulletin and entrances to the church.



JOIN WESHARE IN 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 visit 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.



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