

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
John Carmichael, Parochial Vicar	
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	alow@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 November 12, 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, November 11 — 4:00 p.m.

George Kossuth — Memorial

Sunday, November 12 — 10:00 a.m.

Mass of Remembrance

Saturday, November 18 — 4:00 p.m.

Richard Desjardin — Memorial

Sunday, November 19 — 10:00 a.m.

Antonio Barcinas and Al Barcinas — Memorial

Mass of Remembrance Sunday, November 12



**Following the Mass of Remembrance
all are invited to a
breakfast reception in the Parish Hall.**

Readings for Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary time November 11 and November 12

First Reading: Wisdom 6:12-16
Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

Readings for Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary time November 18 and November 19

First Reading: Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31
Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6
Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

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, November 11

Celebration of the Eucharist

Church, 4:00 p.m.

Food Pantry Collection

Sunday, November 12 — Mass of Remembrance

Celebration of the Eucharist

Church, 10:00 a.m.

Mass of Remembrance Reception

Parish Hall Following Mass

Food Pantry Collection

Monday, November 13

Celebration of the Eucharist

Downstairs Chapel, 9:00 a.m.

Tuesday, November 14

Celebration of the Eucharist

Downstairs Chapel, 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday, November 15

Choir Rehearsal

Church, 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, November 18

Celebration of the Eucharist

Church, 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 19

Faith Formation Grades 1–5

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

Celebration of the Eucharist

Church, 10:00 a.m.

Faith Formation Grades 6 through 8

Mass in the Church 10:00 a.m.

Classroom/Parish Hall 11:00 a.m. — Noon

MARLBOROUGH COMMUNITY CUPBOARD COLLECTION

Saturday, November 11 & Sunday, November 12

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 November 11 and November 12.

WEEKDAY MASS CHANGE

**** Please note there will be no Weekday Mass
celebrated on Friday, November 17****

From Fr. Fran

Mass of Remembrance

This Sunday, at the 10 AM Mass, we will celebrate the Eucharist for all those in our community who have died during the last year. As we are all one in the body of Christ, we walk with you to share in the grief that you are experiencing as you adjust to life without a loved one by your side. You are in the prayers of the parish, especially in this month of November, when the church reflects upon the fragility of life here on earth and looks forward to the time that we will all be together again, at the banquet table in heaven. Let this Eucharistic Table remind us that our ultimate calling and true home is in heaven.

After Mass we will continue our celebration of life with a reception in the church hall, catered by The Buffet Way and sponsored by Regina and Alan Slattery. Thank you to the Slatterys for their generosity, and to April Lowe for designing the pictorial memorial at the entrance to the church.

I would especially like to thank Deacon Doug Peltak for his amazing care for all who plan funerals in our parish. Doug meets with each family, walks them through the funeral process, and keeps up with the families through a series of letters on the grieving process throughout the first year of the loss of a loved one. His work is truly inspirational and a great gift to our parish family.

Welcome Fr. Jack Carmichael

Cardinal Sean O'Malley has assigned Fr. Jack Carmichael to our parish as Parochial Vicar. He has just finished up as administrator of St. Peter Parish in Cambridge and before that he was pastor of St. Ann By The Sea in Marshfield for many years.

We are in the process of getting rooms ready for him and he will be taking a vacation, so we won't be seeing Fr. Carmichael until around December 1st.

Over the next few months, I will be getting ready to accept a new assignment in the archdiocese come the spring. At that time, Fr. Carmichael will most likely be assigned here as administrator or pastor. We no longer anticipate becoming a Pastoral Collaborative with St. Michael in Hudson for the foreseeable future.

It's been a very long time since St. Matthias parish last had a parochial vicar assigned here. In the "olden days" a parochial vicar was called a "curate". While both titles may sound somewhat foreign, they both mean that the priest is an associate to the pastor, sharing the same sacramental and pastoral ministry as the pastor without the ultimate responsibility (and headaches) that go along with the job. In other words, the buck stops with the pastor, not the parochial vicar. (Most lucky is the parochial vicar!)

St. Matthias 2024 Grand Annual Campaign Thermometer Has Returned Have You Made Your Donation Yet?

While the outdoor thermometer is steadily going down, our Grand Annual Thermometer is ready to turn on the heat! Please consider being one of the parishioners who

makes the heat rise by donating now to our most important fundraiser of the year. Please pick up a Grand Annual packet, available throughout the church today and during the coming weeks.

We have a most ambitious goal of \$80,000 dollars to be raised within the next three months. Thank you to all who have made early donations! As in the past, **every dollar collected goes directly into our FY2024 operating budget.**

For us to meet our 2024 budget, we must achieve our Grand Annual goal, as well as securing a weekly Offertory at the 4-thousand-dollar level. Most weeks, our weekly Offertory misses that goal significantly. If you are financially able to do so, an increase of just a few dollars per week will help us to keep on track with our 2024 budget.

Offertory Procession, and the Eucharistic Cup Have Returned.

Last weekend, we **reinstated the cup** at both weekend masses. The Eucharistic Ministers did a splendid job in resuming their ministry. The priest and deacons, however, well that was a different story! Please give us old guys some time to get back into the rhythm of the liturgy with Eucharistic Ministers.

We are still in need of more parishioners to come forward and participate in this important ministry. If you would like to find out more, please contact me or any of our deacons and staff members.

With the return of the cup let me remind everyone that, while you receive the fullness of the Eucharist when receiving the body of Christ, this is completed by receiving the Blood of Christ. Some may still not want to return to receiving from the cup due to health reasons and that is fine. If you are not receiving the Blood of Christ, a gesture of a bow would be appropriate as you pass by the minister with the cup. There are two ministers of the Body of Christ at the head of the middle aisle as usual. There is a minister with the Blood of Christ near each doorway.

We have also resumed the **Offertory Procession. The Eucharistic Ministers will ask a couple of parishioners before mass to bring forward the bread and wine.** It is truly a wonderful way to participate in the celebration of the mass on behalf of all parishioners gathered together. If a Eucharistic Minister asks you to bring up the gifts, please consider do this on behalf of our parishioners.

Hear Our Prayer, O Lord

Diane Balinski

Alice Cox

Joseph Cox

Conor Canavan

Aline Desjardin

Andrea Durant

Claire Fallon

Rachael Goulet

Rosalie Green

Tyler Hendrix

Marie Mangan

Keith Morey

Marge Shea Burke

Jane Walsh

Lydia Whitcomb

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

FAITH FORMATION**No Faith Formation Gatherings—November 12****Faith Formation meetings—November 19, 2023****Grades 1 through 5 - Sunday, November 19**

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

Grades 6 through 8 - Sunday, November 19**Attend 10:00 AM Mass**

Parish Hall / Classrooms, 11:00 a.m. — 11:45 a.m.

Looking ahead:

November 26 Sunday

First Eucharist Grade 2 8:45-9:45 a.m.**Conference Room (This is a makeup class)****Grades 6 through 8****Attend 10:00 AM Mass**

Parish Hall / Classrooms, 11:00 a.m. — 11:45 a.m.

December 2 Saturday Confirmation I and II

Grades 9 and 10

4:00 p.m. Mass followed by meeting until 5:45 p.m.

December 3 Sunday

Grades 1-5 8:45 – 9:45 a.m.

December 10 Sunday

Grades 6, 7, and 8

10:00 a.m. Mass followed by meeting in parish hall until 11:45 a.m.

**OUR FATHER'S TABLE
\$10 GIFT CARD DRIVE**

Each year, local churches who participate in Our Father's Table by providing meals to those in need, are asked to provide an extra special something for the attendees at the annual holiday party. As last year, St. Matthias has volunteered to provide 50-**\$10 gift cards** to either **Dunkin Donuts** or **McDonald's**.

Could you provide 1 or 2 to help us reach this goal? Gift cards will be collected in the **Offertory box on the weekends of December 9/10 & December 16/17**. You may also bring gift cards directly to the Parish Office during Office Hours. Monetary contributions toward gift cards also welcomed (please label as **OFT**).

COFFEE SOCIAL**December 3****Parish Hall following 10:00 a.m. Mass**

Please plan to join the parish community for friendship, conversation and coffee following Mass this Sunday, November 5 in the Parish Hall.

A NOTE FROM OUR MUSIC DIRECTOR**PETER BROCKMANN**

Our Preparation song this weekend is **WITH GOD, LIFE NEVER DIES** by our pastor, Father Francis O'Brien. Composed in the spring of 2020, at the beginning of the Pandemic Lockdown around the world, its hopeful message it was inspired by Pope Francis' *Urbi et Orbi* (Latin for To the City and the World) address of March 27, 2020 (<https://bit.ly/WithGodLifeNeverDies>). It was indeed a despairing time for many, many people. There were of course, millions infected with the novel coronavirus, many of whom died from complications or from the coronavirus. Millions more were fearful of what a global lockdown might mean for the future - was it really temporary? what if it was extended? how could one pay the mortgage? go to school? do their job? Could the world even recover from such a setback? How will it change culture, norms, the way we work and play and worship?

But close to home, you might recall that at first it was declared that people could not go to church, and then later permitted to do so only if congregants sat far apart, didn't sing, wore masks, received only the Body of Christ, didn't touch any book and if the sanctuary was disinfected weekly. Yikes. Dark days indeed. Sigh. Many of the most vulnerable living in nursing homes, palliative care facilities and hospitals were isolated from families, contracting the disease and then dying without caring family members present. Thousands were denied access to their loved ones in nursing homes, palliative care facilities and hospitals. A very dark time indeed.

Meant to inspire hope at a time when the current events filled the world with despair and darkness, the verses are constructed to remind us repeatedly that "Christ is there. Christ is there." and then as we prepare for the refrain: "Christ is by our side." Yes, he's been there the whole time. He's always with us.

Next week, we're planning to have our Children's Choir (grades 1-5) sing the Preparation song (**SACRED SILENCE**).

*Let us sing!***Music for Celebrations of the Eucharist
November 11 and November 12**

Gathering Song: All Are Welcome
Hymnal # 741

Preparation: With God, Life Never Dies
Booklet # 2

Communion: On Eagle's Wings
Hymnal # 593

Recessional: We Shall Rise Again
Hymnal # 762

PARISH FINANCES

WEEKLY OFFERTORY GOAL \$4,000.00

Offertory Collection for November 4 and November 5

Offertory Collection	\$ 2,335.00
WeShare Offertory	\$ 2,937.00
	\$ 5,272.00

***Surplus to the collection \$ 1,272.00**

Mass attendance: 275

All Saints Day Collection \$205.00

Mass attendance: 44

NOVEMBER SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Parish Maintenance Collection	November 11/12
Retired Sisters Religious	November 18/19

Thank you for your continued donations.

GRAND ANNUAL CAMPAIGN FY 2024

St. Matthias 2024 Grand Annual Collection is underway and we are so thankful to all have contributed to date. This is our most important fundraiser of the year. Our goal this year is to raise \$80,000 dollars. All of which goes directly into our operating budget!

Donation Total:	\$ 8,950.00
Remaining to reach goal:	\$71,050.00
Percentage: towards goal	11%
Participating Families:	27



Thank you for your contributions!



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 scan 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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