

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	



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

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.

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 26, 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 25 — 4:00 p.m.

Antonio Masciarelli — Memorial

Sunday, November 26 — 10:00 a.m.

Memorial

John and Laura Sousa
John and Deolinda Roque

Saturday, December 2 — 4:00 p.m.

Thomas English — Memorial

Sunday, December 3 — 10:00 a.m.

Annie Verhallen — Memorial

Readings for Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe November 25 and November 26

First Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28
Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

Readings for the First Sunday of Advent December 2 and December 3

First Reading: Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Gospel: Mark 13:33-37

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 25

Celebration of the Eucharist

Church, 4:00 p.m.

Advent Giving Tree — Tag Selection

Tags available at church entrance

Sunday, November 26

Faith Formation Grade 2—Make-Up

Downstairs Conference Room, 8:45 – 9:45 a.m.

Celebration of the Eucharist

Church, 10:00 a.m.

Faith Formation Grade 6 through 8

Mass Attendance / Parish Hall 11:00 — 11:45

Advent Giving Tree — Tag Selection

Tags available at church entrance

Monday, November 27

Celebration of the Eucharist

Downstairs Chapel, 9:00 a.m.

Tuesday, November 28

Celebration of the Eucharist

Downstairs Chapel, 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday, November 29

Choir Rehearsal

Church, 7:00 p.m.

Friday, December 1

Celebration of the Eucharist

Downstairs Chapel, 9:00 a.m.

Saturday, December 2

Celebration of the Eucharist

Church, 4:00 p.m.

Faith Formation Grades 9 and 10+

Mass in the Church 4:00 p.m.

Classroom/Parish Hall 5:00 p.m. — 5:45 p.m.

Advent Giving Tree — Gift Drop Off

Sunday, December 3

Faith Formation Grade 1 through 5

Downstairs Conference Room, 8:45 – 9:45 a.m.

Celebration of the Eucharist

Church, 10:00 a.m.

Advent Giving Tree — Gift Drop Off

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Thursday, December 8

There will be one Celebration of the Eucharist for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception on Thursday, December 8 at 9:00 AM in the church.

From Fr. Fran

Feast of Christ the King

Today's Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe marks the end of another liturgical year. It always seems fitting that the celebration of both this feast and Thanksgiving Day come around the same time of the year. One celebrates Christ as the center of all things and the other commemorates our thankfulness for all that God gives us.

In 1925, Pope Pius XI instituted today's feast in his encyclical *Quas Primas*. The letter was a response to what he saw as the dangers of growing secularism and nationalism, especially in Europe. The feast, which he titled "Our Lord Jesus Christ the King" was a reminder that ultimate authority rests, not within the power of earthly kings, dictators, and presidents, but within the power of God alone. In Jesus Christ, that power is experienced as a foretaste and promise of the fulfillment of reign or "kingdom" of God.

From its inception until 1969, this feast was celebrated on the last Sunday in October, preceding the Feast of All Saints by a few days. In 1969, Pope Paul VI gave the feast its current name and transferred its celebration to the very last Sunday of the liturgical year. So, we now conclude each year of faith by celebrating Christ as the one who brings all things, seen and unseen, to God, through his death, resurrection, and the power of the Holy Spirit.

While nearly one hundred years have passed since Pius XI initiated this feast, it seems his worries are still with us in today's world. We see once again a growing nationalism, animus towards immigrants and refugees, wars over territories and powers, and senseless deaths seeking revenge for wrongs committed. Let us pray that Christ will reign over our world with mercy and kindness. May we help him whenever we can to bring his peace and comfort to a weary world.

Advent Giving Tree

Thanks to all who are participating in this year's Advent Giving Tree. Once again, we will be able to brighten Christmas for some children in our community. Just a reminder that gifts are to be returned by December 5th so that there will be plenty of time to have them distributed. Many thanks to Katie, John and Hope Broach who are coordinating the effort this year.

St. Matthias Grand Annual Is Going Strong!

Our Grand Annual thermometer is creeping up these days just as the thermometer outside is going down! By donating now to our most important fundraiser of the year you will be insuring that our parish will be able to meet its fiscal obligations as well as continue to minister

to our parishioners through liturgical, spiritual, and social activities. If you haven't already, please pick up a Grand Annual packet, available throughout the church today.

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 donations and will do so in the coming weeks. As in the past, every dollar collected goes directly into our FY2024 operating budget.

Weekly Offertory

While the Grand Annual is steadily going up, our weekly Offertory, upon which we rely so heavily, continues to be on a bit of a rollercoaster ride. For a week or two we hit or exceed our four thousand dollar per week goal. Then we take quite a dip for a while. What we need to keep our fiscal health is a consistent weekly Offertory. And this is up to you!

If you haven't signed up for our online giving program WeShare, now would be a great time. It's easy to do and it assures us of a steady stream of income. It also takes the hassle out of parishioners writing out and sending in or depositing a weekly offering. It's pretty much "set it and forget it". You can always change the amount of your donation - in case you win the lottery.

Thank you so much for your financial support of our parish.

Welcome Fr. Jack Carmichael

As you know, 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 finishing the process of getting rooms ready for him and he will be arriving around December 1st.

As I wrote a few weeks back in this space, 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. What happens ultimately will depend upon the appointment of a new archbishop when Cardinal O'Malley retires. Please keep Fr. Carmichael and me in your prayers as we begin new adventures in the service of the Lord.



FAITH FORMATION**Faith Formation meetings — November 26, 2023**

Sunday, November 26

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.

Looking ahead:Saturday, December 2 **Confirmation I and II****Grades 9 and 10**

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

Sunday, December 3

Grades 1-5 8:45 – 9:45 a.m.

Sunday, December 10

Grades 6, 7, and 8

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

Sunday, December 17

Grades 1-5

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

A NOTE FROM OUR MUSIC DIRECTOR**PETER BROCKMANN**Here is the musical notation for the **Lamb of God** that we will be singing in Advent. We will review it before Masses this weekend.

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have
mer - cy on us. Have mer - cy on us.
world, grant us peace. Grant us peace.

Music: *Missa de Lamine*, Kathleen Denny and Carol Browning, © 2021 GIA Publications, Inc.*Let us sing!***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**).

**MARLBOROUGH COMMUNITY
CUPBOARD COLLECTION****Saturday, December 9 & Sunday, December 10**

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 December 9 and December 10.

**Music for Celebrations of the Eucharist
November 25 and November 26****Gathering Song: To Jesus Christ, Our Sovereign King**
Hymnal # 492**Preparation: Like a Shepherd**
Hymnal # 332**Communion: God's Great Care**
Booklet # 8**Recessional: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling**
Hymnal # 613*Hear Our Prayer, O Lord*

Alice Cox	Rosalie Green
Joseph Cox	Tyler Hendrix
Conor Canavan	Marie Mangan
Aline Desjardin	Keith Morey
Andrea Durant	Marge Shea Burke
Claire Fallon	Jane Walsh
Craig Fallon	Lydia Whitcomb
Rachael Goulet	



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

PARISH FINANCES

WEEKLY OFFERTORY GOAL \$4,000.00

Due to early submission of the bulletin, the financials for the weekend of November 18 and November 19 will be posted in next week's bulletin.

NOVEMBER SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

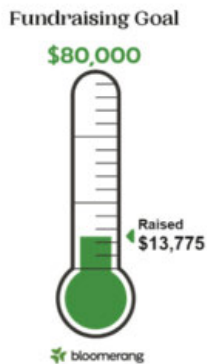
Retired Sisters Religious November 18/19

Thank you for your continued donations.

GRAND ANNUAL CAMPAIGN FY 2024 *As of 11/12/23*

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: \$13,775
Remaining to reach goal: \$66,225
Percentage: towards goal 17%
Participating Families: 39



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

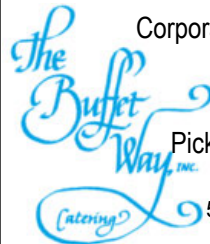


OFFERTORY GIFTS

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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