

# Saint Matthias Parish

409 Hemenway Street

Marlborough, MA 01752

Phone: 508-460-9255

Website: [www.stmattpar.org](http://www.stmattpar.org)

Facebook: [facebook.com/stmattpar](https://facebook.com/stmattpar)



## Parish Leadership

Francis P. O'Brien, Pastor

John Carmichael, Parochial Vicar

Doug Peltak, Senior Deacon

Paul G. Coletti, Deacon

Russ Morey, Senior Deacon

Theresa Salafia, Faith Formation Director

Peter Brockmann, Music Director

April Lowe, Office Manager

Darleen Doona, Bookkeeper

David Resendes, Maintenance

Paul G. Coletti, Chair, Finance Council

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

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

## 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 (978-760-4105), 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 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](http://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 January 21, 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)  
or leave a voicemail at **508-460-9255**.

### INTENTIONS OF THE EUCHARIST

#### Saturday, January 20 — 4:00 p.m.

John Bellan — 1st Anniversary Memorial

#### Sunday, January 21 — 10:00 a.m.

John and Laura Sousa — Birthday Memorial

#### Saturday, January 27 — 4:00 p.m.

Carmella and Patrick Mauro — Memorial

#### Sunday, January 28 — 10:00 a.m.

Mary Goulet — Memorial

### Readings for the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time January 20 and January 21

*First Reading:* Jonah 3:1-5, 10  
*Second Reading:* 1 Corinthians 7:29-31  
*Gospel:* Mark 1:14-20

### Readings for the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time January 27 and January 28

*First Reading:* Deuteronomy 18:15-20  
*Second Reading:* 1 Corinthians 7:32-35  
*Gospel:* Mark 1:21-28

### 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](http://www.stmattpar.org) to view the recorded Mass from our homepage.

### THIS WEEK AT ST. MATTHIAS

#### Saturday, January 20

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

#### Sunday, January 21

##### **Grades 1 through 5**

Parish Hall/ Classroom 8:45 a.m. — 9:45 a.m.

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

##### **Grades 6, 7 and 8**

Mass 10:00 a.m. / Classroom until 11:45

#### Monday, January 22

**Celebration of the Eucharist**  
Downstairs Chapel, 9:00 a.m.

#### Tuesday, January 23

**Celebration of the Eucharist**  
Downstairs Chapel, 9:00 a.m.

#### Wednesday, January 24

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

#### Friday, January 26

**Celebration of the Eucharist**  
Downstairs Chapel, 9:00 a.m.

#### Saturday, January 27

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

#### Sunday, January 28

##### **Grades 1 through 5**

Parish Hall/ Classroom 8:45 a.m. — 9:45 a.m.

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

##### **Confirmation I and II**

Mass 10:00 a.m. / Parish Hall until 11:45

### Sanctuary and Altar Candles Donation for the month of January

*In Loving Memory of*

**Robert "Bob" Bucher  
Frank and Leah Calore  
Eleanor Laspada  
Joseph Calore**

*The Bucher Family*

**From the Bucher Family**



## From Fr. Fran

**Winter Woes**

Well, it seems that winter is making its presence known not only in a meteorological fashion but through all sorts of winter illnesses. As you know, we have suspended the distribution of the cup at mass, just for these few weeks when illnesses are at their peak. There is no hard evidence that you can catch a virus from the communion cup, but let's err on the side of caution.

Being a recent COVID survivor, I am keenly aware of the increase of COVID all around us. Please feel free to wear a mask at mass for your own protection and the protection of those around you. We continue to have masks at the entrances to the church for your use.

Needless to say, if you are feeling sick, please stay home from mass until you are well again. Remember we still post the video of our Saturday 4PM Mass each week on our parish webpage and Facebook page.

Once again this week we are publishing our winter weather protocols. I especially encourage those parishioners who attend weekday mass to check our phone voice message and parish webpage whenever the flakes are falling to see if mass is on or off. Cancellation notices will be posted by 8AM.

When there is snow on the ground it is very important that we keep the fire lane in front of the church open. You may use the area for pick-up and drop-off, but please refrain from parking your vehicle in front of the church doors.

**Grand Annual**

We're getting there! I don't want to sound like a broken record, however, if you are able to donate to this year's Grand Annual Collection, now would be a great time to do it! Enough said.

**Singing the Blues Away**

Have the winter doldrums gotten to you? Well, St. Matthias has a musical prescription that will shoo the blues away. Come and join our parish choir! Every Wednesday night a group of dedicated parishioners gets together to prepare music for the weekend celebrations of the Eucharist. They would love to welcome new members.

It has been scientifically proven that singing in a group can lower your blood pressure and lift your mood. It's better than a doctor's visit and there's no co-pay! You will also meet a great bunch of parishioners

who love to sing and make new acquaintances. So, why not try it out!

No need to have a voice that will get you a slot on American Idol or a starring role at the Metropolitan Opera. You do have to be able to sing on pitch, however! Stop by the choir area after mass if you are interested. Our music director, Peter Brockmann, our cantors and choir members will be happy to speak with you.

**WINTER WEATHER CANCELLATIONS FOR ST. MATTHIAS PARISH**

In all the following circumstances, a notice of cancellation will be found on the parish website, phone system voicemail, and Facebook page.

- When it snows on a weekday, and the Marlborough Schools are closed, the Parish Office will be closed and morning Mass will be canceled. (Notice will be posted by 8AM.)
- There may be some snowy mornings when we will cancel Mass even though Marlborough schools are open. This will be due to conditions around the church. (Notice will be posted by 8AM.)
- If there are day and evening activities scheduled during a snowy period, please check the website frequently to see if your activity is on or off.
- In rare cases, the Saturday 4PM Mass and/or Sunday 10AM Mass may be cancelled. Look for word of those cancellations on the website and voice mail.
- If Sunday Faith Formation classes are canceled, notice will be carried on our local TV stations as well as on our parish resources.

January 21, 2024

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

### FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation schedule for January is as follows:

#### Sunday, January 21

##### **Grades 1-5**

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

##### **Grades 6, 7, and 8**

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

#### Sunday, January 28

##### **Grades 1-5**

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

##### **Confirmation I, II**

10:00 a.m. Mass. - 11:45 a.m.

Confirmation I and II will attend 10:00 am Mass followed by meetings until 11:45 a.m.

#### Sunday, February 4

##### **Grades 1-5**

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

### OUR FATHER'S TABLE

MONDAY, JANUARY 29

NEW HOPE CHURCH — (204 MAIN ST.)

St. Matthias Parish community members will be hosting ***Our Father's Table*** on **Monday, January 29, beginning at 4:00 p.m. At New Hope Church.**

Our Father's Table is an ecumenical outreach program which feeds the poor and homeless in the Marlborough area. We need your HELP! **Volunteers bake desserts and help serve, while one parishioner acts as lead chef.**

For details or to volunteer, please contact Sandy Morey via e-mail: [shirldan44@gmail.com](mailto:shirldan44@gmail.com) or call 603-630-6001.

**Upcoming dates : March 18, May 20 and July 15.**

Stayed tuned for additional information in a future bulletin.

*Hear Our Prayer, O Lord*

Susan Brigham O'Malley

Alice Cox

Joseph Cox

Conor Canavan

John "Jack" Chamberlain

Aline Desjardin

Andrea Durant

Claire Fallon

Craig Fallon

Rachael Goulet

Rosalie Green

Tyler Hendrix

Marie Mangan

Keith Morey

Marge Shea Burke

Linda Thomasino

Jane Walsh

Lydia Whitcomb

Sharon and David

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

### A NOTE FROM OUR MUSIC DIRECTOR

PETER BROCKMANN

Our Gathering song this weekend is an unpublished melody by our pastor and resident composer, Fr Fran O'Brien. The lyric is *Arise, Your Light Has Come* by Ruth C. Duck.

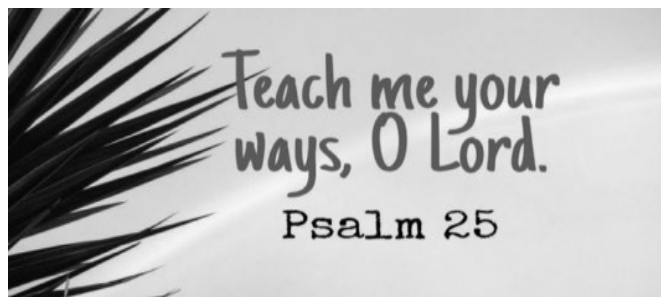
Ruth Duck (born 1947), was ordained in the United Church of Christ and retired as professor of worship at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston, Illinois, in 2016. Dr Duck, is best known as a composer and writer of hymns, having written over 150 hymns and three books of resources for worship by 2015. Her speciality is facilitating the use of gender-inclusive language in Christian worship. Before studying for her PhD (Boston University School of Theology, awarded 1989), in her time as a minister (1974-1989) she noticed that the language used in worship books and hymnals referred to God, almost exclusively, in the masculine.

She argues in her books and career that God is bigger than any one gender and deserves a more inclusive and expansive vision of the divine mystery and makes all human beings visible.

In Gather 2, she provided lyrics in 11 hymns, including *As a Fire is Meant for Burning* and *Diverse in Culture, Nation, Race* (which Fr Fran also wrote a separate melody).



*Let Us Sing!*



### END OF YEAR DONATION STATEMENTS

Beginning this week, Contribution Summaries for 2023 will be sent to parishioners who requested a report last year. If you are unsure if you received one last year, please call the parish office at 508-460-9255 or email: [admin@stmattpar.org](mailto:admin@stmattpar.org) to request your statement.



## WEEKLY OFFERTORY GOAL \$4,000.00

### January 13 and January 14 Offertory Collection

Offertory Collection	\$ 2,082.00
WeShare Offertory	\$ 495.00
	\$ 2,577.00

**\*Deficit to our weekly goal: \$ 1,423.00**

Mass attendance: 215

Parish Maintenance Collection	\$ 635.00
WeShare Parish Maintenance	\$ 320.00
	\$ 955.00

### Special Collections — January 2024

January 27/28 — Church in Latin America



## 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.



### 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](http://wesharegiving.org/app/giving/stmatt).

SCAN ME



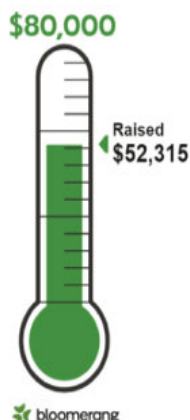
## GRAND ANNUAL CAMPAIGN FY 2024 As of 1/14/24

St. Matthias 2024 Grand Annual Collection is progressing nicely 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 donations go directly into our operating budget!

Donation Total:	\$52,315
Remaining to reach goal:	\$27,685
Percentage of goal achieved:	65%
Participating Families:	89

Thank you for your contributions!



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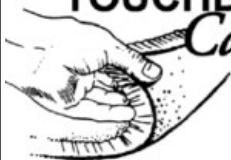
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