St. Matthew Parish

19 Dora Lane, Limerick, Maine 04048-3527

Tel. 207-793-2244
website: www.stmatthewlimerick.org
Diocese of Portland Diocesan website: www.portlanddiocese.org

We welcome you to the Catholic Community of St. Matthew and the celebration of the Eucharist.

ST. MATTHEW PARISH STAFF:

Very Rev. Philip A. Tracy, V. F. Pastor
E-mail address: philip.tracy@portlanddiocese.org
Rev. Jack Dickinson, Parochial Vicar
E-mail address: jack.dickinson@portlanddiocese.org
Deacon Paul Lissandrello, Pastoral Associate
E-mail address: paul.lissandrello@portlanddiocese.org
Heather Silva, Secretary/Bookkeeper
E-mail address: heather.silva@portlanddiocese.org
Deacon Paul Lissandrello, P.C.L.
Deacon Paul Lissandrello Altar Server Coord.
Gail Libby, Music Director, 793-8998

FINANCE COMMISSION:

Henry McKeown
Kevin LaFreniere
Theresa Harrigan

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:

Jon DiCentes, Grand Knight, 247-8875

BIRTHPLACE HELPLINE:

Abortion Alternatives/Project Rachel,
1-800-227-3002

WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturday at 4:00 p.m.
Sunday at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.

WEEKDAY MASSES:

9:00 a.m. - Monday,
8:00 a.m. - Tuesday*, Thursday*, Friday*
*Check weekly bulletin for possible time changes.

BAPTISMS:

Parents who want to have their child(ren) baptized are asked to please call the parish office (793-2244).

WEDDINGS:

Anyone planning to get married must call the parish office at least SIX MONTHS PRIOR to the proposed wedding date.

CONFESSIONS:

Saturday at 3:00 p.m.,
AND ANYTIME BY APPOINTMENT.

NEW PARISHIONERS:

Welcome to St. Matthew Parish. Please fill out the Parish Membership Form below and drop it in the collection basket or mail to the parish office.

DOMESTIC ABUSE HOTLINE:

324-1802 or 1-800-239-7298

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN:

www.portlanddiocese.org/protecting-gods-children

We joyfully welcome back to the Church any of our brothers and sisters who may have been away.
PARISH MEMBERSHIP:
Name _____
Address _____
City _____
Zip Code _____
Phone No._____
Email Address_____
Check
_____New Registration _____Updating Info.
_____Change of Address _____Moving out of Parish

TODAY IS THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT. THE READINGS BEGIN ON PAGE 74 OF THE MISSALETTE.

Mass Intentions

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEKEND

Saturday
4:00 p.m. Anita McKeown by McKeown Family
Sunday
8:00 a.m. *Wilfred Santerre by Brenda Santerre Schneider*
10:30 a.m. Intentions of the Parishioners

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Monday
9:00 a.m. *Todd Roberge by the Duranleau Family*
Tuesday
8:00 a.m. Our Lady of the Rosary
MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA
Wednesday
8:00 a.m. **Communion Service**
Thursday
8:00 a.m. Josephine Pardo by Her Sister Irene
Friday
8:00 a.m. Frank Carroll by the Furlong Family

MASS INTENTIONS NEXT WEEKEND (Mar 17 & 18)

Saturday
4:00 p.m. Ernest Cyr by Peter & Roxanne Cyr
Sunday
8:00 a.m. Todd Roberge by Sandra & David Snyder
10:30 a.m. Frank & Katie Auchter by the McGraw Family

Readings for the Week of March 11, 2018

Sunday:	2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23/Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 [6ab]/Eph 2:4-10/Jn 3:14-21
Scrutiny:	1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [1]/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or Jn 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38
Monday:	Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b [2a]/Jn 4:43-54
Tuesday:	Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9 [8]/Jn 5:1-16
Wednesday:	Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18 [8a]Jn 5:17-30
Thursday:	Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23 [4a]/Jn 5:31-47
Friday:	Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23 [19a]/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
Saturday:	Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12 [2a]/Jn 7:40-53
Next Sunday:	Jer 31:31-34/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15 [12a]/ Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33
Scrutiny:	Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8/Ps 130:1 -2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [7]/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or Jn 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

Pastor's Pondering

Henri Nouwen is one of my favorite spiritual writers. In his book the Wounded Healer, he writes: *Nobody escapes being wounded. We all are wounded people, whether physically, emotionally, mentally or spiritually. The main question is not "How can we hide our wounds?" so we don't have to be embarrassed, but "How can we put our woundedness in the service of others?" When our wounds cease to be a source of shame, and become a source of healing, we have become wounded healers."* We often think of the healthy person as the one who helps those who are struggling. However, if we are, as Nouwen suggests, wounded at some level, then we have a great wisdom to share with one another. I was reading Michael Leach's Book Why Stay Catholic? In chapter 32 he writes about a young lady named Therese Borchard. She suffers from depression and being bi-polar, and has dedicated her life to helping others deal with these issues. She is a practicing Catholic, and credits the faith for being a great help in dealing with condition. In my priesthood I see that many suffer from depression, either clinically diagnosed or just in reality. They may look cheerful on the outside, but inside are a mass of raw nerves and anxiety. Therese has a website at www.thereseborchard.com. There are many wonderful articles on it that describe ways of coping with the challenges of life. I subscribed to her blog on the website and plan on purchasing her book, Beyond Blue for some summer reading. I think it is critical that we as disciples recognize in ourselves when we are "off", and how to recognize it in our loved ones. Jesus passionately wants to offer us healing, and that begins by recognizing when healing is needed. So often we can become upset with ourselves or another without appreciating how much of struggle life can be. I encourage parishioners to take a look at this resource, and if you find it helpful, share its resources. Mental illness in many ways is one of the last taboo subjects for many people; we need to change that perception and reality.

Next Saturday, March 17th, the annual Waban Telethon will be broadcast from St. Ignatius gym beginning at 10am. I encourage parishioners to stop by to make a pledge, listen to the entertainment and to hear the amazing stories of people being helped in our community.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

The week of March 19th we will have some special times for reconciliation in preparation for Easter.

St Matthew:
Tuesday March 20th after morning mass, 6-7pm in the evening,
Thursday March 22nd following the 8 AM Mass- 8:30-9:30
Friday March 23rd after mass, 4:30-5:30 (before Stations) and after Stations if needed.

St. Therese:
Wednesday March 21st after morning mass, 5-7pm (at Notre Dame)
Thursday March 22nd Holy Family- 5-7 PM
Friday March 23rd after morning mass, after Stations of the cross (4:30 -5:30) at Holy Family.

You may also make an appointment to see one of the priests. Additional times may become available and will be posted.

WINGS Lenten Program: Will be meeting Tuesday, March 13 from 7-9 in the Kindergarten room. For more information please contact Debbie Wentworth by phone at 978-618-1636 or by email at wentworth80@verizon.net

LENTEN PROGRAM: *Saying Yes: What is God's Will for Me*? This is the focus of the new DVD series we are offering for Lent, which features Father Albert Haase, O.F.M., a scholar of Christian spirituality and spiritual mentor to hundreds. It is a follow-up to Father Haase's *Catching Fire, Becoming Flame* (Lent, 2014) and *Keeping the Fire Alive* (Lent, 2017). Sessions will be held in the Parish Hall on Thursdays, from 8:45 to 10:15 A.M. All are welcome to come to one or more sessions. Sign-up in the Narthex or contact Deacon Paul at 793-2244.

March 15	Session 5 - Discerning the Designs of the Devil
March 22	Session 6 - Wrestling with God

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 4TH DEGREE: Members will meet for dinner at 6:30 p.m. followed by a meeting at 7PM on Thursday, March 15th.

The Worship & Spirituality Commission will again sponsor Soup and Bread in the Parish Hall, following Stations of the Cross and Benediction, at 6:00 P.M. on Fridays in Lent, according to following schedule:

March 16	Stations and Benediction, followed by **Soup and Bread**
March 23	Stations and Benediction, followed by **Soup and Bread**
March 30	Stations at 3:00 P.M. - **No meal**.
	Good Friday Liturgy in the Evening at 7:00 P.M.

The Worship and Spirituality Committee is also sponsoring the outdoors Stations of the Cross at Notre Dame Spiritual Center in Alfred, Maine, on Saturday, March 24th, at 11:00 A.M. This will be followed by lunch in the center's dining room. The cost of the lunch is $10.00. Sign-up in the Narthex or contact Deacon Paul at 793-2244.

St. Patrick's Dinner: Let's celebrate Spring and St. Patrick's Day at St. Matthew's parish hall. Parishioners of North Waterboro and Shapleigh will host the supper on Saturday, March 17th from 4:30-6:00p.m. Featuring: Irish Stew, Boiled Ham, Roast Cabbage, Colcannon (Irish Mashed Potatoes) Shepherd Pie, Mac & Cheese, Hot Dogs, Salad, and freshly baked Irish Soda Bread, Biscuits, Beverages and lots of Dessert. Bring your family and friends!

Adults $10 Children 6-12 $4.00 Children 5 & under: FREE

K OF C MEAT RAFFLE: The Knights of Columbus will once again be holding a Meat Raffle. Tickets will be sold this weekend to benefit the Food Pantry. The drawing will be held on March 17 at the St. Patrick's Day Dinner.

WINGS Spring: Join the women of WINGS as Catherine Marshall introduces us to the "The Helper". At the Magnificat Breakfast in September, guest speaker Katherine Valentine credited this book with launching her relationship with the Holy Spirit. "The Helper" presents the Holy Spirit via short readings, one per day for the 40 days between Easter and Pentecost. We will share how the Holy Spirit is working in our lives at our weekly Tuesday night meetings, April 10 - May 15 at 7pm in the Kindergarten room. Used books can be purchased on Amazon for about $6, or new for $16. To be included in the group order for a new book, or for more information, please contact Debbie Wentworth at 978-618-1636 or wentworth80@verizon.net.

THANK YOU! Arthur & Elaine Roberge would like to thank all those who have given them so much love and support during this difficult time. "Do not pass by a man in need, for you may be the hand of God to him." Proverbs 3:27

PARISH FINANCES

Amount needed weekly to operate parish	$ 3,900.00
Offertory 3/04/18	$ 2,996.19
WESHARE Online Giving 3/04/18	$ 320.00
MARCH OFFERTORY AS OF 3/04/18	$ 3,316.19
Capital Improvements 3/4/18	$ 1,106.00

WHAT SHALL I BRING TO THE LORD, THE GOD OF HEAVEN, WHEN I COME TO WORSHIP HIM? - Micah 6:6

SECOND COLLECTION: This week, we are taking up The Catholic Relief Services Collection to respond to **Jesus in disguise**. This collection helps six Catholic agencies to provide relief and support to struggling communities and to work toward peace and reconciliation among our marginalized brothers and sisters here and around the world. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection. Learn more at *www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.*

The HSYM is collecting items for EASTER BASKETS. These are given out to local families in our Food Pantry as well as to local schools who are in need. If you know of a family in need, please contact Deacon Paul. We need baskets, small toys, grass, candy of all kinds, and cellophane to cover them. The collection box is in the Narthex. THANK YOU IN ADVANCE!

St. Thomas School's annual Spring Fever Fair is set for Sunday, April 22nd at the Memorial Gym in Sanford. We are seeking donations of jewelry, books and gently used items for our trash and treasures. Our craft table is also seeking handmade items. The Spring Fever Fair features baked goods, fudge, raffles, children's games, plants and much more. Donations may be dropped off at St. Thomas School, or for pick up please call Joanne at 324-5832.

FUNSHINE FAIR COMMITTEE MEETING: There will be a meeting of the Funshine Fair Committee on March 9th at 7PM after Stations of the Cross and Soup and Bread.

TEAM MEMBERS NEEDED!!

CLOTHING BOOTH: We would like to split our clothing booth between 5 team members. Each team member overseeing a section of the booth (ie. mens, womens, childrens etc.).

SET UP AND CLEAN UP: This year we are looking for several individuals that would be willing to break this job into teams and oversee those helping with this area.

ICE CREAM BOOTH: Would your family like to run the ice cream booth this year? This is a great way to get involved, and can be fun for the whole family.

If you are interested in lending a hand with any part of this year's fair, please email heather.silva@portlanddiocese.org, call the office 793-2244, or attend the meeting on March 9th at 7PM.

IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROGRAM "PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN"

In the **interest of children's safety**, we ask that children **not be allowed to leave Mass** to use the restrooms downstairs, **unless they are accompanied by an adult**. Because we are a public building, doors are required to be unlocked, allowing entrance to all.

Please include the following priests serving in our diocese in your daily prayers this week:

Mar.	11	Bishop Robert P. Deeley, JCD
Mar.	12	Rev. C. James Martel/Rev. Aurelijus Gricius OFM
Mar.	13	Rev. Harold Moreshead/Rev. John d'Anjou SJ
Mar.	14	Msgr. J. Joseph Ford/Rev. Donald Jacques
Mar.	15	Rev. Richard MacDonough SS/Rev. Francis Morin
Mar.	16	Msgr. Rene Mathieu/Rev. Antony Mullaney
Mar.	17	Rev. Philip A. Tracy/V. Rev. Richard Malo

Heavenly Father, during this penitential season, we pray that the Blood of Jesus may kindle in the hearts of our priests the divine fire of Your love by their devotion to the Eucharist..

Ven. Mother Catherine Aurelia, Foundress

"Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered and said, *"Who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?"* Jesus said to him, *"You have seen him, the one speaking with you is he."* He said, *"I do believe, Lord,"* and he worshiped him. - Jn 9:35-38

VOCATION VIEW *"God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him." Are you being invited to share the mission of Jesus as a priest, brother or sister?* Contact Father Seamus Griesbach at 207-773-6471; or email: **seamus.griesbach@portlanddiocese.org**; Website: www.portlanddiocese/vocations; Facebook: VocationsME.

The Presence Radio Network

Week of Sunday, March 11, 2018

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MARCH 11, 2018

Faith Formation

Grades K - 8	Mar. 11	Class 9:15 - 10:15 am
	Mar. 18	Class 9:15 - 10:15 am Children's Liturgy 10:30
Grade 9-12	Mar. 11	Session 6:00 - 7:30 pm
	Mar. 18	Session 6:00 - 7:30 pm

PLEASE HELP SUPPORT OUR FOOD PANTRY

St. Matthew Food Pantry is always need of a few items they have a hard time purchasing from Good Shepherd. Would you be willing to donate these items? A collection container can be found in the Narthex.

Coffee & Tea	Peanut Butter	Canned Meat
Jelly & Jams	Baked Beans	Chef Boyardee
Ketchup	Mustard	Relish

Plastic & paper bags are also needed for the Food Pantry. You may leave them in the narthex. THANK YOU IN ADVANCE!!

****Serving residents of Limerick, Newfield, Parsonsfield or parishioners.**

RICE BOWLS: If you would like to participate in this Lenten Alms giving Program, Rice Bowls are on the carts.

EASTER FLOWER ENVELOPES: If you would like to donate towards our Easter flowers in memory of a loved one, please pick up an envelope on the carts, fill it out and place it in the collection basket. You may also donate with our online giving program.

https://stmatthewlimerick.weshareonline.org/