

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF
St. Matthew & Our Lady of Perpetual Help

LET US ALL
Give Thanks



Church of St. Matthew
 616 Warburton Avenue
 Hastings on Hudson, NY 10706
 Rectory.....914-478-2822

Our Lady of Perpetual Help
 535 Ashford Avenue
 Ardsley, NY 10502
 www.stmolph.com



November 23, 2025 • Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Clergy

Rev. Douglas Crawford.....*Pastor*
 Rev. Nicholas Nwagwu.....*Chaplain, St. John Riverside Hospital*
 Rev. George Lodi.....*Retired In Residence*

Sacrament of Baptism

The date for baptism should be scheduled in advance. Please contact the Rectory.

Sacrament of Matrimony

Arranged 6 months in advance. Please contact the rectory and speak with a Priest before any deposit is made for the wedding reception.

Anointing & Last Rites

Call the rectory at any time.

Religious Education Program

Mrs. Stephanie Bonney.....*Coordinator*
 Mr. Jay A. Conklin.....*Assistant*
 Office Location: St. Matthew Church
 Phone: 914-693-0030 • e-mail: ReligiousEd@stmolph.com

Parish Emails

Fr. Crawford.....fr.dycrawford@yahoo.com
 Rectory Office.....office@stmolph.com

Mass Schedule

Daily Mass: Monday - Saturday

St. Matthew.....9:00 am
 OLPH.....8:00 am

Saturday Vigil Mass for Sunday

St. Matthew 5:30 pm
 OLPH4:00 pm

Sunday

St. Matthew.....8:30 am & 11:30 am
 OLPH.....10:00 am

Holy Day Mass

Check the Parish Bulletin for schedule.

Sacrament of Penance: Saturday

OLPH3:00 - 3:45 pm
 St. Matthew.....4:30 - 5:15 pm

Prayers & Novena

Miraculous Medal Novena

(St. Matthew) Monday after the 9:00 am Mass

Rosary (OLPH): First Saturday of the month immediately following the Mass

Holy Hour & Exposition

(St. Matthew) Friday between 9:30 am - 10:30 am

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22

(A) 4:00 pm Intentions of Fr. Henry

(H) 5:30 pm Maureen A. Pachonka †

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23

(H) 8:30 am Gregory Chiascione †

(A) 10:00 am Anna & Cosmo Vellone †

(H) 11:30 am James Flynn †

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24

(A) 8:00 am Intentions of Jean Luker

(H) 9:00 am Audrey Bloomer †

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25

(A) 8:00 am Nicola Cantatore †

(H) 9:00 am James Barkley †

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26

(A) 8:00 am Sal Campoli †

(H) 9:00 am Anna & Andrew Vanek †

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27

(A) 8:00 am Santos & Maria Macco †

(H) 9:00 am Denise Palley †

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28

(A) 8:00 am Missa Pro Popolo

(H) 9:00 am Jim & Angela Mulvey †

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29

(A) 8:00 am Olga Pecora †

(H) 9:00 am Gromelski Family

(A) 4:00 pm Charles & Mary Lokay †

(H) 5:30 pm Peter & Helen Connolly †

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30

(H) 8:30 am Thomas Chiascione †

(A) 10:00 am Joel Landry †

(H) 11:30 am Caroline & Henry Knizeski †

REQUESTED BY:

Janet Lokay

Lana Como

Chiascione Family

Linda Vellone & Ann Torrini

Sherry Family

Shery Family

Kids & Grandkids

Sylvia Melina

Virginia Markman

wife Dora

Rose & Christine Utchel

Grandchildren

Frank Palley

Grandchildren

Family

Rose Utchel

Janet Lokay

Sherry Family

Chiascione Family

Val & Paulette Landry

Marie & Tom Milton

(H) - Hastings: St. Matthew

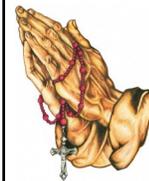
(A) - Ardsley: Our Lady of Perpetual Help



Our monthly food collection continues at St. Matthew Church. Parishioners are invited to bring non-perishable food donations for the Hastings

Food Pantry to Mass on the second weekend of each month, which will be the weekend of December 13/14th

Please no glass, open or expired items and please do not leave food donations at other times.



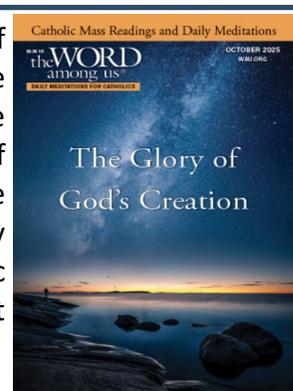
Our prayers during Mass are spiritually important and bring benefit and

comfort to those who have experienced a loss or acute need. If you would like to arrange for a Mass to be said for the repose of the soul of a loved one or for a special intention, please visit or call the parish office 914-478-2822 or you can schedule a time using the online website. You can also request to memorialize the tabernacle candles on the altars. The direct links can be found on the parish website: www.stmolph.com

“A religion that doesn’t interfere with secular order will soon discover that the secular order will not refrain from interfering with it.”
- Abp. Fulton J. Sheen



COMPLIMENTARY copies of **THE WORD AMONG US** are available in the back of the church for the month’s of November & December. The Word Among us contains Daily Meditations and Catholic Mass readings for the current month.



November 23, 2025 - Christ the King

Reading I: 2 Samuel 5: 1-3

David comes to the summit of royal power, as the uncontested ruler of all Israel. It is a golden age of Old Testament history, with all twelve tribes united under a single king.

Reading II: Colossians 1: 12-20

Our adopted sonship in Christ makes us heirs of all that the Father intends to give us. Words of an ancient hymn extol Christ's supremacy over creation.

The Gospel: Luke 23: 35-43

Jesus is "anointed" as King on the cross. His pronouncement over the penitent thief shows His divine power present, even as Jesus is nailed to a cross and in His final moments of life.

every contribution is
highly valued

thank
you!

Support Our Parish

We rely on the generosity of parishioners and visitors in order for our Parish to thrive. We would not be able to fulfill our mission without your financial support.

Also, please remember St. Matthew & Our Lady of Perpetual Help in your Will or Living Trust. Kindly contact the rectory office with your inquiries.



- Brian Dunne-USN
- Christopher Gaulin-USA
- George Moore-USN
- Michael Germain-USN
- Peter Dillon-USCG
- Chris Minozzi-USMC
- Sean Roth-USA
- Mike Gibbons-USMC
- Nick Lumalcuri - USN
- Claire Sherry - USAF

CANDLE DEDICATIONS



OLPH Tabernacle Candle
In Memory of Sal Campoli
req. by wife Dora

St. Matthew Tabernacle Candle

St. Matthew Blessed Mother Candle

*Candle dedications can be reserved online or by calling the rectory.
Please visit our website at www.stmolpb.com*

COLLECTION REPORT:

Weekend: November 16:

Sunday 11/16 \$3,844

Parish Giving: \$1,775

Weekend Total: \$5,169

Fuel Offering: \$1,458

Upcoming Second Collections

November 23: Charity & Justice

December 7: Maintenance & Repair

December 8: Immaculate Conception

Online Giving

St. Matthew & Our Lady of Perpetual Help offers two ways to make church contributions online:
Zelle and Parish Giving



Parish Giving

For Parish Giving use the QR Code or visit the website:

www.paritygiving.org

and search for **St. Matthew & OLPH Church**



zelle

Scan the QR Code in your banking app to find: **The St. Matthew** or find us using our email address office@stmolpb.com

Please Note: The church's legal name is so long that our bank only uses the first several characters, hence why in Zelle our name shows up as: **The St. Matthew**





RELIGIOUS EDUCATION continues this weekend, November 23rd at St. Matthew's. There are **NO CLASSES** on November 26th & 30th in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday.

WEDNESDAY PROGRAM at OLPH SCHOOL Grades 1-4 meet from 4:00pm to 5:00pm
Grades 5 & 6 meet from 6:30pm to 7:30pm

SUNDAY PROGRAM at ST. MATTHEW SCHOOL: Grades 1-6 meet from 9:45am - 10:45am

ATTENDANCE ENVELOPES: All students must drop in the collection basket their **ATTENDANCE ENVELOPE** for the corresponding week. If you are not able to attend Mass at STM or OLPH, please get a bulletin, signed by the Priest, from the church where you attended Mass. Staple your attendance envelope to the bulletin and give it to your teacher the next week. Mass attendance will be kept tract of during the year.



BREAKFAST With Santa

DELICIOUS FOOD | FESTIVE CRAFTS | GOODIE BAG FROM SANTA
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2025 | 10AM

\$20 ages 11-99 \$15 ages 5-10 FREE 4 & under

Location: Our Lady of Perpetual Help School
1 Cross Road * Ardsley, NY

*Space is Limited
& you must be a
Registered Parishioner*

Everyone is Welcome to Attend!

Bring your Family & Friends, With or Without Kids!

SIGN UP TODAY

Return by December 8th

PARISHIONER/ENVELOPE # _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

of Adults: _____ # of Children: _____

of Free: _____ Total \$ enclosed: _____

Names of those attending:

Name: _____ Age: _____

Back by popular demand...Hot Chocolate Bar!



REGISTER NOW

CLICK HERE

CHRISTMAS TREE STILL NEEDED

We are in need of an artificial Christmas Tree for our Breakfast with Santa.

The tree will be needed on Friday, December 12th for set up and will be in use all day Saturday, December 13 when Santa comes for his visit.

If you have a tree that you are no longer using, and would like to donate it to the parish, please call the rectory: 914-478-2822





THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF
St. Matthew &
Our Lady of Perpetual Help



To Purchase your Christmas Stocking Stuffer Ticket

Please scan the QR Code
below or click on the
link at the bottom
of the page.



RAFFLE PRIZE SCHEDULE

1st PRIZE - \$6,500

2nd Prize - \$1,000

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 3rd Prize - \$500 | 4th Prize - \$500 |
| 5th Prize - \$500 | 6th Prize - \$200 |
| 7th Prize - \$200 | 8th Prize - \$200 |
| 9th Prize - \$200 | 10th Prize - \$200 |

• Only 200 Tickets Available •
Ticket Cost \$100

DRAWING HELD: DECEMBER 19TH

Please note: If all tickets
are not sold by the drawing
date, prizes will
be adjusted accordingly.

<https://stmolph.flocknote.com/signup/233619>

If you would like to join, please return this form with Payment to:

St. Matthew & Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church
616 Warburton Avenue • Hastings on Hudson, NY 10706
Call: 914-478-2822 or email: office@stmolph.com



Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

of tickets requested: _____ Amount enclosed \$ _____

OFFICE USE ONLY

Ticket # _____



CIRCLE OF LOVE PRAYER GROUP

Meets Wednesdays at OLPH Church, 7:30pm.
All are welcome to attend.

Our Lady of Fatima Wants to Visit You! For over 40 years, our parish's Circle of Love prayer group has shared the joy and peace of Our Lady of Fatima through a traveling Pilgrim Virgin statue. .

If you'd like to welcome Our Lady into your home, call Lourdes at 914-564-3243

SAVE THE DATE

Christmas

CONCERT



The 2025 Choir Christmas Concert
will be held on

Thursday, December 18th at 7:00pm

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church

535 Ashford Avenue • Ardsley

Ministry to Homebound Parishioners



For those parishioners who are homebound or elderly, please reach out to the Rectory if you are interested in having a priest visit to hear your confession, receive the sacrament of Anointing of the Sick and receive Holy Communion.

Please email office@stmolph.com
or call 914-478-2822.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE ONE OF SANTA'S LITTLE HELPERS

AT OUR BREAKFAST WITH SANTA?



YOU CAN SIGN UP USING
OUR FLOCKNOTE LINK:

[HTTPS://
STMOLPH.FLOCKNOTE.COM/
SIGNUP/231483](https://stmolph.flocknote.com/signup/231483)

[CLICK HERE To Sign Up](#)

Taking the Great Leap of Faith – in Smaller Hops

by Auguste Meyrat

One of the great paradoxes of the modern world is that as living has become easier, believing in God has become more difficult. This lack of belief stems from, among other things, the many choices of religion on offer. The world today is largely pluralistic and individualistic, and people now pick their religion like they pick out an outfit at a department store.

Naturally, this results in a kind of spiritual paralysis and malaise. With so many choices, the ordinary person might despair that any of them is the right one and might assume choice itself is an illusion. Moreover, this problem becomes all the worse when most educational institutions regularly deride religious faith and discourage its practice.

So, apologists not only need to argue for belief in God, but also for the act of belief itself. This is the challenge that New York Times columnist Ross Douthat – and a conservative Catholic – takes up in his recent book *Believe: Why Everyone Should Be Religious*. Douthat is well situated to appreciate the moods and prejudices of modern readers, and makes the case that they should reconsider their indifference to church and commit to a religion.

On one hand, Douthat's broad approach relieves him of having to account for obscure theological differences and speak as a reasonable layman who can identify with his audience. On the other hand, he is forced to attempt reconciliation between religions that are often opposed to one another.

Instead of assuming a great leap of faith from doubt into belief, Douthat works off the premise that people make many little hops from a qualified skepticism to full religious participation. His analogy usually works, but it can also mistake certain hops backward as progress.

That said, Douthat deserves praise for his eloquent defense of theism. He avoids the dry syllogisms explaining causation and contingency, but uses them as a means of dismantling the popular idea that science disproves God's existence.

While not exactly debunking religious faith, the momentous theories of heliocentrism and evolution have effectively disrupted and destabilized traditional faith: "Two hinge points, the Copernican and Darwinian revolutions, are understood to have shifted the reasonable default to purposelessness and accident, materialism and atheism."

Douthat explains, however, that these theories mainly speak to the complexity of the cosmos, not to the absence of God. Moreover, as one surveys more recent scientific discoveries, it even appears more likely that God designed the universe.

Douthat presses on and explores the mystery of the soul. Similar to scientific breakthroughs in physics, new discoveries in neuroscience seem to challenge the existence of souls. And yet, such advances also may be seen as offering more evidence for the existence of an immaterial soul: "Whatever consciousness may be, soul or mind, dream or spell, it self-evidently has its own integrity, its own being, which is intertwined with physical reality without being reducible to physical substances and their interactions."

In expounding upon these points, Douthat gradually presses materialists into an untenable corner. In order to explain the soul and the universe, they must conjure up implausible theories of an infinite multiverse and of consciousness inexplicably "emerging" from complex neural networks in the brain. He makes it clear that today's materialists are desperately grasping at straws and, consequently, do not occupy the intellectual high ground.

begin the journey towards experiencing the joys of religious truth firsthand.

After an interesting chapter on miracles and ghosts, Douthat moves on to the trickier case for religious adherence. After all, most people these days can at least be brought to a point of being “spiritual but not religious” – and leave it at that. It is quite another matter to coax them to the next step of committing to a religion.

Douthat’s reasoning here is solid and dispels much of the do-it-yourself attitudes about religious practice. He explains the need for community as well as practical guidance when traversing the metaphysical plane, and this can only happen when attending an actual church with actual people.

Problems arise when Douthat discusses choosing a particular religion. Based on his mode of reasoning, the answer should be fairly obvious: pick the church that comes closest to the truth. Nevertheless, Douthat instead opts for an awkward syncretism that appears to make all the major religions morally equivalent. Sure, one might pick a religion that misrepresents the fundamental nature of God and His Creation and is fraught with contradictions, but in the end, Douthat insists it will still lead that person to ultimate truth.

Perhaps he believes that saying something different will exclude a portion of his audience and seem intolerant. But to claim that all religions are valid in some way undermines the rest of the argument. He insists that one can argue for Islam, Buddhism, or Hinduism in the same way one can argue for one particular form of Christianity over another. Even a cursory glance at history, along with the state of the world today, offers ample evidence that not all faiths are remotely alike, nor do they point in the same direction.

Fortunately, in addition to addressing the common stumbling blocks to religion, Douthat relates his own faith journey. As he makes clear, the usual rebuttals to belief – the problem of evil, the scandals in religious institutions, the demanding rules on chastity – do not disprove religion. There are good potential reasons God has made the world as He has, but human beings must accept their limitations and work with what they are given instead of withholding their faith in God in protest.

Finally, Douthat shares his experience, growing up as a charismatic Protestant and converting to Catholicism. Evidently, the “sheer weirdness” of his childhood faith was “matched, exceeded, and enfolded into orthodoxy,” and the “capaciousness of Catholicism, its antiquity and global sprawl” made it more satisfying for someone of his intellectual scope.

Throughout, Douthat is eloquent and avoids the usual longueurs of religious arguments. He can be humble and accommodating to a fault, but also brilliantly assertive as to the necessity and rewards of belief. Anyone considering the value of religious belief in good faith should at least be persuaded of its reasonableness. And, God willing, can begin the journey towards experiencing the joys of religious truth firsthand.



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Auguste Meyrat is an English teacher in the Dallas area. He holds an MA in Humanities and an MEd in Educational Leadership. He is the senior editor of [The Everyman](http://TheEveryman.com) and has written essays for The Federalist, The American Thinker, and The American Conservative as well as the Dallas Institute of Humanities and Culture.



Thank you to Sheri Marchi & Terry Spadaccini who organized our Thanksgiving Pot Luck last weekend.

A nice time was had by all who attended!

