

Saint Matthias Parish

409 Hemenway Street

Marlborough, MA 01752

Phone: 508-460-9255 Website: stmattpar.org

Facebook: facebook.com/stmattpar



Parish Leadership

Francis P. O'Brien, Pastor

frobrien@stmattpar.org

Doug Peltak, Senior Deacon

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Paul G. Coletti, Deacon

dcncoletti@stmattpar.org

Russ Morey, Senior Deacon

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Theresa Salafia, Faith Formation Director

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Peter Brockmann, Pianist / Organist

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April Lowe, Office Manager

alowe@stmattpar.org

Darleen Doona, Bookkeeper

ddoona@stmattpar.org

Paul G. Coletti, Chair, Finance Council

For HELP: St. Vincent dePaul Society

tel. no. 978-493-3037

Celebrations of the Eucharist

The Lord's Day

Pre-recorded Mass on-line Sundays by 10:00 AM at

www.stmattpar.org and facebook: [@stmattpar](https://facebook.com/stmattpar)

Weekend Masses

Saturdays 4:00 PM

Sundays 10:00 AM

Weekday: Canceled until further notice.

Holy Day: As announced

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 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 celebrated on Saturdays at 3:15PM or 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.

ST. MATTHIAS PARISH

St. Matthias Parish Office Information

508-460-9255

Parish Office hours are **Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00AM to 3:00PM.**

You may also e-mail the office at any time at admin@stmattpar.org.

*The Parish Office will be closed on
Monday, September 6
for the Labor Day holiday.*



THIS WEEK AT ST. MATTHIAS

Saturday, September 4

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

Sunday, September 5

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

Saturday, September 11

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

Sunday, September 12

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

Welcome Back Picnic

Church Grounds, Following 10:00 a.m. Mass

MASS INTENTIONS OFFERED FOR

Saturday, August 28, 2021, 4PM

Michael and Susan Giugno — Memorial

Sunday, August 29, 2021, 10AM

William Bruce-Tagoe — Memorial

Saturday, September 11, 2021, 4PM

Mildred and Salvatore Pontarella
Frank Pontarella — Memorial

Sunday, September 12, 2021, 10AM

Judy McManus—Birthday Memorial
COVID Memorial

WELCOME TO ST. MATTHIAS

Current Masking and Seating Protocols

As the COVID positive numbers increase in Middlesex County, and in accordance with the CDC guidelines, it is strongly advised that all parishioners wear face masks during the Celebration of the Eucharist.

Please note the seating protocol inside the church on the right will remain with physical distance markers for attendees.

Thank you.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Readings for the Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 4 and September 5

First Reading: Isaiah 35:4-7a
Second Reading James 2:1-5
Gospel: Mark 7:31-37

Readings for the Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 11 and September 12

First Reading: Isaiah 50:5-9a
Second Reading James 2:14-18
Gospel: Mark 8:27-35



Music for Celebrations of the Eucharist on September 4 and September 5

Gathering Song: Gather Your People, O Lord
hymnal #742

Preparation: Come to Me, O Weary Traveler
hymnal #630

Communion: Healer of Our Ev'ry Ill
hymnal #854

Recessional: Sing of the Lord's Goodness
hymnal #532

From Fr. Fran

A few weeks ago, while tidying up around the rectory, I collected all my face masks, put them in a box, and proceeded to store them away. Oops. Much too early for that. Like a stealth bomber, the Delta variant came sweeping through and now we are all masked up again.

In my experience the current surge we are living through seems more difficult to navigate than the earlier phases of the pandemic. I sincerely thought that as we were planning for parish activities this fall that COVID-19 would be in our rear-view mirror. While, at this writing, all our parish's fall activities are still on, there will be more caution in the planning and execution.

Know that at all our activities, including our celebrations of the Mass, we will continue to provide for the safety of all our parishioners. With this in mind, let me go through a few protocols.

Weekend Masses:

All parishioners, (including those vaccinated) are urged to wear a face covering at our weekend Masses. This is for your safety and that of those around you.

As you face the altar, the **right side** of the church will continue to be **socially distanced**. We may do the same for the left side in the coming weeks. If you are unable to wear a face covering for medical reasons, please sit on the left side of the church and distance yourself comfortably. For peace of mind for some parishioners, we would like to ensure that **all parishioners sitting on the right side of the church are wearing face masks**.

Hand sanitizer continues to be available at the entrances to the church. If you have your own sanitizer, please use it before you come to communion. **As you receive communion**, please step aside, lower your mask, and consume the host before you start back to your seat. This will help in a dignified and comfortable reception of communion while masked.

We may return to passing the basket at Offertory time in the future, but for now please remember to place your donation in the receptacle at the back of the church.

Weekday Masses:

My goal was to resume weekday Masses in the downstairs chapel in September. However, with the current conditions, I am going to postpone this until later in the fall.

Welcome Back Outdoor Mass, Sunday September 12th at 10 AM

We are looking forward to gathering next Sunday on the front lawn for Mass and brunch. **I'd like to especially invite our parish families to be a part of this day**. I know that several families with grade schoolers have been hesitant to come back to church, since their children are not yet vaccinated. Let me assure you that we are planning this event to be safe and child friendly. Everyone is encouraged to wear a face covering if closer than six feet from others.

Sunday's brunch will be provided by The Buffet Way. They have tight standards for preparing and serving food. No food will be prepared by parishioners for safety reasons. Mass and brunch will be under tents, so you won't have to worry about the sun (or the next tropical storm). Please come and enjoy each other's company while praising and thanking God for our health and life together.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

At this time parishioners seeking Confession are invited to call the parish office and set up an appointment with me. Because our Reconciliation Room is such close quarters, I feel that for the safety of the penitent and the priest, it would be prudent to continue the suspension of Confessions before the 4PM Saturday Mass.

Faith Formation

If you have yet to register your child/children for this year's Faith Formation sessions, now is the time! Please see Faith Formation Director Terry Salafia's article in this bulletin for more info.

At this writing, we are planning for a full in-person schedule. Per protocols from the Archdiocese of Boston, all children will be masked and there will be social distancing.

St. Matthias Yard Sale

We are planning on our first yard sale since 2019 on **Saturday October 9**. With all that time in lock down, I'm sure everyone had the occasion to go through some of the "precious gems" that you want to gift to others. Unless the pandemic tells us otherwise, our Yard Sale is a go. We need your help to make this fundraiser a success. With the pandemic our budget is incredibly tight. Our goal is to make 5K from the Yard Sale. Whatever you can do to help us hit that mark will be greatly appreciated.

Mass with the Sacrament of the Sick

Each fall our parish celebrates the Sacrament of the Sick at the weekend Masses during the month of October. This year we are scheduling the sacrament at the Masses on Saturday October 23rd and Sunday October 24th. Many parishioners have endured sickness over the duration of the pandemic. This Mass offers us the opportunity to pray as a parish family hose who are experiencing physical and emotional difficulties

Annual Mass of Remembrance

Each November our parish remembers those who have died over the past 12 months with a Mass and reception. This year our celebration will take place on **Sunday, November 7th at the 10AM Mass**. You will be invited to submit the names of your loved ones who have gone home to God, and we will honor them during the Prayers of the Faithful at the Mass.

FAITH FORMATION

Greetings to all our families in Faith Formation as the new year begins in neighboring schools and in our parish. Faith Formation gatherings are noted in the registration letter sent to all families. The calendar is also on our website under Faith Formation, www.stmattpar.org.

September 12 is the celebration of the new year for everyone in our parish. The 10:00 a.m. mass will bring us together to celebrate US as a faith community. Mass will be held under the tent on the lawn followed by a catered brunch by Buffet Way. So... gather your family and friends and join us under the tent to welcome everyone back to St. Matthias.

Now that the school year has opened for our children many families still need to re-register their children for in-person gatherings. Please note St. Matthias Faith Formation will follow all guidelines from the State of Massachusetts, the City of Marlborough Schools and the Archdiocese of Boston to keep the catechists, children and families safe.



REMEMBER in your prayers

Conor Canavan
Marie Daigle
Richard Desjardin
LeAnne Gogel
Jeanette Kirk
Marie Leigh
Fr. Mike MacEwen
Maura McGuinness

Chris O'Brien,
Ayn Paoella
Jennifer Reis
Raymond Sotek
Andrew Tivnan
Linda Thomasino
Jane Walsh

NOTICE: If you would like to add a loved one to this prayer list, please email admin@stmattpar.org.

Thank you.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2021
COVID MEMORIAL MASS

Next Sunday, September 12 the St. Matthias Community will celebrate a **COVID Memorial Mass** for our loved ones and friends who have died from the Coronavirus over the past 16 months. This outdoor celebration provides us with the opportunity to worship, pray and remember their lives and the love that we share for one another during a time when friends and family members were unable to provide comfort. A special mass booklet will include all the names of deceased due to the Coronavirus and each name will be read aloud. If you have lost a loved one or friend due to the Coronavirus and would like to have them remembered at this special mass, please contact the parish office by phone 508-460-9255 or by email admin@stmattpar.org.

Following the mass, a parish-wide outdoor brunch will be held and everyone is invited to attend the mass and the gathering.

WEEKLY OFFERTORY GOAL \$4,000.00

Offertory Collection for August 28 and August 29

Offertory Collection	\$ 2,508.00
WeShare Offertory	\$ 767.55
	\$ 3,275.55

Mass attendance: 162

Haiti Relief Collection \$ 953.00

September Special Collections

Parish Maintenance:	September 11 and 12
Clergy Trust:	September 18 and 19
Boston PILOT:	September 25 and 26

July 2021 Summary

Offertory Goal (\$4000 x 4 Sundays)	\$ 16,000.00
Offertory Total Collected	\$ 13,446.20
Deficit from Goal	↓\$ 2,553.80



ST. VINCENT DEPAUL
FRIENDS OF THE POOR
WALK/RUN

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2021

Registration at the Immaculate Conception Church beginning at 9:30 a.m.

To donate or register, go to

www.FOPWalk.org.



St. Matthias Parish

**Outdoor Mass
& Picnic Brunch**

Sunday, September 12
10 AM Mass

Please bring a blanket or chair



All are Welcome



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED (Perfect opportunity for those who need to get a jump on a few service hours!): Set-up, greeting, running games, take-down. E-mail: admin@stmattpar.org. Thank you!

Crisis in Uganda- THANK YOU!

I want to take this opportunity to thank the members of the St. Matthias parish community for their support for the work of Heart Sounds US with vulnerable people in Uganda. Overall, we were able to raise over \$8000 of which \$1000 came from members of the parish.

Thanks to your unwavering support, we were able to feed over 750 people in four areas of the country. Your support provided meals for over one month to these individuals, including many children. In conjunction with one of the local Catholic Mission Hospitals we provided support for healthcare services, including dental, vision and prenatal care to over 250 people in remote villages in Western Uganda.

The crisis is not over but thanks to your generosity the lives of many individuals to become a bit more bearable. Many have sent their thanks and said that your support has given them hope. Our efforts continue, including plans to find donors for vaccine, additional health services and of course food. Donations continue to be accepted via PayPal [@heartsoundsus.org](mailto:info@heartsoundsus.org), or by check made out to Heart Sounds US, Inc., 123 Westminster Dr., Marlborough, MA 01752. Please visit our website for further information or email us at info@heartsoundsus.org.

On behalf of the board members of Heart Sounds US, Inc., thank you for your support and God bless you!

Richard Pulice President of the Board
Member of the Saint Matthias Community



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