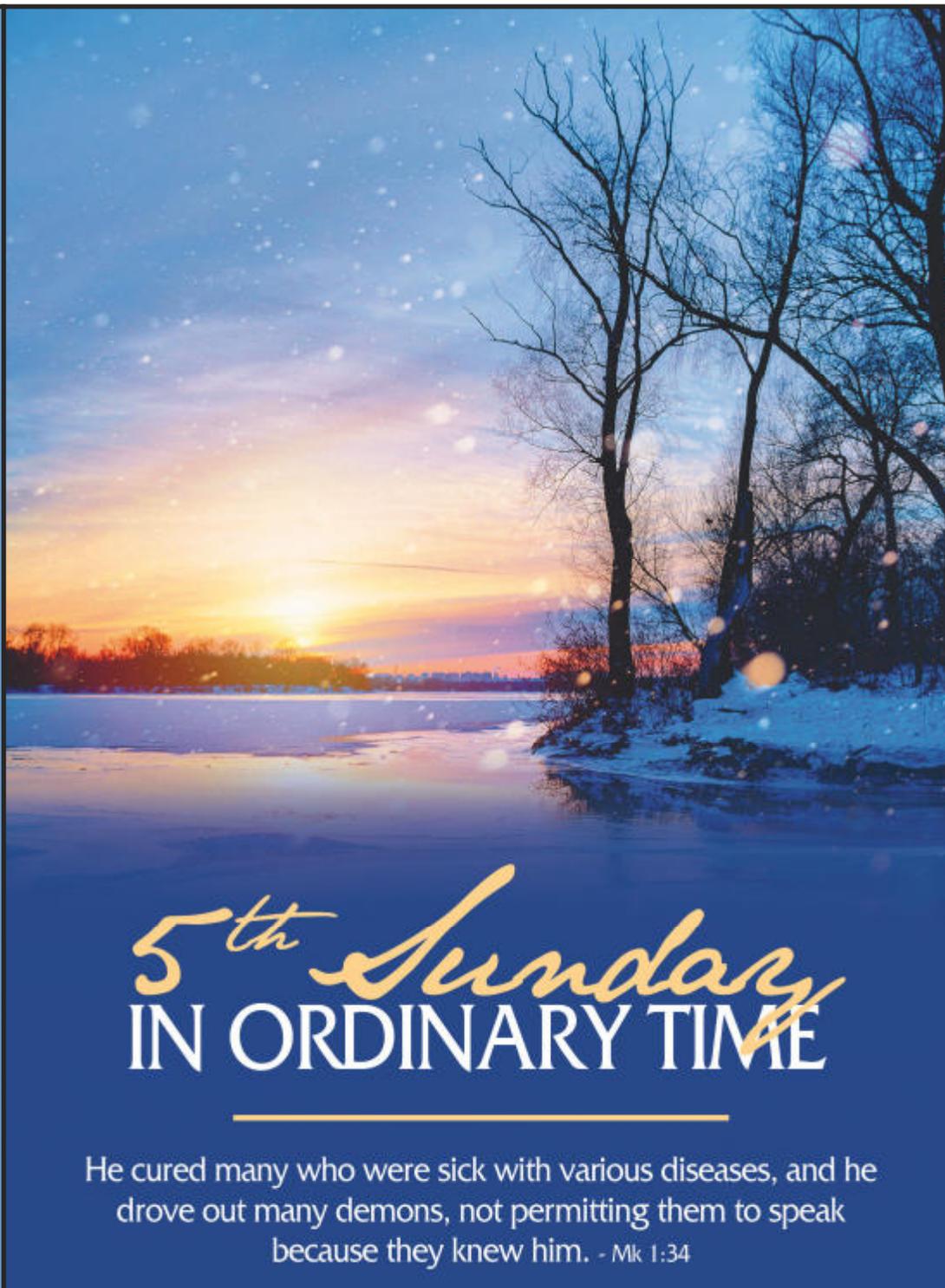


St. Matthew the Apostle Parish

5th Sunday in
Ordinary Time

February 7, 2021

335 Dover Chester Road
Randolph, NJ 07869
Phone (973)584-1101



5th Sunday IN ORDINARY TIME

He cured many who were sick with various diseases, and he drove out many demons, not permitting them to speak because they knew him. - Mk 1:34

Served by

Rev. Brian P. Quinn, Pastor	(Fr.Brian)
Permanent Deacon Edward Keegan	(Deacon.Ed)
Permanent Deacon Richard Brady	(Deacon.Rich)
Permanent Deacon William Ruane	(Deacon.Bill)
Moira A. Dziomba- Dir. of Faith Formation	(Moira.Dziomba)
Carol Lindsey - Faith Formation Assistant	(Carol.Lindsey)
Jim Hill - Youth Group Director	(Jim.Hill)
Kathleen Burke - Music Minister	(Kathy.Burke)
David Southerland - Assoc. Music Minister	(David.Southerland)
MaryAnn Spagnuolo - Office Manager/Secretary	(MaryAnn.Spagnuolo)
Karen Loveys - Office Assistant	(Karen.Loveys)
Greg Schrader - Maintenance & Facilities	
Beth Hart & Charlie Stoia - Trustees	

*All email addresses are (name)[@stmatthewsrandolph.org](mailto:(name)@stmatthewsrandolph.org)

We Invite You to Celebrate

<u>Eucharist:</u>	Saturday - 5:00 pm Sunday - 8:00 am, 9:30 am & 11:00 am
<u>Weekday Mass:</u>	Monday - Friday at 8:00 am
<u>Reconciliation:</u>	Saturday 4:00 pm - 4:30 pm (*or by appointment)
<u>Adoration:</u>	Third Tuesday - 2:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Our Mission

We are a Catholic community seeking out and welcoming all in a spirit of hospitality and empowering people to grow in discipleship in Jesus Christ.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 6 5:00 pm	Perla Garcia Giovanni Lucchesi
Sunday, February 7 8:00 am	Regina Slezak
9:30 am	Bernice Lah
11:00 am	Pete McIntyre
Monday, February 8	Thomas Patrick Murphy
Tuesday, February 9	Richard & Theresa Byrd
Wednesday, February 10	Edward Motyka Grace Scotto
Thursday, February 11	George Alcock
Friday, February 12	Neil Spagnuolo
Saturday, February 13 5:00 pm	Mary Boyd Mary Barry
Sunday, February 14 8:00 am	Frank LoSavio
9:30 am	Weronika Krauze
11:00 am	Mr. & Mrs. James Carroll

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday, February 7, 2021

First Reading: Jb 7:4

I am filled with restlessness until the dawn.

Psalm: Ps 147

Praise the Lord, who heals the brokenhearted. (or Alleluia)

Second Reading: 1 Cor 9:22-23

I have become all things to all, to save at least some. All this I do for the sake of the gospel, so that I too may have a share in it.

Gospel: Mk 1:34

He cured many who were sick with various diseases, and he drove out many demons, not permitting them to speak because they knew him.

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Daily Readings week of Sunday, February 7, 2021

Sunday: Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. 3a]/1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/Mk 1:29-39

Monday: Gn 1:1-19/Ps 104:1-2a, 5-6, 10 and 12, 24 and 35c [31b]/Mk 6:53-56

Tuesday: Gn 1:20—2:4a/Ps 8:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [2ab]/Mk 7:1-13

Wednesday: Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17/Ps 104:1-2a, 27-28, 29bc-30 [1a]/Mk 7:14-23

Thursday: Gn 2:18-25/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5/Mk 7:24-30

Friday: Gn 3:1-8/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7 [1a]/Mk 7:31-37

Saturday: Gn 3:9-24/Ps 90:2,3-4abc, 5-6, 12-13/Mk 8:1-10

Monthly Offerings - December 2020

Envelopes & Loose Cash	\$ 13,339
We Share Online Giving	\$ 22,559
Total	\$ 34,598

July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021

YTD Budget	\$207,498
YTD Offering	\$209,209
YTD Deficit	\$ 1,711

December - Collections

Building & Maintenance Fund	\$ 1,835
Christmas (Budget: \$26,000)	\$ 28,669
Christmas Flowers	\$ 1,520
Retirement Fund for Religious	\$ 4,236

Stewardship of Treasure

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday, February 7, 2021

"Rising very early before dawn, he left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed... He told them, 'Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come.'" ~ Mark; 1:35, 38

In today's Gospel reading we see a perfect example of stewardship. Jesus gives His time to do all that God wishes - healing the sick and preaching. But before He begins, Jesus makes time to be alone with God in prayer. It is through prayer, spending time with God, that we find the strength to do what He wishes us to do. Be sure to find time every day to be with God.



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"The whole town was gathered at the door. He cured many ... and drove out many demons."

Sheepish Question:

Where is God in my concerns? Where am I in his?

In Our Parish

Our Parish Prayers

Please pray for the sick members of our Parish community who have requested our prayers . . .



Dan Bixler, Joan Bruncato, Fran Brooks, Gosia Butryn, Kristin Carr, Gina Ceva, Tim Connors, Rina Conti, Jeremiah Crowley, Nicholas Ferroni, Mary Frattarola, Mark Goebel, Chris Groh, Mary Hanifin, Eugenie Hamilton, Michael Hogan, Toni Kearon, Tom Knight, Erin Lay, Robert Lindsey, John McAndrew, Maeve McKendry, Jack Matthew McKendry, Al Matos, Joyce Peterson, Mona Rai, Sara Rind, Leonard Schmieder, Sam Scotto, Brenna Slate, Lucas Soto, Joseph Sterphone, Robert Stickles, Winifred Swiss, Rick Taikowski, Christopher Torney, & David Whitaker

Please pray for those who have died . . .

Ron Ehrhardt - Uncle of Elaine Backer
Rev. Mr. George Keator - Uncle of Dan Farley
Robert Pacca - Father of Debbie Barmore
Antonio & Jessie Romero - Uncle & Aunt of Rina Conti
Walter Whittaker - Uncle of Patty Mateo
John Zaleski - Father of Kathleen Weiner

Catholic Life Explained

Question: Is it ever Ok to leave Mass before it ends?

Answer: This is an interesting question because beneath the surface there seems to be an assumption that if it is okay, then why do we have to stay after we receive communion? The short answer is "no," but we definitely want to go a bit deeper as we consider why.

When we think about questions like this, we must consider it in adult terms. If there is something gravely important that we need to do, then we must attend to that. If it is a matter of convenience or preference, then we really have to stop and think again. While we always want to recognize the importance of sacramental communion in the Mass, we also need to understand how important the time of thanksgiving and prayer after communion is. It is summarized in the Prayer After Communion offered by the celebrant and then we are also commissioned to "Go forth" during the Dismissal of the Mass, reminding us that we have been entrusted with a gift - the Word of God and the Presence of Christ in the sacrament - and that we are to share that gift with others.

If we simply leave after we receive communion, we risk two things. First, there is the possibility that we will turn our reception of communion into a purely personal, individual experience that is separated from our common experience of worship - and communion in the fullest sense. Secondly, we lose an opportunity for gratitude and serious reflection if we simply leave after communion. The time of thanksgiving, reflection and, ultimately, missioning are important and, in the end, an essential part of the celebration of the Mass.

Gospel Meditation

Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

If I only knew then what I know now, how different life would be. This sentiment, expressed in myriad ways, is found on every human being's lips at one point or another. Life may have brought us to a vulnerable place where we see some of the poor choices we made and the effects they are having. Perhaps we fell into some destructive and dysfunctional relationships or behaviors and are finding how they held us captive. Our zeal and passion for life may have drifted away and we are waking up to the reasons apathy has taken hold. Life can be hard. In fact, some would describe their lives as a drudgery. They walk through each day with an anxious unsettledness, wondering when their restlessness will cease. There is a temptation to believe that what I see is all I will get. Mortality and hopelessness await the dawn. If I could only have known what would come in the future, I could have made better choices and avoided all of this misery!

Really? While we can certainly give into weakness, sin, impulsiveness and idiosyncrasies that cause us to stumble over ourselves, life is really a journey. If we don't make the mistake of wallowing in the mire of self-pity and realize the new life God is calling us to, then there are thrills, adventures, surprises and soul-searching graces we can surely miss. We are not tethered to our past nor are we bound to the ills life can bring upon us. We are never hopeless or helpless. The problem is that our myopic vision only allows us to see the misery and misfortune that is before us, not the potential that can come from choosing healthier and more life-giving options. Jesus came that we might have fullness of life. We need to learn how to reach for Jesus' hand and let him help us to our feet.

We need to allow God into our pain and heal our past. We have to wrestle with our histories, agonize and search and cry out for the Divine healing we need to restore our faith, hope and love. Job could not see how his story would end or trust the guidance of the God who called him. We live in that same blindness and suffer from the same lack of confidence. Once we allow ourselves to be touched by God's healing power, we begin to see that all of the pieces of our lives are necessary parts of a greater whole. Along the way of our lives, God uses our omissions and failures to create new things and possibilities. When doors close, others open and we can be amazed by the joyful and unexpected surprises we receive. Once we know the power of God's creative, healing, life-giving, forgiving and dynamic presence, it is no wonder we want to put ourselves at the service of others and show them what life can be.



In Our Parish

Bridges - Thank you!

Dear St. Matthew's Parish Family,

Thank you to all who participated in the at home service opportunity to help Bridges and Faith Kitchen. We are pleased to tell you that we beat our record number of sandwiches from December which was 258. Yesterday on the Feast of St. Francis de Sales, we organized 638 sandwiches and 152 sustainable lunches complete with juice boxes, water, coconut water, granola bars/snacks, and yogurt/applesauce/fruit cups) ready for delivery! When Debbi Tavares came to pick everything up today there wasn't enough room to take it all and 2 cars were needed. We also have a record number of toiletry items ready to be delivered to Faith Kitchen for their clients.

We are so grateful for all the donations, thank you for your generosity! We are thankful too for the help of our seven teens: Lauren Plaskon, Angelina Guiliano, Kyle Bachrach, Julia Rizzolo, Arabella Mechanick, Jan Hagadorn, and Christina Zach who helped me organize the plethora of food. A giant thank you to these amazing Confirmation candidates for volunteering their time to help the homeless.

As always, we are humbled by your generosity. Thank you all for your kindness. You are a blessing!

Peace and prayers,
Moiria

Support St. Peter's Orphanage

Join our Parish community as we support the young men of St. Peter's Orphanage in Denville. St. Peter's mission is to provide a home-like environment with professionally managed therapeutic care, tailored to each young man's unique needs. The collection is being organized by one of the teens in our Parish.



Donations will be accepted for canned goods, non-perishable food items and safety items such as masks, gloves, wipes and hand sanitizer. Donation boxes will be available in the Gathering space from February 1 - 15. Please be sure to leave items in the labeled containers.

Thank you for your generosity and support!

Stay Connected with St. Matthew's

Join the Flock - sign-up for Flocknote

In recent months, we are reminded of how important it is to have an easy way to communicate with parishioners. Flocknote is a powerful tool and will make communication possible. We are asking that you sign-up for Flocknote so we may communicate directly with you and your family. Be sure to for Fr. Brian's weekly email: *Wisdom and Whimsy, Words from Fr. Brian* and any Parish ministries that you would like to follow. Please visit:

<https://stmatthewsrandolph.flocknote.com>.

If you prefer, you may *Text-to-Join* by sending keyword SMR in the body of the text to 84576.



St. Matthew the Apostle

Office Update

The St. Matthew's Parish office is open daily with office hours on Monday-Thursday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm and on Friday: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm.

Please note that in the interest of staff and building security, the main doors will remain locked. We ask that you kindly use the door labeled *Office* and ring the doorbell. The staff will be happy to welcome to request a Mass card, pray in church, meet with someone, etc.

Virtual Men's Retreat

Called to Courage

A number of men from Parishes in Wayne, Randolph and Sparta have been meeting to create a new journey of faith retreat entitled *Called to Courage*. The retreat will be led by the team under the spiritual direction of Fr. Dan Murphy, a retired Priest of the Paterson Diocese. The team has organized two sessions beginning with a virtual retreat on March 6, 2021 from 9:00 am - 11:00 am. A more in depth in-person overnight retreat will (hopefully) be held on November 6 & 7, 2021 at Villa Pauline Retreat House in Mendham, NJ.

We invite all men to join us for the upcoming virtual retreat focused on our recent challenges due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the role our faith has played to help us cope during this difficult year. The theme of the virtual retreat will be how we have relied on our blessings throughout this period of brokenness. If you are interested, please email Rick Piovano richard.piovano@gmail.com to receive an invite with the registration link.

Online Giving via WeShare

The practice of Christian stewardship via online giving provides the opportunity for planned giving. Online Giving allows for a streamlined administrative process and more accurate budgeting. Please prayerfully consider donating to St. Matthew's via our online system. Please access the WeShare link on the St. Matthew's website under the Support tab. If you are using WeShare, please take a few moments to update your information to ensure that credit card information is up-to-date.



If you have any questions, please contact Fr. Brian or MaryAnn in the Parish office at (973)584-1101. We are happy to assist you.

Do You Receive *The Beacon*?

The Beacon is the newspaper of the Paterson Diocese and is published each Thursday. The paper has a circulation of 26k with 100k readers in the Morris, Passaic and Sussex Counties - reaching 40% of Catholics in the areas!

The annual subscription fee for *The Beacon* is \$29.50. Your support in offsetting this cost to the Parish is appreciated. A check made payable to St. Matthew the Apostle Parish may be mailed to the Parish office, left in the gold Parish mailbox or dropped in the weekly collection. Please note *Beacon subscription* in the memo line.

In Our Parish

A Tranquil Soul

Brené Brown's 2010 book, "The Gifts of Imperfection" introduces a term that I love: *gremlins*. I previously knew that word as the title of the 1984 film with Howie Mandel. Brown refers to negative self-talk as "gremlins." Self-talk is that interior conversation that we have, either positive or negative. It governs our moods, attitudes, and worldview.

In the spiritual life, there's a similar concept. The Christian East calls it λογίζομαι (*logizomai*) which roughly means thoughts. The *logizomai* (or thoughts) of the spiritual life are akin to gremlins or negative self-talk in the psychological sphere. In Christian spirituality, the goal is Christ and becoming more like him. The *logizomai* can get in the way, just as the gremlins of negative self-talk can get in the way of psychological health. The nagging quality of these *logizomai* might be described as temptations, yet today's Gospel calls these plaguing thoughts 'unclean spirits.' We all have them; they come in varied ways and intensities, affecting our lives in small and in big ways. St. Paul wants us to be free of these anxiety-producing thoughts that disrupt the peace and quietude our souls so desperately need. St. Paul isn't saying that the demands of responsible living are detrimental to spiritual life. He is saying that the presence of these tempting *logizomai* are the beginning of sin taking root in our soul, influencing our attitudes and moving us away from the image of Christ in our soul.

These pesky unclean spirits know the power of Christ, even though we may not; they lose their stronghold when we call on the name of Jesus, just like darkness immediately disappears when I turn on the light as I enter a room. In the spiritual realm, the unclean spirits are there only because I have knowingly, or unknowingly, given them permission to be there. I have the power to evict them! Calling on Jesus' name is not like some magical incantation or spell that we wield over dark forces. The Catechism describes it this way: "The invocation of the holy name of Jesus is the simplest way of praying always. When the holy name is repeated often by a humbly attentive heart, the prayer is not lost by heaping up empty phrases, but holds fast to the word and "brings forth fruit with patience."

Those who struggle in battle ought to keep their souls free of the waves of distraction. If they do, the mind is able to distinguish among the thoughts that come to it. The good thoughts, sent by God, they can store in the treasure-house of their memory. The evil thoughts, sent by the devil, they can throw out. In the same way, when the sea is calm, the fisherman can see to the bottom and practically no fish can escape his gaze; but if stirred up by wind and storm, it becomes opaque. When that happens, even the wiliest fisherman is wasting his time.

The tranquil soul is one free of the anxieties described by St. Paul. The tranquility of the soul is not a cheap quality; it must be earned through disciplines of prayer, fasting, and repentance. It is what we can do; it is Jesus who returns us to our right minds because ours was transformed and renewed by the power of Jesus' name. Imagine what life could be like if we continually operated out of a tranquil soul rather than an anxious one!

Copied/edited from Br. John-Marmion Villa

Kids Korner



COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



PUZZLE

Find the matching shadows.



In Our Parish

Celebrate the Sacraments

Baptism: Baptism is celebrated on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month after the 11:00 am Mass and on the 4th Sunday during the 11:00 am Mass. Please call the Parish office at least two months in advance to make arrangements.

First Reconciliation & First Communion: Our Faith Formation Program begins with Grade 1. First reconciliation and First Communion is a 2-year program. Please call the Faith Formation office to register your child.

Confirmation: Confirmation is a 2-year program beginning in 9th grade. Students will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in the spring of their 10th grade year.

Matrimony: Couples are asked to contact the Parish at least one year in advance.

Anointing of the Sick: Please call the Parish office at anytime for Communion calls or visitation of the sick or elderly. Holy Communion may be brought to the home of any person who is temporarily or permanently homebound.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA): RCIA prepares adolescents and adults for Baptism and full Communion into the Catholic Church. Please call the Parish office for information

New Parish Registration

St. Matthew's invites everyone to participate in our spiritual, educational and social life. Please complete a registration form and join our Parish family! Forms may be found on the Parish website, in the Gathering Space or you may contact the Parish office and we will mail/email the registration form to you. Registration is required for Religious Education Programs and for the reception of all Sacraments. **Only active, registered members of the Parish may receive sponsor forms for Baptism or Confirmation.** If you need a sponsor form, please contact the office and we will be happy to assist you.

Updating Parishioner Registration

Registered Parishioners: Do you have a new email address? mailing address? phone number? Please be sure to contact the Parish office with any changes to your contact information. It will allow us to continue to provide Parish and community news and updates in a timely manner. Do you have an adult child who no longer lives at home? It is important for young adults to establish their own registration. Please contact MaryAnn Spagnuolo in the Parish office with any questions (973) 584-1101, ext. 205.

Homebound or Hospitalized

If you have friend or loved one who is homebound or hospitalized and would like a visit and the opportunity to receive Holy Communion, please contact the Parish Office (973) 584-1101. Thank you for helping us support those in our Parish Community.



Parish Ministries & Contact Information

Altar Servers	Deacon Ed Keegan	(973) 927-1146
Bible Study	Suzanne Johnson	(973) 361-1028
Bridges	Debbi Tavares	(973) 895-8874
Church Environment	Tom & PeggyAnn Meola	(973) 895-4437
Cornerstone - Women	Joanne Morrone	(973) 229-4915
Eucharistic Adoration	Tom & PeggyAnn Meola	(973) 895-4437
Eucharistic Ministers	Andy & Doreen Guzo	(973) 451-0814
Faith Kitchen	Andy & Doreen Guzo	(973) 451-0814
Finance Council	John Potter	(973) 543-5757
Food Pantry	Deacon Bill Ruane	(201) 787-0029
Fundraising	Bob Sciarello	(973) 584-3983
Funeral Ministry	Parish Office	(973) 584-1101
Greeters	Darcy Ronchi	(973) 328-4573
Healthy Bones	Shirley Kraft	(973) 252-7393
Interfaith Furnishings	Mary Jo Welch	(973) 361-1666
Lectors	Ro Peach	(973) 584-1041
Liturgy	Fr. Brian Quinn	(973) 584-1101
Marriage Preparation	Deacon Ed & Sandie Keegan	(973) 927-1146
Marthas & Marys	Beth McNeilly	(973) 989-7547
Matthew's Men	Bill Ruane	(201) 787-0029
Meals on Wheels	Gene Cottrell	(973) 722-7733
Music Ministry	Kathy Burke	(973) 610-5654
Parish Leadership Team	Deacon Bill Ruane	(201) 787-0029
Prayer Chain	Debbi Tavares	(973) 895-8874
Prayer Shawl	Chris Groh	(973) 328-3203
RCIA	Deacon Ed Keegan	(973) 927-1146
Shopper's Club	Winifred Swiss	(973) 960-6005
Ushers	Parish Office	(973) 584-1101
Women of Faith	Moira Dziomba	(973) 584-1101
Youth Group	Jim Hill	(973) 584-1101
Youth Protection (Virtus) Coordinator	Karen Loveys	(973) 584-1101

St. Matthew the Apostle Parish

335 Dover Chester Road
 Randolph, NJ 07869
 Phone: (973) 584-1101
 Fax: (973) 584-0499

Website: www.stmatthewsrandolph.org
 Facebook: @SaintMatthewsRandolph
 Flocknote: stmatthewsrandolph.flocknote.com

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
 Friday: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

In & Around Town

St. Paul Inside the Walls

Sign up and join us!

Foundations of Catholic Thought: Join us on **Saturday, February 6** from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm for a virtual event, *Foundations of Catholic Thought: Hermeneutics (The Art of Biblical Interpretation)*. The event is hosted by Fr. Paul Manning and Brian Honsberger. To register, please visit: <https://insidethewalls.org/catholic-thought>

Men's Evening of Lenten Recollection: With a Father's Heart: An Evening of Reflection on St. Joseph is an opportunity for men from around the diocese to enter deeper into Lent. Join us on **Friday, February 26**, from 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm as we grow in faith, journey closer to God, and strengthen our family bonds. *Conditions at the time of the event will determine if it's to be live or virtual.* If live, the night will include a Lenten meal of delicious bread and hearty soup. To register online, please visit: <https://insidethewalls.org/lentenreflection>.

Being Single, Being Faithful: Whether single by choice or by circumstance - never married, widowed, divorced, or separated - we must live every "single" day to the fullest. We can find fulfillment in Christ and His Church by embracing the opportunities for spiritual growth, meaningful service and a sense of community. The next meeting is **Saturday, February 27**. Please sign-up online: <https://insidethewalls.org/being-single-being-faithful-35>.

St. Paul Inside the Walls

Redeeming Love: A Catholic Understanding & Approach to Questions about Identity, Sexuality and Gender In today's society, questions about identity abound, especially in the areas of sexuality and gender. Our young people are barraged with messages not so subtly suggesting how they should understand themselves and their feelings. What does Catholic teaching have to offer on these sensitive and critically important questions, and how can we share this with the young people we serve? Find out on **Saturday, April 17**.

This is part of the Diocesan Catechetical and Parish Leadership Conference, with renowned speaker **Damon Owens**. All are welcome to learn about this relevant and important topic of today. *Conditions permitting, this will be an in-person event; if not, it will be a virtual conference and those who register will be sent a link to access it.* To learn about our speaker and for more information on the conference, please visit: <https://insidethewalls.org/2021cc>.

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