Mission Statement

St. Matthias Parish is committed to becoming a prayerful community by celebrating the Sacraments together, and supporting the parish and one another by sharing the time, talents and treasures God has given us. Through prayer and good works we will strive to grow in peace and unity with God and our community.
Pope Francis, Rome, Saint John Lateran, 25 April 2020
“...The month of May is, a time when the People of God express with particular intensity their love and devotion for the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is traditional in this month to pray the Rosary at home within the family. The restrictions of the pandemic have made us come to appreciate all the more this “family” aspect, also from a spiritual point of view. For this reason, I want to encourage everyone to rediscover the beauty of praying the Rosary at home in the month of May. This can be done either as a group or individually; you can decide according to your own situations, making the most of both opportunities. The key to doing this is always simplicity,... I am also providing two prayers to Our Lady that you can recite at the end of the Rosary, and that I myself will pray in the month of May, in spiritual union with all of you. I include them with this letter so that they are available to everyone. Dear brothers and sisters, contemplating the face of Christ with the heart of Mary our Mother will make us even more united as a spiritual family and will help us overcome this time of trial. I keep all of you in my prayers, especially those suffering most greatly, and I ask you, please, to pray for me.
I thank you, and with great affection I send you my blessing.

O, Mary, You shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who, at the foot of the cross,
were united with Jesus’ suffering, and persevered in your faith.

“Protector of the Roman people”, you know our needs, and we know that you will provide, so that,
as at Cana in Galilee, joy and celebration may return after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the will of the Father and to do what Jesus tells us.
For he took upon himself our suffering, and burdened himself with our sorrows to bring us,
through the cross, to the joy of the Resurrection.
We fly to your protection, O Holy Mother of God; Do not despise our petitions in our necessities, but deliver us always from every danger, O Glorious and Blessed Virgin. Amen.


In the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius, we reflect on the three questions:
“What have I done for Christ? What am I doing for Christ? What ought I do for Christ?”
Past. Present. Future As I write this, the coronavirus pandemic is reaching its peak in the United States. The present is full of uncertainty and anxiety. The past (the way things used to be) is becoming a distant memory. Our future is described as the “new normal.” We can only imagine what that future “new normal” will be like. As Christians, we have a duty to bring Christ into this future “new normal.” As Christians, this duty begins now with service to one another, washing our hands and each other’s feet. As Christians, we recall the graces of the past so we can bring them into the future. source John Shea, S.J., Creighton online ministries

Joyous Mother’s Day to all mothers! To the Moms who are struggling, to those filled with incandescent joy.
To the Moms who are remembering children who have died, and pregnancies that miscarried. To the Moms who decided other parents were the best choice for their babies, to the Moms who adopted those kids and loved them fierce. To those experiencing frustration or desperation in fertility. To those who knew they never wanted kids, and the ways they have contributed to our shared world. To those who mothered colleagues, mentees, neighborhood kids, and anyone who needed it. To those remembering Moms no longer with us. To those moving forward from Moms who did not show love, or hurt those they should have cared for. Today is a day to honor the unyielding love and care for others we call ‘Motherhood,’ wherever we have found it and in whatever ways we have found to cultivate it within ourselves. source Hannah Kardon, Pastor, Elston Avenue United Methodist Church

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**SUNDAY’S READINGS**

**FIRST READING:**
The word of God continued to spread, and the number of the disciples in Jerusalem increased greatly. (Acts 6:7a)

**PSALM:**
Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you. (Ps 33) or Alleluia

**SECOND READING:**
You are “a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people of his own, so that you may announce the praises” of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. (1 Pt 2:9)

**GOSPEL:**
Jesus said to him,
“i am the way and the truth and the life.
No one comes to the Father except through me.” (Jn 14:6)

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**OF OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 10, 2020**

- **Sunday:** 5th Sunday of Easter; Mother’s Day
- **Tuesday:** Sts. Nereus and Achilleus, Martyrs; St. Pancreas, Martyr
- **Wednesday:** Our Lady of Fatima
- **Thursday:** St. Matthias, Apostle
- **Friday:** St. Isidore
- **Saturday:** Armed Forces Day
- **Next Sunday:** 6th Sunday of Easter

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**REFLECT**

**FIRST READING**
In today’s reading, Luke offers an example of the cultural tensions that existed in the early Church between the Hellenists (Gentiles) and the Hebrews (Jews). The resolution resided in offering service to the other. Why do you think service can be a key to resolving community conflict?

**SECOND READING**
Peter emphasizes the importance of faith in Christ for building a strong spiritual house. How has the gift of faith strengthened your home?

**GOSPEL READING**
In his farewell discourse, Jesus encourages the disciples, “Whoever has seen me has seen the Father.” What inspires you in times of spiritual doubt?
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