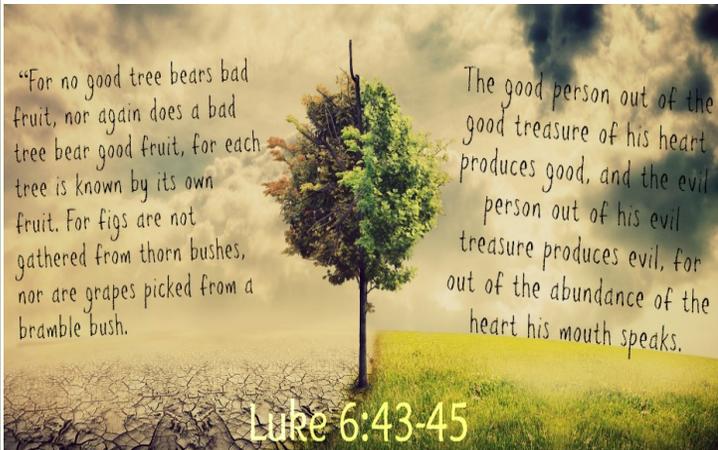


Saint Matthias Parish

409 Hemenway Street
Marlborough, MA 01752

Phone: 508-460-9255

Fax: 508-480-8801



Parish Leadership

Francis P. O'Brien, Pastor

frobrien@stmattpar.org

Doug Peltak, Deacon

dcnpeltak@stmattpar.org

Paul G. Coletti, Deacon

dcncoletti@stmattpar.org

Theresa Salafia, Faith Formation Director

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Judy McManus, Director of Music Ministries Emeritus

jmsweetums@aol.com

Joyce Belliveau, Choir Director

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Diane Balinski, Office Manager

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April Lowe, Communications Administrator/Receptionist

alowe@stmattpar.org

Darleen Doona, Bookkeeper

ddoona@stmattpar.org

James Cannava, Maintenance

Joe Grimaldo, Co-Chair, Finance Council

Paul G. Coletti, Co-Chair, Finance Council

St. Vincent dePaul Society tel. no. 978-493-3037

Celebrations of the Eucharist

The Lord's Day

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 10:00 a.m.

Liturgy of the Word for Children

Liturgy of the Word for Children is Celebrated at the 10:00 a.m. Mass on the 1st Sunday of the month (October through April)

Weekday

Monday, Tuesday, and Friday: 9:00 a.m.

Holy Day

9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

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 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 found at the church entrances or register at the parish office. We look forward to welcoming you to our parish community.

St. Matthias Parish

INTENTIONS OF THE EUCHARIST

Saturday, March 2 — 4:00 p.m.

Susan DiAngelo — Memorial

Sunday, March 3 — 10:00 a.m.

Howard Zerella — 9th Anniversary Memorial

Gloria Zerella Mason — Memorial

Saturday, March 9 — 4:00 p.m.

Janice Hetzel — Memorial

Sunday, March 10 — 10:00 a.m.

Peter Chase — 11th Anniversary Memorial

Ash Wednesday Masses

Wednesday, March 6

Church, 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.



To begin our Lenten journey, St. Matthias Parish will hold the Celebration of the Eucharist with the distribution of ashes during two masses on March 6, 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Weekday Masses for the Week of March 3

Monday and Tuesday

9:00 a.m. in the

Downstairs Conference Room Chapel

There will be no weekday Mass
on Friday, March 8.

For the most recent updates, please check
the website and voice message



Office Hours for the Week of March 3

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday

9:00 a.m. — 3:00 p.m.

Wednesday

9:00 a.m. — 12:00 p.m.



CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST WORSHIP BOOKLET

The Worship Aid for Ordinary Time can be found in the pews. This booklet contains Mass responses as well as our musical selections. Lift your voices in celebration.

After use, please return the booklet to the book rack located in the pew.
Thank You.

THIS WEEK AT ST. MATTHIAS

Saturday, March 2

- **Celebration of the Eucharist**
Church, 4:00 p.m.
- **CORI Processing**
Flower Resource Room, following Mass
- **St. Patrick's Day Dinner Ticket Sales**
Entrances to Church, following Mass

Sunday, March 3

- **Faith Formation Grades 1 through 5**
Parish Hall / Classrooms, 8:30 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.
- **Celebration of the Eucharist with Liturgy of the Word for Children**
Church, 10:00 a.m.
- **Burning of the Palms (Weather Permitting)**
Outside in the Front of the Church, following Mass
- **Coffee Social (Mardi Gras Brunch)**
Parish Hall, following Mass

- **CORI Processing**
Outside of the Parish Hall, following Mass
- **St. Patrick's Day Dinner Ticket Sales**
Entrances to Church, following Mass
- **St. Vincent dePaul Society Meeting**
Downstairs Conference Room, 11:15 a.m.
- **Faith Formation Grades 6 through 8**
Parish Hall, 6:00 to 7:15 p.m.

Monday, March 4

- **St. Vincent dePaul Society Information Meeting**
Downstairs Conference Room, 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 6

- **Ash Wednesday Mass**
Church, 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
- **Rosary Recitation**
Church, 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, March 7

- **Choir Rehearsal**
Church, 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 9

- **Celebration of the Eucharist**
Church, 4:00 p.m.
- **Marlborough Community Cupboard Collection**
Bins at the entrances of the church
- **CORI Processing**
Flower Resource Room, following Mass

Sunday, March 10

- **Faith Formation Grades 1 through 5**
Parish Hall / Classrooms, 8:30 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.
- **Celebration of the Eucharist**
Church, 10:00 a.m.
- **Coffee Social**
Parish Hall, following Mass
- **Marlborough Community Cupboard Collection**
Bins at the entrances of the church
- **CORI Processing**
Outside of the Parish Hall, following Mass
- **Faith Formation Grades 6 through 8**
Parish Hall, 6:00 to 7:15 p.m.

FROM FR. FRAN

Much has been written about the recent Vatican summit in which the leaders of bishops' conferences throughout the world gathered at the invitation of Pope Francis to discuss the abuse crisis in the church. From all reports, the four day conference was an honest and forthright attempt to begin dealing with the crisis on a global basis.

It became clear as the conference began that bishops in many parts of the world believed that the sexual abuse of minors was a "western" problem and that it didn't, for the most part, touch countries outside of Europe, the Americas and Australia. However, as the summit proceeded, it was acknowledged through powerful talks, and the presence of abuse victims demonstrating throughout the city of Rome, that the crisis is worldwide and that those bishops who think abuse is not occurring in their home countries need to wake up.

For us as Americans, this world wide wake-up call seems a bit late. We have been struggling with the reality of clerical abuse, along with cover-ups, and poor treatment of victims for decades now. The bishops of the United States are to be commended for putting into place concrete measures for dealing with abusive priests, deacons and lay ministers. These measures, as spelled out in the Dallas Charter, are working extremely well. Perhaps it's because we have already made these important advances in the US that some in the American Church have concluded that the recent summit did very little to move the universal Church forward. There was the hope that the summit would produce concrete guidelines for dealing with cases of abuse. And that could very well be coming in the near future.

From my perspective, the summit was a success in that it achieved the *acknowledgement* that abuse is a worldwide phenomenon that touches every part of the Catholic Church. And something must be done about it. Here's why I think that this is a major step forward.

Each culture tends to see the world through its own laws, structures, and customs. Looking through our uniquely American lens, we acknowledge that, while we still have far to go, our country has advanced greatly in many areas of social justice and equality in the last half century. The roles and rights of women, minorities, and

children are front and center in our society. This is not true in many other parts of the world. That's why, in some cultures, just the *acknowledgement* of abuse by priests is an incredible step forward. We know how much we in the United States were shaken in 2002 when the revelations came to light. Imagine how this plays out in repressive, patriarchal societies.

Another issue discussed at length during the summit concerned the role of bishops and cardinals in dealing with cases of abuse. This is one of the key areas yet to be addressed systematically both here in the United States and worldwide. There seems to have been a consensus at the summit that bishops who covered up abuse or handled cases poorly must be held accountable for their actions. While that might seem like a no brainer to us, that sends shock waves through the hierarchy.

You may remember that at their meeting in November, the US bishops were planning to develop and adopt rules of accountability for bishops and cardinals in this country, but were stopped from doing so by the Vatican. That was in light of the worldwide discussion just completed. Apparently the US Church was ahead of the game. Now, with the universal church acknowledging the need for accountability, the president of the US Bishops' Conference, Cardinal DiNardo, is on the record as saying that, following the discussions at the summit, the US bishops will resume developing policies ASAP.

Through all of this, the day to day work of the Church continues. I think it's good to remember that our faith is in Christ, not in fallible human beings. The great irony of the abuse crisis is of course that the fallible human beings who govern the Church, in an attempt to avoid scandal, caused greater scandal by the way in which they dealt with abusive priests and their victims.

As Lent approaches, perhaps we can keep the victims of clergy and all other forms of abuse in our prayers in a special way. As Lent is a time of new beginnings let us pray that those abused may be able to heal a bit more during this season. Let us also pray for the leaders of our Church, that they may take this season as a time to lift the Church out of this crisis through honest dialogue and concrete action.

PARISH FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Financials for February 23 and 24
Weekly Goal \$4,000.00

Offertory Collection	\$3,012.05
A deficit of \$987.95 from the weekly goal.	
Of that amount WeShare donations	\$392.55
Support of the Church around the World	\$ 827.00
Of that amount WeShare donations	\$ 45.00
Parishioners celebrating Mass	320

Special Collections for March

Catholic Charities	March 6 (Ash Wednesday)
Parish Maintenance	March 9 and 10
Parochial Schools Collection	March 23 and 24



March 3, 2019

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation meetings will meet on **Sunday, March 3** as follows.

Grades 1 to 5 8:30 – 9:45 a.m.
Grades 6 to 8 6:00 – 7:15 p.m.

To extend community service, during the next few meetings the children will make placemats, provide baked goods and bread for guests of *Our Father's Table* on **March 12**.

Sunday, March 10 the Rite of Sending for our catechumen, **Cassandra Arno**, will take place during 10:00a.m. Mass. Cassandra is preparing to receive the sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation during the Easter Vigil. Following Mass Cassandra will travel to Immaculate Conception Church, Malden to participate in the Rite of Election lead by Cardinal Sean O'Malley. Cassandra will join hundreds of other catechumens throughout the Archdiocese. This part of the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) is held on the First Sunday of Lent throughout the world. **Please keep Cassandra and her catechist team in your prayers.**

Grades 1 through 5 and 6 through 8 will meet at regularly scheduled times on Sunday, March 10 and all Faith Formation classes will meet on Sunday, March 17 at regularly scheduled times.



CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES (CRS) RICE BOWL

Join our parish community and more than 14,000 Catholic communities across the United States in a life-changing Lenten journey of encounter with CRS Rice Bowl. CRS Rice Bowls are available at the church entrances beginning Ash Wednesday. During the 40 days of Lent, as companions on the journey, we will encounter our brothers and sisters around the world. *Lord may we love as one human family.*

PRAY FOR THE HEALING OF THE SICK



Please Pray For...

Richard Abraham, Conor Canavan, Carol Chatalian, Joseph Cox, Adelbert Cyr, The Del Raso Family, Rita Dennison, W. Joseph Doyle, Kent Dudley, Stella Fettig, David Giugno, Hannah Gluck, Thomas Gluck, Russ Hokanson, Emma Johnston, Fr. Mike MacEwen, Dave Mackenzie, Kay McNeill, Mike Mauro, Maura McGuinness, Judy McManus, Michael Messom, Betty Montgomery, Theresa Morrill, Deborah Natoli, Jennifer Natoli, Johnny Pellrine, Jean Peltak, Andy Rivers, Joan Russo, Kathleen Shine, Andrew Tivnan, Pedro Torres, Trunfio Family, Ronald Vaudreuil, Phil Verdino and Jenny Weibel

Please let the office know if you would like our parish to pray for the health and support of your loved ones.

CORI (CRIMINAL OFFENDER RECORD INFORMATION) PROCESSING

The Boston Archdiocese requires that all clergy, and all parish staff (full and part-time) together with all volunteers (18 years of age and older) who minister to or have the potential for unmonitored access to children, youth, elderly or the disabled undergo an annual CORI check each year.

We will be processing CORI forms this weekend and next weekend (March 2-3 and 9-10). When handing in your form, please have a government issued form of ID, such as a driver's license, available for a CORI coordinator to view. **A new form must be completed even if you have already filled out a form for a school or other organization this year.** We will also collect the acknowledgement forms for the Code of Ministerial Behavior for the Archdiocese of Boston at this time as well. Please bring both forms with you for processing. If you have any questions please contact Diane Balinski at dbalinski@comcast.net.

CATHOLIC APPEAL 2019 LIVING OUR FAITH TOGETHER

In the Gospel today, Jesus reminds us that we are known by the fruits of our generosity. In opening the doors of our hearts to this season of Lent, may we consider supporting those who turn to the Church for assistance, through life-changing ministries such as Addiction Recovery Services or the Faith Community Nursing program. **Your gift to the 2019 Catholic Appeal provides half of the funding for many important programs that enrich parish life, our Catholic schools, and the lives of many. Every gift has an immediate impact in our parish communities.** Please find more information about this life-changing work in the envelope in your pew or visit the Boston Catholic Appeal website at bostoncatholicappeal.org to view our latest video about the Appeal.

Thank you!

2019 GRAND ANNUAL COLLECTION

As the Grand Annual continues, thank you for helping to make our Parish financially stable by achieving our annual goal.

Our numbers to date:

Grand Annual Goal	\$80,000
Total Pledged	\$42,665
Total Received	\$36,035
Total to Reach Goal	\$37,335
Number of Families Pledged	84

To make your pledge or contribution, envelopes are located at the church entrance. You may also visit our website to give on-line through our WeShare program. Thank you for your monetary donation and more importantly, your prayers for our parish community.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Tuesday, March 12

OUR FATHER'S TABLE

New Hope Church, 204 Main St. 4:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 16

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY

Parish Hall following 5:00 p.m. Mass

(tickets on sale the weekends of

March 2-3 and 9-10)



Friday, March 22

PARISH LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE &

FIRST RECONCILIATION — GRADE 2

Church 7:00 p.m.

**RECITATION OF THE ROSARY DURING LENT
WEDNESDAY EVENINGS AT 6:00 P.M.**



During the Season of Lent all are welcome to join each Wednesday evening beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Church for the *Recitation of the Rosary*.

Society of St. Vincent DePaul

Information Meeting

Monday, March 4 — 7:00 p.m.



Would you like to increase your spirituality, develop some great friendships and help those in need? The Mission Statement of the St. Vincent de Paul Society is as follows: A network of friends inspired by Gospel values, growing in holiness and building a more just world through personal relationships and service to people in need.

St. Matthias' St. Vincent de Paul conference will be hosting an informational meeting on **Monday, March 4, 2019 at 7 p.m. in the downstairs conference room**. We invite you to attend this meeting to learn more about our conference and decide if it would be a good fit for you.

If you are interested in learning more, but are unable to attend this meeting, please email Dale or Sue daledolesh@gmail.com.

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Readings for the First Sunday of Lent

March 9 and March 10

Deuteronomy 26:4-10; Romans 10:8-13; Luke 4:1-13