

☞ **Mass Schedule to Change for Summer >**  
**11:30 AM Mass to be canceled effective**  
**Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup>**

Over the past several weeks I have spoken to our parishioners at all of the various Mass times. The message I have been trying to quickly share with everyone is simple and relates to the number of priests available for weekend assistance. Father Connor, who assists us on weekends, is now gone until September when he'll return to resume classes at the Pope John Paul II Institute. Father Stan, who will return from an extended vacation sometime late next week, will continue to be available to us on a limited basis, but for how long is unknown. Eventually Father Stan will return to his community in Nigeria to teach in the seminary. Your pastor has not been able to take any vacation time in nearly four years! Four years have passed without so much as an extended weekend off. The reasons for this are varied, but the result the same...an increasing feeling of exhaustion and weariness. At the present time, there are few options available to us to be of any sustainable or real help. We will not be receiving a resident priest or associate pastor to my knowledge, and there are at least twenty parishes in our Archdiocese facing similar circumstances. There simply are not enough priests available to cover parishes even for a few weeks while the pastor gets away.

While I feel this growing reality needs to be addressed on a larger archdiocesan scale in order to create some viable long term solutions, there is nothing currently being undertaken, to my knowledge, that tackles this phenomenon. After soliciting opinions from many and varied representatives of the parish and after some prayerful thought and reflection, I have decided to change the weekend Mass schedule, reducing it by one Mass. **The 11:30 AM Mass will be temporarily canceled effective Sunday June 21<sup>st</sup> through and inclusive of Labor Day weekend (Sunday, September 6th).** I regret having to take this action, but there is ample seating at the 5:00 PM Saturday vigil Mass and at the 8:00 AM and 9:30 AM Sunday Masses to accommodate the typical summer weekend Mass attendance. This is a short term solution to lighten the burden a bit, but eventually we may have to make some more permanent changes that reflect the reality of this being a one priest parish.

So many parishioners have approached me in the days since I first began to float this possibility publicly. I am most heartened by the vast majority who have said you appreciated the parish predicament and you would back me one hundred percent in whatever needed to be done in order to assist me with this situation. Thank you! That gesture of support means more than you can know! I do apologize for any inconvenience that this may cause. In the eight years I have served as your pastor I have been continually uplifted by the spirit of this community of faith and of your genuine care and concern for the health and well-being of your priests. I had vacationed on Cape Cod nearly every summer since my ordination, and I miss my days there tremendously and pray that one day I'll be able to return. Returning remains questionable at best until I can find a priest willing to take charge of the parish for a few weeks time and equally so trust this priest with the spiritual well-being of our people and the temporal care of our facilities. For now let us continue to pray that the good Lord watch over us and inspire us as we prepare to celebrate our Golden Jubilee year in 2010.



**Stewardship Report:**  
Revenue



<b>May 24<sup>th</sup>:</b>	<b>7,364.46</b>
<b>Faith Direct:</b>	<b>1,565.00</b>
<b>Total Offertory:</b>	<b>8,929.46</b>
<b>Last Year:</b>	<b>9,602.39</b>
<b>Ascension:</b>	<b>1,095.00</b>
<b>Poor Box:</b>	<b>147.00</b>
<b>Every Penny Counts Box:</b>	<b>170.44</b>

Number of Adult Envelopes: 226  
 Number of Children's Envelopes: 8  
 Number of Faith Direct donors: 45  
 Number of Registered Households: 668

<b>May 31<sup>st</sup>:</b>	<b>8,559.55</b>
<b>Faith Direct:</b>	<b>1,565.00</b>
<b>Total Offertory:</b>	<b>10,124.55</b>
<b>Last Year:</b>	<b>9,956.87</b>
<b>Poor Box:</b>	<b>246.00</b>
<b>Every Penny Counts Box:</b>	<b>117.10</b>

Number of Adult Envelopes: 187  
 Number of Children's Envelopes: 8  
 Number of Faith Direct donors: 45  
 Number of Registered Households: 668



- **Building Maintenance:** Our **second** collection **this** weekend is for our regular **Building and Maintenance Fund**. This monthly collection enables us to make ongoing repairs, upkeep, improvements to our parish and school buildings as well as our parish grounds. May we suggest a minimum contribution of \$20 per household. As always we thank you for your continuing generosity.
- **Summer Stewardship:** Please remember that your parish counts on your weekly sacrifice of treasure, joyfully given to the Lord in gratitude, and that treasure is needed even when you're away from us on vacation. Please remember to mail your offertory envelope to the rectory before you go away on a well-deserved holiday or drop it in the collection basket the week before you leave. Thank you for being a faithful steward!
- **Support our Patrons:** Each week we are able to produce and publish our parish bulletin through the generosity of the advertisers you see listed on the back cover. Many of these advertisers are fellow parishioners and local businesses in our community. Please patronize them when you are in need of their particular services. Remember to mention that you saw their advertisement in our bulletin. Thank them for making your weekly parish news source a reality!
- **A Stewardship Moment:** In today's Gospel and reading from the letter of St. Paul, we hear of the gift of the Triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. In our devotional life we make the sign of the cross and recite the "Glory Be" as an expression of our faith as a Trinitarian people. But what does it mean for Christian stewards to accept in a practical way the experience of God in this three-fold gift? Is it a call to share our own life in community, with compassion and love, and to work for healing, justice, peace and unity? Is it an invitation to invite others into fellowship with us in the unity of the Father, Son and Spirit?

## SOLEMNITY ~ THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

### Faith Formation

**Faith Formation:** Classes have ended for the 2008-2009 academic year. Please check your mail next month for the registration forms for the 2009-2010 academic year. The fees remain the same, however, late fees still apply. You will find details in the letter to be sent home. *Let's plan ahead...classes for the fall semester will begin on Monday, September 14, 2009.*

**Baptism:** The next scheduled Baptism seminar will be held in September if any families call ahead of time. Remember, these classes are not held automatically. They are held only when inquiries are made and parishioner requirements have been duly met.

### Other Items of Note

**Ever Think About Being an Altar Server?** St. Matthias is holding an "Introductory Orientation" for altar serving for students starting in 4<sup>th</sup> Grade (as of this Fall) through adults of any age, on Tuesday, June 9, 2009, from 7 to 8 p.m. in the church. No experience necessary. Come out and see what it's all about. If you plan to attend, please call or email either Cynthia Faust 202-320-2174 [cfaust@atelierarchitects.com](mailto:cfaust@atelierarchitects.com) or Martin Kwapinski 301-459-4508 [martin.kwapinski@gsa.gov](mailto:martin.kwapinski@gsa.gov)

**St. Matthias School** is overstocked with upholstered banquet/dining chairs. If you would like to purchase chairs, they are \$10 each. Please inquire at the school office to view a sample and arrange for pick up. For further information, please call 301-577-9412.

**Position Open:** We are in need of a school nurse for the 2009-10 school year. Please contact Mrs. Wilson at 301-577-9412.

**Thank You:** Carmen would like to thank Rosemary Ferrara, Kitty Hamby, Mary Hoke and Pat Makowski for all of their help in covering the Rectory Office while she was away last week. It was appreciated so much by all!

**Take Pride in Your Parish!** Many parishioners are commenting how beautiful our grounds are looking with our flowerbeds, statues, manicured lawns, and neat appearance overall! Help us keep St. Matthias a beautiful place. When you see trash and debris, please pick it up and place it in a trash can. Don't be afraid to pull up a weed if you spot one, and as you leave church, help the ushers place kneelers in an upright position, remove papers, and place the hymnals back in their pew pockets. Together we show our community that all that we do reflects a reverence for God and the many things He has blessed us with in our church and school!

**Written Calendar Party:** Chairs of those committees and organizations, which use space in the school or church during the years, are kindly asked to submit requests for any meetings or events taking place from July 2009 to the end of December 2009 in writing to Carmen Kosko by Friday, June 19<sup>th</sup>. You may also e-mail Carmen at [ckosko@stmatthias.org](mailto:ckosko@stmatthias.org). **Please make sure your requests have the following information:** contact person or chairperson's name; a home and work telephone number; event/meeting to be held; time of meeting/event; preference for meeting space/room. Requests will be processed on a first come, first served basis with parish/school business taking priority. You will be notified if there are any conflicts with other groups or organizations once the rough draft of the calendar is completed.

### SCHOOL RAFFLE WINNER

Congratulations to **Mr. & Mrs. Rookard** of Upper Marlboro, MD (winner of \$350) as winner AND seller of this week's ticket!



### Mass Intentions from Trinity Sunday thru the Tenth Week in Ordinary Time

#### **Monday, June 8:**

8:30 am Rev. G. William Finch

#### **Tuesday, June 9: Ephrem, deacon & doctor**

8:30 am Rev. Msgr. William F. O'Donnell

#### **Wednesday, June 10:**

8:30 am Glenn Dorn

10:00 am Kindergarten Graduation

#### **Thursday, June 11: Barnabas, apostle**

9:30 am Lina Manlapaz and Benefactors of the School

Closing School Mass

12:30pm School Dismissal—Last Day of School

#### **Friday, June 12:**

8:30 am Delbert Newman

#### **Saturday, June 13: Vigil – Corpus Christi**

**3:30 pm to 4:30pm—Confessions**

5:00 pm Concepcion Soberanis

#### **Sunday, June 14: Solemnity Corpus Christi**

8:00 am Stephen Ott

9:30 am Christy Udejofo

11:30am Intentions of the Igwe Family in Thanksgiving

#### **Please Pray for: †The Sick and Homebound In Our Parish:**

Karen Adkins; Magdalene Bell; Mary Bittner; Margaret Brooks; Audrey Brown; Lisa Farland; Dennis George; Helen Guditis; Charles Henry; Lena Jacobs; Ray Krok; Joe Makowski; Willie (Bill) Moore; Peter O'Neill; Joe & Irene Pezzuti; Bill Pinchback; Rohland Reich; Joe Sico; Margaret Tolzman; Anita Topnick; Margaret Zanin **†For the Deceased:** Deacon Morris M.P. Williams *Names will be placed on our prayer list for three weeks. To add a name or to request continuing prayers, please contact Carmen Kosko by email at [ckosko@stmatthias.org](mailto:ckosko@stmatthias.org) or by phone at 301-459-4814 ext 201.*

### Outdoor Parish Shrines; Memorials and Tributes:

The votive lights burning from **June 7<sup>th</sup>** through **June 13<sup>th</sup>**

#### Shrine of the Sacred Heart

**For the Special Intentions of: Julianne George** on the occasion of her birthday.

**For the Happy Repose of: W. J. Chappell, John Chappell, Robert Garner and Frank Vitale**

#### Shrine of the Madonna & Child

**For the Special Intentions of: the Ferrara family; Dennis George; Maryanne DeMaio** and for **Christie George** on the occasion of her Birthday.

### God's Humor



A new resident in Heaven was being shown to his mansion, which turned out to be a humble, rundown hovel on the wrong side of the tracks. He turned to his angelic escort and said indignantly, "Why, this is nothing more than a shack?" the angel replied, "It is indeed, but you must realize that we did the best we could with the money that you sent."