

ST. MATTHIAS PARISH, MARLBOROUGH, MA

INTENTIONS OF THE EUCHARIST

Saturday, March 12— 4:00 p.m.

Robert and Anna Barrett — Memorial

Sunday, March 13 — 10:00 a.m.

Peter Chase — Memorial

Saturday, March 19 — 4:00 p.m.

Joseph, Helen and Jordan DeDeo — Memorial

Sunday, March 20 — 10:00 a.m.

Maureen B. O'Connell — 6th Anniversary Memorial

SCRIPTURE READINGS

You are encouraged to pray these readings at home during the week as you reflect on this Sunday's Word and prepare to celebrate next week's Eucharist.

Readings for March 13, Fifth Sunday of Lent

Isaiah 43:16-21; Philippians 3:8-14; John 8:1-11

Readings for March 20, Palm Sunday

Luke 19:28-40; Isaiah 50:4-7; Philippians 2:6-11;
Luke 22:14-23:56

Office Hours — Week of March 14



Monday, Tuesday and Thursday

9:00 a.m. — 3:00 p.m.

Wednesday

9:00 a.m. — Noon

Weekday Masses for the Week of March 14



Monday, Tuesday and Friday

9:00 a.m.

Downstairs Conference Room

MARLBOROUGH COMMUNITY CUPBOARD

Collection bins will be available at the church entrances for the monthly Marlborough Community Food cupboard collection this weekend. Thank you for your continued generosity to our friends and neighbors of Marlborough.

CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST WORSHIP BOOKLET

The Lenten Season Worship Aid can be found in the pews. This booklet contains Mass responses as well as our musical selections. Please lift your voices in celebration. Please return the booklet to the book rack located in the pews. *Thank You.*

THIS WEEK AT ST. MATTHIAS

Saturday, March 12

- **Celebration of the Eucharist**
Church, 4:00 p.m.
- **CORI Processing**
Flower Resource Room following Mass
- **Palm Sunday— (Saturday) Lector Rehearsal**
Church, following Mass
- **Marlborough Community Cupboard Collection**
Bins located at the church entrances
- **St. Patrick's Day Dinner**
Parish Hall, following Mass

Sunday, March 13

- **Faith Formation—Grades 1 — 5**
Classrooms, 8:30 a.m.—9:45 a.m.
- **Celebration of the Eucharist**
Church, 10:00 a.m.
- **CORI Processing**
Parish Hall following Mass
- **RCIA**
Downstairs Conference Room, 11:15 a.m.
- **Eucharistic Minister Chat Session**
Classrooms, 11:15 a.m.
- **Children's Choir Rehearsal For Easter**
Parish Hall Stage, 11:15 a.m.
- **Marlborough Community Cupboard Collection**
Bins located at the church entrances
- **Palm Sunday— Procession Rehearsal, Church 11:30 p.m.**
- **Palm Sunday— (Sunday) Lector Rehearsal, Church 12:00 p.m.**
- **Faith Formation — Grades 6-8**
Classrooms, 6:00 p.m. — 7:15 p.m.

Monday, March 14

- **Holy Thursday Rehearsal**
Church, 7:00 p.m.
- **Good Friday Rehearsal, Church, 7:00 p.m.**
Good Friday Passion Reading Rehearsal, Church 8:15 p.m.

Wednesday, March 16

- **Shawl Ministry**
Downstairs Conference Room, 6:45 p.m.

Thursday, March 17

- **Choir Rehearsal**
Church, 7:00 p.m.
- **Bereavement Group**
Downstairs Conference Room, 7:00 p.m.
- **Simple Lenten Supper**
Parish Hall, 6:00 p.m.
- **Easter Vigil Rehearsal, Church, 7:00 p.m.**
- **Easter Vigil Rehearsal for Lectors and Cantors, 8:10 p.m.**

Saturday, March 19

- **Celebration of the Eucharist**
Church, 4:00 p.m.
- **Faith Formation—Grades 1 — 5**
Classrooms, 8:30 a.m.—9:45 a.m.
- **Celebration of the Eucharist**
Church, 10:00 a.m.
- **Faith Formation — Grades 6-8**
Classrooms, 6:00 p.m. — 7:15 p.m.

Sunday, March 20

FROM FR. FRAN

You may have heard about the basketball game held recently between two Catholic high schools in northern Indiana. During play, a group of students from one school waved a giant picture of a candidate for the presidency and chanted “build a wall” at the mostly Latino students from the other school who countered with chants of “you’re a racist”.

The bishop of the diocese, Donald Hying was actually at the game when this happened. He responded with a strong statement: “Any actions or words that can be perceived as racist or derogatory to others are antithetical to the Christian faith and will not be tolerated in any of our institutions...Jesus is at the center of all we do and his message is one of inclusion and respect for all people.” While he was speaking about a particular incident, his words certainly ring true for anyone who follows Christ. We have a responsibility through our baptism, to be people of peace and mercy. As Jesus welcomed and supported the outsider, so we are called to do. Period.

What then shall we make of the way in which some politicians are behaving in public forums? How do we teach our children about government and our democratic process in the present climate?

The principal of the school that received the “build a wall” epithet had this to say: “ This is a teachable moment for everyone about responsible speech, social media and sportsmanship.” His words have been echoed by many other educators and parents. I heard one child psychologist suggest that, while not appropriate for young grade school children, parents would do well to watch the debates and news reports with their older children and then discuss how what they heard relates to what they’ve learned in school about bullying and respect. Not a bad idea.

What then of us, the adults? How do we keep faithful to Christ and make informed political decisions? Of course no one candidate will perfectly live out all of our Catholic Christian principles, however Jesus gives us a base line which Bishop Hying articulated in response to the basketball game incident. So maybe we should turn his response into a couple of questions: Do I take Christ’s message of inclusion and respect seriously? No matter my political leanings, do I speak and act with Christ as the center of all I do?

Perhaps these lyrics from Oscar Hammerstein II, written for the musical play South Pacific could serve as a springboard for reflection.

*You've got to be taught to hate and ear,
You've got to be taught from year to Year,
It's got to be drummed in your dear little ear
You've got to be carefully taught.*

*You've got to be taught to be afraid
Of people whose eyes are oddly made,
And people whose skin is a diff'rent shade,
You've got to be carefully taught.*

*You've got to be taught before it's too late,
Before you are six or seven or eight,
To hate all the people your relatives hate,
You've got to be carefully taught!*

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER CHAT SESSION

A Eucharistic Minister chat session will be held this **Sunday, March 13** following the 10:00 a.m. Mass. Please grab a cup of coffee and meet in the classroom to the right of the stage. *Thank you.*

PRAY FOR THE HEALING OF THE SICK

Please Pray For...

Donny Courteville, Connie Cyr, Clara Mae Dickerson, John Gifford, Joe Gillis, Russ Hokanson, Kathryn Keeler, David Martin, Frank Mangan, Margaret McNeil, Betty Montgomery, and Jean Peltak.

To add someone to this prayer list, please call the parish office 508-460-9255 or email admin@stmattpar.org.

PARISH FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Offertory Goal:	\$4,000.00
Total Collection of March 5, 6.....	\$3,886.00*
Of that amount ParishPay donations were	\$ 585.00
Parishioners celebrating March 5, 6.....	350
*This reflects a weekly collection shortfall of \$114.00	

March Special Collections

Parish Maintenance.....	March 19, 20
Holy Land—Good Friday.....	March 25
Easter Clergy Benefit Trust.....	March 26/27

2016 GRAND ANNUAL

Goal:	\$80,000.00
Total Pledged:	\$53,775.00
Total Received:	\$50,160.00
Total Number to Reach Goal:	\$26,225.00
Number of Families Pledged:	104
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CATHOLIC APPEAL

Thank you to all who participated in last weekend’s in-pew campaign. Results will be published in next week’s bulletin.

If you would like to make a pledge, envelopes may be found at the church entrances or you may donate at bostoncatholicappeal.org.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation gatherings for Sunday, March 13 are as follows:

Grades 1-5 **8:30 - 9:45 a.m.**

Grades 6,7,8 **6:00 - 7:15 p.m.**

RCIA will meet at 11:15 a.m. in the conference room

Simple Lenten Supper for March 18 at 6:00 p.m. is sponsored by Faith Formation students, Grades 6-10, and their families.

Coffee Social for Sunday, March 13 is sponsored by Faith Formation students in Grades 4 and their catechists, Mrs. Lowe and Elise Lowe.

TRIDUUM REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

A friendly reminder to Triduum Participants that rehearsals are beginning March 12, in the Church. Your presence is very important so please plan one hour of your evening with us.

March 12, Saturday after the 4:00 p.m. Mass - Palm Sunday Passion Reading Rehearsal for Saturday Lectors.

March 13, Sunday

11:30 a.m. - Palm Sunday Procession Rehearsal

12:00 p.m. - Palm Sunday Passion Reading Rehearsal for **Sunday** Lectors

March 14, Monday

7:00 p.m. — Holy Thursday Rehearsal

March 15, Tuesday

7:00 p.m. — Good Friday Rehearsal

8:15 p.m. — Good Friday Passion Reading Rehearsal

March 18, Friday

7:00 p.m. — Easter Vigil Rehearsal

8:15 p.m. — Easter Vigil Liturgy of the Word

CRS—RICE BOWL

Hungering to grow a new tomorrow



This week's CRS Rice Bowl country is the island nation of Madagascar, where we're reminded of the important role farmers play in caring for God's creation. As we prepare our meals throughout the week, let us reflect on where our food comes from—and what role we can play in caring for our environment. Visit crsricebowl.org for more information.

EASTER SUNDAY—CHILDREN'S CHOIR

The Children's Choir Rehearsal **will be held Sunday, March 13 at 11:15 a.m. in the Parish Hall on the stage.** The final rehearsal will take place on **Tuesday, March 22 at 6:00 p.m. in the church.**

KEEPING THE SEASON

HOLY THURSDAY



Soon the Christian calendar will take us into the "heart" of our liturgical year — the Paschal Triduum. This three day celebration is the foundation of our Catholic Christian faith. It begins with the Holy Thursday evening Mass of the Lord's Supper, celebrating the institution of the Eucharist, and Christ's call of service to each of us.

Mass begins with a procession that includes three members of our parish bearing the Holy Oils blessed at the Chrism Mass earlier in the week. The Oil of the Sick, the Oil of the Catechumens and the Oil of Chrism will be used throughout the year to bless those newly baptized, confirmed and those who are ill and dying.

Later in the mass, all are invited to join in washing the feet of one another, just as Christ washed the feet of his disciples, thus an example of service and love.

When the celebration of the Eucharist is complete, the Blessed Sacrament will be taken in procession with song, to the parish hall where it will reside in the tabernacle for a period of repose. Then it is honored with silent reflection and prayer in remembrance of what Christ has done for us. The Tabernacle in the church will remain open and empty and the vigil candle will be extinguished until the celebration of the Easter Vigil.

GOOD FRIDAY



Good Friday is the second part of the three day celebration of Triduum. This is the day that Christ knowingly and willingly lays down His life so that we might have eternal life. At 3:00 p.m. we gather together in church to walk Christ's journey through the Stations of the Cross. Fellow parishioners will read reflections on how much Christ endured for us and how very much He loves us.

Our time of reflection continues with our Good Friday Evening Mass at 7:00 p.m. This is a continuation of Holy Thursday, so there will be no opening prayers. Everyone enters in silence then Fr. Fran, the Deacons and Altar Servers prostrate themselves at the altar as a visible sign of humility and grief. During the Liturgy of the Word the Passion of the Lord is once again proclaimed.

The large wooden cross is then brought from the church entrance and at three different points it is lifted high as "This is the wood of the cross" is sung by the Deacon and the assembly replies, "come let us worship." Once the cross reaches the altar, all are invited to come forward to venerate the cross in his/her own personal way. Customary ways to show respect and reverence of the cross are expressed through the bowing of your head, genuflecting, touching and/or kissing the cross.

LENTEN SIMPLE SUPPER



The St. Matthias community invites you to join your fellow parishioners to the final Simple Lenten Supper of the season **Friday, March 18 at 6:00 p.m. in the parish hall.**

This simple meal will be prepared by our Faith Formation families.

A Collection box is available in the parish hall for toys, books and movies to be distributed to children receiving treatment at local hospitals through the **Bernadette Project**, an organization founded in memory of Bernadette LaFollette, a young girl of 15 who was an inspiration to so many. **If you are unable to attend the simple suppers and would like to donate to the Bernadette Project please drop the gifts off at the parish office or leave them in the baskets found at the entrances of the church.**

Please join us in sharing a meal, praying together and helping to put a smile on a child's face.

SPECIAL THANKS

Thank you, Bob Mulvaney for replacing the spotlights that illuminate the crucifix in the sanctuary. Bob's electrical expertise is greatly appreciated and we sincerely value his dedication and assistance with the lighting and electrical work throughout the church.



Thank you to Maureen and Roger Perry for their donation toward the ambo candles for the Easter season. The donation was made in loving memory of Maureen's aunt, Margaret Mary Connevey.

Thank you to Eleanor Vaughey for her most generous contribution to the cost of the altar candles for the month of April. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

CORI PROCESSING

CORI forms will be accepted **this weekend March 12 and 13.** With each completed form, please present a government issued form of ID, such as a driver's license for a CORI coordinator to view. Please note that a new form must be completed even if you have already filled out a form for a school or other organization.

If you have any questions, please email Diane Balinski at dbalinski@comcast.net.

EASTER EGG HUNT—DONATIONS



The annual Easter Egg Hunt will take place following the 9:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday, March 27. **Donations of plastic eggs and wrapped candy will be greatly appreciated.** Donations can be dropped off this weekend in the flower resource room. Donations can be dropped off at the parish office until **Wednesday, March 16.** *Thank You.*