

THE TOMB OF
LAZARUS
AL-EIZARIYA
(BETHANY)

Jesus cried out in a loud voice,
“Lazarus, come out!”

JOHN 11:43

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MARCH 29
2020

St. Matthias

ST. MATTHIAS CATHOLIC CHURCH

1685 Cordilleras Road
Redwood City, CA 94062

Parish Phone (650) 366-9544

Preschool Phone (650) 367-1320

Website: www.stmatthiasparish.org

Email: info@stmatthiasparish.org

St. Matthias Mass Schedule

Tuesday & Thursday	5:30 pm
Saturday	5:00 pm
Sunday	8:00 am & 10:30 am

St. Charles Mass Schedule

Monday—Saturday	8:30 am
Fridays	6:30 am
Saturday	5:00 pm
Sunday	8:30 am, 11:00 am & 5:00 pm

Sacraments

St. Matthias Reconciliation

Tuesday or Thursday after 5:30 pm Mass

St. Charles Reconciliation

Saturday at 3:30 pm

First Communion and Confirmation

Email Sabrina Harper for information.

Baptism or Marriage

Email Deacon Rich Foley for information.

**See the Staff Directory Inside the
Cover for Contact Information.**

St. Matthias is a Roman Catholic Community striving to respond to the call of Jesus through worship and sacraments, faith formation, service, and social opportunities.

Under the guidance of the Pastor and pastoral staff, we seek to strengthen current lay leadership and develop and empower new leadership. Although a small parish, we commit ourselves and parish programs to hospitality, generosity to those in need, and outreach to all those seeking a faith community. As Catholics, we recognize the many challenges facing the Church, but we trust in the Holy Spirit to guide us into the future.



fifth Sunday
OF Lent

Masses this weekend (March 28-29) are suspended due to the March 16, 2020 San Mateo County Public Health announcement to shelter in place.

St. Matthias Staff Directory

Pastor, Fr. Dave Ghiorso
frdave@stmatthiasparish.org
650-366-9544 x 2015

Parochial Vicar, Fr. Samuel Musiimenta
650-366-9544 x 2015

Hospital Chaplain, Fr. Malachi Theophilus

Parish Life Coordinator, Deacon Rich Foley
rich@stmatthiasparish.org
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Deacon David Rolandelli
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Deacon George Salinger

Pastoral Associate, Sabrina Harper
sabrina@stmatthiasparish.org
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Parish Administrative Assistant, Lisa Bamford
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650-366-9544 x 2010

Bookkeeper, Fran Mylod
fran@stmatthiasparish.org
650-366-9544 x 2011

Music Director, Randall Watts
randall@stmatthiasparish.org
650-366-9544 x 2013

Preschool Director, Rosemary Juarez
rosemary@stmatthiasparish.org
650-367-1320

Preschool Administrative Assistants, Gigi Casey
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& Hilary Paulson
hilary@stmatthiasparish.org

Spirituality in the time of quarantine

By Thomas Reese, reprinted in excerpts from National Catholic Reporter March 16, 2020 Edition

Churches around the world have had to cancel Sunday services because of the coronavirus. In the Vatican, service for Holy Week, the most sacred time of the liturgical year, will exclude the faithful.

The cancelling of church and sporting events has convinced most Americans that something significant is happening; after all, there is nothing more sacred to Americans than religion and sports.

The decision to cancel church gatherings was not easy, but it was correct. Religious leaders who don't follow the advice of public health officials are being reckless and immoral by putting their congregants and others at risk. We know that COVID-19 is usually passed through human contact (handshakes and touching), through droplets in the air (sneezes and coughs) or contact with infected surfaces (doors, pews, hymnals). This is not the time to get scrupulous about Sunday obligations or to worry about Sunday collections.

What would Jesus do? Jesus would tell you to stay home for your own good and the good of your neighbor. But is that it? As Christians, we know that spirituality is not just about avoiding evil. It is also about doing good. Even crisis is an opportunity to do good. Here are some suggestions about what individuals, families, neighbors and parishes can do during this quarantine.

We may not have church services and the Eucharist, but we still have the Scriptures. Catholics can find the daily Scripture readings at USCCB.org in both written and audio form. They are also available through podcasts and apps on your smartphone or Amazon Echo.

There are two ways to pray with Scripture. First, there is meditation, in which you ask, what is the Scripture passage telling me? What does it tell me about God? What does it tell me about how to live my life? The second is contemplation, in which you use your imagination to put yourself into the story. Become a participant. Different ways of praying can be summarized through the acronym "ACTS." Prayer can be Adoration (God, you are awesome), Contrition (sorry, God), Thanksgiving (thank you, God) and Supplication (please, God). Many people get stuck in prayers of contrition and supplication and forget about thanksgiving and adoration. Reflection and prayer on the Scriptures can be done not only individually, but also as a family or in a virtual community.

Here is Fr. Dave's message to parishioners dated, Tuesday, March 24th:
Cannot share the burden, but I can walk with you.

To once again bore you with my pilgrimage walks (like being invited over to someone's house to watch videos or slides of their vacation), this time it is about backpacks.

Backpacks are fitted for each person. Go in; they measure you, and help adjust the straps. But in the end, it is you who carry the pack and all that you put into it. I found that as I walked, I fiddled with the pack; I felt the weight, where it rubbed wrong, and thought about it often. I was and still am a solo walker, enjoying the quiet and prayerful times that have been part of these treks.

As in any Camino, you meet others and at times find yourself keeping company. It was during these times that my pack and its discomforts were forgotten. The person I walked with did not take any of the weight off my shoulders, did not carry the pack for me, but the companionship helped lighten the burden.

I thought of this on Sunday when out for a walk with Mack (my black labrador). I came across a member of our community who was out trying to clear her heart and soul over difficult decisions that had to be made during this time. She agonized over the future as we talked across the street from one another. Never had I felt so completely useless to another, and all we could do was give a virtual hug during these times.

The gospel yesterday was the story of Jesus curing the synagogue official's son, but different than most of the healing stories of Jesus, the child is distant from the physical touch of Jesus. We cannot in these times be physically present to those who are struggling in isolation, fear, and anxiety. We cannot relieve the physical, emotional, and even spiritual burdens they carry, but we can simply travel with them, walk beside them and listen.

We strive not to share the virus, but we can share the journey and somehow that makes a difference.

Your Wandering Padre
Fr. Dave

Per a letter to priests from Archbishop Cordileone dated March 16, 2020 - Update on Coronavirus Precautions:

As you are all aware by now, the Health Officers of six Bay Area counties (San Francisco, Marin, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Alameda and Contra Costa) earlier today issued a "shelter in place" order for the purpose of containing the spread of the coronavirus. The order remains in effect until April 7th, when an assessment will be made regarding continuing, modifying or dropping the order.

Masses are being live-streamed on the St. Charles Church Facebook page on Monday through Saturday at 5:00 pm and Sunday at 9:00 am.

We are using our "email blast" system to get updates out to parishioners as quickly as possible. If you are not receiving these updates, please go to <https://mailchi.mp/361fa7ebb8b6/important-masses-suspended-effectivemarch-15-1336529> and SUBSCRIBE.

We pray for those who are ill in our community...

Connie Barrick
Diane Donnelly
Nick Pacumio
Mahmood Behbood
Alyssa Beemer
Jack Greenalch
Jean Balibrera
Joey Hizon
Bruce Dinkel
Rose Herrera
Margaret Henry
Liz Vugrinecz

...that they may be comforted by the loving embrace of Jesus.