

St. Matthias Parish



www.stmatthiasparish.org

St. Matthias is a Roman Catholic Community in the Archdiocese of San Francisco striving to respond to the call of Jesus through worship and sacraments, faith formation, service, and social opportunities. To see the full calendar of events, visit <https://www.stmatthiasparish.org/parish-calendar/>

*Happy
New Year!
2025*

Su

Promise
GF

Children's Liturgy
Is ON BREAK
Sunday Dec 29th

We

**Solemnity of
Mary Mass**

Wednesday
Jan 1st, 10 AM

Su

RCIA

Sunday
Jan 5th, 11 AM

Parish Office Closure

*The office will be
closed Wednesday,
New Year's Day.*

*We will reopen on
Thursday, January
2nd.*

Introduction to the Liturgy of the Word

Today's first two readings include dozens of phrases and aphorisms which could be framed and hung in a home, constant reminders of how to live as a family: "He stores up riches who reveres his mother." "Over all these put on love." "Be thankful." As we listen to God's word, may we appreciate these words of wisdom and hear how Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, despite the misunderstandings in today's Gospel story, have taken them to heart.

First Reading Sir 3:2-6, 12-14

For the Lord honored the father above the children, and he confirmed the right of the mother over her sons.

Whoever honors his father atones for sins, and whoever glorifies his mother is like one who lays up treasure.

Whoever honors his father will be gladdened by his own children, and when he prays he will be heard.

Whoever glorifies his father will have long life, and whoever obeys the Lord will refresh his mother;

O son, help your father in his old age, and do not grieve him as long as he lives; even if he is lacking in understanding, show forbearance; in all your strength do not despise him. For kindness to a father will not be forgotten, and against your sins it will be credited to you.

Second Reading Col 3: 12-17

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, lowliness, meekness, and patience, forbearing one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as you teach and admonish one another in all wisdom, and as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And

whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Gospel Lk 2: 41-52

Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom; and when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem.

His parents did not know it, but supposing him to be in the company they went a day's journey, and they sought him among their kinsfolk and acquaintances; and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, seeking him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions; and all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers.

And when they saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been looking for you anxiously." And he said to them, "How is it that you sought me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" And they did not understand the saying which he spoke to them. And he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart.

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature, and in favor with God and man.

MUSIC

December 28-29

The First Noel
A Christmas Gloria
Child of the Poor
Raise a Song of Gladness
Angels We Have Heard on High

January 1

What Child is This
A Christmas Gloria
Child of the Poor
Raise a Song of Gladness
Sing of Mary

Bells! Bells! Bells! You are welcome to bring bells from home to ring as we return to singing Glory to God during the season of Christmas. Please, bring your bells and join in the joy!

Pastor's Message this January—Why Do We Go to Church?

As we begin this new year, I invite you to reflect on why we come to church. For each of us, there are various reasons. Some of us are assigned roles as lectors, ushers, or servers. Others may come to accompany family members or see friends.

Yet, I want to focus on the deeper, spiritual reason we gather together as the Body of Christ. In the Book of the Prophet Isaiah, we hear a powerful invitation: *"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways, and that we may walk in his paths. For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem."* **(Isaiah 2:3b)**

The Church is the house of God here and now—a place where God encounters His people and we, His people, encounter God. It is in this sacred space that we are invited to draw near to the Lord, to listen to His word, and to be transformed by His presence.

Through the proclamation of the Word of God in the Scriptures, we learn of His ways and are called to walk in His paths. The Mass is not merely a ritual but a profound encounter with God. As the Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches: *"The Church is the place where God's word is proclaimed and His mysteries celebrated. Through the liturgy, we are made participants in the divine life and brought into communion with Christ."*

As we gather as a community, we experience not only the presence of God but also the presence of one another. We are reminded that we are part of the larger body of Christ, united in faith and love. Pope Francis has often spoken about the importance of coming together as a community: *"The joy of the Gospel is for all people: no one can be excluded."* **(Pope Francis, Evangelii Gaudium, 87)**

In these difficult times, especially as we continue to recover from the effects of the pandemic, I want to offer a special invitation to those who have been away from church. If you have not yet returned to the pews, I encourage you to join us in our Sunday liturgies and parish activities. There is no substitute for the grace we receive when we come together to worship.

In this parish, we gather not only to receive from God but also to offer ourselves in worship and service. As your pastor, I urge you to reconnect with your spiritual family. Come back to the house of the Lord, where we can encounter His love and be strengthened in our faith. Remember the words of Pope Benedict: *"The Eucharist is not just a symbol of unity but the true sacrament of the Church's unity."* **(Pope Benedict XVI, Sacramentum Caritatis, 52)**

Let us be encouraged by these words and rediscover the importance of our shared worship. As enter this new year, let us commit to making the Church a central part of our lives, not only out of duty but out of love for the One who calls us to Himself.

In Christ's love and peace,



Fr Roy

Welcome to our new Pastoral Associate!

We are happy to announce that we will have a new Pastoral Associate joining us in January! Mr. Joey Gutierrez is a very experienced parish administrator, faith formation director and choir director from San Antonio Texas. He is also studying at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley. We are very excited about all that he will bring to St. Matthias in the future!

Because of current commitments at his parish in Oakland, he will not be able to be here on Sundays until after June, but he will be taking over many of the pastoral associate duties as of January 20. More details and a chance to welcome Joey will be coming soon. Thank you for the prayers that helped us find the right person for this position, and welcome, Joey!

Contributing to our Liturgical Environment

Our changing liturgical environment adds to the sacredness of our worship space and to our experience of the Mass. For the first time in many years, you will have the opportunity to make a donation specifically earmarked for costs associated with our liturgical environment. Special "Flower Offering" envelopes were enclosed in our Christmas letter to all parishioners and will be available in the church. If you appreciate what these environmental touches add, we hope you will consider making a donation. Funds received will be used throughout the year to beautify Lent, the Easter season, Ordinary Time, Masses of Remembrance and more. Thank you for your support!

Church Improvements

Parking Lot Lighting: The lighting in our smaller parking lot has been temporarily fixed, thanks to Mr. Roger Flores Sr.'s generosity. We are grateful for his support.

Sacristy Repairs: Our sacristy, which was

repaired last year, is unfortunately leaking again. Mr Dave Swan graciously donated a significant amount to cover the initial repair costs, for which we are truly thankful. We hope an additional \$2,500 may be raised to complete the repair.

Tree Maintenance: We need to remove a fallen tree at the back of the church and trim branches that have begun to encroach on the roof. We are looking for a generous donor to help us cover the \$1,500 cost for this project.

MLK, Jr. Multifaith Day of Service

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said "Life's most persistent and urgent question is: What are you doing for others?" Answer his question with action this MLK Day. Join us for the 13th Annual MARTIN LUTHER KING JR MULTIFAITH DAY OF SERVICE. Mon, Jan 20, 2025 from 1-4 pm.

Registration is now open at pmcmlk2025.eventbrite.com

St. Charles Women's Club Winter Dinner

Come celebrate together a New Year of Christ's Love! Wednesday, January 15, 2025, Borromeo Hall
6pm Hors d'oeuvres and socializing
6:30pm dinner

RSVP and check must be received by January 6th!
Please mail the following to Dorothy Farkas, 948 Crestview Dr., San Carlos, CA 94070
Name of Women Attending _____

Email or Phone # _____

Total enclosed (\$40/person) _____
Checks payable to St. Charles Church

January Senior Luncheon

Please join us for brunch on Wednesday, January 8th at noon, as we ring in 2025 with your friends from St. Charles and St. Matthias! All parishioners 60 years+ are cordially invited to our monthly luncheon held on the second Wednesday of every month at noon in Borromeo Hall. To reserve your spot please RSVP to Kathy by Jan 6. 650-591-7349 ext. 402, or kfagliano@stcharlesparish.org. caregivers welcome!

MASS INTENTIONS

SAT, December 28th @ 5:00PM — Bruce Dinkel †

SUN, December 29th @ 9:45AM — The People of St. Matthias

WED, January 1st @ 10:00AM — Severin Morger †

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

Jerry Acozta

Tommie Fogliani

Sofia Rodriguez Gaddi

Bill Harper

Joy & Charles

Rudolfo Pelayo

Rose Marino

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



Second Collection

December 28-29

St. Vincent de Paul

This QR code will take you directly to our website giving page. Thank you!

St. Matthias Catholic Preschool

A Quality Early Childhood Program

Now Enrolling

Children Ages 3-5 Years Old

Preschool Hours 7:30AM to 5:30PM

All Day — Year Round School

Contact Preschool Director

Rosemary Juarez at

rosemary@stmatthiasparish.org

or call (650) 367-1320



PARISH CONTACT

INFORMATION

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www.stmatthiasparish.org

St. Matthias Mass Schedule

Saturday 5:00 pm

Sunday 9:45 am*

St. Charles Mass Schedule

Monday—Saturday 5:00 pm

Sunday 8:30 am* & 11:00 am

*LIVESTREAMED MASSES

Pastor, Fr. Roy Remo

froy@stmatthiasparish.org

Parochial Vicar,

Fr. Samuel Musiimenta

Adult Faith Formation Coordinator,

Deacon Rich Foley

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Preschool Director,

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