

# St. Matthias Parish



**[www.stmatthiasparish.org](http://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**

**Children's Liturgy  
is ON BREAK  
until March**

**Th**

**Rosary for Peace**

**Jan 9th, 10 AM in  
the Church**

**Sa**

**First**

**Reconciliation**

**Jan 11th, 3 PM in  
the Church**

**Start the new  
year right!**

*Please take a moment to make sure we have your most current contact information. If you do not receive mail or email from us, you might not be registered with our parish, or we might have old info. Please call or visit our website (See Page 5).*

## **Introduction to the Liturgy of the Word**

Journeys play a prominent role in the readings for Epiphany. Isaiah describes the day when caravans from near and far will be drawn to a radiant Jerusalem. The psalmist tells of kings from even the most distant nations who will come to pay the Messiah homage. Paul insists that the Gentiles are invited into the same body with the same promise of salvation. Finally, we hear the familiar words of Matthew, telling the story of the magi's long journey to see the newborn king. Let us listen to God's word, aware that we too make our own personal journey to the Lord.

### **First Reading**

### **Isaiah 60:1-6**

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you. See, darkness covers the earth, and thick clouds cover the peoples; but upon you the LORD shines, and over you appears his glory. Nations shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance. Raise your eyes and look about; they all gather and come to you: your sons come from afar, and your daughters in the arms of their nurses. Then you shall be radiant at what you see, your heart shall throb and overflow, for the riches of the sea shall be emptied out before you, the wealth of nations shall be brought to you. Caravans of camels shall fill you, dromedaries from Midian and Ephah; all from Sheba shall come bearing gold and frankincense, and proclaiming the praises of the LORD.

### **Second Reading**

### **Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6**

Brothers and sisters:  
You have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for your benefit, namely, that the mystery was made known to me by revelation. It was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body,

and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

### **Gospel**

### **Matthew 2:1-12**

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was greatly troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. Assembling all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.

They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it has been written through the prophet: *And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah,*

*are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; since from you shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people Israel."*

Then Herod called the magi secretly and ascertained from them the time of the star's appearance.

He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search diligently for the child.

When you have found him, bring me word, that I too may go and do him homage."

After their audience with the king they set out. And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was.

They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother.

They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures

and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod,

they departed for their country by another way.

## **MUSIC**

### **January 4-5**

What Child is This  
A Christmas Gloria  
Child of the Poor  
Raise a Song of Gladness  
The First Noel

**Bells! Bells! Bells! We ring bells this weekend as we return to singing Glory to God. Join in the joy!**

## Pastor's Message for the New Year

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 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, 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. 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. I look forward to meeting you there! 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

## Epiphany

The Christmas season reaches a high point on this Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord. Traditionally known in many parts of the world as Little Christmas, it is a commemoration of the manifestation of God to all the nations. In some liturgical traditions, this feast is the central celebration of Christmas. It commemorates not only the birth of Jesus and the visit of the Magi, but also his Baptism in the Jordan River and the wedding feast of Cana. The Magi, who come in faith

to worship the child Jesus, represent the multi-ethnic and cultural diversity in our world. These anonymous men visit Jesus and then go to their home by another route. All we know is that they were not Israelite, and that is the whole point of the story. It illustrates that people of goodwill, regardless of their ethnic or religious background, are responsive to the revelation of God. Their openness brought the Magi to the child, and they did not go away disappointed. Christ is the revelation of God to all the nations bringing justice and peace. All people are co-heirs with Christ.

## 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 currently 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!

## First Reconciliation

On Saturday, January 11th, two children will receive their first Sacrament of Reconciliation at St. Matthias. Emma Coulter and Bryce Chan are prepared to receive this sacrament. Thanks to our catechist, Diana Largent. Emma and Bryce will continue their preparation for their First Communion in May. Please keep them in your prayers.

## Music Ministry

We closed 2024 singing the powerful lyrics that speak of our mission from "O Holy Night":

*Truly he taught us to love one another... his gospel is peace. Chains shall he break for the slave is our brother...all oppression shall cease.*

And we start the new year focused on the message of Jesus Christ whom we follow, the Child of the Poor:

*Who is the stranger here in our midst looking for shelter among us, who is the outcast, who do we see among the poor, the children of God.*

*Who is this who lives with the lowly, sharing their sorrow, knowing their hunger. Born into poverty's embrace, new life for the world.*

May we, throughout the year, practice the words of Pope Francis as, at the opening of the 2025 Jubilee Year, he called us to become 'pilgrims of hope',

emphasizing that "hope and kindness touch the very heart of the Gospel...kindness is not a diplomatic strategy" nor "a set of rules to ensure social harmony or to obtain other advantages" but rather "a form of love that opens hearts to acceptance and helps us all to become more humble."

God, make us instruments of your peace, and may we open our hearts and ourselves to be open vessels for the Light that is your Love and Hope. May we be the voice for the voiceless, and enable justice. Respectfully submitted by Melanie Dresbach

## 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 [pmlk2025.eventbrite.com](https://pmlk2025.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 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](mailto:kfagliano@stcharlesparish.org). Caregivers welcome! All reservations must be received by noon Jan 9th.

**Welcome Weekend**—Join us for Donut after the 9:45 AM Mass on Sunday, Jan 12th!



## MASS INTENTIONS

SAT, January 4th @ 5:00PM — Kathleen Russell †

SUN, December 5th @ 9:45AM — Alberto Rodriguez †

## Let's Keep in Touch!

If you are a registered parishioner and would like to make sure we are using the best email address/telephone # for you, please email

**Lisa@stmatthiasparish.org**

To register with St. Matthias parish, go to our website **stmatthiasparish.org** and select the Parish dropdown menu. At the bottom is a link to our Registration page.

Or contact Lisa Bamford in our Office for assistance.

*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**

**Jeanine Tavernier**

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

## St. Matthias Catholic Preschool

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## PARISH CONTACT

### INFORMATION

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**Preschool Phone (650) 367-1320**

[www.stmatthiasparish.org](http://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**  
frroy@stmatthiasparish.org

**Parochial Vicar,**  
**Fr. Samuel Musiimenta**

**Adult Faith Formation Coordinator,**  
**Deacon Rich Foley**  
rich@stmatthiasparish.org

**Deacon David Rolandelli**  
david@stmatthiasparish.org

**Parish Administrative Assistant,**  
**Lisa Bamford**  
lisa@stmatthiasparish.org

**Music Director, Melanie Dresbach**  
melanie@stmatthiasparish.org

**Preschool Director,**  
**Rosemary Juarez**  
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650-367-1320

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