

# 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/>



**Registration is OPEN.** Contact Sabrina with questions.

**T**

**Breaking Open the Word**

Tuesday, Aug 27th  
at 1:30PM via  
Google Meet

**Th**

**Rosary for Peace**

Thursday, Aug 29th at 10AM  
Church

**M**

**Offices Closed for Labor Day**

Monday, Sept 2nd



**Join Peninsula Multifaith Coalition on Monday, Sept 2nd at 10AM at Twin Pines Park for Prayers for Peace.**

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

For the Chosen People and Jesus' disciples, this is the moment of truth. They must make a choice: serve the Lord or leave. Joshua, in addressing this question to all the people, gets one response, while Jesus, in addressing all his disciples, receives a different one. Saint Paul tells the Ephesians that we, the Church, are members of Christ's body and that Christ loves the Church as a husband loves his wife. As we hear God's word, let us insert ourselves in each reading and make our choice.

### **First Reading Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b**

Joshua gathered together all the tribes of Israel at Shechem, summoning their elders, their leaders, their judges, and their officers.

When they stood in ranks before God, Joshua addressed all the people:

"If it does not please you to serve the LORD, decide today whom you will serve, the gods your fathers served beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose country you are now dwelling. As for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

But the people answered, "Far be it from us to forsake the LORD for the service of other gods. For it was the LORD, our God, who brought us and our fathers up out of the land of Egypt, out of a state of slavery.

He performed those great miracles before our very eyes and protected us along our entire journey and among the peoples through whom we passed. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God."

### **Second Reading Eph 5:2a, 25-32**

Brothers and sisters:

Live in love, as Christ loved us.

Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ loved the church

and handed himself over for her to sanctify her, cleansing her by the bath of water with the word, that he might present to himself the church in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.

So also husbands should love their wives as their own bodies.

He who loves his wife loves himself.

For no one hates his own flesh but rather nourishes and cherishes it, even as Christ does the church, because we are members of his body.

For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.

This is a great mystery, but I speak in reference to Christ and the church.

### **Gospel Jn 6:60-69**

Many of Jesus' disciples who were listening said, "This saying is hard; who can accept it?"

Since Jesus knew that his disciples were murmuring about this, he said to them, "Does this shock you? What if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before?

It is the spirit that gives life, while the flesh is of no avail.

The words I have spoken to you are Spirit and life. But there are some of you who do not believe."

Jesus knew from the beginning the ones who would not believe and the one who would betray him. And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by my Father."

As a result of this, many of his disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer accompanied him. Jesus then said to the Twelve, "Do you also want to leave?" Simon Peter answered him, "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God."

### **Music for August 24-25, 2024**

**Opening:** The Summons

Gloria Mass of St. Ann

**Ps. Resp. & Acclaim**

**Offertory:** Love Burns Bright

**Communion:** Bread of Heaven (Manibusan/Hart)

**Closing:** Open My Eyes to Your Heart

## **Maronite Church Announcement**

Our Pastor, Fr. Roy Remo, shared the following announcement with parishioners at both Masses last weekend (Aug 17-18):

*As your pastor, it is my obligation to inform you about this new development so that we can avoid misinformation and disinformation.*

*There is a Maronite Church, Our Lady of Lebanon in Millbrae, that is looking for a place to say Masses.*

*A Maronite Church is a Christian denomination within the Catholic Church that follows the Maronite rite. It is named after St. Maron, a 4th century hermit and founder of the Maronite monastic tradition. The Maronite Church is known for its distinctive liturgical practices, which include the use of the Syriac language and a rich tradition of worship and spirituality. It is primarily based in Lebanon, but had communities worldwide including in Millbrae where they have outgrown their small church.*

*They met with Fr. Dave a couple of times but the talks did not progress. Now that I am the pastor, they are asking again.*

*I met with Archbishop Cordileone on August 15, 2024 about this and he requested that the parish leadership from both churches meet. This will be the first time leadership from each church will meet and we can better hear whey they want and start to figure out what some possibilities could be, including exploring other options.*

*In this dialogue, the St. Matthias leadership will be represented by Finance Council members; Lynda Brouchoud, Roger Flores Jr., Justin Gibson, and Pastoral Council members; Teresa Anthony, Marti Engh, and Karen Rende along with myself while the Maronite community will be represented by Fr. Albert Constantine and his six community leaders. This first meeting was on Tuesday, August 20th and is just for this group. I encourage all to include this leadership group in your prayers and to pray that the Holy Spirit will guide us in this endeavor to seek God's will for the good of His church. – Fr. Roy*

**Following is what our leadership learned at the meeting on 8/20:**

## **FAQ's about Our Lady of Lebanon's interest to locate at St. Matthias Church**

### **Who is Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Church?**

Our Lady of Lebanon (OLOL) Maronite Catholic Church is an Eastern Syriac Antiochene traditional church serving the Maronite community in the South Bay, East Bay, and San Francisco. They serve under the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles.

### **Where is OLOL located now?**

Our Lady of Lebanon currently owns a location on El Camino in Millbrae (site of the former St. Dunstan's). They have been in this location since the 1980's and are now in need of a larger space.

### **Why St. Matthias?**

In 2021, Bishop Elias from the Los Angeles Eparchy asked Fr. Albert Constantine (Chancellor and Controller of the Los Angeles Eparchy) to help OLOL find a larger home in a centrally located geographical area. Bishop Elias approached his friend, Archbishop Cordileone, to help. Archbishop Cordileone offered up St. Matthias as a potential location. After Fr. Roy was assigned as our pastor, the Archdiocese approached him with this news. Fr. Roy solicited feedback from St. Matthias' leadership team and a joint meeting between representatives of St. Matthias leadership team and OLOL's leadership team was held to learn more on August 20, 2024.

### **What is OLOL looking for in their new space?**

OLOL is looking for a worship space to accommodate more than what they currently have, which is limited to a capacity of about 180 people. They also seek parking space, room for smaller group gatherings and programmatic needs such as youth group meetings and religious education, and recreation space. They are hoping to host their annual festival at the new location (currently the festival is held outside in the downtown RWC Courthouse Square).

They like Redwood City because they feel it is centrally located for their parishioners. They want a permanent home to serve their generations to come. They want to build roots and feel welcomed.

### **What are their long-term plans?**

OLOL would like to initially move-in and ask St. Matthias to share our home with them, and then ideally

later purchase the property from the Archdiocese of San Francisco. In return, they can assist with officiating masses as their priest is bi-ritual in both the Eastern and Roman Catholic rites. This is similar to how the Maronite Church has arranged other locations. It would be up to Archbishop Cordileone to decide.

Fr. Roy told them that St. Matthias parishioners would oppose selling the property.

#### **What's Next?**

While there was a meeting on August 20, 2024, St. Matthias leadership is just learning the details behind this proposal and need to know more. Fr. Roy will be on vacation for a month and is planning a follow-up meeting for early October. In the meantime, St. Matthias Catholic Church and Preschool will continue operating as usual and we need your prayers and support to continue to fund our programs and ministries.

If you have further questions about this, please approach a member of the Leadership Team or Deacon Rich or Sabrina.

### **Faith Formation/Religious Education Registration Open**

Registration for all of our faith formation programs is now open. Please visit our parish website <https://www.stmatthiasparish.org/faith-formation/gift/> to learn more about our family-based faith formation program, called **Generations in Faith Together (GIFT)**, our **middle school youth ministry (MSYM) program for 5-8th graders**, our sacramental preparation program for **Reconciliation and First Holy Communion**, and for our **Confirmation** program. A Faith Formation Handbook is also available on this page of our website. The Handbook contains schedules for all the various programs. Please contact [Sabrina@stmatthiasparish.org](mailto:Sabrina@stmatthiasparish.org) with any questions.

### **Bible Study: What Old Testament Women Teach Us About Mary**

The study of salvation history is incomplete without studying the Old Testament (Hebrew Bible). Women played a significant role in revealing God's plan for His

people beginning with Eve. Throughout the ages, women raised their children, prayed and gave thanks to God and risked their lives for the God of their ancestors. Many demonstrated courage, perseverance, leadership, conversion, and suffering.

**This series will begin on Sept 16th and sessions will be held at 10AM and 7PM.** Contact Deacon Rich [rich@stmatthiasparish.org](mailto:rich@stmatthiasparish.org) for more information.

### **Becoming a Fully-Initiated Catholic—RCIA**

Do you know someone who has thought about becoming Catholic or, for whatever reason, has been baptized but has not been confirmed or received Holy Communion? Do you or someone you know have questions about the sacraments and what it means to be a Catholic? Please consider RCIA.

The Catholic Church has a process for adults to discern whether God is inviting them to learn more about our faith and, perhaps, to become Catholic. This process is also a pathway to complete the Sacraments of Initiation for those already Baptized (Confirmation, Eucharist).

Participants are parishioners from St. Matthias and St. Charles parishes along with their sponsors and team members. RCIA sessions will be held on Sunday mornings from 11AM to Noon in Room 5 of the Preschool building. **The first RCIA gathering will be held on Sunday, September 22nd.**

Deacon Rich and Deacon David of St. Matthias will lead and facilitate RCIA sessions. If you have any questions, know of someone who would like to discuss joining RCIA, are considering being a team member, or would just like to experience the RCIA process, please contact Deacon Rich at [rich@stmatthiasparish.org](mailto:rich@stmatthiasparish.org).

Please pray that the Holy Spirit calls individuals to seek a deeper relationship with Almighty God through His Church.

## MASS INTENTIONS

SAT, August 24 @ 5:00 PM — Bruce Dinkel +

SUN, August 25th @ 9:45 AM — William Pacumio +

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

**Jerry Acozta**

**Stacy Baldwin**

**Tommie Fogliani**

**Sofia Rodriguez Gaddi**

**Cheryl Granucci**

**Joy & Charles**

**Jim Lynch**

**Rose Marino**

**Carol McAdams**

**Rudolfo Pelayo**

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

**Pat Schott** *who recently returned home to God.*

## Catholic San Francisco (CSF)

### Magazine Subscriptions

CSF Magazine is a free subscription to parishioners. If you are not receiving the magazine, but would like to subscribe, please contact Diane Powell, 415-614-5589 or powelld@sfarch.org

### St. Matthias Catholic Preschool

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Contact Preschool Director

Rosemary Juarez at  
[rosemary@stmatthiasparish.org](mailto:rosemary@stmatthiasparish.org)  
 or call (650) 367-1320



### PARISH CONTACT

#### INFORMATION

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[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](mailto:frroy@stmatthiasparish.org)

**Parochial Vicar,  
 Fr. Samuel Musiimenta**

**Adult Faith Formation Coordinator,  
 Deacon Rich Foley**  
[rich@stmatthiasparish.org](mailto:rich@stmatthiasparish.org)  
**Deacon David Rolandelli**  
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**Pastoral Associate,  
 Sabrina Harper**

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 Lisa Bamford**  
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**Music Director, Melanie Dresbach**  
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 Rosemary Juarez**  
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