

St. Matthias CHURCH & SCHOOL

St. Matthias Parish

1582 Ferris Road Columbus, OH 43224-2115 614-267-3406

Dear Parishioners,

We are now reemerging from the covid-19 pandemic and excited to rebuild our community. In the rebuilding process, we are mindful of the *Real Presence Real Future* initiative in the Diocese of Columbus as all our parishes find creative ways to collaborate with each other and find new ways of being the Catholic Church in Columbus for the years and decades ahead. As we know personally, change is never easy. However, everything we have been through and are currently doing will benefit the Catholics of the Northland Area in the years to come. As we prepare for 2022, may we remain committed to our parish mission and vision.

I am grateful to God to be your pastor.

Sincerely,

Rev. Anthony J. Davis

Rev. Arahany J. Davis

Parish Groups

- **Athletic Association**: New to St. Matthias in 2020, this group of volunteers coordinates the Parish Athletic programs, which include baseball, basketball, track, and volleyball, among others. Athletics are open to students in our school as well as students in our PSR program. Our leagues are sponsored by the Diocesan Recreation Office. For more information, please contact the association at athletics@stmatthiascolumbus.com.
- **Brazilian Catholic Community**: The Brazilian Catholic Community was established on Epiphany in January of 2006. The group meets weekly for mass each Sunday evening at 7:15 pm. The mass is celebrated in Portuguese. Visitors welcome! The community also sponsors events and socials throughout the year.
- **Catholic Women's Association (CWA)**: New to St. Matthias, the Catholic Women's Association is a doctrinal, prayer, and social group, which follows the literature and programing of the CWA as found in Cameroon. Membership requirements include: women at least 18 years old, one year formative period, and a dedicated communicant. For more information, contact the president of the association, Cecilia Fomenky, at fomenky2@yahoo.com.
- **Funeral Ministry**: This ministry offers comfort to families who have funerals at the parish by attending the funeral, serving as ushers, being part of the funeral choir, and, if requested, preparing the room for and serving a luncheon following the burial at the cemetery.
- Haitian Catholic Community: The Haitian Catholic Community began at St. Matthias in 2006 to serve Haitians throughout the city, although many live close to our parish. The Community currently meets every Sunday (except the first Sunday of the month) for mass at 1:30 pm. Mass is celebrated with a mixture of Creole, French, and English. Visitors welcome! The Community also hosts a few events throughout the year, including a Labor Day Festival in our parking lot.
- **Homebound Ministry**: This ministry is comprised of parishioners who visit our homebound parishioners (whether at a private residence, skilled nursing facility, or hospital) and take them Holy Communion. To volunteer for this ministry or to get an elderly family member or friend on the homebound list, please contact the Parish Office so that we can keep our records updated. Fr. Tony will also make quarterly visits to our homebound parishioners.
- **Immigration Ministry**: Parishioners who are within their first 5 years in the United States are encouraged to support each other in their transition to life in Columbus. Funds are available to help with rent, food, lawyer costs, etc. Please contact Fr. Tony Davis for possible assistance.

- ☑ Justice Ministry: Parishioners and non-parishioners, Catholics and non-Catholics, who want to do justice are encouraged to get involved in this ministry. The Justice Ministry is connected to BREAD, the local community organizing group through St. Matthias Church. There are three levels of involvement: team leader, network member, and participant.
- **Knights of Columbus and Men's Prayer Group**: Men of the parish are encouraged to join our local Knights of Columbus Assumption Council #3727 and/or the Saturday Men's Prayer Group. For more information about the Knights of Columbus, contact the Grand Knight at grandknight@kofc3727.org. For more information about the Men's Prayer Group or to submit prayer requests, contact Sir. Emeka Anyadoh.
- **Liturgy Committee**: New to St. Matthias, this committee includes some leaders of the various liturgical ministries. As a group, they will oversee all the ministries connected to liturgy, which include the following:

Eucharistic Ministers Sacristans

Altar Servers Ushers

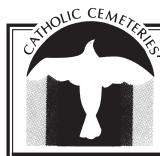
Lectors Arts and Environment.

- **Merry Widows**: The Merry Widows was established through the inspiration of Fr. James Smith, former pastor, to build community among the widows of the parish. The group meets for social gatherings and friendship throughout the year. Please look for upcoming events in the bulletin.
- Music Ministry: This ministry encompasses musicians, weekend cantors, choir, and funeral choir. Cantors and members of the choirs generally rehearse 1-2 times per month. For more information, contact our Director of Music, Gwendolyn Rehm at music@stmatthiascolumbus.com.
- **Nigerian Catholic Community**: The Nigerian Catholic Community was the first official Ethnic Group to start at St. Matthias. While many members belong to our parish, others are registered at other parishes throughout the city. The community currently meets the third Sunday of the month at 3:00 pm for mass. It is celebrated in English with some Igbo. Visitors welcome!
- Parish School of Religion (PSR): The PSR is our program for students not enrolled in a Catholic School to receive religious instruction, especially in preparation for the sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Communion, and Confirmation. The group meets on select Sunday mornings from 10:00 am − 10:45 am, as well as additional sacramental preparation parent meetings and opportunities for service projects.

- Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA): These classes are for those who are seeking to become Catholic. It is open to non-baptized people as well as Christians of another denomination. Classes are weekly from Fall until Easter. Candidates are formally brought into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil each year. Please contact the Parish Offices in September if you are interested in attending the classes. Any parishioners interested in being a sponsor may also contact the Parish Offices or Jennifer Grant at jencbus@gmail.com
- **School Advisory Board**: This group of school parents and other members of the school community meets with the Principal on a monthly basis to discuss parent feedback, calendar updates, new ideas, and staff appreciation opportunities. For more information, contact Mr. Dan Kinley, our school principal, at dkinley@cdeducation.org

Activities

- **Book Studies**: Throughout the year, please look for information about upcoming book studies facilitated by Fr. Tony. The assigned books touch on topics such as spirituality, contemporary issues, and faith formation. Meetings are usually weekly on Thursday evenings for 4-6 weeks per book.
- Garage Sale: Each July, the parish hosts a large garage sale in our gymnasium. In the weeks leading up to the sale, we appreciate donated items for the sale. Throughout the garage sale weekend, we rely on many volunteers to help cover all the duties. To help with the sale, look for information in the bulletin.
- **Fish Fry**: Each Friday during Lent, the parish hosts a Fish Fry in our gymnasium. This requires many volunteers and advertising the dinners to the community. Please look for more information about volunteering in the weeks leading up to Lent.
- **Children's Liturgy of the Word:** This service is offered to the children of the parish (grades K-5) at the 11:00 am Sunday mass during the school year. Children are dismissed by the priest from the Church after the opening prayer. Adult leaders will take them to the school library to discuss the Gospel passage, sing songs, and offer prayer intentions. Children will be brought back to the Church during the preparation of the Altar so they can participate in the Liturgy of the Eucharist.
- **Children's Pre-School Liturgy**: Children of the parish ages 3-5 are invited to the Kindergarten Room during the 11:00 am Sunday morning mass to learn about God.
- **Additional Activities:** Look for additional activities to give to those in need, such as the Christmas Toy Drive, Lenten Rice Bowls, Kairos Prison Ministry, and more throughout the year. The weekly bulletin and parish Flocknote are the best resources to stay up-to-date with opportunities at St. Matthias.



"A Sacred Trust"

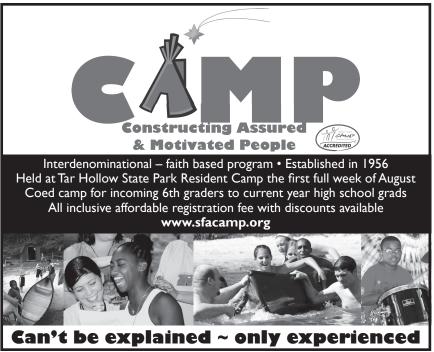
St. Joseph Cemetery (614) 491-2751
Resurrection Cemetery (614) 888-1805
Holy Cross Cemetery (740) 927-4442
Mt. Calvary Cemetery (614) 491-2751

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St. Matthias www.stmatthiascolumbus.com

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St. Matthias Columbus

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