

THE ANTIPHON

The Parish Newsletter of
St Matthias' Church, Dallas, Texas

JANUARY AD 2026

Dear Parish Family,

Happy New Year! The secular New Year is always a time for reflection on what happened in the past year, and also a time to think about what's ahead. 2025 was a big year in the life of our parish, to say the least! After having been called as your new Rector and starting here in September, the rest of the year flew by. I know I've said it before, and I'll say it again: I am so happy and honored to have been called to serve you all. Getting to know all of you and learning about the life and traditions of this parish has been a joy.

There's a lot to be excited about in the year ahead, and I'm looking forward to sharing some important developments with you all at our annual Parish Meeting. 2026 is shaping up to be a year in which substantial steps forward are taken by this parish. I look forward to reviving events and ministries which haven't been seen for a while, and also trying some new things with you all. All of us, especially those of us who have been members for some time, know what a special and holy place St Matthias' is. We know how much we have to offer to the greater Dallas area, and we want our parish to grow and thrive for, God willing, many years to come.

A big part of our realizing this vision of having a growing and thriving parish that we can pass on to future generations is, as Fr John Jordan said at my Institution, having a willingness to try our hand at various events and ministries. We might step up to the plate and strike out sometimes, and that's alright. Sometimes, we'll have some moderate success and hit a single or double. Every now and then,

we might just hit a home run. The key is having that willingness to step up and swing! I look forward to “going to bat” with all of you! (Can’t you tell I’m ready for baseball season already?)

The point is, I’m excited about moving forward alongside you all in 2026 and doing the good work for God’s Kingdom which He is calling us to do with cheerfulness, faithfulness, and great love for Him, for one another, for our neighbors, and for ourselves. In the New Year, may God renew all of our hearts so that we might be good, faithful, and joyful servants.

To close, I thought I would offer a word on the Feast of the Holy Name of Our Lord, which we always celebrate on January 1st each year. St Paul says in his letter to the Philippians that God the Father has bestowed on our Lord “a name that is above every name.” He goes on to add that at Jesus’ Name, “every knee should bow.” The Name of Jesus is truly high and exalted, and this is why it is customary to bow one’s head at the mention of the Holy Name, especially in the liturgy of the Church. This reverence and devotion paid to the Lord’s Name is right, not only because it is the Name given to Christ by God the Father, but also because of all that our Lord has done for us. May we honor the precious and holy Name of Jesus in all that we do in the coming year as individuals and as a parish. May all that we do be done to the glory of His Name and in His Name.

Yours in Christ,

Fr Travis Province

MINISTRY BRANDS AMPLIFY UPDATE

Thank you for your patience and cooperation as we complete the implementation of our new parish platform, Ministry Brands Amplify. Over the past month, invite emails were sent, volunteer scheduling requests were issued, and automated reminders for December were successfully rolled out. Many parishioners are now actively using the system.

December served as our transition month, during which both Amplify and our prior methods of communication and scheduling were used. Beginning in January, Amplify will become our primary system for parish communications, scheduling, events, and reminders.

If you have not yet activated your account or downloaded the mobile app, we encourage you to do so as soon as possible. The app is available by scanning the QR code below, and activation instructions were included in your invite email (contact the Parish Office if you need your invite email resent).



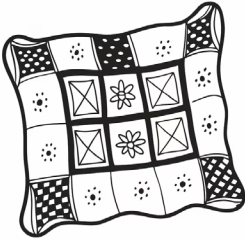
Helpful Reminders

- Text messages come from 22383
- Parish emails are sent from noreply@people.myamplify.io
- Voice messages come from the church number (214) 358-2585
- Our **refreshed parish website is now live**, offering easier access to parish information, events, and resources

We are grateful for the cooperation and feedback we received during this transition and appreciate your support as we move fully into the new system. If you have any questions, encounter issues, or need assistance, please contact the Parish Office—we are happy to help.

If you missed our original announcement, please refer to the December Antiphon (page 5).

PRAYERS & SQUARES MINISTRY



The Prayers and Squares Ministry will meet Thursday, January 15th at 4:30pm. We have given over 300 quilts and many prayers to those in need. If you know someone who would benefit from extra prayers and support, please consider a quilt for them. Contact neperrine@gmail.com to make a request.



DID YOU KNOW?

Are your retirement accounts subject to Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs), or are you over age 70 1/2? You can ask your financial advisor to make your tithe and pledge contributions to St Matthias directly from your IRA, and it will potentially reduce the income tax you owe on your distribution. Making your contributions to St Matthias (and other qualified charities) through your RMD can save you more than itemizing your deductions. While it may seem complicated, making contributions directly from your IRA or retirement account can be an important tool to save you money. You can get more information from the IRS website at <https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/qualified-charitable-distributions-allow-eligible-ira-owners-up-to-100000-in-tax-free-gifts-to-charity> or your financial advisor.



KNIT & STITCH

Important Date Change

Please take special note of a schedule change for the Knit & Stitch Group. Due to an especially busy parish morning next Tuesday—including a 7:00 a.m. Mass and the Altar Guild un-decorating the church—the Knit & Stitch Group will not meet on Tuesday, January 6th.

Instead, the group will meet on Tuesday, January 13th, beginning at 10:00 a.m. in Duncan Hall.

All women of the parish are warmly invited to attend this monthly gathering. Please bring your knitting, stitching, sewing, or other handwork and enjoy a morning of fellowship.



A NOTE OF THANKS FROM FR KRAFT

Father Kraft extends his heartfelt thanks to the parish for the generous Christmass Purse. He is deeply grateful for your kindness, thoughtfulness, and continued support, and asks that you please know of his prayers for you and your families during this Christmass season and throughout the coming year.

THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

A New Tuesday Evening Bible Study

January 13th – May 12th, 2026

Tuesdays | 7:00–8:30 p.m.

Instructor: Donna Wheeler, Parish Catechist

What better way to begin the New Year than by deepening your understanding of the New Testament?

This new Tuesday evening Bible study will take participants on a rich and engaging journey through **The Gospel of Matthew**, exploring the world of Jesus and His disciples through parables, teachings, healings, and miracles. Written by a tax collector turned disciple, Matthew's Gospel offers profound insight into the life of Christ and the foundation of the early Church.

Throughout the course, we will examine how Matthew reveals:

- The New Covenant as the fulfillment of God's promises to Abraham, Moses, and David
- Jesus as the long-awaited Davidic Messiah who fulfills the prophecies
- The Church as the Kingdom of heaven on earth
- Christ's call to make disciples of all nations

Together, we will read and discuss the entire Gospel of Matthew, reflecting on how its message continues to speak to our lives and our world today. This is a highly interactive class, encouraging questions, discussion, and fellowship—much like the experience of the first disciples.

All you need to bring is a Bible. *There is no homework.*

To participate in this study, please sign up using the QR code or see the bulletin for the sign-up sheet.



THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Sunday, January 25th

Following the ONE Mass of the Day

Matins 9:00am, Solemn High Mass 9:30am

All parishioners, long-time and new, are encouraged to be at this important meeting. And those of you presently sharing in our life and considering becoming part of our parish family are most cordially invited; we do hope you will join with us in this most important meeting of the year.

Following Mass, there will be a short break for some refreshment. Then we will come into session in the church for the Meeting. At it, we will consider the state of the parish, review the year just ended and look ahead. Also, we will elect new members to the important offices of Vestry and to our Diocesan Convention Delegation.

St Matthias' Church

ANGLICAN

In the Diocese of Fort Worth, the Province of South America, THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION

The Anglican Church in North America (ACNA)

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Archbishop & Primate of the Province of South America

Archbishop ACNA

Bishop of Fort Worth

Bishop Assistant of Fort Worth

Rector

Rector Emeritus

Assisting Priest

Assisting Priest

Parish Administrator

Parish Musician

Choral Scholars

The Most Rev'd Brian Williams

The Most Rev'd Stephen Wood

The Rt Rev'd Ryan S. Reed, SSC

The Rt Rev'd Keith L. Ackerman, SSC

The Rev'd Father Travis A. Province, SSC

The Rev'd Canon Dwight D. Duncan, SSC

The Rev'd Father H. Ivor Kraft, SSC

The Rev'd Canon Ronald L. McCrary, SSC

Mrs Heather Lopez

Mr J. Richard Abrahamson

Ms Lisa Wells, Mr Erick Reich

DAILY LITURGY SCHEDULE

Monday through Friday:

6:45am - Matins

7:00am - Mass

Wednesday: Noon - Mass

Saturday: 9:00am - Matins

9:15am - Mass

Confessions - Noon to 12:30pm