



WEEKLY SCHEDULE FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER

SUNDAYS:

10:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST
10:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL (date TBA)

A MESSAGE FROM FR. MATHEW

Dear people of God,

Greetings to all of you in the blessed name of Jesus Christ! Let me please share a thought with you through this letter. As I am writing this letter, I'm having a nostalgic flashback into my childhood.

Don't throw away the cone! I have heard these words a few times from my parents and others during my childhood. When I was a little kid, I had an interesting habit. Whenever my parents bought me an ice cream cone (one of my favorites), I would always eat only the tasty dessert part and throw away the cone. Perhaps, the cone did not look so edible to me and it might have looked unappealing in comparison to the smooth ice cream on top of the cone. Then came the exhortation from my dad and/or mom whenever an ice cream cone was served. I was told, "Eat the cone also! Don't throw the cone away."

Let me use this illustration as an analogy. I feel that our religiosity is like the ice cream cone. The beautiful liturgy, rituals, and rubrics of worship certainly add beauty and a certain level of charisma to the church experience. It is like the soft ice cream that is indeed fascinating. However, the teachings of Jesus Christ contained in the good news of the gospel is like the cone. We might likely find it unappealing sometimes or might feel that it does not fit our own personal agenda. But without that gospel, the church is incomplete and our religiosity is in vain. May God help us to experience that fullness - the fullness of church life through both the beautiful liturgy and the gospel. Actually the liturgy and the gospel are unified because in fact we are reliving the gospel narrative through our liturgy. It is like the ice cream cone - the cone that should not be separated from the delicious dessert. Let us accept both the ice cream and the cone. Amen!

Peace, Varghese Mathew+

OUTREACH SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4 DOBBS FERRY FOOD PANTRY

Due to the increase in the number of needy families in Westchester our September Outreach will focus on the Dobbs Ferry Food Pantry. In addition to contributions of food and household cleaning supplies, the Pantry needs cash to supplement the donations they receive. We all know the saying: Man does not live by bread

alone," but without that bread a person cannot function or deal with the demands of life. We are fortunate that the Dobbs Ferry Food Pantry exists and has served the Westchester needy community so faithfully. Please help them this month with a generous donation.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4 A SPECIAL COFFEE HOUR CELEBRATION OF AN INDIAN TRADITION: ONAM

The Mathew family is hosting a special coffee hour with vegetarian food on Sunday September 4 in observance of Onam, the Indian Harvest Festival of Kerala. A major annual event for Kerala, it is the official festival of the state and includes a number of cultural events. We are blessed at St. Barnabas to have a front row seat in learning about another culture, so please plan on joining us to share in this experience. It's traditional to wear white for the occasion, so, if you can, please wear something white.

SING INTO THE LORD!

Music lovers will be happy to know that our choir returns on September 12 under the direction of our organist and choirmaster, Larry Wolf. Tenor, Charles Curtis, soprano, Kathy Wolf, mezzo soprano, Katherine Doe, and baritone, Russell Ashley will all be returning to perform the music that makes our Sunday Eucharists so special.

SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMES IN SEPTEMBER (DATE TBA)

We are fortunate to have Anu Mathew as our Sunday School teacher, and we would love to see more children come to St. Barnabas to benefit from her teaching. If you know of anyone in your neighborhood who is looking for a Sunday School for their child, please invite them to our church. Small classes often make the experience more personal and meaningful to a child.

MIDNIGHT RUN, SEPTEMBER 16

Our friends from the Noroton Presbyterian Church in Darien Ct. have been absolutely great about lending their support to our runs. We had four cars for the August run and everything was given away: clothes food, toiletries, etc. Please note: sorting of clothes for the September run will take place on Wednesday September 13 starting at 10 AM. As always the more hands on deck the faster we can sort. Please do whatever you can to help support the September run.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 ALL CHURCH PICNIC AT SECOR PARK

Please join us at Secor Park on September 25, following the 10 AM Eucharist, and, even better, invite a friend or a whole family to come with you. St. Barnabas is a warm and welcoming parish, and this is a great opportunity to reach out to those who do not know us. Just sign up on the sheet at the back of the church and let us know what food you can bring. If you can't bring food, then at least bring yourself—and that friend or family!

AVERT: AN OUTREACH PROGRAM



During the month of July, Fr. Mathew attended a special training program conducted at the Ardsley-Secor Volunteer Ambulance Corps (ASVAC) office. In light of incidents of violence in places of worship, a certification program called Active Violence Emergency Response Training (AVERT) was offered in the community.

AVERT training focuses on responding to violent threats through self defense and disarming techniques. In addition, participants of the program were trained in basic first aid techniques. Now, Fr. Mathew is AVERT certified by the Health and Safety Institute (HSI). Congrats to Fr. Mathew!

Pictured here is Fr. Mathew with Captain Greg Khitrov of ASVAC and a photo of the training in progress.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, EVELYN!

On September 12 Evelyn Spencer will be celebrating her 101st birthday. Congratulations, Evelyn, you are an inspiration to us all! Prior to the pandemic Evelyn was a regular attendant at our Sunday Eucharist. She now resides at King's Street Rehab in Rye Brook. If you would like to reach out to her the address for Rye Brook Rehab is 787 King St. Rye Brook, NY 10573. Please tell us your secret to a long life, Evelyn!



THE JENKINS AWARD FOR SERVICE TO YOUNG PEOPLE

Carolanne and Mark Florkowski were awarded The Jenkins Award on June 8, 2022 at the Ardsley Middle School. The award is given to individuals for outstanding service to young people in the community which has made a significant impact on their lives. Previous awardees have been school personnel, parents, and other community members. Carolanne has been a loyal Midnight Run volunteer as a driver and so much more. Congratulations to both Carolanne and Mark!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL AND SANDWICH SATURDAY

22 children participated in the Vacation Bible School (VBS) that was held on Friday, August 13 and Saturday August 14. The theme of the VBS was Food Truck Party: On the Roll with God, a really wonderful curriculum from Cokesbury. The theme verse for the VBS was, "Give us this day our daily bread (Matthew 6: 11)." The program was fun-filled with interactive Bible stories, arts, crafts, and games. The lessons emphasized problems of poverty and hunger and encouraged the children to think about others who are less fortunate.

On Saturday, the Vacation Bible School conducted an outreach initiative called Sandwich Saturday. The sandwiches that the children and volunteers prepared were delivered to Open Arms Men's Shelter in White Plains. As part of the program, we also collected non-perishable items that were delivered to the nonprofit organization, Lifting up Westchester, which focuses on homelessness and restoration of well-being in the community.

A special VBS song with dance was presented during the following morning's church service. Thanks to the VBS coordinator Anu and the wonderful team of our parish volunteers, parents, and children. We are very thankful for God's blessing during the two days of the VBS.

