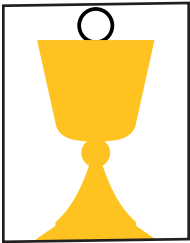


The Saint Barnabas Beacon

OCTOBER 1-31, 2026

100+ Years of Building Faith, Family & Fellowship



WEEKLY SCHEDULE FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

SUNDAYS:

10:00 AM EUCHARIST

10:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL

LETTER FROM FR. MATHEW

Dear people of God,

Greetings to all of you in the blessed name of Jesus Christ! Sunday, September 20 of 2026 marked a very joyous occasion in the life of our parish with the visitation of Bishop Allen Shin. It was a blessing to celebrate my fifteenth ordination anniversary of priesthood and my son Francis' sixteenth birthday during the bishop's visit. I praise Almighty God for a joyful experience of worship and fellowship! My family members and former parishioners also joined the auspicious occasion making the moment even more memorable. It was wonderful to have All Saints Episcopal Church in Valley Cottage and St. Joseph's of Arimathea Episcopal Church in White Plains attend. I felt really delighted to have so many visitors.

While celebrating the occasion, I was having a flashback to the day my son was born. Holding the newborn in my hands, I made the decision to step into ordained ministry. So it is more than coincidence that we are celebrating two milestones in the Mathew family. I remain grateful to my home parish, All Saints in Valley Cottage, for encouraging and sponsoring me to priesthood. I was ordained first as a deacon and then a priest by the Church of North India (CNI) in the year of 2011. Also, I am thankful to St. Joseph's of Arimathea (our neighboring parish) for their continued support – I was blessed with the opportunity to serve St. Joseph's as an interim priest before stepping into St. Barnabas in the year 2019. Upon completion of 15 years as a clergy person; let me thankfully state that the latter half of my ministry during this period of time was at St. Barnabas. As I continue my ministry here, I request that you uphold me in your prayers.

Let me express my heartfelt gratitude to my St. Barnabas parish family for your support and encouragement. All of you worked very hard to make the occasion of Bishop Shin's visit very special. I express my thanks to the wardens, the vestry members, worship leaders, acolyte(s), choir, ushers, zoom coordinator, altar guild and other parish volunteers for the collective effort. Either by your attendance or active participation or both, you made the day a moment to cherish. Additionally, thank you so much for your gift! My family also joins me in conveying their sincere appreciation. As we journey together as a community and step into another chapter of our parish life, let us pray for the guidance

and empowering presence of the Holy Spirit to continue Jesus Christ's ministry. May God Almighty bless us all!

In Christ's Love,
Varghese Mathew + Varghese Mathew

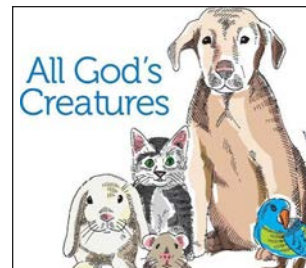
OCTOBER 4 OUTREACH SUNDAY MIDNIGHT RUN

In 1984 homelessness was rampant in New York City. While much public notice was taken of homelessness, what was not noticed was that among the homeless were some who cared for those less able to make their way to sources of food and clothing. A few members of a church in Dobbs Ferry were volunteering at a Manhattan soup kitchen, and our own father Bob Godley plus volunteers from other churches and synagogues in Westchester County, began visiting Grand Central Station and the streets nearby on Tuesday and Friday nights to distribute food, supplies and clothing, and to offer companionship to homeless people. By 1989 a dozen groups were participating.



Until November 1989, Midnight Run used the facilities of South Presbyterian Church in Dobbs Ferry as a basis of operation, including the storing of food, clothing and supplies. That year Midnight Run was incorporated as a not-for-profit organization, and a generous contribution by a Westchester corporation enabled them to rent their first headquarters at 97 Main St. in Dobbs Ferry. There they collect, sort, and store clothes, prepare food, and coordinate the donations and the thousands of volunteers it takes to make Midnight Run a reality. Enthusiasm for Midnight Run has been contagious, and without a grand master plan, the program has grown from the original tiny group to a collaboration of more than 250 community organizations.

The Midnight Run continues to be the primary outreach program for St. Barnabas, and it is fitting we have chosen it for our outreach fundraiser for October through December. Please support the Midnight Run with your donations.



OCTOBER 4 ST. FRANCIS DAY

Among other things, Saint Francis is the patron saint of animals, believing that religious faith and care for God's creatures go hand-in-hand. Bring your pets, or pictures of them if they don't travel well, to Saint Barnabas on October 4 for a blessing on Saint Francis Day.

In the event of a pastoral emergency, please contact
Fr. Mathew 914-572-1568

Newsletter Editor: Pat Breinin,
Newsletter Design: Dennis Di Vincenzo

REMEMBER TO BRING DONATIONS FOR THE DOBBS FERRY FOOD PANTRY

OCTOBER 16 MIDNIGHT RUN

One of our regulars is unavailable for the sorting of clothes for the October Midnight Run so we need your help that morning. Sorting of clothes starts at 10 AM on Wednesday October 14. For the August and September runs the sorting was done by noon. With enough hands the job can be done in short order. The Midnight Run store supplies us with new underwear and socks and the rest (pants, hoodies, sweatshirts, etc.) comes from donations, also collected by the Midnight Run store. During August and September we were short one car for the run itself. If you can drive or just go as a helper, please volunteer!



Our thanks to all who have been helping in one way or another with this mission. And special thanks to Rick Weaver who kept us fired up with donuts when he pitched in on Wednesdays

COFFEE HOUR



We all enjoy our weekly coffee hours following the Sunday Eucharist and the practice of volunteering to bring food works pretty well even if the results are a little strange sometimes. Kathy Wolf sends out

weekly notices asking for food donations. If you let her know in advance what you are bringing it helps avoid situations where 2 people show up with bowls of fruit on a Sunday (no complaints though about the fact it was healthy).

The problem lies in setting up for coffee hour which only takes a few minutes (setting up the coffee urn, putting out utensils, paper napkins and plates.) This can be done the day before, so you don't have to come early on a Sunday morning. We are begging for more volunteers to pop in on Saturday to perform this easy task. Please!

OUR GIFT TO FR MATHEW IN CELEBRATION OF HIS 15 YEARS AS AN ORDAINED PRIEST AND HIS SERVICE TO ST. BARNABAS

Part of our September 20 Trifecta was the presentation of a plaque and a financial gift to Fr. Mathew in celebration of his 15 years as an ordained priest and in thanks for his service to St. Barnabas since 2019. Sharon deVivo presented the plaque and gift to Fr. Mathew during the luncheon that followed the Sunday service... The message on the plaque read:



*Celebrating 15 Years of Ordination
The Rev. Dr. Varghese Mathew
St. Barnabas Episcopal Church
We give thanks to God for the gift
of your faithful ministry, loving
service, and pastoral care.*

*With love and gratitude,
Your St. Barnabas Family*



SEPTEMBER 20 TRIFECTA: BISHOP SHIN'S VISIT, A CELEBRATION OF FR. MATHEW'S 15 YEARS AS AN ORDAINED PRIEST, A CELEBRATION OF FRANCIS' 16TH BIRTHDAY

For all of the above reasons, September 20 was a joyous day of celebration! We were so happy to see our church filled with the faithful who came to share in the joy of the occasion. During the luncheon that followed the service, Anu Mathew mc'd a host of tributes to Fr. Mathew from past and present parishioners. Below are pictures from the event:

