Stewardship Report

September 23
Offertory $6,943.
Faith Direct $2,681
Total $9,624
Last Year $11,106

We are grateful for your generosity.

Items of Note at St. Matthias

Youth Ministry will have its first meeting of the school year on Sunday, October 14th, from 12:00-2:30 PM in the Hughes Center. Teens in grades 9-12 are welcome to attend. Lunch is provided!

Dance Ministry: The St. Matthias Liturgical Dance Ministry is recruiting young ladies in grades 9-12. Rehearsals are held on Tuesdays from 7:00-8:00 PM in the Church. Our first rehearsal will be held on October 16th. We will pray, complete registration forms, discuss the ministry, and review potential songs. Please contact the coordinator, Mrs. Zita Givens at 301-577-1853 for more information.

Do You Need Documents Shredded? Parish office volunteers will shred a maximum of 2 grocery bags of your documents. A monetary donation to the parish is appreciated. Please call the parish office.

Volunteers Are Needed to help at the receptionist’s desk in the Hughes Center. Hours are Monday-Thursday from 8:00 AM-12:00 PM or from 12:00 PM-4:00 PM., and on Friday from 8:00 AM-12:00 PM. Most volunteers work once or twice per month. Please contact Thad Ereme at 301-459-4814 x 207 for more information.

The St. Matthias Prayer Group meets in the church every Sunday immediately after the 11:30 AM Mass. All are welcome.

The Catholic Women’s Association meets after the 11:30 AM Mass on the second and fourth Sundays of the month.

Friendship Hall: It’s time to book your event for 2019. Please call Thad Ereme at 301-459-4814 x 207 for information and availability.

Please pray for the sick and homebound in our parish, our neighbors, family, and friends:
Elaine and Melvin Brooks; Muriel Brown; Barbara Falls; Francis and Genevieve Greenfield; William Halbe; Helen Jacik; Janet Kinard; John and Joan Kodak; Susan Lum; June Provini; Margaret & Bill Riley; Mary Soh; Kay Villemi; Mae Young; Dennis Zanin; Elda Zanin; Sister Giustina Zanin; Zaria Zanin; Rita and Eugene Zehner

For our military, protect them from all harm. For the faithful departed, may they rest in peace.

Names will be placed on our prayer list for 4 weeks. To place a name on the list, please contact Pat Ford at 301-459-4814 x 201, or email pford@stmatthias.org.
**Faith Formation**

**Faith Formation Registration:** Classes began on September 17th. Registration will only be open until October 1st. Please come to the Hughes Center during regular office hours to register your children. No registrations will be accepted on Monday evenings.

**RCIA:** If you are interested in learning more about the Catholic faith or have been baptized in the Catholic church but need to prepare for First Communion/confirmation, then RCIA is the process for you. We meet in the Hughes Center on Wednesdays, from 7:00-8:30 PM. Please call Catherine Tolnay in the parish office at 301-459-4814 x 205 to make arrangements.

**Adult Bible Study:** On Tuesday, October 2nd, we will begin an 8 week adult Bible study on the book of Ephesians in the Hughes Center beginning at 9:15 AM. Please come and bring a friend!

**Knights of Columbus**

Tickets are available for the Knights of Columbus 49th Annual Car Raffle which benefits area charities and scholarship programs. Tickets are $1 each and are available from any council member, or you may call Don Aitcheson (240-43,45,47) or Ferdinand Ibebuchi (301-802-3075). The drawing will take place October 6th. You need not be present to win.

**Leisure Club**

Reserve your seat now for a bus trip to Harrington Raceway and Casino on October 25th. Cost is $30 which includes $15 for slot play and a $7 meal voucher. The bus will leave from St. Matthias at 9:15 AM and return at 5:00 PM. Checks may be made payable to St. Matthias Leisure Club and mailed to Rita Kitchings, 2426 Hyannis Lane, Crofton, MD 21114. She may be reached at 301-254-1038.

**Around the Archdiocese**

**The Alliance of Two Hearts** is sponsoring 40 Days of Prayer and Fasting as well as nine First Friday/First Saturday Vigils at St. Anthony’s Church, 1029 Monroe St., Washington, DC. Vigils begin at 8:00 PM. The next Vigils take place October 5th and 6th. For more information, please contact Candace Harshaw at 845-401-4678.

**The Academy of Saint Matthias**

**Tuition Assistance:** Our school year is off to a great start with many new students and families. 

*It’s not too early to think about the 2019-2020 school year.* The application for Archdiocesan financial aid, available at www.TADS.com, will open on October 1, 2018. Current school families will have until December 1, 2018, to submit their applications. Families who will be new to the Academy of Saint Matthias have until February of 2019 to apply. Please act quickly as financial aid is allocated very early. Questions? Please contact the school Admissions Director, Mrs. Ann O’Hare, at 301-577-9412.

**Yard Sale & Fall Festival:** Join us on October 6th from 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM for our Fall Community Yard Sale and Festival with fun & games, arts and crafts, and food. Festivities will be held in the parking lot in front of the church.

**Family Connection**

The second part of today’s Gospel contains a strong message for those who share the responsibility of fostering faith. It is indeed an awesome responsibility. Today’s Gospel reminds us that faith is a lifelong journey toward God. We don’t always get it all or even get it right. But we pray for the grace to acknowledge and build upon even the smallest signs of faith, in ourselves and in others. There are plenty of obstacles that might prevent the growth of faith. Let us pray that we are not contributing to the obstacles that might hinder another person’s faith in Jesus.

As you gather as a family, observe that there are things in our lives that nurture our faith and things that can hinder it. Talk about some of the things that nurture our faith—healthy family relationships, healthy friendships, good literature, and so on. Name some of the things that might be an obstacle to faith—unhealthy relationships, scandals, and so on. Observe that Jesus teaches us in today’s Gospel that we are to do everything we can to help one another have faith in Jesus and do all that we can to avoid creating obstacles that might hinder another person’s faith. Read together today’s Gospel, Mark 9:38-43,45,47-48. Conclude by praying together that we will be a family that helps each other grow in faith. Pray together today’s psalm, Psalm 19, or the Lord’s Prayer.