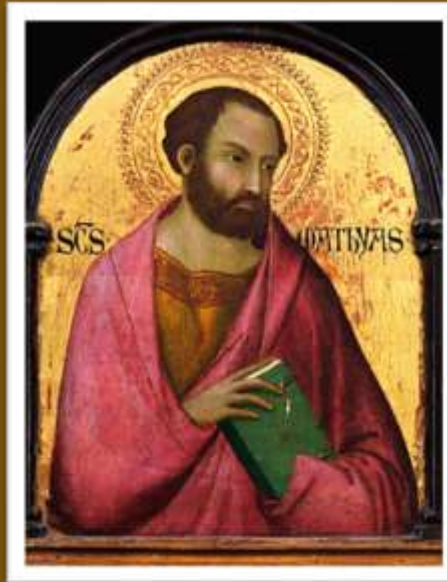


Saint Matthias  
(Apostle)  
14 May

About Saint Matthias

Saint Matthias was a companion of Jesus and a witness to His resurrection. He was one of two candidates put forward to take the place of Judas and was chosen by lot to take the place of Judas and so to share the apostolic ministry of the twelve (Acts 1:15-26). He is named in Eucharistic Prayer I (The Roman Canon).



Reflection on the life of Saint Matthias

Saint Matthias was chosen by lot after having his name put forward by the disciples. The choosing by lot was a way of putting the final choice into God's hands. Like Saint Matthias, many of us are chosen for a job or to perform various tasks. Sometimes we miss out on the job we were after, or any other number of things we so desperately wanted. At other times, we are chosen after an interview process that has involved other people putting their hand up for the job. We need to remember that we didn't get to where we are on our own. God has given us gifts and talents to use at the service of His people, and people have helped us along the way.

Let us remember to pray and give thanks to God for what He has given us and for the people He sends into our lives as a blessing.

## The Collect

O God, who assigned Saint Matthias  
a place in the college of Apostles,  
grant us, through his intercession,  
that, rejoicing at how your love has been allotted to us,  
we may merit to be numbered among the elect.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## Gospel Reading John 15: 9-17

*You are my friends if you do what I command you*

Jesus said to his disciples:  
'As the Father has loved me,  
so I have loved you.  
Remain in my love.  
If you keep my commandments  
you will remain in my love,  
just as I have kept my Father's commandments  
and remain in his love.  
I have told you this  
so that my own joy may be in you  
and your joy be complete.  
This is my commandment:  
love one another, as I have loved you.  
A man can have no greater love  
than to lay down his life for his friends.  
You are my friends,  
if you do what I command you.  
I shall not call you servants any more,  
because a servant does not know  
his master's business;  
I call you friends,  
because I have made known to you  
everything I have learnt from my Father.  
You did not choose me:  
no, I chose you;

and I commissioned you  
to go out and to bear fruit,  
fruit that will last;  
and then the Father will give you  
anything you ask him in my name.  
What I command you  
is to love one another.'

## Antiphon

This is my commandment:  
Love one another as I love you, says the Lord, alleluia!

## Hymn for the Feast of Saint Matthias

After the Lord's Ascension the brothers saw a need  
to replace traitor Judas, who'd paid for his vile deed.  
They sought to find a person ready to testify  
that Christ had truly risen and He no more would die.

O Saint Matthias, chosen for Christ, the Risen Lord,  
out of sixty disciples to preach the Holy Word.  
May we like you with patience always await our turn,  
ever prepared to serve God, and let faith in us burn.

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