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 Website: www.saintmatthews.ca

Sunday, September 13, 2020



24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Peter approached Jesus and asked him, "Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus answered, "I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times." - Mt 18:21-22

PARISH OFFICE

Rev. Tien Tran, Pastor ttran@rcav.org; frtientran9@gmail.com
Rev. Lucio Choi, Asst. Pastor lchoi@rcav.org
 604-589-2083 Rectory

Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM
 604-589-2448 office@saintmatthews.ca

Parish Admin: Ms. Caroline P. Mrazek
 Mrs. Stephanie Chessell
 Mrs. Anna G. De Leon

Bookkeeper: Mrs. Melanie A. Narvaez
P.R.E.P.: Mrs. Trish Van Vliet prep@saintmatthews.ca

Maintenance: Mr. Lorne Ward lorne@saintmatthews.ca
Elementary School: 604-589-7545 www.stmatthewselementary.ca
Preschool: 604-589-1222

REGULAR MASS TIMES

SUNDAY: English Masses - 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM, 12:30 PM, 7:30 PM; Vietnamese Mass 5 PM; African: Last Sunday 12:30 PM (Mass in English with African Choir)

SATURDAY: 9:00 AM / Anticipated Mass at 5:30 PM

WEEKDAYS: Monday to Friday (except TUESDAY) 8:00 AM
 Tuesday 7:00 PM
 Friday Night—Mass at 7:00 PM (Vietnamese)
 ***except First Friday (in English)

CONFESSIONS
 Half an hour before mass, pls. advise the usher for a priest to be called.
 OR, call or email the office to book an appointment.
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REGULAR DEVOTIONS

Holy Rosary
 20 minutes before daily Mass

Divine Mercy
 Tuesday after the 7 PM Mass

Our Lady of Fatima
 3rd Monday of the month 6:30-7 PM

Our Lady of Perpetual Help
 Saturday after the 9 AM Mass

First Friday
 After the 8 AM Mass - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
 12:00 noon Benediction
 6:25 PM—Holy Rosary

PROJECT ADVANCE 2020 Our Catholic Response to the Crisis

Please consider giving to Project Advance to help vulnerable individuals and families during this time, as well as supporting our Parish needs and other ministries of evangelization and outreach. Please see <https://saintmatthews.ca/> for details.

SUNDAY MASS REGISTRATION

St. Matthew's regular Sunday Mass schedule will continue to be live streamed on our YouTube channel. The obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains lifted by the Archbishop.

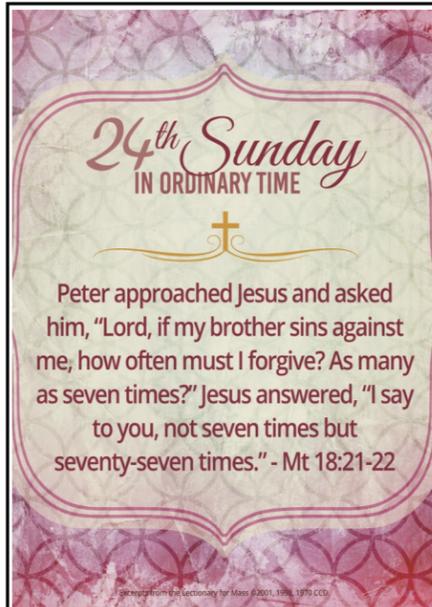
Parishioners are required to register in advance by clicking <https://saintmatthews.ca/pages/mass-registration> or by phoning the parish office. Registration for all weekend Masses opens on Tuesdays at 10am and closes each Friday at 7:00 pm. Please do not register for more than one Sunday Mass every two weeks (including Saturday Anticipated Mass) so we can accommodate more people. (see additional guidelines inside)

ATTENTION NEWCOMERS AND NON-REGISTERED PARISHIONERS:
 Please take the time to fill out our Parish Registration Form found behind the counter by the Parish Office, if you have not done so yet. Thank you.

APPEAL TO OUR PARISHIONERS:

- ⇒ Please be mindful that the hymn books in the pews are **not toys**.
- ⇒ Please take a minute to restore them in the right order in the pews.
- ⇒ Garbage should be disposed of in receptacles provided.

BAPTISM:	By appointment with a minimum of 2 months' notice (during pregnancy) so that instructions can be given to parents and godparents about the duties and responsibilities assumed in this Sacrament.
MARRIAGE:	A minimum of 6 months' notice with one of the parties registered in the parish and practicing his/her faith. The Marriage Preparation course is mandatory. Please ask for "Guidelines for the Celebration of Marriage".
FUNERALS:	Please call the parish office before making arrangements.



What right do we have to limit the amount and degree of forgiveness we show to others when we are so desperately in need of it ourselves? In not wanting someone who hurt us to downplay or forget the gravity of their wrong, we cling to anger, resentment, and wrath as a way of maintaining control. It is a way to acknowledge and express our deep hurt. We fail to realize that in doing so we hold ourselves hostage to these destructive feelings and actually become mired in the bondage of sin. All we gain is further alienation from ourselves, others, and especially God. We are no longer free but tethered to all of this unresolved negativity. Don't we really want to let it go? The fact is that we need to.

A good self-reflective posture will quickly show us that when the shoe is on the other foot and we are the ones in need of forgiveness, we desire it above anything else. This is especially true with our relationship with God. It is hypocritical to want one thing for ourselves and something else for another. Yet, many act in precisely this way.

Perhaps we think that in offering forgiveness, even for the most grievous of wrongs, somehow excuses the person of their wrong and makes it almost acceptable. This is what makes revenge, retaliation, and punishment so attractive. We see forgiveness as being an eraser that easily wipes away the offense without consequence. Or, we may believe that in offering forgiveness I must somehow forget the wrong and open myself as a victim of even greater possible hurts in the future. In fact, forgiving my sister or brother of their wrongful actions or attitude involves none of this. It does not erase anything or position me vulnerably as a doormat to be walked on.

Forgiveness is an act of freedom that restores honest dialogue, shares true, and heartfelt feelings and acknowledges the consequences of an action. It admits that the wrong has caused a hurt that must be healed and squarely positions responsibility on the offender. The act of forgiveness recognizes our sinfulness and brokenness. It also admits that the most saintly among us is capable of doing very grave and deep harm to another person. It sees that we all can be victims of our passions and works in progress that deserve unlimited chances to get it right. With forgiveness, I release myself from the bonds of negativity and pursue a path of restoration, wholeness, and healing. I do not forget the wrong nor do I dismiss it. Sometimes, we have to stay far away from the one who hurt us. But we can still heal internally and be free.

For the one who wants to be forgiven and the one who needs offer forgiveness, the journey can be an adventure in learning what brought us to this place and what is needed to move forward. This is exactly how God treats us. Why would we not want to do the same for others? ©LPI

LIVE THE LITURGY

Deciding to travel the challenging road of forgiveness is choosing a journey toward greater freedom. Resentment, anger, and clinging to past hurts not only keep open wounds that long for healing but bring us down paths that are eventually self-destructive. Harboring grudges and withholding forgiveness not only shut down relationships with others, but with God and myself as well. To choose to forgive another person, regardless of how grave the wrong, is a choice to be released from bondage to past wounds and scars and to pursue the gift of life and love again. Who among us has not wronged or sinned against another? We certainly would want God to understand, forgive, and show mercy upon us. It is hypocritical of us to not extend that same grace to our neighbor.

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Stewardship Reflection

Should I Stay or Should I Go?

Life is not always easy on us and it can be hard to figure out the next step to take in our journey. We can even become immobilized by indecisiveness and fear about making the wrong move or choosing the incorrect path. I think of the song, Should I Stay, or Should I Go, as a mantra for many times in my life. Should I stay in this house, this job, or this car? Should I go here or there? When those times of decision surface, I usually turn to my wife, my friends, or even my children. Talking it out can help, and their perspectives give me more data to consider. When I lean on others to help me make a decision, it helps me become more confident in my choices.

Discerning the will of God is not easy either. Rarely do we understand God's calling clearly at first. God's calling is always more easily discerned within a community of faithful disciples. Our stewardship way of life can suffer greatly if we refuse to allow others to assist us in the process of discernment. What gifts or talents are needed for the task at hand? Where do I fit best into God's plan? Where is God leading me? No one should have to decide the answers to these questions alone. We need to always lean on the Body of Christ to help us see the path that God has laid before us. Without a little help along the journey, over time we might find ourselves stuck in the same place where we started.

– Tracy Earl Welliver

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CONTACT LIST—ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH MINISTRIES

African Community	Ms. Tina Obiwumma	aneledom@hotmail.ca
Altar Servers	Mrs. Teodora Suzuki	teodora.suzuki@gmail.com
Altar Women	Mrs. Zenaide Teixeira / Mrs. Margaret Pereira	604-582-8818
BLD Community	M/M Lito & Lulu Imperial	jimperial324@live.com
Bible Study	Mrs. Gail Estrada	bible_study@live.com
Catholic Women's League	Mrs. Louise Klaponski	klaponsk@telus.net
Catholic Young Adults of Surrey (CYAS)	Fr. Lucio Choi	lchoi@rcav.org
Choirs: Fri	Mr. Hahn Nguyen	henryq.nguyen@yahoo.ca
Sat	Mr. Danilo Bernabe	dannybernabe9@gmail.com
Sun	Mrs. Kathleen Grosjean	grosjean@shaw.ca
	Mr. Peter Luongo	sluongo@telus.net
	Mr. Homer Garcia-Reyes	askmymusic@rocketmail.com
(last Sunday)	Ms. Tina Obiwuma	aneledom@hotmail.ca
	Mr. Vincent Nguyen	vien4cdsurrey@gmail.com
	Ms. Nannette Lenoue-Guze	nannettelg@gmail.com
Couples for Christ	M/M Cris & Ophel Quidasol	cris_quidasol@icloud.com
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Mrs. Deborah Joel	djoel@positec.com
Fifty Plus Group	Mr. Andre Maris	anne_andre_maris@telus.net
Greeters & Gift Bearers	Mrs. Stella Lemos	stella.lemos15@gmail.com
Hospitality Committee	Mr. Maureen Fadum	mgfadum@gmail.com
Knights of Columbus	Mr. Richard Thompson	grandknight@shaw.ca
Lectors	Mr. Jon Javier	jon2ejavier@yahoo.com
Legion of Mary	Mrs. Carmen Caballero	604-589-2448
Liturgy of the Word for Children	Ms. Ariel Bejer	arielbejer@gmail.com
Our Lady of Fatima	Mrs. Germana Brotto	grbroto@gmail.com
Pro Life Ministry	Mrs. Teresa Gares	tgares@live.com
Parish Education Committee	Mrs. Katrina Bellosillo	katrina.amurao@gmail.com
Parish Pastoral Council	Mr. Bill Bouwman	bouwbill@gmail.com
R.C.I.A.	Fr. Lucio Choi	lchoi@rcav.org
St. Matthew's Prayer Group	Ms. Christie Castro	christie1225@hotmail.com
St. Matthew's Soup Kitchen	Mrs. Belle Carson	bellecarson@hotmail.com
St. Vincent de Paul Society	Mr. Eric Andres	604-589-2448
Sports Ministry (Basketball)	Mr. Marlowe Billedo	marlowe25@hotmail.com
Sports Ministry (Volleyball)	Mr. Tot Phan	totphan@gmail.com
Ushers	Mr. Doug Thomas	dougjamesthomas@hotmail.com
Vietnamese Community	Mr. Hoang Minh Nguyen	nhoang682@gmail.com
Youth Ministry	Ms. Eleanor Wong	eleanorwong@aol.com

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FOR MORE INFORMATION
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PREP (Parish Religious Education Program)

Dear PREP Families:

My Seven From Heaven Retreat & Confirmation Masses—Grade 7's (May 2020) will be held the weekend of September 26 & 27. Students have been sent information via email this past week if you have not received an email please contact the PREP office for details. Students have been split into smaller groups for the retreat and Confirmation Mass and will meet all necessary protocols currently in place due to the pandemic.

Gr 2 & CIC2 & SME First Communion Masses & Rehearsals—(May 2020) – all students have been emailed the date they are to receive their First Holy Communion and PREP rehearsal dates for Communion – if you did not receive an email please contact the PREP office. Students were split into smaller groups to meet all necessary protocols currently in place due to the pandemic.

Registration is available for PREP classes which are scheduled to begin on Wednesday October 7th. Parish Website has on-line registration available with payment by Credit Card. You can also download the registration forms and submit via cheque or cash – drop off at the parish office during office hours, parish mailbox. We cannot accept paper registration forms with notations to be paid by "Credit Card" – this option is only available on-line. Rates will increase by September 20th since we extended the early bird rates as the website was experiencing some technical difficulties prior to our deadline.

Please register early to ensure that we have all necessary catechists, assistants and can meet all necessary protocols for Covid-19. There will be no last minute registrations this year. Students who register late (after September 28th) will have to wait to be contacted to see if space is available.

We are accepting applications for catechists & assistants – contact the PREP office for details or pickup an application in the PREP pocket on the wall behind the counter by the parish office. Our Vanspec program is looking volunteers for our special needs students – contact the PREP office for details or visit www.vanspec.ca for insight of the program. St. Matthew's is a site centre for neighbouring parishes! We welcome Gabriel Im as Site Coordinator for Vanspec, he is looking forward to his new role.

Trish Van Vliet—prep@saintmatthews.ca or call 604-589-2448 ext. 233

CWL Corner

The CWL September project is our "COATS FOR KIDS" Campaign! Clean and lightly used coats and jackets can be dropped off in the marked bins in the Church foyer after Masses or during office hours throughout September. If it is taking up space or has no one that fits... then it can help keep someone warm and dry! Thank you for your support!

St. Matthew's Prayer Group

During this time of the Covid-19 pandemic, the prayer group meets every Mondays (via Zoom) from 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm to experience God's love in a personal way through the power of the Holy Spirit. We invite you to join us, experience the peace and joy in praise and worship through spiritual music and songs. You can also email your prayer requests to SPMGPrayer-line@hotmail.com and this prayer community will join in praying for your request. Please send us a note when your prayer is answered. Thank you!

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Pray For... Desiree & Virgilio Pino; Ryker Slaney; Carol Ward; Liz Da Costa; Erwin & Annemarie Belgardt; Tommy Contreras; Walter Slaney; Victor Miller; Gerry Della Mattia; Daisy Rodriguez; Thea Luyten; Nora Bawasanta; Julie Cunningham; Helen Stote; Rosa Villarama; Elmer Kachur; Horst & Elsa Seliger; Romualdo Nicdao; Josefina & Teodulfo Hosain; Nenita Cabilan; Dr. Demetrio Tamparia; Loida Tobias; Angelita Correa; Edgardo Olivares; Alex; Anton Carriedo; Ilse Van Brakel; Madge Vecchio; David Keenan; Alberto Ordonez; Carl Erveen Santa Ana; Colleen Salmon; Teresita Dimaano; Marie Petines; Irene Collingwood; Karen Guinto; Felix Djuhari; Bill Cabading; Sueann Zore; Andrew Stephens; Andrew De Leon; Demetrio Tamparia

Priority on this list is given to parishioners, **as space permits**. Names will be removed from time to time. If you submit a name to the Prayer List, **it is your responsibility** to inform the office should his/her circumstances change.



Devotions to Our Lady of Fatima

Please recite the Holy Rosary daily

Please include in your prayers **+Ausberto P. Caro** who has gone home to the Lord. May his soul rest in eternal peace.

Were you married outside the Catholic Church?

If you are married, but were not married in the Catholic church, we would like to offer you an opportunity to have your marriage regularized with the Church. Please make an appointment with our priest to discuss having your marriage convalidated.

Sacrament of the Sick. What was referred to as "Last Rites" is now called "Anointing of the Sick" administered by a priest when one is "in danger" due to sickness or old age. Please call the Parish Office to arrange.

Hospital/Care Home Communion Visits. Please remember to let the Parish Office know whenever you or a loved one is hospitalized or moved into a Fleetwood area care home. The Parish has a dedicated group of people who will bring Holy Communion weekly to you or yours. Please phone **Deacon Raul Abella 778-512-9163** for a visit and to receive Holy Communion.

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Is Jesus a "part" of your life or is He at the "center" of your life as He should be?

We invite you to make Him the center of your life by joining us for this exciting series entitled: **Jesus: The Way, The Truth, and The Life**, a 10-week video study program that explores the entirety of Jesus' life and what He means for us as Catholics today.

St. Matthew Parish will begin the **Jesus** study on **Thursday, September 24th** from 7:00pm-9:00pm at the new Parish Centre. Participants will meet every week to view an engaging video presentation by Marcellino D'Ambrosio, Jeff Cavins, and Edward Sri, followed by a lively group discussion and fellowship.

For more information or to register, contact Gail at: bible_study@live.com or you can register and obtain course material at the Parish office. We hope you can join us!

Upper Room Conference 2020

At the Upper Room Conference, you will hear from incredible speakers, be able to connect with other disciples and gain insight and resources on how to live out your mission call in your homes and communities. We'll have times of worship, prayer, community, and hear from amazing speakers like Dr. Mary Healy, Fr. John Riccardo, Pete Burak, Matt Maher, and Archbishop J. Michael Miller.

This year's conference marks one year since the launch of the Proclaim movement in the Archdiocese of Vancouver. Led by the vision of Archbishop Michael to see the Gospel shared, the heart of the Upper Room comes back to the prodding of the Holy Spirit in our city. The Upper Room Conference will be streamed live on **Saturday, September 19 from 9:00 am until 5:00 pm**. You can watch the live stream from the comfort of your home or in person at St Matthew's parish (limit 50 people). Online tickets \$25.00 or at St. Matthew's parish in person \$45.00.

Advance Registration: <https://rcav.regfox.com/upper-room-2020>.

Join us as we listen to the Holy Spirit and respond to God's call in our Archdiocese. This is your invitation to see God move.

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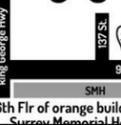
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