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 Tel: (604) 589-2448 Fax: (604) 589-2344
 Website: www.saintmatthews.ca

Sunday, September 20, 2020



25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Are you envious because I am generous?" Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last." - Mt 20:15-16

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.
OFFICE AND CHURCH CLOSED ON MONDAYS FOR CLEANING

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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.

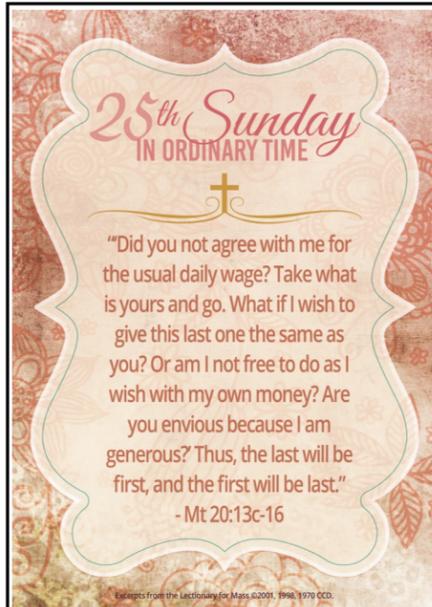
APPEAL TO OUR PARISHIONERS:

- ⇒ 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 god-parents 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.



If I work for five hours, I expect to get paid for five hours. If I work for two, I expect to get paid for two. What if we worked for a company that paid everyone the same amount regardless of how long they worked? How would we feel going home with the same pay for working eight hours as my co-worker did for working only two hours? Secular wisdom would have a huge problem with this and a visit to the Labor Board would quickly pursue. But this is God's wisdom and God's ways.

We sometimes think that if we pray more, better, or more fervently and go over and above with the practice of our faith, God will somehow reward us and present us with some kind of merit badge. We are so wrong. Spiritual practices have only one true purpose: to deepen our love for God. In deepening our love for God, we also increase our ability to see God's presence around us, living life more purposefully and contemplatively. What if God chooses to treat some-

one who has come on the scene of faith later in life the same as someone who has devoted their whole lives to it? Does it really matter? If we have the merit badge notion of faith, we can find ourselves feeling a little arrogant and even jealous of folks who have not followed the same path that we have. We can even see ourselves as the privileged few who have a corner on the faith and fully possess it.

That thinking doesn't square with God. God is all about mercy in abundance and is ready to take anyone to himself regardless of when they come. He is only happy that they have come home and delights in their return. After all, if you really and truly love someone, does it matter what they will give you in return or what you receive as a benefit? If relationships were assessed based upon productivity, they would lack authentic love. We invest too much self interest in our prayer and neglect to see it as an opportunity to pursue our Lover and deepen the intimate bond we have with God.

When we breathe our last, all that is of consequence is union with God. If my love for God is real, I am going to want to live the Gospel, abide by the commandments, practice my faith, forgive and love my neighbor, and care for the environment, regardless of how much time it takes or benefits me. We want God to think and behave as we do, and in doing so, we set ourselves up for disappointment. God has a totally different agenda and that's okay.

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LIVE THE LITURGY

Think for a moment about the most special person in your life. Why do you love them? Many people will answer that question noting character traits they admire about the person, pointing to an indescribable compatibility that exists and describing a deep sense of connection and intimacy or even a sense of rightness about the relationship. In relationships that are authentic and true, rarely are the personal benefits gained from the relationship noted as motivating factors for its pursuit. If we truly love someone we do so simply because it is right and good to do so and not for some other self-serving reason. Why do you love God? The sense of happiness and the gift of mercy that come from that relationship are God's to give, regardless of when in life we come to Him. God's ways are different than ours.

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Stewardship Reflection

Be Sure to Look the Part

I used to coach my oldest son in soccer when he was younger. As he got older, he would go to tryouts for select and high school teams. I was no longer the coach, but I always shared with him one piece of advice before any tryout: Be sure to look the part. I told him that if he showed up looking like a soccer player, there was an increased chance of him being seen as a soccer player. If he showed up looking like a kid that plays soccer in video games as opposed to the real thing, he might not be taken seriously. As he grew older, that same advice was then applied to getting a job. It's an advice I have heeded myself all my life. You can even say it is like another common phrase: "Fake it till you make it."

As disciples of Jesus Christ, we certainly do not want to fake it, but we do need to look the part. The world looks at those of us who proclaim to be Christians to see if there is anything to this way of life. If they see us looking and acting like people transformed by Jesus Christ, they will be more likely to take Christianity seriously. If they look at us and see nothing different, then they can easily conclude that there is nothing different about Jesus Christ. He just becomes simply another religious figure of history. Can the world see the power of Christ in you? How will you look the part?

— 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 | Mrs. 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 | grbrotto@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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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. Please watch emails regarding updates for the Retreat. Students have been split into smaller groups for the Confirmation Mass and will meet all necessary protocols currently in place due to the pandemic.

Gr 2 & CIC2 & SME First Communion Masses (May 2020) – all students have been emailed the date they are to receive their First Holy 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. Please pray for our children who will be receiving First Holy Communion this upcoming week. Thank you to all the parents and families who have supported this journey this past year!

Registration is available for PREP classes which are scheduled to begin on Wednesday **October 14th** (note date change). 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. There will be no rate increase to allow for everyone to still register. Please register as soon as possible 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. Thank you to all those who responded thus far. 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

Update on our ongoing support for CHALICE... We heard from CHALICE this summer that it is no longer safe to run their international programs for children in Cameroon. We continue to pray for the many children in need in that country, especially Juliette Leimyuy, who we have been sponsoring. We are now responsible for sponsoring a little 9 year old girl named Faraja Attanas Nguru who lives in Tanzania. She has been waiting a long time for a sponsor and with our sponsorship she will now be able to go to school. Information and a picture of Faraja is posted on the CWL bulletin board.

ST. MATTHEW'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

A big thank you to all parishioners who have donated the funds they received for their recyclable containers to St. Matthew's Elementary School. This money goes to support our Grade 7 fundraising endeavours. Please note that if you wish to donate the money received from your recyclable containers just let the Encorp Recycling Depot know you wish the money to be deposited to the St. Matthew's Elementary School account number: 6045897545.

OPENING IN GRADE 4: St. Matthew's Elementary School has one spot available in our Grade 4 classroom for the 2020-2021 school year. Interested families please contact the school office at 604-589-7545 or office@stmatthewselementary.ca for details. 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; 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 & Jason 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 **+Madge Vecchio and +Hoang Phuong Nguyen** who have gone home to the Lord. May their souls 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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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!



Junior Crusaders Boys Basketball Teams Tryouts

The tryout for the Junior Crusaders Boys Basketball Teams will be held at the Holy Cross gym on:
Saturday October 3rd 1pm-2:30pm
Saturday October 3rd 3pm-4:30pm

If you are a **boy in grade 5-7** and thinking about attending Holy Cross High School in the future, you are eligible to try out.

The tryout is free for everyone.
** Due to Covid 19 safety protocols we are limited with maximum numbers in the gym.
**Email hcboysbasketball@gmail.com to secure a spot.
** Print and complete the registration form at www.hcboysbasketball.com and bring to the tryout time

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