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St. Matthew's R.C. Parish
 16079 88 Avenue, Surrey, B.C. V4N 1G3
 Tel: (604) 589-2448 Fax: (604) 589-2344
 Website: www.saintmatthews.ca

Sunday, September 27, 2020



26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"When John came to you in the way of righteousness, you did not believe him; but tax collectors and prostitutes did. Yet even when you saw that, you did not later change your minds and believe him." - Mt 21:32

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.

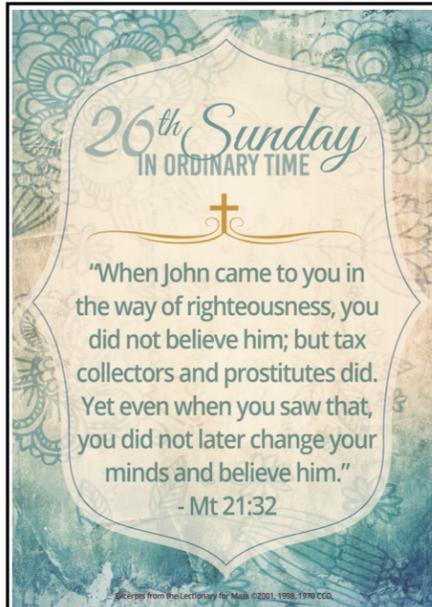
APPEAL TO OUR PARISHIONERS:

- ⇒ 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 prompts you to make the decisions you make? When confronted with a decision, whether one that is more trivial and mundane or one that is more significant and profound, we rely on guidance. That guidance can be the result of impulse and passion or the fruit of the interior voice of conscience. Decisions made on impulse and passion can be misguided and erroneous. Decisions based on conscience, or the moral voice within, will reflect the depth and maturity of our soul work. A more contemplative soul will make more contemplative decisions. A less developed conscience will make decisions based on the individual's level of development.

Conversion and a change of heart are at the core of Jesus' message precisely because of this reality. We are works in progress. For the person on fire with the Holy Spirit and centered on God, life reflects an ever-deepening awareness and heightened sense of God's presence and a greater willingness to do God's will. What is happening internally is validated by what is witnessed externally. The hypocrite is the one who says yes when they really mean no. From the start, they had no desire to do the virtuous act but wanted to outwardly appear as if they did.

Where are you on the road of integrity? Honesty is all that is required. God is good with that. It is okay to struggle with our decisions and wrestle with ourselves. Consciences on the path to maturity and greater depth are not always going to know what action is immediately best. We may, at first, say no to what we know is right and, after prayerful reflection and thought, come around to doing it. Conversion happens when our no changes to yes, regardless of how sinful or out of sync we may be at the time. God is anxious to welcome us to Himself. But we cannot embrace Him unless we want to. Learning to orient our gift of free will to what is of divine origin, right, and best is a discipline we must always tweak and perfect.

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LIVE THE LITURGY

When making decisions, we often struggle with what voice to follow. We acknowledge the presence of God, the existence of the Trinity, the priority of the Gospel, and the virtues and values they embody. Yet, even with all of that truth, knowledge, and tradition behind us, we think we know better. When confronted with a decision, we easily dismiss what we know we ought and need to do and entertain responses that stem from lesser desires and wants. We eventually may come around and realize that what God asks us to do is what we need to do, even if it wasn't our original intention. God accepts our return to Him with joy. What becomes dishonest is deceiving ourselves, God, and others by originally saying yes to what we know we need (and are asked to do) and willfully doing something else. That is blatant hypocrisy.

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Stewardship Reflection

Is It the Thought That Counts?

I can remember times when I received a gift that I would not have chosen for myself. At those times I certainly thought to myself that "it was the thought that counts." I was happy that the gift-giver thought of me at all. Then there have been times when my children have not given me a gift and then chose to tell me all about what they were going to give me. They would then follow it up by saying, "it was the thought that really counts."

Really!?! I don't think so. I could think of sending my wife on a cruise, but that is not in any way the same as going on the cruise. I think there are times when all of us think we are more generous than we are, simply because we were thinking about being generous.

This way of thinking can be dangerous. Jesus teaches us to say what we mean and mean what we say. The intentionality of our actions is important, but intentionality without action is meaningless. How we act and what we give serves as evidence of our intentions and indicates where our heart truly lies. If we fool ourselves into thinking we are someone we are not, it can become difficult to see the truth. We need to look for the fruit in our lives. We need to make sure our desires and thoughts are moving us to act. You know that other saying about intentions, don't you? Don't pave the road to a place no one wants to end up with your intentions. Instead, let your intentions and actions lead others to another place where Jesus can be found.

— 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 | nannetteg@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:

Congratulations to our students who received First Holy Communion this past week. Let us pray for them and their families that they may continue to receive Jesus and walk in His path. Thank you to everyone who helped make this a special day for the children.

My Seven From Heaven Retreat: Being held Sunday September 27th via ZOOM please pray for our students as they continue the last steps in their journey to Confirmation next week.

All students have been notified regarding Confirmation dates via email. Please pray for these students, sponsors and their families as a series of Masses begin next week to accommodate all our 99 students!

Students have been split into smaller groups for the Confirmation Mass and will 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 14th (note date change). We are awaiting guidelines from the Archdiocese as to how the program will be administered. Registration will be required even if classes are administered on-line.

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 or 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.

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.

Thank you to all the catechists and assistants who have answered the call to volunteer with PREP this year. We will be having a Staff Meeting – October 7th @ 6:30 Please contact the PREP office of your attendance so we can meet all necessary protocols for Covid-19. We are still 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 for 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

Thank you to everyone that donated to our Coats for Kids Campaign! This "good works" program is winding down and the coats will be delivered to agencies that provide for those in need in our community! Watch for our October "work of mercy project" that will be in collaboration with the Society of St. Vincent de Paul!

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 **+Nancy Reyes** who has gone home to the Lord. May her 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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Pro-life
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Sunday, Oct 4, from 2 – 3 pm – Life Chain: Life Chain - is a peaceful & prayerful public witness of pro-life individuals standing for 1 hour and praying for our nation & for an end to abortion. In Surrey, we will be gathering on **King George Blvd between 104 Ave & 96 Ave**. Signs will be available at the King George entrance to Holland Park & at the Safeway parking lot at 104 Ave & King George. For more information call or text Teresa (604 816-7159).

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 SPMGPrayerline@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!

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 hcbosbasketball@gmail.com to secure a spot.
** Print and complete the registration form at www.hcbosbasketball.com and bring to the tryout time

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