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St. Matthew's R.C. Parish
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Tel: (604) 589-2448 Fax: (604) 589-2344
Website: www.saintmatthews.ca

PARISH OFFICE

Rev. Tien Tran, Pastor - ttran@rcav.org;
- frtientran9@gmail.com

Rev. Patrick Le, Asst. Pastor - ple@rcav.org

Rev. Mark Gazin, CSB Part-time Asst. Pastor - mgazin@rcav.org

Dcn. Steven Potusek, Deacon - spotusek@rcav.org

Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM
Saturday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Rectory: 604-589-2083

Office: 604-589-2448 parish.smat@rcav.org

Parish Admin: Caroline Mrazek
Anna De Leon

Bookkeeper: Ma. Lourdes Tejada

P.R.E.P.: Christine Maypa - prep@saintmatthews.ca

Maintenance: Lorne Ward - lorne@saintmatthews.ca

Principal: Deborah Welsh - wels@stmatthewselementary.ca

Elementary School: 604-589-7545 - www.stmatthewselementary.ca
Preschool: 604-589-1222 - preschool@stmatthewselementary.ca

Sunday, November 26, 2023



OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

"Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." - Mt 25:34

REGULAR MASS TIMES

SATURDAY: Anticipated Mass - 5:30 PM

SUNDAY: English Mass - 8:30 & 10:30 AM
12:30 & 7:30 PM
Vietnamese Mass - 5:00 PM
Last Sunday 12:30 PM (Mass in English with African Choir)

WEEKDAYS: Monday to Friday (except TUESDAY) - 8:00 AM
Tuesday - 7:00 PM
Friday - 7:00 PM (Vietnamese)
First Friday—7:00 PM (in English)
Saturday and Holidays - 9:00 AM

CONFESSIONS
Weekend & Daily Masses: half an hour before Mass

OFFICE AND CHURCH CLOSED ON MONDAYS FOR CLEANING

REGULAR DEVOTIONS

Holy Rosary
30 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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sat.	Dec. 2	Christmas Dinner, Show & Raffle Draw
Mon.	Dec. 4	Catholic Pacific College Breakfast Fundraiser
Thu.	Dec. 7	Witness to Love Date Night
Sat.	Dec. 16	Christmas Concert

(see details inside)

2024 Sunday Missal and Calendar are now available
Missal—\$5 Calendar—\$2




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 and prayer cards 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. Contact parish.smat@rcav.org.

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.



In May 2023, for the first time in almost three quarters of a century, a monarch was crowned in England. A few days later a friend of mine scoffed, "What a waste of time and energy! What is the point of a king?"

I'm a proud American who wants neither theocracy nor monarchical restoration. I like our democratic republic. But the coronation of King Charles reminded me of something needed in every person and community: confidence in the future. The king's most basic role is to symbolize the unity of the nation. In England, the parliament members handle many of the practical duties of governance. But the king or queen can do what they cannot: embody in a single person the reality and future of a whole nation. To say, "this is our king" is to say, "we exist as a community, and we have a future." Kingship isn't primarily about the power of one person or family. It's about the enduring identity and unity of the whole.

To say Christ is our King is to say we exist as a people. We are *one in Him*. We are, and we will be as long as He is. And since He will be our risen king forever, together we have a future filled with hope. Even the best countries will finally fall. But Christ and His Church will endure forever. What good news! It's not a waste of time to crown a king. We do it all the time. Let's be sure to crown the right one — the one whose kingdom never ends.

- Father John Muir
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LIVE THE LITURGY

God is always closer to us than we suspect. He is in every need we encounter and every person we meet. Never stop seeking His face.

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RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

The King Comes Holding a Mirror

Of all the many wonderful, thorough examinations of conscience I have come across, the one I normally utilize is very simple, and perfectly suited to someone like me who is not capable of profound thought at the end of the day.

It's just one very short question: *Which Christs did I not recognize today?*

The King always comes in disguise, and I know I miss Him in so many ways every single day. I miss Him in people ignored or dismissed. I miss Him in opportunities avoided and in moments that could have turned into prayer but instead turned into phone-scrolling. I miss Him when He is right in front of me, holding up a mirror and calling my name, begging for my conversion of heart.

The Christian life calls us to constant self-scrutiny. It's not a comfortable life, always thinking about what you could do better, but the Lord shepherds us rightly. His pastures have nothing to offer those who are perfect and strong.

He has gone in search of the lost. He has reclaimed those who have strayed, healed those who were injured, given rest to those who were weary.

We can't be followers of Christ if we are not willing to own our sins. God's mercy does not dismiss our sins, as if they never existed and were not important.

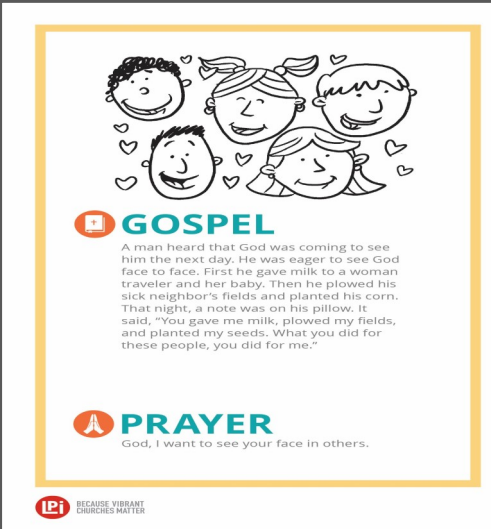
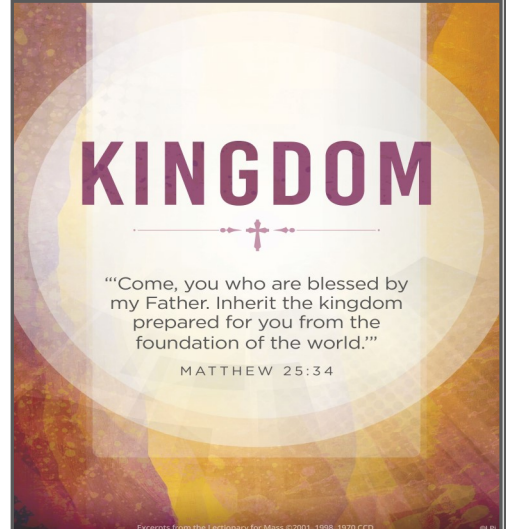
No, it does something far, far better — God's mercy absolves our sins. It sets us free from them. But to be truly free, you have to understand the tyranny of what once enslaved you.

"And He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats."
— Matthew 25:32

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CONTACT LIST - ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH COUNCIL

African Community	Ms. Tina Obiwumma	augustinaobiwumma@gmail.com
Altar Servers	Mrs. Teodora Suzuki	teodora.suzuki@gmail.com
Altar Women	Mrs. Margaret Pereira	604-589-2448
Bereavement Ministry	Dcn. Steven Potusek	spotusek@rcav.org
BLD Community	Ms. France Alayon / Mrs. Nerrie Hombrebueno	francealayon@yahoo.com neriehombre@gmail.com
Bible Study	Mrs. Louise Klaponski	cwlstmatthewssurrey@gmail.com
Catholic Women's League	Mr. Johan Rego	cyasurrey@gmail.com
Catholic Young Adults of Surrey (CYAS)	Ms. Hoang Nguyen	hoangn.nguyen93@gmail.com
Choirs: Fri 7 PM	Mrs. Letty Regis	letic@telus.net
Sat 5:30 PM	Mrs. Kathleen Grosjean	grosjean@shaw.ca
Sun 8:30 AM	Mr. Peter Luongo	sluongo@telus.net
10:30 AM	Mr. Homer Garcia-Reyes	askmymusichomer@gmail.com
12:30 PM	Ms. Tina Obiwumma	augustinaobiwumma@gmail.com
(last Sunday) 12:30 PM	Mr. Vincent Nguyen	vien4cdsurrey@gmail.com
5 PM	Ms. Nannette Lenoue-Guze	nannettelg@gmail.com
7:30 PM	Mrs. Maureen Fadum	mgfadum@gmail.com
Community Outreach Ministry	M/M Homer & Me- Ann Reyes	askmymusichomer@gmail.com
Couples for Christ	Mrs. Ann Amsing	annamsing@yahoo.com
Elizabeth Ministry	Mrs. Deborah Joel	djoel@positec.com
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Mr. Andre Maris	anne_andre_maris@telus.net
Fifty Plus Group	Mr. Shane Gogo	shanegogo@gmail.com
Gift Bearers	Mr. Jon Javier	jon2ejavier@yahoo.com
Knights of Columbus	Mrs. Julie Bala-Cunningham	morillabala@yahoo.com
Lectors	Ms. Ariel Bejer	arielbejer@gmail.com
Legion of Mary	Ms. Alexandra Jose	ajose.smp@hotmail.com
Liturgy of the Word for Children 10:30AM	M/M Dave/Doreen McKinnon	doreenmck@shaw.ca
12:30PM	Mrs. Germana Brotto	grbrotto@gmail.com
Marriage Prep-Witness to Love	Mrs. Teresa Gares	tgares@live.com
Our Lady of Fatima	Mr. Peter Tang	peter_tang@me.com
Pro Life Ministry	Mr. Tim McKinnon	tjm3499@gmail.com
Parish Education Committee	Mrs. Katrina Amurao	katrina.amurao@gmail.com
Parish Council	Mr. Abimbola Fagbamiye	bolingo1@mac.com
Pastoral Council	Dcn. Steven Potusek	spotusek@rcav.org
Project Advance	Ms. Christie Castro	SMPGPrayerline@hotmail.com
R.C.I.A.	Mr. Paul Stevens	604-589-2448
St. Matthew's Prayer Group	Mr. Eric Andres	604-589-2448
St. Matthew's Soup Kitchen	Mr. Marlowe Billedo	marlowe25@hotmail.com
St. Vincent de Paul Society	Mr. Tot Phan	totphan@gmail.com
Sports Ministry (Basketball)	Mr. Gerry Petines	glpetines@gmail.com
Sports Ministry (Volleyball)	Mr. Minh Nguyen	minhnguyen725@shaw.ca
Ushers	Ms. Van Nguyen	kathynguyen027@gmail.com
Vietnamese Community	Ms. Eleanor Wong	eleanorwong@aol.com
Youth Ministry		



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2023 CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Come and hear
St. Matthew's Choirs in Concert

"And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth" ~ Luke 1:14



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16TH AT 7 PM

Free Tickets Available From the Welcome Center



St Matthew's R.C. Church, Fleetwood, Surrey BC

You're invited to
A-Not-So-Silent-Night
December 2nd
6:30pm to 10:00pm
CHRISTMAS DINNER & SHOW
ANNUAL CASH RAFFLE DRAW AT 9:00PM
For 4 Prizes From \$1,000 to \$20,000
Tickets: \$25

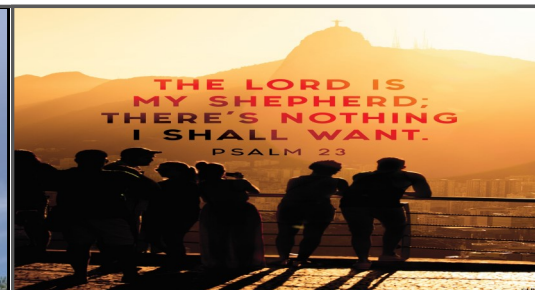
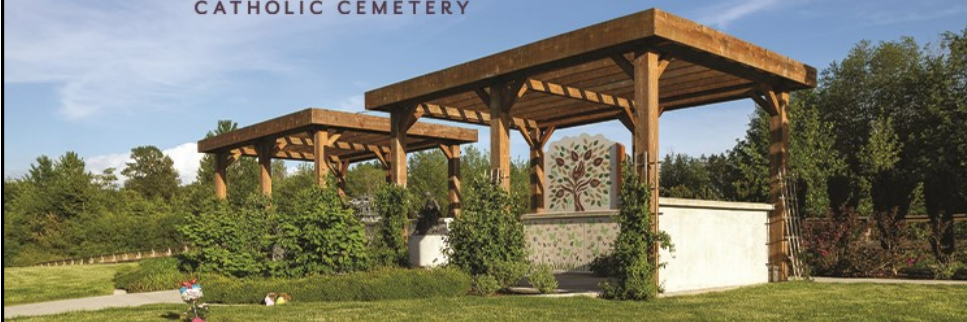


Get your tickets for this year's Christmas Dinner and Talent Show, and Yes there will be a dance floor for your added enjoyment, and.... the much-anticipated Raffle Draw for \$1,000, \$5,000 and \$20,000 Dollars. Dinner tickets are available after the weekend masses and at the office.

Raffle Tickets will continue to be sold after weekend masses and at the Parish Office until December 2nd. Purchased tickets would need to be filled out and submitted the same day.

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PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM (PREP)

A total of 73 students from St. Matthew's Parish (St. Matthew's PREP, St. Matthew's PREP Vietnamese and St. Matthew's Elementary School) attended the Spirit Day last Nov 4 at Chandos Pattison Auditorium.

Thank you parents for your usual support in your child's journey to faith!

November—December Calendar

- November 29 Movie and Pajama night (Level 3, 4 & 5)
- November 29 Level 7 Saints Project & Sponsor Form Deadline
- December 6 Early Dismissal – Staff Christmas Party
- December 13 Mass Students and Family meet in the Church
- December 20 No Class – Christmas Break
- December 24 Christmas Pageant – Christmas Eve - Children's Mass 5:00 pm

Christmas Pageant:

Attention all PREP and SMES students! Please note that attendance to at least two out of three rehearsals is mandatory. The Christmas Pageant is scheduled for December 24th at the Children's Mass at 5:00 pm. Roles available include: Innkeepers (1), Wisemen(2), Shepherds(4), and Angel(1). Parent volunteers are also needed, and those interested can email prep@saintmatthews.ca or Ms. Alex Jose at ajose.smp@hotmail.com. Please take note of the changes for the rehearsal date.

The rehearsal dates are as follows:

- December 9th, Saturday: 10:30-11:30 am rehearsal followed by lunch & costume assignment (12:30 pickup)
- December 16th, Saturday: 10:30-11:30 am Dress Rehearsal, drop off and pick up at the Church
- December 23rd, Saturday: 10:30-12:00 noon Final Dress Rehearsal, drop off and pick up at the Church

For Level 7 & Grade 7 Students, this event qualifies for 20 Service points for church or community.

PREP Email:

Please add prep@saintmatthews.ca in your contact list to avoid mails going into junk/spam

PREP office hours: Wednesday 9am – 3pm and 5—8pm
Friday 9am – 5pm

A big thank you to all for your continued dedication in ensuring that your children attend prep classes weekly. It is so wonderful that we can continue to grow in our faith together.

CHRISTINE MAYPA - PREP Coordinator

Email: prep@saintmatthews.ca or call 604-5892448 ext 233

If we want children and teens to become lifelong Catholics and members of the Church, we have to start now by involving the whole family in the life of the Church -John Roberto, Family Catechesis

St. Matthew's Parish Hall
16079 88 Ave, Surrey



catholicpacific.ca/fundraiser
Registration ends November 27

CATHOLIC PACIFIC COLLEGE

BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER

TEXAS BRUNCH

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4

MASS @ 8AM • PROGRAM @ 9AM • KEYNOTE @ 9:45AM

TICKETS \$30

For more info: 778-869-1167



- Mass @ 8am
- Texas Brunch
- Keynote Speaker
- Live Advent Sacred Music
- Student Testimonials
- Message from the Founders

Keynote Speaker
Fr. Deacon
Andrew Bennett



CATHOLIC PACIFIC COLLEGE BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER

Catholic Pacific College would like to invite you to Texas Breakfast (steak, eggs, hash brown, and more) Fundraiser hosted at **St. Matthew's Parish Hall on Monday morning, December 4**. There will be Mass at 8am in the parish, and the program will begin at 9am. Guest speaker is **Fr. Deacon Andrew Bennett**, a member of the Board of Governors and Program Director for Faith Communities at Cardus. Fr. Deacon Andrew is a fantastic speaker and you will enjoy the morning program that have been lined up. There will be live Sacred Advent Music, student testimonies, and a word from the school founder, Tom Hamel. Tickets are \$30 each. https://youtu.be/IYWDiullFWs?si=rbn_Wwi-JWUw7ERN

MARRIAGE MINISTRY

All married couples, including mentor and mentee couples under the Witness to Love Program, are invited to join us for a joy-filled dinner of celebration and encouragement. It's a time set aside to:

- Have intentional marriage-strengthening conversations
- Learn and laugh with other couples with the same values
- Hit pause and make space for your relationship, allowing the grace of God to shed wisdom and light to see each other in a new way

Cost is \$30/couple. On **Thursday, December 7, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Parish Center.** Registration deadline: **Thursday, November 30.** Register at <https://beholdvancouver.org/events/date-night>.

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Our **Jesse Tree** is now at the front of the Church beginning this weekend, **November 25 & 26** and, will remain there for the following two weekends, **Dec. 2 & 3 and Dec. 9 & 10.** On it are hanging tags requesting items to fill our various families' Christmas Hampers. Thank you for helping us fill those needs by taking a tag and returning the requested item with the tag attached to the office before **the date indicated on the back.** Please note, the dates vary as we have had many requests. We want to complete the hampers in batches. **If you are returning a gift card, kindly indicate the dollar value on the card or card envelope with the tag attached.** The gift cards best suited for the needs of our clients are from establishments where they can purchase food and clothing and other essentials.



Thank you for all the help you extend to us so that we can help those less fortunate than us.

PROJECT ADVANCE

So far to date, out of a total of 2677 families, only 408 families (or 15.2%) have contributed to Project Advance. That means there are over 2200 families that have not contributed. This year, we are hoping for an increase in the level of participation among our parishioners.

Our parish's rebate from Project Advance will go towards paying for the mortgage on our Parish Centre which provides critical meeting spaces for ministries and groups. It will also assist us to pay our share of the assessment for rebuilding Holy Cross Regional Secondary School.

We need all of us to pitch in NOW! Any contribution will be appreciated, and NO DONATION IS TOO SMALL. Please contribute what you can but please participate and give. You can give online at projectadvance.ca, or in-person at our Parish Office. You can also pick up a pledge form at the Welcome Centre and make a gift today.



DEVOTIONS TO OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Please pray the Holy Rosary daily



Please include in your prayers
 †Catherine Sullivan, †Marleen Flumerfelt and
 †Alexander Mendez who have gone home to the Lord.
 May their souls rest in eternal peace.
 Funeral Mass for †Catherine Sullivan is on
November 28, 2023 at 11:00am
 here at **St. Matthew's Parish.**

Desiree & Virgilio Pino; Liz Da Costa; Tommy Contreras; Victor Miller; Gerry Della Mattia; Helen Doyle-Stote; Horst & Elsa Seliger; Demetrio Tamparia; Angelita Correa; Edgardo Olivares; Alex; David Keenan; Alberto Ordonez; Colleen Salmon; Teresita Dimaano; Irene Collingwood; Antonio, Adela, Arvin, Johnna, Virgilio & Karen Guinto; Jane & Eunice Dare; Adelaida, Ronald & Andrew De Leon; Felix Djuhari; Sueann Zore; Cathy, Colleen & Gavin Herrera; Jaime & Nita Fermalan; Emilia & Rose Sayson; Norbert De La Tour; Ma. Lydia Ramirez; Aida Bunagan; Yvonne Bailey; Cora De Jesus; Mary Grace Navasca; Lario Roma; Vicenta Ty; Leny Uy; John Pinto; Ricardo Piraquive; Rowena Serviento; Leonora Fejer; Roy Arbiol; Ely Pamintuan; Andrea Bernabey; Caceres, Rios, Alonso and Santa Cruz family; Pablito Basit; Helena Olivares; Consuelo Santos; Margaret Lee; Valeriana Quinto; Deanna Maceda Silva; Lena Pinto; Gregorio De Guzman; Concepcion Romero; Paul Fernandes; Scott Strobel; Don Barber; Jorge Papa; Lynn Hagglund; Juliet Buan-Torres & Joseph De La Cruz.; Mitch Montero; Talah Bautista; Mauricio Engada; Martha Doyle; Luz Eugenio; Pam Barthelette; Gerry Jansen; Alanna Mckinley; Regina Diolata; Lawrence & Susan Odubajo; Theresa Fagbamiye; Naty Parinas; Mary Ann Cabading; Jurest Pe Perion; Greg Narciso

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.

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.

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.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE (CWL) CORNER

Thank you to all who attended CWL's Remembrance Ceremony for our deceased members. The prayers, songs and pictures were very touching, beautiful and respectful for the lives that lived and served with us and are now with the Lord. Looking forward to December.

Sign-up Sheet at Religious Article Room

Please see the sign up sheets at the RAR to participate in the upcoming parish events that require your helping hands.

Open invitation to the ladies of our Parish:

We at CWL are always looking for new members, come, join us to help in all our community and parish activities. Membership forms are available at the Parish Office or email us - cwlstmatthewssurrey@gmail.com

Share the Word

31. MEANING: Life has meaning when you recognize your God-given gifts and share them with others. Join the Catholic Women's League and celebrate the meaning of life as you share your gifts.

ST. MATTHEW'S PRESCHOOL & OUT OF SCHOOL CARE

This is the last weekend to help St. Matthew's Preschool with their Christmas campaign by purchasing Purdy's chocolate. A sweet way to gift your friends and family this holiday season. Proceeds will support active play, a new outdoor play structure. Please log on <https://group.purdys.com/login.aspx> with **the Customer #27832.** Deadline is on or before **November 28, 2023.** Thank you for your generosity!

Job Opportunity: St. Matthew's Preschool & Out-of-School Care is hiring a licensed ECE / ECE Assistant Teacher. Please email preschool@stmatthewselementary.ca for the full job description and details.

HOLY CROSS HIGH SCHOOL SPRING BREAK BASKETBALL SKILLS CAMP

Who and When:
 January 2nd—5th 9am-11am Boys and Girls currently in Gr 4-7
Where: St Matthew's Elementary Gymnasium 16065 88 Ave, Surrey, BC V4N 1G3

Why: To improve overall basketball skills, meet future classmates and have fun.
How: Email Head Coach/Teacher Matthew LeChasseur hchoysbasketball@gmail.com to **confirm your child's spot** in the camp. It is limited space and first come first serve. Download and fill out a registration form at www.hchoysbasketball.com and bring a cheque/cash and completed registration form on the first day of the camp.
Cost: \$100.00 includes daily Gatorade and prizes.

2024 Mardi Gras Gala

Gala Auction & Fundraiser Supporting Domestic Abuse Services
 Saturday, February 3 2024 | 4pm - 11pm
 The Anvil Centre, New Westminster

Mark your calendars for an extravagant evening of glamour and fun at our highly anticipated Mardi Gras Gala.

Enjoy a feast for the senses with sumptuous hors d'oeuvres, a decadent dinner and dessert, and live music by Los Meatballs for a night of dancing and revelry.

The Mardi Gras Gala will leave you feeling a sense of purpose with memories that will last a life-time!

Buy your tickets today! Early bird tickets available until December 31, 2023. \$120 each | \$895 for tables of 8
www.MardiGrasGala2024.com

Support the cause by providing a donation to our silent auction.

All proceeds will support the programs of Domestic Abuse Services.

CHRISTMAS ONLINE SILENT AUCTION

November 25-December 17, 2023

Traditional and meticulously hand-made quilts & quilted items designed & crafted by the Fraser Valley Quilters Guild.

Great Christmas gifts!

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