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St. Matthew's R.C. Parish

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 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

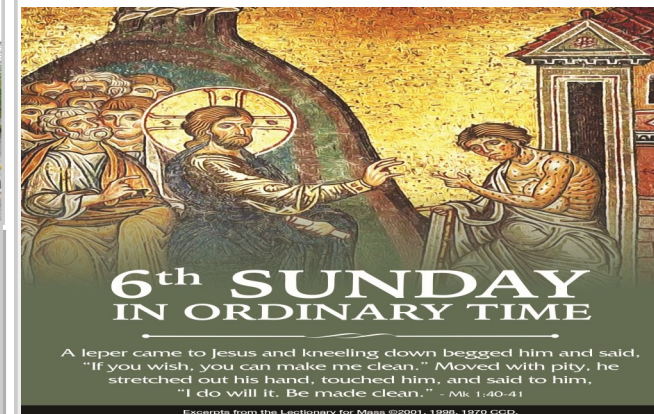
Rectory: 604-589-2083
 Office: 604-589-2448 parish.smat@rcav.org

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, February 11, 2024



6th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

A leper came to Jesus and kneeling down begged him and said, "If you wish, you can make me clean." Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand, touched him, and said to him, "I do will it. Be made clean." - Mk 1:40-41

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

Thu.	Feb.	15	CWL Crafts, Coffee and Conversation
Fri.	Feb.	16	"How to Have the Best Lent Ever"
Sun.	Feb.	18	Lenten Food Drive Begins
Thu.	Feb.	22	Anointing of the Sick Mass
Thu.	Feb.	29	The Rescue Project Begins (for Young Adults)
Fri.	Mar.	1	World Day of Prayer
Fri.	Mar.	15	Sacred Music and Art



ASH WEDNESDAY MASS SCHEDULE (FEBRUARY 14, 2024)

8:00AM—English	5:00PM—English
9:30AM—SMES	6:45PM—PREP
11:00AM—Holy Cross	8:30PM—Vietnamese

2023 TAX RECEIPTS

2023 Tax receipts are now available for pick-up in the Welcome Centre after Sunday masses, or in the Parish Office on weekdays.

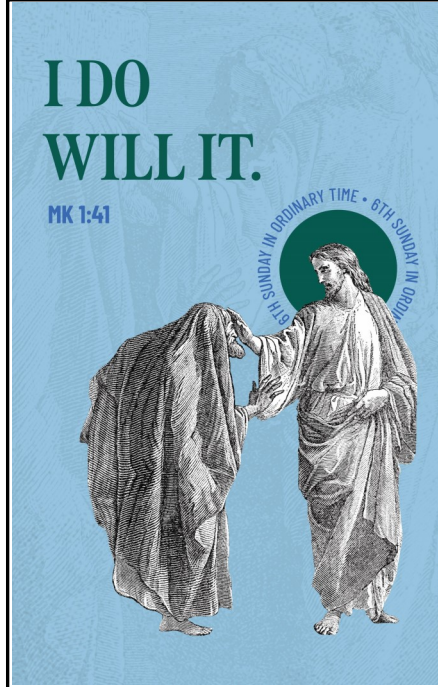
OLD PALMS

Please bring back your old palms which will be burned and blessed in preparation for Ash Wednesday. Kindly drop it in the box provided at the back of the Church.

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.



Recently I had a skin rash, and it was awful. (Please don't tell anyone.) I am embarrassed to admit that I didn't handle it well. Complaining, whining, begging for sympathy, and crying were my responses to the merciless itching and burning. In the aftermath, a silver lining emerged. I feel a new heartfelt sympathy for all those vexed with chronic skin problems. If you've ever had a seemingly unending skin problem, you know how that sympathy flows up from deep inside.

This gut-level compassion is something like what the Gospel describes in Jesus when the sore-covered leper says, **"If you will it, you can make me clean."** At this, just before the healing, Jesus was

"moved with compassion." The Greek word used here is strong and earthy, closer to "His bowels and guts trembled with the deepest emotions of sadness, pity, and love." In Jesus, God heals our infirmities not from a divine distance but by learning what it *feels like* to be us. He acquires first-hand experience of what it costs us to be afflicted and still be faithful to God. He sympathizes with the burning, itching, and blistering of human existence in the deepest, first-hand way. To discover that is to touch Jesus' heart.

What in your life, right now, is breaking out like diseased skin? What is getting worse the more you try to soothe it? Perhaps only you feel it. Or maybe it's exposed to all. A bad habit, broken relationship, loneliness, fear of failure, self-hatred? Name it, and then find a way to bring it confidently to Jesus who will *feel what we are feeling*, and thereby heal us.

- Father John Muir
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RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Sin and Loneliness

When I was in high school, we read "The Metamorphosis" by Franz Kafka. It's a depressing little novella about a man who (spoiler alert!) turns into a cockroach and dies of neglect, his family gradually ceasing to recognize the creature he has become.

"Never underestimate how badly human beings need touch," our teacher told us. "Without each other, we curl up and die."

Our need for communion with each other is written into our biology — breathing and heart rate of newborns regulates when they lie against the skin of their mothers, and we instinctively reach out to embrace someone who has been wounded. But it is also written into our souls. Consider the early days of the pandemic, and the emotional starvation we all experienced, prevented from gathering in groups to worship, to celebrate and to mourn. And when we did encounter other people, we kept a mutual distance. "I feel like a leper," we grumbled to our families when we returned home, because we finally understood it: the real tragedy of leprosy is not pain and disfigurement. The real tragedy of leprosy is loneliness.

"If you wish, you can make me clean," begged the leper as he knelt before Christ (Mark 1:40). He wasn't begging for deliverance from pain and disfigurement. He was begging for deliverance from isolation.

"If you wish, you can make me clean," we beg God in confession, not because we are physically withering and dying but because we are so desperate to once again be held in His embrace.

"Moved with pity, he stretched out His hand, touched him, and said to him, 'I do will it. Be made clean.'" — Mark 1:41

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LIVE THE LITURGY

It was pity that moved the heart of Jesus to heal the leper. He worked this miracle because the leper, in his faith, boldly asked Him to. Have that same courage in approaching God with your needs. Have that same faith in His power to heal.

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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	cw1stmatthewssurrey@gmail.com
Catholic Women's League	Mr. Johan Rego	cvasurrey@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	morilabalala@yahoo.com
Lectors	M/M Mike & Cathy Lomanski	mlomanski@gmail.com
Legion of Mary	Ms. Alexandra Jose	ajose.smp@hotmail.com
Liturgy of the Word for Children	M/M Dave/Doreen McKinnon	doreenmck@shaw.ca
Marriage Prep-Witness to Love	Mrs. Germana Brotto	grbrotto@gmail.com
Our Lady of Fatima	Mrs. Teresa Gares	tgares@live.com
Pro Life Ministry	Mr. Peter Tang	peter_tang@me.com
Parish Education Committee	Mr. Tim McKinnon	tjm3499@gmail.com
Parish Council	Mrs. Katrina Amurao	katrina.amurao@gmail.com
Pastoral Council	Mr. Abimbola Fagbamiye	bolingo1@mac.com
Project Advance	Dcn. Steven Potusek	spotusek@rcav.org
R.C.I.A.	Ms. Christie Castro	SMPGPrayerline@hotmail.com
St. Matthew's Prayer Group	Mr. Paul Stevens	604-589-2448
St. Matthew's Soup Kitchen	Mr. Eric Andres	604-589-2448
St. Vincent de Paul Society	Mr. Marlowe Billedo	marlowe25@hotmail.com
Sports Ministry (Basketball)	Mr. Tot Phan	totphan@gmail.com
Sports Ministry (Volleyball)	Mr. Gerry Petines	glpetines@gmail.com
Ushers	Mr. Minh Nguyen	minhnguyen725@shaw.ca
Vietnamese Community	Ms. Van Nguyen	kathynguyen027@gmail.com
Youth Ministry	Ms. Eleanor Wong	eleanorwong@aol.com

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CRUSADER SPRING BREAK BASKETBALL SKILLS CAMP 2024



Who and When:

Session 1: Boys and Girls currently in Gr. 3 and 4
March 11th-15th Everyday 9am-11:00am
Session 2: Boys and Girls currently in Gr 5-7
March 11th-15th Everyday 11:30am-2:30pm

Where: Holy Cross High School Gymnasium

Why: to improve overall basketball skills, meet future classmates and have fun.

How to register:

1. Email Head Coach/Teacher Matthew LeChasseur hcbosbasketball@gmail.com

to **confirm your child's spot** in the camp. It is limited space and first come first serve. We cap the number of participants for quality coaching.

2. Download and fill out a registration form at www.hcboysbasketball.com

3. Bring completed registration form and \$140.00 to the first day of camp. Cash or Cheque. Make cheques payable to **Crusader Basketball Club**.

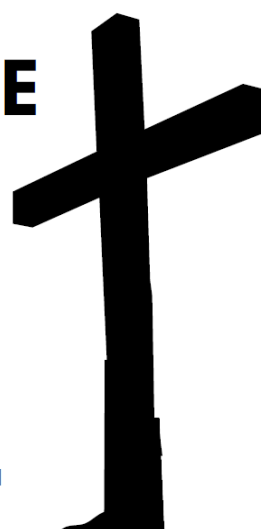
YOUNG AT HEART CLUB ...50 +



Join our active, friendly group for a social and games. Coffee, tea and goodies available. **Every Tuesday, 1:00 – 4:00 pm** (or stay as long as you want) in the Jubilee Hall. We have card and board games – Trivial Pursuit, Scrabble, Mexican Train, Crib and bean bag toss. We are also open to new games and activities. Bring your ideas. New members are always welcome. Membership is \$10.00 per member annually.

CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULTS OF SURREY (CYAS)

HOW TO HAVE THE BEST LENT EVER



FRIDAY FEB 16

St. Matthew's Parish Centre Room 1 6:00 - 8:30 PM

DISCUSSION AND FELLOWSHIP FEATURING GUEST SPEAKER: FR. MARK GAZIN, CSB

TALKS ON THE HISTORY OF FASTING, ALMSGIVING, AND PRAYER

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PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM (PREP)

February Calendar

February 14 6:30 PM Ash Wednesday— Students and Family meet at the Church by 6:20pm
February 17 10:00AM Level 2 & CIC2 Sacrament of Reconciliation. Meet at the Fireside Hall at 9:45 am
February 21 6:35PM Level 7 & Grade 7 Parent, Sponsor & Student Mtg. PREP & SMES meet at the Gym
February 28 6:35PM Level1, CIC1, Grade1 Parent Meeting PREP & SMES meet at Gym

PREP Email:

Please add prep@saintmatthews.ca to your contact list to avoid emails 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

PROLIFE



February 16, 2024, we will have our first Pro-Life meeting of the New Year. It will be in the **Parish Centre, Room 4 at 5:30 pm**. Please feel free to join us as we will be planning activities for the coming year and all ideas are welcome. Come early for fellowship - coffee will be ready at 5:10. Call Teresa Gares (604 816-7159) for more information.

SACRED MUSIC AND ART



Save The Date... Lenten Reflection Friday March 15th, 7pm at St. Matthew's Church

This event promises to provide inspiring scripture paired with beautifully presented hymns, sacred art, and opportunity for meditation. All members of our St. Matthew's parish community are encouraged to set aside this date and plan to join us.

May God grace you with a transformative Lent and Easter this year, all centered on Jesus Christ our Savior!

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of February 11, 2024

Sunday: Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11 (7)/ 1 Cor 10:31-11:1/Mk 1:40-45

Monday: Jas 1:1-11/Ps 119:67, 68, 71, 72, 75, 76/ Mk 8:11-13

Tuesday: Jas 1:12-18/Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15, 18-19/ Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday: Jt 2:12-18/2 Cor 5:20-6:2/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday: Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/ Lk 9:22-25

Friday: Is 58:1-9a/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19/ Mt 9:14-15

Saturday: Is 58:9b-14/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 5:27-32

Next Sunday: Gn 9:8-15/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 (see 10)/ 1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15



Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Recently I had a skin rash, and it was awful. (Please don't tell anyone.) I am embarrassed to admit that I didn't handle it well. Complaining, whining, begging for sympathy, and crying were my responses to the merciless itching and burning. In the aftermath, a silver lining emerged. I feel a new heartfelt sympathy for all those vexed with chronic skin problems. If you've ever had a seemingly unending skin problem, you know how that sympathy flows up from deep inside. This gut-level compassion is something like what the Gospel describes in Jesus when the sore-covered leper says, "If you will it, you can make me clean." At this, just before the healing, Jesus was "moved with compassion." The Greek word used here is strong and earthy, closer to "his bowels and guts trembled with the deepest emotions of sadness, pity, and love." In Jesus, God heals our infirmities not from a divine distance but by learning what it feels like to be us. He acquires first-hand experience of what it costs us to be afflicted and still be faithful to God. He sympathizes with the burning, itching, and blistering of human existence in the deepest, first-hand way. To discover that is to touch Jesus' heart.

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— Father John Muir

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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2024 | 6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



CATHOLIC PACIFIC COLLEGE AT TRINITY WESTERN UNIVERSITY

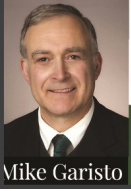
Join Catholic Pacific College at Trinity Western University for an info session at **St. Matthew's Parish on Thursday, February 22nd (7:00PM-8:30PM)**. Ideal for grades 10-12 students and families interested in experiencing a top tier university at TWU where they can receive an accredited degree while receiving solid Catholic formation at CPC. The event includes a presentation, Q & A, student testimonials, and insights on the importance of Catholic higher education. Refreshments provided. For inquiries, contact John, Admissions Counselor, at 236-512-6250 or john.doromal@twu.ca. We look forward to welcoming you! Registration Form: <https://form-can.keela.co/catholic-pacific-college-at-trinity-western-university-parishes>



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The Rescue Project is a multi-week series that tells the story of the gospel. It offers an opportunity for a Spirit-filled response to what is proclaimed, and catapults us out into the world on mission to go and rescue others.

Join the **Catholic Young Adults of Surrey** as we seek to proclaim the gospel in a compelling and attractive way over eight weeks in a small group format.

Join us as we uncover:

Week 1: The Importance of Stories

Week 2: Why is There Something Rather than Nothing?

Week 3: The Enemy is the Enemy

Week 4: It Gets Worse

Week 5: Why Did Jesus Come?

Week 6: What Difference Does it Make?

Week 7: What Does He Want from Me?

Week 8: Getting Clarity on the Mission

What: Dinner + Discussions + Fellowship

Where: St. Matthew's Parish

When: Every Thursday 6:00-8:15 PM starting February 29th

Cost: \$40

Space is limited. Reserve your spot here:
<https://tally.so/r/3lrLj6>



REGISTRATION DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 22ND



DEVOTIONS TO OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Please pray the Holy Rosary daily



Please include in your prayers

†Angelina Morfe Ramos, †Clasina Schellekens,
†Christine Allie Abel and †Franco Petra
who have gone home to the Lord.
May their souls rest in eternal peace.

Pray For: 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; Rose Sayson; Norbert De La Tour; Ma. Lydia Ramirez; 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; 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; Alanna Mckinley; Regina Diolata; Lawrence & Susan Odubajo; Theresa Fagbamiye; Naty Parinas; Mary Ann Cabading; Jurest Pe Perion; Greg Narciso; Concepcion Lacanienta; Lawrence Icarangal Jr.; Denver Gomez

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.

ARCHDIOCESAN EVENTS



Momentum Single Mothers Lunch

This is an opportunity for women to gather, share, pray, and learn more about Momentum, a faith community for Catholic single mothers that offers retreats, as well as in-person and online gatherings. We will be joined by Claire Brown, who has been a single mother to her son since his birth in 2000. Claire is a co-founder of Momentum and a Professor at McGill University.

On Saturday, **February 24, 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Corpus Christi Parish in Vancouver.** Lunch and childcare will be provided. Registration deadline: **Friday, February 16, by 6:00 p.m.** Learn more and register for free via <https://beholdvancouver.org/events/momentum-single-mothers-lunch>

Fiat Women's Retreat

Discover where God is calling you to be present and available at our Fiat Women's Retreat.

Mary always made herself present and available while nurturing Jesus and accompanying the disciples before her Assumption into heaven. She is "the new beginning" of the vocation of women, exemplifying the richness of femininity. Join us in discovering where you are called to be present and available in your journey of femininity.

Open to all single women aged 18-35. The retreat is on **March 8-10 at Carmel Hill in Deroche. Cost is \$200, with financial assistance available. Registration deadline: Friday, March 1.** Learn more and register via <https://beholdvancouver.org/events/fiat-women-s-retreat>.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE (CWL) CORNER



CRAFTS, COFFEE AND CONVERSATION for fun and fellowship! All parishioners welcome! Do you have UFOs in your home? Those **Unfinished Objects** lying around are piling up and you are needing inspiration to get it done. CWL is trying something new. We meet once a month. Bring all your own supplies. Be inspired and tackle those UFOs! Our first get together is on **Thursday Feb 15th, 9:30 to 11:30am, Room 2 of the Parish Centre** for Coffee, Crafts and Conversation! See poster outside RAR and sign up.

LENTEN FOOD DRIVE FOR SURREY FOOD BANK: An opportunity to Share in Lent. All parishioners! Please drop off canned and boxed goods (protein (fish & meat), fruit, vegetables, meal-in-a-tin, whole-grain rice or legumes, pasta & sauce, healthy canned soup, baby formula (large cans)) in the bins provided in the foyer from **February 18 to March 18.** CWL will box and deliver to Surrey Food Bank!

FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING on Tuesday February 20th. The meeting will start with a guest speaker from Covenant House. Mark Savard has worked with Covenant House for 18 years. Come and hear the Covenant House Story and be inspired. All parishioners welcome! Business meeting will follow.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK MASS AND LUNCHEON on Thursday February 22 at 11am. All parishioners welcome!

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER March 1 at 1pm here at St. Matthew's Church. This annual day of prayer is featuring a prayer program created by Christian women in Palestine. A timely way to pray for peace in the Middle East. Everyone! Come and join us.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS are now due! If you have lost your renewal form there are extras at the RAR counter.

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GOSPEL

A man came up to Jesus with sores all over his body. He wore a hood over his head and a robe with long sleeves to hide his sores. He said, "If you want to, you can heal me." Jesus touched him and said, "I do want to. Now your sores are gone." Jesus said, "Do not tell anyone about your healing." The man was too excited to keep a secret. He told everyone he met.

PRAYER

Lord, please heal me when I am sick.

