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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

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, March 3, 2024



3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

His disciples recalled the words of Scripture, Zeal for your house will consume me. - Jn 2:17

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.	Mar.	9	SSVP Pant Drive Begins
Mon.-Wed.	Mar.	11-13	Parish Lenten Mission
Thu.	Mar.	14	2000 Hail Mary's
Fri.	Mar.	15	Sacred Music and Art
Sun.	Mar.	17	Share Lent by K of C
Sat.	Mar.	23	Altar Server Training for Holy Week

(see details inside)



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Fridays of Lent at 6PM
Please note on **March 15, 2024**, there will be **no Stations of the Cross**. VN Mass is at 6pm, followed by Sacred Music and Art at 7pm.

2023 TAX RECEIPTS

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

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.



TAKE THESE OUT OF HERE.
JN 2:16

I am the Lord your God ... You shall not have other gods beside me. —Ex 20:2-3
One of the greatest golfers of all time — if not the greatest — was Jack Nicklaus. Which is why it is baffling that at the beginning of each season he would return to his childhood coach and re-learn how to grip the golf club. It's like Shakespeare re-learning the alphabet and grammar. Why would he do that? Because Jack knew that the fundamentals are always relevant. Perfecting and obsessing over his grip allowed him to do everything else in the game well. In sports and life, the best ones love the basics.

Similarly, as we begin Lent, we re-learn the spiritual basics in the Ten Commandments. Consider the first, to **"have no other gods besides me."** This is our "grip." Is our connection to God one of absolute fidelity and exclusive worship? Am I willing to let go of my precious idols, the things I cling to instead of God? Once we say "yes" to this fundamental question of our spiritual "grip," then we are ready to properly engage with everything else in life. Watch how beautifully the game of life unfolds in the next nine commandments (numbered in parentheses): how we speak to God and others (2 and 8), how we organize our week (3), how we relate to our family (4) and the wider community (5 and 7), how we live our sexuality (6), and how we order all the other desires of the human heart (9 and 10). But don't rush to these later Commandments too soon! Everything in life is built on the first Commandment. The more we focus on worshiping God alone, the better we navigate the complexity of life with panache, effectiveness, and love.

Lenten challenge: This week, identify what you can do to better worship God alone. If you're not sure, scan the last nine commandments to identify what you are most likely to worship instead of God. Power, pleasure, control of your time, possessions, family, health, reputation, money? Commit to concrete action to help you let go of this "idol" to better hold on to God alone in faithful worship. Remember: the best love the basics.

- Father John Muir ©LPI

RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

The Merciful Anger of Jesus

Watch your fellow churchgoers today as the priest or deacon reads the story of Jesus raising hell (or perhaps He's raising heaven?) in the temple square. Dollars to donuts, they'll be squirming.

As Catholics, we have become very uncomfortable with Angry Jesus. He makes us cringe in the same way that the Old Testament God does when He calls Himself "jealous" and talks about punishment. That level of intensity makes us recoil. If it were present in a human relationship, it would be toxic and abusive, because in humanity, fierceness and love rarely coexist in a healthy way.

But what a tragedy it would be for us to mistake our relationship with God for our relationship with our spouse, our best friend, or even our human father. Because we cannot see clearly, we would mistake His zeal for anger and His law for diktat.

The strong and sure movement of a wave against a rocky cliff will, over time, erode its surface, just as an overabundance of raindrops will flood a city. We do not call the water callous and cruel. We still luxuriate in its coolness and refreshment. Its destructive powers don't negate the life-giving properties of water. We do not demand that water apologize to us for being strong.

Fierce, uncompromising — but also, soft and merciful. How can God — and God's law — be both, at the same time? How can Christ cast a whip at someone's foot, overturn a table and scatter coins? How can the law of God be perfect, as the Psalm says, and refresh the soul — while demanding so much of it?

All I can say is, thank God for Angry Jesus. We need His fierceness and thank God it does not wane because it confuses us. Thank God His mercy does not decrease because we doubt it.

"For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength." — 1 Corinthians 1:25

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LIVE THE LITURGY

Jesus was not afraid to confront iniquity wherever he encountered it, and His zeal for righteousness was so strong it looked like anger as He drove the moneychangers from the temple. Pray that, with that same devotion and care, He will cleanse our hearts from sin.

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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
Catholic Women's League	Mrs. Louise Klaponski	neriehombre@gmail.com
Catholic Young Adults of Surrey (CYAS)	Mr. Johan Rego	cwlsmatthewssurrey@gmail.com
Choirs: Fri 7 PM	Ms. Hoang Nguyen	cyasurrey@gmail.com
Sat 5:30 PM	Mrs. Letty Regis	hoangn.nguyen93@gmail.com
Sun	Mrs. Kathleen Grosjean	letic@telus.net
	Mr. Peter Luongo	grosjean@shaw.ca
	Mr. Homer Garcia-Reyes	sluongo@telus.net
(last Sunday)	Ms. Tina Obiwumma	askmymusichomer@gmail.com
	Mr. Vincent Nguyen	augustinaobiwumma@gmail.com
	Ms. Nannette Lenoue-Guze	vien4odsurrey@gmail.com
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Couples for Christ	M/M Homer & Me- Ann Reyes	mgfadum@gmail.com
Discover Discipleship	Mrs. Daisy Chan	askmymusichomer@gmail.com
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Liturgy of the Word for Children	Mrs. Julie Bala-Cunningham	jon2ejavier@yahoo.com
	M/M Mike & Cathy Lomanski	morilabalala@yahoo.com
	Ms. Alexandra Jose	milomanski@gmail.com
Marriage Prep-Witness to Love	M/M Dave/Doreen McKinnon	ajose.smp@hotmail.com
Our Lady of Fatima	Mrs. Germana Brotto	doreenmck@shaw.ca
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Parish Education Committee	Mr. Peter Tang	tgares@live.com
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Pastoral Council	Mrs. Katrina Amurao	tjm3499@gmail.com
Project Advance	Mr. Abimbola Fagbamiye	katrina.amurao@gmail.com
R.C.I.A.	Dcn. Steven Potusek	bolingo1@mac.com
St. Matthew's Prayer Group	Ms. Christie Castro	spotusek@rcav.org
St. Matthew's Soup Kitchen	Mr. Paul Stevens	SMPGPrayerline@hotmail.com
St. Vincent de Paul Society	Mr. Eric Andres	604-589-2448
Sports Ministry (Basketball)	Mr. Marlowe Billedo	604-589-2448
Sports Ministry (Volleyball)	Mr. Tot Phan	marlowe25@hotmail.com
Ushers	Mr. Gerry Petines	totphan@gmail.com
Vietnamese Community	Mr. Minh Nguyen	glpetines@gmail.com
	Ms. Van Nguyen	minhnguyen725@shaw.ca
	Ms. Eleanor Wong	kathynguyen027@gmail.com
Youth Ministry		eleanorwong@aol.com

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JUNIOR CRUSADER VOLLEYBALL—GRADES 4 & 5



April 13-June 1
Saturdays @ 9:30-11:00
Holy Cross High School
Cost: \$130

Email jrcrusadervolleyball@gmail.com to secure a spot by **April 1**.
Registration form https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1tHGMYBJWCWqegZPKkQ1kZEoKNYokWzC1nS7kPw0RP-M/viewform?edit_requested=true

The Junior Crusader Volleyball program is geared for **girls** in grades 4 & 5 who want to learn the game and gain skills. For most, this will be their first introduction to the sport, so there will be a great focus on fun while learning new skills. The play will be adapted to their age level with a focus on multiple touches of the ball. This is a great opportunity to make new friends while having fun playing volleyball! Any questions, please contact Bree Grandia (Program director/teacher) bgrandia@holycross.bc.ca or jrcrusadervolleyball@gmail.com

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.

WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO SUPPORT
St. Matthew's Marriage Ministry

We are actively seeking for married couples to support our parish's engaged couples through their marriage preparations. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Doreen McKinnon at (604) 582-4323 or doreenmck@shaw.ca

MENTAL HEALTH AND ILLNESS IN CANADIAN CONGREGATIONS SURVEY

We are inviting you to take up to ten to fifteen minutes this week to fill out an anonymous online survey, to participate in a national study of mental health and illness in Canadian churches developed by Flourishing Congregations Institute and Sanctuary Mental Health Ministries.

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PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM (PREP)

March Calendar

March	6	6:35 pm Class Confession Level
		6:35 pm Level 7 Confirmation Interview
March	13	6:35 pm Lent Mass—Students and Family meet at the Church
March	20&27	No Class – Spring Break

Announcement

Please incorporate some of the following almsgiving examples into your Lenten practice. This is a great way to teach our children the importance of almsgiving. Help your children choose the items they wish to give to our brothers and sisters in need. Kindly bring donated items to your class starting on Wednesday February 21st, or at the PREP office.

Men's Hygiene:

Small or hotel-size soap bars, razors, small shaving cream, and deodorant

Mite-Box & Adopt-a-Seminarian program along with "Seminarian Collectible Cards" with name and photo. We invite that each student pray for the particular seminarian he or she receives. Please encourage your children to put any amount of money they earn through chores, allowance or present. Please return mite boxes on or before **April 3rd**.

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

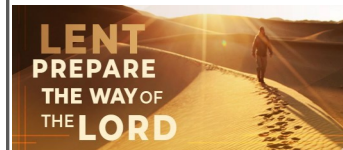
A big thank you to all for your continued dedication in ensuring that your children attend PREP classes weekly. It is so wonderful that we can continue to grow in our faith together.

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

PARISH LENTEN EVENTS



Parish Lenten Mission - March 11 to 13

It will begin with the celebration of mass at 7pm, followed by the Mission led by Fr. Patrick Le. The theme is "The Four Last Things: Death, Judgment, Heaven and Hell".

Sacred Music and Art: 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!

PROLIFE



Feb 14 to March 24: Forty Days for Life Lenten Campaign – Help save lives through prayer & fasting Website: <https://www.40daysforlife.com/vancouver-bc>

Saturday, March 16th, our St. Matthew's Parish will be at the 40 Days Vigil site, from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm. We gather on Willow St. at 32nd Ave, in front of the St. Joseph Residence for Retired Priests. Look for the 'Sign up sheets' in the Church foyer. If you are not able to make the journey into Vancouver, please join the campaign by signing up to pray in the Church between 9am & 12pm.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS The Knights of Columbus is hosting a Share Lent Breakfast on **Sunday, March 17, after the 8:30AM and 10:30AM masses at the elementary school gym.** Everyone is welcome!

ST. MATTHEW'S PRAYER GROUP

We invite everyone to come and join us for an hour and a half of praise and worship on **Mondays from 7:30PM to 9:00PM in the Jubilee Hall.** Let us pray together, sing together and give glory to our God.

LEGION OF MARY

On **March 14 (Thursday)**, the Legion of Mary is hosting the **2000 Hail Mary's** which will start at 9AM and will continue on until 6pm at St. Matthew's Parish. Everyone is invited to attend and participate, or lead a part of the petitions. Light refreshments will be served. See you there!



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

HOLY THURSDAY – MARCH 28

NO MORNING MASS

5:00 PM Mass of the Lord's Supper-Vietnamese
 7:30 PM Mass of the Lord's Supper-English
 - followed by Solemn Exposition & Adoration

GOOD FRIDAY – MARCH 29

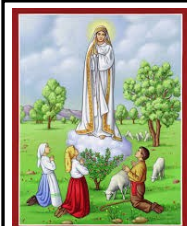
9:00AM-12:00NN Confessions
 10:00 AM Stations of the Cross - Vietnamese
 11:00 AM Stations of the Cross - English
 12:00 Noon Solemn Liturgy - English
 3:00 PM Solemn Liturgy - English
 6:00 PM Solemn Liturgy – Vietnamese

HOLY SATURDAY – MARCH 30

9:00 PM Easter Vigil Mass

EASTER SUNDAY – MARCH 31

8:30 AM Mass – English
 10:30 AM Mass – English
 12:30 PM Mass – English
 5:00 PM Mass – Vietnamese
 7:30 PM Mass – English



DEVOTIONS TO OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Please pray the Holy Rosary daily



Please include in your prayers

†Michael Mehari

who has gone home to the Lord.

May his soul 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; David Keenan; Alberto Ordóñez; 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; 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; Cecilia Famularcano

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.



LENTEN PENITENTIAL SERVICE

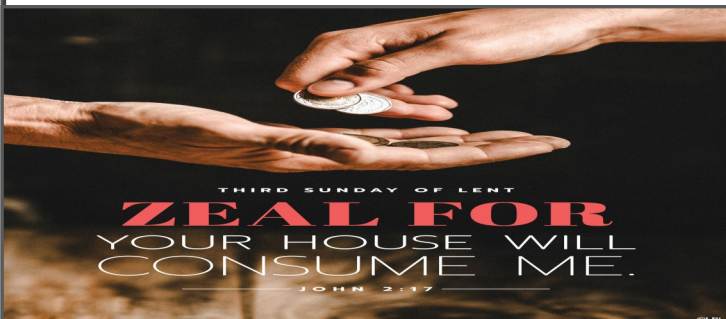
March 18	OLGC	7:00PM
March 19	Precious Blood	7:00PM
March 19	St. Matthew's	7:30PM
March 20	IC Delta	7:00PM
March 21	Star of the Sea	7:00PM
March 21	St. Bernadette	7:00PM

Days of Mercy Confession Times at St. Matthew's

March 23	10am-12nn
March 29	9am-12nn
March 30	10am-12nn

ALTAR SERVERS

There will be an altar server training for current and existing altar servers, on **March 23, 1:00pm to 3:00pm at the Church**. This training is for masses that will be held during Holy Week. Pls. contact Teodora Suzuki at teodora.suzuki@gmail.com or the Parish Office to register.



CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE (CWL) CORNER

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 until **March 18**. CWL will box and deliver to Surrey Food Bank!

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

We ask for prayers for all of the seminarians each day in lent as outlined from the Archdiocese calendar.

ST. MATTHEW'S PRESCHOOL & OUT OF SCHOOL CARE

Preschool application for **September 2024** is still open for children aged 3-4 years old. Forms are available for pick up at the preschool classroom or from St. Matthew's Parish Office. For more details, please call 604-589-1222 or email, preschool@stmatthewselementary.ca. If you know families who are interested in registering their children to preschool, your referrals are highly appreciated!

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Lightly used, clean men's pants needed. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is looking for your help this Lenten Season. We are helping the residents currently housed in Temporary Shelters in the Surrey Centre Area as well as the Catholic Charities men's Shelter. They have asked us, if possible, to collect and donate to them men's pants. We need jeans and track pants. Please, **NO dress pants**. The SSVP will have two collection boxes available at the entrance to the Church for the next two weekends, **March 9/10 and March 16/17**. Thank you in advance for your continued support of two of our values which are: "to have personal contact with the poor" and "to help in all possible ways."

ARCHDIOCESAN EVENTS

Humbled & Exalted Lenten Retreat
 Take a break from the demands of ministry and life, and dive into the heart of Lent.

Father James Hughes will give a reflection based on the Gospel of the day (Luke 18:9-14), offered through the lens of the Pharisee and tax collector, titled *Virtue Stands in the Middle*. With both personal reflection and small-group sharing, Father James will assist us to strengthen our work in the vineyard of the Lord - His ministry as leaders.

On **Saturday, March 9, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Precious Blood Parish in Surrey**. Cost is \$25. **Registration deadline: Wednesday, March 6**. All who lead and serve in ministry are welcome! Learn more and register at <https://beholdvancouver.org/events/humbled-exalted-lenten-retreat>

Who Is Jesus Christ For Me As A Man In The 21st Century?

This transformative event invites participants to explore the identity and impact of Jesus Christ in modern manhood through insightful talks, prayer, and fellowship. Dive into a deep reflection on faith and personal growth in an environment designed for spiritual exploration and discovery. Don't miss this opportunity for profound engagement with your faith alongside like-minded individuals.

The retreat will be led by Fr. Mark Gazin, CSB. All men aged 15+ are welcome! On **Saturday, March 16, at Star of the Sea Parish Centre in White Rock**. Learn more and register via <https://beholdvancouver.org/events/men-s-retreat-at-star-of-the-sea>.

Save the Date: Archdiocesan Mass for Civilly Married Couples

Are you married outside the Catholic Church? Would you like to regularize your union so you can receive the sacraments once again? Now, you have a great opportunity as Archbishop Miller celebrates the Mass Wedding for civilly married couples. It will be a beautiful community celebration that will cost very little for the individual couples! For more information, please contact Deacon Raul Abella at rabella@rcav.org or 778-512-9163.

Registration Deadline: Sunday, July 21

Save the Date: Saturday, September 21, 1:30 p.m. at St. Paul's Parish in Richmond

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GOSPEL
 Imagine coming to your church to pray. All around your church, you see people selling animals. It smells like a barn. The animals are loud. The people are shouting. You cannot even pray with all the noise and activity going on around you. That is what Jesus found in today's Gospel. It broke his heart and made Jesus angry. God's house is not supposed to be turned into a barn or a store. It should be special place where people can meet with God.

PRAYER
 God, my church is a place for prayer. Help me to remember that always.

