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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, March 17, 2024



5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit." - Jn 12:23-24

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

Tue.	Mar. 19	Mary's Way of the Cross
Sat.	Mar. 23	Altar Server Training for Holy Week

(see details inside)



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Fridays of Lent at 6PM

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.

RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Lost in the Crowd

I write my phone number on my kids' arms when we go into large crowds at summer festivals, in case we get separated. If you think this makes me sound like a neurotic person with an overactive imagination who watches too many true crime documentaries, you would be correct. I am all of those things.

However, I am also practical, and I've endured moments of panic after looking up and briefly not being able to locate a child who has wandered off or lagged behind. The phone number, scrawled across their sunscreen-streaked skin, is a safeguard, however insignificant. It's something they can hold up to show an adult, something they can point to and say, "This is where I need to be. Help me get here."

When I reflect on my own life, it occurs to me that I was born lost. We all were. It was only in Eden that a human being ever knew what it was to be at home. In Eden, I would imagine, the feeling of safety was so natural that it was only noticed after it was gone. But original sin came like a noisy crowd to bear us away from the place we needed to be, and since that time, our human lives have played out against a backdrop of insecurity and unfamiliarity. We are cold and alone and confused. And God, our heartbroken parent, never stops seeking us, never stops calling our names.

Baptism, the etching of God's law onto our heart and soul, is not a phone number written on our arms. It's something far better — it's a homing signal, planted deep within. And it will lead us back to where we need to be.

"But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD. I will place my law within them and write it upon their hearts; I will be their God, and they shall be my people." — Jeremiah 31:33

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GLORIFY YOUR NAME.
JN 12:28

A middle-aged woman sat on the couch in my parish office and recounted to me a shocking list of terrible calamities in her life: addictions, terminal illnesses, financial loss, broken relationships, and so on. She smiled as she did so. "Please forgive me," I asked, "but you seem to be smiling as you share this." She said, "Father John, I am totally overwhelmed. But I'm smiling because I just can't wait to see what good things God does with this mess." She expected God would manifest His glory when she most needed it.

This week in the Gospel, God speaks from heaven for the third and final time in Jesus' earthly ministry. It's at a tough moment. Gentiles seek Jesus, who announces His terrible suffering, and then boldly prays, "Father, glorify your name!" John then writes: **Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it and will glorify it again."** Was the task of drawing the whole non-Jewish world to himself overwhelming? Or was it the terrible specter of crucifixion? Whatever it was, the crushing weight triggers His turning to the Father with an unshakeable *expectation* of divine glory to burst through. And indeed, it did on Easter Sunday. In our burdens, our greatest strength is to turn to God and boldly ask Him for His glory.

Lenten challenge: This week, I invite you to list out everything which is a burden to you. Write it down. Then add these words: "Father, glorify Your name in all these things!" Put that paper in your pocket or purse when you come to Holy Week liturgies next week. You might smile at the most unlikely times.

- Father John Muir

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LIVE THE LITURGY

Jesus reminds us that the grain of wheat can never realize its potential without sacrifice. God has a plan for each one of us. May He give you strength to become who you were born to be.

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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	cwslmatthewssurrey@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)	Mrs. Tina Obiwumma	askmymusichomer@gmail.com
	Mr. Vincent Nguyen	augustinaobiwumma@gmail.com
	Ms. Nannette Lenoue-Guze	vien4odsurrey@gmail.com
	Mrs. Maureen Fadum	nannetteg@gmail.com
Community Outreach Ministry	M/M Homer & Me- Ann Reyes	mgfadum@gmail.com
Couples for Christ	Mrs. Daisy Chan	askmymusichomer@gmail.com
Discover Discipleship	Ms. Angela Drouillard	daisy_my_chan@hotmail.com
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Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Mrs. Deborah Joel	annamsing@yahoo.com
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Lectors	Mr. Jon Javier	shanegogo@gmail.com
Legion of Mary	Mrs. Julie Bala-Cunningham	jon2ejavier@yahoo.com
Liturgy of the Word for Children	M/M Mike & Cathy Lomanski	morilabala@yahoo.com
	Ms. Alexandra Jose	mloanski@gmail.com
	M/M Dave/Doreen McKinnon	ajose.smp@hotmail.com
Marriage Prep-Witness to Love	Mrs. Germana Brotto	doreenmck@shaw.ca
Our Lady of Fatima	Mrs. Teresa Gares	grbrotto@gmail.com
Pro Life Ministry	Mr. Peter Tang	tgares@live.com
Parish Education Committee	Mr. Tim McKinnon	peter_tang@me.com
Parish Council	Mrs. Katrina Amurao	tjm3499@gmail.com
Pastoral Council	Mr. Abimbola Fagbamiye	katrina.amurao@gmail.com
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St. Matthew's Prayer Group	Mr. Paul Stevens	SMPPGPrayerline@hotmail.com
St. Matthew's Soup Kitchen	Mr. Eric Andres	604-589-2448
St. Vincent de Paul Society	Mr. Marlowe Billedo	604-589-2448
Sports Ministry (Basketball)	Mr. Tot Phan	marlowe25@hotmail.com
Sports Ministry (Volleyball)	Mr. Gerry Petines	totphan@gmail.com
Ushers	Mr. Minh Nguyen	glpetines@gmail.com
Vietnamese Community	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

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

 Celebrate and pray for intercession with the Legion of Mary, happy and willing to bring the image of Mother Mary into your residence and enjoy her presence for a week or two. Kindly write your information on the sheet provided by the wall next to the Parish Office and one of the legionaries will contact you.

Set aside your sacred space

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PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM (PREP)

March-April Calendar

March 20&27	No Class – Happy Spring Break!
March 27	Holy Wednesday
April 3	6:35PM Level 6 & Grade 6 Parent Meeting at the Elementary School Gym
April 6&7	Level 7 Retreat
April 10	6:35PM Grade2,Level2 &CIC2 Parent Meeting
April 17	6:35PM Level 7 Parent Meeting - Theology of the Body & Confirmation info Session
April 20	3:00-5:00PM First Holy Communion Retreat
	5:10 FHC Class—Level2,CIC2 & Grade 2
April 24	Early Dismissal at 7:30PM (Staff Meeting)

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.

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**.

Parents of Level 7 and Level 2/CIC2

Level 7 Loon Lake Retreat :



Deadline: March 22

Sacramental Registration Level 2/CIC2



Deadline: April 17

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

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



Archdiocese of Vancouver

WEDDING
FOR CIVILLY MARRIED COUPLES

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE
JULY 21, 2024**

Saturday, SEPTEMBER 21, 2024 at 1:30pm
SAINT PAUL PARISH, RICHMOND
8251 St Albans Rd, Richmond, BC V6Y 2L2

For more information or to register, please contact parish office or call Deacon Raul Abella (778-512-9163) or email filipinoministry@rccav.bc.ca

Archdiocese of Vancouver

Archdiocese of Vancouver

Marriage Anniversary MASS

Sunday, May 12, 2024 at 1:30pm
Our Lady of the Assumption Parish
Port Coquitlam

Register your milestone anniversary at family.rccav.org/mam



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
All the Souls in Purgatory
Eternal rest grant upon them O Lord, and let perpetual Light shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

Prayer 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 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; 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; Chuck Samaniego; Mary Grace Licas

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.

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Society of St. Vincent De Paul is in urgent need of men's adult bike. Anyone who is able to donate may contact the Parish Office. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE (CWL) CORNER

All Parishioners are invited to share in "Mary's Way of the Cross" at **6:30pm on Tuesday March 19, 2024** before the evening Mass.



CWL General Meeting after the evening Mass on **Tuesday March 19 in the Jubilee Hall**. We have a guest speaker on Catholic Christian Outreach and budget decisions will be discussed.

BIG, BIG REMINDER to renew your membership ASAP! National office needs our numbers and YOU COUNT!

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!

ATTENTION 2024 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES (ANY SCHOOL)

Are you going on to further studies in September? Is your mother or grandmother a member of St. Matthew's CWL?

CWL awards 2 bursaries for students who will graduate this year. Application forms are available at the counter of the religious articles room. Submission deadline is **April 5, 2024**.

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!

ARCHDIOCESAN EVENTS

Living Stations of the Cross

All are welcome to join in walking in the footsteps of Jesus on his journey to the Cross. Presented by the youth of **Sacred Heart Parish, Delta**, a cast of actors, singers and readers will lead us through each of the fourteen stations situated all around the beautiful parish grounds. This live presentation is a way of engaging children, families and people of all ages to enter more deeply into the story of Christ's passion in a powerful way.

We will begin on **Good Friday, March 29, 10:30 a.m.** in front of the monastery steps and end approximately at 11:15 a.m. in front of the church. This outdoor walking event is rain or shine so please dress accordingly. Learn more at <https://beholdvancouver.org/events/living-stations-of-the-cross-2>.

Weekend Getaway Marriage Conference

The Weekend Getaway is a marriage conference uniquely designed to enrich your relationship. For most couples, it's a chance to reconnect, re-establish the foundation, and rekindle romance. For others, it's a fresh start. For some, it will be the weekend that saves a marriage. Wherever you're at in your relationship, this retreat is a weekend to remember.

The next getaway is on the weekend of **April 5-7, 2024 at the Penticton Lakeside Resort**. The fee is usually \$299. Use promo code RCAVPEN to register for \$199.

Accommodations at Penticton Lakeside Resort for conference participants should be booked separately. Rates may vary.

Registration deadline: Wednesday, April 3. For more information, please call Joyce at 604-683-0281 ext. 223 or visit <https://beholdvancouver.org/events/marriage-conference-weekend-getaway>.

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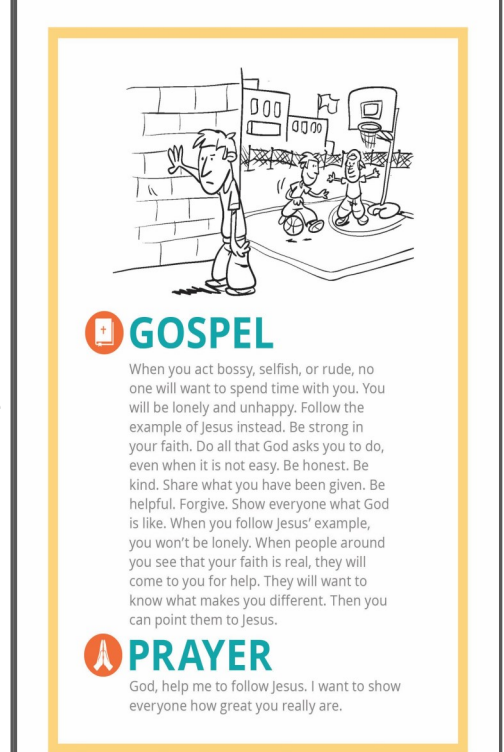
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GOSPEL
 When you act bossy, selfish, or rude, no one will want to spend time with you. You will be lonely and unhappy. Follow the example of Jesus instead. Be strong in your faith. Do all that God asks you to do, even when it is not easy. Be honest. Be kind. Share what you have been given. Be helpful. Forgive. Show everyone what God is like. When you follow Jesus' example, you won't be lonely. When people around you see that your faith is real, they will come to you for help. They will want to know what makes you different. Then you can point them to Jesus.

PRAYER
 God, help me to follow Jesus. I want to show everyone how great you really are.