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 Website: www.saintmatthews.ca

PARISH OFFICE

Rev. Tien Tran, Pastor - ttran@rcav.org;
 - ftrientran9@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 - welsh@stmatthewselementary.ca

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

Sunday, March 24, 2024



PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

So they brought the colt to Jesus and put their cloaks over it. And he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. - Mk 11:7-8

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

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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

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



DAYS OF MERCY CONFESSION TIMES AT ST. MATTHEW'S

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

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

The Whole Story

The Bible is a strange book.

It's one of the only books that most people never read in its entirety, even those who claim it as one of their favorites. It's also one of the only books that we feel comfortable chopping up and sectioning out. There's nothing wrong with that, really, until people start making wholesale judgments of divine revelation based on one tiny part of it. You can't base your belief system on a few lines from Leviticus and ignore the Gospels, just like you can't embrace the teachings of Jesus and ignore the Old Testament. You need to accept the whole story, in its entirety, or none of it means anything.

But it's hard, because accepting the whole story means patience. It means critical thinking. It requires endurance. It's easier just to throw a line from Leviticus at a problem and be done with it.

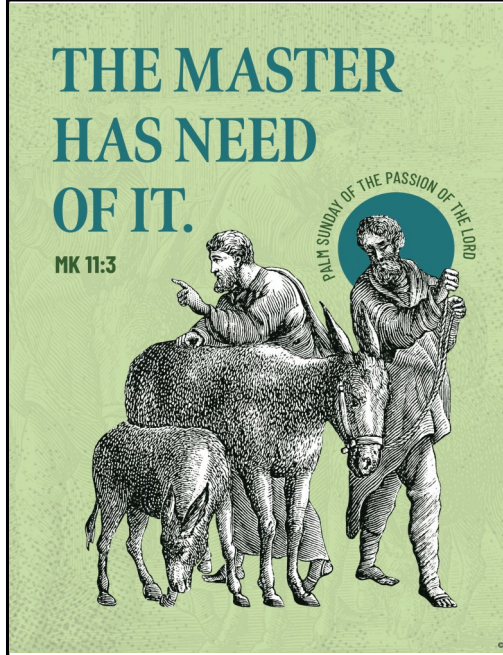
Holy Week reminds us that salvation history is a tapestry, not a collection of threads. As beautiful as the individual stitches might be, you won't appreciate the message unless you back up and look at the complete product. If we didn't have the whole story, Holy Thursday and Good Friday would be neither holy nor good. And without Holy Week, Easter morning means nothing — it's just a guy waking up.

How often in life do we find ourselves confused to the point of hopelessness, unable to make sense of it all? Overwhelmed by the pain and suffering that exists in this world, and for seemingly no reason. Some of us become so frustrated we throw up our hands and despair.

We need Easter. We need the whole story. We need to be patient.

"His disciples did not understand this at first, but when Jesus had been glorified they remembered that these things were written about Him and that they had done this for Him." — John 12:16

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THE MASTER HAS NEED OF IT.

Mk 11:3
PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

A few months before they married, my twenty-three-year-old sister and her fiancé planned a cross-country road trip to visit his family. My parents told them that they could only go if they slept in separate hotel rooms, offering to foot the bill. It might sound prudish, but my parents wanted the young couple to understand that their approaching unity was close, but not yet. Patience solidifies love.

What could this possibly have to do with Palm Sunday? It's usually overlooked, but the Gospels tell us that, after entering Jerusalem, Jesus "looked around ... and since it was late, went out to Bethany with the twelve" (Mk 11:11) for the night. Who cares? Why include this detail? Jews in those days believed that the new Davidic King would one day re-enter and "marry" the city. A new future marked by fidelity would begin for God's people. Israel's God would be in union with His people forever. Without over-sexualizing the metaphor, perhaps Jesus refused to sleep in Jerusalem to remind us of His marital purpose. He was entering Jerusalem as the bridegroom-king. It was almost time, but not yet. Soon He will sleep in Jerusalem in the tomb and then something new will begin: His one body, His Church.

Lenten challenge: This Holy Week, I challenge you to keep this image in your mind all the way until Easter Sunday: Jesus is the faithful bridegroom who patiently prepares His bride for their new life together. Go to the Good Friday liturgy and kiss the cross. When you do, let that gesture be the long-awaited "I do" to our faithful God, who always waits for us.

- Father John Muir
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LIVE THE LITURGY

The crowds of Jerusalem beautified the path of Jesus as He came into the city, offering their own cloaks in homage.

Let us make way in our hearts for the King as we enter into Holy Week.

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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)	Ms. Tina Obiwumma	askmymusichomer@gmail.com
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	Mrs. Maureen Fadum	nannette1g@gmail.com
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	Mrs. Ann Amsing	angemike14@gmail.com
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Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Mrs. Deidre Stone	djoel@positech.com
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Lectors	Mrs. Julie Bala-Cunningham	jon2ejavier@yahoo.com
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Liturgy of the Word for Children	Ms. Alexandra Jose	m1omanski@gmail.com
	M/M Dave/Doreen McKinnon	ajose.smp@hotmail.com
Marriage Prep-Witness to Love	Mrs. Germana Brotto	doreenmck@shaw.ca
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R.C.I.A.	Ms. Christie Castro	spotusek@rcav.org
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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	27	No Class – Happy Spring Break!
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**.

Sacramental Registration Level 2/CIC2

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

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



Marriage Anniversary MASS

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

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

"Love isn't easy. No. But the most beautiful thing that a man and a woman can give each other is true love, for a lifetime." - Pope Francis

On **Sunday, May 12**, Archbishop Michael Miller, CSB will be honouring couples celebrating milestone marriage anniversaries: five-year increments from 5 to 60 years, and every year beyond 60 years. The Marriage Anniversary Mass will be at **Our Lady of the Assumption Parish in Port Coquitlam at 1:30 p.m.** Registrations received by **Friday, April 19**, will receive their certificate at the Mass. Learn more and register at <https://family.rcav.org/mam/>.



MASS WEDDING

FOR CIVILLY MARRIED COUPLES



REGISTRATION DEADLINE JULY 21, 2024

Saturday, SEPTEMBER 21, 2024 at 1:30pm
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For more information or to register, please contact parish office or call Deacon Raul Abella (778-512-9163) or email fipinoministry@rcav.bc.ca



ARCHDIOCESAN EVENTS



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 RCAV-PEN 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>.

Save 20% on Sacred Burial Space - Spring Open House

Gardens of Gethsemani Catholic Cemetery is hosting its Spring Open House:

- **Friday, April 5, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.** Ends with 4:00 p.m. Mass celebrated by Archbishop Miller, and Blessing of the new Way of Light section
- **Saturday, April 6, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

Take advantage of the 20% off burial space before our modest price increase takes place. Now is the perfect time to make pre-need burial arrangements for yourself or your parents at our local Catholic cemetery! Learn more at <https://rcav.org/event/fall-open-house/>.

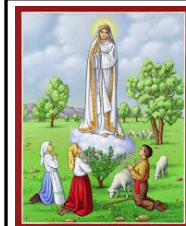
Job Opportunities—Gardens of Gethsemani

We're Hiring and looking for engaging and inspiring Catholics!

Outreach & Events Coordinator position - builds ministerial relationships with parishes, parish groups, CISVA schools, and Pastoral Centre ministry offices. The Outreach and Events Coordinator will plan/execute our community events and programs.

Groundskeeper and summer student positions - performs grounds operations and maintenance functions for the orderly burial of the dead. Key work includes grave preparations, burial functions, planting, and providing general care of property, while serving families in a caring and compassionate spirit.

Visit the Archdiocese of Vancouver's website for more information at <https://rcav.org/about/employment>.



DEVOTIONS TO OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Please pray the Holy Rosary daily



Please include in your prayers
 †Victor Miller
 who has gone home to the Lord.
 May his soul rest in eternal peace.

Pray For Desiree & Virgilio Pino; Liz Da Costa; Tommy Contreras; 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 & Carol 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.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE (CWL) CORNER



SAVE THE DATE for May 11 Wellness Day supporting Covenant House.

Tickets for massage therapy sessions will be available after Easter weekend. A great gift idea for Mother's Day! Stay tuned!

BURSARIES



St. Matthew's CWL Bursary

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 **May 31, 2024**.

CWL Diocesan Bursary

CWL diocesan bursary information and application forms are available at <https://vancouvercwl.ca>. Deadline for application is **April 5, 2024**.

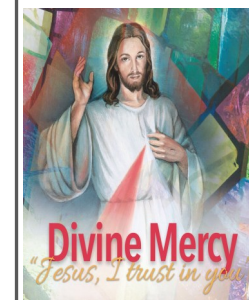
ST. MATTHEW'S PRESCHOOL & OUT OF SCHOOL CARE



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!

DIVINE MERCY



Divine Mercy Sunday is **April 7th** this year. In preparation for the graces available for us all on that day, St. Faustina has shared a novena given to her by Jesus. A copy of this novena is available at the counter next to the Parish Office and Welcome Centre beginning this weekend. Please begin the novena on **Good Friday, March 29th**. Our Parish will celebrate the Feast of Divine Mercy with Fr. Patrick Le at **3pm** (the hour of Mercy) with Eucharistic Adoration, the Divine Mercy Chaplet and veneration in honour of the Mercy of God, **Sunday April 7th**.

YOU ARE INVITED!

Easter egg hunt

SUNDAY, MARCH 31

After 8:30 & 10:30 mass
 St. Matthew's Elementary Playground
 Chocolate egg donations accepted in the church foyer

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GOSPEL

In the time when Jesus lived, people did not have shoes like we wear today. Sandals were cloth wrapped around the feet with straps tied to hold the cloth in place. The apostles walked from place to place on roads made of dirt. Their feet got dusty. Jesus washed their feet to make them clean. Jesus wants you to be kind to others. He wants you to make people comfortable on their heavenly journey.

PRAYER
 Lord, teach me how to help those on your path.

LEI BECAUSE VIBRANT CHURCHES MATTER