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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

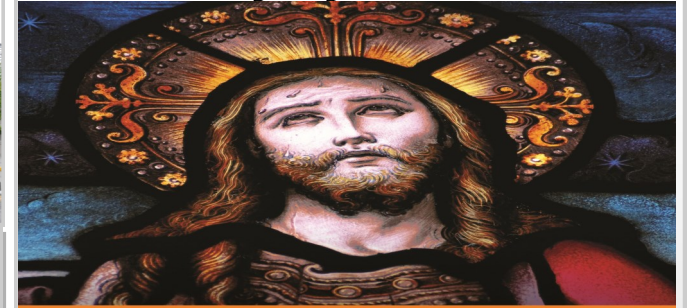
Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM
 Saturday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

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, April 14, 2024



3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

He said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the law of Moses and in the prophets and psalms must be fulfilled ... You are witnesses of these things." - Lk 24:44, 48

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sat.	Apr.	27	Welcome Breakfast for New Parishioners
Sat.	Apr.	27	Free Estate Planning Info Session
Sat.	May	4	Lector's Workshop
Sat.	May	11	CWL Wellness Day
Sat.	June	8	SMES Summer Carnival

(see details inside)

ATTENTION NEWCOMERS AND NON-REGISTERED PARISHIONERS

Please take the time to fill out our Parish Registration Form found behind the counter by the Parish Office, if you have not done so yet. Thank you.

APPEAL TO OUR PARISHIONERS:

- ⇒ Please be mindful that the hymn books and prayer cards in the pews are **not toys**.
- ⇒ Please take a minute to restore them in the right order in the pews.
- ⇒ Garbage should be disposed of in receptacles provided.

BAPTISM: By appointment with a minimum of 2 months' notice (during pregnancy) so that instructions can be given to parents and godparents about the duties and responsibilities assumed in this Sacrament. Contact parish.smat@rcav.org.

MARRIAGE: A minimum of 6 months' notice with one of the parties registered in the parish and practicing his/her faith. The Marriage Preparation course is mandatory. Please ask for "Guidelines for the Celebration of Marriage".

FUNERALS: Please call the parish office before making arrangements.

RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

The Twist Ending

Any reader of psychological thrillers will come across the "dead main character trope" fairly often. This is the famous *Sixth Sense* twist ending (I would say "spoiler alert," but the movie is older than most of the people who work in Youth Ministry at your Archdiocese, so you've probably seen it by now) where the reader finds that the main character has been dead for all or most of the story.

I'm always a little disappointed when this happens. It delivers shock value, sure, but it also undermines everything that happens in the story. You've come on a journey with this character, only to find out that nothing you saw transpire was real in the way you thought it was. You feel a little stupid, because the whole time you only had part of the truth.

I suspect Jesus knows this about us. He knows we don't like to have the rug pulled out. It's why He is so up-front about his humanity following the resurrection. See how Jesus, resurrected, shows the disciples His feet, His hands. See how He asks them for food and lets them watch Him eat it. See how this creates in them an understanding, a belief.

The humanity of Jesus Christ is absolutely crucial. It's what bridges the divide between the sons of Eve and the God she defied. Our reconciliation with God cannot happen unless human flesh pays the price that will balance the scales. Human flesh: skin that can tear and bleed, bones that can break, a mouth that can thirst, a stomach that can ache with hunger.

The passion and death of Jesus Christ is not a thriller with a twist ending: *he was a ghost the whole time!* The twist, if anything, is this: he was human the whole time.

"Touch me and see, because a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you can see I have." — Luke 24:39

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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
	Mr. Vincent Nguyen	augustinaobiwumma@gmail.com
	Ms. Nannette Lenoue-Guze	vien4odsurrey@gmail.com
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Discover Discipleship	Mrs. Daisy Chan	askmymusichomer@gmail.com
Elizabeth Ministry	Ms. Angela Drouillard	daisy_my_chan@hotmail.com
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Mrs. Ann Amsing	angemike14@gmail.com
Fifty Plus Group	Mrs. Deborah Joel	annamsing@yahoo.com
Knights of Columbus	Mrs. Deidre Stone	deidrestone69@gmail.com
Lectors	Mr. Shane Gogo	shanegogo@gmail.com
Legion of Mary	Mr. Jon Javier	jon2ejavier@yahoo.com
Liturgy of the Word for Children	Mrs. Julie Bala-Cunningham	morilabala@yahoo.com
	M/M Mike & Cathy Lomanski	mlomanski@gmail.com
	Ms. Alexandra Jose	ajose.smp@hotmail.com
Marriage Prep-Witness to Love	M/M Dave/Doreen McKinnon	doreenmck@shaw.ca
Our Lady of Fatima	Mrs. Germana Brotto	grbrotto@gmail.com
Pro Life Ministry	Mrs. Teresa Gares	tgares@live.com
Parish Education Committee	Mr. Peter Tang	peter_tang@me.com
Parish Council	Mr. Tim McKinnon	tjm3499@gmail.com
Pastoral Council	Mrs. Katrina Amurao	katrina.amurao@gmail.com
Project Advance	Mr. Abimbola Fagbamiye	bolingo1@mac.com
R.C.I.A.	Dcn. Steven Potusek	spotusek@rcav.org
St. Matthew's Prayer Group	Ms. Christie Castro	SMPGPrayerline@hotmail.com
St. Matthew's Soup Kitchen	Mr. Paul Stevens	604-589-2448
St. Vincent de Paul Society	Mr. Eric Andres	604-589-2448
Sports Ministry (Basketball)	Mr. Marlowe Billedo	marlowe25@hotmail.com
Sports Ministry (Volleyball)	Mr. Tot Phan	totphan@gmail.com
Ushers	Mr. Gerry Petines	glpetines@gmail.com
Vietnamese Community	Mr. Minh Nguyen	minhnguyen725@shaw.ca
Youth Ministry	Ms. Van Nguyen	kathynguyen027@gmail.com
	Ms. Eleanor Wong	eleanorwong@aol.com

IN THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD.

LK 24:35



When I was a kid, a friend at my home parish told me, "If you get to Mass by the Gospel reading, it counts!" As a life-long late-arriver, it's something I have told myself many times, especially in my earlier years as a Catholic. If the "it counts" is justifiable on a pathetically minimal scale of liturgical legalism, then the Gospel reading today shows how insanely wrong-headed it is, and how helpful it is to re-think the Mass in its light.

The famous "Road to Emmaus" story recounts, on that first Sunday of the Resurrection, the basic two-fold structure of the Mass: *Word*, followed by *Eucharist*. Jesus spends a significant period of time with two dismayed disciples, as He connects a wide swath of the Hebrew scriptures with His own suffering, death, and resurrection. They would later report that this Liturgy of the Word touched their hearts with an inexplicable fire. This Word-induced flame alone is what leads the two disciples to discover Jesus' presence in the "breaking of the bread."

With this in mind, how can we possibly think that the Liturgy of the Word is unnecessary or incidental? The two disciples needed the Scriptures explained to them in order to experience Jesus alive in the eucharistic breaking of bread. Sure, we say, but they had the Risen Jesus. But that's precisely the point: Jesus is risen and accompanies us in both parts of the Mass. Imagine how much our experience of Jesus in the Eucharist would deepen if we (preachers and listeners) took even more seriously that Jesus himself sets our hearts ablaze with His Word *so that* we know Him in the Eucharist. That Word-induced fire counts, too!

- Father John Muir

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LIVE THE LITURGY

Sometimes when God appears in our path, we do not recognize him. In these moments, Jesus invites us to reach out and touch Him. Remember that Christ is real, Christ is alive, and Christ stands before each one of us — so reach out. Touch Him.

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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.

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.



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 doreenmk@shaw.ca

THIS MONTH, WE CONGRATULATE:

**Timothy Cao & Hong Ngoc (Ruby) Tran,
Dinh Minh Ha (Harvey) Le & Khanh Linh (Kaitlin) Luong,
Juan Paolo Unarce & Jemimah Isabel Membreve**

LECTOR



A CALL FOR ASPIRING LECTORS

Does public speaking intrigue you? Do you have a love for Scripture and the confidence to proclaim it? Are you teachable and willing to undergo continuous training in support of ministry and community? If you hear God's call, then be present at the WORKSHOP for LECTORS on **Saturday, May 4 at 10:00 AM.** Please call the parish office to register.

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM (PREP)

Easter reminds us that hope should never be lost for as dark the road may seem, there always lies light at the end of it. May all your prayers be fulfilled and may wonderful blessings be upon you and all your loved ones on this very special day. Happy Easter!

April Calendar

April 17	6:35PM Level 7 Parent Meeting - Theology of the Body & Confirmation info Session (PREP only)
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)

Confirmation Retreat

A transformative weekend we had at M7FH Confirmation Retreat! Inspiring talks, engaging activities and heartfelt prayers have prepared our students' Confirmation Class for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Also, I would like to extend my sincerest thanks to the Youth Service Team for their tireless efforts in making the My Seven from Heaven Retreat such a success. We are so grateful for their dedication and support, which allowed us to provide such a high-quality experience for the children. They put in countless hours of volunteering to ensure that all aspects of the retreat run smoothly, including skits, testimonies, discussions, music, games, and tech support.

Sacramental Registration Level 2/CIC2

Sacramental Registration Level 2/CIC2



Deadline: April 17

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

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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/>.

ARCHDIOCESAN EVENTS



Official Enshrinement of San Pedro Calungsod

The Cebuano Society of Canada, in collaboration with the Filipino Catholic Ministry of the Archdiocese of Vancouver, invites devotees and all faithful to witness the official enshrinement of St. Pedro Calungsod, Filipino patron saint of migrants and youth. Archbishop J. Michael Miller, CSB, and Bishop Julito Cortes, D.D., of Dumaguete, Philippines, will preside over the Holy Mass. **On Friday, April 19, 6:00 p.m. at St. Monica's Parish in Richmond.**

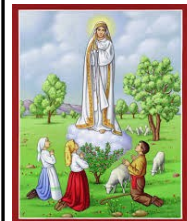
Sweet Surrender: The Joy of Entering God's Will—Easter Retreat for Divorced and Separated

The word surrender doesn't usually evoke excited anticipation or desire in us. And yet, our faith tells us that surrendering our will to the Lord is the central path to life and fulfillment in Him. In this retreat, we'll explore what surrender really means and explore concrete, real-world ways to come into direct contact with our Lord and His will, while discovering the joy and peace that true surrender brings.

On Saturday, April 27, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at St. Francis de Sales Parish in Burnaby. Cost is \$20. Learn more and register at <https://beholdvancouver.org/events/sweet-surrender-the-joy-of-entering-god-s-will>.

Momentum Single Mothers' Retreat

All Catholic single mothers are invited to attend a two-night retreat, with or without their children. There will be talks for mothers (childcare provided), family time, children's activities, and time for Mass, Adoration, and Confession. Hosted by the Archdiocese of Vancouver in collaboration with Momentum, the retreat will be held from **May 24-26 at Charis Camp in Chilliwack. Cost is \$150/family (with or without children). Registration deadline: Monday, May 6.** Learn more and register at <https://beholdvancouver.org/events/momentum-single-mothers-retreat>.



DEVOTIONS TO OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Please pray the Holy Rosary daily



Please include in your prayers **†Marissa Regene Diolata** who has gone home to the Lord. May her soul rest in eternal peace. **Funeral mass for †Martin Sask is on April 20 at 10:00am, and †Marissa Regene Diolata on April 20 at 11:30am.**

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; Concepcion Lacanienta; Lawrence Icarangal Jr.; Denver Gomez; Cyrus Oskuei; Lucila Marcojos; Joseph Fernando

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.

How would you like to be remembered?

Sign up today for this one-hour seminar and receive your Family registry planner & Estate planning kit

April 27, 2024 - 3:30-4:30 p.m.

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• **Frank Myrskog & Natasa Radoja**, Family Services Directors for Valley View Memorial Gardens.
• **Ryan Kalleitner**, Partner, Campbell Redmond Barristers & Solicitors

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Do you want to explore more on Theology of the Body, led by local experts? Then this four-part course led by professors from Catholic Pacific College is for you! CPC joins with Our Lady of the Assumption Parish to bring you 4 evening classes on St. John Paul II's "Theology of the Body," **Tuesdays from April 23 to May 14 at 7pm at Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Hall.** What does it mean to be a human person, one who is embodied and lives within time and space? How is the human body a path unto God? Only \$100 for all four sessions. Register at <https://revenue-can.keela.co/theology-of-the-body-evening-course>.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE (CWL) CORNER



St. Matthew's CWL is now selling the **Wellness Day in May** tickets! Treat yourself, your mom, sister, friend or spouse to a massage therapy session for **only \$30. CASH or CHEQUE ONLY.**

Saturday May 11 9am to 4pm in St. Matthew's Jubilee Hall and Gymnasium. This is in conjunction with the West Coast College of Massage Therapy. Tickets are available after weekend Masses or at the parish office during the week. ICBC and WCB clients cannot be accepted.

A GREAT IDEA FOR A MOTHER'S DAY TREAT... All proceeds are for Covenant House.

SAVE the DATE for the **April 16, 2024** general meeting after 7pm Mass in the Jubilee Hall. The FAITH Pillar will be our focus at the April General Meeting. Come and connect with each other through a FAITH Inspired program from our CWL National mentors.

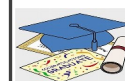
COMMUNITY OUTREACH MINISTRY



Newly-registered parishioner in 2024? We invite you to a "Welcome Breakfast" especially prepared for our new parishioners on **Saturday, April 27, 2024, 10:00am – 11:30am in the Jubilee Hall.** You will have the opportunity to make connections, meet new friends and various ministry representatives who will speak about their ministry activities, and enjoy a fun-filled day of games and activities. You must have registered with the parish this year to pre-register for the event, or call the Parish Office to register. New catechumens who were baptized during Easter are also invited to join!

Please RSVP by **Thursday April 18, 2024** to **Community Outreach Ministry** (outreachstmatthews@gmail.com) with your names, total number of family members, and number of children in the family.

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.**

Youth Ministry Leadership Bursary

The Youth Ministry Leadership Bursary recognizes high school students making a difference in their parishes, schools, communities and homes. Two Grade 12 students will be selected to receive an award of \$500 each for their post-secondary schooling. Learn more and apply at <https://rcav.org/youth-ministry/leadership-bursary>. Deadline: **May 13, 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!

RELIGIOUS ARTICLES FROM HOLY LAND



Please have a look at the religious olive wood carvings displayed outside the Church on **April 13-14.** These articles are hand crafted by the Christians of the Holy land who are seeking your support today to assist them in staying rooted in the land of Christ. **70 years ago, the Christian population was 20 % of the whole population, now they are only 1.0%.** It is also a way of preserving a local cultural heritage which is in danger of being lost as a more Christians feel pressured to leave their homeland for economic and political reasons.

Please note that that ONLY CASH, E-TRANSFER, OR CHEQUES ARE accepted as payment at this time.

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GOSPEL

Turn to God in the name of Jesus Christ so that you will be forgiven. When you hurt someone, say to God and to the person, "I made a mistake. I am very sorry. Will you forgive me?" After God forgives you, he will show you good things to do in his Son's name. Choosing ways to honor and serve God will lead you to heaven.

PRAYER

Father God, forgive me and show me ways to serve you in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ.

