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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 21, 2024



4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

"I am the good shepherd, and I know mine and mine know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I will lay down my life for the sheep." - Jn 10:14-15

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 | 1 | Spring Dinner Dance |
| Sat. | June | 8 | SMES Summer Carnival |

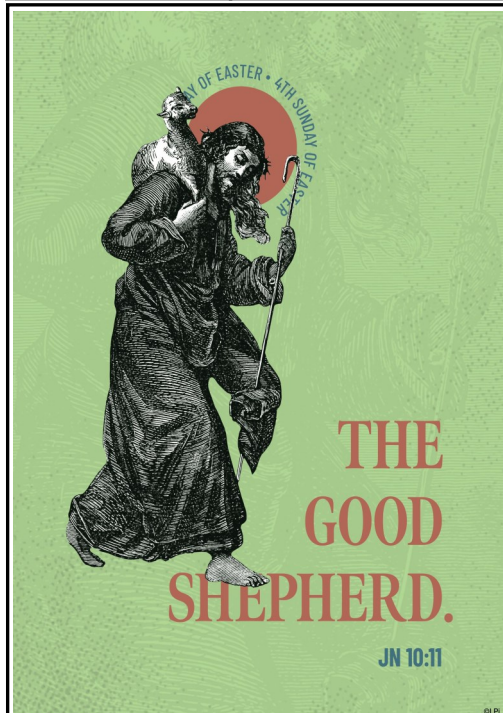
(see details inside)



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

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

FUNERALS: Please call the parish office before making arrangements.



Recently I was with my little dog Libby at a retreat center in the Arizona desert. I sat in a chair near a ravine filled with shrubs. Unbeknownst to me, Libby wandered down there and disappeared. Suddenly an animal's wild shriek erupted from the area. Without thinking, I bolted down into the ravine fully expecting to see coyotes, javelinas, or rattlesnakes. I didn't care. I desperately wanted to get Libby out of there, without any self-regard. Before I could face whatever danger lay hidden, my dog blissfully trotted out from an entirely different area, utterly unaware that I had (quite heroically) just placed my life on the line.

When the adrenaline wore off, I thought to myself: how far would I have been willing to go to save her? I don't know. But I do know, if I had

literally died, my friends and family would have certainly thought me insane for dying for a dog. No offense, Libby.

How passionately Jesus wants us to know Him and His willingness to die for us! This week he says, "I know my own and my own know me," and "I lay down my life for the sheep." Here we encounter an insanely excessive love for us. Christianity is a relationship and not simply a religion or ethical code. In Jesus, God rescues and saves us. He laid down His life for you and me — and He has taken it up again. So often we are like Libby — blissfully ignorant of the reality of both our spiritual danger and His saving love. This Easter season, the risen Jesus calls us to be more conscious than ever before about His love. He never ceases to lay down His life for us.

- Father John Muir
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RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

The Twist Ending

The Good Shepherd and the Wolf

I remember very clearly the first movie I watched during my pregnancy with my eldest child. In this film, there is a scene where a young boy is kidnapped and shoved into the back of a van guarded by vicious dogs. His mother persists in trying to free him, even as the dogs snap at her. Their bared teeth and full-throated snarls don't slow her efforts in the slightest.

It wasn't a great movie or even a particularly great scene, but I'll never forget this scene. I'll never forget those dogs.

I had just learned that I was a mother a few days ago. The life growing deep within seemed to me as frail as a whispered secret, but I loved it powerfully. I worried constantly if the baby was safe and healthy. I agonized over signs — real or imagined — that could tell me if the poppyseed-sized child was thriving or failing.

I understood, for the first time in my life, why a woman would charge a pack of attack dogs without hesitation — not because she should, but because she has to.

She could choose not to fight, certainly. She could walk away. But why would she? A future without her son is so much more painful than any physical wound. She may fear for her life, but she fears a life without her child so much more.

The Good Shepherd discourse reveals to us the motivation behind God's actions throughout all of salvation history. From Adam to Noah to Abraham, all the way down to the time of the Messiah and beyond, He keeps trying to get us back. He keeps braving the attack dogs, time after time. He never stops. He never grows weary. And it baffles us: *what's in it for Him?* we wonder, because we are quicker to give up on ourselves than He is. *Why does He keep trying?*

He could choose not to fight, sure. But why would He? He doesn't want a future without us.

"I will lay down my life for the sheep." — John 10:11

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LIVE THE LITURGY

Jesus the Good Shepherd knows that real love is an action, not an idea. His sacrifice is the proof of His love for His flock. Let us remember to love one another as the Good Shepherd loves us: not just in words but in actions, in choices, in deeds.

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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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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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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.

CATHOLIC PACIFIC COLLEGE



Last chance before the course begins! 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 catholicpacific.ca/tob.



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

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**

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.

Set aside your sacred space

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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—May Calendar

April	24	Early Dismissal at 7:30PM (Staff Meeting)
May	1	FHC Rehearsal, 6:35 pm, meet at the Fireside Room
May	5	First Holy Communion Mass at 2:30pm, drop off students at Jubilee Hall by 1:45pm
May	8	Confirmation Rehearsal, 6:30pm, drop off students at Jubilee hall
May	22	Ice Cream day at the Playground—Parents are welcome
May	25	Confirmation Mass 10:30am, drop off students at Jubilee Hall by 9:45
May	25	Going Forth Celebration Mass, FHC students, 5:30pm. Drop off students at fireside hall by 5:10
May	29	May Procession meet at the Church, 6:35pm, please have your students bring flowers for Mama Mary - Last Day of PREP

PREP office hours: Wednesday 9am – 3pm and 5-8pm
Friday 9am – 5pm

We are blessed to have so many dedicated volunteers who come to share their faith with your children!

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

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 - 4:00-5:00 p.m.

St. Matthews Church
16079 88 Ave, Surrey, BC V4N 1G3
(604) 589-2448

Speakers include:

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

*The Family Registry Planner and Estate Planning kit is by appointment only. No kits will be distributed on the day of the event.

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SPRING DINNER DANCE SILENT AUCTION - We are collecting items for the Silent Auction tables at the Spring Dinner-Dance! Always a popular fundraiser, we are asking for your help in providing new home decor items, appliances, gift items, sport event tickets, local experience opportunities, jewellery, and bottled adult beverages. If you own a business you might consider offering services. All gifts will be acknowledged and appreciated. Items may be delivered to the parish office marked **Silent Auction**. If you are uncertain, please call Maureen at 604 589 9679 and we can work it out!

DEVOTIONS TO OUR LADY OF FATIMA
Please pray the Holy Rosary daily

Please include in your prayers
†Francis Motha
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; 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; Manuel & Cecilia Tavares

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



April 26 is the **Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel**, the Patroness of the Catholic Women's League of Canada and of Domestic Abuse Services.

We pray, Lord, through the intercession of Our Lady of Good Counsel, teach us to know Your will, and guide us in all that we do. Amen.

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.

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 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**.

PROLIFE



We invite you to attend the **March for Life in Victoria, BC, Thursday May 9, 2024**.

Together we rally to remind our elected officials to NEVER FORGET ...the child in the womb, people living with a disability or mental illness, or seniors who need care. A bus will be leaving from St. Matthew's at 8:00 am.

Important Note: To register for both the ferries and the buses, you must go the website to register & pay. <https://m4lvictoria.ca/2022-transportation/> When you register, from the drop-down menu, pick the parish you want to leave from (i.e. St. Matthew's).

We realize it is expensive for families to pay for both the ferry & the bus, so we have set aside money to cover the **cost of the ferry** for families attending with children. Members of our Pro-Life group will be available after the masses, this weekend, to help with registration. OR contact **Teresa (604 816-7159)**, if you need help registering, also if your family would like to attend & you need help with ferry cost. **DEADLINE for registering is April 24th.**

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GOSPEL
Jesus is the Good Shepherd. He wants you to help your family and friends. Jesus wants to guide you like a shepherd guides the sheep. Do what you can to help others. Bring in a bag of groceries. Take someone a drink of water. Get a blanket for someone. Or just sit down and listen to a friend's funny or sad story. Then you will be a good shepherd just like Jesus.

PRAYER
Jesus, show me ways to help my family and friends.