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 Website: www.saintmatthews.ca

PARISH OFFICE

Rev. Tien Tran, Pastor - ttran@rcav.org;
 - frtrentan9@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, May 12, 2024



THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

So then the Lord Jesus, after he spoke to them, was taken up into heaven and took his seat at the right hand of God. But they went forth and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the word through accompanying signs. - Mk 16:19-20

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.	June	1	Spring Dinner Dance
Sat.	June	8	SMES Summer Carnival
Sat.	June	15	Man's Destiny Men's Conference

(see details inside)



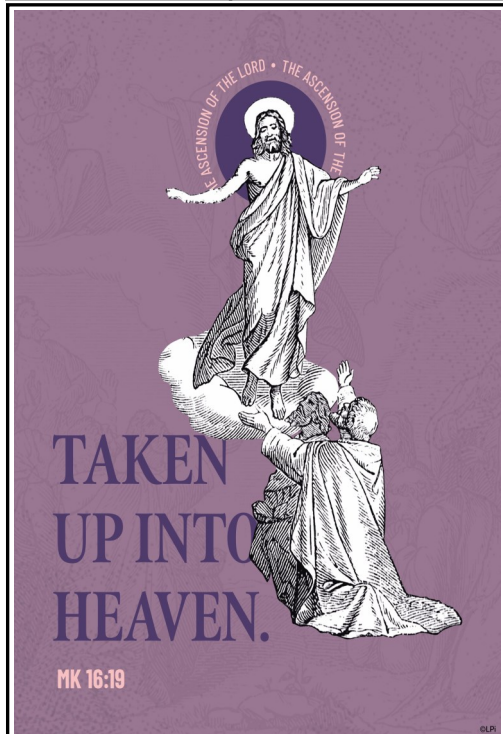
ST. JOSEPH'S PRAYER GARDEN

St. Joseph's Prayer Garden is currently being built at the west side parking lot of the Church. It will be a place where one can meditate and pray. Donations for this project are accepted at the Parish Office or online <https://saintmatthews.ca/campaigns/2548>.

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.



When I was a kid, my parents took me to the circus, and I was mesmerized by the acrobats. I recall one show in which the trapeze artists would swoop down just above the ground and then launch up into the air, flinging their bodies seemingly to the top of the tent, all at dizzying speeds. It wasn't just their height but their dangerous proximity to the ground that thrilled me.

Perhaps that's a little how St. Mark wants us to feel as he describes the Ascension of Jesus. He tells us that Jesus "sat down at table with them" and then, just a few lines later, "He ascended into heaven and took His seat at the right hand of God." He dies, He rises! He sits down, He ascends! What do these divine acrobatics teach us?

The depth and height on display are a show of His love for us. When Jesus "sat

down" He "upbraided them for their lack of faith and stubbornness of heart." He dangerously swoops down into our lowly place of fragmentation, disbelief, and death. When He ascends, He confirms their preaching with signs of powerful healing. The height of heaven is the place from which God brings wholeness, faith, and life. The point is the Ascension of Jesus is not about His departure. It is about the feat by which He unites the heavens and the earth, the highest and the lowest.

We are meant to relive this spiritually dizzying experience in every Mass, when Jesus sits down with us at His Eucharistic table and then offers Himself up to the Father with and for us. Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls: welcome to the great tent of the Church! Feast your eyes on the divine and human acrobat whose saving feat is the great thrill of our lives.

- Father John Muir
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LIVE THE LITURGY

Jesus was taken into Heaven, but the work He leaves us is here on earth. Here on earth, we must speak the truth in every language and confront evil wherever we find it. Here on earth, we must get to work — remembering always that we do not work alone.

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RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

The Ideal Candidate

The Ascension always makes me think of what a job listing on Indeed.com would look like for the position of Disciple of Jesus Christ.

"An exciting opportunity for the go-getter who loves a challenge. Multilingual skills a must. Animal handling experience preferred. The ideal candidate will have a strong stomach and an enthusiasm for travel."

In all seriousness, I find the Ascension a little depressing, a little intimidating. This day forces me to confront how few are the qualifications I possess to carry out the Great Commission.

Proclaim the Gospel to every creature. Hold on — do I have to talk to people? I don't even really like calling my friends on their birthdays. Can I send a text instead?

Go into the whole world. All of it? Everywhere? Even the places where it's really, really humid? Could I possibly schedule a Zoom call?

Speak new languages ... pick up serpents ... drink any deadly thing ... Okay, full disclosure: I have never even been camping. I don't think I'm the right fit for this job. Thank you for your consideration, but you can lose my resumé.

Of course, I know that in the year 2024 God does not expect me to pick up a serpent to proclaim the Gospel. But He might expect me to do something far more stomach-churning. He might expect me to talk about Him — in public, in front of strangers. He might expect me to take a stand against something that I know is sinful, even though it means I lose every friend I have. He might expect me to say "no" when everyone wants me to say "yes," or "yes" when everyone wants me to say "no."

He might expect me to be different. He will expect me to be different.

But on the Ascension, I also remember this: it's okay. No one who ever did the work of God was the ideal candidate. They were all scared. They were all ill-equipped. Every single one of them.

They did it anyway. And despite the weakness and hesitancy of my mortal flesh, despite everything that seems logical, despite the recommendations of any hiring committee this temporal world might make — I can, too.

"I am with you always, until the end of the world." — Matthew 28:20
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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	cwlmstmatthewssurrey@gmail.com
Choirs: Fri 7 PM	Ms. Hoang Nguyen	cyasurrey@gmail.com
Sat 5:30 PM	Mrs. Letty Regis	hoangn.nguyen93@gmail.com
Sun 8:30 AM	Mrs. Kathleen Grosjean	letic@telus.net
10:30 AM	Mr. Peter Luongo	grosjean@shaw.ca
12:30 PM	Mr. Homer Garcia-Reyes	sluongo@telus.net
(last Sunday) 12:30 PM	Ms. Tina Obiwumma	askmymusichomer@gmail.com
5 PM	Mr. Vincent Nguyen	augustinaobiwumma@gmail.com
7:30 PM	Ms. Nannette Lenoue-Guze	vien4codsurrey@gmail.com
Community Outreach Ministry	Mrs. Maureen Fadum	nannetteg@gmail.com
Couples for Christ	M/M Homer & Me- Ann Reyes	mgfadum@gmail.com
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	djoel@positech.com
Lectors	Mr. Shane Gogo	deidrestone69@gmail.com
Legion of Mary	Mr. Jon Javier	shanegogo@gmail.com
Liturgy of the Word for Children	Mrs. Julie Bala-Cunningham	jon2ejavier@yahoo.com
10:30AM	M/M Mike & Cathy Lomanski	lorillabala@yahoo.com
12:30PM	Ms. Alexandra Jose	mloanski@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
Pro Life Ministry	Mrs. Teresa Gares	grbrotto@gmail.com
Parish Education Committee	Mr. Peter Tang	tgares@live.com
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Pastoral Council	Mrs. Katrina Amurao	tjm3499@gmail.com
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St. Matthew's Soup Kitchen	Mr. Paul Stevens	SMPGPrayerline@hotmail.com
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Sports Ministry (Basketball)	Mr. Marlowe Billedo	604-589-2448
Sports Ministry (Volleyball)	Mr. Tot Phan	marlowe25@hotmail.com
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Vietnamese Community	Mr. Minh Nguyen	glpetines@gmail.com
Youth Ministry	Ms. Van Nguyen	minhnguyen725@shaw.ca
	Ms. Eleanor Wong	kathynguyen027@gmail.com
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YOUNG AT HEART CLUB ...50+

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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.

DISCALCED CARMELITE SECULAR ORDER INFORMATION SESSION

Do you have a desire to grow in holiness by way of Carmelite spirituality? Come to our Disalced Carmelite Secular Order Information Session on Saturday, **June 22, 2024 @ 10:30Am via Zoom.** If interested, register by email to remi.vasquez@shaw.ca. This event will help you follow the example and teachings of St. Teresa of Avila, St. John of the Cross, St. Therese of Lisieux and many other Carmelite saints.



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:

Jefrey Sison & Josell Sanchez,
Jesse Ryan McCormick & Mary Maxine Bacalso

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)

April—May Calendar

- 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

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FIRST COMMUNION CLASS 2023-2024!

The parish extends its heartfelt congratulations to our 87 young parishioners who received our Lord in Holy Communion for the first time last weekend. This is a significant milestone as they join the rest of the Parish community to participate fully in the Eucharistic Celebration. It was great to see all the families and students together in celebration.

.....
We are blessed to have so many dedicated volunteers who come to share their faith with your children! This fall, over 250 children and young people, Kindergarten through Level 7 (grade7), will sign up to learn more about Jesus and the Catholic Faith. We are looking for Catechists and assistants who can help them with Faith formation. You will have tremendous amounts of resources (printed, digital and training). Classes begin in September. If interested, please contact PREP office or visit our website: www.saintmatthews.ca

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

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.**

MEDIATRIX CONFERENCES



Countdown to the Kingdom Conference

Join Mark Mallet, Christine Watkins, and Fr. Daniel-Maria Klimek, TOR as they speak on prophecy - a gift from the Holy Spirit, private revelation, the Miraculous Medal, the Warning, Rediscovering the Supernatural, **Saturday, May 25, 2024 at Holy Cross Parish, 1450 Delta Ave. Burnaby, 10:00am-4:00pm and 6:30-8:30pm.** Tickets \$70 advance purchase \$80 at the door Info: Ethelyn David (mediatrixconferences@gmail.com) (604) 889-3842

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DRAW TO TAKE PLACE AT THE DINNER DANCE
Saturday, June 1 at 9pm
St. Matthew's Gym



Win a Trip for Two to Las Vegas plus tickets for the amazing show at the Sphere!

Tickets to win are available after weekend Masses, or from the Parish Office during the week. **GOOD LUCK!**

The winner will receive an \$1800 voucher from Expedia Cruises in Fleetwood to be applied to a trip to Las Vegas.

Winning trip \$1,800 voucher could include:

- Flight + 4 days & 3 nights at the Bellagio Hotel + Tickets for two to an evening show at the Sphere
- **OR**, any other destination of your choice



PROJECT ADVANCE 2024 Building our Parish Community



Donate online at projectadvance.ca



The annual appeal provides critical funding to key ministries and projects in our Archdiocese as well as to our parish. Last year our parish received \$151,221.80 to help with paying our mortgage for the Parish Centre and assisting our assent for re-building Holy Cross secondary school. This year our goal is \$98,500 and we hope to raise \$165,500 to help with our mortgage payments for the parish centre. We hope that everyone will participate in this year's appeal. For more information, stop by at the back of the Church and see one of our appeal committee members or visit projectadvance.ca to give online.

Spring Dinner Dance
Silent Auction

Items Collection

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 604-589-9679

DEVOTIONS TO OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Please pray the Holy Rosary daily

Please include in your prayers
†Regie Realina and †Clare Looi
who have gone home to the Lord. May their souls rest in eternal peace.

Funeral mass for †Regie Realina is on May 17 at 11am
And for †Clare Looi on June 14 at 11am.

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; Naty Parinas; Concepcion Lacanienta; Cyrus Oskuei; Lucila Marcojos; Joseph Fernando; Manuel & Cecilia Tavares; Greg Narciso; Tina Estacio; Yinka & Dayo Odubajo; Fermin

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



Fr. Mark Gazin, CSB is our guest speaker on **Tuesday May 21, 2024** at our May General Meeting after the 7pm Mass. ALL PARISHIONERS ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US! Fr. Mark will be speaking on his work with the Archdiocesan Marriage Tribunal. Refreshments will be served. Brief business meeting to follow.

On this Mother's Day, we ask Mother Mary, to bless and guide all mothers in their love and care. Happy Mother's Day!

CFC-YOUTH SOUTH C2 TNC FUNDRAISER

ZUMBA NIGHT!

Come join us!

ADDRESS: 16065 88 Ave, Surrey, B.C. St. Matthew's Elementary School Gym

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FEATURING INSTRUCTOR: Laornie Arfiza

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Sat. June 15th, 8:30AM-3:45PM

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featured on **The Journey Home (EWTN) and Pints with Aquinas**

Man's Destiny 2024 MEN'S CONFERENCE

Man's Destiny 2024 conference is happening on **Saturday, June 15, at St. Matthew's Parish in Surrey**. The conference starts at 8:30 am and runs to 3:45 pm. Tickets are \$60 per person and includes a light breakfast, a hot lunch, coffee, and snacks.

This year's guest speaker is Keith Nester, who has over 20 years of experience in various pastoral and youth pastoral roles in United Methodist, Assemblies of God, and Evangelical Free churches. In 2017, following a 20-year-long discernment process, Keith resigned from his full-time ministry position at the United Church and joined the Catholic Church. Keith is a YouTube creator and author of the book, "The Convert's Guide to Roman Catholicism, Your First Year in the Church". As an exciting and dynamic speaker, Keith continues to use his preaching gifts to speak to audiences about faith, theology, and his journey to Catholicism. Keith has been a featured guest on EWTN's Journey Home and Matt Frad's Pints with Aquinas. Keith also hosts The Rosary Crew; a Live Stream Prayer Group were people from nearly 60 countries gather together to pray the Rosary.

It's a great day to spend with your son! To purchase tickets, go to <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/making-sense-of-the-chaos-tickets-857259866337?aff=ebdssbdstsearch> or call St. Matthew's Parish Office for tickets at 604-589-2448. You can also contact Brian Keobke at brian@xibita.com for more information. Get your tickets early, as last year's event sold out.

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GOSPEL

It was time for Jesus to go back up to heaven. Before he left, Jesus asked his friends to tell the whole world the good news. God wanted all people to be saved from their sins through Jesus. If people believed in Jesus, God would forgive them, and they could do great things to help others. If people refused to believe in Jesus, God would not forgive them, and they would not be saved. God was with Jesus' friends as they shared the good news. It is your turn now. God wants you to tell the world the good news about Jesus. God will be with you, too.

PRAYER

God, help me as I tell people about Jesus.