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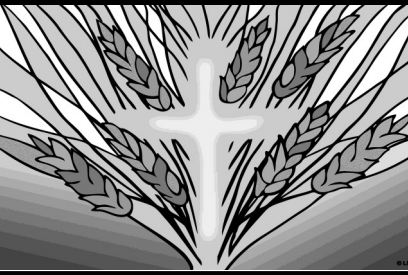
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SCHOOL: [www.stmatthewselementary.ca](http://www.stmatthewselementary.ca)

St. Matthew's Preschool Tel: (604) 589-1222



**March 18, 2018** **5th Sunday of Lent**

*"Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains but a grain of wheat, but if it dies, it produces much fruit. Now is the time of judgment on this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself."*

*Jn 13: 24, 31-32*

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**REGULAR MASS TIMES**

**SUNDAY:** English Masses - 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM, 12:30 PM, 7:30 PM; Vietnamese Mass 5 PM

**SATURDAY:** 9:00 AM / Anticipated Mass at 5:30 PM

**WEEKDAYS:** Monday to Friday (except TUESDAY) 8:00 AM  
Tuesday 7:00 PM  
Friday Night—Mass at 7:00 PM (Vietnamese)  
\*\*\*except First Friday - in English

**CONFESSIONS**

- Weekend & Daily Masses: half an hour before each Mass

**Devotions during Fridays of Lent (exc. Good Friday)**

8 AM Mass (English)  
6 PM Stations of the Cross (English)  
7 PM Mass in Vietnamese

**PARISH OFFICE**

**Rev. Tien Tran, Pastor** [ttran@rcav.org](mailto:ttran@rcav.org); [frtran@hotmail.com](mailto:frtran@hotmail.com)

**Rev. Nixon D'Silva, Asst. Pastor** [nixsil2007@gmail.com](mailto:nixsil2007@gmail.com)  
**604-589-2083** **Rectory**

**Office Hours:** Tuesday to Friday 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM  
Saturday 9:30 AM to 5:00 PM  
**604-589-2448** [office@saintmatthews.ca](mailto:office@saintmatthews.ca)

**Parish Admin:** Mrs. Letty Regis  
Ms. Caroline Mrazek  
Mrs. Stephanie Chessell

**Bookkeeper:** Mrs. Melanie A. Narvaez  
**P.R.E.P.** Mrs. Trish Van Vliet [prep@saintmatthews.ca](mailto:prep@saintmatthews.ca)

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**Service : Mon - Fri 7:30 AM - 6 PM**  
**Sat 8 AM - 5 PM**



**REGULAR DEVOTIONS**

**Holy Rosary**  
20 minutes before daily Mass

**Divine Mercy**  
Tuesday after the 7 PM Mass

**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**

Mar. 18	Share Lent Breakfast (after the morning Masses)	Gym
Mar. 19-22	St. Matthew's Parish Mission (see details inside)	Church
Mar. 22 8 PM	Lenten Penitential Service @ St. Matthew's	Church
April 7-8	Project Advance Campaign	
April 19 6:30 PM	Alpha Film Series	JH
May 19 7 PM	Celebration of Fr. Tran's Ordination Anniversary	Gym
June 9	Spring Dinner & Dance—80's Theme	Gym

**Note to Parishioners: The bulletin is now available in our website— [www.saintmatthews.ca](http://www.saintmatthews.ca)**

Monday 7:30 PM	St. Matthew's Prayer Group	Jubilee Hall
Tuesday 1 to 4 PM	Fifty Plus Social	Jubilee Hall
2nd Tuesday 7:30 PM	Knights of Columbus	Jubilee Hall
3rd Tuesday 7:30 PM	CWL	Jubilee Hall
Wednesday 9 AM	St. Matthew's Soup Kitchen	Kitchen
Thursday 10 AM	Legion of Mary	Upper Room
Thursday 4:30 PM	Junior Legion of Mary	Fireside Room
Thursday 7 PM	Bible Study	Church
Every 2nd Friday 9 AM	St. Vincent de Paul Meeting	Upper Room
Saturday 9:30 AM	RCIA	Room 129

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**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.

**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.



*"Now there were some Greeks among those who had come to worship at the feast. They came to Philip ... and asked him, 'Sir, we would like to see Jesus.'"*

It has begun. News of Jesus has spread beyond native-born, Aramaic-speaking Jews. We don't know if the Greeks mentioned here heard of Jesus from fellow travelers or if news of this intriguing rabbi had reached all the way to their home. What we do know is that this interaction spurred an interesting comment from Jesus: *"The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified."* In other words, it has begun. The time has come for the message to move beyond the geographic bounds of Israel.

But what does this message require? The Gospel is clear: *"he said this indicating the kind of death he would die."* A grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies to itself as only a seed. A caterpillar takes on the appearance of temporary death in order to transform into a butterfly. In the Gospels, sacrifice and death are a way of becoming something more than you were before.

This Lent, new life can come from our sacrifices. When we enter into the season with Jesus, our difficulties can transform our perspective. *"Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains but a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit."*

As we abstain from meat and fast from eating between meals, we can grow in compassion for the hungry. We can give alms of our time sacrificially spending time with the lonely, the sick, and the marginalized. Our little Lenten "deaths" - death to unnecessary preferences, death to selfish living, death to ignorance of others' pain—can bring new life to the world long after the season is over. This is the invitation this Sunday and every Lenten season, to begin anew from death to life.

**LIVE THE LITURGY**

We all fear losing that which is familiar. We fear dying. When our securities and familiarities are threatened, the anxiety of uncertainty can lead us into fear and despair. We have difficulty believing that new life comes from death. This is the basis of what it means to hope. There are no dead ends or final endings with God. Through His passion and death, Jesus opens up the possibility for new life and new beginnings for all believers. *"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"*. As our journey of Lent hastens to an end, the mystery of Christ's passion and death comes before us to teach us valuable lessons.



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Mass will be on Sunday, May 13 at 2 p.m. at St. Matthew Parish, Surrey. Reception to follow in the parish gym with exhibitors present in the Jubilee Hall. Register your milestone anniversary here: <http://rcav.org/marriage-anniversary/>. All are welcome to witness and celebrate the milestone anniversaries of others this Mother's Day!

**PREP (Parish Religious Education Program)**

- **Grades 6 & 7:** Please refer to notice that was sent home on March 7 collecting for "Door is Open".
- **Grade 7**—Sponsor and/or parent letters are due March 18. Please drop letters as soon as possible. Name of confirmand on outside of the envelope, please!
- Thank you to all who brought food to support the Soup Kitchen and St. Vincent de Paul Society.
- **Mite Boxes** are due back on April 4, please hand in to your teacher.
- **April 4:** Grade 1 & CIC1—Parent Meeting (both PREP and SME) – meet in the Fireside Room.
- **April 7 & 8:** Grade 7 Loon Lake Retreat—Thanks to all the parents who volunteered to chaperone. Some forms are still outstanding. Please drop them off at the parish office asap. Payment has been made. Forms are still needed for information.

Trish Van Vliet – [prep@saintmatthews.ca](mailto:prep@saintmatthews.ca) or call 604-589-2448 ext.233



**FIFTY PLUS GROUP**

Social 1 to 4 PM every Tuesday in the Jubilee Hall

**CWL Corner**

- Have you sent in your registration for the convention? We are so lucky to have it right here in Surrey. From April 26, the feast day of our Patroness, Our Lady of Good Counsel, to Saturday, April 28, we will all gather at St. Bernadette's Church. Come and see how powerful a gathering of so many Catholic women looks and feels like.
- Ladies, the opening Mass does not need you to be registered. We are needing lots of helping hands for an hour or two, or really whatever time you can spare. We will welcome you with open arms.
- I wish you all a fruitful mission this week. Open your heart to the Lord. Welcome Him and plan to keep Him company throughout His passion. Remember, He suffered for us. *Ria Ling*

To all CWL members: We will not have a general meeting on March 20 to ensure that you can all participate in our Parish Lenten Mission. *Ria Ling*



**Fr. Tran's 25th Anniversary of Ordination:**

Please plan to attend the celebration dinner to be held Saturday, May 19, after the 5:30 PM Mass in St. Matthew's Elementary School Gym. Tickets and further information will be available soon. Please watch the bulletin for details. There will be an opportunity for presentations by parish groups.

**LAST CALL—Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle, the Archbishop of Manila**

will give a public address at the Queen E Theatre on Monday, March 19. 1900 tickets have been sold. Thanks to a generous patron who is passionate about supporting marriages and families, all remaining seats are now available at **\$10** through **Ticketmaster**.

**Math Tutorial:** The last Saturday of the month is Holy Saturday, so there will be **no tutorial**. This will resume on April 28. - *Raphael Okoye*

**Sunday Coffee:** HELP is needed with serving coffee after the 10:30 AM Mass on Sundays. If you can help, call Ron Fournier at 604-589-2932 or see him after the Mass any Sunday.



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**St. Matthew's Elementary School:**

- Reminder to all parents: St. Matthew's Elementary School is now on spring break. School will re-open on Monday, March 26, 2018 at 8:40 AM. School will also be closed on Good Friday (March 30, 2018) and Easter Monday (April 2, 2018).

**BURSARIES**

- St. Matthew's CWL:** If you are a child or grandchild of a St. Matthew's CWL member, you are eligible to apply for one of \$750 bursaries.
- Diocesan Scholarship:** \$1,000 for high school graduates. Deadline to apply is March 31. Check out [www.vancouvercwl.ca/bursary](http://www.vancouvercwl.ca/bursary).
- CWL Members:** Check out the bursaries available to members pursuing studies related to adult faith formation or youth ministry. See [www.bcyukoncwl.com](http://www.bcyukoncwl.com) and [www.cwl.ca](http://www.cwl.ca). Deadline is March 31.

**LENTEN PENITENTIAL SERVICE:**

Tuesday, March 20	7 PM	IC Delta
Wednesday, March 21	7 PM	Star of the Sea
Wednesday, March 21	7 PM	Precious Blood
Thursday, March 22	8 PM	St. Matthew's

**St. Matthew's Dinner & Dance 2018**

- With this upcoming event, you have an opportunity to be a *special sponsor*. Act now as there are limited spots! With your contribution of \$500 towards our Community Building Fund, you can have your business/company logo included on:
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  - Back of event ticket (first-time ever to be done);
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- Closing deadline of **April 6** for all event sponsors. Contact the Parish Office today and register!



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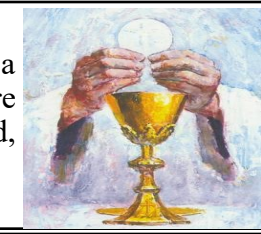
**St. Matthew's Parish Mission**

(with Fr. Larre)

- Monday, March 19** ..... **NO MORNING MASS**
- 12 Noon to 1 PM Confessions
  - 4 PM to 6:25 PM Confessions/Rosary
  - 6:30 PM Mass followed by Mission Talk
- Tuesday, March 20**
- Noon to 1 PM Confessions
  - 4 PM to 6:25 PM Confessions/Rosary
  - 6:30 PM Mass followed by Mission Talk
- Wednesday, March 21**
- 8 AM ..... **MORNING MASS**
  - 12 Noon to 1 PM Confessions
  - 4 PM to 6:25 PM Confessions/Rosary
  - 6:30 PM Mass followed by Mission Talk
- Thursday, March 22**
- 8 AM .... **MORNING MASS**
  - 12 Noon to 1 PM Confessions
  - 4 PM to 6:25 PM Confessions/Rosary
  - 6:30 PM Mass followed by Mission Talk
  - 8:00 PM Penitential Service @ St. Matthew's

**NEWS FLASH:**

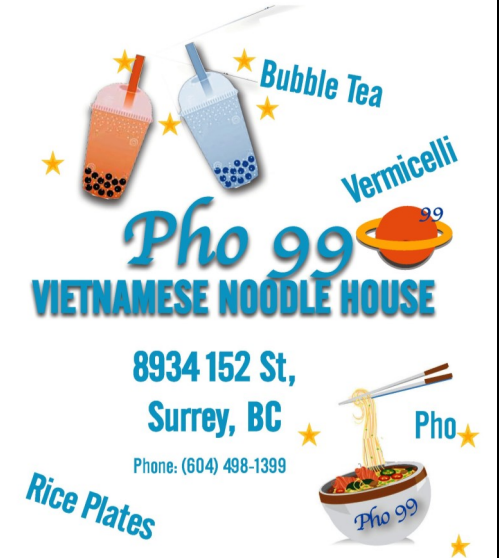
Beginning April 1, 2018, St. Matthew's will have a 12:30 PM Mass **every Sunday, in English**. There will be a need for a new choir—anyone interested, please call the parish office, or email [askmymusic@rocketmail.com](mailto:askmymusic@rocketmail.com).




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If you submit a name to the Prayer List, **it is your responsibility** to inform the office should his/her circumstances change. Priority on this list given to parishioners and families, **as space permits.**

**Alpha Course ... Why Alpha?**

A challenging statement from Pope Francis: "... we need a Church capable of walking at people's side, of doing more than simply listening to them; a Church which accompanys them on their journey ... Jesus warmed the hearts of the disciples of Emmaus. I would like all of us to ask ourselves today: are we still a Church capable of warming hearts? Sadly for many of us the answer to that question would be No, even in the context of our own families. The good news is, as always, God provides a way. The new Alpha Film Series, designed for today's audience, unpacks the basics of the Christian faith in an updated and engaging way. For many, the Alpha Course has been a watershed moment of growth or a return to faith. Will you join us for an Alpha night? You will enjoy a meal, a presentation and a discussion. It all starts right here at St. Matthew's April 19 at 6:30 PM and there is no charge. For more information or to register for Alpha, visit our website: [www.saintmatthews.ca](http://www.saintmatthews.ca). It is for anyone of any faith or someone just seeking answers to big questions of life, the meaning of faith. Who will you invite?

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**2018 Lent & Easter Schedule**

**Holy Thursday—March 29**

- 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 30**

- 9 to 11 AM Confessions
- 10:00 AM Stations of the Cross—English
- 11:00 AM Stations of the Cross—Vietnamese
- 12:00 Noon Solemn Liturgy—English
- 3:00 PM Solemn Liturgy—English
- 6:00 PM Solemn Liturgy—Vietnamese

**Holy Saturday—March 31**

- 9:00 PM Easter Vigil Mass

**Easter Sunday—April 1**

- 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

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- 8:00 AM Mass
- 6:00 PM Stations of the Cross—English
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