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April 29, 2018 **5th Sunday of Easter**

"Remain in me, as I remain in you. Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own unless it remains on the vine, so neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing."

— Jn 15: 4-5

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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

PARISH OFFICE

Rev. Tien Tran, Pastor ttran@rcav.org; frtran@hotmail.com

Rev. Nixon D'Silva, Asst. Pastor 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

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

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REGULAR DEVOTIONS

Holy Rosary
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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

| | | | |
|-----------|----------------|---|--------|
| May 12 | 10 AM to 11 AM | Altar Servers' Workshop | Church |
| May 13 | 2 PM | Wedding Anniversary Mass (see details inside) | |
| May 19 | 7 PM | Fr. Tran's Ordination Anniversary | Gym |
| May 25 | 4 PM to 5 PM | PEC Elections Advance Voting | JH |
| May 26/27 | (after Masses) | PEC Elections 2018 (see details inside) | |
| June 9 | 6:30 PM | Spring Dinner & Dance—80's theme | Gym |

Second Collection—The Pope's Pastoral Works
May 6, 2018

| | | | |
|------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| 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 | 6:30 PM | Alpha | Gym |
| Every 2nd Friday | 9 AM | St. Vincent de Paul Meeting | Upper Room |
| Saturday | 9:30 AM | RCIA | Room 129 |

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.



Are you ready for a trim? In today's Gospel, we hear the familiar teaching of the vine and the branches. Jesus reminds us that if we remain close to Him—living in humility, following God's law, loving our neighbour—we will notice a positive change in our life and the lives of those around us. "Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit." The Holy Spirit is life-giving. He is fruitful. The Spirit of God won't refuse grace to a heart that is open.

As we progress through life, learning how to live and love, we grow. Our personalities flower. We discover what it is to be a blessing to others. We also experience lack, loss, and the results of our failures. We know what it is like to "wither" at times, particularly the times when we willingly separate ourselves from Jesus. "Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own unless it remains on the vine, so neither can you unless you remain in me." For most of us, this experience of being disconnected and off track generates a desire to return to what is right and good, to return to the vine.

But this Gospel is more than "Are you in or are you out?" Even when we remain in God, when we follow Jesus, we are not exempt from the challenge, the pruning. "Everyone that [bears fruit] he prunes." A prudent trim is necessary in the natural world of trees and vines. Dead wood, broken shoots and diseased branches need to be cut back in order for the plant to bear fruit. Jesus wants us to be healthy! He says as much himself: "By this is my Father glorified, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples". Take a look at your life today. Where are you bearing fruit? Where do you need to be pruned?

LIVE THE LITURGY

"Let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth." Real love, especially unconditional love, cannot exist apart from action. We are called to bear much fruit and become Jesus' disciples. We live in a world that is suffering so badly. By our actions and the way we organize our lives, we can model the Gospel values that many no longer see as important. We can be healers who put mercy into action. We can choose to unconditionally respect human life and challenge those who do not. We can live nonviolent lives, resist the lust for power, and avoid greed in all its forms. It is difficult to live the Gospel message of love. We will often be met with rejection. We need to allow God to prune away everything that makes it difficult to love. Then we have to take the risk and call others to a higher standard, no matter the price.



**National Day of Prayer
May 3rd**

Eternal God, You created the earth with a broad stroke of Your love, made men and women in Your image, and entrusted this world to us as good everyday stewards. May our country never turn from You. May Your disciples lead by example and may the lost always seek You.

Give our earthly leaders the wisdom to know Your will and the courage to follow it. May our country be a reflection of Your Kingdom where the lion lies down with the lamb and where peace, hope, and love are afforded to everyone. Amen.

PREP (Parish Religious Education Program)

- **Mite Boxes** are due back in support of our Seminarians at Christ the King in Mission. Please hand them in to your teacher. You can also drop them in the collection basket at Mass.
- **Wednesday, May 2:** First Holy Communion Rehearsal—**PREP & SME**—parents please meet in the church. Students meet in the Fireside Room. One parent must be in attendance.
- **Sunday, May 6**—First Holy Communion Mass—2:00 PM. Student drop-off at 1 PM.
- **Wednesday, May 9—Staff Meeting:** - Catechists & assistants 8 PM in the Jubilee Hall.
- **Grade 1 & CICI Parents**—Reception information went home on April 25. Contact the PREP office if you did not receive your notice!

Trish Van Vliet — 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

- I thank all members who came to enjoy the convention. It is so good to be with so many CWL ladies from all over our diocese. I am sure you felt the presence of our Lord. Remember what Jesus said: Where two or more are gathered in My name, that is where I am also.
- Many Canadians, especially those in rural and remote areas, do not have access to Palliative care at end of life. The CWL is holding a Day of Prayer for Palliative Care on May 9. Plan to spend an hour with us in the church on this day, beginning with Mass at 8 AM and ending at 4 PM.

Ria Ling

CWL Bursary: Application forms for the CWL Bursary for graduating students are available at the Religious Articles Room. Applicants for this \$750 bursary must be a child or grandchild of a CWL member. Deadline for applying is May 31, 2018.

Civily married and want to marry in the Church?

On August 25, 2018, 1:30 PM, Archbishop J. Michael Miller, CSB will celebrate a mass wedding for civily married couples at OLGC in Surrey. It will be a beautiful community celebration that will cost very little to the individual couples. You can be part of it. Delay no longer; get married in the Church. Call the parish office or email: gbarcelon@rcav.org.

MONTH THREE—Developing Baby

Your baby is quite active in the womb now—although his/her mother won't feel him/her for another couple of months. If his/her mother's womb had a window, you could watch your spiritually adopted baby squint, swallow and move his/her tongue. He/she can make a tight fist if you touch his/her palm. He/she is breathing fluid which he/she continues until birth. He/she obtains the oxygen his/her body needs through the umbilical cord. The baby you are praying for weighs one ounce.



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ST. MATTHEW'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL:

Walkathon—May 4:

Our annual school Walkathon will occur on Friday, May 4, 2018. All staff and students will walk to and from Godwin Farm Biodiversity Preserve to raise funds. We are hoping to raise \$15,000 for our school's technology needs. We appreciate any support you can give! Father Tran is also raising funds for this endeavour and is looking for pledges. Any pledges \$20.00 and above can receive a tax receipt. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Flower Orders: Please note that all flowers ordered from the elementary school fundraiser can be picked up after 3 PM starting May 8 in the Fireside Room. The students of St. Matthew's would like to thank all parishioners who supported this initiative!

Thanks to all who joined the school at Sunday's Pancake Breakfast. Your continued support is greatly appreciated. Stay tuned for the next breakfast date ...

You're invited to a Totally Awesome 80's party!



Save the date of June 9 for our annual Parish Spring Dinner & Dance. It will be a night filled with great food/drinks & entertainment ... Fr. Nixon & The Nostalgics will be making an experience; so make sure you don't miss out on this event of fellowship & fun! Tickets are \$40 each, and can be purchased from the Welcome Centre after weekend Masses, and from the Parish Office during normal business hours.

Be a Part of a Great Night by appearing in the Spring Dinner & Dance Souvenir Program. Have your family photo of all occasions included in this year's event program. Submission deadline is May 4, 2018. Black & White: Half page \$60; full page \$120; Coloured full page \$250. You can also include your company/business advertisement and get great exposure to a well-breadth community.



Altar Servers' Workshop: Saturday, May 12, 2018, 10 AM to 11 AM, in the church. Please register with Mrs. Sandi Luongo 604-530-1893.

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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Fr. Tran's 25th Anniversary of Ordination:
Good news! Plans for Father Tran's Anniversary Celebration on May 19 are well under way. Tickets continue to go on sale after all Masses the weekend of April 28. Tickets are \$20.00 each and include a lovely buffet dinner.

PEC ELECTIONS 2018
♦ The Nominating Committee (Fr. Tien Tran, Bola Fagbamiye, Cheryl Andres, & Tania Di Liello) invite all eligible persons to nominate candidates for the upcoming education committee elections for PEC 2018-19. Deadline to submit nominations is **May 1, 2018**. (Considered "eligible persons" are all those registered and active in our parish.)
♦ There are 3 positions that we need to fill for a 2-year term. The election will be held on **Saturday, May 26** after the anticipated Mass, and **Sunday, May 27** after all the Masses. **Advance voting will be held on Friday, May 25**, from 4 PM to 5 PM in the Jubilee Hall.
♦ For more details and information, please contact *Bola Fagbamiye* at 604-318-9175 or stop by the parish office.

Stewardship: Jesus promises that we can do anything if we stay in constant communion with Him. Stewardship is an expression of our intimate relationship with Christ. It is our faith in action. Stewardship makes our discipleship complete .. and fruitful. Desiring to be good stewards of the Gospel message we have received inspires us to boldly profess the name of Jesus. Take courage in your efforts to evangelize. It is through our fearless stewardship of the Good News that others may come to know Jesus. Moreover, the Father is glorified ... and our discipleship is fruitful.

Note to our dear parishioners, from the parish office: During the Sunday Masses, as you leave the pew when Mass ends, please take a moment to arrange the hymn books neatly in front of you—save us looking for volunteers to do the job. It won't take more than a minute of your time. Thank you.

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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**.

Please include in your prayers :

- ♦ Jordan Gaisford who passed away on April 17. Funeral Mass was celebrated for him at St. Matthew's Church on Friday, April 27.
- ♦ Mrs. Juanita Gonzales who passed away on April 19. Funeral Mass will be celebrated at St. Matthew's on Monday, April 30, at 10:30 A.M. **May the Good Lord shine upon them and welcome them into heaven.**

Youth Ministry: What can be seen in the middle of March and April that can't be seen at the beginning or end of either month?

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 or "blessed".

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.

Hospital/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. Please phone Deacon Raul Abella 778-512-9163 for a visit and to receive Holy Communion.

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CONTACT LIST—ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH MINISTRIES

| | | |
|---|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| African Community | Ms. Tina Obiwumma | aneledom@hotmail.ca |
| Altar Servers | Mrs. Sandi Luongo | 604-530-1893 |
| BLD Community | Mr. Nilo Diguangco | 604-591-2301 |
| Bible Study | Mrs. Gail Estrada | bible_study@live.com |
| Catholic Women's League | Mrs. Ria Ling | ria_ling@hotmail.com |
| Choirs: Fri 7 PM | Mr. Hahn Nguyen | henryq.nguyen@yahoo.ca |
| Sat 5:30 PM | Mr. Danilo Bernabe | 604-710-5407 |
| Sun 8:30 AM | Mrs. Kathleen Grosjean | 604-576-2867 |
| 10:30 AM | Mr. Peter Luongo | 604-530-189 |
| 12:30 PM | Mr. Homer Garcia | askmymusic@rocketmail.com |
| 12:30 PM (last Sunday) | Ms. Tina Obiwuma | aneledom@hotmail.ca |
| 5 PM | Mr. Vincent Nguyen | vien4cdsurrey@gmail.com |
| 7:30 PM | Ms. Nannette Lenoue-Guze | 778-836-9501 |
| Couples for Christ | Mr. & Mrs. Jon Javier | jon2ejavier@yahoo.com |
| Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion | Mrs. Germana Brotto | 604-583-1488 |
| Fifty Plus Group | Mr. Claude Poirier | 604-589-6007 |
| Greeters & Gift Bearers | Mrs. Stella Lemos | 604-338-5070 |
| Hospitality Committee | Mrs. Maureen Fadum | 604-589-9679 |
| Knights of Columbus | Mr. Michael Kumar | 604-379-6903 |
| Lectors | Mr. Jon Javier | 778-846-2586 |
| Legion of Mary | Mrs. Carmen Caballero | 604-576-5735 |
| Liturgy of the Word for Children | Mrs. Nenita Capili | 604-951-0830 |
| Pro-Life Ministry | Mrs. Genevieve Perchotte | 778-785-7877 |
| Parish Education Committee | Mrs. Katrina Bellosillo | 604-644-7686 |
| Parish Pastoral Council | Mr. Bill Bouwman | 604-581-9316 |
| Preschool Enquiries | Pre-school office | 604-589-1222 |
| Principal | Miss Deborah Welsh | 604-589-7545 |
| R.C.I.A. | Fr. Nixon D'Silva | nixsil2007@gmail.com |
| St. Matthew's Prayer Group | Ms. Josephine Copon | 604-723-2535 |
| | Mr. Steve Potusek | 604-597-8202 |
| St. Matthew's Soup Kitchen | Mrs. Belle Carson | 604-588-0690 |
| St. Vincent de Paul | Mr. Eric Andres | 604-589-2448 |
| Ushers | Mr. Doug Thomas | 604-218-2722 |
| Vietnamese Community | Mr. Hoang Minh Nguyen | 778-708-0506 |
| Young Catholic Family Group | Mrs. Pam Abramski | ycfg@saintmatthews.ca |
| Youth Ministry | Mr. Matthew Furtado | 778-898-6317 |

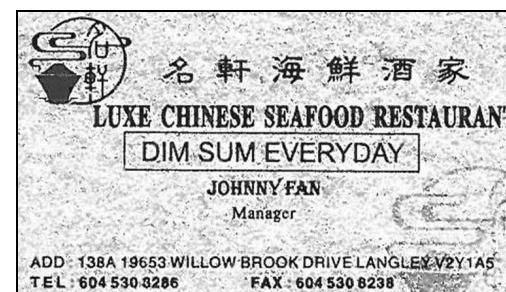
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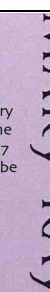
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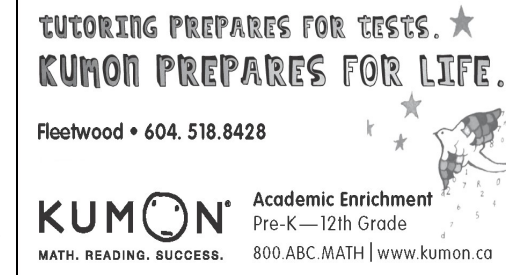
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