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May 13, 2018 **Ascension of the Lord**

"Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved; whoever does not believe will be condemned. These signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will drive out demons, they will speak new languages. They will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover." Mk 16:15b-17, 18c

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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

Maintenance Mr. Lorne Ward lorne@saintmatthews.ca

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First Friday
After the 8 AM Mass -
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
12:00 noon Benediction
6:25 PM—Holy Rosary

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 13	2:30 PM	Wedding Anniversary Mass	Church
May 17	Starts 9 AM to evening	Two Thousand Hail Mary's	Church
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 2	Starts 9 AM to 3 PM	Man's Destiny (see details inside)	Gym
June 9	6:30 PM	Spring Dinner & Dance—80's theme	Gym

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:

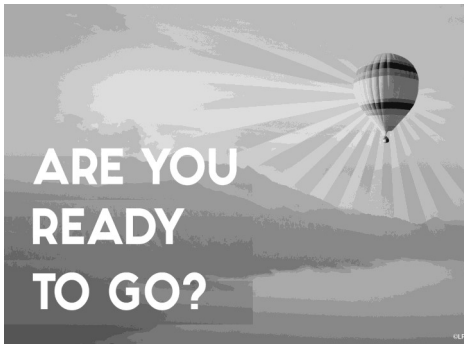
By appointment with a minimum of 2 months' notice (during pregnancy) so that instructions can be given to parents and godparents about the duties and responsibilities assumed in this Sacrament.

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.



The Ascension is an interesting feast when you think about it. We celebrate Jesus leaving! Jesus' first departure from the earth was sudden and unexpected, at least to His followers. That Good Friday departure was characterized by sorrow, confusion, and loss. This departure has a different feel: anticipation.

Today's Gospel is full of the mighty deeds Jesus predicts for His followers. "In my name they will drive out demons, they will speak new languages. They will pick up serpents [with their hands], and if they drink any deadly thing it will not harm them. They will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover." Mark's account of the Ascension is abrupt and succinct. "Then the Lord Jesus, after he spoke to them, was taken up into heaven." Jesus ascends and the Apostles go. "But they went forth and preached everywhere." The real moment likely had a bit of lag time. Realistically, the Apostles had quite the task in front of them. Can you imagine those first few moments on the hilltop after Jesus disappeared, as the Apostles met each other's eyes? "This is it. He really is gone this time. It's up to us now."

Mark's abrupt transition from Ascension to action makes his meaning clear. The Ascension is not just about Jesus. It's about us. Are we ready to go? Are we ready to be commissioned? This is the heart of the Ascension message—Jesus leaves so we can go. We might not "go into the whole world," but we all live in a corner of it. The command to "proclaim the Gospel" is not a call for everyone to be formal preachers of the Word. We do, however, proclaim our beliefs with the way we live our lives. Do our lives proclaim Easter joy?

LIVE THE LITURGY

We are called to be missionaries. Jesus said to His disciples: "Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature." Proclaiming the Gospel means looking out at my brothers and sisters and choosing to walk with them on their journey of life. It means having a listening, loving presence that allows the Holy Spirit to work in and through us. In this way we can show them—not only in speech, but in action—the difference a relationship with God and a life of faith really makes. Even though Jesus as ascended to the Father, He still remains with us, helping us proclaim the mission of the Gospel. Are we willing to allow Him to do so?



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THE
ASCENSION
OF THE LORD

The Ascension has been confirmed in the Creed for two millennia. In Jesus' Ascension, we are invited to consider our own ultimate end. Regardless of death's reality now, we believe in the resurrection of the body and the reunification of body and soul. One day, earth and heaven will meet perfectly and without end. We anticipate this "new heaven and a new earth" at every Mass and throughout the beauty, truth, and love of the Church and her members. Today, celebrate a foreshadowing of the fullness we all await!

PREP (Parish Religious Education Program)

Congratulations to the 79 PREP and Elementary school students who received their First Holy Communion this past Sunday. Please keep them in your prayers.

Wednesday May 16th – Gr. 2 & CIC2 Parent and student Meeting (PREP & SME). Please meet in the Jubilee Hall.

Gr 2 & CIC2 (PREP & SME) Celebration Mass – Saturday May 26th please meet in the Fireside Room by 5:10.

Grade 6 Parents (PREP & SME) – Confirmation Reception (May 26th) assignments will go home on May 16th. Contact Prep office if you did not receive your notice!

Confirmation Rehearsal PREP & SME – Students & Sponsors – Wednesday, May 23rd meet in the Jubilee Hall. One parent must be in attendance.

Mite boxes thank you for all your support of our Seminarians at Christ the King in Mission. We raised approximately \$950.00 thus far. Boxes are still being accepted please bring them back to your teacher. You can also drop them in the collection basket at Mass.

Trish Van Vliet – prep@saintmatthews.ca or call 604-589-2448 ext.233



All "50" PLUS SENIORS WELCOME

to

The Annual Spring Luncheon

May 29—12 PM in the Jubilee Hall

Paid up members \$5.00; Guests \$10.00. Tickets available after Sunday Masses and during office hours in the parish office.

CWL Corner

- The CWL congratulates all couples who celebrated a special anniversary. How fitting that our shepherd, the Archbishop, came to offer his prayers for them.
- If you have been to Europe, or Victoria for that matter, you will recall the festive sound of the church bells and carillon. As a child my favourite song for Mary during May was: *als ik een klokje*, or in English: "if I was a little church bell". Why? I would loudly sing my song for mother Mary and mingle with the songs of the birds and all little children. How lucky I was to grow up in a country where this was a daily event and part of the walk to and from school. *Ria Ling*

20th Annual Focus on Life Gala Dinner: Hope for Canada

Can you support the dinner by joining a table for St. Matthew's Parish—Monday, May 28, 2018, at Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre, 1088 Burrard Street, Vancouver. Doors open at 5:30 PM. Cost \$85 per ticket, \$800 per table. Please call the parish office 604-589-2448 as soon



Pro-Life Ministry: Volunteers needed to knit/crochet baby booties/bonnets/sweaters etc. which will be showcased at the Pro-Life Ministry fundraiser on October 6, 2018. Email perchette@yahoo.ca or call 778-785-7877 if you can participate. It's all about bringing awareness that every life matters ... from conception to its natural end.



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Clergy Retreat

Fr. Tran will be attending a Clergy Retreat the week of May 14-18; Fr. Nixon the week of May 21-25. Please pray for them. May the Lord keep them in His care and return them refreshed, revitalized, and inspired to continue the work of the Lord.

ST. MATTHEW'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL: Thank you to all parishioners who helped support our annual Walkathon with a pledge! The students and their family members enjoyed a wonderful walk to Godwin Biodiversity Farm Preserve Park on Friday, May 4. The final amount raised will be revealed soon!



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.

Sanctity of Life: "A Petition of One Million" is a campaign to meet or beat one million signatures to be presented to the federal government in 2019 in support of pro-life issues. The petition is addressed to the House of Commons asking the federal government to "enact legislation granting full legal protection to the child not yet born". To support this initiative, a sign-up sheet is in the Welcome Centre—Please stop by and sign your support.

MAN'S DESTINY: Come to St. Matthew's Man's Destiny 2018 Conference Saturday, June 2, 2018 (9 AM - 3 PM) and discover along with more than 100 other men how to claim what has been promised to all us by God and start living more successfully a life of abundance in peace, joy and hope. The conference will begin with a special Mass at 8 AM. concelebrated by Fathers Tran and Francesco, followed by registration at 8:30 AM. Welcome at 9 AM. immediately followed by the day's first of three inspirational speakers. Tickets are \$30 each and are available at the parish office, Welcome Centre, and from the Knights of Columbus. Enjoy breakfast, a BBQ lunch, and a Man's Destiny T-

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Fr. Tran's 25th Anniversary of Ordination:
Tickets are still available in the parish office during office hours. \$20.00 each and include a lovely buffet dinner.

PEC ELECTIONS 2018
♦ 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](tel:604-318-9175) or stop by the parish office.

7th Annual Walk to Keep the Dream Alive: Domestic Abuse Services—Our Lady of Good Counsel Society. Sunday, June 3rd at Tynehead Regional Park in Surrey. Run, walk, or bike. *Registration opens at Noon and the walk starts at 12:30.* Bring the whole family; pets on leashes welcome. Enjoy a day in the park, a BBQ concession, face painting, prizes, and FUN, FUN, FUN! Register on-line and download a pledge form at www.domesticabuseservices.ca. Or call 604-585-6688.

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

Volunteers Needed, please:
♦ Looking for the occasional fill-in person to clean the parish linens. Please call the parish office.
♦ **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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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**.

Two Thousand Hail Mary's: On May 17, 2018, our Two Thousand Hail Mary's will start at 9 A.M. inside the church and will continue until finished in the early evening. This special event is organized and sponsored by the Legion of Mary, Mother of the Church Praesidium, St. Matthew's Parish. Everyone is invited to attend and participate, or lead a part of the petitions, if desired. We have so many favours to ask from our Lord through the intercession of our Mother Mary ... for world peace, for sinners to return to God, and love and forgiveness among us. Light refreshments will be served.

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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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	Mr. Hahn Nguyen	henryq.nguyen@yahoo.ca
Sat	Mr. Danilo Bernabe	604-710-5407
Sun	Mrs. Kathleen Grosjean	604-576-2867
	Mr. Peter Luongo	604-530-189
	Mr. Homer Garcia	askmymusic@rocketmail.com
	12:30 PM (last Sunday)	Ms. Tina Obiwuma
	5 PM	Mr. Vincent Nguyen
	7:30 PM	vien4cidsurrey@gmail.com
Couples for Christ	Ms. Nannette Lenoue-Guze	778-836-9501
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Mr. & Mrs. Jon Javier	jon2ejavier@yahoo.com
Fifty Plus Group	Mrs. Germana Brotto	604-583-1488
Greeters & Gift Bearers	Mr. Claude Poirier	604-589-6007
Hospitality Committee	Mrs. Stella Lemos	604-338-5070
Knights of Columbus	Mrs. Maureen Fadum	604-589-9679
Lectors	Mr. Michael Kumar	604-379-6903
Legion of Mary	Mr. Jon Javier	778-846-2586
Liturgy of the Word for Children	Mrs. Carmen Caballero	604-576-5735
Pro-Life Ministry	Mrs. Nenita Capili	604-951-0830
Parish Education Committee	Mrs. Genevieve Perchotte	778-785-7877
Parish Pastoral Council	Mrs. Katrina Bellosillo	604-644-7686
Preschool Enquiries	Mr. Bill Bouwman	604-581-9316
Principal	Pre-school office	604-589-1222
R.C.I.A.	Miss Deborah Welsh	604-589-7545
St. Matthew's Prayer Group	Fr. Nixon D'Silva	nixsil2007@gmail.com
	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	yfcfg@saintmatthews.ca
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