

From the Pastor's Desk



My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Gospel is an allegory. The king refers to God and the king's son to Jesus. The banquet symbolizes the Kingdom of God to which different groups of people are invited. In Jewish custom, two sets of invitations are given out: the first, long before the event; the second, right before the gathering. In the Gospel story, the first set of invitees refers to the Israelites, the messengers to the Old Testament prophets. The second set of messengers signifies Christian preachers and teachers, who, in Matthew's time, are opposed by hostile Jewish authorities and communities. Enraged by the rejection of his invitation, the king sends his troops to burn the city, which is an allusion to the destruction of the city of Jerusalem by the Roman forces in 70 AD.

Exasperated, the king summons his messengers to invite everyone and anyone, good and bad alike, signifying the mission of the Church to invite all peoples to the banquet of the Lord. Not all elements in an allegory often make sense. At the end of the story, a man not dressed in wedding garments is punished for coming to the banquet not properly dressed are those who heed God's invitation but do not come with the proper disposition, with hearts converted and purified.

God desires everyone to enter the Kingdom. God goes out of his way to enter into a lasting relationship with each and every one. This means that salvation is not intended for a select few but offered to all. However, just as we cannot force our love on another, God humbly opts not to impose his love or salvation on us. Like an expectant lover, God invites us to intimacy with him and to abundant life in the Kingdom, but waits without coercing and yearns without demanding, knowing full well of the possibility of rejection, of unrequited love.

And yet, many people may turn down the Lord's invitation because of the coercive manner of the messengers or their lack of credibility. How humbling to realize that the Lord opts to rely on often unreliable messengers and witnesses to freely draw people to him. The Lord entrusts his invitation his message, to the Church, the community of disciples called to witness to God's inclusive love.

Like Jesus, our rejected yet risen King, may we be docile to divine grace expanding our hearts and extending our arms to embrace each and every one. Unlike the man improperly attired, may we gather around the table of the Lord, with hearts purified and lives conformed to his, so that as we are dismissed and sent back to the world, through the joy with which we live out our faith and the love we have for one another, we might draw others to God's banquet of life.

October is the month of Rosary. I encourage you to pray the Rosary during the Month of October. Mary Mother of God, Pray for us.

Your Servant in Christ,
Fr. Khanh D. Nguyen, Pastor

OCTOBER FEST/HALLOWEEN THEME DINNER DANCE on Saturday, October 28. Father Armando and Friends will provide the dance music. Tickets - \$30, on sale after Mass on Saturday at front entrance; Sundays at Coffee Hour; and weekdays in the Parish Office. Raffle Tickets - 5 for \$20.

MASS COUNT Ushers will be taking the annual Mass Count during the month of October.

❖ READINGS FOR THE WEEK ❖

Monday, October 16, St. Marguerite d'Youville, Romans 1:1-7; Gosp Luke 11:29-32 - **Mass at 8:45 am**
Tuesday, October 17, St. Ignatius of Antioch, Romans 1:16-25; Gosp Luke 11:37-41 - **no morning Mass**
Wednesday, October 18 St. Luke, 2 Timothy 4:10-17b; Gosp Luke 10:1-9 – **Mass at 8:45 am**
Thursday, October 19, St. Isaac Jogues, Romans 3:21-30; Gosp Luke 11:47-54 – **Mass at 8:45 am**
Friday, October 20, St. Artemius, Romans 4:1-8; Gosp Luke 12:1-7 – **Mass at 8:45 am**
Saturday, October 21, St. Hilarion Romans 4:13, 16-18
Gosp Luke 12:8-12 – **Mass at 8:45 am**
29th Sunday in Ordinary Time, October 22, Isaiah 45:1, 4-6; Gosp Matthew 22:15-21

NEXT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22 IS WORLD MISSION SUNDAY We are called to be missionary disciples especially to those most in need for the Good News of Jesus Christ. Spiritual and material sharing enables all of us, rich or poor, to be evangelized and to serve. Envelopes are at the ends of the pews and in your packets.

THANK YOU BBHS! A very big thank you to Bishop Blanchet High School who amazed us by collecting over 2000 food items for the St. Vincent de Paul food bank. Bishop Blanchet has been very generous in providing support to us over the years. Their students and staff continue to exemplify the gospel values of helping those in need.

HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE FOR ST. VINCENT de PAUL We are beginning to plan for our Thanksgiving baskets. We are in need of Stove Top stuffing, canned cranberries and other fruit, Jiffy muffin mix, and olives. Many of these items will go on sale in the next few weeks so we would appreciate it if you remember St. Vincent's when you are out shopping.

ST. MATTHEW SCHOOL FAMILY seeks part-time classroom aide for child with dyslexia. Main duties are reading, writing for child 10 hours per week, M-F mornings; \$17 per hour. Contact stanford926@yahoo.com

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO HAS OBSESSIVE COMPULSIVE DISORDER? OCD is a thought disorder that can torment an individual who typically suffers in silence and feels shame. Please join us for a presentation on obsessive compulsive disorder at St. Catherine of Siena Parish, Thursday, October 26, 7 - 9 pm, Victoria Hall, 814 NE 85th Street, Seattle, WA.

Sacred Story

Week One

Choose the time and place for your 15 minute prayer time and affirm that you will read through "Sacred Story Affirmations"

- ♦ In prayer time each day reflect on the Affirmations;
- ♦ Say the Affirmations aloud.
- ♦ Be attentive to all person, events and issues in your life
- ♦ See how the affirmation connect/differ from your life experience
- ♦ Say aloud the "lesson" that follows the Affirmations

Affirmation

"I will not read ahead. I will awaken to the present moment. I will take each day exercise as it comes. I cannot do Sacred Story by going faster."

Information

- ♦ Weekly E-Mails- If you have not received an e-mail last week, contact marycross@aol.com to begin to receive e-mails.
- ♦ We are encouraged, if we are able, to touch base with each other at our mass times.
- ♦ Optional gatherings on First Monday begin on November 6, 7 pm in the Parish Offices Library. All are welcome.
- ♦ Please contact marycross@aol.com and msloane@comcast.net with any questions.

SCRIP HOURS

Monday: 1:45-2:30 pm (School Workroom)
 Friday: 8:00-8:30 am and 2:45-3:30 pm (School Workroom)
 Sunday: 8:30-11:30 am (Community Center after Mass)

SCRIP ORDER FORMS for THANKSGIVING GROCERIES and BLACK FRIDAY/CYBER MONDAY Shopping will be available Sunday, November 5. Return order form with payment by Sunday, November 12. Orders will be ready for pick-up at the SCRIP table Sunday, November 19.

Thank you for supporting technology at St. Matthew School.

Learn the Art of Listening and Accompanying Those in Need Do you feel called to serve others with your compassionate presence? Do you want to learn the skills to become an excellent companion to others? Cabrini Ministry Training has just two spots left in its amazing formation program. Hurry, classes start on Tuesday, October 24 from noon-2:30 pm at Christ the King. Visit www.cabriniministry.org or call 206-760-0583 x3 to find out more.

NEW TO THE PARISH? INTERESTED IN JOINING OUR COMMUNITY? Please call the parish office at 363-6767 and we will mail you a registration packet.

St. Matthew School News

Karen Herlihy, Principal, 206-362-2785, ext. 102

kherlihy@stmattschool.org

Andy Hews, Administrative Assistant, 206-362-2785,

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"Excellence – Diversity – Community"



St. Matthew School Fund Drive

Our St. Matthew School Fund Drive continues. Help a student needing financial aid, support our incredible teachers and donate today. Thank you to all who have already donated. We still need YOU to get to our goal of \$50,000! Your gift helps students this year. Pledge envelopes are in the pews or donate today at www.stmattschool.org. Thank you!

Thank you to all who purchased a Filipino lunch or dinner and supported the 8th Grade fundraiser. We sold 325 meals and are well on our way to graduation. We are grateful for such a generous parish community. Salamat!

Open House is Tuesday, October 24 at 9 am. Come see our amazing teachers and students in action. Explore Catholic education for your family. Please RSVP at spretti@stmattschool.org.

40 Years of Charismatic Renewal in Western Washington The event begins Friday, November 3 & concludes Saturday evening, November 4 with a Night of Worship featuring Catholic recording artists "Heights of Zion" at St. Stephen the Martyr Church, Renton, WA. Enjoy Mass with Bishop Elizondo, teachings from Jim Murphy & Tom Curran and testimonies from many local priests and lay leaders that will inspire and deepen your walk with the Lord. Online registration is open until October 23 on www.wccr.org/40th-Anniversary-Celebration/



Sunday Env/Loose/Holy Days

	<u>10/8/2017</u>	<u>YTD 10/8/2017</u>
Budgeted	\$ 10,600	\$ 145,800
Collected	\$ 9,888	\$ 148,907
Difference	\$ < 712>	\$ 3,107



In today's second reading, St. Paul thanks the Philippians for being willing to share in his hardships and promises that God, in turn, will fully supply all their needs. Our God truly cannot be outdone in generosity!