

From the Pastor's Desk



My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Generosity is second nature to many of us. We are born with a kindness that is both part of our character and inspired by the goodness we witness around. Occasionally, practical circumstances move us to do something extra, and the desire to step in and make a difference in the life of someone in dire need propels us to greater heights. In many instances, our acts of kindness involve sharing our limited resources with others and giving out our hard-earned treasures to friends and strangers. In a genuine experience of giving, however, we must have realized that we receive something more precious than what we have given, something intangible, lasting and strengthen.

Ordinary treasures are seen; they are the things we give to others even if we do not have enough. Real treasure, however, is invisible. It is what moves us to share our limited resources with others and open our hearts to them.

Jesus reminds us of such treasure in the Gospel. "The Kingdom of heaven," he tells us, "is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field" (v44).

We reap what we sow (Gal 6:7). Our investment is really a kind of insurance policy that depends greatly on our ability to let go of something. We learn to live meaningfully and acquire a deeper sense of happiness in relation to how we deal with others and how we make use of what we have. The Kingdom of heaven may be already in us, but its treasure is yet to be found or brought (vv 45-46).

Despite the hardships of life, many things are available to us. We could be poor and still young, but acts of kindness are always at our disposal and within our reach. When we commit ourselves to a noble deed, we are making a choice and selecting a side-the side of principled goodness and shuns passivity and throws evil away (vv 47-48).

We can be as good and happy as we allow ourselves to be. We set the bar of expectation at particular level and measure our success against it. The Lord reminds us on this: "This measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you" (Lk 6:38).

But we can achieve more and do more. Each one of us is treasure trove of God's blessings. We have in our hands an endless supply of goodness that we can share with others. For as long as we dare to go and sell what we have-offer our life to God-we shall find a treasure more precious than gold and a life more fulfilling than our personal ambitions. It will be a treasure that gives us the strength and courage to carry out difficult tasks and the joy of finding God in others.

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

CHRISTMAS IN JULY Today is our Christmas in July celebration to benefit St. Vincent de Paul. Please leave your gifts here at the altar. If you were unable to get a tag last weekend, we will gladly accept donations next weekend. Thank you for your support.

BE SURE TO READ THE AUGUST CALENDAR INSERT IN TODAY'S BULLETIN.

MARYKNOLL MISSIONER VISIT Next weekend, Father Scott Harris, MM, will preside and speak at all the Masses. Father Harris has worked in China for the past 14 years, primarily involved with AIDS Education, Hospice Care and training of nurses. A priest for 32 years, he has spent 6 years in Africa as a surgeon. Maryknoll's mission is to witness God's Word among the peoples and cultures of foreign lands, share the Gospel not in words alone, but in practical and concrete actions by feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, giving shelter to the homeless & comforting the oppressed. Maryknoll depends entirely upon the interest, prayers and support of its friends. You will be invited to learn more about Maryknoll through the Maryknoll magazine. While at St. Matthew, Fr. Scott will be happy to talk with any person who is interested in learning more about mission life or perhaps becoming an overseas missionary.



I WANT TO SAY THANK YOU to the St. Matthew Parish and School Community for the nice send-off last weekend,

especially to those who put it together! I am even more thankful for the opportunity to have served our community for the last 5 years as your PAA. I will take my wonderful experience here with me to hopefully help me do a better job as PAA at another parish. I will miss working with the wonderful staff, especially Jean, who has been a great mentor. I will forever cherish all the friendships, though. In gratitude....*Ed Jose*

FYI Jim Broulette will demonstrate "MSP", our new Ministry Scheduling app, in the Community Center at the Coffee Hours on July 30. Eucharistic Ministers are encouraged to attend and learn how to use MSP to self-schedule for weekend Masses. Jim will illustrate how to download and use MSP on a computer or smart phone.

COFFEE HOUR COORDINATOR NEEDS ADDITIONAL HELP We are still in need of at least one volunteer to assist a volunteer who agreed to coordinate our Sunday Coffee Hours. If interested in helping with this very important ministry, please contact the Parish Office. Thank you!

❖ READINGS JULY 31 – AUGUST 13, 2017 ❖

Monday, July 31, St. Ignatius of Loyola, Exodus 32:15-24, 30-34; Gosp Matthew 13:31-35 – **Mass at 8:45 am**
Tuesday Aug. 1, St. Alphonsus Liguori, Exodus 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28; Gosp Matthew 13:36-43 – **no morning Mass**
Wednesday Aug. 2, Exodus 34:29-35; Gosp Matthew 13:44-46 – **Mass at 8:45 am**
Thursday, Aug. 3, Exodus 40:16-21, 34-38; Gosp Matthew 13:47-53 – **Mass at 8:45 am**
Friday, Aug. 4, St. John Vianney, Leviticus 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37; Gosp Matthew 13:54-58 – **Mass at 8:45 am**
Saturday, Aug. 5, Leviticus 25:1, 8-17; Gosp Matthew 5:10
Sunday, Aug. 6, The Transfiguration of the Lord, Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14; Gosp Matthew 17:1-9-43
Monday, Aug. 7, Numbers 11:4b-15; Gosp Matthew 14:13-21 – **Mass at 8:45 am**
Tuesday Aug. 8, St. Dominic, Numbers 12:1-13; Gosp Matthew 14:22-36 – **no morning Mass**
Wednesday Aug. 9, St. Edith Stein, Numbers 13:1-2, 25--14:1, 26a-29a, 34-35; Gosp Matthew 15:21-28 – **Mass at 8:45 am**
Thursday, Aug. 10, 2 Corinthians 9:6-10; Gosp John 12:24-26 – **Mass at 8:45 am**
Friday, Aug. 11, St. Clare of Assisi, Deuteronomy 4:32-40; Gosp Matthew 16:24-28 – **Mass at 8:45 am**
Saturday, Aug. 12, Deuteronomy 6:4-13; Gosp Matthew 17:14-20
Sunday, Aug. 13, 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time, 1 Kings 19:9a, 11-13a; Gosp Matthew 14:22-33

ST. MATTHEW PARISH OPENING FOR PASTORAL ASSISTANT FOR ADMINISTRATION

Please see the website for a full job description: <http://stmatthewseattle.org/index.htm> The successful candidate will be organized, reliable & efficient; have experience with project management, human resources, budgeting & financial reporting; have strong problem-solving & interpersonal skills, excellent computer skills especially with Microsoft Office Suite. Experience with QuickBooks, Parish Data Systems and Ultipro is also a plus. This is a full-time, benefitted & exempt position. Salary dependent on relevant experience. If you or anyone you know is interested, please send a resume to Fr. Khanh or email to parishoffice@stmatthewseattle.org.

GOOD LUCK AND GOODBYE TO THE GRABOWSKI TWINS

Beth and Sarah Grabowski are going off to College! Their musical talents & participation here in the St. Matthew Choir for the past several years has greatly enhanced our music liturgy. Thank you and good luck to you both!

SUMMER BULLETIN SCHEDULE Parish bulletins are published every other week during August on the following dates: August 13 and 27 after which the weekly schedule resumes.

St. Matthew School News

Karen Herlihy, Principal, 206-362-2785, ext. 102
kherlihy@stmattschool.org
Andy Hews, Administrative Assistant, 206-362-2785, ext. 101, ahews@stmattschool.org
“Excellence – Diversity – Community”



SUMMER TOURS AVAILABLE St. Matthew School is now enrolling for Pre-K, Kindergarten, elementary school and middle school for the 2017-2018 school year. St. Matthew School provides academic excellence and diversity in a community of faith. Summer tours available. Contact Stacy Pretti at spretti@stmattschool.org or (206) 890-6570.

COLLECTION FOR HONDURAS CHILDREN’S HOMES

We will be collecting items starting August 26 through the end of September for our mission team to take to the Children’s Homes in Honduras. Items needed include: embroidery floss, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, children’s Tylenol, and Vitamins, Band-Aids, new socks and underwear for boys and girls ages 2 - 18 (older boys prefer boxers), and school supplies: black, blue and red pens, markers, highlighters, dry erase markers, black permanent markers, erasers, pencil sharpeners, construction paper, 1 and 3 subject spiral notebooks, glue and glue sticks. There will be a box in the vestibule marked for Honduras. Cash donations gladly accepted (placed in offertory and marked for Honduras). Thank you for your support. We still have a few spaces available to join us on our Mission trip, October 20 - 28. Deadline is August 21st. Questions, contact Colleen and Kevin Flanigan at 206-362-6499.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

“Give your servant, therefore, an understanding heart.” Help encourage our own understanding hearts by participating in a Marriage Encounter weekend at the Sheraton Bellevue Hotel on August 11-13. Apply at www.wwme.org. More information at 206-772-2344.

Sunday Env/Loose/Holy Days

	<u>07/23/2017</u>	<u>YTD 07/23/2017</u>
Budgeted	\$ 8,000	\$ 38,600
Collected	\$ 7,716	\$ 39,814
Difference	<\$ 284>	\$ 1,214



“The law of your mouth is to me more precious than thousands of gold and silver pieces”, says the psalmist today. Does the amount of my offering suggest that I could honestly say the same?