

From the Pastor's Desk



My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Today is the Third Sunday of Easter. In Luke's Gospel, two of the Disciples were traveling on their way to Emmaus away from Jerusalem. As they were walking they were having a discussion. They were confused because they originally believed that Jesus would have triumphed by destroying the Roman Empire. As we know, His real triumph was defeating death and sin by rising at Easter. The Disciples were discussing what they witnessed and how Jesus was made known to them in the breaking of bread. While they were discussing their faith experience, Jesus appeared to them and said: "Peace be with you." They were of course terrified. However, he comforted them and in return they shared a meal with him. During the meal they recognized him in the "breaking of the bread".

Similar to how the Disciples encountered Jesus on the road to Emmaus is how we encounter Jesus in the Mass. At Mass the faithful are prepared by attentively listening to the Word of God at Mass; then the Word comes alive in the Liturgy of the Eucharist. We encounter the real presence of Jesus in the "breaking of the bread".

In Luke's Gospel, we also learn that Old Testament is to be interpreted through Jesus's dying and resurrection. "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the law of Moses and in the prophets and psalms must be fulfilled. Then he charged them to spread this new interpretation of the scripture: "that repentance, for the forgiveness of sins would be preached in his name to all the nations..." (Luke 24:40).

The Gospel reading ends with Jesus commanding the Disciples: "You are witnesses of these things." What does this mean? It means more than just being a passive witness. Witness in Luke's Gospel means boldly communicating to others the reality of Jesus which we have been blessed to experience. At the end of Mass, the priest says *Ite, Missa est* ("The Mass is ended, go in peace"). It is a charge given to us the faithful to spread the Gospel and be active witnesses to His Resurrection.

As a priest, I love celebrating Mass because I feel very close to Jesus who is a high priest. I didn't always feel that way. I remember when I was younger, my parents wanted to go to daily 4:30 am Mass. I did not like it because I had to wake up very early in the morning. But when I went to Mass, I felt peace and joy. It was my chance to hear the Word of God and receive the Body and Blood of Christ daily. In reflection, the childhood opportunity to go to daily Mass has had a huge impact on my life.

This weekend St. Matthew Parish is officially announcing that Jean Cooney will retire from her position on staff at the end of June. We are extremely grateful to Jean for all that she has done for St. Matthew over these 50+ years. Jean has graciously offered to continue to be available to the parish as a resource as needed after her retirement. Please save this date: [June 16, 2018](#) when the parish will be celebrating all that Jean has accomplished. Join me in thanking Jean for her tireless dedication to St. Matthew and for her years of ministry.

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

❖ DAILY MASS TIMES & READINGS ❖

Monday, April 16, St. Bernadette Soubirous, Acts 6:8-15; Gosp John 6:22-29 - Mass at 8:45 am

Tuesday, April 17, Acts 7:51---8:1; Gosp John 6:30-35 - no morning Mass

Wednesday, April 18, Acts 8:1b-8; Gosp John 6:35-40 - Mass at 8:45 am

Thursday, April 19, St. Leo IX, Acts 8:26-40; Gosp John 6:44-51 - Mass at 8:45 am

Friday, April 20, St. Agnes of Montepulciano, Acts 9:31-20; Gosp John 6:52-59 - Mass at 8:45 am

Saturday, April 21, St. Anselm, Acts 9:31-42; Gosp Mark 16:1-7 - Mass at 8:45 am

4th Sunday of Easter, April 22, Acts 4:8-12; Gosp John 10:11-18

CATHOLIC CONVERSATIONS is a weekly group who meets every Sunday, 11:20 am - 12:30 pm in the Parish Office Library. See the insert in this week's bulletin for details.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL QUARTERLY REPORT
With the generous monetary and food bank support of St. Matthew parishioners, we have been able to respond to our neighbors' request for help in the quarter ending March 31st:

- ♦ 107 home visits to 89 households comprising 227 people;
- ♦ 112 bags of food; \$9491 in help with rent and utilities; \$1701 worth of beds delivered to homes;
- ♦ \$1329 in vouchers or Fred Meyer gift cards. Vouchers are redeemed at the SVDP stores for items the stores carry, generally clothing and household items. Fred Meyer gift cards are intended for perishable items like milk and eggs.

NORTH SEATTLE CATHOLIC YOUTH Sunday gathering this weekend-hope to see you there! Join us Sunday evening at St. Catherine Parish, Victoria Hall, for our next series "Living Like Mary." We will be looking at the example of our Mother Mary for how we can live as Disciples of Christ. This is a great opportunity for friends, fun, food, and Faith. All are welcome! ▶Middle School Grades 6-8 at 5 pm; ▶Fellowship Meal: Grades 6-12 at 6:15 pm; ▶High School Grades 9-12 at 7pm.

COME & SEE Wondering where God is calling you? Learn more about a vocation to the priesthood with Fr. Bryan Dolejsi. Discover tips on prayer and discern where God might be calling you! Join us for an Archdiocese of Seattle event on Wednesday, April 25, at St. Benedict. Mass is at 6:30 pm followed by refreshments, small group discussion and prayer in the Rectory. Open to men ages 15-40. RSVP to the Vocation office at robin.kreul@seattlearch.org and find more information at seattlevocations.com.

Sacred Story - Week 28

Choose the time and place for your 15-minute prayer time.

- We start the new unit on Spiritual Discernment. We take new “reading time.”
- Review our commitment to develop a rhythm of prayer that will carry us for the rest of our life.
- Spend no more/no less than 15 minutes for the 5 words of Sacred Story prayer time.

Week 28

- The new Spiritual Discernment chapter begins with two important readings, “The Spiritual World” and the lesson text for Week 28. The readings should be done **outside** of the prayer periods.
- The 15-minutes are meant to be used for the 5-concept words of *Sacred Story Prayer*. The readings on spiritual discernment do not replace this prayer.
- The readings on spiritual discernment offer insights/education about the world of spirits and discernment.
- Remember, we are spiritual beings. We are learning what it means to be spiritually awake.
- Go slow this week. It’s always a challenge to switch gears. The most important thing is to keep moving forward. The Lord doesn’t ask for perfection – just persistence!

Affirmation

“The Insights and Graces I need to move forward in life’s journey unfold at the right time.”

Information

- Next Sacred Story Gathering is May 1st at 7:00pm at the Parish Office Library. All are welcome!
- If you wish to receive regular e-mail contact marycross@aol.com and msloane@comcast.net

HONDURAS FUNDRAISER DINNER Tickets are on sale now for the April 28th Fundraiser Dinner featuring pulled pork sandwiches, home-brew and entertainment. Cost is \$20 for adults and \$10 for ages 5-10. There will be a mini-silent auction and a dessert frenzy. ALL proceeds go toward projects our Parish Mission group work on at the Children’s Homes with no money going toward participants travel expenses. Tickets are on sale after all Masses as well as in the Parish and School offices.

CANNED FRUIT Our St. Vincent de Paul food bank is in need of canned fruit. This is something healthy to include each week in our food bags and we are running low. Thank you for your continued support.

PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES ♦ “Contemplative Prayer” on Thursdays, April 19 & 26, from 7 - 8:15 pm. ♦ “Peace Days for Women: Listening to God’s Majesty in the Beauty of Creation” on Wednesday, April 18, 9:30 am – 2 pm. ♦ “Reflection Days for Men: Soul Brothers” on Saturday, April 21, from 9 am – 1 pm. Bring sack lunch; All events at the Peace and Spirituality Center, 1663 Killarney Way, Bellevue.

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”

Now Enrolling for 2018 - 2019 St. Matthew School is now enrolling for Pre-K, Kindergarten, elementary school and middle school for the 2018-2019 school year. St. Matthew School provides academic excellence and diversity in a community of faith. Come see what we have to offer! Tours available weekly; contact Stacy Pretti at spretti@stmattschool.org or (206) 362-2785, ext. 103.

School Play ~ April 21

the St. Matthew School and the *Beanstalk* coordination with the Theater. Performances April 21 at 3 pm and 7



Come and enjoy production of *Jack and the Beanstalk* presented in Missoula Children’s will be on Saturday, pm in the Community Center. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$7 for seniors (62 yrs. or better) and \$5 for students.

MARY: A BIBLICAL WALK WITH THE BLESSED MOTHER Every Wednesday through May 23 from 10 - 11:30 am in the Parish Center Library; and from 7 - 8:30 pm in the Community Center Conference Room. Contact Sara Lane at 206-334-5350 or sslane5@comcast.net. Suggested donation towards costs/Study Materials: \$30. You may register at <http://ascensionpress.com/studies/27533/registration/new>.

PART-TIME COOK FOR REDEMPTORIST COMMUNITY Sacred Heart Church by Seattle Center is seeking a cook for their weeknight dinners. Competitive salary, based on experience, and partial benefits available. Check with Fr. Rich or Father Denis for more information. Call the Sacred Heart Parish Office at 206-284-4680 for an application form and summary of the job description.

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.

APRIL 2018 COLLECTION

	Actual	Budgeted	Difference
4/8/18 Collections	\$ 6,666	\$ 9,680	<\$ 3,013>
Online Giving	\$ 2,187		
Weekly Total	\$ 8,853		
YTD	\$ 431,884	\$ 401,276	\$ 30,608



The disciples in today’s Gospel came to know Jesus in the breaking of the bread. When we Share what we have with those who are in need, we, too, will discover Jesus in our midst