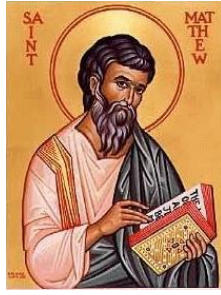


The Gospel of Matthew



The early Church held the Gospel of Matthew in great esteem: it was placed first among the Four Gospels, and it was the most quoted one. The words and commands of Jesus in this Gospel were considered to be His plan for us. Gospel spirituality, free of frills and rooted in the basic teachings of Jesus, would automatically flow from the Gospel of Matthew. Here are a few basic ideas to help understand Matthew's Gospel, along with some suggestions for using it in your daily life.

What is Matthew's Gospel about?

The *Oxford Annotated Bible* says, in the introduction of Matthew's Gospel, that it "is a manual of Christian teaching...." Matthew describes Jesus as the fulfillment of God's will. Matthew goes out of his way to show how Jesus fulfilled the Old Testament prophecies. He wants to establish Jesus' authority. The actions and words of Jesus are recorded from the stories people had been recalling about Jesus, and from some of the written testimony about Jesus. While the events in Jesus' life are arranged in general biographical order, Matthew groups the sayings of Jesus by subject matter.

What is the gospel unique feature?

This Gospel focuses on the *words* of Jesus in a similar way that Mark's Gospel focuses on *actions*. Matthew's Gospel is a collection of teaching on specific themes, which cover 28 Chapters.

Chapters 5 to 7 focus on the *Sermon on the Mount*. This includes the *Beatitudes* and Jesus' words about forgiveness and generosity. In these Chapters, Jesus tells us if we are offering of gift of the altar and we remember that we have a problem with a brother or sister, we should stop. After we reconcile with one another, then we can offer our gift. These Chapters give us detailed instruction for leading the Gospel.

In Chapter 10, Jesus gives instructions to missionaries. He tells them not to take gold or extra clothes. They are to rely upon God and preach the kingdom. We need to follow these instructions: to rely on God and to preach the kingdom by the love we show in our lives.

In Chapter 13, Matthew shows us *The Parables of the Kingdom*. Jesus tells us the parable of the farmer who went to sow seed and some fell on the footpath and it

was eaten by the birds. Some fell on thorns, and other seed fell on good soil. Jesus goes on to tell parables about the weeds and the good seed and how the kingdom is like: a mustard seed, yeast and a treasure in a field. Jesus promotes sincerity, God's love and other themes. The Gospel provides a picture of what Jesus talked about in His mission.

What does the Gospel try to show?

The effort is to show the majesty of Jesus. It starts out with Jesus' genealogy, beginning with Abraham. Then, the Gospel points out that Jesus had royal ancestry and connect him with King David. The *Infancy narratives* follow. Matthew takes great pains to show that Jesus is the One to whom the prophets of Israel referred. Early in the Gospel, Matthew pictures Jesus rejected by His people and accepted by the Gentiles. The *Passion and Resurrection* narratives also show the majesty of Jesus.

When was the Gospel of Matthew written?

Various dates are proposed; most of them fall between 60 and 80 A.D. If we follow the generally accepted tradition that Matthew relied upon the text of Mark's Gospel, we can fix the date after 64 and before 80 A.D.

How can we use this Gospel in our daily lives? Just as the Gospel of Mark shows us the actions of God, the Gospel of Matthew shows us the words of God.

Chapters 5 through 7 show us how Jesus would instruct us in the new lessons of daily living. We can meditate on the new commands, the *Beatitudes*. We can learn just how much Jesus wants us to love one another. We even have the practical examples of giving up our possessions and submitting ourselves to others. Each one of us can translate into our own lives and figures out what we need to improve to be able to live closer to the gospel ideal.

In Chapter 6, we learn that the real motivation for everything we do is GOD, nothing else. Any attempt to get recognition and acclaim from our good actions is inappropriate. We will be disappointed if this is our goal. In verse 9, we learn the beauty and simplicity of prayer from Jesus Himself. In verse 22, we see the importance of filling our minds with beautiful and holy thoughts. Meditating on Matthew's Gospel will show all of us how Jesus wants us to live.

We can see why the early Church placed this Gospel in such a prominent position and considered it with high regard. The early Christians considered it as God's plan for us. It is the outline of the mission of Jesus for us. We may not be able to live it perfectly; but with God's grace, we can strive toward the goal that lies ahead, and trust that Jesus will walk with us.

Parish Week

Sunday, 28 July 2019

Saturday, 27 July

- 8.00 am Mass: † Rolando Rubin (Cecilia Garcia)
5.00 pm Mass: † Phillip & Mary Fernando (Manuel)

SUNDAY, 28 JULY / 17 - C

■ Homilist: Fr. Edwin Galea

■ 2nd Collection: Maintenance

- 9.00 am Mass: † Martin Rupp (Jim & Betty Gunn)
10.30 am Mass: † Rosario & Rolando Diaz (family)
12.00 pm Mass: † Jaime Ulibas (family)
1.00 pm Knights of Columbus Meeting & Installation
7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo
- Thank You & Goodbye: **Malcolm Rodrigues**

Monday, 29 July / St. Martha

- 8.00 am Mass: † Giuseppe Morra (Carol)
7.00 pm Mass: † Settimio Bernardo Ciddio
(Rick & Rosemary Schieman)

Tuesday, 30 July / St. Peter Chrysologus, bishop & doctor

- 8.00 am Mass: Int. Gratitude for a Prayer Answered
(Victoria Albaran)

Wednesday, 31 July / St. Ignatius of Loyola, priest

- 8.00 am Mass: Thanksgiving to St. Anthony (Monica)

Thursday, 1 Aug. / St. Alphonsus Liguori, bishop & doctor

- 8.00 am Mass: Thanksgiving (Diaz family)

Friday, 2 Aug. / St. Eusebius of Vercelli, bishop

- 8.00 am Mass: † Tina Billino (family)
6.00 pm Holy Hour
7.00 pm Mass: † Antonia Bermudez
(CWL, Scarborough Region)

Saturday, 3 Aug.

- 8.00 am Mass: † For the Unborn (Audrey)
5.00 pm Mass: Int. Joseph D'Souza (Mike & Esme D'Mello)

SUNDAY, 4 AUG. / 18 - C

■ Homilist: Missionary

■ 2nd Collection: Mission Co-Op

- 9.00 am Mass: † Michele Morra (Lillian D'Souza)
10.30 am Mass: † Lalita D'Souza (Esme & Mike D'Mello)
12.00 am Mass: † Gordon Persaud (Granny J & family)
7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

RCIA, RCIC



2 August **The path to Holiness: Growing in Faith**
(First Friday Mass at 7 pm, Meeting at 7.30 pm)

Thinking of becoming Catholic? Leave a message for the Pastor at: 416-261-0076, and come to the next meeting for Inquirers.

R & R Report 28 July

The next R&R report will be made at all Masses on 27/28 July, detailing the most recent work on the Rectory foundation repairs, the reconfiguration of the parking lot, the installation of the new bollards and the inclusion of the cement pedestrian right-of-way.

Focus on the Word

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

Genesis 18.20-32; Colossians 2.12-14; Luke 11.1-13

O God, protector of those who hope in you, without whom nothing has firm foundation, nothing is holy, bestow in abundance your mercy upon us and grant that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may use the good things that pass in such a way as to hold fast even now to those that ever endure. Amen.

ShareLife 2019

Living the Gospel by providing for those in need



"Without you, *ShareLife* could not fulfill its mission to Live the Gospel by providing for those in need. Together we are making a real difference! My prayer is that we may continue to respond to God's love by going forth from ourselves to seek the good of others."

- **Cardinal Thomas Collins**

Please make a sacrificial gift to *ShareLife* through our parish.

Our Parish goal for 2019 is: \$43,900.00

Total Raised to Date is: \$33,117.00

There are still late donations coming in; this year's Campaign officially closes at the end of July. We will publish the Grand Total for our 2019 Campaign in the first bulletin in August.

Please donate, and help us reach our goal! Your generosity to *ShareLife* will help bring compassion and hope to others.

Rosary Sunday 8 September

This year, the annual *Rosary Sunday* celebration at the Shrine of the North American Martyrs in Midland, Ontario, will be held on Sunday, 8 September. Our parish CWL has hired a coach for the day. Pick-up location: St. Maria Goretti Church parking lot, at 8:15 am. Cost \$30.00 per person (seat). Bring your own lunch.

For tickets, call: **Mable**, 416-264-3319, or **Eden**, 647-713-8773.

COMING UP

7017019

4 Aug. 2nd Collection: *Mission Co-Op* (Vincentian Congregation Kerala);
- Infant Baptism (1:30 pm)

5 Aug. Feast of the Dedication of the **Basilica of St. Mary Major**;
- Infant Baptism Parent/Godparent Meeting (7:40 pm);
- **Fr. Elias Chachati**, Anniversary of birth (1955)

6 Aug. Feast of the **Transfiguration of Our Lord**;
11 Aug. - 2nd Collection: Canadian Missions;
Infant Baptisms (1:30 pm)

14 Aug. ► Catholic Cemetery Masses (7:00 pm);
- St. Maria Goretti to host *Christ the King* Cemetery Mass

15 Aug. Feast of the **Assumption of Mary**

Website stmariagoretti.archtoronto.org

For more information on these and other parish activities, see pages 3 and 4 in the website bulletin.

Malcolm Rodrigues Ave Atque Vale

Thank you and Farewell: 28 August 2019

On 28 August, St. Maria Goretti Parish bids a fond farewell to our dear **Malcolm Rodrigues**, who with his talented family has faithfully provided the music at our 7.00 pm Sunday evening Mass. Malcolm has accepted a new position in British Columbia, and will be leaving Scarborough in August.

Malcolm's daughter **Annabelle**, who has sung with her father, will continue to assist at the 7.00 pm Sunday Mass.

We wish to thank Malcolm profoundly for his dedicated service, and pray for every success in his future endeavours.

May God continue to bless you and your dear family.



Finance Council, R&R Committee

The next R&R report will be made at all Masses on 27/28 August.

The next Finance Council and R&R Committee meeting will be a review of the site inspection conducted by the engineers from MORRISON HERSHFIELD and the contractors from RENOKREW on Thursday, 18 July. The review will cover the most recent work on the Rectory foundation repairs, the reconfiguration of the parking lot, the installation of the new bollards and the inclusion of the cement pedestrian right-of-way

Catholic Cemetery Masses

7.00 pm, 14 August

As on the Vestibule posters, the CATHOLIC CEMETERY MASSES this year will be at 7.00 pm on Wednesday, 14 August.

The Catholic Cemeteries most used by our parishioners are:

❑ **Christ the King** (near Steeles & Markham)

Celebrant – **The Most Rev. Bishop Vincent Nguyen**

❑ **Holy Cross** (near Steeles & Yonge)

Celebrant – **His Eminence, Cardinal Thomas Collins**

This year, St. Maria Goretti Parish has received the special honour of serving as the Liturgical host for the annual Cemetery Mass at CHRIST THE KING CATHOLIC CEMETERY, 7770 Steeles Avenue E.

Celine Donald Rest in Peace

Many thanks to all who assisted in the preparations for the funeral Mass for **Celine Donald**, held on Monday, 22 July.

LUCIENNE CELINE DONALD died on Thursday, 18 July 2019. She was the loving sister of Claudette, Mike & his wife Merle, Francisca & her husband Kenneth Clifford, Joseph & his wife Petra, Josephine, Simone, Simon & his wife Sophie, Marcella, Leona & her husband Junior Joseph and Arthur. She will be sadly missed by her



many nieces and nephews. Following the funeral, Celine was interred at Holy Cross Catholic Cemetery.

Celine was a very dedicated member of St. Maria Goretti Parish. In addition to serving as the Facilitator of our **Greeters**, she was a long time member of the **Catholic Women's League**, where she shared her skills in our parish Council as well as on the Archdiocesan level. She also lent her lovely voice to the **Jubilee Choir** and made herself available to sing at liturgical and social occasions that arose throughout the years. When a catechist was required for our Saturday **Confirmation** program, for students not in our parish schools, Celine willingly volunteered. Her students knew her as an avid teacher and caring role model.

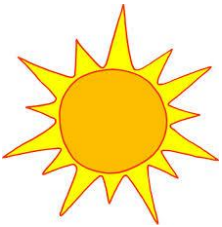
The Vigil was held in our Church beginning at 9.30 am, and included tributes and Words of Christian Reflection by Beatriz Yamal, on behalf of the Catechists; Lillian D'Souza, on behalf of the C.W.L.; Marian, on behalf of the Greeters; and Annie Tauro, on behalf of the Choir.

The Mass was celebrated by Fr. Edwin Galea, with Fr. Elias Chachati concelebrating and Deacon Ramon Villardo assisting. The Lectors were Daphne Dias, Cheryl Dalliday and Lillian D'Souza. Socorro Concepcion served. The choir, Celine's friends in song, was led by Anastasia Williams, with Nadi Bruni at the organ.

Thanks to the pallbearers, including John Arsenault and James Dinn, other parishioners and community service facilitators, and all who assisted in preparing for the Mass. And a big Thank You to all who helped Beatriz and Celine's good friends from Bell Canada with the amazing Reception of many wonderful offerings in the Vestibule that followed Mass.



[Above: A child of the Suri tribe, Indonesia.]



Morning Prayer

In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, I begin this day by thanking you, Lord, for having preserved me overnight. I will try to make all I do today pleasing to You and in

accordance with Your will. My Mother Mary, watch over me today. Dear St. Joseph, my Guardian Angel, and all you holy saints of God, pray for me.

Memorare

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help, or sought your intercession was left unaided.

Inspired by this confidence, I fly to you, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother; to you do I come; before you I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in your mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

7017o19web

☺ Your sabbath smile

The phone my sister has (she's six)



The phone I had when I was six

