

## **PASTORAL REPORT 3/20 [Jetty+ and Martha+]**

Jetty+ continues to put together the liturgies each week and she has completed liturgies through Holy Week. She communicates at least weekly with Deacon Tony by skype to deal with ministerial and liturgical issues. There needs to be more coordination on putting together the schedule for the clergy with the schedule for the servers, lectors, etc. And there needs to be much better communication when the schedule of clergy, presiders, deacons changes.

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Martha did the homily in both masses on February 23<sup>rd</sup>, and is scheduled again on March 8 and April 26. These are all prepared and good to go. She is having a printed version made of each homily along with the three readings for each day. This is an experiment to get feedback as to whether the oral followed by written format is useful, or if the printed homilies will get distributed to people who did not come, who may not listen to the recorded homily, or people who might be curious about us.

The 4<sup>th</sup> annual 'Have a Heart' Lenten offering for 3<sup>rd</sup> world children in the Philippines was launched on 1<sup>st</sup> Lent [last Sunday]. At the previous Mass, we handed out fliers describing the program, which was also passed out at the Hispanic Mass and given to the Filipinos to distribute in their community. The people we are raising money for are personally known by Fr. Toting+ who recommended this orphanage. Toting+ and I made an announcement at the 10:30 Mass and I did it at the 8 AM Mass and we handed out the Crayola banks.

There are issues regarding funding of the combined Hispanic/Anglo Children's Ministry and/or First Communion classes. We have exchanged emails on this topic with our Moderator and teachers. Below is a summary of recommended costs. Martha+ and Jetty+ have funded buying the Have a Heart banks again (half are never returned), plus printing up new labels and fliers. We previously funded much of the costs to conduct a Parent/Child Retreat and other things, which Bob advised this is a legitimate church cost that needs to be addressed. We agree, because we have substantially increased our monthly tithe in light of the current church crisis and we are still funding too much on our own. There are other significant logistical issues where we need further conversation/communication with Fr. Arturo+ to resolve. Please see the Memo summary below.

Martha+ visited various businesses in our complex as well as down the street to Starbucks, offering Ashes to Go. Generally, when asked, most people in the businesses appeared polite but uptight about this but several people seeing me on the street or in the complex came up and asked for ashes. Martha then worked for an hour at the Ashes to Go. There was a crew that worked all afternoon, and Deacon Tammy on into the night with Fr. Arturo+. Kudos to Diane+, Deacon Tammy, Deacon Adelia, Sharon, Bertie, Felix, Arturo+ and others who participated. It was obviously a great success! Hundreds of people were ministered to this date.

Martha+ and Jetty+ are working on a year-long plan and schedule for a monthly movie night. The idea is to address several things in an integrated, social, enjoyable format:

Providing an opportunity to become better acquainted with the five major cultures represented at Saint Matthew, to understand more about their backgrounds and perspectives, to talk with people from each group who will lead discussion about the movies and to enjoy good movies. Martha+ went over this with +Peter and he thought it was a good plan.

We wrote council members and others from various ethnic/cultural groups in the church, asking for recommendations for movies. We got responses for Filipino, African American, but not for East Indian, Native American, or Hispanic. On Sunday, Martha tried to hit up the folks that did not respond. We selected possible movies for these groups but they may know of better ones. Please help, we want to publish this schedule this coming week. Rough draft schedule is attached which is subject to change with the feedback we are still seeking.

## **Issues about Funding and Logistics for Children's Combined Ministry for First Communion Classes:**

We are following up on Tonya's excellent report and presentation last month at the Parish Council meeting as well as subsequent email exchange with Bob and our teachers. Page | 3

Fr. Arturo+ had indicated that within a few weeks we will have a class ready for us to teach First Communion. At this point he reportedly has 18 students lined up and we will have to inquire among the Anglos to know how many we will have. We need to order the materials for the students and I am basing my proposed order on 25 students. The materials we used very successfully before will cost about \$350. WE NEED TO DO THIS ASAP IF WE REALLY ARE COMBINING GROUPS AT THIS POINT.

Anticipating other costs based on our previous experience, we had a parent/child retreat in which lunch was served and we rented one of those jumpers for the kids to play. We alternated between kid sessions which parents attended and parent sessions where we sent the kids out to jump. Perhaps the food can be handled by pot luck or something similar but the jumper cost us \$170 for the day.

Last time Martha+ and Jetty+ absorbed food costs and the jumper but with this many, we are not in a position to do that. Also, the existing children's budget will not cover the class materials. We caught flack from the previous Parish Council last time when we tried to charge some costs back to the church so before we order, I want clarity and clearance. I am willing to front the cost to get this expedited but we will need reimbursement. we realize quite happily that we have a far different parish council so we know we are all on the same page.

So, we request that you let us know what to do about ordering and getting approval ASAP? With the last council, we would have to wait a month to get approval but we found out from Arturo+ after the last meeting that he wanted to move ahead but we have had no further communication from him.

We need to know who are our volunteers from the Hispanic group with contact info who will help us teach. As mentioned by Tonya, we will want to have an evening with all our teachers to prepare. And we need to have all the materials in hand before we can schedule the teachers' meeting(s). Fr. Arturo+ can you give me that info ASAP?

We have never asked a fee for First Communion class but perhaps a modest fee might be asked, with clergy and teachers using discernment where a family might have more than one kid (last time we had 4 kids from one family) or for other reasons cannot afford the fee. We would never want a child or family to be left out because they were too embarrassed about not having money.

I think following Fr. Arturo's model, we will want a meeting just for parents before the classes begin. We should plan on coffee or drinks and small snacks for that session. THIS NEEDS TO BE SCHEDULED ASAP AND WE WILL NEED A BILINGUAL FORMAT!

If we don't have the cost of food built into the parent/child retreat, but providing beverages at least, our collective costs OVERALL look like they would come in around \$550-600. If 25 kids and 25-50 adults a fee of \$25 per kid FOR THE RETREAT would scrape us through. If we pick up the lunch tab for estimated 50-60 kids/parents (I am guessing that few families would have both parents participate in the retreat but I could be wrong, a fee of \$50 per child would probably cover everything.

So we need a time table and actual communication to set this up, with decisions to be made ASAP about funding.



**SAINT MATTHEW**  
ECUMENICAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

## Saturday Night at the Movies

4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month, 6-9 PM

### Saint Junia's House

618 West Grafton Place

Anaheim, CA 92805

Phone 714-606-4365

[ECCpriestjetty@gmail.com](mailto:ECCpriestjetty@gmail.com)

[Rogersmartha@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Rogersmartha@sbcglobal.net)

This film series is designed to provide education into the various cultures represented in Saint Matthew's parishioners, to provide opportunity for us all to get to better know folks from our various constituencies, and to come to a better understanding of the history of their struggles. Past cultural traumas about which we should know more in depth will also be included. A light meal will be served, with each cultural group being invited to bring a snack item typical of their cuisine. Most of these films are suitable for youth with parental guidance and we especially welcome our youth and young adults to come!

<b>Filipino perspectives:</b> We have chosen this ethnic group to lead off because of our <i>Have a Heart</i> child-to-child mission funding drive during Lent. Our own Filipino parishioners and health care workers have a story to tell.		
March 28	Birdshot	
April 25	Smaller and Smaller Circles	
<b>African American Perspectives:</b> Our own African American parishioners have a story to tell as well as to share insight into their previous generations. We will select films to reflect some of the history of their struggles.		
May 23	Crooklyn [by Spike Lee]	
June 27	Maya Angelou: Still I rise [American Master PBS documentary]	
<b>Native American Perspectives:</b> Our own Native American parishioners have a story to tell and they are well-versed in their local tribal history. We will select films to reflect some of the history of Native American struggles.		
July 25	Skins	
August 22	Barking Water	

**Hispanic Perspectives:** October is Hispanic Cultural Month. Our own Hispanic parishioners all have a story to tell. We will select films to reflect some of the history of their struggles.

September 26	Desierto	
October 24	Quinceanera	

**East Indian Perspectives:** We have a new community emerging among our East Indian brothers and sisters, and they will be invited to tell their story.

January 23, 2021	Lion	
February 25, 2021	W/O Ram [Wife of Ram]	



**SAINT MATTHEW**  
ECUMENICAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

**Have a Heart Campaign for Lent:  
Our Children to Children Ministry**



**Update on our yearly donations on behalf of  
Filipino children fleeing from terrorism**

This year is our fourth consecutive year in sponsoring this ministry on behalf of our children and their families in Saint Matthew's Anglo, Hispanic, and Filipino communities. This ministry is intended to help families teach our children about caring for others who suffer around the world. We provide Crayola banks to each family, asking that parents model for their kids the meaning of making small sacrifices for kids who are struggling to survive and to get an education. The banks are distributed at 1<sup>st</sup> Lent and returned on 2<sup>nd</sup> Easter Sunday. One bank per family, please!

We are working with missionary partners in ministry among our own Filipino priests, especially Fr. Toting. Our children whom we followed for three years are now scattered due to terrorism and are being sheltered by various churches. They are not a cohesive group anymore. We pray for those children who had to flee their homes.

Fr. Toting has identified a small orphanage for poor children in the island of Samar in Eastern Central Visayas, Philippines being run by a retired priest who is a friend of his and nuns from the religious order he established. They provide all shelter, food, medical care and education for these little ones. Funding from us will go for school supplies. Orphanage of the Virgin of Guadalupe, Tughan, Juban, 4703, Province of Sorsogon, Philippines. There is a Foundation for them known as FOVG. You can look them up on their website: [fovg.org](http://fovg.org).

This year, we ask that **any checks you write to support this ministry be written directly to FOVG** and we will see that they are delivered. The banks can be used for cash donations, which will be converted and also sent to FOVG. They are a 501(c)(3) non-profit and tax-exempt organization. If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Mo. Jetty+, Director of Children's Education, phone 714-343-8274 or [eccpriestjetty@gmail.com](mailto:eccpriestjetty@gmail.com)





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