

SAINT MATTHIAS

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Saint Matthias Messenger

Published Monthly

Volume 20 Issue 7—July 2023



Saint Matthias Episcopal Church
7056 Washington Avenue
Whittier, CA 90602
(562) 698-9741
office@stmatthiaswhittier.org
www.stmatthiaswhittier.org

Office Hours

Monday-Friday
10AM-4 PM

Holy Eucharist

Sundays at 8 AM

Holy Eucharist

Sundays at 10 AM

10 AM Services Streamed at
facebook.com/stmatthiaswhittier

The Trinity Can Only Be Experienced

Richard Rohr, (born 1943) is an American Franciscan priest and writer on spirituality^[1] based in Albuquerque, New Mexico.^[2] He was ordained to the priesthood in the Roman Catholic Church in 1970. In 2011, PBS called him "one of the most popular spirituality authors and speakers in the world." He is also the co-author of *The Enneagram: A Christian Perspective* (with Andreas Ebert).

On Trinity Sunday on 2013, Father Richard had just returned from an interfaith gathering with the Dalai Lama and representatives from many world religions. Richard shared:

Perhaps the most quoted line from the Dalai Lama is, "My religion is kindness." Isn't that simple? "My religion is kindness." He asked, really challenging us from other world religions, "How do you teach kindness or compassion and how does this come from your understanding of God?" I had the job of representing the Christian tradition; I thought the job was rather easy, because of the feast we celebrate today of God as Trinity.

Sadly, the doctrine of the Trinity hasn't exercised much influence in the Christian understanding of God. If most Christians—Catholic or Protestant—are questioned about their real image of God, it's generally an old man sitting on a throne. He's upset half the time and it's our job to make this god happy. This, of course, has almost nothing to do with our actual doctrine on the nature of God. What our tradition believes is that God is a fountain fullness of love, a water wheel flowing constantly in one direction: Father to Son, Son to Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit to Father—always outflowing, always outpoured, always giving, never taking, but only receiving what the other gives. It would take the rest of your life to try to comprehend what that means!

(Continued on p. 2)

(Continued from pg 1, Richard Rohr)

Many of us say we believe in the Trinity—but we really don't, because we don't know what to do with it. We can't even imagine it; all of our metaphors are simply words trying to grab at the reality, at the experience of God that ultimately can't be verbalized. It can only be experienced. [1]

The medieval mystic Julian of Norwich (1343–c. 1416) is one who experienced the Trinity. She had multiple visions of God or “showings” during a near-death illness. Through CAC friend Mirabai Starr’s translation, Julian describes her encounter with the Trinity:

In the midst of this showing the blessed Trinity also revealed itself to me and filled my heart to overflowing with joy. I realized that this is what it will be like in the world to come, for all beings, and for all time. For the Trinity is God, and God is the Trinity.

The Trinity is our creator and our sustainer, our Beloved forever and ever, our endless joy and bliss. I saw all this in the first revelation and in every showing after that. Whenever Christ appeared, I seemed to understand the blessed Trinity, as well.

“*Benedicte domine!*” I cried. “Blessed be the Lord!” I said, in a full voice, with reverence and intention, in awe and amazement. I was thoroughly astonished that he who is so great—so holy and majestic—would bother to mingle with such a homely creature as I. What I realized was that our Lord Jesus Christ, moved by loving compassion ... wanted to bolster me with his comfort. [2]

[1] Adapted from Richard Rohr, “[Feast of the Holy Trinity with the Dalai Lama](#),” homily, May 26, 2013, MP3 audio.

[2] Julian of Norwich, *The Showings: Uncovering the Face of the Feminine in Revelations of Divine Love*, trans. Mirabai Starr (Charlottesville, VA: Hampton Roads, 2022), 11–12.



Due to the hard work of Kathy Underwood, we are glad to announce that we have Priests coming every Sunday to celebrate the Eucharist at 8:00 and 10:00 through August 25 as follows:

- July 2 - The Rev. Valerie Hart
- July 9- The Rev. Valerie Hart
- July 16 - The Rev. Rob Bethancourt
- July 23 - The Rev. Vienna McCarthy
- July 30 - The Rev. Vienna McCarthy
- Aug 6 - The Rev. Katherine Feng
- Aug 13 - The Rev. Vienna McCarthy
- Aug 20 - The Rev. Valerie Hart
- Aug 27 - The Rev. Vienna McCarthy



Food for Thought

Pay attention to the Nothing

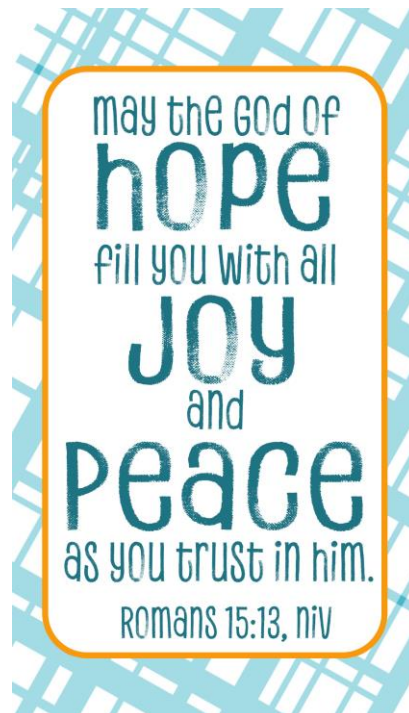
"Paul rose from the ground, and with eyes open saw nothing." Acts 9:8

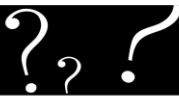
I
Pay attention to the nothing
the apostle saw with open eyes.
And consider what a wonderful
word this nothing is. What does
this mean? I say that it could
mean any of four things:

first, he saw the nothing that was God;
second, when he got up, he saw nothing but God;
third, in all things he saw nothing but God'
and fourth, when he saw God, he saw all things as
nothing.

II
Which one of these is true for you
depends on how you look,
not what you see.
So pay attention to this nothing
in the way you look,
and in everything find God with
open eyes!

Meister Eckhart's Book of Secrets, p23





Bible Quiz

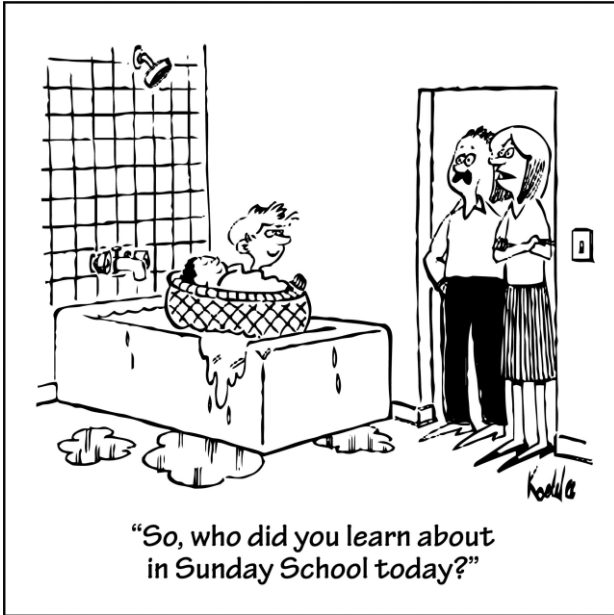


In what land and at what age did Moses die?

- A. The land of Israel; 100 years old
- B. The land of Canaan; 70 years old
- C. The land of Moab; 120 years old
- D. The land of Judah; 102 years old



Answer: C (See Deuteronomy 34:5, 7.)



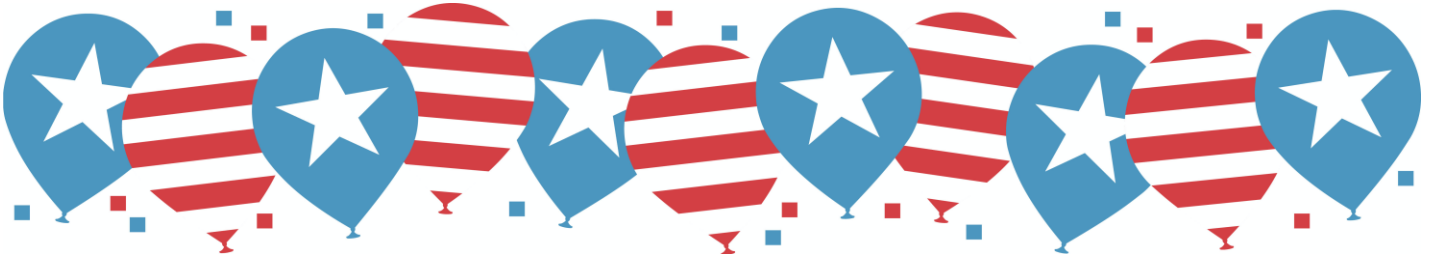
Puzzle!

Fill in the blanks with the correct words. Then transfer the letters to the numbered boxes below to complete Psalm 107:1, NIV.

- Shape that symbolizes love 31 15 7 18 5
- Part of a stove used for baking 12 3 24 39
- Color made by red and yellow 28 42 7 8 27 37
- A present 1 32 20 11
- Clothing a girl wears 19 22 43 44 33
- Something you open to go into a room 40 29 17 47
- Opposite of soft (sound) 34 17 41 30
- To take a long walk 14 2 9 38
- A high body temperature 45 50 49 48 42
- Items used to build or fix things 13 35 21 16 26
- Edge of the sea 10 23 46 51 4
- Home for a bee 6 25 36 4

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28		
29	30	31	32	33	34	35	
36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43
44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51

tools, shore, hive; Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever. Psalm 107:1, NIV



It is not how much we have, but how much we enjoy, that makes happiness.

Charles Spurgeon

We must let go of the life we have planned, so as to accept the one that is waiting for us.

Joseph Campbell

Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds that you plant.

Robert Louis Stevenson

My mission in life is not merely to survive, but to thrive; and to do so with some passion, some compassion, some humor, and some style.

Maya Angelou

Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world.

Desmond Tutu

JULY SERVICES, EVENTS, AND SMALL GROUPS
--

SUNDAYS AT 8:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist (in-person only)

SUNDAYS AT 10:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist (in-person and streaming live at [facebook.com/stmatthiaswhittier](https://www.facebook.com/stmatthiaswhittier))

BIBLE STUDY/MORNING PRAYER: On hold for the summer.

MEN EATING BADLY: Saturday, July 1, 8:00 a.m. Greenleaf Café. Contact Tim Adams.

OUR TIME: On vacation for July. Contact Mary Jean Christian.

SOUP HOUR MEETING Sunday July 9 after 10am service. Contact Feppy Rahn

VESTRY MEETING: Tuesday July 11, 7:00 p.m. Chapel.

STITCHERY GROUP: Saturday, July 15, 9:00 a.m. Chapel. Contact Ellen Mykkanen.

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING: On vacation July and August

ST. ELIZABETH'S GUILD: On vacation July and August. Contact Diana Jimenez.

BIBLIOPHILES GROUP: Thursday, July 20, 6:30 p.m.. Contact Charles Carrillo.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN: Saturday July 22 10:00 a.m. Chase Room. Contact Kathy Adams.

WOMEN'S RETREAT: Friday July 28th through Sunday July 30th, Mary and Joseph Retreat Center

Looking for a Part-Time Tax/Admin. Assistant for a small Local Accounting firm. Should have good customer service skills, be comfortable using Microsoft Office, answering phones and playing with numbers. Flexible schedule – about 20 hrs. per week, with heavier hours during tax season. Email resumes to mwa.acctg@yahoo.com. Thank you!!

Thank you for sponsoring The Messenger.
If you're interested in sponsoring
The Messenger by purchasing space on this
page, please contact the church office.

Cornerstone



Alan Selmanaj
Century 21 Cornerstone
(562) 587-6131
aselmanaj@roadrunner.com



Sunday Worship at St. Matthias: JULY 2023

July 2 **Proper 8**
Jeremiah 28:5-9; Psalm 89:1-4; 15-18, Romans 6: 12-23;
Matthew 10:40-42

July 9 **Proper 9**
Zechariah 9:9-12; Psalm 145: 8-15; Romans 7:15-25a,

JULY 2023



7056 Washington Avenue
Whittier, CA 90602
(562) 698-9741

SANT
MATTHIAS
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED
DATED MATERIAL

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #204
Whittier, CA