



### ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

5251 JOYCE STREET  
VANCOUVER, BC, V5R 4G8  
TEL: (604) 435-9611 FAX: (604) 439-9413  
EMAIL: stmarys@telus.net  
WEBSITE: www.stmarysvancouver.ca

Pastor's  
Corner

Sunday April 6, 2008



Dear Parishioners, some months back, I met this young man in his mid-twenties who ran away at age sixteen because he was constantly being physically abused by his father. I first approached him while he was sleeping beside St. Mary's church rectory. When I offered him food, he asked if we could talk, and as we were talking, he blurted out the words that took me aback – "I love you." I didn't know how to respond – after all, weren't these words that would usually pass between the lips of those who truly loved one another? So, I looked at him, and in a most uncomfortable sort of way, blurted under my breath, "I love you, in Christ..." And, our conversation continued...

As it was quickly getting very dark, this young man then asked if he could sleep inside the Church rather than outside being that it was very cold and snowing outside. I had to make a quick decision as Fr. Pierre was away. So, very hesitantly, I allowed him to sleep in the side foyer of the church, making sure that all doors were locked so that no vandalism could occur during the night. As I switched off the lights, he thanked me and promised me that, as a good Pentecostal Christian, he would not do anything, and once again, he blurted out the words, "I love you." Again, most uncomfortably and mechanically, I said under my breath, "I love you in Christ," while praying under my breath that no broken glass would be found the next morning! Well, the next day came and true enough no broken glass greeted me, but rather, the smiling face of this young man. As he proceeded to leave, cookies in hand and clutching garbage bags of his clothing and blankets, he once again turned to me and said, "I love you." Once again, I quickly responded, "I love you in Christ," and then I paused and said slowly, as I looked uncomfortably into his eyes, "I love you..." as I watched him walk away towards the Skytrain.

As I reflected on this experience, it was as if scales fell from my eyes. I suddenly realized that I had an encounter with Christ through that young man. Was it not Christ, after all, who was telling me he loved me, and was waiting for my response in the poor, the broken and the humble?  
*(Contd....)*

*(Pastor's corner contd....)* How often must I have been blinded and must I have missed him only because I was too busy running around, too self absorbed to recognize Christ as he was revealing himself to me in the poorest of the poor!

Brothers and sisters, how often, in our own running here and there, in our being absorbed in our own little concerns of life, have we ourselves been blinded and missed Christ present in those who are sometimes a little dirty or smelly in our midst? "I love you..." Christ calls out to you in the poorest of the poor. What will your response be? *God bless, Fr. Mark.*



#### THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

- Sun. Apr. 06:** 11:15am PREP Special Classes (School)  
2:00pm Youth for Christ (Church Basement)  
3:00pm Baptisms (Church)  
**5:00pm Youth & Young Adults Mass (Church)**
- Mon. Apr. 07:** 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)  
6:30pm Youth Ministry Leaders (Rectory Dining)  
7:00pm Meditative Prayer (Rectory Basement)  
7:30pm Lay Apostles (Church Bsmt-Child. Lit Area)
- Tue. Apr. 08:** 12:00pm Seniors Lunch Bunch (Rectory Dining)  
6:30pm Teen PREP (Rectory Basement)  
6:30pm Elementary PREP (School)  
6:30pm Baptism Preparation Class (Church)  
6:45pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)
- Wed. Apr. 09:** 2:00pm Willingdon Park Mass (4435 Grange Street)  
6:30pm Elementary PREP (School)  
7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)  
7:00pm RCIA (Rectory Basement)  
7:30pm SMYAC Leaders Mtg. (Rectory Dining)  
7:30pm Marriage Prep. Class (Church Basement)  
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Thu. Apr. 10:** 7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)  
7:30pm Life in the Spirit Seminar (Church Basement)  
7:30pm Parish Outreach Committee (Rectory Bsmt)  
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Fri. Apr. 11:** 10:00am St. Michael's Mass (7451 Sussex Avenue)  
3:00pm & 6:15pm Divine Mercy (Church)  
7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)  
7:00pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining)  
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Sat. Apr. 12:** 9:00am Handmaids of the Lord (Church Basement)  
9:30am Legion of Mary (Church Basement)  
12:30pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Basement)  
7:30pm CFC -Christian Life Program (Church Bsmt)  
7:30pm CFC-FFL Seminar (School Gym)
- Sun. Apr. 13:** 2:00pm Couples for Christ Gen. Mtg (School Gym)  
6:30pm CCO Spring Banquet (Church Basement)



#### PARISH NEWS

##### LAY APOSTLE OF JESUS CHRIST the Returning King Prayer Group

The Monthly prayer Meeting of Jesus Christ, the Returning King, will be on **Mon. Apr. 7** at 7.30pm in the Church basement. Where the luminous mysteries of Rosary will be prayed and the monthly message will be read. The messages (Known as The Volumes) are available free to download from: <http://www.directionforourtimes.com/onlinevolumes.html> and The Heaven Speaks booklets are found in <http://www.directionforourtimes.com/onlinelibrary.html>. All are welcome. Contact 778-990-0123 for more info. Send instant messages to your online friends <http://uk.messenger.yahoo.com>

##### CATHOLIC CHRISTIAN OUTREACH'S ANNUAL SPRING BANQUET

CCO Royale 2008, this coming **Sun. Apr. 13**. Mass at 5pm celebrated by Archbishop Michael Miller. Youth and Young Adults including all parishioners are welcome! Dinner and dance to follow in the Church Basement. Tickets for dinner/dance are \$20 each. Please contact: [ccoroyale@cco.ca](mailto:ccoroyale@cco.ca) or Kallen at: 604-939-1447 to purchase your ticket. **No ticket sales at the door, please RSVP by Sun. Apr. 6.** Come celebrate all that the Lord has done this past year through CCO. God bless!

##### ANNUAL RESPECT LIFE YARD SALE SAT. APRIL 19

By donating your unwanted items for the home (books, toys, dishes etc.) and any garden items, you will help our Respect Life Group to assist others. You may bring your items and place them in the boxes marked "GARAGE SALE" in the foyer. **NO CLOTHING PLEASE.** For more info call Gert 604-433-6497.



##### PROJECT ADVANCE 2008

Calling for volunteers! Our committee requires more volunteers this year to assist in our campaign. If you are a new parishioner, come join us and show your support for the parish. If you have participated in previous years, we sure need your expertise in assisting us to make this event more successful. Volunteer cards are available at one of the tables at the church foyer; please return all cards by April 6 so that we can organize our volunteer training meeting. We look forward to working with all of you in this year's campaign. *Project Advance Committee*

##### VISITATION OF THE SICK BY HANDS OF VERONICA

If a loved one is a patient in Burnaby General Hospital and would like to have a visit from a member of the Hands of Veronica group, please contact the Parish Office with information.

## PARISH NEWS

### **(CANCELLED) MUSICAL HEALING SERVICE OF MIND, BODY & SOUL**

The service has been cancelled Due to unavoidable circumstances and is deeply regretted by the organisers. Was scheduled for **Fri. Apr. 11** at 7:30pm St. Mary's Church Basement.

### **PRO-LIFE FILM "BELLA"**

The pro-life film "Bella" is finally set to open in Canada. On **Fri. Apr. 11** this award winning movie, created by Knights of Columbus, will play at Coquitlam and Richmond Cineplex, and Tinseltown Cinemark theatres. Please support this life-changing film on its opening weekend and help build the culture of life.

### **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS**

Next **Sun. Apr. 13** is world day of prayer for vocations. The Knights of Columbus will be distributing vocation prayer cards before the **11:15am mass** and will sponsor a special DVD presentation on vocations to the priesthood, religious life, the laity and marriage, in the church basement (children's liturgy area) **after the mass**. Information regarding Vocation Scholarships will also be available. All are welcome.



### **PENNIES FOR HEAVEN**

The Knights of Columbus are accepting Pennies and other Canadian currency in order to support vocations to the Priesthood. Please bring in all your pennies to the foyer before and after all Sunday masses **April** and put them in the big bottle. Your donations will be used for the education and personal needs of our seminarians. God Bless You.



### **ST. MARY'S KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SPRING DINNER / DANCE**

Book your tickets now to avoid disappointment! This annual fundraiser for Charitable distribution will be held on **Sat. May 3** in the school gym. Doors open 6:30pm, Dinner at 7:00pm followed by Super DJ dancing music and prizes galore. No alcoholic beverages will be served. Tickets \$20 per person: call Rene 604-454-9679, Adel 604-433-9772, Manny 604-430-3647 or Ossie 604-433-7548. Bring your friends and family for a great fun evening!



### **CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE SPRING FAIR**

CWL at Holy Name of Jesus Parish, 4925 Cambie St. Vcr. Invite you to their Annual Spring Fair on **Sat. Apr. 19**, 9:30am-1pm and **Sun. Apr. 20**, 10am-1pm in the Parish Hall. Near new clothing, handmade crafts, garage sale items, homemade baking, books & plants, tea garden and a special Pancake Breakfast on Sun. Apr.20. For info call Ann 604-733-6224.

## PARISH / COMMUNITY NEWS

### **NOTRE DAME REG. SECONDARY SCHOOL PRESENTATION**

Continuing our tradition of presenting popular musicals, "**The Music Man**" will be presented at 7:30pm **Apr. 15 - 18**. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students and seniors. Phone 604 255-5454 to reserve tickets or contact the school at [office@ndrs.org](mailto:office@ndrs.org). There will also be a free matinee performance at noon on Apr. 15 and 16 for seniors. Please RSVP at the number above if you plan to attend. We are asking all who come to bring a non-perishable food item in response to a request from the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

### **THE B.C. CHRISTIAN MEDITATION COMMUNITY'S SILENT RETREAT**

On **Sat. Apr. 19** from 1:45am to 2:00pm at St. Edmund's Parish small gym 545 Mahon Ave., North Vancouver, B.C. Come and join meditators from other parishes in a day of reflection and meditation based on the recorded talks "Prayer in the 21st Century" of Fr. Lawrence Freeman, OSB. Admission by donation, bring a bag lunch, Refreshments served. Contact at St. Mary's: Cora Alcuitas phone 604-517-0029 email [coralcuities@shaw.ca](mailto:coralcuities@shaw.ca)

### **THE IMMIGRANT SERVICES SOCIETY OF BC (ISS)**

Is pleased to announce that it is offering its settlement services to parishioners of St. Mary's parish. ISS services include information/orientation and referral in settlement related topics such as housing, the educational system, medical coverage, etc. It also assists live-in caregivers during their temporary work status and during their transition to permanent resident status. For more details, please contact Resochita C. Arma, Filipino Settlement Counsellor at 604-684-7498 ext. 1666(Monday, Tuesday, Thursday) or 604-395-8000 ext. 1666 (Wednesday & Friday).

### **CATHOLIC CAFÉ**

Catholic Café offers a blend of spiritual, social, and outdoor activities for adult Vancouver Catholics. Our next meeting will feature a showing of the third episode of "The Decalogue" entitled "Remember the Sabbath Day, To Keep It Holy." **Sun. Apr. 13**, 6:30 pm in the Hall at St. Jude's Parish (3078 Renfrew St.), \$5.00. Info: 604-340-2271, [thelmagedak@gmail.com](mailto:thelmagedak@gmail.com) and [www.catholiccafe.ca](http://www.catholiccafe.ca) Pierre Imlay's review: <http://catholiccafe.ca/node/89>.

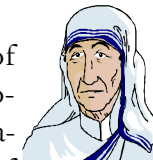
### **YOUTH DAY 2008: WITNESS THE POWER**

Youth Day 2008 is coming on **May 2 and 3** at Archbishop Carney Regional Secondary School in Port Coquitlam. Join hundreds of teens for an awesome weekend of faith, fellowship, and fun! Register now with your parish youth ministry or Catholic high school: **early registration deadline is April 18, 2008**. For registration info and the promo video, visit [www.youthmin.com](http://www.youthmin.com).

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### **"COME BE MY LIGHT"**

Retreat in the Spirit of Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta with Father Sebastian Vazhakala, MC, Co-founder with Blessed Mother Teresa and International Spiritual Director for the Lay Missionaries of Charity. **May 6 - 9** at Rosemary Heights. All interested in learning about the Charism of Blessed Mother Teresa are invited. For more information, call Imelda at 604-301-0655. Space is limited so register early!



## PARISH INFORMATION

**MASSES** Mon. - Fri. 8:00am; Sat. 12:00 pm  
Wed., Thu., Fri. 7:00pm followed by Adoration & Benediction at 9:15pm  
Saturday - 5:00pm (**Anticipation**)  
Sunday - 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:15am, 1:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm

**RECONCILIATION** Sunday & Weekdays - Before and after all Masses.  
Saturday - 11:15-11:45am; 4:15-4:45pm;  
(An appointment for reconciliation may be made by phone)

**HOLY COMMUNION** Available to shut-ins. Contact Parish Office.

### **NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL**

Thursday - 8:00am; Saturday - 12:00pm

### **FIRST FRIDAY Adoration Throughout the day after Masses**

Masses: 8:00am followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
7:00pm followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
Benediction: 9:15pm

**BAPTISM** To register your child, contact the Parish Office.

**MARRIAGES** One of the couple must be a registered Catholic parishioner of St. Mary's. Contact the Parish Office at least six months prior to your wedding date and prior to registering for the required diocesan Marriage Preparation Course.

**RCIA** Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. Contact the Parish Office.

**PREP** Religious education program for children attending public schools.  
Coordinator: Eli Bautista Tuesday and Wednesday 6:30-8:00pm

### **ST. MARY'S YOUNG ADULT COMMUNITY (SMYAC)**

Leader: Jonquil Francis and Joseph D'silva  
Contact: [smyac\\_team@yahoo.ca](mailto:smyac_team@yahoo.ca) Website: [www.smyac.ca](http://www.smyac.ca)  
**YOUTH MINISTRY** E-mail: [stmarys\\_ym@yahoo.com](mailto:stmarys_ym@yahoo.com)  
Coordinator: Eli Bautista Website: [www.saintmarysyouth.com](http://www.saintmarysyouth.com)

**ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL** Kevin Smith (Principal)  
K-Grade 7 (604) 437-1312 Fax (604) 437-1193 Website: <http://www.stmary.bc.ca>

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS** Monday - Friday 9:00am - 5:00pm  
Pastor : Fr. Pierre Leblond, OP  
Assistant Pastor : Fr. Mark Hoo, OP  
Youth and PREP Coordinator : Eli Bautista  
Parish Office: Margherita Bordignon / Ossie Fernandes