



ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Pastor's
Corner

Sunday August 31, 2008

Celebrating Life!

Dear Parishioners,

C.W.L. is giving us a beautiful opportunity to celebrate life this weekend, with the International Family Fair. Music, food, games, entertainment, time to talk and listen to one another. Our faith does not put a damper on the joy of living. On the contrary, it deepens our love for life and launch it for eternity.

Mother Teresa loved life. Not ethereal life but earthly life. As her friend Kathryn Spink wrote in her authorized biography of her:

“Mother Teresa believed in a God who dwelt among us, fully God, and fully human, and so she despised nothing human. Rather, she glorified in the life in us, our world and universe. In her 70s she wrote her own resume of her philosophy of life:

- Life** is an opportunity, avail it. **Life** is a beauty, admire it.
- Life** is bliss, taste it. **Life** is a dream, realize it.
- Life** is a challenge, meet it. **Life** is a duty, complete it.
- Life** is a game, play it. **Life** is costly, care for it.
- Life** is a wealth, keep it. **Life** is love, enjoy it.
- Life** is a mystery, know it. **Life** is a promise, fulfill it.
- Life** is sorrow, overcome it. **Life** is a song, sing it.
- Life** is a struggle, accept it. **Life** is a tragedy, brace it.
- Life** is an adventure, dare it. **Life** is life, save it!
- Life** is luck, make it. **Life** is too precious, do not destroy it.

The words are inscribed on a poster hanging in a home for AIDS sufferers which she and her Sisters opened at Christmas 1985, in the very heart of New York City. She called the home ‘Gift of Love’.” -- from Mother Teresa by Kathryn Spink, HarperOne Publishers.

God bless, Fr. Pierre



THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

- Sun. Aug. 31:** 10:30am International Family Fair (Parking Lot)
3:00pm Baptisms (Church)
5:00pm Youth & Young Adults Mass (Church)
- Mon. Sept. 1:** **LABOUR DAY - Parish Office CLOSED**
6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)
- Tue. Sept. 2:** 6:30pm PREP Staff Training (Seminar Room)
6:45pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining)
- Wed. Sept. 3:** 6:30pm PREP Staff Meeting (Seminar Room)
7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room/Sacristy)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Thu. Sept. 4:** 7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:30pm Charismatic Prayer (Church Basement)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Fri. Sept. 5:** 8:00am First Friday Mass & Adoration (Church)
3:00pm Divine Mercy (Church)
6:15pm Divine Mercy (Church)
7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room/Sacristy)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Sat. Sept. 6:** 10:00am Handmaids of the Lord (Church Bsmnt.)
12:30pm Bible Sharing (Church Basement)
3:30pm Legion of Mary (Rectory Dining)
- Sun. Sept. 7:** 3:00pm Baptisms (Church)
5:00pm Youth & Young Adults Mass (Church)

SCHOOL/PREP NEWS

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL VACANCY FOR GRADE 7
St. Mary's Catholic School has a vacancy in Grade 7 for this September. Families/Parents who are interested to apply may contact **Mr. Kevin Smith** at the School office: (604) 437-1312 during weekdays between 9am & 4pm.

PREP & TEEN PREP REGISTRATION ENDS ON SEPT. 5th
Attention Parents & Guardians: this week is your last chance to register your children in our Parish Catechism program. Registration ends this Friday, Sept. 5th at 5pm.

PREP & TEEN PREP START ON SEPT. 9/10
PREP (Catechism) opens on Sept. 9 (for Tuesday Classes) & Sept. 10 (for Wednesday Classes). All classes will be at St. Mary's school and will start promptly at 6:30pm. See you there!

PARISH/COMMUNITY NEWS

NEW POSITION! YOUTH MINISTRY & VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Do you have a great love & concern for the youth? Do you enjoy interacting, connecting & working with people? Then you are the one we are looking for! A new position has been created in our Parish. We need a Youth Ministry & Parish Volunteer Coordinator. This position is responsible for a.) directing & coordinating all youth-related programs, and b.) organizing & directing efforts to involve volunteers in parish ministries. Submit your resume and a cover letter to: The Hiring Committee at **stmarys_ym@yahoo.com** or drop them off at the Parish Office. Deadline of submission is on **Friday, Sept. 5th.**

BIBLE SHARING FOR MOTHERS

This is a new faith-building program aimed to support the needs of stay-at-home mothers with young children. The purpose of this program is to help you to increase your personal faith, as well as make some new friends in a child-friendly environment. Join us on this faith journey in Christ. Meetings will be held Fridays, between 10:30am - 11:30am in the Rectory Basement, starting September 12th. Light refreshments will be served. Registration is not required. For more information contact Tami Siano 604-506-2864

DRINKING DEEPLY FROM THE CUP OF HAPPINESS

A public talk given by famed Dominican Spiritual Author and Speaker: **Father Paul Murray, OP.** The talk will be given here at St. Mary's Parish on **Tuesday, Sept. 16 at 7pm** and is based on his latest book, *The New Wine of Dominican Spirituality: A Drink Called Happiness.* Fr. Murray presently teaches the literature of the mystical tradition at the Dominican Angelicum University in Rome. He has published on T.S. Eliot and Mysticism, and four books of poetry. Fr. Murray's latest book celebrates aspects of Dominican Spirituality.



CONDOLENCES

Please pray for the souls of our dearly departed:

Ron Bordignon - funeral was on Friday, Aug. 29th
Maria Corazon David - funeral was on Friday, Aug. 29th

*Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them O Lord,
Let Perpetual Light Shine Upon Them,
May Their Souls Rest in Peace, Amen*



PARISH NEWS

RCIA/FAITH INSTRUCTION

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is designed for: A) Adult inquirers, that is, for the non-baptized/baptized in other faiths (if you wish to find out more about Christianity or becoming a Catholic); B) for adult Catholics, who are baptized but not catechized, and/or did not complete the other Sacraments of Initiation (First Communion and/or Confirmation); C) All others are welcome, so if you are interested in the Catholic Faith or know someone who is, the RCIA program is the answer! You may register for RCIA classes which begin this coming September. For more info, please contact Arda Akoglu or Carolina Prada at (604) 733-3457 or aakog@yahoo.com

CHRISTIAN LIFE PROGRAM

Are you looking for a program that will help: 1) bring you and your spouse or loved ones to a personal relationship with God and a renewed faith in Jesus, 2) empower you in the Christian life through Baptism in the Holy Spirit, and, 3) integrate you into an environment where you can receive support as an individual and as families? *If your answer is YES*, Couples for Christ, a Catholic community, invites you, all couples, including those separated, divorced or widowed to a Christian Life Program (CLP). **The CLP will be held starting on Sept. 13, 2008 (Sat) 7:30 pm in the Church basement.** This program is conducted free of charge, transportation will be provided upon request. Sessions consist of: a teaching, a group discussion, and a time for fellowship with free refreshments. Each session would normally last for about 2 1/2 hours. For further details, pls. contact: Rod & Marlyn Trigo (604) 603-6856.

COFFEE NIGHT FAITH DISCUSSION – Young Adults (ages 18+)

This Friday, Sept. 5th at 8pm in the Rectory Basement. This month's topic: Pro Life and Abortion. We will be discussing the recent controversy over the decision to award Dr. Morgentaler the Order of Canada and also the proposal of Bill C-484 the Unborn Victims Act. For more info, please contact us at smyac_team@yahoo.ca. Light refreshments will be served.

CATHOLIC BIBLE SEMINAR

On Sept. 12, 13 & 14 in the Church Basement. Fr. Jim Nisbet, a noted Bible scholar from California will talk about the **1st & 2nd Letters of Peter**. Registration forms are available in the foyer. Call Gerry at (604) 882-9205 for more information.

ARCHDIOCESE/COMMUNITY NEWS

FR. VINCENT TRAVERS, O.P. — LATEST BOOK ON SALE

Fr. Vincent's latest book will be available for sale all day today.

RCIA REQUEST!!!

We are looking for volunteers to provide refreshments and/or finger foods (baked goods, sandwiches, etc.) for one Wednesday a month for the RCIA group to welcome its new members. For more information, please contact Arda or Carolina at aakog@yahoo.com or at (604) 733-3457. Thanks & God bless!

CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC CONFERENCE

On Sept. 26 & 27. This year's Theme is taken from 2 Tim 4:2 "...proclaim the word... be persistent..." The keynote speaker is Deacon Alex Jones from the Diocese of Detroit. Archbishop Raymond Roussin will celebrate the closing Mass. For tickets and more info, call (604) 597 8227 or email: fireblade@shaw.ca

CATHOLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Executive Plaza Hotel, Coquitlam, Sept. 18th. This year's theme: "Best Practices at the End of Life". The conference includes a Mass with Archbishop Roussin and dinner at the end of the day. The registration brochure is available at chabc.bc.ca or by calling (604) 524-3427.

MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY

Corpus Christi Parish in Vancouver, 7pm on Sept. 5th. Come & join the Missionaries of Charity in their Mass, celebrating the Feast of Blessed Mother Teresa and commemorating 11 years since her death. The main celebrant of this very special Mass will be Coadjutor Archbishop Michael Miller .

MADONNA HOUSE RECOLLECTIONS

Madonna House will begin a series of monthly Mornings of Recollection on Saturday, Sept. 6 from 9:30am to noon. We will be looking at "the Sacramental Life through the eyes of St. Paul". Please join us at 5450 Trafalgar St. If you wish more information, please call us at 604-267-1757. God bless!

RETROVILLE: A PROGRAM OF HOPE

Designed to help couples in hurting marriages. Next Vancouver weekend will be on Sept. 26-28, 2008. Space is limited. For more info, call (604) 530-6710 or visit: www.retroville.org

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

Attention Married Couples! You deserve to give each other a weekend to enhance your marriage. For more info or to register, please contact Steve & Mary Bohnen (604) 876-7298 or email them at sbohnen@interchange.ubc.ca

PARISH INFORMATION

MASSES

Mondays to Fridays: 8:00am
Wed., Thurs., Fri: 7:00pm**
** followed by Adoration at 7:45pm & Benediction at 9:15pm
Saturdays: 12:00noon; 5:00pm (**Anticipation**)
Sundays: 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:15am, 1:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm

CONFESSIONS

Sundays: Before & After ALL Masses
Saturdays: 11:15am to 11:55am, 4:15pm to 4:55pm, 6:10pm to 6:40pm
Weekdays: After ALL Masses (except Thursday Evening Masses)
--- An appointment for confession may be made by phone

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

FIRST FRIDAYS: 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

BAPTISMS: 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.

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL

Thursdays: 8:00am Saturdays: 12:00noon

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

PREP: Catechism Program for children attending public schools

TEEN PREP: Interactive Catechism Sessions for Teens

Coordinator: Eli Bautista Tuesday and Wednesday 6:30 to 8:00pm

ST. MARY'S YOUNG ADULT COMMUNITY (SMYAC)

Leader: Joseph D'silva

Email: smyac_team@yahoo.ca Website: www.smyac.ca

YOUTH MINISTRY (YM) E-mail: stmarys_ym@yahoo.com

Coordinator: Eli Bautista Website: www.saintmarysyouth.com

ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Mr. Kevin Smith (Principal) Website: www.stmary.bc.ca

Office Phone: (604) 437-1312 Office Fax: (604) 437-1193

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Mondays to Fridays: 9:00am to 5:00pm

Pastor: Fr. Pierre Leblond, O.P.

Assistant Pastor: Fr. Mark Hoo, O.P.

YM & PREP Coordinator: Eli Bautista

Parish Office: Margherita Bordignon/Ossie Fernandes