



ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
 5251 JOYCE STREET
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Pastor's
 Corner

5th SUNDAY in Ordinary Time

February 4th, 2007



Dear Parishioners,

Lately, Fr. Mark and I wrote about making ourselves available to God and listening to his directions. How can we do that? How does God speak to us? Let us start with two ways that are quite common.

You may have a recurring desire to change something in your life and that desire keeps coming back even after you brushed it aside. It could be a desire to pray more, a desire to slow down your life pace, a desire to know more about God, the Bible, the Church's teachings. It could be a desire for a better family life, a reconciliation with your spouse. It could be a desire to serve your parish better, to do something for God and for God's people. Or a desire to help someone out of drug addiction. Whatever it is, if that desire keeps coming back to your heart, and if it is good, it could very well be from God. Take a first step toward fulfilling that desire. Otherwise you will never find peace.

Another way God may be speaking to you is through a persistent dissatisfaction about your life or about your marriage. It could also be a dissatisfaction about your job, your use of your free time, or about your country, your Church. Check for deep-seated dissatisfaction. There may be a bad habit that makes you feel shameful, a recurring anger, a deeply rooted bitterness. Maybe you have to forgive someone, and seek forgiveness.

Do you believe God has the power to turn those things around? He can help you fulfill your deep desire! Will you let him do it? Give him permission! " God I vow never to refuse you anything you will ask of me. I trust that you want more for me than I could ever imagine or conceive.

God Bless you, Fr. Pierre.



THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

- Sun. Feb.04:** 2:00pm Youth for Christ (Church Basement)
 2:00pm YM Open Gym (School Gym)
 3:00pm Baptisms (Church)
- Mon. Feb. 05:** 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)
 7:00pm Mary Help of Christians (Rectory Library)
 7:00pm Meditative Prayer (Rectory Basement)
- Tue. Feb. 06:** 12:00pm Seniors Lunch Bunch (Rectory Dining)
 6:30pm Teen Prep (Rectory Basement)
 6:30pm Elementary Prep (School)
 6:45pm PREP 1st Reconciliation–Wed. Gr. 2 (Church)
 6:45pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)
 7:30pm Charismatic Core Group (Rect. Library)
- Wed. Feb. 07:** 10:45am Fairhaven Mass (7557 Sussex Avenue)
 6:30pm Mass followed by Adoration
 6:30pm Elementary Prep (School)
 7:00pm CWL Executive (Rectory Library)
 7:00pm Exodus Prison Ministry (Rectory Bsmt)
 7:00pm RCIA (Rectory Dining)
 9:30pm Benediction (Church)
- Thu. Feb. 08:** 7:00pm Ballroom Dancing (School Gym)
 7:00pm Development & Peace (Rectory Dining)
 7:30pm Charismatic Prayer (Church Basement)
- Fri. Feb. 09:** 3:00pm Divine Mercy (Church)
 6:30pm Mass followed by Adoration
 6:45pm Line Dancing (School Gym)
 7:15pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)
 9:30pm Benediction (Church)
- Sat. Feb. 10:** 8:00am Tai Chi & Qi Gong (School Gym)
 10:00am Legion of Mary (Church Basement)
 12:30pm Bible Sharing (Church Basement)
- Sun. Feb. 11:** 2:00pm Couples for Christ (School Gym)
 2:00pm New Parishioners Welcome (Church Bsmt)



PLEASE SEE THE NOTICE BOARDS IN THE FOYER FOR MORE PARISH AND COMMUNITY NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS & BLESSINGS !!



BAPTISMS: Jan. 28: *Adrienne Din, Aubrey Matthew Kubn, Alexandra Lynne Mendoza, Paula Maria Putko, Aras Galen Tran, Nickolas Awayan Villamin*
 Feb. 4: *Brandan Rickhill Banasen, Jayenne-Love Diaz Sico, Makia Kirralei Wong*



PARISH EVENTS

YOUTH MINISTRY EVENT :

Monthly Open Gym

This Sun. Feb. 4, from 2pm to 5pm in the School Gym. This is open for all youth in Grades 6 to 12. See you there!



ST. MARY'S YOUNG ADULTS' EVENT

The Theology of the Body 4-part Faith Series

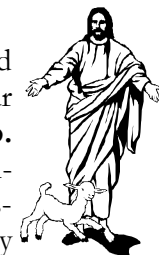
(All are welcome to attend) Tue. Feb. 6, 7:30pm School Gym. (And continue for the next 3 Tuesdays thereafter). Come and learn Pope John Paul II's landmark integrated vision of the human person - body, soul, and spirit. Please register with us at smyac_team@yahoo.ca.

ST. MARY'S DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE COMMITTEE MEETING

On Thu, Feb. 8, 7:00pm at the rectory dining room. All members are urged to attend as this will involve planning for Share Lent. Interested parties and non-members are always welcome.

CWL - NEW PARISHIONERS WELCOME RECEPTION

The Catholic Women's League of St. Mary's would like to invite all newly registered parishioners to our first informal "Welcome Reception" on Sun. Feb. 11, 2-5pm, at the Church basement. Light refreshments will be served. We encourage all new registered parishioners to attend, it's a great opportunity for you to meet other parishioners and learn more about the parish. A sign up sheet is available at one of the desks in the Church foyer. So, please come and join us for a fun gathering!



SMYAC BOOK CLUB MEETING

Thu. Feb 15, 7:30 pm Rectory Basement. We will be wrapping up "Search & Rescue" by Patrick Madrid. As well, we will be starting our next book, "Finding God's Will for You" by St. Francis de Sales. If you are interested in the book by St. Francis de Sales, please contact Ana, alvc@telus.net, so that she can obtain a copy for you in time for the meeting -cost approx. \$15.00.

SMYAC KRISPY KREME FUNDRAISER

Sun. Feb. 18, after all morning and afternoon Masses in the Church Basement. All proceeds go towards the operational costs of the Young Adult Group. More details to come! We thank you in advance for your support.



PARISH / COMMUNITY NEWS

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A PROGRAM THAT WILL HELP:

1) Bring you and your spouse or loved ones to a real 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 for your individual and your families' Christian life?

If your answer is YES! Couples for Christ, a Catholic community movement, invites you and all couples, including those separated, divorced and widowed to a Christian Life Program (CLP). **The CLP will be held starting Feb. 17, 7:30pm at St. Mary's Parish Church basement.** This program is conducted free of charge. 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: Jun & Amie Morales (604)522-6870.

DOMINICAN "COME AND SEE" WEEKEND

For men interested in exploring a vocation with the Dominicans of Vancouver, you are invited to a Dominican "Come and See" Weekend to be held from **5pm Fri. Feb. 23 – 12pm Sun. Feb. 25.** The event will be held at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 5251 Joyce St., Vancouver, BC. Cost will be \$25/person. For more information, please contact Fr. Mark Hoo, OP at frmarkhoo@yahoo.com or refer to the advertisement on the church bulletin board.

ST. MARY'S RESOURCE CENTRE

It is time once more to ask for volunteers to work in our library. We are looking for people who will be willing to offer one - half hour a month after the Sunday Mass they usually attend. It would be additionally great if you have a spouse, sister, brother, or friend who will work with you. So you see, we are looking for a lot of volunteers - 24 pairs (48people), we hope. If you and your companion will leave your names and phone numbers at the registration desk you will be contacted and we will be able to start reading again. Thanks for your cooperation. *Sr. Katherine.*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

St. Mary's Street Ministry would like to thank all who have responded to "Our call for Volunteers". If you have not yet returned the form you can still deposit it in the envelope in the foyer. In addition, "The Water Pick drive" has been a success. Thank you all for your generosity.



COMMUNITY NEWS

CATHOLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF BC - WORKSHOP

Subject: "Challenges facing residents who move from their homes to a long-term care facility." This workshop has been re-scheduled for **Feb. 8** at St. Michael's parish in Burnaby. For more information please contact Clare Kietaibl 604-437-4819.

CHRISTOPHER LEADERSHIP COURSE

Public Speaking and Community Leadership Skills. This is a ten week course. Next courses start: **Sat. Feb.10** at St. Mary's Parish, Vancouver, and **Sat. Feb.17** at Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish in Surrey. To register / for further info, call Blair 604-540-1919 - Vancouver, or Robert 604-572-9731 - Surrey.

CARE SUPPORT GROUPS FOR THE SEPARATED AND DIVORCED

To register call Catholic Family Services at 604-443-3220:

Women's Groups: 1)Thursdays starting **Feb. 15** at St. Patrick's Parish, Vancouver. 2)Mondays starting **Feb. 19** at St. Nicholas Parish, Langley. **Men's Group:** Wednesdays starting **Feb. 21** at Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish, Surrey.

VOCATION LIVE-IN

Feb. 16 - 18 for boys or young men interested in the priesthood or consecrated life, at the Seminary of Christ the King in Mission BC. For more info, call 604-826-8715.

WCDWA VALENTINE'S FUNDRAISING DANCE

West Coast Domestic Worker's Association invites you to our Annual Valentine's Fundraising Dance! **Sat. Feb. 17**, 8pm-1am at ANZA Club, 3 West 8th Ave./Ontario St.. Tickets \$15 for current or former caregivers, \$20 for community members. Music by DJ Star Mobile. Silent Auction, food, games & prizes. Tickets are available at the office: 604-669-4482/ at the door.



CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE OPEN HOUSE

Feb. 18, 1-3pm, 5935 Iona Drive. Everyone is invited to learn more about the Corpus Christi Advantage. Contact Monica Munaretto (monicam@corpuschristi.ca) for more info.

BLESSED SACRAMENT FRENCH IMMERSION SCHOOL

Applications are being accepted for children entering Kindergarten in Sep. 2007. We offer only Catholic French Immersion program. Address: Heather St./14th Ave., Van. Please call 604-876-7211 for more info. Few spaces are also available in Gr. 1 - 7 for students already attending a French Immersion School.

ATTENTION ENGAGED & MARRIED COUPLES

CATHOLIC ENGAGED ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

Feb. 23-25. Helping engaged couples understand the Sacrament of Marriage and their vocation. To Register call 604-451-3300 or www.ceewest.com.

ATTENTION ALL MARRIED COUPLES!!!!

You deserve a weekend to enhance your relationship. The next Marriage Encounter Weekend in the Vancouver Archdiocese will be held **Mar. 30-Apr. 1.** The weekend is a great gift that you can give to each other. For info or to register contact Steve & Mary Bohnen 604-876-7298/sbohnen@interchange.ubc.ca/www.wmcanada.org for more information.

PARISH INFORMATION

MASSES Mon. - Fri. 8:00am; Sat. 12:00 pm
Wed. & Fri. 6:30pm followed by Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament & Benediction at 9:30pm
Saturday 5:00pm (**Anticipation**)
Sunday 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:15am, 1:00pm, 7:00pm

RECONCILIATION Saturday 11:15-11:45am; 4:15-4:45pm;
Sunday 10:45-11:05am

(An appointment for reconciliation may be made at any time)

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
6:30pm followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Benediction: 9:30pm

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)

Leaders: Jonquil Francis and Eileen Carlson

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

YOUTH MINISTRY E-mail: stmarys_ym@yahoo.com

Coordinator: Eli Bautista Website: 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

Parish Ministries Coordinator : Eli Bautista

Parish Office: Margherita Bordignon / Ossie Fernandes