



### ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Pastor's  
Corner

Sunday January 20th, 2008

Dear Parishioners, An Anglican priest dies and goes to heaven. St. Peter welcomes him and gives him a guided tour of the Father's house. He starts with the first door on the right, where a big crowd of Lutherans are sharing a banquet. They all rejoice when Peter introduces them to the Anglican priest. Then Peter moves in to the room on the left, and introduces the Anglican to the United Church hall where a large crowd of Uniteds are sharing a banquet. They too greet the Anglican with joy. And so on goes the tour through the other Christian denominations. But Peter stops at the very last door on the right side of the hallway and whispers to the Anglican "Be quiet! We cannot go in there. These are the Catholics and they still believe they are the only ones here, we don't want to spoil their pleasure by letting them know that you made it too!"

Isn't there a bit of truth in this ecumenical joke? We Catholics are sometimes like the elder son in the parable of the Prodigal Son. We would rather not go to heaven if the dissident younger brother is there. Eighty-five years ago, my mother was told not to go to a protestant funeral service of a dear friend. My grandmother was told not to even step on the lawn of a protestant church.

Times have changed. But some Catholics still don't know that our protestant brothers are truly our brothers in Christ. Vatican II reminded us that they too are part of the mystical Body of Christ. They are members of Christ's Body, therefore they are like the flesh of our flesh. This is a traditional teaching, but widely ignored.

We need to start working together right now if we are to live together for eternity. I propose to you several ways to do it. One is the ecumenical and inter-faith homeless project. St. Mary's Catholic church with Collingwood Neighbourhood House across the street, along with neighbouring churches, and religious groups will start a weekday breakfast for the homeless, and facilitates health and housing services for them. It could start this summer. We will need lots of volunteers. Anglicans, Lutherans, Baptists, Mennonites, Greek Orthodox, Muslims and Buddhists will work together side by side to save the poorest of the poor.

Another venue is L'Arche ecumenical and international community serving the mentally challenged people. Join us at the Wednesday 5:00pm service and monthly mass. Call L'Arche to know more.

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(Pastors corner contd....) A third way could be the Youth Prison in Burnaby. We already contacted the chaplain, pastor Helene. We will need young people to participate in jam sessions, "Praise and Worship", etc. The older adults could be involved in a one-on-one visitation program.

"May they be one as the Father and I are one" (Jesus)

God Bless, Fr. Pierre



### THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

- Sun. Jan. 20:** 10:00am RCIA (Rectory Basement)  
2:00pm St. Michael's Liturgy (7451 Sussex Avenue)  
2:00pm Liturgy Committee (Rectory Dining)  
2:00pm Couples for Christ-FFL (Church Bsmnt)
- Mon. Jan. 21:** 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)  
6:30pm Youth Ministry Leaders (Rectory Dining)  
7:00pm Meditative Prayer (Rectory Basement)  
7:00pm Theology of the Body (Church Basement)
- Tue. Jan. 22:** 9:30am St. Mary's School Mass (Church)  
12:00pm Seniors Lunch Bunch (Rectory Dining)  
6:30pm Teen PREP (Rectory Basement)  
6:30pm Elementary PREP (School)  
6:45pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)  
7:30pm PEC (Rectory Library)  
7:30pm Lay Apostolate Info Mtg (Church Bsmnt)
- Wed. Jan. 23:**  6:30pm Elementary PREP (School)  
7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)  
7:00pm RCIA (Church Basement)  
7:30pm St. Vincent de Paul (Rectory Dining)  
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Thu. Jan. 24:**  7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)  
7:30pm Charismatic Prayer (Church Basement)  
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Fri. Jan. 25:**  3:00pm Divine Mercy (Church)  
6:15pm Divine Mercy (Church)  
6:30pm YM Games Night (Church Basement)  
7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)  
7:00pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)  
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Sat. Jan. 26:** 12:30pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Basement)  
3:00pm K of C Council Mtg. (Church Basement)
- Sun. Jan. 27:** 10:00am RCIA (Rectory Basement)  
10:15am Willingdon Park Liturgy (4435 Grange St.)  
3:00pm Baptisms (Church)

### PARISH NEWS

#### THIS SAT./SUN. Jan. 19/20 - VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION



Today's responsorial Psalm is the theme song of the Christian steward. "Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will." The good steward stands ready to set aside their own needs and wants in determining God's will. This is not a complete setting aside in the sense of a sterile existence. No, the good steward simply puts God first when it comes to using and sharing their gifts of time, talents, and financial resources. Thanks and Blessings to all our Volunteers at St. Mary's!

#### YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT MASS LAUNCHES THIS SUNDAY!!!

This weekend, a new Mass will be added to our weekend Masses. These Masses will be focused on youth and young adults but is open to everyone. It will be at **5:00pm every Sunday**. Volunteers are still welcome. This is a very good opportunity to be more involved in the Eucharist. Please help us pass the word around.



#### THEOLOGY OF THE BODY FAITH SERIES AT ST. MARY'S

**Mon. Jan. 21, 28 & Feb. 4, 7-9pm** in the Church basement. Hunger for truth? For deeper meaning to your life? Did it ever occur to you that the answers to life's most important questions are stamped right in your own body & sexuality? Learn how, as St. Mary's Young Adult Community presents *Created and Redeemed*, a 4 - part faith series based on Pope John Paul II's universal teaching, Theology of the Body. This powerful and beautiful message is for everyone at any age and stage of life. It is an education on being human and offers the truth that will set you free. Suggested donation: \$5.

#### YM GAMES NIGHT

Be prepared for a night of games and fun. Bring your board games, cards, action games, etc. and join us this **Fri. Jan. 25** at 6:30pm in the Church Basement.

#### CATHOLIC WOMENS LEAGUE (CWL) MEMBERSHIP DRIVE



Would you like to become an active member of a women's ministry focused on serving and supporting the needs of our parish in a fun environment? CWL members will be available in the foyer after 5:00pm mass **on Sat. Jan. 26** and after all masses **on Sun. Jan. 27**, to provide information and answer any questions about our organization. Sign up sheets will be available. Meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month (July & August break). New Members are always welcome. The next CWL General membership meeting will be on **Feb. 20** from 7-9pm at St. Mary's School - Seminar Room.

**PARISH / COMMUNITYNEWS**

**SMYAC MULTICULTURAL NIGHT**

Sat. Jan. 26., 7pm. *Top Cantonese Cuisine* (Kingsway and Earles)! This month's theme: Chinese, celebrating the Chinese New Year early! Please RSVP us here at [smyac\\_team@yahoo.ca](mailto:smyac_team@yahoo.ca) by next

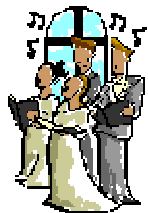
Wed. Jan. 23, for reservation purposes.

**CHRISTIAN LIFE PROGRAM FOR HANDMAIDS OF THE LORD**

CFC - Handmaids of the Lord would like to invite all unmarried, widowed, divorced and/or separated women ages 30+, to attend a Christian Life Program at St. Mary's Church basement starting Feb. 2 at 10am. Topics include *God's love, Who is Jesus Christ, and What it means to be a Christian.* Music, fellowship and refreshments will follow. For more info. Please call Grace: 778-386-0884 or [graceaka44@yahoo.com](mailto:graceaka44@yahoo.com) or Mila: 604-728-4635.

**CELEBRANT SINGERS VISIT ST. MARY'S!!!**

The CELEBRANT SINGERS have sung to over six million people around the world. One of the internationally-known group will visit St. Mary's on Feb. 16/17 weekend. The Celebrant Singers will provide the music at all our Sunday liturgies during this weekend and also perform a concert on Sat. Feb. 16 at 6:30pm in the church. Admission will be by donation and their CDs will be on sale. Without your help this weekend cannot take place. The parish has to provide host homes for the traveling group (20-22 people). **If you have a spare bedroom or two and can host 1, 2 or more people in your home for 2 nights - Feb. 16 & 17, please sign up at the Registration table in the church foyer OR contact Aprille McCauley at 604-435-4776 or email: [aprille@telus.net](mailto:aprille@telus.net)** Volunteers will also be needed for this particular weekend. Please sign up, and you will be contacted.



**UBC PINOY MOM & TOT DENTAL SURVEY**

Attn Filipino moms! Free dental check up for your child 1 1/2 to 5 yrs old, at Collingwood Neighborhood House (opposite St. Mary's Church) on Jan. 20 & Feb. 3. (Plus freebies for tots & raffle prizes for moms.) Book appointments with UBC's Dr. Khristine Cariño at 604-812-8960 or [hthf2007@gmail.com](mailto:hthf2007@gmail.com).

**VOCATIONS LIVE-IN**

On the weekend of Feb. 15 - 17 there will be a Vocations Live-In for boys or young men interested in the priesthood or the consecrated life, at the Seminary of Christ the King, in Mission, For more info, call 604-826-8715.

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**NOTRE DAME REGIONAL SECONDARY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE & INFORMATION MEETING**

Tue. Jan. 22, from 5 - 9pm, 2855 Parker St. Vcr. All parents and students in Gr.7 are invited to attend. Parents must pre-register their child at this Open House in order to write the Placement Test (fee:\$25 cash only). **Gr. 8 Placement Test Thu. Feb. 21** in the NDRS auditorium. Parents please pick up students at 3pm. Selection preference must be given to students in our Region and selection is **not based only** on performance on this test. For more information call 604-255-5454 or email [jugglers@ndrs.org](mailto:jugglers@ndrs.org) or <http://www.ndrs.org>.

**INFORMATION EVENING ON THE LAY APOSTLES OF JESUS CHRIST**

"The Returning King" will be held in St. Mary's Church Basement, 5251 Joyce Street (1 Block from Joyce Skytrain) on Tue. Jan. 22 at 7.30pm. For Further Info please contact Karen 778-990-0123 or [www.directionforourtimes.com](http://www.directionforourtimes.com)" (If you are not familiar with the Lay Apostolate, it is based on private revelations revealed to "Anne", a lay apostle. These messages are under the obedience of the catholic church and permission to publish the messages has been given by "Anne's" bishop. Sr. Breege McKenna, Fr. Kevin Scanlon, Howard Q Dee, are all supporting and involved in the propagation of these messages.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - DOMESTIC ABUSE SERVICES**

Our Lady of Good Counsel Society will be offering a 10 week volunteer training course on **Monday evenings Feb. 4 to Apr. 21**, at Christ the Redeemer Parish, West Vancouver. For information or registration phone 604-640-7549.

**CARE SUPPORT GROUPS FOR THE SEPARATED & DIVORCED**

10 sessions from 7pm to 9pm. **Women's Groups:** Mondays starting Feb. 4 at St. Patrick's Parish, Vancouver and at St. Mathew's Parish, Surrey. **Men's Group:** Wednesdays starting Feb. 6 at Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish, Surrey. Fee \$50 total to be paid at time of registration. Call Catholic Family Services 604-443-3220.

**THE CENTRE FOR JESUS AND MARY CATHOLIC BIBLE SEMINAR**

In support of the 49th International Eucharistic Conference in Quebec City next June, a special teaching on "The Eucharist - Theology and Devotion" will be presented by Fr. Jim Nisbet of Spreckles, California, at the Spring 2008 Session. **Feb. 8-10** at St. Stephen's Parish, Mtn. Hwy. @ East 24th St., North Van. Registration fees: Single adults \$50, married couples \$90. Special youth and daily fees available. Flyers are at the Church entrance. Please pre-register early as space is very limited. For more info call Gerry or Zela at the Centre at 604-882-9205.

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

**BC CATHOLIC NEWSPAPER: FULL-TIME REPORTER/PHOTOGRAPHER**

To write news & feature stories. Superior communication skills required. A journalism degree or Diploma or an equivalent combination of education & experience required. BC driver's license necessary. **Deadline for applications Mon. Feb.4.**

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES - MEN'S HOSTEL: 2 FULL TIME DESK CLERKS**

Midnight & Afternoon shift. Please submit applications to: Marisa Ruggier Andrews, 150 Robson Street, Vancouver, BC, V6B 2A7. Complete details for both the opportunities are available on [www.rcav.org](http://www.rcav.org).

**PARISH INFORMATION**

**MASSES** Mon. - Fri. 8:00am; Sat. 12:00 pm  
Wed. - 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 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  
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