



**ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
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Guest's  
Corner

Sunday, July 29th, 2007

Dear Parishioners,

I am sure that we are all aware of the danger of environmental pollution and, among other things, of our absolute need for oxygen to sustain life. Without oxygen, no living organism could ever live. Exactly the same might be said about the deadly effects of sin in our lives as Catholic Christians. I have no doubt that sin, in the lives of the individual as well as that of our societies, does have a dire effect on the physical deterioration of the environment of our planet. The good news is that one of the greatest antidotes and vaccines against sin is prayer, personal and liturgical. As a matter of fact, many a spiritual author has called prayer the oxygen of Christian life. As the depletion of oxygen in the physical world leads to the death of life, likewise the neglect or the absence or the rejection of prayer in our lives ultimately results in the death of our spiritual life. Prayer is a must, a necessity, a privilege and a joy for all of us who have experienced the treasure of our baptismal faith in Jesus Christ, our Lord, Saviour and God. When prayer is neglected or abandoned, faith is blurred, confused and eventually destroyed. Why so? Because faith and prayer are a couple that cannot be separated: what or rather whom you pray to determines the content and the depth of your faith (the "lectio orandi" is the "lectio credendi"). Today's Gospel of Luke emphasises the utter importance of prayer: "Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find, knock, and the door will be opened... If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"



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Let us ask then in our daily prayer for the Gift of the Holy Spirit. It is in Him that we can truly say and confess that "Jesus is Lord". It is through Jesus our Lord that we enter into deep intimacy with our loving Father and say to Him "Abba" (*daddy*). This is the experience of the Virgin Mary, our Blessed Mother and of all the Saints. So let us all and each one of us breathe deeply the oxygen of life in Christ and truly rediscover the power of prayer! *Fr. Gabriel OP*



**THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH**

- Sun. Jul. 29:** 3:00pm Baptisms (Church)
- Mon. Jul. 30:** 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)
- Tue. Jul. 31:** 12:00pm Seniors Lunch Bunch (Rectory Dining)  
 6:45pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)  
 7:30pm IMPACT - Faith Studies (Church Basement)
- Wed. Aug. 01:** 10:45am Fairhaven Mass (7557 Sussex Ave)  
 6:30pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)  
 7:00pm IMPACT - Cornerstone (Church Basement)  
 9:30pm Benediction (Church)
- Thu. Aug. 02:** 7:30pm Charismatic Prayer (Church Basement)
- Fri. Aug. 03:** **FIRST FRIDAY**  
  8:00am Mass followed by Adoration (all day)  
 3:00pm Divine Mercy Devotion (Church)  
 6:30pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)  
 7:15pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)  
 9:30pm Benediction (Church)
- Sat. Aug. 04:** 10:00am Legion of Mary (Church Basement)  
 12:30pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining)
- Sun. Aug. 05:** 3:00pm Baptisms (Church)

**Have a blessed**



**PARISH NEWS**

**AN URGENT APPEAL FOR LUKE 15 HOUSE - Today's 2nd Collection**  
 Luke 15 House is in urgent need of funds to support their program for rehabilitating male inmates into the community through a 12 step healing process. Proceeds will be used to purchase food items. Your help is greatly appreciated. Tax receipts will be issued for donations of \$10 and more, please write your name, address and telephone number on the envelope provided. Thank you and God Bless.

**RCIA/FAITH INSTRUCTION**

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is designed for:  
 1. 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).  
 2. For adult Catholics, who are baptized, but not catechized and/or did not complete the other Sacraments of Initiation (First Communion and/or Confirmation).  
 3. All 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 further info. please contact: Arda Akoglu or Carolina Prada at 604-733-3457 or aakog@yahoo.com



**SMYAC SUMMER VOLLEYBALL (weather permitting)**

On **Sun. Jul. 22**, at 4pm come out to play some ball, and enjoy the hot, hot sun at the same time. Bring water and sunscreen! We play at the Central Park Volleyball Pit by Swanguard Stadium. (Enter at the Kingsway entrance to the parking lot).



**SMYAC HSBC CELEBRATION OF LIGHT**

**Wed. Aug. 1**, we will provide you with all the details as to when and where to meet up. In all likelihood, we'll meet in the church parking lot in the early evening, take the Skytrain, and walk down to the English Bay area! The actual fireworks start at 10pm.



Please r.s.v.p. us at [smyac\\_team@yahoo.ca](mailto:smyac_team@yahoo.ca)

**ST. MARY'S PROJECT ADVANCE 2007**

A quick update on our progress: we are now at 87% of our parish goal, so close to meeting our projected target. We encourage all who have not yet sent in their pledges, to please forward your donations through the Sunday collection basket. For parishioners who have not contributed before, please pick up a donation form at the registration desk. May God Bless You for your support and generosity.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### DOMINICAN "COME AND SEE" WEEKEND:

**THE WAY OF THE PREACHER: FOLLOWING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF SAINT DOMINIC.**

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. Aug. 17 – 2 pm Sun. Aug. 19.** Presenters are: **Br. David Bellusci, OP and Fr. Mark Hoo, OP.** The event will be held in Bowen Island. **Deadline for registration will be Wed. Aug. 15.** Cost will be \$25/person. For more information, please contact **Fr. Mark Hoo, OP** at [frmarkhoo@yahoo.com](mailto:frmarkhoo@yahoo.com) or refer to the advertisement on your church bulletin board.

### SUMMER TRAINING

Register now for the Youth Ministry Office's popular Summer Training events: **Youth Leader (Aug 13-17)** and **Searching in the Spirit (Aug 20-24)** Both will be held at beautiful Camp Jubilee at the base of Mt. Seymour. Check out [www.youthmin.com](http://www.youthmin.com) for more info... don't miss out!

### PLAN NOW TO ATTEND THE ARCHDIOCESAN SUMMER INSTITUTE

In our fast changing society, parents are often caught unprepared for the numerous "Teachable Moments" that have the potential to turn every parent into the "primary educator of their child." Sign up now for a special series, "Focus on Parenting" offered by Chuck Luttrell on **Aug. 17.** Further details and registration: Office of Religious Education (604-683-0281 or [ore@rcav.bc.ca](mailto:ore@rcav.bc.ca)) or register on-line at [www.rcav.bc.ca/ore](http://www.rcav.bc.ca/ore).

### PILGRIMAGE TO THE GROTTA OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES

**Sat. Aug. 18, 11:00 am - 6:00 pm** at Heritage Park, Mission. (East end of 5th Ave., off Stave Lake Road.) Confessions at 11:00 am and Mass at 1:00 pm with Archbishop Raymond Roussin, SM, as the principal celebrant. Mass will be followed by a procession to the Grotto where we pray the Rosary and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Then there will be time for a Picnic Social. Bring your picnic lunch and chairs. For free bus reservations for the handicapped and elderly, call 604-264-1790. Details on Church notice board. For more information regarding the pilgrimage contact Jack Ethier ([jkethier@telus.net](mailto:jkethier@telus.net) or 604-826-1205) or [www.stjosephofmission.com/dept/events/grotto\\_2007](http://www.stjosephofmission.com/dept/events/grotto_2007).



## COMMUNITY NEWS

### CHURCH ORGANIST WANTED

Guardian Angels Parish located at 1161 Broughton Street (Westend, Vancouver) is in need of Church Organist/s for weekend Masses: Saturday. at 4pm; Sunday at 9am, 11am, & 12:30pm. Please call Fr. Jerry D'Souza at 604-684-5775 or email: [office@guardianangelsparish.ca](mailto:office@guardianangelsparish.ca)

### WALK AND TALK:

#### WISDOM FROM THE DOCTOR - ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA

A presentation by Rev. Ian Stuart, **Sat. Aug. 4,** on Hollyburn Mountain on the 4 Lakes Loop Trail. Event starts with Mass at 9:00am, at St. Anthony's Parish, 2347 Inglewood Ave., West Vancouver. Depart 10am for Hike (not always an easy walk, wear good footwear, a hat, sunscreen, pack for warm clothing, bug repellent, water and lunch). Lunch about 12:30pm, Talk at 1pm. Leave behind the bold Whiskey Jacks who come to take food out of your hand at 2pm. Back to your car about 3pm. Please use your judgment to decide if this rough trail hike is appropriate for you. For more info call Harold Waldo 604-763-6984, or [www.staac.ca](http://www.staac.ca) or [hwaldock@yahoo.ca](mailto:hwaldock@yahoo.ca)

### 36TH ANNUAL SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RENEWAL COMMUNITIES CATHOLIC RENEWAL CONVENTION

**5 DAY RETREAT, Aug. 30 – Sep. 3.** Enjoy a spirit-filled 5 days of prayer, praise and worship amidst the incredible sights and sounds of Anaheim! Guest speakers include Linda Schubert, Linda Koontz, Fr. John Hampsch, Francis & Judith MacNutt and more! For details please take a flyer from the registration desk in the foyer. For further info. on the tour contact Lennie David 604-597-8227 / 604-594-7296.



### RETRouvaille : A PROGRAM OF HOPE DESIGNED TO HELP COUPLES IN HURTING MARRIAGES

Next Vancouver weekend **Sep. 14 - 16.** Space is limited. For more information please call: 604-530-6710 or visit our website at [www.retrouvaille.org](http://www.retrouvaille.org). To pre-register on-line, go to [www.retrouvaille.org/dates.php](http://www.retrouvaille.org/dates.php).



### THE 18TH ANNUAL MARRIED COUPLES' RETREAT

Will be held on the weekend of **Sep. 14-16,** at Westminster Abbey, Mission and will be directed by Rev. Paul Curtin, CSsR. (Redemptorist). Retreat theme: "FOLLOWING JESUS: EUCHARIST AS FOOD FOR THE JOURNEY." Cost per couple \$295.00. To register call Anne 604-464-1958 or Marg. 604-921-7136.



## STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE

*Jesus is describing God's immeasurable generosity when He says in today's Gospel, "Whoever asks, receives; whoever seeks, finds; whoever knocks, is admitted." But it should also be the description of us as Christian Stewards - those seeking to follow Christ by sharing their gifts in service to others. Good Stewards share their time, talent, and financial resources, not in anticipation of God's blessings but in response to God's generosity in their lives. It is gratitude to God that is at the heart of authentic stewardship.*



## 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)**

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.saintmarysyoung.com](http://www.saintmarysyoung.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