



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 March 30, 2008
"The Power to Believe"



Dear Parishioners, "[t]he yearly feast of Easter is a celebration, not of one day, but of fifty days, from Holy Saturday till the feast of Pentecost. Besides the yearly feast, we also celebrate Easter each Sunday of the year.

Why celebrate Jesus' Resurrection so extensively? Because we're so slow to realize what it means, and need reminding over and over.

Some things — like telling time or tying our shoes — we learn once, but the resurrection of Jesus is a mystery not learned at once. We never grasp it completely, but only day by day, as life unfolds, do we come to say "I believe."

That's why Thomas, the apostle, whom we remember on the 2nd Sunday of Easter, is such an important figure. Far from being a lonely skeptic, an isolated dissenter, he represents the slowness of heart and mind, the recurrent skepticism, that affects us all.

His story, rather than raising doubts, is a reminder that the Risen Jesus offers, even to the most unconvinced, the power to believe.

Lord Jesus,

You showed your apostle Thomas the wounds in your hands and side and called him to believe in you, as Lord and God.

Risen and present everywhere, bless those who have not seen and renew our world of doubt and weakened faith.

Bless us, Lord, with the love that flows from your wounds,

Renew our faith and help us to grow in believing in you.

Victor Hoagland, CP

God Bless, Fr. Mark



THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

- Sun. Mar. 30: DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**
10:00am Youth for Christ Music Workshop (Gym)
3:00pm Baptisms (Church)
5:00pm Youth & Young Adults Mass (Church)
6:15pm Youth & Young Adults Praise Fest! (Gym)
- Mon. Mar. 31:** 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)
7:00pm Meditative Prayer (Rectory Basement)
- Tue. Apr. 01:** 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)
7:00pm Charismatic Core Mtg. (Counsel Room)
7:30pm K of C Executive (School Gym)
-  **Wed. Apr. 02:** 6:30pm Elementary PREP (School)
7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:00pm RCIA (Church Basement)
7:00pm Exodus Ministry Mtg. (Rectory Basement)
7:30pm Marriage Prep. Class (Church Basement)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
-  **Thu. Apr. 03:** 7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:00pm Development & Peace Mtg. (Rectory Dining)
7:30pm Life in the Spirit Seminar (Church Basement)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
-  **Fri. Apr. 04:** 3:00pm & 6:15pm Divine Mercy (Church)
7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:00pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining)
8:30pm SMYAC Coffee Night (Rectory Basement)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Sat. Apr. 05:** 9:00am Handmaids of the Lord (Church Basement)
9:30am Legion of Mary (Church Basement)
9:30am Hospitality Volunteers Training (Church)
12:30pm Bible Sharing (Church Basement)
7:30pm CFC -Christian Life Program (Rectory Bsmt)
7:30pm CFC-FFL Seminar (School Gym)
- Sun. Apr. 06:** 2:00pm Youth for Christ (Church Basement)
3:00pm Baptisms (Church)

PARISH NEWS

PREP RESUMES

To all PREP Parents and students, please be reminded that PREP classes **resume on Apr. 1/2.**

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR

You are invited as members of our parish family to participate in our upcoming *Life in the Spirit Seminar*. The purpose of this seminar is to allow the Holy Spirit to lead us into a deeper experience of prayer and into a more intimate relationship with God, who will draw you closer and strengthen your faith. The seminar will take place on seven consecutive Thursdays, starting **Thu. Apr. 3** here in the church basement at 7:30pm. The format consists of a talk, small group discussion and a time for fellowship. We will take registrations after every Mass and registrations will close this weekend of Mar. 30.



YOUNG ADULT (AGES 18+) COFFEE NIGHT FAITH DISCUSSION

Fri. Apr. 4, 8:30pm, Rectory Basement. We will be showing snippets of CNN's Christiane Amanpour's *God's Warriors* related to Christianity. Discussions based on the documentary to follow afterwards. Light refreshments will be served!

HOSPITALITY MINISTRY - INFORMATION & TRAINING SESSION

Sat. Apr. 5, 9:30am-11:15am in the Church. This is a training session for any new and interested parishioners who would like to volunteer in the Hospitality Ministry (during the weekend at Sunday masses). If you filled out a Participation form (in the past month) that indicated your willingness to volunteer in this particular ministry you have been contacted - please confirm your attendance to this upcoming session (by email: emilyli@shaw.ca or phone: 604-434-8434). It is vital that any new & interested parishioners attend this training session.

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. 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>

PARISH NEWS

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL REGISTRATION

Information Night for **NEW** families wishing to enter St. Mary's for Sep. 2008 will be held on **Thu. Apr. 3** at 7pm in the school.

MUSICAL HEALING SERVICE OF MIND, BODY & SOUL

Fri. Apr. 11 at 7:30pm St. Mary's Church Basement. A beautiful, Powerful and Inspirational Service of Hope, presented by 'Fire of the Spirit' Peter & Elisabeth Miller, 604-684-7709. Bring a friend, (maybe a lapsed or non-Catholic) your faith and believe!

ANNUAL RESPECT LIFE YARD SALE

Sat. Apr. 19 from 10am - 3pm here in St. Mary's parking lot. Your donations of garden items, jewelry, dishes etc. will help our Respect Life group to assist others. For info call Gert 604-433-6497 or bring items on Sat. morning to the parking lot but **NO CLOTHING PLEASE**. Come! Bring your friends and support a worthy cause.



REQUEST TO SIGN PETITIONS - YOUR SUPPORT IS NEEDED

St Mary's Street Ministry is supporting Canadian Alliance for Social Justice and Family Values Association in signing 2 petitions against Drug-Injection Site and Legalization of Prostitution. If you haven't signed the petitions in the last 2 weeks, please stop by our table at the foyer right after mass to sign the 2 petitions. Thank you.

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*

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEMBERSHIP BLITZ

The Knights of Columbus are launching their Membership Blitz this weekend to recruit new members. There will be an Open House and Video Presentation in the church basement after Sunday masses. All are welcome especially Catholic gentlemen 18 years and above. Brother Knights will be distributing K of C flyers at the church foyer after all masses.



PARISH / COMMUNITY NEWS

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 (**Mar. to Apr.**) and put them in the big bottle. Your donations will be used for the education and personal needs of our seminarians. God Bless You.



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. 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.

PRO-LIFE MASS & VIGIL

Peaceful, prayerful vigil for unborn children and their parents on **Sat. Apr. 5**. 9:00am Mass at St. Luke's Parish (20285 Dewdney Trunk Road, Maple Ridge) followed by Rosary at Maple Ridge Hospital.

YOUTH MINISTRY COSMIC BOWLING NIGHT

St. Mary's Youth Ministry invites all youth in Grades 6 to 12 to a night of Cosmic Bowling **this Friday, April 4th, from 6:30pm to 8:30pm**. This event will be at Old Orchard Lanes in Burnaby. The cost is only \$10, which includes 2 hours of bowling, shoes rental & snacks. Permission forms are REQUIRED for this event and are available in the YM website. Hope to see you there... and bring a friend along.

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.

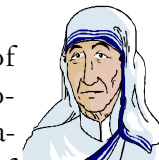
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

St. Thomas More Collegiate is looking for a Learning Assistant for three days a week (Tue-Thurs) to start immediately after the Spring Break. Please call D. Hall at 604-521-1801 ext.103.

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 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
Youth and PREP Coordinator : Eli Bautista
Parish Office: Margherita Bordignon / Ossie Fernandes