



ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Pastor's
Corner

November 16, 2008

“Fathers for Good”

an initiative of the Knights of Columbus

Dear Parishioners,

Fr. Pierre and I have been asking ourselves when would be the best time to introduce a wonderful website and resource for husbands and fathers that is an initiative of the Knights of Columbus. Well, finally, I think the time is right to introduce this website in light of this Sunday's readings and reflections. The website is entitled *Fathers for Good* and below is part of its mission statement:

Fathers for Good seeks to guide men in the great adventure of fatherhood and provide the resources, tools, and encouragement they need to become the fathers they are meant to be. We offer expert advice and await your input on the journey to becoming authentic Fathers for Good...

By taking the time, making the effort, going the extra mile, you can make all the difference in the world for your family. While strong arms are still needed, a man's protection must go beyond the physical. A father should keep harmful influences away from the family...

“The greatest gift a father can give his children is to love their mother.” Spousal love is a firm commitment to always think, speak and act for the good of your wife...”

If you want more of the above and to learn and grow to be good husbands and fathers, then access the website of *Fathers for Good* at www.fathersforgood.org.

I also want to take the opportunity at this time to thank the men at St. Mary's Knights of Columbus for their various efforts at helping boys and young men to grow-up into becoming responsible husbands, fathers and men of God. I myself have seen with my very own eyes the transformations that have taken place and continue to take place in the lives of some these young men here at St. Mary's through the quiet, but persistent efforts of members of St. Mary's Knights of Columbus. To you brother Knights, again, I say “thank-you.” *God bless, Fr. Mark.*

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

- Sun. Nov. 16:** 2:00pm St. Michael's Liturgy (7451 Sussex Ave)
2:30pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining)
3:00pm DAMIEN play (see bulletin ad)
5:00pm Youth & Young Adults Mass (Church)
- Mon. Nov. 17:** 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)
7:00pm Meditative Prayer (Rectory Basement)
7:00pm Eucharistic Apostolate (Rectory Dining)
7:00pm Youth Ministry Info Sess (Church Bsmt)
7:30pm Marian Prayer Group (Rectory Library)
- Tue. Nov. 18:** 6:00pm K of C Memorial Mass (Church)
6:30pm PREP & Teen PREP (School)
6:30pm Baptism Prep Seminar (Church Basement)
6:45pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)
6:45pm Confirmation Parents Meeting (Gym)
7:30pm PEC Meeting (Staff Room)
- Wed. Nov. 19:** 2:00pm CWL Meeting (School Gym)
6:30pm RCIA (Church Basement)
6:30pm PREP & Teen PREP (School)
6:45pm Confirmation Mtng/Gr7 PREP (Sem.Room)
7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room/Sacristy)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Thu. Nov. 20:** 7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:00pm Pastoral Council (Rectory Dining)
7:30pm Charismatic Prayer (Church Basement)
7:30pm SMYAC Leaders (Rectory Dining Room)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room/Sacristy)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Fri. Nov. 21:** 10:00am St. Michael's Mass (7451 Sussex Avenue)
NEW!! 10:30am Bible Sharing for Moms (Rect. Bsmt.)
3:00pm & 6:15pm Divine Mercy (Church)
7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room/Sacristy)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Sat. Nov. 22:** 12:30pm Bible Sharing (**cancelled**)
3:00pm K of C Council (Church Basement)
3:30pm Legion of Mary (Rectory Dining)
3:30pm RCIA (Rectory Basement)
6:30pm CFC-Christian Life Program(RectoryBsmt)
7:00pm CFC - FFL Unbound (Church Basement)
- Sun. Nov. 23:** 10:15pm Willingdon Park Liturgy(4435 Grange St.)
2:30pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining)
5:00pm Youth & Young Adults Mass (Church)



PARISH NEWS

HUMAN TRAFFICKING: WHAT CAN YOU DO?

On **Sunday November 16, after the 11:15 Mass**, St. Mary's Street Ministry and Catholic Women's League invite you to a presentation on Human Trafficking by Sr. Deborah Isaac. This free session takes place in the church basement from approximately **12:20pm - 2:00pm**. Light lunch will be served. Inquiries: Mildred at 604-728-4284 or mmoy_ca@yahoo.com.

DAMIEN -- (A one-man play)

Sunday November 16 at 3:00pm in **St. Mary's Church**. Damien is the story of a Catholic missionary who devoted his life to ministering to the lepers on the Hawaiian Island of Molokai. Fr. Edward Evanko will play the role of Damien. Cost : \$20 per adult, youth under 14 years are free. Proceeds support the Catholic Health Association of BC and St. Michael's Center Foundation. Tickets:604-524-3427/604-434-1323 or at the door.

CHRISTMAS CARDS AND CAKES SALE

On **November 15/16 and November 22/23**, our Respect Life Group will be selling beautiful Christmas cards and delicious Christmas cakes in the Church foyer. Shop early for a good selection and support the good works this parish ministry does.

YOUTH MINISTRY INFO. SESSION

Are you a piece of the puzzle? Come and See. Youth Ministry is having an info session for those who are interested in serving in this exciting ministry. We are the body of Christ and each one of us make up one part of that body, which when put together correctly, shows the beautiful face of our Lord Jesus Christ to the world. The puzzle is not complete until all pieces are placed in their correct places and your place can only be filled by...you. Come find out where you fit: **Monday, November 17 @ 7:00pm in the Church Basement**



ECHOES: A PROGRAM TO LEARN MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH

Do you want to share your Catholic Faith with others? Many of us want to hand on the message of our Catholic Faith, but don't know how, or lack the training. Echoes is a program designed to provide the key knowledge and skills needed to understand and hand on the Catholic Faith in a knowledgeable manner. The Echoes program consists of eleven, 1½ hour sessions, starting January 17th but we would like to invite you to come to an introductory session on **Saturday November 22, in the Church basement from 10:00am until 12 noon**. Everyone is welcome. Ministry representatives are suggested to attend.

ATTENTION ALL LECTORS

Please stop in at the lectors' room and check off your availability for the Christmas season so that schedules can be drawn up.

PARISH NEWS

ST. MARY'S CHRISTMAS CRAT FAIR & PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Sunday November 23: 8:30am - 3:00pm. Start your day with pancake breakfast in the school gym, shop for gifts, knick knacks and more. Relax and enjoy yourself as you mingle with fellow parishioners and neighbourhood friends. Lunch will also be served. If you are attending the 100th anniversary Archdiocesan Mass, be sure to attend this popular annual event before heading to G.M. Place. Tables are still available to crafters: \$15 each or two tables for \$25. Contact John at 604-433-0884



BENEFIT CONCERT FOR TALITHA KOUM HOUSE

On **Saturday November 29, 2008 at 7:30pm in St. Mary's Church**, come and enjoy Christmas music as well as traditional and popular tunes arranged for four-part a cappella harmony. **The Gentlemen of Fortune**, an award winning male barbershop harmony chorus have performed here for the last two years and have been very well received. Don't miss this chance to enjoy great music at this concert which supports the women recovering at Talitha Koum House. Tickets: call Denece at 604-985-4872, from the volunteers in the foyer after Mass..



CANDY DRIVE

St. Mary's Street Ministry and St. Vincent de Paul Society are asking for donations of wrapped candies. These are used in ministering to the street people. Please bring your wrapped candy donations to the boxes located in the church foyer over the next few weeks.



PROJECT ADVANCE -- 2008 UPDATE

Kudos to all parishioners of St. Mary's and in particular to those who contributed to this year's campaign. Your generous donations made it possible for us to achieve our parish's goal of \$80,000. To date the contribution is at \$82,092 which enables the parish not only to cover the administrative expenses, but to receive a rebate for the effort of the parish as well. This year's participation rate is 17.7%. We are pleased with this number but we would be certainly delighted to see a higher percentage of 20% to 25% of all our parishioners to be involved with Project Advance 2009. All rebates will be contributed towards the building fund of Notre Dame Secondary School. Please note that Project Advance tax receipts will be available for pick up together with your parish donation tax receipt near the end of February.

DIOCESAN/ COMMUNITY NEWS

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS—ARCHDIOCESE OF VANCOUVER

Sun. Nov 23 at 1:00pm: Celebration with Mass at GM Place will feature music from Catholic High Schools, a Grand Procession highlighting each parish, Mass with Cardinal Marc Ouellette as the main celebrant and homilist. **You cannot enter GM Place without a ticket. IF YOU SIGNED UP FOR TICKETS, PLEASE PICK THEM UP IN THE FOYER AFTER MASS.** (If you were not able to pick up your ticket on the weekend, please contact the parish office - Thank you).

Saturday, Dec 13 at 8:00pm: Handel's Messiah at the Vancouver Orpheum Theatre, a special celebratory performance with the Vancouver Chamber Choir. Seating is limited! Costs are: \$45 for Lower Balcony seats and \$36 for Upper Balcony seats. (These prices are reduced from the regular public rate) **'Traditions of Faith and Service'** -- the first ever popular history book (200 pages) published about the Archdiocese of Vancouver, written by historian Dr. Jacqueline Gresko. It covers the Archdiocese as a whole, as well as individual parishes. Cost is \$39.00 (tax included)

Order books and reserve tickets for Handel's Messiah through Margherita in the parish office or Nahtie at nvcaro@shaw.ca

MASS FOR DECEASED BISHOPS, PRIESTS AND RELIGIOUS

The annual Mass for deceased bishops, priests and religious will be held at Holy Rosary Cathedral, November 26 at 12:00noon. All parishioners are most welcome at this special liturgy, to be concelebrated by the priests of the Archdiocese. Kindly remember in your prayers this month those who have laboured for the Church in Vancouver and pray that the Lord will send dedicated men and women to continue their work.

DOES GOD REALLY LISTEN?

Having returned from Florida, where she received prayer and confirmation from Sr. Briege McKenna and Fr. Kevin Scallon for her ministry, Jacqueline Loh will present a topic on **Friday November 28 beginning at 7:00pm in St. Mary's church basement**. Entitled Does God really listen?, the discussion will be on *how to pray effectively and how to receive and increase the Grace of Faith*. Immediately following, there will be prayers for healing. Please go to <http://www.gracethatreigns.com> for more information. A love offering will be asked. Her ministry has been approved by the Archdiocese of Vancouver.

IGNATIAN RETREATS AT MADONNA HOUSE

Madonna House is offering 5-day, individually guided Ignatian Retreats. These are available from **January 20 - February 8, 2009**. If you wish more information, please call 604-267-1757.

PARISH INFORMATION

MASSES

Monday & Tuesday: 8:00am
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 8:00am and 7:00pm**
** followed by Adoration at 7:45pm & Benediction at 9:15pm
Saturday: 12:00noon; 5:00pm (**Anticipation**)
Sunday: 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:15am, 1:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm

CONFESSIONS

Sunday: Before all Masses (except 8:00am & 5:00pm) & After all Masses
Saturday: 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

E-mail: stmarys.prep@yahoo.ca

ST. MARY'S YOUNG ADULT COMMUNITY (SMYAC)

Leader: Joseph D'silva

Email: smyac_team@yahoo.ca

Website: www.smyac.ca

YOUTH MINISTRY (YM)

Coordinator: Arda Akoglu

E-mail: stmarys_ym@yahoo.com

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
Saturdays: 11:00am to 2:00pm

Pastor:

Fr. Pierre Leblond, O.P.

Assistant Pastor:

Fr. Mark Hoo, O.P.

Youth Ministry/Volunteer Coordinator:

Arda Akoglu

Parish Secretary:

Margherita Bordignon