



**ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**

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Pastor's  
Corner

Sunday November 18, 2007



Dear Parishioners,

Sunday's Gospel reminds us of the opposition and sometimes even downright hostility that will come to those who preach the Good News of Jesus Christ. Why is that? Because the preached message of Christ goes so contrary to the expectations of society for us. Where society wants to preach individualism, recognition, power, competition, and material success as the goals of life and signs of "achievement", the Good News of Jesus Christ preaches something quite different. And, Henri Nouwen spells out what this difference is:

"What is the testimony of the Spirit? The Spirit will witness to the unconditional love of God that became available to us through Jesus. This divine love, as it becomes manifest within the structures of the world, is a light in the darkness. It is a light that the darkness cannot accept. The divine love of God reveals to us that *fruitfulness* is more important than success, that the *love of God* is more important than the praise of people, that *community* is more important than individualism, and *compassion* more important than competition. In short, the light of the Spirit reveals to us that love conquers all fear. But the world rules by fear. Without fear the world doesn't know how to control or govern.

The Spirit's testimony threatens the world. It is not surprising that anyone who testifies with the Spirit is a danger to the world. That is why Jesus predicts, "an hour is coming when those who kill you will think that by doing so they are offering worship to God. And they will do this because they have not known the Father or me." (John 16.2-3)

...When we do not live in deep communion with God – that is, with the Spirit of Jesus within us – then religion is easily put into the service of our desire for success, fame, and stardom. From that place we are willing to 'kill' whoever is in the way of reaching our goal. The tragedy is that indeed we quickly convince ourselves that we do the killing in God's name." (Contd..)

(Pastors corner contd...) Moving away from what the world considers as important then, let us instead live out our lives as witnesses of Christ by cultivating elements in our personal lives, in the lives of our family, our Church, and our community, that foster *fruitfulness, love of God, community and compassion*, so that indeed, the darkness that comes with fear may be dispelled just that little bit more. *God bless, Fr. Mark.*



**THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH**

- Sun. Nov. 18:** ST. MARY'S CRAFT FAIR & PANCAKE BREAKFAST  
2:00pm St. Michael's Liturgy (7451 Sussex Avenue)
- Mon. Nov. 19:** 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)  
7:00pm Meditative Prayer (Rectory Basement)
- Tue. Nov. 20:** 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)  
6:30pm Baptism Preparation Class (Church)  
6:45pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)  
7:30pm PEC Meeting (Rectory Library)
- Wed. Nov. 21:** 5:00pm L'Arche Mass (7401 Sussex Ave)  
6:30pm Elementary PREP (School)  
7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)  
7:00pm RCIA (Church Basement)  
7:00pm Bingo Committee (Rectory Basement)  
7:30pm St. Vincent de Paul (Rectory Dining)  
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Thu. Nov. 22:** 7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)  
7:30pm Charismatic Prayer (Church Basement)  
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Fri. Nov. 23:** 3:00pm Divine Mercy (Church)  
6:15pm Divine Mercy (Church)  
6:30pm YM Cosmic Bowling (see announcement)  
7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)  
7:00pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)  
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Sat. Nov. 24:** 10:00am Legion of Mary (Church Basement)  
12:30pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Basement)  
7:00pm CFC - Christian Life Program (Church Bsmnt)
- Sun. Nov. 25:** 10:15am Willingdon Park Liturgy (4435 Grange St)  
3:00pm Baptisms (Church)  
5:30pm RCIA



**PARISH NEWS**

**CHRISTMAS CARDS AND CAKES**

Respect Life will be selling Christmas Cards and quality Christmas Cakes after all masses on this weekend **Nov. 17/18 & next weekend Nov. 25/26**. All proceeds support Pro-Life. Thanks in advance for your support.



**ST. MARY'S CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR & PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

**This Sun. Nov. 18, 8:30am - 3pm** in the school gym. Come and support our annual Christmas Fair. Do some Christmas shopping, mingle with friends & enjoy some good food at the same time. Pancakes and sausages will be served until 1:30pm; beef dip and hot dogs are served after 11:30am. **SEE YA IN THE GYM!!!!!!**



**SMYAC BOOK CLUB MEETING (Young adults ages 18+)**

**Mon. Nov. 19, 7:30pm.** Rectory basement. We will discuss Ch. 1 & 2 of Mother Teresa's book, "Come Be My Light". Even if you don't have a copy of the book, you are still more than welcome to join us in discussion, as we learn more about this modern-day saint! For more info, please feel free to contact us at [smyac\\_team@yahoo.ca](mailto:smyac_team@yahoo.ca)

**ST. MARY'S ANNUAL FAMILY BOWLING - POSTPONED**

Due to unavoidable circumstances, we are postponing this event to a later date. Thank you for the understanding.

**YM COSMIC BOWLING NIGHT**

Have you played bowling recently? How about bowling with cosmic lights? St. Mary's Youth Ministry invites all youth in Grades 6 to 12 to a night of Cosmic Bowling. Join us on **Fri. Nov. 23, from 6:45pm to 8:45pm**. We will meet in front of Old Orchard Bowling Lanes at 6:30pm. Permission forms are required and are available on the YM bulletin board & website.

**RESTORATIVE JUSTICE WEEK NOV. 18 TO NOV.25**

Exodus Ministry and Street Ministry is sponsoring a Restorative Justice event on **Sun. Nov. 25** at 2pm. We will have a special guest speaker who has experienced forgiveness at the most profound level. Come, listen, watch several short films about prison ministry and join in a discussion on such questions as "How do we love our neighbor?" and "How do punishment and restorative justice fit in with my Christian beliefs?"

**AN INTRODUCTION TO JOHN PAUL II'S THEOLOGY OF THE BODY**

**Thu. Nov. 22 Class CANCELLED.** Classes will resume **Thu. Nov. 29**. Location: St. Mary's School Seminar Room  
Time: 7:00pm-9:00pm. Thank you for your cooperation.

## PARISH / COMMUNITY NEWS

### ST. MARY'S SENIORS CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

**Sat. Dec. 8** -- A special Christmas Luncheon will be hosted in honour of all our St. Mary's Seniors (65 years and above) by reservations only. Lunch will be served at approximately 1:00pm in the school gym, following the 11:15am Mass. Mark your calendars! For reservations call John Rudland at 604-433-0884 or Margherita (Ext.3) at the Parish Office.



### ANNUAL MASS FOR DECEASED BISHOPS, PRIESTS & RELIGIOUS

The annual Mass for deceased bishops, priests and religious will be held at Holy Rosary Cathedral, **Wed. Nov. 21** at 12noon followed by Lunch(r.s.v.p.). All parishioners are welcome at this special liturgy, to be concelebrated by the priests of the Archdiocese. Kindly remember in your prayers those who have laboured for the Church in Vancouver, and pray that the Lord will send dedicated men and women to continue their work.

### LOOKING FOR DIRECTION? Lay Apostle Information Evening

Several years ago, "Anne", a wife and mother of six, started receiving messages from God the Father, Jesus, Mary and the saints. These messages, received in the form of inner locution, are spoken with divine love, clarity and authority, and Anne has received permission from her bishop, Leo O'Reilly, Diocese of Kilmore, to publish the works. Jesus calls this work His Rescue Mission and says that it is the greatest mission of mercy the world has ever known, and there is a heavenly urgency in distributing the messages to as many of his children as possible. If you have ever yearned to hear God's voice and know His will, consider attending a special presentation at St. Mary' Church basement on **Mon. Nov. 26** at 7pm. Contact Karen (778) 990-0123 or [www.directionfourtimes.com](http://www.directionfourtimes.com) for further info.

A message from Fr. Pierre Leblond, O.P. – *We will have an evening of information about the lay apostle movement. I got to know about this movement at my retreat in Ars, attended by 850 priests and 15 bishops. I am therefore confident about this new addition to our parish groups.*

– Fr. Pierre

### CARING FOR SEAFARERS AROUND THE WORLD

Christmas is a special time. It gives us a chance to point our seafarers to the true gift of Christmas, which is the gift of Jesus Christ to the world. The Mission to Seafarers asks for your participation in providing a gift for our Seafarers who will be away from their homes and families during Christmas. We ask you to enclose a Christmas card with your personal greeting. The items are provided in a shoe box. Please pick up a flier from the foyer.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### VILLA CARITAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

**Fri. Nov. 23 and Sat. Nov. 24** at 3050 Penticton Street, Vancouver. Please join us!

### TALITHA KOUM BENEFIT CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The Talitha Koum Benefit Christmas Concert by the "Gentlemen of Fortune" (award winning male barbershop harmony chorus featuring Antique Gold) is once again being held at St Mary's Church, **Sat. Nov. 24 @ 7:30 pm.** (*Talitha Koum is a non-profit society that helps women with addiction problems on their journey of recovery. They have three transition houses in the Lower Mainland.*) Tickets (\$10) will be available at the foyer, after of all masses or at the door. To avoid line-ups at the door please purchase your tickets after Mass. Thank you.

### MADONNA HOUSE ADVENT REFLECTION

As we enter into the Season of Advent, we invite you to join us at Madonna House (5450 Trafalgar St.) for a time of quiet, reflection and prayer. We will meet on **four Saturdays, beginning Nov. 24, from 9:30 – 12noon.** Call us at 604-267-1757 if you wish more information. Please bring your bible and rosary.

### ST. THOMAS MORE COLLEGIATE CRAFT FAIR

**Sat. Nov. 24: 10am - 4pm and Sun. Nov. 25: 11am - 4pm.** Kingsway & 12th Avenue, Burnaby. Bring your co-workers, friends and family. We have over 130 crafters with a wide range of products from under a dollar to one of a kind artisan pieces. See you soon! Have a blessed Christmas season.

### CELEBRATE LUKE 15 HOUSE'S BIRTHDAY

Benefit Concert, 'Prodigal Son' Skit, Silent Auction & International Food Fair. **Sun. Nov. 25, 6:30pm** at Immaculate Conception Parish Hall, 8842 - 119th St., Delta. Tickets \$15. Children under 17 free. For info call 604-930-4884.

### PANCAKE BRUNCH WITH SANTA

Bring the family and join in on the fun with a pancake brunch with Santa on **Sun. Nov. 25**, from 1pm-4pm, across the street at the Collingwood Neighbourhood House (multipurpose room). This fundraising event will help less fortunate families in our neighbourhood to have an unforgettable Christmas. There will be several kids activities as well as a Christmas Product Extravaganza- to help complete your Christmas shopping. Tickets \$10 and Free for kids 10 and under. Kids will also receive a free gift from Santa! For info. contact: [adalasaleta@katewwdb.com](mailto:adalasaleta@katewwdb.com)

### ST. FRANCIS DE SALES 2<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL HOLLY JOLLY CHRISTMAS DINNER & AUCTION

**Sat. Dec. 1**, with guest Auctioneer Bill Vanderzalm ! Only 20 days left ! Few TICKETS left !! \$40 each or \$70 a couple. To purchase your tickets, Call The Parish @ 434-1328.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### HOLY ROSARY CATHEDRAL VOCAL CONCERT

**Sun. Dec. 2 at 7pm.** Classical & Contemporary Songs & Poems about Mary's Life. Program Includes: A Celtic Prayer, Breath of Heaven, Children's Music, Vergin Tutto Amor, Balm In Gilead, Udvozlegy Maria, Bells of Bethlehem, Ave Maria. Sacred Classical Soloist: Adeleina Kissh (Marianministries@gmail.com) will be joined by Tenor: Adrian Glaubert. Also singing for the 8pm Mass: original & new compositions. 646 Richards Street, Downtown Vancouver near the Bay Dept. Store. Please see the BC Catholic Newspaper for a list of all H.R.C. concerts.

## 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, 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.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