



ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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31st SUNDAY In Ordinary Time

November 5th, 2006

Purgatory



Dear Parishioners, Why do we have to pray for the souls in purgatory? Why especially for our loved ones? To answer this, we must understand the effects of our sins, in this life and in purgatory. When we sin, we not only hurt others and offend God, but we damage our own inner core, our soul. Our will becomes weaker and inclined to fall into the same sin again and again. It gets more and more difficult to desire God. Holiness of life becomes repulsive. Self-centeredness governs our choices, instead of love. The more we sin the more we see love as an unrealistic option. These are some of the long-term "side effects" of sin in us. We are like a smoker who stopped smoking, but still has to clean his lungs of nicotine and restore his body of all the side effects of the habit of smoking.

How can we do this? We repent, confess our sins and live according to the Word of God. We are forgiven, but the side-effects of sin are still there. Just like the ex-smoker, we still need healing. And it takes time and effort. Prayer, penance (fasting) and alms giving are ways proposed by Jesus. These must be done out of love for God, for others, for our soul. Every act of love is healing. Slowly, by living a life of love, as Jesus tells us in today's Gospel, our inner being, our soul, will be healed. The things of the Kingdom of God will become desirable again. We will be set free. We will be purified. We should strive to do this before death.

What happens if we die before this purification is completed? In this case we are not ready to see God, because God is Love. We need to be rehabilitated in the ways of love. That is what purgatory is for. A "time" given to us to lower our resistance to God's love, so that we may accept fully the embrace of God. It won't be easy, because we will feel so unworthy of it. Our souls will still resent God's love. That is until we surrender in love.

This is why the souls in purgatory need our loving prayers. Especially the souls of our loved ones.

(contd.....)

(Pastor's corner contd....) They need to be forgiven of the wrongs they did to us. They need to be comforted in our love and encouraged to surrender to God's love. How can we reach out to them? Christ is our messenger, he is the bridge between earth and purgatory. Remember that the souls in purgatory are still members of Christ's Body! We are all interconnected!

The German mystic Mechthild of Magdeburg had a vision of purgatory during which she was filled with compassion for the poor souls. She wanted to help them. The Lord said, "Take a thousand souls. You shall bathe them in the tears of love that flow from your eyes." And they entered heaven, praising God!



You can do the same! God bless, Fr. Pierre.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Sun. Nov. 5:	2:00pm	Couples/Yth for Christ Mtg. (Church Bsmt)
	3:00pm	Baptisms (Church)
Mon. Nov. 6:	6:00pm	Bingo (School Gym)
	7:00pm	Mary Help of Christians (Church Basement)
	7:00pm	Meditative Prayer (Rectory Basement)
Tue. Nov. 7:	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	Charismatic Core (Rectory Living Room)
Wed. Nov. 8:	10:45am	Willingdon Park Mass (4435 Grange St)
	6:30pm	Elementary PREP (School)
	6:30pm	Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
	7:00pm	RCIA (Rectory Dining Room)
Thu. Nov. 9:	7:00pm	Ballroom Dancing (School Gym)
	7:30pm	Charismatic Prayer (Church Basement)
Fri. Nov. 10:	10:00am	St. Michael's Mass (7451 Sussex Ave)
	3:00pm	Divine Mercy (Church)
	6:45pm	Line Dancing (School Gym)
	6:30pm	Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
	7:00pm	Mary Help of Christians Healing Svc. until 10pm (Church Basement)
	7:30pm	K of C Executive (Rectory Basement)
	9:30pm	Benediction (Church)
Sat. Nov. 11:	8:00am	Tai Chi & Qi Gong (Cancelled)
	9:00am	Divine Mercy Symposium (School gym)
	9:00am	Mary Help of Christians Healing Svc. until 5pm (Church Basement)
	10:00am	Legion of Mary (Rectory Basement)
	12:30pm	Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining)
	7:30pm	Couples for Christ Seminar (Church Bsmt)
Sun. Nov. 12:	9:45am	Divine Mercy Symposium (School Gym)
	3:00pm	Mary Help of Christians Healing Svc. until 7pm (Church Basement)

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

DIVINE MERCY SYMPOSIUM AT ST. MARY'S SCHOOL GYM

Two days of Love, Mercy, Healing and Thanksgiving. At St. Mary's Church Gym, 5251 Joyce Street, Vcr.

Sat. Nov. 11, 9am to 6pm - Mass at 12 noon

Sun. Nov. 12: 8:15am Mass followed by Symposium 9:45am to 6pm. Benediction at 3pm. Presenter Bro. Don

De Castro, servant leader and founder of Divine Mercy "Say a Little Prayer" / 3 o'clock habit; TV Channel - Philippines (broadcasting God's Mercy 24 hours a day). Please bring a bagged lunch. Snacks will be served. For more info please call Edward Livera 604-435-4187 or Teresa Lung 604-437-7745.



RCIA

Good News! Come join the St. Mary's family, as it shows the wonderful spirit of Christian Community, by welcoming our catechumens. **Sun. Nov. 12** at 9:30am mass they will be embraced by the Church at the Rite of Acceptance, don't miss it!



SMYAC ACTIVITIES - YOUNG ADULTS AGES 18 - 39 WELCOME

Games Night: Sun Nov. 12, 6:30pm, Rectory Basement. Join us for a fantastic evening of fun and games. Bring your favorite board games, and share them with other young adults. It's more fun that way! We hope to see you there!
Catholic Movie Night: Fri. Nov. 17, 7pm, Rectory Basement. Come and watch a movie with a faith theme. Bring a blanket and make yourself at home. Light refreshments will be served.

Open Gym: Sun. Nov. 19, 2:30 - 5pm, School Gym. You are invited to come and play various fun sporting activities. We love to have you there, so keep fit and have fun!

YM COSMIC BOWLING

YM will go **Cosmic Bowling** on **Nov. 17th**, from **6pm to 8:30pm**. This event is for all youth in Grades 6 to 12. Great prizes await the high scorers. Permission forms are available on the YM bulletin board and on the YM website. See you at Orchard Lanes on Kingsway.

ST. MARY'S CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR & PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Sun. Nov. 19 - Come join us for a day of Good buys! Good food! Good fun! Are you ready with your Christmas and other Crafts for sale at our Annual Christmas Craft Fair/Pancake Breakfast?? Should you wish to reserve a table to sell your creations, please call John Rudland @ 604-433-0884.



PARISH / COMMUNITY NEWS

DAILY MORNING PRAYER WITH THE DOMINICANS

In many parishes, the pastor says the morning prayer, called Lauds, with his parishioners before or after daily Mass. This custom was highly encouraged by late pope John Paul II. Lauds is an important part of the daily prayers that all religious and priests say everyday in union with Christ. For more than a thousand years, Lauds and the other hours of the Liturgy, have been a central action of the whole Church. More and more lay people are praying the liturgy of the hours.



At St. Mary's, we have this odd situation where some parishioners pray Lauds in the Church at 7:15am, while the pastors and Dominican Fathers, pray the same Lauds, in their home at 7:30am. Starting from Tuesday, November 21, the Dominican Fathers will join the parishioners present at 7:30am in the Church to pray Lauds.

Fr. Gabriel OP, will help us to make this prayer beautiful by leading us into singing. Those of you who pray the rosary at 7:30am, are requested to start earlier, at 7:10am. We are sorry for this inconvenience. We hope you will be rewarded by a blessed prayer. God bless, *Fr. Pierre*.

CANDY DRIVE - for the month of November

Save Halloween candies for the poor! St. Mary's Street Ministry and St. Mary's St. Vincent de Paul Society are running a Candy Drive for the month of Nov. If you have any Halloween candies to donate, please drop them off in the boxes in the foyer. Thank you for your generosity!



RELIGIOUS BOOKS, TAPES & CDs ON SALE NEXT WEEKEND

Sat. Nov. 11 & Sun. Nov. 12. after all Masses. Sponsored by the Daughters of St. Paul, a great collection of religious/inspirational/Christmas material, for adults and children, will be available on sale in the Church foyer.



PASTORAL PLANNING: Living Our Mission

Members of parish pastoral councils and all parishioners are invited to a free public presentation by Dr. Mary Ann Gubish from the Conference of Pastoral Planning & Council Development on **Nov. 15**, 7:30pm in Our Lady of Fatima Church Hall (315 Walker St, Coquitlam). Come and learn how you can contribute to building the Church in your parish and Archdiocese.

PLEASE SEE THE NOTICE BOARDS IN THE FOYER FOR MORE PARISH AND COMMUNITY NEWS

COMMUNITY NEWS

MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS HEALING & DELIVERANCE MINISTRY

Experience God's Love, God's Gift, God's Grace. Laying of hands at the end of sessions by Rommel Salvacion (Servant Leader). **Fri. Nov. 10**, 7pm-10pm. **Sat. Nov.11**, 9am-5pm. **Sun. Nov. 12**, 3pm-7pm. St. Mary's Church Bsmt., 5251 Joyce St.

LOST IN TRAFFIC

Lost in Traffic is an interactive play raising awareness of the underground trafficking of women and children for the purposes of exploitation. Le Theatre Parminou invites us to counter this network of organized crime by building another type of network that rises up to say: It is enough!

Sun. Nov. 12: 7:30pm at Notre Dame Secondary School, 2855 Parker St., Vancouver

Mon. Nov. 13: 7:30pm at Hellenic Community Centre, 4500 Arbutus St., Vancouver

Tickets and info available from CWL members and the Sisters Association at 604-272-4779 and 604-517-8895. \$12 for regular admission, \$10 for seniors and students.

NOTRE DAME DINNER / DANCE

Live & Silent Auction - **Fri. Nov. 17**, ND Gym, 7:00pm, Presto Catering, Music by The Blue Meenies featuring Danny Barichello, \$60/person, all proceeds to the ND Building Fund, Tickets:604-255-5454. Thanks for your support.



CANADIAN CHRISTIAN MEDITATION COMMUNITY

Silence, Stillness & Simplicity. Come join your fellow meditators for a morning of silent prayer and reflection. **Sat. Nov. 18**, 9:15am to 1pm. St. Mary's Church Basement, 5251 Joyce St., Vcr. Please bring a bag lunch. Admission by donation.

CHRIST THE KING LECTURE

Bishop Arthur Roche of Leeds, UK, Chairman of the International Commission for English in the Liturgy (ICEL), will give this year's Lecture on "Liturgy and Catechesis". **Sat. Nov. 18**, at the Seminary in Mission BC, 10am to 3pm, with an hour and a half break for lunch. For more info, call 604-826-8975.

ANNUAL MASS FOR DECEASED BISHOPS, PRIESTS & RELIGIOUS

The Mass will be held at Holy Rosary Cathedral, **Wed. Nov. 22** at 12 noon. All 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.

ATTENTION! NEW WEEKDAY EVENING MASSES AT ST. MARY'S!!!



Starting November 2006, St. Mary's will have a **6:30pm evening Mass every Wednesday and Friday**. These masses will be followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until the benediction at 9:30pm. We hope many will take this opportunity for a visit to the Church, after work, for a time of peace and stillness in the presence of our Lord. God Bless, *Fr. Pierre*



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 - 7:55am; Saturday - 11:55am

FIRST FRIDAY

Mass & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 8:00am and 7:30pm
Benediction 11:45am and 9:00pm

BAPTISM To register your child, contact 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. Wednesdays at 7:00pm.
Contact: 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)

Leaders: Jonquil Francis and Eileen Carlson
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
Parish Office: Margherita Bordignon / Ossie Fernandes
Custodian: Zdravko Jankovic