



ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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**23rd SUNDAY In Ordinary Time
September 10th, 2006**

Dear Parishioners,

Following in the footsteps of Fr. Pierre in last Sunday's *Pastor's Corner*, I thought I would take this opportunity to write a few words of introduction myself, being that this is the very first *Pastor's Corner* that I have written since my ordination to the Priesthood two years ago in this very parish of St. Mary's.



First of all, I want to say that like many of you, I too will be saddened by the departure of Fr. Guy for Taiwan. Fr. Guy was my first Student Director while I was studying for the Dominican Order in Ottawa. I subsequently had the privilege of living with him these past 3 years in Vancouver as a religious brother in community, in which time, I have benefited much from his invaluable advice and assistance.

However, I must also say that I am thrilled to be the new Assistant Pastor at St. Mary's. For to be so is to have the opportunity of working with Fr. Pierre as the new Pastor, and the many parishioners of St. Mary's with your varied gifts and personalities.

Fr. Pierre has been a valued brother and "superior" of mine in the Dominican community, for he has exercised his responsibilities upon us with much generosity and humility. I have also benefited much from his advice and experience – "jokes" of my weight not withstanding.

As for the parishioners of St. Mary's, what can I say? I have used the "analogy" during my Diaconal year here, at St. Mary's, as one of being in the womb of the parish community as I was nurtured into the Sacrament of the Priesthood. As such, it is my hope that, working together with you in the vineyard of the Lord, we will have the opportunity to build upon the legacy that Fr. Guy is leaving us with, and that is a parish community that continues to be more eager for evangelization, faith education, community life, and social justice.

(Contd.....)

(Pastor's corner contd....)

And so, may the labourers in the vineyard of the Lord continue to multiply and increase from within the parish community of St. Mary's. For the call of our Lord persists, as Matthew 9.37-38 reminds us, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

God Bless and It is Good to be Back! Fr.Mark



THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

| | | |
|---------------------|---------|---------------------------------------|
| Sun. Sep 10: | 2:00pm | Couples for Christ (Church Basement) |
| Mon. Sep 11: | 6:00pm | Bingo (School Gym) |
| | 6:30pm | Meditative Prayer (Rectory Basement) |
| | 7:00pm | Lector Training (Church) |
| Tue. Sep 12: | 12:00pm | Seniors Lunch Bunch (Rectory Dining) |
| | 6:00pm | Legion of Mary (Rectory Basement) |
| | 6:30pm | Teen PREP (Rectory Basement) |
| | 6:30pm | PREP (School) |
| | 6:30pm | Baptism Preparation (Church) |
| | 7:15pm | Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room) |
| Wed. Sep 13: | 10:45am | Willingdon Park Mass (4435 Grange St) |
| | 6:30pm | PREP (School) |
| | 7:00pm | RCIA (Rectory Dining) |
| | 7:00pm | Bingo Committee (Church Basement) |
| | 7:30pm | SMYAC Leaders (Rectory Basement) |
| Thu. Sep 14: | 7:00pm | Ballroom Dancing (School Gym) |
| | 7:30pm | Charismatic Prayer (Church Basement) |
| Fri. Sep 15: | 3:00pm | Divine Mercy (Church) |
| | 6:00pm | Jr. Legion of Mary (Rectory Basement) |
| Sat. Sep 16: | 8:00am | Tai Chi (School Gym) |
| | 11:00am | Talitha Koum AGM (Church Basement) |
| | 6:30pm | Fr. Guy's Farewell (Church Basement) |
| Sun. Sep 17: | 2:00pm | Couples for Christ (Church Basement) |

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

CONGRATULATIONS & BLESSINGS !!

WEDDINGS Sep. 2: *Jason Kelders & Madeleine Etoundi*



BAPTISMS Sep. 3:

Thea Juliana Balmes Calaquian, Adriane Joshua Genova, Josh Badillo Moreno, Ace Dannicon Antonio Valdez, Ethan Francisco Williams.



PARISH EVENTS & NEWS

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

We thank all the parishioners at St. Mary's who continue to help us in our endeavors to help the poor in our community. Without you none of our work would be possible. This **Sun. Sep. 10th**, the 2nd collection will be for St. Vincent De Paul Society's "help the poor fund". Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

FR. GUY'S FAREWELL PARTY

Please join us in formally saying goodbye to Fr. Guy this **Sat. Sep. 16, 6:30pm in the Church Basement**. This event will be a "drop-in" get-together. Parishioners are welcome to drop-in starting at 6:30pm and have an informal chat with Fr. Guy. Formal program starts at 7:45pm – where a special presentation has been prepared for him. This will be a potluck evening **BUT please bring finger foods ONLY**.



ST. MARY'S DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE PARISH COMMITTEE

1. Vancouver Development & Peace AGM and Fall Action Workshop will be held on **Sat. Sep. 16** at St. Matthew's, 16079 - 88th Ave., Surrey from 9am until 5pm. Agenda includes a business meeting, and the Fall Action Workshop on our new theme - "Canadian Mining called to account". All are welcome. Please bring a mug and a bag lunch. Beverages and snacks provided and Fair Trade items for sale.

2. Information session and presentation by the BC Committee for Human Rights in the Philippines on **Sun. Sep. 17**, 2pm at the Church Basement. This is first of a series of information sessions being planned on different countries being served by D & P. All are welcome. Refreshments served.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE AT ST. MARY'S

The next CWL general membership meeting will be on **Wed. Sep. 20 from 7-9pm** in the church basement. Please bring your pennies for a "penny drive" collection! Future general membership meetings will be held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. New members are always welcome.

PREP ANNOUNCEMENT

Due to several requests, we are extending PREP registrations up to **Sept. 25th**. We still have slots for the Teen PREP (Grades 8 to 12, Tuesday nights) and grades 1 to 7 on Wednesday nights. This is your last chance to register. Please pick up your registration forms from the foyer or from the YM bulletin board. PREP Classes start on Sept. 12 for the Tuesday nights and Sept. 13 for the Wednesday nights.

PARISH & COMMUNITY NEWS

GIFTS FOR FR. GUY AND FOR "PARTNERSHIP 4 CHINA"

As has been previously announced, for those who wish to provide Fr. Guy with a gift on the occasion of his departure but do not know what to give, Fr. Guy's suggestion is a monetary contribution, however modest. Fr. Guy will use these gifts to cover the extra costs of visiting family in Saskatchewan, and his Dominican community in Quebec and Ontario, before departing for Taiwan. All excess funds will be directed to an organization called "Partnership4China", which is currently raising funds to provide all Catholics in China with a copy of the Bible.

Contributions can be made next Sunday, Sep. 17, which will be Fr. Guy's last Sunday at St. Mary's. Please make cheques payable to Fr. Guy or St. Mary's Parish. There will be ushers at both tables in the foyer after every mass to collect your offerings. We will provide receipts for income tax purposes for every donation for which we have a name and address. Thank you!

CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC HEALING CONFERENCE 2006

Theme of the Conference: *"I am the Lord, Your Healer"* with guest speakers Fr. Fernando Suarez and Fr. Jeff Shannon (Companions of the Cross). The conference will be held in the Broadway Church, 2700 E. Broadway, Van. On **Fri. Sep. 22** (7pm-10pm with Healing Mass); and on **Sat. Sep. 23** (9am-6pm with closing Mass). For tickets, \$10 each, please call 604-597-8227 or email fireblade@shaw.ca.



CHRISTIAN LIFE PROGRAM (CLP)

Are you looking for a program that will help: 1) bring you and your spouse or loved ones to a deepening relationship with God and a renewed faith in Jesus, 2) empower you in the Christian life through Baptism in the Holy Spirit, and, 3) integrate you into an environment where you can receive support for your individual and your families' Christian life?

If your answer is YES, Couples for Christ, a Catholic community movement, invites you and all couples, including those separated, divorced and widowed to a Christian Life Program.

The CLP will be held starting Sep. 23 at 7:30 pm at St. Mary's Parish Church basement. This program is conducted free of charge, transportation will be provided upon request. For details, pls. contact: Jun & Amie Morales 604-522-6870.

COMMUNITY NEWS

ATTENTION MARRIED COUPLES

The 17th Annual Married Couples Retreat will be held the weekend of **Sep. 15-17**, at Westminster Abbey, Mission. Director: Rev. Paul Curtin, C.Ss.R. (Redemptorist). Theme: "Self-knowledge, Prayer and Compassion: Elements of a Christian Interior Life." Cost per couple \$295. To register call Anne 604-464-1958 or Margaret 604-921-7136. Space is limited.

AGAPE STREET MINISTRY DAY OF REFLECTION

Sat. Sep. 16, 9:30 am Mass, Sacred Heart Church, 897 Keefer St Van. 10am - 1pm Talk: God's Love by Pat & Vicki Conroy, 887 Keefer St. Bring your Bible. All are welcome. Info:604-215-4115.

HOW TO PRAY FOR YOUR SONS & DAUGHTERS

This seminar by Vernon Robertson is being held on **Sep. 16** at St. Joseph's in Mission (10:00 am-4:30pm) and **Sep. 30** at St. Francis De Sales in Burnaby (10:00 am-4:30 pm). Call or e-mail Vernon to pre-register for materials: 604-929-4511 or visit the website at seminar.of.hope@hotmail.com.

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR SERIES

Tuesdays at 7:30 pm from **Sep. 19 - Oct. 30** at St. Stephen's Parish Hall (1360 East 24th St., North Vancouver). Speakers include: Fr. Peter Chiang, Fr. Augustine Obiwumma, Fr. Pierre Leblond, Fr. Gabriel de Chadarévian, Fr. Joseph Ponti, Fr. Patrick Chisholm, and Fr. Mark Hoo. Call Vernon Robertson at 604-929-4511 to register.

SOURCE & SUMMIT EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

The Youth Ministry Office, Vocations Office, Serra Club, and Catholic Christian Outreach invite you to this special event at St. Mary's Parish in Vancouver on **Sat. Sep. 23** from 7-10 pm (doors open at 6:45 pm). Come spend an intimate evening with Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. Open to high school teens and young adults, this powerful event will include music, skits, testimonies, prayer, refreshments, confessions, and a Holy Hour. Free admission! For more info, visit www.youthm.com.



NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING WORKSHOPS

Natural Family Planning methods are the result of scientific research and are among the most accurate in achieving or postponing pregnancy. The teaching of the Church and the experience of countless married couples testify to the benefits of these methods in strengthening marriages. Please pick up a brochure from the Church foyer brochure stand for details.

COMMUNITY NEWS

VOLUNTEER HELP REQUIRED

Volunteers are urgently needed at Holy Family Hospital Gift Shop. If you can help, please contact Lorraine at 604-434-8900.

STEM CELL RESEARCH & CLONING: CUTTING THROUGH THE RHETORIC TO THE FACTS

Today many claims are made about the supposed benefits of using embryonic stem cells to treat all kinds of diseases. The truth is far different. Come and learn about what research has revealed about the value of human stem cells and how they can be ethically used. Father Tad Pacholczyk, a neuroscientist and moral theologian, Director of Education at the National Catholic Bioethics Center, and columnist for The BC Catholic, will give a free public presentation at 7:00 pm on **Sep. 27** at Our Lady of Fatima Parish (315 Walker St., Coquitlam).

PARISH INFORMATION

MASSES Mon - Fri 8:00 am; Saturday 12:00 pm
Saturday 5:00 pm (**Anticipation**)
Sunday 8:00 am, 9:30 am, 11:15 am, 1:00 pm, 7:00 pm
RECONCILIATION Saturday 11:15-11:45 am; 4:15-4:45 pm;
Sunday 10:45-11:05 am
(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 - 7:55 am; Saturday - 11:55 am

FIRST FRIDAY

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

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.

PREP Religious education program for children attending public schools.
Coordinator: Eli Bautista Tuesday and Wednesday 6:30-8:00 pm

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 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Pastor: Fr. Pierre Leblond, OP
Assistant Pastor: Fr. Mark Hoo, OP
Parish Office: Margherita Bordignon / Ossie Fernandes
Custodian: Zdravko Jankovic