

## THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH



### **Sunday Jan 6: Epiphany**

6:30pm YM FLAME (Church Basement)

### **Monday Jan 7: St. Andre Bessette**

6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)

7:00pm Lay Apostle (Church)

7:00pm CWL Executive (Rectory Dining)

### **Tuesday Jan 8:**

6:30pm Baptism Prep (Church)

7:00pm Christian Meditation (Rectory basement)

7:30pm Ablaze (Church Basement)

### **Wednesday Jan 9:**

2:00pm Willingdon Mass (4435 Grange)

7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)

7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room)

9:00pm Benediction (Church)

### **Thursday Jan 10:**

7:00pm Mass/Adoration (Church)

9:00pm Benediction (Church)

### **Friday Jan 11:**

6:30pm Family Life Workshop (School Seminar Room)

7:00pm Mass/Adoration/Confession (Church)

7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room)

9:00pm Benediction (Church)

### **Saturday Jan 12: St. Marguerite Bourgeoys**

9:15am DNA (Rectory Basement)

10:00am YM Basketball (School Gym)

10:00am Handmaids (Rectory Dining)

2:00pm Handmaids (School Gym)

3:00pm Legion of Mary (Church Basement)

### **Sunday Jan 13: Baptism of the Lord**

1:00pm CFC (Church Basement)

2:00pm Light of Jesus (School Gym)

3:00pm Tagalog Mass (Church)

## PARISH INFORMATION

**WEEKDAY MORNING MASS:** Monday - Friday: 8:00am

Weekday Morning Rosary 7:00am / Weekday Morning Lauds 7:30am

**WEEKDAY EVENING MASS:** Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 7pm followed by Adoration at 7:45pm & Benediction at 9:00pm

**SATURDAY MASS:** Our Lady's Mass 8:30am

**SUNDAY MASS:** Anticipated Mass Saturday 5:00pm

Sunday: 8:00am / 9:30am / 11:15am / 1:00pm / 5:00pm / 7:00pm

**NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP:**

Wednesday 6:00pm

**NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL:**

Thursday: 8:00am & Saturday: 8:30am

**DIVINE MERCY:** Friday 3:00pm & 6:15pm

**FIRST FRIDAY:** Adoration throughout the day after morning Mass

**CONFESSION:**

Weekdays: After all Masses (except Thursday Evening Mass)

Saturday: 9:00am-9:30am, 4:15pm- 4:55pm, 6:10pm- 7:00pm

Sunday: Before & After all Masses

An appointment for confession may be made through the Parish Office

**HOLY COMMUNION:** Available to shut-ins. Contact Parish Office.

**BAPTISM:** To register your child, see website or contact Parish Office.

**MARRIAGE:** One of the couple must be Catholic and a parishioner of St. Mary's Parish before requesting the sacrament of marriage. Contact the Parish Office at least six months prior to the wedding date to register for the required diocesan Marriage Preparation Course.

**RCIA:** Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. Contact [soberg@rcav.org](mailto:soberg@rcav.org).

**PREP:** Catechism Program for children attending public schools on Tuesdays or Wednesdays 6:30pm-8:00pm

Coordinator: Stefan Oberg E-mail: [soberg@rcav.org](mailto:soberg@rcav.org).

**TEEN PREP:** Interactive Catechism Sessions for Teens on Tuesdays 6:30pm-8:00pm

Coordinator: Stefan Oberg E-mail: [soberg@rcav.org](mailto:soberg@rcav.org).

**YOUTH MINISTRY:** E-mail: [ana@marysyouth.com](mailto:ana@marysyouth.com)

Assistant: Ana Alfonso Website: [www.marysyouth.com](http://www.marysyouth.com)

### **ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Principal: Ms. Brenda Krivuzoff Website: [www.stmary.bc.ca](http://www.stmary.bc.ca)

Phone: (604) 437-1312 Fax: (604) 437-1193

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS:** Monday to Friday: 8:45am to 6:30pm

Phone: (604) 435-9611 Fax: (604) 439-9413

E-mail: [parish.smarv@rcav.org](mailto:parish.smarv@rcav.org)

Website: [www.stmarysvancouver.ca](http://www.stmarysvancouver.ca)

### **PASTORS & STAFF:**

**Pastor**

Fr. Pierre Leblond, O.P.

**Assistant Pastor**

Fr. Gabriel de Chadarevian, O.P.

**Pastoral Assistant**

Vesna Jankovic

**Office Manager**

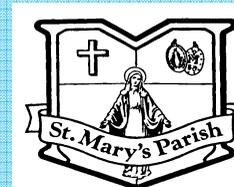
Ossie Fernandes

**RCIA/PREP Coordinator**

Stefan Oberg

**Receptionist**

Rocelyn Catris



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**JANUARY 6, 2013**

*Pastor's  
Corner*

### WHERE IS YOUR GOD?

Where do you find God? Do you find Him in nature, in beauty, in science, in philosophy, in music, architecture, paintings? Can you answer yes to several of the above? If you answered no to all of the above, you are in danger of religious starvation!

If the only place you can find God is while praying in the Church, or during Mass, or reading Scripture, you are probably not understanding well prayer, Mass, Scripture.

For us Catholics, God can be found in all the above. There is no need to exclude anything from our search for God, except sin (and even there, God uses our sins to draw us to Himself.)

How can I say that we don't have to exclude anything in our search for God? I can affirm it because of the Incarnation of the Word made flesh in Jesus and because of the Magi. In other words, I can affirm it because of Christmas and Epiphany.

Christmas! What did we read that day? "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. All things came into being through Him, and without Him, not one thing came into being." Yes we believe with St. John and St. Paul, that all that is in the Universe was created (is constantly maintained into existence) by Him, exists for Him and through Him. Therefore, the understanding of each thing and all things, the discovery of the beauty of each thing and all things, of each person and of all of them together, all this can lead us to Christ. He is the Incarnate Word, the Word made flesh who created all things and persons in His own image. Christ is a microcosm. In Him is recapitulated all that exists. Therefore, you can use your love of music, your love of art, of nature, of science, your love of human beings to know God better.

*Pastor's Corner Continued...*

Pastor's Corner Continued...

But do not stop there. God has something to say to you, directly and personally. He can speak. He is not just a mountain to be climbed by your own effort. He is not just a projection of your own ideas, discoveries and dreams. He is real. And He revealed Himself through the Scriptures, the Liturgy of the Church and through your personal prayer.

How do we know a person? How do we get to befriend a stranger? First we know him/her from the outside, by interpreting what we see in him through our frame of reference, that is through our general knowledge of human beings. But that is not enough. To really know someone, we have to listen to what he says. We have to receive his revelation of himself.

Now this applies also to our knowing of God. The Magi of Epiphany are a good example of that. They began by using their science,- astronomy, to search for God. When they found the sign given by God, the Star, they followed it promptly and were led to Jerusalem where they found the Scriptures, the Word of God, through the scribes of Herod. With the Word of God as a guide, they were able to find Jesus, the Word made flesh in Bethlehem.

*God Bless you, Fr. Pierre*

p.s. Don't forget that when you use man-made things, they are affected by our sinfulness. You must discern between good music and evil music, good science and bad ideology. Listen to God's guidance, the Holy Spirit and the Church.

## PARISH NEWS

### YOUTH MINISTRY & YOUNG ADULT COORDINATOR

St. Mary's Parish is hiring a full time YM & YA Coordinator. The job posting can be found on the YM bulletin board in the foyer. Start date late January 2013.

### FLAME (Gr 10-12) – MASTERPIECE



Prepare yourself for another incredible FLAME night with fun & games, all you can eat pizza, talks & discussions, Oscar worthy skits, the infamous 'truth or nasty' and so much more. You know you shouldn't miss it, so make sure to be there on Sunday, January 6th at 6:30pm in the Church basement.

## PARISH NEWS

### HELP KEEP THE HOMELESS WARM

St. Mary's St. Vincent de Paul Society and St. Mary's Street Outreach need really warm stuff – winter gear including hats, gloves, socks, scarves, toques, and winter jackets, especially for men. We will be collecting donations of NEW winter items during the month of Jan 2013, as part of our outreach program for the homeless. Please drop your donations into the box in the foyer marked "Socks, Gloves, Scarves and Toques". On behalf of the homeless we thank you in advance for your generosity.



### 2013 ENVELOPES

The 2013 offering envelopes are ready for pickup in the Church basement. Please look for envelopes by last name. If your address has changed, please fill out the forms at the envelope table.

### FAMILY LIFE WORKSHOPS

St. Mary's Parish and Families for Christ Community will start a series of Family Life Workshops to begin on Friday, Jan 11 at 6:30pm in the School Seminar Room. The first topic will be "Work-Family Life Balance." Discover the secret to attaining a well balanced family life in this workshop. Speaker will be Joy Jose. Light snacks will be served. Attendance is by donation. All are welcome!

### COURAGE/ENCOURAGE

A presentation will be given by Fr. Bill Comerford, director of Courage/Encourage for the Archdiocese of Vancouver on Tuesday, Jan 15 at 7:30pm in the Rectory Dining Room. "Courage" is a support group for men and women who struggle with same-sex attraction. "Encourage" is a ministry within Courage dedicated to the spiritual needs of parents and other relatives and friends of persons who struggle with same-sex attraction. All are welcome! For info: 604-916-6192 or email: vancouvercourage1@live.ca or encourage-in-bc@live.ca.

### DISCOVER THE MEANING OF LIFE

Come to the first ALPHA course and meet new friends over a free lunch and learn about the most intriguing topics of the Christian FAITH and about LIFE; then discuss the topics in small groups. This 8 session course starts on Saturday, Jan 26 at 11am-2:30pm in the Church basement. Each session starts with a (free) meal. You don't have to come to the whole course, pop in for the first session and see what you think. Pre-registration required; please contact the parish office at

## PARISH NEWS

### SINGERS NEEDED!

The Sunday 5pm Youth Choir is in need of singers who love to praise God with music. Anyone is welcome, no matter your level of music competency. Choir practice is held right before the 5pm mass, from 3:30pm - 5pm. For more information, please contact Annabel at 778-862-0969 or annabelfrancis@hotmail.com.



### CATHOLICS COME HOME PRAY & FAST



Archbishop Miller is inviting all parishioners to choose one day to fast during our Catholics Come Home campaign. Our prayer is for those Catholics who no longer practice the faith that they will return and become faithful members of the Church. The campaign will run until Jan 26. You are encouraged to choose one or more days, as you are able, and sign your initials on the calendar. There is no limit to how many people can fast on the same day but we hope to have each day covered, excluding Sundays and Solemnities. Please sign up in the foyer.

### CATHOLICS COME HOME PRAYER COMMITMENTS

Please find CCH prayer commitment forms in the foyer that you can fill out and commit yourself to. Keep the form with you, or in your prayer book, as a reminder of the CCH program, and your commitment to pray for its fruitful success.

### CATHOLICS COME HOME "WE MISS YOU" CARDS

Please take a "We Miss You" card from the foyer. Read the instructions, fill out the card, and give it to someone you would like to invite back to the Church. Please take as many as you need.

## DIOCESAN & COMMUNITY NEWS

### A DAY OF WORKSHOPS ON IMPACT OF MIGRATION

The workshops will help us to look at some of the challenges faced by the Church as it seeks to form a community that is universal, Jan. 12 at Our Lady Of Sorrows Parish, 555 South Slocan Street, Vancouver. Lunch and snacks will be provided. Please RSVP Our Lady Of Sorrows Parish 604-254-0691.

### ST. THOMAS MORE COLLEGIATE

The Open House will be held on Wednesday, Jan 16 at 6:30pm. The placement exam will be on Thursday, Jan 24 at 1:30pm. More info at www.stmc.bc.ca.